

# Linear Algebra – Part II

## A summary for MIT 18.06SC

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## 1 Orthogonality

### 1.1 Orthogonal vectors and subspaces

**Definition 1** (*Orthogonal vectors*). Let  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$  be two vectors. The vectors  $x$  and  $y$  are orthogonal, denoted  $x \perp y$ , if and only if  $x^T y = y^T x = 0$ .

**Definition 2** (*Orthogonal subspaces*). Let  $S, T$  be two subspaces  $\underline{S}, \underline{T}$ . The subspaces  $S$  and  $T$  are orthogonal, denoted  $S \perp T$ , if and only if for any  $s \in S$  and  $t \in T$ ,  $s^T t = t^T s = 0$ .

Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  be a matrix. There are four subspaces related to  $\mathbf{A}$ : column space  $C(\mathbf{A})$ , row space  $C(\mathbf{A}^T)$ , nullspace  $N(\mathbf{A})$ , and left nullspace  $N(\mathbf{A}^T)$ . Suppose the rank of  $\mathbf{A}$  is  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = r$ , the dimensions of these subspaces are: ,  $\rightarrow$ . (Grammar mistake: two full sentences without a conjunction)

$$\dim(C(\mathbf{A})) = \dim(C(\mathbf{A}^T)) = r, \quad \dim(N(\mathbf{A})) = n - r, \quad \dim(N(\mathbf{A}^T)) = m - r.$$

**Theorem 1.1** (Orthogonality of matrix subspaces). Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  be a matrix. The row space  $C(\mathbf{A}^T)$  and the nullspace  $N(\mathbf{A})$  are orthogonal. The column space  $C(\mathbf{A})$  and the left nullspace  $N(\mathbf{A}^T)$  are orthogonal, i.e., . That is,

$$C(\mathbf{A}^T) \perp N(\mathbf{A}) \quad \text{and} \quad C(\mathbf{A}) \perp N(\mathbf{A}^T).$$

*Proof.* For any vector  $x \in N(\mathbf{A})$ , we have  $\mathbf{A}x = 0$ . Specifically,

$$\mathbf{A}x = \begin{bmatrix} a_1^T x \\ \vdots \\ a_m^T x \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

where  $a_i \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is the  $i$ -th row of  $\mathbf{A}$ , for all  $i \in [m]$ . By Definition 1,  $x$  is orthogonal to the rows in matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ . For any vector  $v \in C(\mathbf{A}^T)$ ,  $v$  is a linear combination of the rows  $v = c_1 a_1 + \dots + c_m a_m$ , where  $c_i \in \mathbb{R}$ , for all  $i \in [m]$ . Taking inner product between vectors  $v$  and  $x$ , we have

$$v^T x = c_1 a_1^T x + \dots + c_m a_m^T x = 0.$$

Therefore,  $v \perp x$ , and  $N(\mathbf{A}) \perp C(\mathbf{A}^T)$ .

Similarly, for any  $x \in N(\mathbf{A}^T)$ , we have  $\mathbf{A}^T x = 0$ , which implies  $N(\mathbf{A}^T) \perp C(\mathbf{A})$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 1.2** (Relationship between  $\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{A}$ ). Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  be a matrix. We have

$$N(\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}) = N(\mathbf{A}) \quad \text{and} \quad \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}).$$

Can you think of a direct proof?

(I have drafted a direct proof, but I'd encourage you to think of one by yourself first.)

Principle: Direct proofs are always preferred over proofs by contradiction)

*Proof.* First, we prove that  $N(\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}) = N(\mathbf{A})$ .

On one hand, if  $x \in N(\mathbf{A})$ , then  $\mathbf{A}x = 0$ , which implies that  $\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}x = \mathbf{A}^T 0 = 0$ . Therefore, for any  $x \in N(\mathbf{A})$ , the vector  $x \in N(\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A})$ .

On the other hand, we prove by contradiction that for any  $x \in N(\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A})$  the vector  $x \in N(\mathbf{A})$ .

Suppose there is a vector  $x \in N(\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A})$  but  $x \notin N(\mathbf{A})$ . We have

$$\mathbf{A}x = b \neq 0, \quad \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}x = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{A}^T b = 0. \quad (1)$$

By the first equality in (1),  $b \in C(\mathbf{A})$ , and by the third equation in (1),  $b \in N(\mathbf{A}^T)$ . This contradicts the Theorem 1.1 that  $C(\mathbf{A}) \perp N(\mathbf{A}^T)$ . Therefore, for any  $x \in N(\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A})$ , the vector  $x \in N(\mathbf{A})$ .

Next, given  $N(\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}) = N(\mathbf{A})$ , we have  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}) = n - \dim(N(\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A})) = n - \dim(N(\mathbf{A})) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{A})$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 1** (Invertibility of  $\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}$ ). If  $\mathbf{A}$  has independent columns, then  $\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}$  is invertible.

*Proof.* Suppose  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  is a matrix with independent columns; i.e.,  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = n$ . By Theorem 1.2,  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = n$ . Since  $\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is a square matrix,  $\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}$  is invertible.  $\square$

## 1.2 Projections onto subspaces

**Definition 3** (*Projection and projection matrix*). Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  be a vector and  $\mathbf{A}^{n \times m}$  be a matrix with independent columns. The vector  $p \in C(\mathbf{A})$  that satisfies

$$(x - p) \perp C(\mathbf{A}), \quad (2)$$

is called the projection of vector  $x$  onto the column space  $C(\mathbf{A})$ . For all  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and the corresponding projection  $p$ , the matrix  $\mathbf{P} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$  that satisfies

$$p = \mathbf{P}x,$$

is called the projection matrix of  $\mathbf{A}$  from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  onto the column space  $C(\mathbf{A})$ .

**Proposition 1** (*Projection matrix of  $C(\mathbf{A})$* ). Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  be a vector and  $\mathbf{A}^{m \times n}$  be a matrix with independent columns. The projection matrix of  $\mathbf{A}$  from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  onto the column space  $C(\mathbf{A})$  is

You should precisely define p and hat x in this context.

