

## Lecture XXXVI: §9.7 Similarity & Diagonalization (cont.)

Recall: Two matrices  $A, C$  real of size  $n \times n$  are similar if we can find  $S$  invertible  $n \times n$  matrix with  $C = S^{-1}AS$ .

Test: If  $A$  &  $C$  are similar, then  $P_A(t) = P_C(t)$

But the converse is not true!

Example:  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  &  $I_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  both have  $P_A(t) = P_{I_2}(t) = (1-t)^2$

But if  $A$  &  $I_2$  are similar, then  $A = \underbrace{S I_2 S^{-1}}_{= I_2}$  for some  $S$  invertible  
So this can't happen  
( $I_2$  is only similar to itself!)

Proposition: If  $v$  is an eigenvector of  $C = S^{-1}AS$  with eigenvalue  $\lambda$ , then  $w = Sv$  is an eigenvector of  $A$  with eigenvalue  $\lambda$ .

Proof  $\lambda v = Cv = S^{-1}ASv$  so  $S(\lambda v) = SS^{-1}ASv = A(Sv)$   
so  $Aw = \lambda w$  &  $w$  is an eigenvector of  $A$  with eigenvalue  $\lambda$ .

### §1. Diagonalization: $n \times n$ real matrix

Def: We say  $A^r$  is diagonalizable if it is similar to a diagonal matrix

$$D = \begin{pmatrix} d_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & & 0 \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & d_n \end{pmatrix}$$

Note  $P_A(t) = P_D(t) = (d_1 - t) \dots (d_n - t)$  so the diagonal entries of  $A$  are the eigenvalues of  $A$  (with the corresponding algebraic multiplicity)  
 $\rightarrow$  order of  $d_i$  as a root of  $P_A(t)$

Q: Why is this useful?

If  $D = S^{-1}AS$ , then  $D^k = (S^{-1}AS)^k = \underbrace{(S^{-1}AS)(S^{-1}AS) \dots (S^{-1}AS)}_{k \text{ times}}$   
 $= S^{-1}A^k S$

so  $A^k = S D^k S^{-1}$   
easy to do!  $D^k = \begin{pmatrix} d_1^k & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & d_n^k \end{pmatrix}$

Thm: An  $(n \times n)$  matrix is diagonalizable if and only if  $A$  has a set of  $n$  linearly independent eigenvectors (they are a basis of  $\mathbb{C}^n$ ).

Note: the eigenvectors need not be real, need to work with complex vectors if we have complex eigenvalues.

Proof ( $\Leftarrow$ ) Assume  $B = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$  is a basis of eigenvectors of  $A$ , write  $S = [v_1 \dots v_n]$ . Since the columns of  $S$  are l.i., then  $S$  is invertible.

Write  $Av_i = \lambda_i v_i$  for  $i=1, \dots, n$  ( $\lambda_i$  is the eigenvalue for  $A$ ).

$$\text{Then } AS = A[v_1 \dots v_n] = [\lambda_1 v_1 \dots \lambda_n v_n]$$

each col is  $Av_i = \lambda_i v_i$ .

$$\text{So } S^{-1}AS = S^{-1}[\lambda_1 v_1 \dots \lambda_n v_n]$$

$$= [\lambda_1 \underbrace{S^{-1}v_1} \dots \lambda_n \underbrace{S^{-1}v_n}] = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix} = \text{Diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$$

$$S^{-1} \text{col}_1 S = \omega_1 (S^{-1}S) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad S^{-1} \omega_n S = \omega_n (S^{-1}S) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

so  $A$  is diagonalizable.

( $\Rightarrow$ ) Conversely, assume  $A$  is diagonalizable & write  $D = C^{-1}AC$  for some  $C$  invertible.

$$\text{Then } CD = AC.$$

Write column vectors of  $C = [c_1 \dots c_n]$  each  $c_1, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{C}^n$

$$\text{Write } D = \begin{bmatrix} d_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & d_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Then } CD = C[d_1 e_1 \dots d_n e_n] = [Cd_1 e_1 \dots Cd_n e_n]$$

$$= [d_1 c_1 \dots d_n c_n] \quad \text{because } Ce_i = \omega_i c_i \text{ for } i=1, \dots, n$$

$$\text{Now } AC = [AC_1 \dots AC_n]$$

$$\text{Then } AC = CD \text{ translates to } AC_1 = d_1 c_1, \dots, AC_n = d_n c_n$$

so  $\{c_1, \dots, c_n\}$  is a set of eigenvectors of  $A$  (with eigenvalues  $d_1, \dots, d_n$ )

& they are l.i. because they are the columns of the invertible matrix  $C$ .

