

# Diagonalizability of symmetric matrices

- Symmetric matrix :  $A = A^T$ .
- Symmetric matrix is always diagonalizable.  
(This means <sup>we</sup> will always get  $n$  eigenvectors for a symmetric matrix of order  $n \times n$ )
- If  $A$  is symmetric, we can find a  $P$  such that
$$P^T A P = D$$

$\Rightarrow$  diagonal.       $P$ : orthogonal.

P will be orthogonal if and only if

- columns of P have dot product between them 0.
- magnitude of columns of P will be 1.

Q) Find a matrix Q such that  $Q^T A Q = D$ , diagonal.

where  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & -2 & -1 \\ -2 & 6 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$

Char eqn:  $-\lambda^3 + 17\lambda^2 - 90\lambda + 144 = 0$

$-(\lambda - 8)(\lambda - 6)(\lambda - 3) = 0$

$\Rightarrow \lambda = 8, 6, 3$   $\rightarrow$  eigenvalues.

eigenvectors,  $\lambda = 8$        $\lambda = 6$        $\lambda = 3$

$\downarrow$   
 $\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

$\downarrow$   
 $\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$

$\downarrow$   
 $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$\therefore P = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  ;  $D = \begin{bmatrix} 8 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$

These matrices satisfy  $P^{-1} A P = D$ .

We need to make P into an orthogonal matrix Q  
so that we will have  $Q^T A Q = D$ .

- check dot product between columns

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = 1 - 1 + 0 = 0 \quad \checkmark$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = -1 - 1 + 2 = 0 \quad \checkmark$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = -1 + 1 + 0 = 0 \quad \checkmark$$

- check if magnitude of each column is 1

$$\left| \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right| = \sqrt{-1^2 + 1^2 + 0} = \sqrt{2} \quad (\because \text{divide this column by } \sqrt{2})$$

$$\left| \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right| = \sqrt{-1^2 + -1^2 + 2^2} = \sqrt{6} \quad (\because \text{divide this column by } \sqrt{6})$$

$$\left| \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right| = \sqrt{1^2 + 1^2 + 1^2} = \sqrt{3} \quad (\because \text{divide this column by } \sqrt{3})$$

matrix  $Q = \begin{bmatrix} -1/\sqrt{2} & -1/\sqrt{6} & 1/\sqrt{3} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} & -1/\sqrt{6} & 1/\sqrt{3} \\ 0 & 2/\sqrt{6} & 1/\sqrt{3} \end{bmatrix}$  and this satisfies  $Q^T A Q = D$ .

Q. Example where the matrix has repeated eigenvalues.

Find  $Q$  such that  $Q^T A Q = D$ ,

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -2 & 4 \\ -2 & 6 & 2 \\ 4 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

ch eqn:  $\lambda^3 - 12\lambda^2 + 21\lambda + 18 = 0$

$$(\lambda - 7)^2 (\lambda + 2) = 0$$

$$\lambda = 7, 7, -2.$$

eigenvectors: when  $\lambda = -2$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1/2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

when  $\lambda = 7$ ,  $Ax = 7x$

$$(A - 7I)x = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -4 & -2 & 4 \\ -2 & -1 & 2 \\ 4 & 2 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$R_2 \rightarrow 2R_2 - R_1$   
 $R_3 \rightarrow R_3 + R_1$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -4 & -2 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$-4x - 2y + 4z = 0$$

$$-2x - y + 2z = 0$$

$$y = -2x + 2z$$

$$\therefore \text{eigenvectors} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ -2x + 2z \\ z \end{bmatrix} = x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + z \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\therefore$  choose  $P = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 & 0 \\ -1/2 & -2 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $D = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 7 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$

this will satisfy  $P^{-1}AP = D$ .

To find Q.

- make the columns having dot product between

from zero

$\lambda = -2$        $\lambda = 7$

$P = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 & 0 \\ -1/2 & -2 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$\begin{matrix} \rightarrow \\ u & v & w \end{matrix}$

$u \cdot v = -1 + 1 + 0 = 0 \checkmark$

$u \cdot w = 0 - 1 + 1 = 0 \checkmark$

$v \cdot w = 0 - 4 + 0 = -4 \times$

dot product between eigenvectors of

different eigenvalues will be 0, but dot product

of same eigenvalue might not be zero.

between

Hence, we have to make it zero.

Here  $v \cdot w \neq 0$ .

let us keep  $v$  and change  $w$ .

$w$  belongs to the set of eigenvectors corresponding to  $\lambda = 7$ .

choose  $w = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ -2x + 2z \\ z \end{bmatrix}$

we need  $v \cdot w = 0$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x \\ -2x+2z \\ z \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

i.e.,  $x - 2(-2x+2z) + 0 = 0$

$$\Rightarrow x + 4x - 4z = 0$$

$$5x - 4z = 0.$$

choose  $x = 4, z = 5$ .

then  $w = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$  which make  $v \cdot w = 0$ .

• make magnitude 1:

$$|u| = \sqrt{-1^2 + -1^2 + 1^2} = 3/2.$$

$$|v| = \sqrt{1^2 + -2^2 + 0} = \sqrt{5}$$

$$|w| = \sqrt{4^2 + 2^2 + 5^2} = \sqrt{45} = \underline{3\sqrt{5}}$$

$$Q = \begin{bmatrix} -2/3 & 1/\sqrt{5} & 4/3\sqrt{5} \\ -1/3 & -2/\sqrt{5} & 2/3\sqrt{5} \\ 2/3 & 0 & \sqrt{5}/3 \end{bmatrix}$$

satisfies  $Q^T A Q = D$ .