$\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T$ . Shouldn't p and hat x depend on x?

Your current statement implies the choice of (p, \hat{x}) holds for "all" x, which is wrong.

*Proof.* By Definition 3, the projection  $p \in C(\mathbf{A})$ . Then, there exists a vector  $\hat{x} \in \mathbb{R}^m$  such that  $p = \mathbf{A}\hat{x}$ . By equation (2), for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , we have

$$\mathbf{A}^T(x - \mathbf{A}\hat{x}) = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \hat{x} = (\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T x \quad \Rightarrow \quad p = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T x.$$

Therefore, the matrix  $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T$  is the projection matrix of  $\mathbf{A}$  from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  onto the column space  $C(\mathbf{A})$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 1.3** (*Properties of projection matrix*). Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  be a matrix, and  $\mathbf{P}$  be the projection matrix of  $\mathbf{A}$  onto the column space. Then,

$$\mathbf{P}^T = \mathbf{P}; \quad \mathbf{P}^2 = \mathbf{P}.$$

*Proof.* By Proposition 1, the projection matrix is  $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T$ . Then,

$$\mathbf{P}^T = (\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T)^T = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T = \mathbf{P}.$$

Similarly, we have

$$\mathbf{P}^2 = \mathbf{P}^T \mathbf{P} = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T = \mathbf{P}. \quad (\text{avoid stacking math expressions with no transition})$$

□

**Corollary 2** (Projection onto  $N(\mathbf{A}^T)$ ). Suppose  $\mathbf{P}$  is a projection matrix in Theorem 1.3. Then  $\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}$  is also a projection matrix of  $\mathbf{A}$  from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  onto the left nullspace  $N(\mathbf{A}^T)$ .

*Proof.* By Definition 3, for any  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , we have

$$x - \mathbf{P}x \perp C(\mathbf{A}) \Rightarrow (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P})x \perp C(\mathbf{A}).$$

By Theorem 1.1, the column space of  $\mathbf{A}$  is orthogonal to the left null space of  $\mathbf{A}$ . Then,

$$(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P})x \in N(\mathbf{A}^T) \quad \text{and} \quad (x - (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P})x) \perp N(\mathbf{A}^T). \quad \text{why?}$$

Therefore,  $\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}$  is a projection matrix of  $\mathbf{A}$  from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  onto the left nullspace  $N(\mathbf{A}^T)$ . □

Suppose  $y=x_1+x_2$  and  $x_1$  in S. We cannot conclude  $(y-x_1) \perp S$ .

### 1.3 Projection matrices and least squares

Let  $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$  be a vector and  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times (k+1)}$  be a design matrix. We propose the linear regression model as

$$y = \mathbf{X}\beta + \epsilon,$$

where  $\beta = (\beta_0, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_k)$  are regression coefficients and  $\epsilon$  is the noise. The least square estimate of  $\beta$  is the minimizer of the loss; i.e.,

least-squares

the squared loss

$$\hat{\beta}_{LS} = \arg \min_{\beta \in \mathbb{R}^{k+1}} \|y - \mathbf{X}\beta\|^2,$$

“which” represents what? the projection Xhat\beta\_{LS}, the column space of X, or the vector \hat{\beta}\_{LS}?

Capital

“which” should come immediately after the word modified. (same rule as “only”)

where  $\|\cdot\|$  is the euclidean norm. We consider the vector  $\mathbf{X}\hat{\beta}_{LS}$  as the projection of  $y$  onto the column space of  $\mathbf{X}$ , which minimizes the distance from  $y$  to the column space  $C(\mathbf{X})$ . Therefore, we may use projection to solve the minimization problem.

By Definition 3, the projection  $\mathbf{X}\hat{\beta}_{LS}$  satisfies

$$\mathbf{X}^T(y - \mathbf{X}\hat{\beta}_{LS}) = 0 \Rightarrow \hat{\beta}_{LS} = (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T y.$$

first-order condition for the least-squares optimization.

The estimate  $\hat{\beta}_{LS}$  is consistent with the estimates solved by using the derivative.

### 1.4 Orthogonal matrices and Gram-Schmidt

**Definition 4** (*Orthonormal vectors*). The vectors  $q_1, \dots, q_n$  are orthonormal if

$$q_i^T q_j = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i \neq j \\ 1 & \text{if } i = j \end{cases}.$$

Orthonormal vectors are always independent.

**Definition 5** (*Orthonormal matrix and orthogonal matrix*). Let  $\mathbf{Q} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  be a matrix. The matrix  $\mathbf{Q}$  is an orthonormal matrix, if the columns of  $\mathbf{Q}$  are orthonormal. When  $m = n$ , the square matrix  $\mathbf{Q}$  is an orthogonal matrix.

Suppose  $\mathbf{Q} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  is an orthonormal matrix. Then, we have  $\mathbf{Q}^T \mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{I}_n$ . When  $m = n$ ,  $\mathbf{Q}$  is an orthogonal matrix and  $\mathbf{Q}^T = \mathbf{Q}^{-1}$ . The projection matrix of  $\mathbf{Q}$  onto the column space  $C(\mathbf{Q})$ , denoted  $\mathbf{P}$ , becomes  $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{I}_m$ .

the i-th column

**Definition 6** (*Gram-Schmidt Process and QR decomposition*). Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  be a matrix with  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = n$ , and  $a_i \in \mathbb{R}^m$  be the column of matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ , for all  $i \in [n]$ . Gram-Schmidt process finds the orthonormal basis for  $C(\mathbf{A})$  as following,

$$\begin{aligned} u_1 &= a_1, & \text{follows} \\ u_2 &= a_2 - \frac{u_1^T a_2}{u_1^T u_1} u_1, & e_1 = \frac{u_1}{\|u_1\|}; \\ u_3 &= a_3 - \frac{u_1^T a_3}{u_1^T u_1} u_1 - \frac{u_2^T a_3}{u_2^T u_2} u_2, & e_2 = \frac{u_2}{\|u_2\|}; \\ &\vdots & e_2 = \frac{u_3}{\|u_3\|}; \\ u_n &= a_n - \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{u_k^T a_n}{u_k^T u_k} u_k, & e_n = \frac{u_n}{\|u_n\|}. \end{aligned}$$

