

## Objectives

- Symmetric matrices  $A = A^T$

Eigenvalues / Eigenvectors

- START: Positive Definite Matrices

- Symmetric matrices

$$A^T = A$$

① Eigenvalues are REAL

② eigenvectors are PERPENDICULAR  
(ORTHOGONAL)  
(can be chosen)

• Usual case:  $A = SAS^{-1}$

• Symmetric case :  $A = Q \Lambda Q^{-1}$

$\Downarrow$

$\star \quad \boxed{= Q \Lambda Q^T} \quad \star$

orthonormal  
eigenvectors

= column of  $Q$ .

spectral theorem

• Real eigenvalues

$Ax = \lambda x$  always  $\Rightarrow \bar{A} \bar{x} = \bar{\lambda} \bar{x}$

①  $\Rightarrow \bar{x}^T \bar{A}^T = \bar{x}^T \bar{\lambda}$

$\bar{x}^T A x = \bar{x}^T x$

$\bar{x}^T \bar{A}^T = \bar{x}^T \bar{\lambda}$

$\downarrow$  if symmetric

$= \bar{A}$

$\therefore$

Multiply both sides by  $x$  :

②  $\bar{x} A x = \bar{\lambda} \bar{x}^T x$

Comparing the two equations  
we can see that

$$\bar{x}^T J x = \bar{x}^T J x$$

Length square

↳ Unless  $\bar{x}^T x \neq 0$  THEN:  
 $J = J^*$  real

How do we know that  $\bar{x}^T x \neq 0$

$$\bar{x}^T x = [\bar{x}_1 \quad \bar{x}_2 \quad \dots \quad \bar{x}_n] \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \bar{x}_1 x_1 + \bar{x}_2 x_2 + \dots$$

$$\dots + x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \dots + x_n^2$$



$$(a - ib)(a + ib) \\ = a^2 + b^2$$

$$\Rightarrow |x_1|^2 + |x_2|^2 + \dots + |x_n|^2$$

Good matrices:  $\rightarrow A = \bar{A}^T$

- real  $\lambda$ 's
- perpendicular  $x$ 's

$\rightarrow$  If real here:  $A = A^T \Rightarrow$   
symmetric matrices.

## Projection onto eigenvectors

If  $A = A^T$  we can write:

$$A = Q \Lambda Q^T$$

$$= [q_1 \ q_2 \ \dots \ q_n] \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & \\ & \lambda_2 & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} q_1^T \\ q_2^T \\ \vdots \\ q_n^T \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \lambda_1 \boxed{q_1 q_1^T} + \lambda_2 q_2 q_2^T + \dots + \lambda_n q_n q_n^T$$

↓  
projection  
matrix.

- Every symmetric matrix is a combination of perp projection matrices.

Note: For symmetric matrices

$$A = A^T$$

number of positive pivots

=

number of positive eigenvalues.

Because the eigenvalues of  $A + bI$  are just  $b$  more than the eigenvalues of  $A$ , we can use this fact to find which eigenvalues of a symmetric matrix are greater or less than any real number  $b$ . This tells us a lot about the eigenvalues of  $A$  even if we can't compute them directly.

Positive definite matrices

$L$  is a symmetric matrix  $A$  for which all eigenvalues are positive.

0 pivots are positive.

All subdeterminants are positive.

$$\det A = \begin{vmatrix} 5 & 2 \\ 2 & 3 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\text{pivot of matrix are: } 5 \text{ \& } \frac{\det(A)}{5} \\ = 11/5$$

$$\rightarrow \text{Eigenvalues: } \lambda^2 - 8\lambda + 11 = 0$$

$$\lambda_1 = 4 + \sqrt{5}$$

$$\lambda_2 = 4 - \sqrt{5}$$

determinant?

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \end{vmatrix} \quad \text{Not}$$

$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$

no pivots  
no eigenvalues.