



# Linear Alegbra MathNoteBook

Pro. Tom Luo

## 16 — Week7

### 16.1 Friday

#### 16.1.1 Review

- **Diagonalization:** If a  $n \times n$  matrix is diagonalizable, it's equivalent to say it has  $n$  ind. eigenvectors. So its eigenvectors form a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . (\*)
- If *eigenvalues are distinct*, then (\*) holds.

#### 16.1.2 Fibonacci Numbers

We show a famous example, where eigenvalues tell how to find the formula for Fibonacci Numbers.

Every new Fibonacci number come from two previous ones:

**Fibonacci Number:**  $0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, \dots$

**Fibonacci Equation:**  $F_{k+2} = F_{k+1} + F_k$ ,  $F_0 = 0, F_1 = 1$ .

**How to compute  $F_{100}$  without computing  $F_2$  to  $F_{99}$ ?**

The key is to begin with a matrix equation  $\mathbf{u}_{k+1} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{u}_k$ . We put two Fibonacci number into a vector  $\mathbf{u}_k$ , then you will see the matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ :

$$\text{Let } \mathbf{u}_k = \begin{bmatrix} F_{k+1} \\ F_k \end{bmatrix}. \text{ The rule } \begin{cases} F_{k+2} = F_{k+1} + F_k \\ F_{k+1} = F_{k+1} \end{cases} \text{ is } \mathbf{u}_{k+1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_k. \quad \mathbf{u}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Every step we multiply  $\mathbf{u}_0$  by  $\mathbf{A}$ . After 100 steps we obtain  $\mathbf{u}_{100} = \mathbf{A}^{100} \mathbf{u}_0$ :

$$\mathbf{u}_{100} = \begin{bmatrix} F_{101} \\ F_{100} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{A}^{100} \mathbf{u}_0 = \mathbf{A}^{100} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

But how to compute  $\mathbf{A}^{100}$ ? If possible, you can diagonalize  $\mathbf{A}$ .

It's easy to show that for matrix  $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ , we can decompose it into  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{S}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{S}^{-1}$ .

where  $\mathbf{D} = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ ,  $\mathbf{S} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & \lambda_2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

And  $\begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  is the eigenvector corresponding to  $\lambda_1$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} \lambda_2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  is the eigenvector corresponding to  $\lambda_2$ .

You can verify  $\lambda_1 = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$ ,  $\lambda_2 = \frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}$ .

Thus we obtain  $\mathbf{A}^{100} = \mathbf{S}\mathbf{D}^{100}\mathbf{S}^{-1}$ . Hence we can compute  $\mathbf{u}_{100}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{u}_{100} &= \mathbf{A}^{100}\mathbf{u}_0 = \mathbf{S}\mathbf{D}^{100}\mathbf{S}^{-1}\mathbf{u}_0 = \mathbf{S} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1^{100} & \\ & \lambda_2^{100} \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{S}^{-1}\mathbf{u}_0 \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & \lambda_2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1^{100} & \\ & \lambda_2^{100} \end{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & \lambda_2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{F}_{101} \\ \mathbf{F}_{100} \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

After messy computation, we obtain

$$\mathbf{F}_{100} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} [\lambda_1^{100} - \lambda_2^{100}] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left[ \left( \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^{100} - \left( \frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^{100} \right]$$

**Another way to compute  $\mathbf{F}_{100}$ :**

We let  $\mathbf{S} = [\mathbf{x}_1 \quad \mathbf{x}_2]$ , where  $\mathbf{x}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{x}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .  $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2$  are eigenvectors of  $\mathbf{A}$ .

We let  $\mathbf{u}_k = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{F}_{k+1} \\ \mathbf{F}_k \end{bmatrix}$ .

