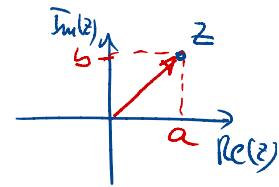


Lecture XXXV: §4.6 Complex eigenvectors & eigenspaces  
Real symmetric matrices

Recall: (Complex numbers)  $z = a + ib$   $a = \operatorname{Re}(z) \in \mathbb{R}$   
 $b = \operatorname{Im}(z) \in \mathbb{R}$



Addition:  $(a+ib) + (c+id) = (a+c) + i(b+d)$

Multiplication:  $(a+ib)(c+id) = (ac-bd) + i(ad+bc)$

Complex conjugation  $\bar{z} = a - ib$  ( $\overline{\bar{z}w} = z\bar{w}$ ,  $\overline{z+w} = \bar{z} + \bar{w}$ )

Norm (or modulus)  $|z| = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$  satisfies  $|z| = z \cdot \bar{z}$

So for  $z \neq 0$   $z^{-1} = \frac{\bar{z}}{|z|^2}$   $|zw| = |z||w|$

Fundamental Theorem: Every polynomial in  $\mathbb{C}[x]$  of degree  $\geq 1$  has a root in  $\mathbb{C}$

Consequence: Roots of polynomials in  $\mathbb{R}[x] =$  real or conjugate pairs  
( $z$  &  $\bar{z}$ )

§1 Vectors in  $\mathbb{C}^n$

Vectors will be defined just as we did for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , except now entries are in  $\mathbb{C}$ , not just in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

We write  $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{bmatrix}$  & impose  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  are in  $\mathbb{C}$ .

Note: By construction,  $\mathbb{R}^n \subseteq \mathbb{C}^n$ ; Addition in  $\mathbb{C}^n =$  coordinatewise

We use complex conjugates to define magnitudes of complex vectors.

Complex conjugate of  $\vec{v}$  is  $\overline{\vec{v}} = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{v}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \bar{v}_n \end{bmatrix}$  (another vector in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ )

Note:  $\overline{v_j} v_j = |v_j|^2$  for  $j=1, \dots, n$

Definition: The magnitude of  $\vec{v}$  is  $\|\vec{v}\| = \sqrt{|v_1|^2 + \dots + |v_n|^2}$   
 $= \sqrt{(\overline{\vec{v}})^T \cdot \vec{v}}$

where  $\vec{w}^T \cdot \vec{u} = w_1 u_1 + w_2 u_2 + \dots + w_n u_n$  (same as with dot product in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ )

Note: Our definition of magnitude & dot product in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  extend those from  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

Example:  $x = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1-i \\ 3+i \end{bmatrix}$   $y = \begin{bmatrix} i \\ 1+i \\ 2+i \end{bmatrix}$

$x + y = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1-i \\ 3+i \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} i \\ 1+i \\ 2+i \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2+i \\ 2 \\ 5+2i \end{bmatrix}$

$x^T \cdot y = [2, 1-i, 3+i] \begin{bmatrix} i \\ 1+i \\ 2+i \end{bmatrix} = 2i + (1-i)(1+i) + (3+i)(2+i)$   
 $= 2i + (1-(-1)) + (5-1) + i(5)$   
 $= \boxed{4 + 2i}$

$\|x\| = \sqrt{x^T x} = \sqrt{|2|^2 + |1-i|^2 + |3+i|^2} = \sqrt{4 + 2 + 10} = \sqrt{16} = 4$

$\cong \mathbb{C}^n$  as a  $\mathbb{C}$ -vector space

Structure for  $\mathbb{C}^n$ : Vector Space over  $\mathbb{C}$  (rather than using  $\mathbb{R}$  as scalars, we use  $\mathbb{C}$ )

Addition: Defined coordinatwise  $\begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ \vdots \\ w_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 + w_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n + w_n \end{bmatrix}$

It satisfies the same properties we had for the addition of  $\mathbb{R}$ -vector spaces (see Lecture 14)

(A1)  $\vec{x} + \vec{y} = \vec{y} + \vec{x}$  (Commutative)