The vectors  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  are orthonormal basis of the  $C(\mathbf{A})$ . Based on the basis obtained by Gram-Schmidt, we decompose the matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  as following,

$$\mathbf{A} = [a_1, \dots, a_n] = [e_1, \dots, e_n] \begin{bmatrix} e_1^T a_1 & e_1^T a_2 & \cdots & e_1^T a_n \\ 0 & e_2^T a_2 & \cdots & e_2^T a_n \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & e_n^T a_n \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{R}, \quad (3)$$

where  $\mathbf{Q} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  is an orthonormal matrix and  $\mathbf{R} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is an upper triangular matrix. The matrix decomposition in equation (3) is called QR decomposition.

## 2 Determinants

a

The *determinant* is a number associated with **any** square matrix. For a square matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ , let  $\det(\mathbf{A})$  or  $|A|$  denote the determinant of matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ .

“a number ... with any matrix” ==> different matrices share a same number

### 2.1 Properties of determinants

We give ten properties of determinants. The last seven properties are deduced **by** the first three basic properties.

an

from

1. The determinant of identity matrix is equal to 1; i.e.,  $\det(\mathbf{I}) = 1$ .
2. Exchanging two rows of a matrix reverses the sign of the **matrix's** determinant. Hence, an odd number of row exchanges reverse the sign of the determinant while an even number of row exchanges maintain the sign of the determinant. , while
3. (a) If one row of the matrix is multiplied by a constant  $t$ , the determinant of the matrix is multiplied by  $t$ .

$$\left| \begin{array}{cc} ta & tb \\ c & d \end{array} \right| = t \left| \begin{array}{cc} a & b \\ c & d \end{array} \right| \quad \text{period}$$

by row

- (b) The determinant is linearly additive on the rows of the matrix.

$$\begin{vmatrix} a + a' & b + b' \\ c & d \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} a' & b' \\ c & d \end{vmatrix} \quad \text{period}$$

A matrix with two identical rows has determinant 0.

4. If the matrix contains two identical rows, the determinant of the matrix is 0.

*Proof.* Suppose  $\mathbf{A}$  has two identical rows  $a_i, a_j$ . The matrix after exchanging  $a_i, a_j$ , denoted  $\mathbf{A}'$ , is the same as the original matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ . By property 2, we have  $\det(\mathbf{A}) = -\det(\mathbf{A}') = -\det(\mathbf{A})$ . Therefore,  $\det(\mathbf{A}) = 0$ .  $\square$

a multiplier

5. Subtracting ~~t times~~ of the  $i$ -th row from the  $j$ -th row does not change the determinant of the matrix, where  $i \neq j$ .

*Proof.* Take a two-by-two matrix as an example. By property 3 and property 4,

$$\begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c - ta & d - tb \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix} - t \begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ a & b \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix}.$$

The proof for higher-dimension matrices is similar.  $\square$

matrices

6. If the matrix has a row that is all zeros, the determinant of the matrix is 0.

*Proof.* By property 3, letting  $t = 0$  leads to property 6.  $\square$

7. Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be a triangular matrix with diagonal elements  $d_1, \dots, d_n$ . The determinant  $\det(\mathbf{A}) = \prod_{i=1}^n d_i$ .

*Proof.* We eliminate the matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  to a diagonal matrix, denoted  $\mathbf{A}'$ . By property 5,  $\det \mathbf{A} = \det \mathbf{A}'$ . Since  $\mathbf{A}$  is triangular, the diagonal elements of  $\mathbf{A}'$  are still  $d_1, \dots, d_n$ . By property 3 and 1,  $\det(\mathbf{A}') = \prod_{i=1}^n d_i \det(\mathbf{I}_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n d_i$ . Therefore,  $\det(\mathbf{A}) = \prod_{i=1}^n d_i$ .  $\square$

8. If the square matrix is singular, the determinant of the matrix is 0.

vice versa. A matrix is singular if and only if its determinant is zero

*Proof.* If  $\mathbf{A}$  is a singular matrix, the reduced row echelon form of  $\mathbf{A}$ , denoted  $RREF(\mathbf{A})$ , has a row with all 0 entries. By and 6,  $\det(RREF(\mathbf{A})) = 0$ . Therefore, by property 5, we have  $\det(\mathbf{A}) = \det(RREF(\mathbf{A})) = 0$ .  $\square$

9. Let  $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be two square matrices, the determinant of the matrix product is  $\det(\mathbf{AB}) = \det(\mathbf{A}) \det(\mathbf{B})$ .  $\square$

two full sentences without conjectures

*Proof.* First, if at least one of  $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}$  is singular, the product  $\mathbf{AB}$  is also singular. Then,  $\det(\mathbf{AB}) = \det(\mathbf{A}) \det(\mathbf{B}) = 0$ .

Second, let  $\mathbf{E}$  be an elimination matrix. The product  $\mathbf{EB}$  means implementing a linear operation on the rows of  $\mathbf{B}$ . By property 5, linear operation does not change the determinant of  $\mathbf{B}$ . Therefore, we have

$$|\mathbf{EB}| = |\mathbf{E}||\mathbf{B}| \quad \text{period} \quad (4)$$

Last, suppose that both  $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}$  are invertible. By elimination, there exist a sequence of elimination matrix  $\{\mathbf{E}_i\}_{i=1}^n$  such that

$$\mathbf{E}_n \cdots \mathbf{E}_1 \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{I}.$$

By Lemma 2 in Linear Algebra-Part I, the inverse of an elimination matrix is still an elimination matrix. Let  $\mathbf{E}'_k$  denote the inverse  $\mathbf{E}_k^{-1}$ , for all  $k \in [n]$ . We rewrite  $\mathbf{A}$  as

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{E}'_n \cdots \mathbf{E}'_1.$$

Combine A with B..

