

Step-1

Objective is to prove that every unitary matrix A is diagonalizable. For this prove the following parts:

(a)

Suppose that A, U both are unitary matrix. Show that $T = U^{-1}AU$ is also unitary.

Since A, U are unitary matrix, therefore

$$\begin{aligned}UU^H &= U^H U \\&= I \quad \dots\dots(1) \\AA^H &= A^H A \\&= I \quad \dots\dots(2)\end{aligned}$$

The matrix T will be unitary if

$$\begin{aligned}TT^H &= T^H T \\&= I\end{aligned}$$

Step-2

Consider TT^H and use the above equations and solve as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}TT^H &= (U^{-1}AU)(U^{-1}AU)^H \\&= (U^{-1}AU)(U^H A^H (U^{-1})^H) \\&= U^{-1}A(UU^H)A^H (U^{-1})^H \\&= U^{-1}AA^H (U^{-1})^H \quad [UU^H = I] \\TT^H &= U^{-1}(U^{-1})^H \quad [AA^H = I] \\&= I\end{aligned}$$

Similarly, solve the right side as:

$$\begin{aligned}T^H T &= (U^{-1}AU)^H (U^{-1}AU) \\&= (U^H A^H (U^{-1})^H)(U^{-1}AU) \\&= U^H A^H ((U^{-1})^H U^{-1})AU \\&= U^H A^H AU \quad [U^H = U^{-1}] \\T^H T &= U^H U \\&= I\end{aligned}$$

Hence, $T = U^{-1}AU$ is an unitary matrix.

Step-3

(b)

Prove that upper triangular unitary matrix T is diagonal.

Note that the columns of a unitary matrix are always orthonormal. Let

$$T = [a_{ij}]_{n \times n} \text{ where } 1 \leq i, j \leq n.$$

Since T is upper triangular unitary matrix, therefore the absolute value of its first entry is 1. The entry $a_{12} = 0$ and $|a_{22}| = 1$.

Similarly, the entry $a_{13} = 0, a_{23} = 0$ and $|a_{33}| = 1$ in T , in order to make the first three columns orthonormal.

Step-4

Proceed in the same manner and observe that the matrix T is nothing but the diagonal matrix where the absolute values of the diagonal entries are 1.

Thus, upper triangular unitary matrix $T = U^{-1}AU$ is diagonal and hence every unitary matrix A is diagonalizable.