Firstly, We want to find linear combination of  $\mathbf{x}_1$  and  $\mathbf{x}_2$  to get  $\mathbf{u}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ :

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{\lambda_1 - \lambda_2} \left( \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) \quad \text{or} \quad \mathbf{u}_0 = \frac{\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2}{\lambda_1 - \lambda_2}$$

Then we multiply  $\mathbf{u}_0$  by  $\mathbf{A}^{100}$  to get  $\mathbf{u}_{100}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{u}_{100} &= \mathbf{A}^{100}\mathbf{u}_0 = \frac{\mathbf{A}^{100}\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{A}^{100}\mathbf{x}_2}{\lambda_1 - \lambda_2} \\ &= \frac{\mathbf{A}^{99}(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_1) - \mathbf{A}^{99}(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_2)}{\lambda_1 - \lambda_2} = \frac{\lambda_1\mathbf{A}^{99}\mathbf{x}_1 - \lambda_2\mathbf{A}^{99}\mathbf{x}_2}{\lambda_1 - \lambda_2} = \frac{\lambda_1^2\mathbf{A}^{98}\mathbf{x}_1 - \lambda_2^2\mathbf{A}^{98}\mathbf{x}_2}{\lambda_1 - \lambda_2} = \dots \\ &= \frac{\lambda_1^{100}\mathbf{x}_1 - \lambda_2^{100}\mathbf{x}_2}{\lambda_1 - \lambda_2} \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\lambda_1 - \lambda_2 = \sqrt{5}$ , finally we obtain the same result.

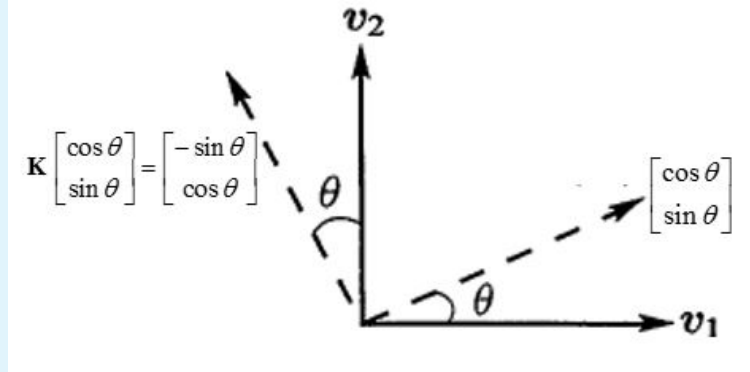
### 16.1.3 Imaginary Eigenvalues

The eigenvalues might not be real numbers sometimes.

#### ■ Example 16.1

Consider the rotation matrix given by  $\mathbf{K} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ . It rotates our vector by  $90^\circ$ :

$$\mathbf{K} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta \\ \sin \theta \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -\sin \theta \\ \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}.$$

Figure 16.1: Rotate a vector by  $90^\circ$ .

This rotation matrix exists eigenvector and eigenvalue, which means  $\exists \mathbf{v} \neq \mathbf{0}$  and  $\lambda$  s.t.

$$\mathbf{K}\mathbf{v} = \lambda \mathbf{v}.$$

However, this equation means this rotation matrix doesn't change the direction of  $\mathbf{v}$ . But in geometric meaning it rotates vector  $\mathbf{v}$  by  $90^\circ$ . Why? This phenomenon will not happen unless we go to imaginary eigenvectors. Let's compute eigenvalues and eigenvectors for  $\mathbf{K}$  first:

$$P_{\mathbf{K}}(\lambda) = \begin{vmatrix} \lambda & 1 \\ -1 & \lambda \end{vmatrix} = \lambda^2 + 1 \implies \lambda_1 = i, \quad \lambda_2 = -i.$$

$$(\lambda_1 \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{K})\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} i & 1 \\ -1 & i \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{0} \implies \mathbf{x} = \alpha \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -i \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$(\lambda_2 \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{K})\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} -i & 1 \\ -1 & -i \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{0} \implies \mathbf{x} = \beta \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ i \end{pmatrix}.$$

Moverover, we can do similar transformation for  $\mathbf{K}$ :

$$\mathbf{D} = \mathbf{S}^{-1} \mathbf{K} \mathbf{S} = \begin{pmatrix} i & \\ & -i \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{where } \mathbf{S} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -i & i \end{bmatrix}.$$