Remark: The linearly indep eigenvectors are the columns of  $S$  for  $D = S^{-1}AS$  & the diagonal matrix  $D$  has the corresponding eigenvalues (in the same order!)

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

Also, 2 distinct eigenvalues, so we have a basis of eigenvectors. By the Thm  $A$  is diagonalizable (over  $\mathbb{R}$  in this case!)

$$E_{-1}: \text{Solve } \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -6 \\ 3 & -3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow x_1 - x_2 = 0 \quad \boxed{x_1 = x_2} \quad \text{So } E_{-1} = \text{Span} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

$$E_2: \text{Solve } \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -6 \\ 3 & -6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow x_1 - 2x_2 = 0 \quad \boxed{x_1 = 2x_2} \quad \text{So } E_2 = \text{Span} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow S = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{eigenvalue} = -1 \quad \text{eigenvalue} = 2$$

$$S^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det S} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \left( \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \frac{1}{ad-bc} \begin{bmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

$\det S = 1 \cdot 1 - (-1) \cdot (-2) = 1 - 2 = -1$

$$\text{So } D = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \stackrel{?}{=} S^{-1} A S = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -6 \\ 3 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \checkmark$$

Remark: Sufficient condition to be diagonalizable: A has exactly  $n$  distinct eigenvalues.

Example 2: Calculate  $A^{10}$ .

$$A^{15} = S D^{10} S^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1024 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 1024 & -1024 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 2047 & -2046 \\ 1023 & -1022 \end{bmatrix}$$

Example 3 (last time)  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  eigenvalues:  $2+i, 2-i$

$$E_{2+i} = \text{Span} \left( \begin{bmatrix} -1-i \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right), \quad E_{2-i} = \text{Span} \left( \begin{bmatrix} -1-i \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \text{Span} \left( \begin{bmatrix} -1+i \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} -1-i & -1+i \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \det S = 2(-1-i) - 2(-1+i) = -2+2-2i-2i = -4i$$

$$S^{-1} = \frac{1}{-4i} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1-i \\ -2 & -1-i \end{bmatrix} = \frac{-i}{-4} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1-i \\ -2 & -1-i \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} i/2 & (1+i)/4 \\ -i/2 & (1-i)/4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} 2+i & 0 \\ 0 & 2-i \end{bmatrix} = S^{-1} A S = \frac{1}{4} \begin{bmatrix} 2i & 1+i \\ -2i & 1-i \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1-i & -1+i \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \checkmark$$

## §2 Real Symmetric matrices

Last time: All eigenvalues of  $A$   $n \times n$  real symmetric matrix are REAL.

Stronger statement:  $A$  is diagonalizable with eigenvectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

Furthermore, these matrices have a special structure:

Thm: Fix  $A$  a real  $n \times n$  matrix.

- (1) If  $A$  is symmetric, then we can find  $Q$  an  $n \times n$  matrix with  $Q^T = Q^{-1}$  & a diagonal matrix  $D$  with  $D = Q^T A Q$
- (2) If  $Q^T A Q = D$  with  $Q^{-1} = Q^T$  &  $D$  diagonal then  $A$  is symmetric.

orthogonal matrix  $\uparrow$

•  $Q^T = Q^{-1}$  means the columns of  $Q$  are an orthonormal basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . 141

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

$$E_0 = \text{Span} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

$$E_2 = \text{NullSpace} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = \text{Span} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

↳ not orthonormal, but  $\begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}$  is

Pick orthonormal vectors:  $\begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} \\ -1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}$

$$Q = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} & 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} & -1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$Q^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} & 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} & -1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix} = Q^{-1} \text{ because } \begin{matrix} v_1 \cdot v_1 = 1 \\ v_2 \cdot v_2 = 1 \\ v_1 \cdot v_2 = 0 \end{matrix}$$

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = Q^T A Q = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} & 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} & -1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} & 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} & -1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}$$