(A2)  $\vec{x} + (\vec{y} + \vec{z}) = (\vec{x} + \vec{y}) + \vec{z}$  (Associative)

(A3)  $\vec{0} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  satisfies  $\vec{x} + \vec{0} = \vec{0} + \vec{x} = \vec{x}$  for all  $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{C}^n$

(A4) Given  $\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  we can find  $\vec{y} = \begin{bmatrix} -x_1 \\ \vdots \\ -x_n \end{bmatrix}$  satisfying  $\vec{x} + \vec{y} = \vec{0}$

Scalar Multiplication: For each  $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{bmatrix}$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  &  $\alpha$  in  $\mathbb{C}$  (scalar) we define a new vector  $\alpha \cdot \vec{v}$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  as  $\alpha \cdot \vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha v_1 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha v_n \end{bmatrix}$

(scale each component of  $\vec{v}$  by  $\alpha$ )

Once again, we get 4 properties (same ones we had for scaling by  $\mathbb{R}$ )

(M1)  $\alpha \cdot (\beta \cdot \vec{x}) = (\alpha\beta) \cdot \vec{x}$  [Associative]

(M2)  $\alpha \cdot (\vec{x} + \vec{y}) = \alpha \cdot \vec{x} + \alpha \cdot \vec{y}$  [Distributive 1]

(M3)  $(\alpha + \beta) \cdot \vec{x} = \alpha \cdot \vec{x} + \beta \cdot \vec{x}$  [Distributive 2]

(M4)  $1 \cdot \vec{x} = \vec{x}$  for all  $\vec{x}$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$

- can define  $\mathbb{C}$ -spans of vectors in  $\mathbb{C}^n = \text{Span}\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p\} = \{\alpha_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + \alpha_p \vec{v}_p : \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_p \in \mathbb{C}\}$
- can define  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear independence in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ : (Only solution to  $\alpha_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + \alpha_p \vec{v}_p = \vec{0}$  with  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_p \in \mathbb{C}$  is  $\alpha_1 = \dots = \alpha_p = 0$ )
- can define subspaces of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  (closed under  $+$ ,  $\cdot$  &  $\vec{0}$  must be in the set)
- basis for subspaces  $V$  (= collection of li spanning vectors) & dimension of  $V$  over  $\mathbb{C}$

• Same ideas will allow to build other  $\mathbb{C}$ -vector spaces:

①  $M_{m \times n}(\mathbb{C}) = m \times n$  matrices with entries in  $\mathbb{C}$

Addition = entry by entry, Scalar Multiplication = entry by entry  
 $\implies M_{m \times n}$  will be a  $\mathbb{C}$ -vector space

②  $P_n(\mathbb{C}) = \{P(x) = a_0 x + a_1 x^2 + \dots + a_n x^n : a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{C}\}$

- Polynomials in  $\mathbb{C}[x]$  of degree  $\leq n$
- Usual addition & scalar multiplication (now using  $\mathbb{C}$ )

$\implies$  Again:  $P_n(\mathbb{C})$  will be a  $\mathbb{C}$ -vector space.

§3 Eigenvectors in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ :

Last time we saw that a matrix  $A$  of size  $n \times n$  over  $\mathbb{R}$  can have complex eigenvalues, meaning the roots of  $P_A(t)$  can be non-real.

Q How do we interpret this in our original viewpoint for eigenvalues?

That is, we need to find vectors  $\vec{v} \neq \vec{0}$  satisfying  $A\vec{v} = \lambda \vec{v}$

Clearly, if  $\lambda$  is in  $\mathbb{C}$ , but not in  $\mathbb{R}$ , then  $\vec{v}$  will not be in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  but in  $\mathbb{C}^n$

Q How do we find  $\vec{v}$ ? Same as usual! We solve the

system  $(A - \lambda I_n) \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  over  $\mathbb{C}$ .