**R** For motion in vector space, eigenvalues are “speed” and eigenvectors are “directions” under basis  $\mathbf{S} = [\mathbf{x}_1 \quad \mathbf{x}_2 \quad \dots \quad \mathbf{x}_n]$ .

$$\mathbf{v} = c_1 \mathbf{x}_1 + \dots + c_n \mathbf{x}_n \xrightarrow{\text{postmultiply } \mathbf{A}} \mathbf{A}\mathbf{v} = c_1 \lambda_1 \mathbf{x}_1 + \dots + c_n \lambda_n \mathbf{x}_n.$$

$$(c_1 \quad \dots \quad c_n) \xrightarrow{\text{rightmultiply } \mathbf{D} = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)} (c_1 \lambda_1 \quad \dots \quad c_n \lambda_n).$$

### 16.1.4 Complex Numbers

Even when the matrix is real, its eigenvalues of this matrix may be complex numbers. Example: A 2 by 2 rotation matrix has no real eigenvectors. It rotates a vector by  $90^\circ$ . But it has complex eigenvalues  $i$  and  $-i$ .

**Definition 16.1 — Complex Numbers.** A complex number  $x \in \mathbb{C}$  could be written as  $x = a + bi$ , where  $i^2 = -1$ .  
 Its **complex conjugate** is defined as  $\bar{x} = a - bi$ .  
 Its **modulus** is defined as  $|x| = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} = x\bar{x}$ . ■

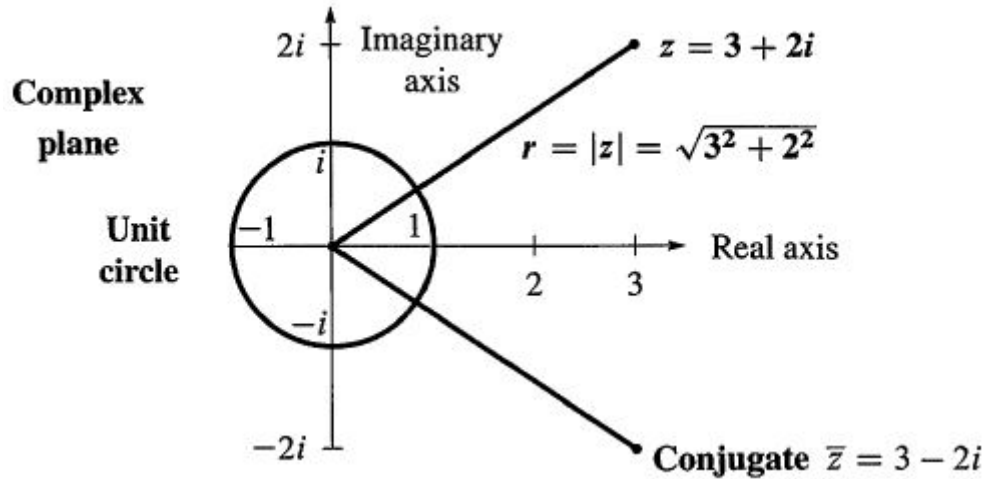


Figure 16.2: The number  $z = a + bi$  corresponds to the vector  $\begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix}$ .

### 16.1.5 Complex Vectors

**Definition 16.2 — Length (norm) for complex.** For  $z = \begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \\ \vdots \\ z_n \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^n$ , its **length (norm)** is defined as

$$\|z\| = \sqrt{|z_1|^2 + |z_2|^2 + \cdots + |z_n|^2} = \sqrt{\langle z, z \rangle} = \sqrt{z_1 \bar{z}_1 + z_2 \bar{z}_2 + \cdots + z_n \bar{z}_n}.$$

Before we introduce the definition of inner product for complex, let's introduce the *Hermitian* of a vector in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ :

**Definition 16.3 — Hermitian.** The hermitian of a vector in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  is its *conjugate transpose*.

$$z = \begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ \vdots \\ z_n \end{bmatrix} \quad z^H = \bar{z}^T = [\bar{z}_1 \quad \cdots \quad \bar{z}_n].$$

