

Lecture 36: §4.7 Similarities & Diagonalization

Last time defined \mathbb{C} -vector spaces & focused on 5 examples

- ① $\mathbb{C}^n = \left\{ \vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{bmatrix}, v_1, \dots, v_n \in \mathbb{C} \right\}$
+ & scalar multiplication (by \mathbb{C}): entry-by-entry
Basis $B = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \dots, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ (for linear comb = use \mathbb{C} coeff)
- ② $\text{Span}_{\mathbb{C}}(\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p) = \text{all } \mathbb{C}\text{-linear comb. of } \vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p$
 $= \left\{ \alpha_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + \alpha_p \vec{v}_p : \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_p \in \mathbb{C} \right\}$
- ③ $\text{Mat}_{m \times n}(\mathbb{C}) = \left\{ A = (a_{ij}) \text{ of size } m \times n: a_{ij} \in \mathbb{C} \right\}$
+ & scalar multiplication (by \mathbb{C}): entry-by-entry
Basis $B = \left\{ E_{ij} : 1 \leq i \leq m, 1 \leq j \leq n \right\}$ (again, use \mathbb{C} -lin. comb)
- ④ $\mathcal{N}(A) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^n : A \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \rightsquigarrow A \sim A' \text{ REF}$
Compute A' via Gauss-Jordan using \mathbb{C} in elementary row operations
- ⑤ $\mathcal{P}_n(\mathbb{C}) = \left\{ a_0 + a_1 x + \dots + a_n x^n : a_0, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{C} \right\}$
+ & scalar mult: coeff-by-coeff; Basis $B = \{1, x, \dots, x^n\}$

Similarities

Definition Fix A, C in $\text{Mat}_{n \times n}(\mathbb{C})$. We say A is similar to C (and write $A \sim C$) if we can find S non-singular in $\text{Mat}_{n \times n}(\mathbb{C})$ ($\det(S) \neq 0$ in \mathbb{C}) with $C = S^{-1} A S$.

Motivation. A & C will represent the same \mathbb{C} -linear transformation

$T: \mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n$ with respect to different bases: B_A & B_C .

Then S will be the matrix recording the change of basis from B_C to B_A .

Typical situation: $T(\vec{v}) = A\vec{v}$ so $[T]_{EE} = A$ $E = \{\vec{e}_1, \dots, \vec{e}_n\}$

If $B_C = \{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n\}$, then $C = S^{-1} A S$ with $S = [\vec{v}_1 \dots \vec{v}_n]$

Example: $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ $P_A = (1-\lambda)(2-\lambda)$: $\mathcal{N}(A - I_2) = \mathcal{N}\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \text{Sp}(\vec{e}_1)$
 $\lambda = 1, 2$ eigenvalues $\mathcal{N}(A - 2I_2) = \mathcal{N}\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \text{Sp}(\vec{e}_1)$

$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$, $C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$, $S = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$, $S^{-1} = \frac{1}{1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ $C = S^{-1} A S$
diagonal $B_C = \text{eigenvectors}$

Q: Why do we care about similar matrices?

Proposition 1: Similar matrices have the same characteristic polynomials (so same eigenvalues with the same algebraic multiplicity!)

Why? Write $C = S^{-1}AS$

$$\begin{aligned} P_C(\lambda) &= \det(S^{-1}AS - \lambda I_n) = \det(S^{-1}(A - \lambda I_n)S) \\ &= \det(S^{-1}) \det(A - \lambda I_n) \det(S) \\ &= \frac{1}{\det S} \det(A - \lambda I_n) \det(S) = P_A(\lambda). \end{aligned}$$

So same roots with same multiplicity!

 If $P_A(\lambda) = P_C(\lambda)$, this does NOT mean $A \sim C$.

Ex: $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ & $C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ $P_A(\lambda) = P_C(\lambda) = (\lambda - 1)^2$

But $S^{-1}AS = S^{-1}I_2S = I_2 \neq C$ no matter what S is!

Q: How are $E_\lambda(C)$ & $E_\lambda(A)$ related when $A \sim C$?

Proposition 2: If $C = S^{-1}AS$ & $\vec{v} \neq \vec{0}$ is in $E_\lambda(C)$, then $\vec{w} = S\vec{v}$ is in $E_\lambda(A)$. Moreover, $\dim E_\lambda(C) = \dim E_\lambda(A)$ &

$B = \{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p\}$ basis for $E_\lambda(C)$ $\xrightarrow[S^{-1}]{} S$ $\tilde{B} = \{S\vec{v}_1, \dots, S\vec{v}_p\}$ basis for $E_\lambda(A)$.

Proof: Know $C\vec{v} = \lambda\vec{v} \rightsquigarrow S^{-1}AS\vec{v} = \lambda\vec{v}$
 $A(S\vec{v}) = S\lambda\vec{v} = \lambda(S\vec{v})$

but S invertible forces $\vec{w} = S\vec{v} \neq \vec{0}$ & $\vec{w} \in E_\lambda(A)$

• Now, pick a basis B for $E_\lambda(C)$, then $\tilde{B} = \{\vec{w}_1 = S\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{w}_p = S\vec{v}_p\}$ consists of eigenvectors for A . Claim: \tilde{B} is li

$$\vec{0} = \alpha_1 \vec{w}_1 + \dots + \alpha_p \vec{w}_p = \alpha_1 S\vec{v}_1 + \dots + \alpha_p S\vec{v}_p$$

$$= S(\alpha_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + \alpha_p \vec{v}_p) \text{ \& } S \text{ nonsing, so } \alpha_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + \alpha_p \vec{v}_p = \vec{0}$$

B is li $\Rightarrow \alpha_1 = \dots = \alpha_p = 0$, meaning \tilde{B} is li.