We can use Gauss-Jordan elimination, but we are allowed to use  $\mathbb{C}$

as scalars in all our elementary row operations

**EXAMPLE 1**

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P_A(t) = \det \begin{pmatrix} 3-t & 1 \\ -2 & 1-t \end{pmatrix} = t^2 - 4t + 5$$

$$= (t - (2+i))(t - (2-i))$$

We get 2 eigenspaces

$$(1) E_{2+i} = \text{Null Space } (A - (2+i)I_2) = \mathcal{N} \left( \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 2+i & 0 \\ 0 & 2+i \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

$$= \mathcal{N} \begin{pmatrix} 1-i & 1 \\ -2 & -1-i \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(2) E_{2-i} = \text{Null Space } (A - (2-i)I_2) = \mathcal{N} \left( \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 2-i & 0 \\ 0 & 2-i \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

$$= \mathcal{N} \begin{pmatrix} 1+i & 1 \\ -2 & -1+i \end{pmatrix}$$

• Now, we compute both Nullspaces

$$(1) \begin{bmatrix} 1-i & 1 \\ -2 & -1-i \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_1 \rightarrow \frac{1}{1-i} R_1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{1-i} \\ -2 & -1-i \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \rightarrow R_2 + 2R_1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2} + \frac{i}{2} \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

So we need  $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$  to satisfy  $x_1 + \left(\frac{1+i}{2}\right)x_2 = 0$

REF  $\uparrow$  indy var

so  $x_1 = \left(-\frac{1}{2} - \frac{i}{2}\right)x_2$

General form of solution:  $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \left(-\frac{1}{2} - \frac{i}{2}\right)x_2 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = x_2 \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-1-i}{2} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

So  $E_{2+i} = \left\{ x_2 \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-1-i}{2} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} : x_2 \in \mathbb{C} \right\} = \text{Span} \left( \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-1-i}{2} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)$

Check:  $A \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-1-i}{2} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-1-i}{2} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-3-i}{2} - i\frac{3}{2} + 1 \\ (-2+1) + 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-1-i}{2} \\ 2+i \end{bmatrix}$  same!

$(2+i) \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-1-i}{2} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} (2+i) \frac{(-1-i)}{2} \\ 2+i \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-2+1+i(-2-1)}{2} \\ 2+i \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-1-i}{2} \\ 2+i \end{bmatrix}$

Conclusion  $A \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-1-i}{2} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = (2+i) \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-1-i}{2} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

So we got the original definition of eigenvector with eigenvalue  $(2+i)$



$$(2) \begin{bmatrix} 1+i & 1 \\ -2 & -1+i \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_1 \rightarrow (1-i)R_1} \begin{bmatrix} (1+i)(1-i) & 1-i \\ -2 & -1+i \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1+1 & 1-i \\ -2 & -1+i \end{bmatrix}^5$$

$$\xrightarrow{R_2 \rightarrow R_2 + R_1} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1-i \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_1 \rightarrow \frac{R_1}{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \frac{1-i}{2} \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

(\*) We multiplied  $R_1$  by the complex conjugate of the  $(1,1)$ -entry, to turn it into a positive real number.

Once more  $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  must solve  $x_1 + \frac{(1-i)}{2}x_2 = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{(1-i)}{2}x_2 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = x_2 \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-1+i}{2} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$E_{2-i} = \left\{ x_2 \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-1+i}{2} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} : x_2 \in \mathbb{C} \right\} = \text{Span} \left( \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-1+i}{2} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

Can check that  $A \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-1+i}{2} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = (2-i) \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-1+i}{2} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Observe: Got  $E_{2+i} = \text{Sp} \left( \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-1-i}{2} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)$  &  $E_{2-i} = \text{Sp} \left( \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-1+i}{2} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)$

$2+i$  &  $2-i$  are complex conjugates & so are the generating vectors of the 2 eigenspaces!

This is true in general!

Proposition ! If  $A$  has size  $n \times n$  & entries in  $\mathbb{R}$ , &  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$  in  $\mathbb{C}$  but not in  $\mathbb{R}$  with eigenvector  $v = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{bmatrix}$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  then  $\bar{\lambda}$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$  &  $\bar{v} = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{v}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \bar{v}_n \end{bmatrix}$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  is an eigenvector for  $\bar{\lambda}$ .