**Definition 16.4 — Inner product.** The inner product of real or complex vectors  $\mathbf{z}$  and  $\mathbf{w}$  is  $\mathbf{w}^H \mathbf{z}$ , which is defined as

$$\langle \mathbf{z}, \mathbf{w} \rangle = \mathbf{w}^H \mathbf{z} = [\bar{w}_1 \quad \dots \quad \bar{w}_n] \begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ \vdots \\ z_n \end{bmatrix} = \bar{w}_1 z_1 + \dots + \bar{w}_n z_n.$$

**R** Note that with complex vectors,  $\mathbf{w}^H \mathbf{z}$  is different from  $\mathbf{z}^H \mathbf{w}$ . **The order of the vectors is now important!** In fact,  $\mathbf{z}^H \mathbf{w} = \bar{z}_1 w_1 + \dots + \bar{z}_n w_n$  is the complex conjugate of  $\mathbf{w}^H \mathbf{z}$ .

**Definition 16.5 — Orthogonal.** The two vectors of real or complex are *orthogonal* if their inner product is zero.

$$\mathbf{z} \perp \mathbf{w} \implies \langle \mathbf{z}, \mathbf{w} \rangle = \mathbf{w}^H \mathbf{z} = 0$$

■ **Example 16.2**

Given  $\mathbf{z} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ i \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{w} = \begin{pmatrix} -i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

Although we have  $\mathbf{z}^T \mathbf{w} = 0$ , the two vectors are not perpendicular.

This is because  $\langle \mathbf{z}, \mathbf{w} \rangle = \mathbf{w}^H \mathbf{z} = [i \quad 1] \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ i \end{bmatrix} = 2i \neq 0$ .

■ **Example 16.3** The inner product of  $\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ i \end{bmatrix}$  with  $\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} i \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  is  $[-i \quad 1] \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ i \end{bmatrix} = 0$ .

Although those vectors  $(1, i)$  and  $(i, 1)$  don't look perpendicular, actually they are! **A zero inner product still means vectors are orthogonal.**

**Proposition 16.1 — Conjugate symmetry.**

For two vectors  $\mathbf{z}$  and  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{C}^n$ , we have  $\overline{\langle \mathbf{z}, \mathbf{w} \rangle} = \langle \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z} \rangle$ .

Verify:

$$\langle \mathbf{z}, \mathbf{w} \rangle = \mathbf{w}^H \mathbf{z} = \bar{\mathbf{w}}^T \mathbf{z} = \bar{w}_1 z_1 + \dots + \bar{w}_n z_n$$

$$\langle \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z} \rangle = \mathbf{z}^H \mathbf{w} = \bar{\mathbf{z}}^T \mathbf{w} = \bar{z}_1 w_1 + \dots + \bar{z}_n w_n$$

And since we have  $\overline{\bar{w}\mathbf{v}} = \mathbf{w}\bar{\mathbf{v}}$  and  $\overline{\mathbf{w} + \mathbf{v}} = \bar{\mathbf{w}} + \bar{\mathbf{v}}$ , it's easy to find that

$$\overline{\bar{w}_1 z_1 + \dots + \bar{w}_n z_n} = w_1 \bar{z}_1 + \dots + w_n \bar{z}_n = \bar{z}_1 w_1 + \dots + \bar{z}_n w_n.$$

Hence  $\overline{\langle \mathbf{z}, \mathbf{w} \rangle} = \langle \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z} \rangle$ . ■

**Proposition 16.2 — Sesquilinear.**

For two vectors  $\mathbf{z}$  and  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{C}^n$ , we have

$$\langle \alpha \mathbf{z}, \mathbf{w} \rangle = \alpha \langle \mathbf{z}, \mathbf{w} \rangle \tag{16.1}$$

$$\langle \mathbf{z}, \beta \mathbf{w} \rangle = \bar{\beta} \langle \mathbf{z}, \mathbf{w} \rangle \tag{16.2}$$

for scalars  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ .



