

# Homework 05

Due Date: 11/03/23

**Instruction.** Do not submit part B.

## A Homework Problems

1. Let  $T$  be a normal operator on a finite-dimensional inner product space  $V$ .
  - (a) Prove that  $\ker(T) = \ker(T^*)$  and  $\operatorname{Im}(T) = \operatorname{Im}(T^*)$ .
  - (b) Assume  $V$  is a complex vector space and suppose  $W$  is a  $T$ -invariant subspace of  $V$ . Prove that  $W$  is also  $T^*$ -invariant.
2. Assume that  $T$  is a linear operator on a complex (not necessarily finite-dimensional) inner product space  $V$  with an adjoint  $T^*$ . Prove the following results.
  - (a) If  $T$  is self-adjoint, then  $\langle T(x), x \rangle$  is real for all  $x \in V$ .
  - (b) If  $T$  satisfies  $\langle T(x), x \rangle = 0$  for all  $x \in V$ , then  $T = 0$ . (*Hint.* Replace  $x$  by  $x + y$  and then by  $x + iy$ .)
  - (c) If  $\langle T(x), x \rangle$  is real for all  $x \in V$ , then  $T = T^*$ .
  - (d) Does the results (2b), (2c) above hold if we assume that  $V$  is a real inner product space? Prove or give a counterexample.

### Definition A.1.

- (i) A linear operator  $T$  on a finite-dimensional inner product space is called **positive definite** [**positive semidefinite**] if  $T$  is self-adjoint and  $\langle T(x), x \rangle > 0$  [ $\langle T(x), x \rangle \geq 0$ ] for all  $x \neq 0$ .
- (ii) An  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  with entries from  $\mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$  is called **positive definite** [**positive semidefinite**] if  $L_A$  is positive definite [positive semidefinite].

3. Let  $T$  be a self-adjoint linear operators on an  $n$ -dimensional inner product space  $V$ , and let  $A = [T]_\beta$ , where  $\beta$  is an orthonormal basis for  $V$ . Prove the following results.
  - (a)  $T$  is positive definite [semidefinite] if and only if all of its eigenvalues are positive [nonnegative].
  - (b)  $T$  is positive definite if and only if

$$\sum_{i,j=1}^n A_{ij} a_j \bar{a}_i > 0$$

for all nonzero  $n$ -tuples  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \in \mathbb{C}^n$ . That is,  $x^* A x > 0$  for all nonzero  $x \in \mathbb{C}^n$ .

- (c) **(Cholesky decomposition)**  $T$  is positive semidefinite if and only if  $A = B^*B$  for some square matrix  $B \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$ .

4. Let

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \in M_3(\mathbb{R}).$$

Find  $B \in M_3(\mathbb{R})$  such that  $B^*B = A$  (so  $A$  is positive semidefinite).

## B Supplementary Problems

5. Let  $A \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$  and have eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ . Show that the following assertions are equivalent:

- (a)  $A$  is normal.
- (b)  $I - A$  is normal.
- (c) Every eigenvector of  $A$  is an eigenvector of  $A^*$ .
- (d)  $\operatorname{tr}(A^*A) = \sum_{i,j=1}^n |a_{ij}|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n |\lambda_i|^2$ .
- (e)  $\operatorname{tr}(A^*A)^2 = \operatorname{tr}((A^*)^2 A^2)$ .
- (f)  $\|Ax\| = \|A^*x\|$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{C}^n$ .
- (g)  $A + A^*$  and  $A - A^*$  commute.
- (h)  $A^*A - AA^*$  is positive semidefinite.
- (i)  $A$  commutes with  $A^*A$ .
- (j)  $A$  commutes with  $AA^* - A^*A$ .

6. Let  $A \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$ . Show that the following assertions are equivalent:

- (a)  $A$  is Hermitian.
- (b)  $x^*Ax$  is real for all  $x \in \mathbb{C}^n$ .
- (c)  $A^2 = A^*A$ .
- (d)  $A^2 = AA^*$ .
- (e)  $\operatorname{tr}(A^2) = \operatorname{tr}(A^*A)$ .

7. **(Courant-Fischer min-max theorem)** Let  $A \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$  be Hermitian and  $\lambda_1 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_n$  be its eigenvalues repeated with multiplicity. For  $1 \leq k \leq n$ , show that

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_k &= \min_{\dim S_k=k} \max_{0 \neq x \in S_k} \frac{x^*Ax}{x^*x} \\ &= \max_{\dim S_{n-k+1}=n-k+1} \min_{0 \neq x \in S_{n-k+1}} \frac{x^*Ax}{x^*x}. \end{aligned}$$

where  $S_k$  and  $S_{n-k+1}$  runs over all subspaces of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  with dimension  $k$  and  $n - k + 1$  respectively. (*Hint:* Let  $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$  be an orthonormal set of eigenvectors of  $A$ . For the first equality, choose a non-zero vector in  $S_k \cap \operatorname{span}\{v_k, \dots, v_n\}$  to prove  $\geq$ , and choose  $S_k = \operatorname{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$  to prove  $\leq$ . Similar for the second equality.)