Combining equation (4), we have

$$|\mathbf{AB}| = |\mathbf{E}'_n \cdots \mathbf{E}'_1 \mathbf{B}| = |\mathbf{E}'_n| |\mathbf{E}'_{n-1} \cdots \mathbf{E}'_1 \mathbf{B}| = \cdots = |\mathbf{E}'_n| \cdots |\mathbf{E}'_1| |\mathbf{B}|. \quad (5)$$

Applying the equation (4) again to the term  $|\mathbf{E}'_n| \cdots |\mathbf{E}'_1|$ , we have

$$|\mathbf{E}'_n| \cdots |\mathbf{E}'_1| = |\mathbf{E}'_n| \cdots |\mathbf{E}'_3| |\mathbf{E}'_2 \mathbf{E}'_1| = \cdots = |\mathbf{E}'_n \cdots \mathbf{E}'_1|. \quad (6)$$

Hence, combining equation (5) with equation (6), we obtain the result

$$|\mathbf{AB}| = |\mathbf{E}'_n \cdots \mathbf{E}'_1| |\mathbf{B}| = |\mathbf{A}| |\mathbf{B}|.$$

□

10. Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a square matrix, the determinant  $\det(\mathbf{A}^T) = \det(\mathbf{A})$ .

*Proof.* By LU decomposition, we rewrite the matrix as  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{LU}$ , where  $\mathbf{L}$  is a lower-triangular matrix and  $\mathbf{U}$  is an upper-triangular matrix. Note that the transports  $\mathbf{L}^T, \mathbf{U}^T$  have the same diagonal elements with  $\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{U}$  respectively. By property 7,  $\det(\mathbf{L}^T) = \det(\mathbf{L})$ ,  $\det(\mathbf{U}^T) = \det(\mathbf{U})$ . Therefore, combining property 9, we have  $\det(\mathbf{A}) = \det(\mathbf{L}) \det(\mathbf{U}) = \det(\mathbf{U}^T) \det(\mathbf{L}^T) = \det(\mathbf{U}^T \mathbf{L}^T) = \det(\mathbf{A}^T)$ . combine ... with ... □

## 2.2 Determinant computation

**Proposition 2** (Big formula for computing determinant). *Let  $\mathbf{A} = \llbracket a_{ij} \rrbracket \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be a square matrix. The big formula for computing the determinant of  $\mathbf{A}$  is*

$$\det(\mathbf{A}) = \sum_{(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \in \mathcal{P}} (-1)^{N(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)} a_{1,\alpha_1} \dots a_{n,\alpha_n},$$

where  $(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$  is the permutation of  $(1, 2, \dots, n)$ ,  $\mathcal{P}$  is the collection of all possible  $(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$ , and  $N(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$  is the number of ~~necessary exchanges~~ from  $(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$  to  $(1, 2, \dots, n)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\mathbf{A} = \llbracket a_{ij} \rrbracket \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be a square matrix. We decompose the matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  by the summation of  $n^n$  matrices, denoted  $\mathbf{A}'_i$ , where  $i \in [n^n]$ . For any  $\mathbf{A}'_i$ , there is only one entry comes from  $\mathbf{A}$  in each row and other entries are 0. By property 3, the determinant  $\det(\mathbf{A}) = \sum_{i=1}^{n^n} \det(\mathbf{A}'_i)$ . Take a 3-by-3 square matrix as an example.

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ a_{21} & 0 & 0 \\ a_{31} & 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & a_{22} & 0 \\ a_{31} & 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix} + \cdots + \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 & a_{13} \\ 0 & 0 & a_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} = \mathbf{A}'_1 + \mathbf{A}'_2 + \cdots + \mathbf{A}'_{27}.$$

There are  $n!$  nonsingular matrices among matrices  $\mathbf{A}'_i$ . The number of nonsingular matrices coincides with the size of  $\mathcal{P}$ . Intuitively, there are  $n$  ways to choose an element from the first row,

Intuitively → Specifically (proof should be rigorous, but by intuition.)

after which there are only  $n - 1$  ways to choose an element from the second row to avoid the zero determinant. Therefore, we have  $n \times (n - 1) \times (n - 2) \times \cdots \times 2 = n!$  nonsingular matrices.

By property 7 and 2, the determinant of a nonsingular  $\mathbf{A}'_i$  follows the formula

$$(-1)^{N(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)} a_{1,\alpha_1} \dots a_{n,\alpha_n},$$

where  $(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$  is the permutation of  $(1, 2, \dots, n)$ ,  $\mathcal{P}$  is the collection of all possible  $(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$ , and  $N(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$  is the number of necessary exchanges from  $(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$  to  $(1, 2, \dots, n)$ .  $\square$

**Definition 7** (*Cofactors, cofactor matrix, and cofactor formula*). Let  $\mathbf{A} = [[a_{ij}]] \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be a square matrix, and  $\mathbf{A}_{-i,-j}$  be the submatrix of  $\mathbf{A}$  after removing the  $i$ -th row and  $j$ -th column. The cofactor associated with  $a_{ij}$  is defined as

$$C_{ij} = (-1)^{i+j} \det(\mathbf{A}_{-i,-j}).$$

The matrix  $\mathbf{C} = [[C_{ij}]] \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is called <sup>a</sup>cofactor matrix. The cofactor formula of  $\det(\mathbf{A})$  is  
 always add articles before singular countable nouns.

$$\det(\mathbf{A}) = \sum_j^n a_{ij} C_{ij} = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ji} C_{ji}, \quad \text{for all } i \in [n].$$

No articles before plural countable nouns.

