

### 三. 实对称矩阵的相似对角化

**定理3:** 对任一实对称矩阵 $A$ , 均存在正交矩阵 $C$ , 使

$$C^T A C = C^{-1} A C = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & & \\ & \lambda_2 & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}$$

其中,  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$  是矩阵 $A$ 的特征值.

**推论:** 设 $A$ 是实对称矩阵,  $\lambda$ 是 $A$ 的 $k$ 重特征值, 则:

$\lambda$ 恰有 $k$ 个线性无关的特征向量.

求正交矩阵  $C$  与对角矩阵  $\Lambda$  的计算步骤:

(1) 求  $f(\lambda) = |\lambda I - A|$  的根:  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$ ;

(2) 求  $(\lambda_i I - A)X = 0$  的基础解系:

$$\alpha_{i1}, \alpha_{i2}, \dots, \alpha_{ir_i};$$

(3) 将  $\alpha_{i1}, \alpha_{i2}, \dots, \alpha_{ir_i}$  正交化后再单位化得:

$$\gamma_{i1}, \gamma_{i2}, \dots, \gamma_{ir_i}$$

(4) 令  $C = (\gamma_{11}, \dots, \gamma_{1r_1}, \dots, \gamma_{k1}, \dots, \gamma_{kr_k})$ , 则  $C$  为正交矩阵且

$$C^T A C = C^{-1} A C = \Lambda = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n).$$

**例1.** 设  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 & -2 \\ 2 & 5 & -4 \\ -2 & -4 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$ , 求正交矩阵  $C$  与对角矩阵  $\Lambda$ , 使

$$C^T A C = C^{-1} A C = \Lambda.$$

**解:**  $|\lambda I - A| = \begin{vmatrix} \lambda - 2 & -2 & 2 \\ -2 & \lambda - 5 & 4 \\ 2 & 4 & \lambda - 5 \end{vmatrix}$

$$= (\lambda - 1)^2 (\lambda - 10)$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda_1 = 1 (\text{二重}), \lambda_2 = 10.$$

求  $\lambda_1 = 1$  的特征向量:

$$\lambda_1 I - A = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -2 & 2 \\ -2 & -4 & 4 \\ 2 & 4 & -4 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$x_1 = -2x_2 + 2x_3, \quad \alpha_1 = (-2, 1, 0)^T, \quad \alpha_2 = (2, 0, 1)^T.$$

将  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2$  正交化:  $\beta_1 = \alpha_1 = (-2, 1, 0)^T$ ,

$$\beta_2 = \alpha_2 - \frac{(\alpha_2, \beta_1)}{(\beta_1, \beta_1)} \beta_1 = \cdots = \frac{1}{5}(2, 4, 5)^T.$$

再将  $\beta_1, \beta_2$  单位化:

$$\gamma_1 = \frac{1}{\|\beta_1\|} \beta_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}(-2, 1, 0)^T, \quad \gamma_2 = \frac{1}{\|\beta_2\|} \beta_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{45}}(2, 4, 5)^T.$$

求 $\lambda_2 = 10$  的特征向量:

$$\lambda_2 I - A = \begin{pmatrix} 8 & -2 & 2 \\ -2 & 5 & 4 \\ 2 & 4 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 = -\frac{1}{2}x_3, \quad x_2 = -x_3,$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha_3 = (1, 2, -2)^T.$$

将 $\alpha_3$ 单位化:  $\gamma_3 = \frac{1}{\|\alpha_3\|} \alpha_3 = \frac{1}{3}(1, 2, -2)^T.$

$$\text{令 } C = (\gamma_1 \ \gamma_2 \ \gamma_3) = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{2}{\sqrt{5}} & \frac{2}{3\sqrt{5}} & \frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} & \frac{4}{3\sqrt{5}} & \frac{2}{3} \\ 0 & \frac{5}{3\sqrt{5}} & -\frac{2}{3} \end{pmatrix},$$

则  $C$  为正交矩阵且：

$$C^T A C = C^{-1} A C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & \\ & 1 & \\ & & 10 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**例2.** 实对称矩阵  $A$  与  $B$  相似

$\Leftrightarrow A$  与  $B$  有相同的特征值 .

**证明:** " $\Rightarrow$ " 相似矩阵有相同的特征值.

$\Leftarrow$ : 设  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$  是  $A$  与  $B$  的特征值, 由  $A, B$  实对称知

$$A \sim \Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & & \\ & \lambda_2 & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix} \sim B,$$

由矩阵相似的传递性得:  $A \sim B$ .