

Lecture 31 7.A Adjoint Operators

Chapter 7 looks at special operators on inner product spaces

(this material generalizes results on symmetric and orthogonal matrices in 2LAs)

Adjoint

Defⁿ Let $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$. The adjoint of T is the function $T^*: W \rightarrow V$ such that for any $v \in V$ and $w \in W$

$$\langle Tv, w \rangle = \langle v, T^*w \rangle$$

"Unpack" the definition

Note

$$\langle Tv, w \rangle$$

↑
inner product
of w

$$\langle v, T^*w \rangle$$

↑
inner product
of v

For any fixed vector $\underline{w} \in W$,

$\phi: V \rightarrow F$ defined by $\phi(v) = \langle Tv, w \rangle$
is a linear functional

By Riesz Representation Thm, there is $u \in V$ such
that

$$\langle v, u \rangle = \phi(v) = \langle Tv, w \rangle$$

We define $T^*w = u$

i.e. T^*w is the unique vector so that

$$\langle Tv, w \rangle = \langle v, T^*w \rangle$$

Remark Probably most complicated defⁿ in book!

Ex Let $T: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ given by

$$T(x_1, x_2) = (3x_1, 4x_2, 6x_1 + 7x_2)$$

Find $T^*: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ (using standard inner prod in \mathbb{R}^2 and \mathbb{R}^3)

$$\langle Tv, w \rangle$$

||

inner prod in \mathbb{R}^3

$$\langle T(x_1, x_2), (y_1, y_2, y_3) \rangle = \langle (3x_1, 4x_2, 6x_1 + 7x_2), (y_1, y_2, y_3) \rangle$$

$$= 3x_1y_1 + 4x_2y_2 + (6x_1 + 7x_2)y_3$$

$$= (3y_1 + 6y_3)x_1 + (4y_2 + 7y_3)x_2$$

$$= \langle (x_1, x_2), (3y_1 + 6y_3, 4y_2 + 7y_3) \rangle$$

inner prod in \mathbb{R}^2

$$= \langle x, T^*w \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow T^*(y_1, y_2, y_3) = (3y_1 + 6y_3, 4y_2 + 7y_3)$$

Observations • $T^* \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{R}^3, \mathbb{R}^2)$

$$\bullet M(T) = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 \\ 6 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } M(T^*) = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 6 \\ 0 & 4 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$$

↑ transpose

Thm If $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$, then $T^* \in \mathcal{L}(W, V)$

Proof Need to show $T^*(w_1 + w_2) = T^*w_1 + T^*w_2$
and $T^*(\lambda w) = \lambda T^*w$

Let $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$, and $w_1, w_2 \in W$. If $v \in V$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle v, \underline{T^*(w_1 + w_2)} \rangle &= \langle Tv, w_1 + w_2 \rangle \quad \leftarrow \text{def'n of adjoint} \\ &= \langle Tv, w_1 \rangle + \langle Tv, w_2 \rangle \\ &= \langle v, T^*w_1 \rangle + \langle v, T^*w_2 \rangle \\ &= \langle v, \underline{T^*w_1 + T^*w_2} \rangle \end{aligned}$$

(useful trick, swap order so replace T^* with a T)

By Riesz Representation Thm, $T^*(w_1 + w_2)$ is unique

$$\Rightarrow T^*(w_1 + w_2) = T^*w_1 + T^*w_2$$

Let $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$ and $w \in W$ and $\lambda \in F$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \langle v, \underline{T^*(\lambda w)} \rangle &= \langle Tv, \lambda w \rangle \\ &= \overline{\lambda} \langle Tv, w \rangle \\ &= \overline{\lambda} \langle v, T^*w \rangle \\ &= \langle v, \underline{\lambda (T^*w)} \rangle \end{aligned}$$

So by Riesz Representation $T^*(\lambda w) = \lambda(T^*w)$

Thus $T^* \in \mathcal{L}(W, V)$

□

(Properties of adjoint) Let $S, T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$ and $\lambda \in F$

$$(a) (S+T)^* = S^* + T^*$$

$$(b) (\lambda T)^* = \overline{\lambda} T^*$$

$$(c) (T^*)^* = T$$

$$(d) I^* = I$$

$$(e) (ST)^* = T^* S^*$$

for $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W), S \in \mathcal{L}(W, U)$

Proof see text use fact $\langle a, T^*b \rangle = \langle Ta, b \rangle$

Defⁿ If A is an $m \times n$ matrix, the conjugate transpose of A , denoted A^* , is the matrix formed by taking the transpose of A , and then the complex conjugate of each element

$$\text{Ex } A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2+i & 7 \\ -7i & 0 & 1-i \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A^* = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 7i \\ 2-i & 0 \\ 7 & 1+i \end{bmatrix}$$

Note If entries of A real, then $A^* = A^T$

Thm Let $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$ and suppose that e_1, \dots, e_n is an orthonormal basis of V and f_1, \dots, f_m is an orthonormal basis of W . Then

$$M(T^*, (f_1, \dots, f_m), (e_1, \dots, e_n)) = M(T, (e_1, \dots, e_n), (f_1, \dots, f_m))^*$$

Observation: If we use standard bases of F^n and F^m , this says

$$\boxed{M(T^*) = M(T)^*}$$

↑
matrix
of adjoint

↑
Conjugate transpose of $M(T)$

Proof: k^{th} column of $M(T, (e_1, \dots, e_n), (f_1, \dots, f_m))$ is given by Te_k written in terms of the basis f_1, \dots, f_m

But f_1, \dots, f_m orthonormal, so

$$Te_k = \langle \underline{Te_k}, f_1 \rangle f_1 + \dots + \langle \underline{Te_k}, f_m \rangle f_m$$

I.e. k^{th} column of $M(T)$

$$M(T) = \begin{bmatrix} \langle Te_k, f_1 \rangle \\ \langle Te_k, f_2 \rangle \\ \vdots \\ \langle Te_k, f_m \rangle \end{bmatrix}$$

k^{th} column

On the other hand, entry in row k , column j of

$$M(T^*, (f_1, \dots, f_n), (e_1, \dots, e_n))$$

is given by $\langle T^* f_j, e_k \rangle$, i.e

$$\text{So } M(T^*) = \begin{bmatrix} \langle T^* f_1, e_1 \rangle & \langle T^* f_2, e_1 \rangle & \dots & \langle T^* f_m, e_1 \rangle \\ \underbrace{\quad}_{\langle T e_1, f_1 \rangle} & \underbrace{\quad}_{\quad} & & \underbrace{\quad}_{\langle T e_1, f_m \rangle} \\ \vdots & & & \vdots \\ \underbrace{\quad}_{\langle T e_k, f_1 \rangle} & & & \underbrace{\quad}_{\langle T e_k, f_m \rangle} \end{bmatrix}$$

k -th row

But

$$\begin{aligned} \langle T^* f_j, e_k \rangle &= \overline{\langle e_k, T^* f_j \rangle} \\ &= \overline{\langle T e_k, f_j \rangle} \leftarrow \text{complex conjugate} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, two matrices are conjugate transposes of each other



Key Ideas:

- adjoint
- conjugate transpose
- matrix of the adjoint