**Example 1** (*Tridiagonal matrix*). One example of using cofactor formula is computing the determinant of a *tridiagonal matrix*. The tridiagonal matrix is a matrix in which only nonzero elements lie on or adjacent to the diagonal. Let  $\mathbf{T}_n \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  denote the tridiagonal matrix of 1's; i.e.,

$$\mathbf{T}_n = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}_{n \times n}.$$

Let  $\mathbf{T}_{n,-i,-j}$  be the submatrix of  $\mathbf{T}_n$  after removing the  $i$ -th row and the  $j$ -th column. By cofactor formula, we have

$$\det(\mathbf{T}_n) = 1 \times \det(\mathbf{T}_{n,-1,-1}) - 1 \times \det(\mathbf{T}_{n,-1,-2}).$$

By the definition of tridiagonal matrix,  $\mathbf{T}_{n,-1,-1} = \mathbf{T}_{n-1}$ , and  $\det(\mathbf{T}_{n,-1,-2}) = 1 \times \det(\mathbf{T}_{n-2})$ . Therefore,

$$\det(\mathbf{T}_n) = \det(\mathbf{T}_{n-1}) - \det(\mathbf{T}_{n-2}).$$

## 2.3 Inverse matrices

Previously, we use Gauss-Jordan elimination to obtain the inverse matrix of an invertible matrix. Here, we apply cofactor formula to compute the inverse matrix.

**Theorem 2.1** (*Inverse matrix by cofactors*). Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be an invertible matrix, and  $\mathbf{C}$  be the cofactor matrix of  $\mathbf{A}$ . The inverse matrix of  $\mathbf{A}$  satisfies

$$\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det(\mathbf{A})} \mathbf{C}^T.$$

*Proof.* It is equivalent to show that  $\mathbf{AC}^T = \det(\mathbf{A})\mathbf{I}_n$ .

Let  $\mathbf{A} = [a_{ij}] \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be an invertible matrix, and  $C_{ij}$  be the cofactor of  $a_{ij}$ . By the definition of cofactor matrix, we have

$$\mathbf{AC}^T = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} C_{11} & C_{21} & \cdots & C_{n1} \\ C_{12} & C_{22} & \cdots & C_{n2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ C_{1n} & C_{2n} & \cdots & C_{nn} \end{bmatrix},$$

Therefore, the diagonal elements of  $\mathbf{AC}^T$  are  $(\mathbf{AC}^T)_{ii} = \sum_k^n a_{ik}C_{ik} = \det(\mathbf{A})$ , for all  $i \in [n]$ . Consider the off-diagonal entries  $(\mathbf{AC}^T)_{ij} = \sum_k^n a_{ik}C_{jk}$ , where  $k \neq i \neq j$ . By cofactor formula, the summation  $\sum_k^n a_{ik}C_{jk}$  is equal to the determinant of a matrix whose  $i$ -th row and  $j$ -th row are identical. Combining property 6, the off-diagonals of  $\mathbf{AC}^T$  are 0. Then, we have  $\mathbf{AC}^T = \det(\mathbf{A})\mathbf{I}_n$ .  $\square$

**Definition 8** (*Cramer's rule*). Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be an invertible matrix,  $x, b \in \mathbb{R}^n$  be vectors. Applying Theorem 2.1 to the linear system  $\mathbf{Ax} = b$ , we obtain the Cramer's rule of  $x = \mathbf{A}^{-1}b$ , two

$$x = \frac{1}{\det(\mathbf{A})}\mathbf{C}^T b \quad \text{and} \quad x_j = \frac{\det(\mathbf{B}_j)}{\mathbf{A}_j}, \quad \text{what is } x_j?$$

where  $\mathbf{B}_j$  is the matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  after replacing the  $j$ -th column by  $b$ .

**Definition 9** (*Parallelepiped*). The parallelepiped determined by  $n$  vectors  $v_1, \dots, v_n \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is defined as the following subset,

$$P = \{a_1v_1 + \cdots + a_nv_n : 0 \leq a_1, \dots, a_n \leq 1\}.$$

We use  $\text{vol}(P)$  to denote the volume of the parallelepiped  $P$ .

**Proposition 3** (Determinants and volumes). *The absolute determinant of a square matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  is the volume of parallelepiped determined by the rows of  $\mathbf{A}$ ; i.e.,*

$$|\det(\mathbf{A})| = \text{vol}(P(\mathbf{A})),$$

where  $P(\mathbf{A})$  is the parallelepiped determined by the rows of  $\mathbf{A}$ .

**Example 2.** The area of a triangle with vertices at  $(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2), (x_3, y_2)$  is

$$\frac{1}{2} \begin{vmatrix} x_1 & y_1 & 1 \\ x_2 & y_2 & 1 \\ x_3 & y_3 & 1 \end{vmatrix}.$$

*Proof.* The two edges of the triangle are  $v_1 = (x_2 - x_1, y_2 - y_1)$  and  $v_2 = (x_3 - x_1, y_3 - y_1)$ . The area of the triangle is a half of the area of the parallelepiped determined by  $v_1, v_2$ . Therefore, the area of the triangle is

$$\frac{1}{2} \begin{vmatrix} x_2 - x_1 & y_2 - y_1 \\ x_3 - x_1 & y_3 - y_1 \end{vmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \begin{vmatrix} x_2 & y_2 \\ x_3 & y_3 \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} x_1 & y_1 \\ x_2 & y_2 \end{vmatrix} - \begin{vmatrix} x_1 & y_1 \\ x_3 & y_3 \end{vmatrix} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \begin{vmatrix} x_1 & y_1 & 1 \\ x_2 & y_2 & 1 \\ x_3 & y_3 & 1 \end{vmatrix}.$$

$\square$

### 3 Eigenvalues and eigenvectors

**Definition 10** (*Eigenvalues and eigenvectors*). Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$  be a square matrix. Suppose there is a nonzero vector  $x \in \mathbb{R}^m$  such that

$$\mathbf{A}x = \lambda x, \quad \text{for some } \lambda \in \mathbb{C}.$$

The vector  $x$  is called the eigenvector of  $\mathbf{A}$ . The value  $\lambda$  is called the eigenvalue of  $\mathbf{A}$ , and  $x$  is the eigenvector associated with eigenvalue  $\lambda$ .

