

Q1. Let $a, b \in \mathbb{R}^+$. Let $M = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ b & -a \end{pmatrix}$

WTS: The procedure of turning $ax^2 + 2bxy - ay^2 = 1$ into $rx^2 - ty^2 = 1$ by diagonalizing matrix.

We notice that $ax^2 + 2bxy - ay^2 = [x \ y] \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ b & -a \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$.

Since we obtain that $M^T = M$, which M is symmetric. According to spectral theorem, we start to diagonalize it. We want to find the eigenvalue.

$$\begin{aligned} \det(M - \lambda I) &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow \det \begin{pmatrix} a-\lambda & b \\ b & -a-\lambda \end{pmatrix} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow (-\lambda + a)(-\lambda - a) - b^2 = 0, \text{ since } (m+n)(m-n) = m^2 - n^2.$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda^2 - a^2 - b^2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda^2 = a^2 + b^2.$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda = \pm \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}. \quad \lambda_1 = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}; \quad \lambda_2 = -\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

To find the matrix Q .

Since $a, b \in \mathbb{R}^+$, $a^2 + b^2 > 0$, where the eigenvalues are distinct, the corresponding eigenvectors will be orthogonal. (Theorem 4.5.7)

Thus, we can obtain the orthogonal basis of \mathbb{R}^2 , which $\alpha = \{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2\}$ where $\vec{v}_1 \in E_{\lambda_1}$, $\vec{v}_2 \in E_{\lambda_2}$.

According to corollary 1.6.14, since $\dim(\alpha) = 2$, α is a basis for \mathbb{R}^2 .

Also, we can obtain that $Q = [\vec{v}_1 \mid \vec{v}_2]$, which is the change of basis matrix from α to the standard basis, $Q = [I]_{\alpha}^{\varepsilon}$, where ε is the standard basis $\{\vec{e}_1, \vec{e}_2\}$.

To get the equation of hyperbola in the new basis, we need to use the Q we previously get by calculating: $M = Q [\lambda_1 \ \lambda_2] Q^{-1}$
 $\Rightarrow M = Q [\lambda_1 \ \lambda_2] Q^T$

For the conic section, we substitute $M = Q [\lambda_1 \ \lambda_2] Q^T$, gives,

$$\begin{aligned} ax^2 + 2bxy - ay^2 &= [x \ y] \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ b & -a \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \\ &= [x \ y] Q [\lambda_1 \ \lambda_2] Q^T \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= (\bar{x} \ y) \mathcal{Q} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix} (\mathcal{Q}^T \begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix}) \\
&= (\begin{bmatrix} \bar{x} \\ \bar{y} \end{bmatrix})^T (\mathcal{Q}^T)^T \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix} (\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix}) \quad \text{where} \quad \begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix} = \mathcal{Q}^T \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \\
&= (\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix})^T \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix} \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} x' & y' \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix} \\
&= x'^2 - 4y'^2
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \begin{bmatrix} I \end{bmatrix}_2 \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} I \end{bmatrix}_2 \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}
\end{aligned}$$