## Quadratic Forms

a polynomial in which every term has power two.

In one variable,  $q(x) = ax^2$

2 variables,  $q(x,y) = ax^2 + bxy + cy^2$

3 variables,  $q(x,y,z) = ax^2 + by^2 + cz^2 + dxy + eyz + fzx$ .

- Any quadratic form can be uniquely expressed using a symmetric matrix

eg: let  $q(x,y) = 2x^2 + 4xy + y^2$ .  
then ~~the~~ let  $u = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Then  $q(x,y) = u^T A u$ .

eg:  $q(x,y,z) = x^2 + 2y^2 + 3z^2 - 6xy + 8yz - 10xz$ .

$u = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$   $A = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} x & y & z \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & -5 \\ -3 & 2 & 4 \\ -5 & 4 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$

Then  $q(x,y,z) = u^T A u$ .

- If you have any symmetric matrix, you can write its polynomial as well

eg: Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Then, if  $u = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $u^T A u$  will be a quadratic form.

$$u^T A u = \begin{bmatrix} x & y \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = x^2 + 2xy + 2yx + 3y^2 = \underline{x^2 + 4xy + 3y^2}$$

↳ quadratic form.

### Change of variables

Let  $u = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$  be the variables used in a function.

if we use new variables  $v = \begin{bmatrix} r \\ s \end{bmatrix}$  instead of  $x, y$

such that the function  $f(x, y)$  is changed into  $g(r, s)$ ,

this is called change of variables.

$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$  is changed to  $\begin{bmatrix} r \\ s \end{bmatrix}$  with the use of some  $2 \times 2$  matrix  $P$ .

~~$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = P \begin{bmatrix} r \\ s \end{bmatrix}$~~  or  $u = P v$

$$v = P u$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} r \\ s \end{bmatrix} = P \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

$P$  gives relation between  $r, s, x, y$ .



Note: In a quadratic form, the terms with ~~the~~ product of variables is called cross product terms.

eg:  $q(x,y) = 2x^2 + \underbrace{6xy}_{\substack{\downarrow \\ \text{cross product term}}} + 3y^2$

Q) Convert the following quadratic form in  $x$  and  $y$  into another quadratic form with variables  $h$  and  $s$  so that the new ~~for~~ form has no ~~cross~~ product terms.

~~$q(x,y) = 2x^2 + 6xy + 3y^2$~~

$q(x,y) = 2x^2 + 6xy + 2y^2$

A: Here  $6xy$  is the product term.  
we need to change  $x,y$  to  $h,s$  so that  
 $g(h,s) = q(x,y)$   
↳ has no product terms.

$q(x,y) = 2x^2 + 6xy + 2y^2$

let  $u = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

Then  $q(x,y) = u^T A u$  — (1)

Since  $A$  is symmetric, we can find an orthogonal matrix  $Q$  such that  $Q^T A Q = D$

or  $A = Q D Q^T$

Finding Q

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

$$|A - \lambda I| = 0$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} 2-\lambda & 3 \\ 3 & 2-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$(2-\lambda)(2-\lambda) - 9 = 0$$

$$4 - 3\lambda + \lambda^2 - 9 = 0$$

$$\lambda^2 - 3\lambda - 5 = 0$$

$$(\lambda - 5)(\lambda + 1) = 0 \Rightarrow$$

$$\lambda = 5, -1.$$

$$\underline{\underline{\lambda = -1}}$$

$$Ax = -x$$

$$(A + I)x = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 3 \\ 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - R_1$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$3x + 3y = 0$$

$$x = -y \quad \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

eigenvectors

$$\underline{\underline{\lambda = 5}}$$

$$Ax = 5x$$

$$(A - 5I)x = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -3 & 3 \\ 3 & -3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_2 \rightarrow R_2 + R_1$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -3 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$-3x + 3y = 0$$

$$x = y, \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{choose } P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad D = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{then } P^{-1}AP = D.$$

- ~~dot~~ making Q from P:

dot product between columns,  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = -1 + 1 = 0 \checkmark$

magnitude of  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \sqrt{1^2 + 1^2} = \sqrt{2}$

magnitude of  $\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \sqrt{-1^2 + 1^2} = \sqrt{2}$

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

This satisfies  $Q^T A Q = D$ .

$$\Rightarrow A = Q D Q^T$$

Substitute in (1) to get

$$q(x, y) = \underline{u}^T Q D Q^T \underline{u}$$

let  $Q^T u = v \Rightarrow u^T Q = v^T$

$$\therefore q(x, y) = v^T D v$$

let  $v = \begin{bmatrix} h \\ s \end{bmatrix}$

Then  $q(x, y) = \begin{bmatrix} h & s \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} h \\ s \end{bmatrix}$

$$q(x, s) = \underline{\underline{5h^2 - s^2}}$$

Relation between  $h, s, x, y$ :

$$\begin{bmatrix} h \\ s \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} x+y \\ -x+y \end{bmatrix}$$