Usually, eigenvectors are normalized; i.e.,  $\|x\| = 1$ , where  $\|\cdot\|$  is the euclidean distance. For simplicity, all the eigenvectors mentioned below are normalized. Besides, the eigenvectors associated with eigenvalue 0 span the nullspace of  $\mathbf{A}$ .

**Definition 11** (*Trace of square matrix*). Let  $\mathbf{A} = [a_{ij}] \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be a square matrix. The trace of  $\mathbf{A}$  is defined as

$$tr(\mathbf{A}) = \sum_i^n a_{ii}.$$

**Definition 12** (*Characteristic polynomial*). Let  $\lambda$  denote an eigenvalue of the matrix  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ . The determinant of  $\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbf{I}_n$  is a polynomial of  $\lambda$ , denoted  $P(\lambda)$ . We call the polynomial  $P(\lambda)$  as the characteristic polynomial of  $\mathbf{A}$ . Specifically,

$$P(\lambda) = (-1)^n \lambda^n + (-1)^{n-1} tr(\mathbf{A}) \lambda^{n-1} + \cdots + (-1)^1 \det(\mathbf{A}).$$

Since the characteristic polynomial  $P(\lambda)$  is of degree  $n$ , there are  $n$  solutions to the equation  $P(\lambda) = 0$ . The solutions to  $P(\lambda) = 0$ , denoted  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ , are ~~n~~ eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{A}$ , which may be complex. If the complex eigenvalues exist, the complex eigenvalues come in conjugate pairs, because  $P(\bar{\lambda}) = P(\lambda)$  is also equal to 0, where  $\bar{\lambda}$  is the conjugate of  $\lambda$ . Note that  $n$  eigenvalues are not necessarily distinct with each other. break into two sentences the

#### 3.1 Properties for eigenvectors and eigenvalues

**Theorem 3.1** (Summation and production of eigenvalues). Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be a square matrix, and  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  be the ~~n~~-eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{A}$ . Then,

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i = tr(\mathbf{A}); \quad \prod_{i=1}^n \lambda_i = \det(\mathbf{A}).$$

and

*Proof.* First, we re-write the characteristic polynomial  $P(\lambda)$  of  $\mathbf{A}$  as

$$P(\lambda) = (-1)^n (\lambda - \lambda_1) \cdots (\lambda - \lambda_n), \tag{7}$$

where  $\lambda_i$  are ~~n~~ eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{A}$ , for all  $i \in [n]$ . By equation (7), the coefficient for  $\lambda^{n-1}$  is equal to  $(-1)^n \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i$ . Compared with Definition 12, we have  $tr(\mathbf{A}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i$ . Similarly, the constant term in equation (7) is  $(-1)^n \prod_{i=1}^n \lambda_1 \cdots \lambda_n$  while the constant term in Definition 12 is  $(-1)^n \det(\mathbf{A})$ . Therefore, we have  $\prod_{i=1}^n \lambda_i = \det(\mathbf{A})$ . □

**Definition 13** (*Similar matrices*). Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be a square matrix, and  $\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be a invertible matrix. The matrix product  $\mathbf{B} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{B}^{-1}$  is called the similar matrix of  $\mathbf{A}$ .

**Theorem 3.2** (Eigenvalues for similar matrices). *Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a square matrix. Any similar matrices of  $\mathbf{A}$  share the same eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{A}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\mathbf{B}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{B}^{-1}$  be a similar matrix of  $\mathbf{A}$ , and  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  be the eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{A}$ . Then, for all  $\lambda_i$ , there is an eigenvector  $x_i$  such that

exists

$$\lambda_i x_i = \mathbf{A}x_i \Leftrightarrow \lambda_i \mathbf{B}x_i = \mathbf{B}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{B}x_i.$$

=> (we use one direction only?)

Since  $x_i$  is a nonzero vector, and  $\mathbf{B}$  is invertible, the vector  $\mathbf{B}x_i$  is also a nonzero vector. Therefore,  $\lambda_i$  is an eigenvalue of  $\mathbf{B}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{B}^{-1}$  with associated eigenvector  $\mathbf{B}x_i$ , for all  $i \in [n]$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.3** (Eigenvalues for powers of the matrix). *Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a matrix,  $\lambda$  be a eigenvalue of  $\mathbf{A}$ , and  $x$  be the eigenvector associated with  $\lambda$ . For any polynomial  $P$ , we have*

$$P(\mathbf{A})x = P(\lambda)x.$$

any

*Proof.* For all integer  $k \geq 0$  and constant  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ , we have

$$c\mathbf{A}^k x = c\mathbf{A}^{k-1}\mathbf{A}x = c\lambda\mathbf{A}^{k-1}x = \dots = c\lambda^k x.$$

Therefore,  $P(\mathbf{A})x = P(\lambda)x$ , for any polynomial  $P$ .  $\square$

, and  $(\lambda_i, x_i)$  in  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^n$  be the  $i$ -th eigenvalue-eigenvector pair of  $\mathbf{A}$

**Theorem 3.4** (Eigenvalues for the inverse). *Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be an invertible matrix,  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  be the eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{A}$ , and  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  be the eigenvectors associated with  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ . Then,  $\lambda_1^{-1}, \dots, \lambda_n^{-1}$  are the eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$ , and  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  are eigenvectors associated with  $\lambda_1^{-1}, \dots, \lambda_n^{-1}$ .*

*Then,  $(\dots)$  is the  $i$ -th ... pair of  $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$ . always think about shortening the statement*

*Proof.* Since the nullspace of  $\mathbf{A}$  contains only a zero vector, the eigenvalue  $\lambda_i > 0$ , for all  $i \in [n]$ .