Verify:

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \alpha \mathbf{z}, \mathbf{w} \rangle &= \mathbf{w}^H (\alpha \mathbf{z}) \\ &= \alpha (\mathbf{w}^H \mathbf{z}) \\ &= \alpha \langle \mathbf{z}, \mathbf{w} \rangle.\end{aligned}$$

For equation (16.2), due to the conjugate symmetry, we derive

$$\langle \mathbf{z}, \beta \mathbf{w} \rangle = \overline{\langle \beta \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z} \rangle}$$

Since  $\langle \beta \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z} \rangle = \beta \langle \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z} \rangle = \beta \overline{\langle \mathbf{z}, \mathbf{w} \rangle}$ , we obtain

$$\langle \mathbf{z}, \beta \mathbf{w} \rangle = \overline{\beta \overline{\langle \mathbf{z}, \mathbf{w} \rangle}} = \bar{\beta} \langle \mathbf{z}, \mathbf{w} \rangle.$$

■

### Hermitian of matrix


The hermitian of a matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  is given by

$$\mathbf{A}^H := \bar{\mathbf{A}}^T$$

And the rules for hermitian usually comes from transpose. For example, the hermitian has the property

$$(\mathbf{AB})^H = \mathbf{B}^H \mathbf{A}^H.$$

$\mathbb{R}^n$	$\mathbb{C}^n$
$\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle = \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{y}$	$\langle \mathbf{z}, \mathbf{w} \rangle = \mathbf{w}^H \mathbf{z}$
$\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{x}$	$\mathbf{z}^H \mathbf{w} = \overline{\mathbf{w}^H \mathbf{z}}$
$\ \mathbf{x}\ ^2 = \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x}$	$\ \mathbf{z}\ ^2 = \mathbf{z}^H \mathbf{z}$
$\mathbf{x} \perp \mathbf{y} \iff \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{y} = 0$	$\mathbf{z} \perp \mathbf{w} \iff \mathbf{w}^H \mathbf{z} = 0$

 What aspects of eigenvalues/eigenvectors are not nice?

- Some matrix are *non-diagonalizable*. (or equivalently, eigenvectors don't form a basis.)
- Eigenvalues can be *complex*.

We may ask, what matrix has all real eigenvalues? Let's focus on *real* matrix first. For real symmetric matrix, its eigenvalues are all real!

**Proposition 16.3** For a *real symmetric* matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ ,

- All eigenvalues are real numbers.
- Its eigenvectors corresponding to distinct eigenvalues are orthogonal.
- $\mathbf{A}$  is diagonalizable. More general, all eigenvectors of  $\mathbf{A}$  are orthogonal!

Before the proof, let's introduce a useful formula:  $\langle \mathbf{Ax}, \mathbf{y} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{A}^H \mathbf{y} \rangle$ .

$$\text{Verify: } \langle \mathbf{Ax}, \mathbf{y} \rangle = \mathbf{y}^H \mathbf{Ax} = (\mathbf{A}^H \mathbf{y})^H \mathbf{x} = \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{A}^H \mathbf{y} \rangle$$

*Proof.* • For the first part, suppose  $\mathbf{x}$  is any eigenvectors of  $\mathbf{A}$  corresponding to eigenvalue  $\lambda$ . Then we obtain

$$\langle \mathbf{Ax}, \mathbf{x} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{A}^H \mathbf{x} \rangle$$

- For the LHS,  $\langle \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle = \langle \lambda \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle = \lambda \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle$ .
  - For the RHS, Since  $\mathbf{A}$  is a real symmetric matrix, we have  $\mathbf{A}^H = \bar{\mathbf{A}}^T = \mathbf{A}^T = \mathbf{A}$ .  
Hence  $\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{A}^H \mathbf{x} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \rangle$ . Moreover,  $\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{x}, \lambda \mathbf{x} \rangle = \bar{\lambda} \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle$ .  
So we have  $\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{A}^H \mathbf{x} \rangle = \bar{\lambda} \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle$ .
- Finally we have  $\lambda \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{A}^H \mathbf{x} \rangle = \bar{\lambda} \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle$ .  
Since  $\mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}$ ,  $\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle \neq 0$ . Hence  $\lambda = \bar{\lambda}$ . So  $\lambda$  is real.
- For the second part, suppose  $\mathbf{x}_1$  and  $\mathbf{x}_2$  are two eigenvectors corresponding to two **distinct** eigenvalues  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  respectively. Our goal is to show  $\mathbf{x}_1 \perp \mathbf{x}_2$ . We find that
 