8. The following questions consider the **partial trace** of a matrix (usually Hermitian). Let  $V$  be an  $m$ -dimensional subspace of  $\mathbb{C}^n$ , the **partial trace** of a Hermitian matrix  $A \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$  with respect to  $V$  is defined to be

$$\mathrm{tr}(A|_V) = \sum_{i=1}^m v_i^* A v_i \quad (\text{B.1})$$

where  $\{v_i\}_{i=1}^m$  is an orthonormal basis of  $V$ .

- (a) Show that the definition of partial trace (B.1) is independent of the choice of orthonormal basis  $\{v_i\}_{i=1}^m$ . That is, if both  $\{v_i\}_{i=1}^m$  and  $\{w_i\}_{i=1}^m$  are orthonormal basis of  $V$ , we must have

$$\sum_{i=1}^m v_i^* A v_i = \sum_{i=1}^m w_i^* A w_i.$$

Hence, the partial trace of  $A$  with respect to  $V$  only depends on  $V$ .

- (b) **(Extremal Partial Trace)** Let  $A \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$  be Hermitian and  $\lambda_1 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_n$  be its eigenvalues repeated with multiplicity. For  $1 \leq k \leq n$ , show that

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \dots + \lambda_k &= \inf_{\dim S_k = k} \mathrm{tr}(A|_{S_k}) \\ \lambda_{n-k+1} + \lambda_{n-k+2} + \dots + \lambda_n &= \sup_{\dim S_k = k} \mathrm{tr}(A|_{S_k}) \end{aligned}$$

where  $S_k$  runs over all subspaces of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  with dimension  $k$ . (Hint: Let  $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$  be an orthonormal set of eigenvectors of  $A$ . For the second identity, show  $\leq$  by taking  $S_k = \mathrm{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$  and apply induction on  $k$  with the fact  $\lambda_n \geq v^* A v$  for all  $v \in \mathbb{C}^n$  to show  $\geq$ . The first identity follows similarly)

**Remark.** In fact, this shows that  $A \mapsto \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \dots + \lambda_k$  is a convex function and  $A \mapsto \lambda_{n-k+1} + \lambda_{n-k+2} + \dots + \lambda_n$  a concave function.

- (c) **(Schur-Horn Inequality)** Using (8b), show that

$$\lambda_{n-k+1} + \lambda_{n-k+2} + \dots + \lambda_n \leq A_{i_1 i_1} + A_{i_2 i_2} + \dots + A_{i_k i_k} \leq \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \dots + \lambda_k$$

for any  $1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_k \leq n$  ( $k$  distinct integers between 1 and  $n$ ), where  $A_{11}, A_{22}, \dots, A_{nn}$  are the diagonal entries of  $A$ .

**Definition B.1.** Let  $\mathbb{F}$  be a field and  $A \in M_n(\mathbb{F})$ . For  $1 \leq k \leq n$ , define the  $k$ -th principal submatrix of  $A$ , denoted by  $A_k \in M_k(\mathbb{F})$ , by  $(A_k)_{ij} = A_{ij}$  for  $1 \leq i, j \leq k$ .

9. **(Cauchy interlacing theorem)** Let  $A \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$  be Hermitian and  $\lambda_1(A) \leq \dots \leq \lambda_n(A)$  be its eigenvalues repeated with multiplicity. Let  $B$  be the  $(n-1)$ -th principal submatrix of  $A$  (that is,  $B$  is obtained by deleting the  $n$ -th row and  $n$ -th column of  $A$ ) and  $\lambda_1(B) \leq \dots \leq \lambda_{n-1}(B)$  be its eigenvalues repeated with multiplicity. Prove that

$$\lambda_1(A) \leq \lambda_1(B) \leq \lambda_2(A) \leq \lambda_2(B) \leq \dots \leq \lambda_{n-1}(A) \leq \lambda_{n-1}(B) \leq \lambda_n(A).$$

(Hint: Use exercise (7).)

10. Let  $A \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$  be Hermitian. Prove that the following statements are equivalent:

- (a)  $A$  is positive-definite.
- (b) **(Sylvester's criterion)** Every determinant of principal submatrix of  $A$  is positive. That is, the matrices  $M_k = (m_{ij})_{1 \leq i, j \leq k}$  defined by  $m_{ij} = a_{ij}$  have nonnegative determinant for all  $1 \leq k \leq n$ .
- (c)  $A = B^*B$  for some  $B \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$  invertible.
- (d)  $X^*AX \geq 0$  for all  $n \times m$  matrix  $X$ .
- (e)  $\text{tr}(AX) \geq 0$  for all positive semidefinite matrix  $X$ .
- (f)  $X^*AX \geq 0$  for all  $n \times m$  matrix  $X$ .

(Hint: For (10a)  $\Rightarrow$  (10b), use exercises (3a) and (9). For (10b)  $\Rightarrow$  (10c), consider the  $LDU$  decomposition of  $A$ .)