Why? Say  $A \cdot \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{bmatrix} = \lambda \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{bmatrix}$  write  $A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$  6

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11}v_1 + \dots + a_{1n}v_n \\ a_{21}v_1 + \dots + a_{2n}v_n \\ \vdots \\ a_{n1}v_1 + \dots + a_{nn}v_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda v_1 \\ \lambda v_2 \\ \vdots \\ \lambda v_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Now, conjugate both vectors & use all  $a_{jk}$  are in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

$$A \bar{v} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11}\bar{v}_1 + \dots + a_{1n}\bar{v}_n \\ \vdots \\ a_{n1}\bar{v}_1 + \dots + a_{nn}\bar{v}_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{\lambda} \bar{v}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \bar{\lambda} \bar{v}_n \end{bmatrix} = \bar{\lambda} \begin{bmatrix} \bar{v}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \bar{v}_n \end{bmatrix}$$

and since  $v \neq \vec{0}$ , we get  $\bar{v} \neq \vec{0}$  so it's an eigenvector for  $\bar{\lambda}$ .  
&  $\bar{\lambda}$  is an eigenvalue for  $A$ .  $\square$

• We can do more! We can compute basis for  $E_{\bar{\lambda}}$  using one for  $E_{\lambda}$ .

Proposition 2: If  $\lambda$  is a non-real eigenvalue for  $A$  of size  $n \times n$  with entries in  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $B = \{v_1, \dots, v_p\}$  is a basis for  $E_{\lambda}$  (that is li set that spans  $E_{\lambda}$ ) then,  $\bar{B} = \{\bar{v}_1, \dots, \bar{v}_p\}$  is a basis for  $E_{\bar{\lambda}}$ .

Proof: By Proposition 1 we know  $\bar{v}_1, \dots, \bar{v}_p$  all lie in  $E_{\bar{\lambda}}$ .

Claim 1: If  $\{v_1, \dots, v_p\}$  is li, so is  $\{\bar{v}_1, \dots, \bar{v}_p\}$ .

Why? Want to solve  $\alpha_1 \bar{v}_1 + \dots + \alpha_p \bar{v}_p = \vec{0}$

If we conjugate both sides we get

$$(*) \quad \bar{\alpha}_1 \bar{\bar{v}}_1 + \dots + \bar{\alpha}_p \bar{\bar{v}}_p = \bar{\vec{0}} = \vec{0}$$

But  $\bar{\bar{v}}_1 = v_1, \dots, \bar{\bar{v}}_p = v_p$  (because  $\overline{a+ib} = a-ib = \overline{a+ib}$ )

So (\*) becomes  $\alpha_1 v_1 + \dots + \alpha_p v_p = \vec{0}$ .

But since  $\{v_1, \dots, v_p\}$  is li, we conclude  $\bar{\alpha}_1 = \bar{\alpha}_2 = \dots = \bar{\alpha}_p = 0$

but then

$$\alpha_1 = \bar{\alpha}_1 = \bar{0} = 0$$
$$\alpha_2 = \bar{\alpha}_2 = \bar{0} = 0$$
$$\vdots$$
$$\alpha_p = \bar{\alpha}_p = \bar{0} = 0$$

Conclusion: Our original system  $\alpha_1 \bar{v}_1 + \dots + \alpha_p \bar{v}_n = 0$  only has one solution, the trivial one  $\alpha_1 = \dots = \alpha_p = 0$ .

• In particular  $\boxed{\dim E_\lambda \leq \dim E_{\bar{\lambda}}} \quad (1)$

• But we can reverse the process: start from a basis  $B'$  for  $E_{\bar{\lambda}}$  & conjugate its elements to get a linearly independent set  $\bar{B}'$  in  $E_\lambda$ .