$$\langle \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2 \rangle = \langle \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{A}^H \mathbf{x}_2 \rangle$$
    - For LHS,  $\langle \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2 \rangle = \langle \lambda_1 \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2 \rangle = \lambda_1 \langle \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2 \rangle$ .
    - For RHS,  $\langle \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{A}^H \mathbf{x}_2 \rangle = \langle \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_2 \rangle = \langle \mathbf{x}_1, \lambda_2 \mathbf{x}_2 \rangle = \bar{\lambda}_2 \langle \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2 \rangle$ . Since we have shown that all eigenvalues are real for  $\mathbf{A}$ , we obtain  $\bar{\lambda}_2 = \lambda_2$ .  
Hence  $\langle \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{A}^H \mathbf{x}_2 \rangle = \lambda_2 \langle \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2 \rangle$ .

Hence  $\lambda_1 \langle \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2 \rangle = \langle \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2 \rangle = \langle \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{A}^H \mathbf{x}_2 \rangle = \lambda_2 \langle \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2 \rangle$ .  
Since  $\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$ , we obtain  $\langle \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2 \rangle = 0$ . That is to say,  $\mathbf{x}_1 \perp \mathbf{x}_2$ .
  - The proof for the third part is not required. ■

## 16.1.6 Spectral Theorem

We state a theorem without proving it:

**Theorem 16.1 — Spectral Theorem.** Any real symmetric matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  has the factorization

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{\Lambda}\mathbf{Q}^T, \quad (16.3)$$

where  $\mathbf{\Lambda} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is diagonal matrix,  $\mathbf{Q} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is orthogonal matrix.

*Proof.* From proposition (16.3) we know that  $\mathbf{A}$  is *diagonalizable*, which means there exists invertible matrix  $\mathbf{Q}$  and diagonal matrix  $\mathbf{\Lambda}$  such that

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{\Lambda}\mathbf{Q}^{-1}$$

Then we know that all eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{A}$  are real numbers, so  $\mathbf{\Lambda}$  is a real matrix.

Since all eigenvectors  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$  are orthogonal, matrix  $\mathbf{Q} = [\mathbf{x}_1 \ \dots \ \mathbf{x}_n]$  is orthogonal matrix. ■

**R**  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{\Lambda}\mathbf{Q}^T = \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{\Lambda}\mathbf{Q}^{-1}$ . So  $\mathbf{A}$  could be diagonalized by an orthogonal matrix.  
If we let  $\mathbf{Q} = [\mathbf{q}_1 \ \dots \ \mathbf{q}_n]$ ,  $\mathbf{\Lambda} = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$ , then  $\mathbf{A}$  could be written as:

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{\Lambda}\mathbf{Q}^T = [\mathbf{q}_1 \ \dots \ \mathbf{q}_n] \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{q}_1^T \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{q}_n^T \end{bmatrix}$$

Or equivalently,

$$\mathbf{A} = \lambda_1 \mathbf{q}_1 \mathbf{q}_1^T + \lambda_2 \mathbf{q}_2 \mathbf{q}_2^T + \dots + \lambda_n \mathbf{q}_n \mathbf{q}_n^T \quad (16.4)$$

Note that for each term  $\mathbf{q}_i \mathbf{q}_i^T$  is the **projection matrix** to  $\mathbf{q}_i$ . Hence this theorem says that a real symmetric matrix is a combination of projection matrices.