For all  $\lambda_i$  and  $x_i$ , multiplying  $x_i$  on both sides of the equation  $\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{I}_n$  yields

Since  $\mathbf{A}$  is invertible..... (Using the same statement as the assumption makes your proof easier to understand)

$$\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{A}x_i = x_i \Rightarrow \mathbf{A}^{-1}x_i = \lambda_i^{-1}x_i.$$

Therefore,  $\lambda_i^{-1}$  is the eigenvalue of  $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$ , and  $x_i$  is the eigenvector associated with  $\lambda_i^{-1}$ , for all  $i \in [n]$ .  $\square$

distinct

**Theorem 3.5** (Independence of eigenvectors). *Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a square matrix with at least two different eigenvalues. The eigenvectors associated with different eigenvalues are independent.*

*Proof.* Suppose the square matrix  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  has  $m$  different eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m$  with associated eigenvectors  $v_1, \dots, v_m$ . Consider a linear combination  $c_1v_1 + \dots + c_mv_m = 0$ , where  $c_i \in \mathbb{R}$ , for all  $i \in [m]$ . Then we have

$$\mathbf{A}(c_1v_1 + \dots + c_mv_m) = c_1\lambda_1v_1 + \dots + c_m\lambda_mv_m = 0, \quad (8)$$

and

rewrite in terms of vector/matrix notion, not in entry-wise fashion.

$$\lambda_1(c_1v_1 + \dots + c_mv_m) = c_1\lambda_1v_1 + \dots + c_m\lambda_1v_m = 0. \quad (9)$$

Subtracting the equations (8) from (9) yields

$$c_2(\lambda_1 - \lambda_2)v_2 + \dots + c_m(\lambda_1 - \lambda_m)v_m = 0. \quad (10)$$

Consider the new linear combination  $c_2(\lambda_1 - \lambda_2)v_2 + \dots + c_m(\lambda_1 - \lambda_m)v_m = 0$  and repeat the steps from equation (8) to equation (10). After  $m$  iterations, we have

$$c_m(\lambda_1 - \lambda_m)(\lambda_2 - \lambda_m) \cdots (\lambda_{m-1} - \lambda_m)v_m = 0.$$

Since  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m$  are distinct, and  $v_m$  is a nonzero vector, the coefficient  $c_m = 0$ . Plugging  $c_m = 0$  back to previous steps, we have  $c_1 = \dots = c_m = 0$ . Therefore,  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  are independent.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.6** (Eigenvalues for triangular matrices). *The eigenvalues for a triangular matrix are the entries on the diagonal.*

*Proof.* Let  $\mathbf{A} = [[a_{ij}]] \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be a triangular matrix. By the property of determinant 7, we have  
and

$$\det(\mathbf{A}) = \prod_{i=1}^n a_{ii}; \quad \det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbf{I}_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n (a_{ii} - \lambda).$$

obtain

To let  $\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbf{I}_n) = 0$ , we have  $\lambda = a_{ii}$ , for all  $i \in [n]$ . Therefore, the entries on the diagonal are the eigenvalues of a triangular matrix.  $\square$

### 3.2 Eigenvalues and eigenvectors for symmetric matrices

**Definition 14** (Antisymmetric matrices). The matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  is an antisymmetric matrix if  $\mathbf{A}$  satisfies

$$\mathbf{A}^T = -\mathbf{A}.$$

symmetric matrix must be square.

real entries only

**Theorem 3.7** (Eigenvalues for symmetric and antisymmetric matrices). *All the eigenvalues of a symmetric square matrix with only real entries are real. All the eigenvalues of an antisymmetric square matrix are imaginary; i.e.,  $\lambda = bi$ , where  $b \in \mathbb{R}, i = \sqrt{-1}$ .*

*Proof.* First, we prove by contradiction that symmetric square matrices with all real entries have real eigenvalues.

real entries only

Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a symmetric matrix with only real entries. Suppose  $\lambda$  is a complex eigenvalue of  $\mathbf{A}$ , and  $x$  is the eigenvector associated with  $\lambda$ . Since all the entries of  $\mathbf{A}$  are real, the eigenvector  $x$  is also complex. Let  $\bar{\lambda}$  and  $\bar{x}$  denote the conjugate eigenvalue and eigenvector, respectively. Then we have

$$\bar{x}^T \mathbf{A} x = \bar{x}^T \lambda x, \tag{11}$$

and

$$x^T \mathbf{A} \bar{x} = x^T \bar{\lambda} \bar{x}. \tag{12}$$

By the symmetry of  $\mathbf{A}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{x}^T \mathbf{A} x &= x^T \mathbf{A}^T \bar{x} = x^T \mathbf{A} \bar{x}. \\ (12) &\qquad (11) \end{aligned}$$

Subtracting the equation (11) from equation (12) yields A-B: subtract B from A

$$0 = (\bar{x}^T \mathbf{A} x - x^T \mathbf{A} \bar{x}) = (\lambda - \bar{\lambda}) x^T \bar{x}.$$

Since that  $x^T \bar{x}$  is a real number, the imaginary part of  $\lambda$  is equal to 0, which contradicts the assumption that  $\lambda$  is complex.

Next, we prove that the eigenvalues for antisymmetric matrices are imaginary. Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be an anti-symmetric matrix,  $\lambda$  be a complex eigenvalue of  $\mathbf{A}$ , and  $x$  be the complex eigenvector associated with  $\lambda$ . By the antisymmetry of  $\mathbf{A}$ , we have

$$\bar{x}^T \mathbf{A} x = x^T \mathbf{A}^T \bar{x} = -x^T \mathbf{A} \bar{x}.$$

Then,

$$0 = (\bar{x}^T \mathbf{A} x + x^T \mathbf{A} \bar{x}) = (\lambda + \bar{\lambda}) x^T \bar{x}.$$

Since that  $x^T \bar{x}$  is a real number, the real part of  $\lambda$  is equal to 0. Therefore, the eigenvalues for an antisymmetric matrix are imaginary.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.8** (Orthogonality of eigenvectors for symmetric matrices). *The eigenvectors of a symmetric matrix  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  associated with different eigenvalues are orthogonal.*