So  $\boxed{\dim E_{\bar{\lambda}} \leq \dim E_\lambda} \quad (2)$

Comparing (1) & (2) we get  $\dim E_{\bar{\lambda}} = \dim E_\lambda$  & the claim about linear independence will give us the claim for basis

(Why? Just as it happened for subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , if we have a subspace  $W$  of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  with  $\dim W = p$  & a collection  $\{v_1, \dots, v_p\}$  of vectors in  $W$  that are li, they automatically become a basis for  $W$  because we have the right number of vectors = as many as  $\dim W$ )  $\square$

Q: Why is this an important result?

A: It will save us a lot of time when computing basis for eigenspaces, since we'll need to compute only one of  $E_\lambda$  or  $E_{\bar{\lambda}}$ .

### §3 Special case: Symmetric matrices

There is one very special situation, when we know all eigenvalues are real. This is the case when the input matrix  $A$  is symmetric

Key Theorem: If  $A$  is an  $n \times n$  real symmetric matrix, then all its eigenvalues are real! (Next time: we'll see we have a basis of eigenvectors)

Proof: Assume  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$  with eigenvector  $\vec{0} \neq v = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{bmatrix}$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$   
want to show  $\lambda$  is in  $\mathbb{R}$ . We'll show  $\lambda = \bar{\lambda}$ .

How? Start from  $A v = \lambda v$  (1) & multiply both sides on the left by  $\bar{v}^T$

$$\bar{v}^T A v = \bar{v}^T \lambda v = \lambda \bar{v}^T v = \lambda \|v\|^2 \tag{1}$$

But  $\bar{v}^T (\lambda v) = [\bar{v}_1, \dots, \bar{v}_n] \begin{bmatrix} \lambda v_1 \\ \vdots \\ \lambda v_n \end{bmatrix} = [\lambda v_1 \dots \lambda v_n] \begin{bmatrix} \bar{v}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \bar{v}_n \end{bmatrix} = (\lambda v)^T \bar{v}$

so  $\bar{v}^T (\lambda v) = (\lambda v)^T \bar{v} \stackrel{\text{by (1)}}{=} (A v)^T \bar{v} = (v^T A^T) \bar{v} \stackrel{\substack{\downarrow \\ \text{A symmetric}}}{=} (v^T A) \bar{v} =$   
 $= v^T (A \bar{v}) \stackrel{\substack{\downarrow \\ \text{Assoc.}}}{=} v^T (\bar{\lambda} \bar{v}) \tag{2}$

Once again:  $v^T (\bar{\lambda} \bar{v}) = [v_1 \dots v_n] \begin{bmatrix} \bar{\lambda} \bar{v}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \bar{\lambda} \bar{v}_n \end{bmatrix} = [\bar{\lambda} \bar{v}_1, \dots, \bar{\lambda} \bar{v}_n] \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{bmatrix}$   
 $= \bar{\lambda} \bar{v}^T v = \bar{\lambda} \|v\|^2 \tag{3}$

Gathering (1), (2) & (3) we get:

$$\lambda \|v\|^2 = \bar{v}^T \lambda v = v^T (\bar{\lambda} \bar{v}) = \bar{\lambda} \|v\|^2$$

$$\text{So } \lambda \|v\|^2 - \bar{\lambda} \|v\|^2 = (\lambda - \bar{\lambda}) \|v\|^2 = 0$$

But  $v \neq \vec{0}$  forces  $\|v\|^2 \neq 0$

Then  $(\lambda - \bar{\lambda}) \|v\|^2 = 0$  can only happen if  $\lambda - \bar{\lambda} = 0$ , that is  $\lambda = \bar{\lambda}$ .

Conclusion:  $\lambda$  is in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Example:  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$   $\rightsquigarrow$   $P_A(t) = \det \begin{bmatrix} -t & 1 \\ 1 & -t \end{bmatrix} = t^2 - 1 = (t+1)(t-1)$   
symmetric

$A$  has 2 distinct eigenvalues, so by a Theorem from Lecture 33 we know  $A$  has a basis of eigenvectors

$$E_1 = \text{Sp} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right), \quad E_{-1} = \text{Sp} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right) \rightsquigarrow \text{Basis for } \mathbb{R}^2 = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$