### ■ Example 16.4

If we write  $\mathbf{A}$  as combination of projection matrix, we can have a deep understanding for  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}$ :

$$\mathbf{A} = \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j q_j q_j^T \implies \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j q_j q_j^T \mathbf{x} = \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j (q_j q_j^T \mathbf{x}).$$

If we set  $n = 2$ , it's clear to find that

$$\mathbf{x} = c_1 q_1 + c_2 q_2 \implies \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \lambda_1 c_1 q_1 + \lambda_2 c_2 q_2$$

Showing in graph, we have

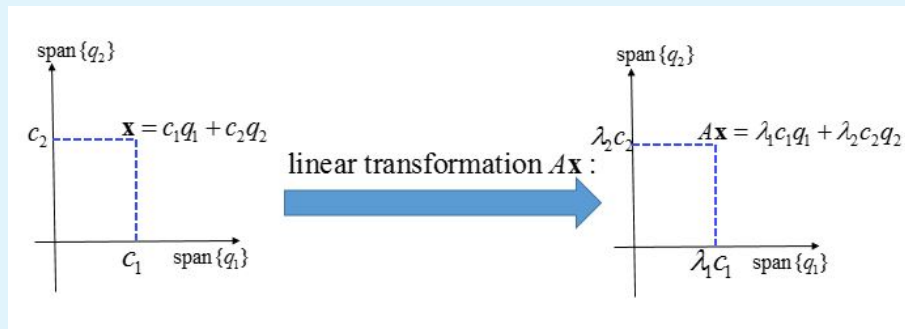


Figure 16.3: Linear transformation of  $\mathbf{A}$ .

The formula  $\mathbf{A} = \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j q_j q_j^T$  or  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{\Lambda}\mathbf{Q}^T$  are called **eigendecomposition** or **eigenvalue decomposition**.

And sometimes  $\{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n\}$  are called **spectrum** of  $\mathbf{A}$ .

Also, we can extend our result from real symmetric matrix into complex:

## 16.1.7 Hermitian matrix

**Definition 16.6 — Hermitian matrix.** A matrix  $\mathbf{M} \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  is said to be **Hermitian** if  $\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{M}^H$ .

**Example:**  $\mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2-i \\ 2+i & 4 \end{bmatrix}$  is hermitian matrix since  $\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{M}^H$ .

If  $\mathbf{M}$  is a real matrix, then  $\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{M}^H \iff \mathbf{M} = \mathbf{M}^T$ . So if the real matrix is hermitian matrix, that is to say it is real symmetric matrix.

Hermitian matrix has many interesting properties:

**Proposition 16.4** If  $\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{M}^H$ , then  $\mathbf{x}^H \mathbf{M} \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}$  for any complex vectors  $\mathbf{x}$ .

*Proof.* We set  $\alpha := \mathbf{x}^H \mathbf{M} \mathbf{x}$ . Since  $\alpha$  is a number (easy to check), we obtain  $\alpha^T = \alpha$ .

Thus  $\bar{\alpha} = \alpha^H = (\mathbf{x}^H \mathbf{M} \mathbf{x})^H = \mathbf{x}^H \mathbf{M} \mathbf{x} = \alpha$ .

Hence  $\alpha$  is real. ■

**Proposition 16.5** If  $\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{M}^H$ , then  $\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{M} \mathbf{y} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{M} \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle$ .

*Proof.* By definition,

$$\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{M} \mathbf{y} \rangle = (\mathbf{M} \mathbf{y})^H \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y}^H \mathbf{M}^H \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y}^H \mathbf{M} \mathbf{x} = \langle \mathbf{M} \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle.$$



And we have general orthogonal matrices for complex matrices:

**Definition 16.7 — Unitary.** A unitary matrix is a complex matrix that has **orthonormal columns**. In other words,  $\mathbf{U}$  is unitary if  $\mathbf{U}^H \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{I}$ . ■

And the spectral theorem can also apply for Hermitian matrix:

**Theorem 16.2** Any Hermitian matrix  $\mathbf{M}$  can be factorized into

$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{U} \mathbf{\Lambda} \mathbf{U}^H$$

where  $\mathbf{\Lambda}$  is a real diagonal matrix,  $\mathbf{U}$  is a complex unitary matrix.

- Ⓡ What good points does Hermitian matrix has?
- It is diagonalizable.
  - Its eigenvectors form orthogonal basis.
  - Its eigenvalues are all real.