*Proof.* Let  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  be two different eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{A}$ , and  $x_1, x_2$  are two eigenvectors associated with  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$ , respectively. By the symmetry of  $\mathbf{A}$ , we have

$$x_2^T \mathbf{A} x_1 = x_1^T \mathbf{A}^T x_2 = x_1^T \mathbf{A} x_2.$$

Then,

$$0 = (x_2^T \mathbf{A} x_1 - x_1^T \mathbf{A} x_2) = (\lambda_1 - \lambda_2) x_2^T x_1.$$

Since  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$  are different, we have  $\lambda_1 - \lambda_2 \neq 0$  and  $x_2^T x_1 = 0$ . Therefore,  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  are orthogonal.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.9** (Eigenvectors for repeated eigenvalues of symmetric matrices). *Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be a symmetric matrix. Suppose  $\lambda_0$  is a repeated eigenvalue of  $\mathbf{A}$  with multiplicity  $m$ , where  $2 \leq m \leq n$ . There exist  $m$  orthonormal eigenvectors associated with  $\lambda_0$ .*

We prove the existance by construction.

break into two sentences

*Proof.* First, let  $x_0$  be a nonzero eigenvector associated with  $\lambda_0$ . For any  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , there are  $n-1$  additional orthogonal vectors  $y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}$  such that  $y_j \perp x_0$ , for all  $j \in [(n-1)]$ , and  $(x_0, y_1, \dots, y_{n-1})$  forms the basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Let  $\mathbf{Y} = [y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}]$  and  $\mathbf{X} = [x_0, \mathbf{Y}]$ . Since  $\mathbf{A}$  is a symmetric matrix, we have  $x_0^T \mathbf{A} = \lambda_0 x_0^T$ . Consider the following matrix product,

$$\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} x_0^T \mathbf{A} x_0 & x_0^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{Y} \\ \mathbf{Y}^T \mathbf{A} x_0 & \mathbf{Y}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{Y} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_0 & 0 \\ 0 & \mathbf{Y}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{Y} \end{bmatrix}.$$

satisfying

Note that  $\mathbf{X}$  is an orthogonal matrix which satisfies  $\mathbf{X}^T = \mathbf{X}^{-1}$ . By Theorem 3.2,  $\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{X}$  is a similar matrix of  $\mathbf{A}$ . Hence,  $\lambda_0$  is also a repeated eigenvalue of  $\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{X}$ . The characteristic polynomial of  $\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{X} - \lambda \mathbf{I}_n$  is

$$P(\lambda) = \det(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{X} - \lambda \mathbf{I}_n) = (\lambda_0 - \lambda) \det(\mathbf{Y}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{Y} - \lambda \mathbf{I}_{n-1}).$$

Since  $\lambda_0$  has multiplicity  $m \geq 2$ , the term  $\det(\mathbf{Y}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{Y} - \lambda_0 \mathbf{I}_{n-1}) = 0$ . Therefore, the dimension of the nullspace of  $\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{X} - \lambda_0 \mathbf{I}_n$  is larger than 2. Let  $v_1, v_2$  be the two orthogonal vectors in the nullspace of  $\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{X} - \lambda_0 \mathbf{I}_n$ . Then  $v_1, v_2$  are two eigenvectors of  $\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{X}$ , and  $\mathbf{X}v_1, \mathbf{X}v_2$  are two orthogonal eigenvectors of  $\mathbf{A}$  associated with  $\lambda_0$ .

Now, Replace  $x_0$  by two orthogonal vectors  $x_1 = \mathbf{X}v_1, x_2 = \mathbf{X}v_2$  and repeat the above steps. Finally, we will have  $m$  orthogonal eigenvectors of  $\mathbf{A}$  associated with  $\lambda_0$ .  $\square$

(until when?) you need to specify the stopping criteria.

Otherwise, why not (m+1), (m+2), or even more eigenvectors?

### 3.3 Diagonalization

**Definition 15** (Diagonalization). Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be a square matrix with  $n$  independent eigenvectors. We diagonalize the matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  as

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{S}^{-1} \Lambda \mathbf{S}, \quad \text{consisting of comma} \quad (13)$$

where  $\Lambda \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is a diagonal matrix whose entries are  $n$  eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{S} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is a matrix whose columns are independent eigenvectors of  $\mathbf{A}$  associated with eigenvalues in  $\Lambda$ .

ordered in the same as the eigenvalues in \Lambda

**Theorem 3.10** (Diagonalization of symmetric matrices). *Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a symmetric matrix. The matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  can be diagonalized.*

*Proof.* By Theorems 3.8 and Theorem 3.9, for any symmetric matrix  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ ,  $\mathbf{A}$  have  $n$  orthogonal eigenvectors, even though there may have repeated eigenvalues. Therefore, the matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  can be diagonalized as equation (13).  $\square$

(think about the writing principles.. 1. reduces the use of verbs in sentences. 2 avoid "there are...")

why do you need to mention “eigenvectors” in the theorem statement?  
 (principle: cut non-referred notations/definitions. check other parts..)

**Theorem 3.11** (Descent of matrix powers). *Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be a square matrix with eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ , and  $n$  independent eigenvectors associated with the eigenvalues. The power of matrix  $\mathbf{A}^k \rightarrow 0$  as  $k \rightarrow +\infty$  if and only if  $|\lambda_i| < 1$ , for all  $i \in [n]$ .*

*Proof.* We diagonalize the matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  as  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{S}^{-1}\Lambda\mathbf{S}$ . For all integer  $k \geq 0$ , we have  $\mathbf{A}^k = \mathbf{S}^{-1}\Lambda^k\mathbf{S}$ .  
 Then, (principle: each prooftheorem should be self-contained. check other parts)

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \mathbf{A}^k = \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \mathbf{S}^{-1}\Lambda^k\mathbf{S} = \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \mathbf{S}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} |\lambda_1|^k & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & |\lambda_n|^k \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{S} = 0 \Leftrightarrow |\lambda_i| < 1, \text{ for all } i \in [n].$$

□