• Thus, $\dim E_\lambda(A) \geq p = \dim E_\lambda(C)$. $\xrightarrow{\text{pink arrow}} \dim E_\lambda(C) = \dim E_\lambda(A)$

• Since $A = S^{-1}CS$, reverse the roles of C & A to get $\dim E_\lambda(C) \geq \dim E_\lambda(A)$

Example $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$

Claim: $A \sim C$

$$P_A(\lambda) = \det \begin{pmatrix} -\lambda & 1 \\ 1 & -\lambda \end{pmatrix} = \lambda^2 - 1 = (\lambda - 1)(\lambda + 1) = P_C(\lambda)$$

$$E_1(A) = \mathcal{N} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = \text{SP} \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

$$E_{-1}(A) = \mathcal{N} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \text{SP} \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

If $T: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ then $B = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \mapsto A \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_2 \\ x_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

gives $[T]_{BB} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = C$, $[T]_{\mathcal{E}\mathcal{E}} = A$. So $C = S^{-1} A S$

with $S = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow S^{-1} = \frac{1}{-2} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$

- Summary:
- Showed $A \sim C$ by explicitly computing S .
 - Used eigenvectors because C was a diagonal matrix.
 - This is diagonalization in a nutshell.

Diagonalization

Def: We say an $n \times n$ real matrix A is diagonalizable over \mathbb{C} if it is similar to a diagonal matrix $D = \begin{pmatrix} d_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & d_n \end{pmatrix} \in \text{Mat}_{n \times n}(\mathbb{C})$
So $D = S^{-1}AS \iff S \in \text{Mat}_{n \times n}(\mathbb{C})$ nonsingular ($\det S \neq 0$)

Observe: $P_A(\lambda) = P_D(\lambda) = (\lambda - d_1) \cdots (\lambda - d_n)$

so the eigenvalues of A are d_1, \dots, d_n (counted with multiplicity, i.e. possible repetitions!)

$S = [\vec{v}_1 \ \cdots \ \vec{v}_n]$ involves a basis for \mathbb{C}^n of eigenvectors of A

with $\vec{v}_1 \in E_{d_1}(A)$

$\vec{v}_n \in E_{d_n}(A)$



Order of the columns of S is consistent with the entries of D

Next time: Necessary and sufficient conditions to diagonalize A .
($\dim_{\mathbb{C}} E_{\lambda}(A) = \text{mult}(\lambda, P_A) \iff$ each λ eigenvalue of A)

Example ① $A = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -6 \\ 3 & -4 \end{bmatrix}$ $P_A(\lambda) = \det \begin{pmatrix} 5-\lambda & -6 \\ 3 & -4-\lambda \end{pmatrix} = (5-\lambda)(-4-\lambda) + 18$
 $= \lambda^2 - \lambda - 2 = (\lambda-2)(\lambda+1)$

- 2 eigenvalues $\lambda = -1$ & 2 of multiplicity 1.

know $1 \leq \dim E_2(A) \leq 1$ & $1 \leq \dim E_{-1}(A) \leq 1$ so both dims are 1.

- $1+1 = 2 = \dim \mathbb{R}^2$ so \mathbb{R}^2 has a basis of eigenvectors of A

$$E_{-1}(A) = \mathcal{N}(A + I_2) = \mathcal{N} \begin{pmatrix} 6 & -6 \\ 3 & -3 \end{pmatrix} = \mathcal{N} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \text{Sp} \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

$$E_2(A) = \mathcal{N}(A - 2I_2) = \mathcal{N} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -6 \\ 3 & -6 \end{pmatrix} = \mathcal{N} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \text{Sp} \left(\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad S = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad S^{-1} = \frac{1}{1-2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

\swarrow basis for E_{-1} \searrow basis for E_2

$$D = S^{-1} A S$$

so $A = S D S^{-1}$

Example ② $A = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -6 & 0 \\ 3 & -4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$ $P_A(\lambda) = -(\lambda-2)(\lambda+1)(\lambda-5)$

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$S = \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

$$S^{-1} = \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} -1 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

Real Symmetric Matrices

Diagonalizable over \mathbb{R} !

Theorem: Fix A $n \times n$ real symmetric matrix. Then:

- ① A has only real eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ (possibly repeated!) L35
- ② \mathbb{R}^n has an orthonormal basis B of eigenvectors for A that is, $B = \{ \vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n \}$ with v_i in $E_{\lambda_i}(A)$. and $v_i \cdot v_j = \begin{cases} 0 & i \neq j \\ 1 & i = j \end{cases}$
- ③ $\begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix} = Q^T A Q$ with $Q = [\vec{v}_1 \dots \vec{v}_n]$
($Q^{-1} = Q^T$ because B is orthonormal!)

Example: $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = A^T$ $P_A(\lambda) = \det \begin{pmatrix} 1-\lambda & -1 \\ -1 & 1-\lambda \end{pmatrix} = (1-\lambda)^2 - 1 = \lambda(\lambda-2)$

$$E_0 = \mathcal{N}(A) = \mathcal{N} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \text{Sp} \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \text{Sp} \left(\begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix} \right) \rightarrow \text{norm} = 1$$

$$E_2 = \mathcal{N}(A - 2I_2) = \mathcal{N} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = \mathcal{N} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \text{Sp} \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \text{Sp} \left(\begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

Check: $\begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix} = 0$ Take $Q = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix}$ $C = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$.