

# Homework 2: Report

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1. Let  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}$  be both upper-triangular and unitary. Show that  $A$  is a diagonal matrix. Does the same hold if  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}$  is both lower-triangular and unitary?

*Proof. (Upper Triangular, by Induction)*

Assume matrix  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}$  is unitary and is upper triangular such that,

$$A^* A = I_m = A A^*$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1m} \\ 0 & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2m} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & a_{mm} \end{bmatrix}$$

Where  $A^*$  is the complex transpose matrix of  $A$ . We have then that  $A^*$  is of the form,

$$A^* = \begin{bmatrix} \overline{a_{11}} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \overline{a_{12}} & \overline{a_{22}} & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \overline{a_{1m}} & \overline{a_{2m}} & \cdots & \overline{a_{mm}} \end{bmatrix}$$

Then the product of matrix multiplication of  $A^*$  and  $A$  is then defined as  $B$ , (i.e.  $B = A^* A$ ), and because  $A$  is a Unitary matrix, is equal to  $I$ .

**(Base Case):**

Now assume that the elements above the diagonal in  $A$  are non-zero. Next examine the  $(1,1)$  and  $(2,1)$  cells of the matrix product,  $B$ . By the operation of Matrix multiplication we should have,

$$B(2,1) = a_{11} \cdot \overline{a_{12}} = I_m(2,1) = 0$$

$$B(1,1) = a_{11} \cdot \overline{a_{11}} = I_m(1,1) = 1$$

From this, we know that  $a_{11} \neq 0$  and  $\overline{a_{11}} \neq 0$ . But we have that the product of  $a_{11} \cdot \overline{a_{12}} = 0$ . Since we have that  $a_{11} \neq 0$ , we must therefore have that  $\overline{a_{12}} = 0$  and by the definition of a complex conjugate,  $a_{12} = 0$ .

**(Inductive Step)**

We need to show that for a integer  $k \leq m - 1$  all of the columns of matrix  $A$ ,  $\vec{C}_i$ , up to  $\vec{C}_k$  is of the form,

$$\vec{C}_i = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ a_{ii} \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

then  $\vec{C}_{k+1}$  is also of the same form. We have that in the matrix product between  $A^*$  and  $A$ ,  $B$ , then the  $i$ -th row of  $B$  is defined as the inner product between the  $i$ -th row of  $A^*$ ,  $\vec{r}_i^*$  and the  $j$ -th column of  $A$ ,  $\vec{c}_j$ .

$$B(i, :) = [(\vec{r}_i^*, \vec{c}_1), (\vec{r}_i^*, \vec{c}_2), \dots, (\vec{r}_i^*, \vec{c}_j)] = I_m(i, :) = [0, \dots, 1, \dots, 0]$$

Look at the  $(k+1)$ -th row of  $B$ . We have from the given form of the columns,  $\{\vec{c}_1, \dots, \vec{c}_k\}$ ,

$$(\vec{r}_{k+1}^*, \vec{c}_j) = \overline{a_{j(k+1)}} \cdot a_{jj} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } j \neq k+1 \\ 1 & \text{if } j = k+1 \end{cases}, i, j < k+1$$

We also have that each  $a_{ii} \neq 0$ . Thereby, for all  $j < k+1$ ,

$$\overline{a_{j(k+1)}} = 0 \implies a_{j(k+1)} = 0$$

We now write the column,  $\vec{c}_{k+1}$ .

$$\vec{c}_{k+1} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ a_{(k+1)(k+1)} \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Therefore, we have that  $\vec{c}_{k+1}$  is of the same form as  $\vec{c}_i, i \leq k$ . By induction, each column of  $A$  is of this form. Therefore,  $A$  is a diagonal matrix!

□

**Proof. (Lower Triangular, by case of Upper Triangular)**

Assume as before,  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}$  is unitary and is lower triangular such that,

$$A^* A = I_m = A A^*$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \cdots & a_{mm} \end{bmatrix}$$

Where  $A^*$  is the complex transpose matrix of  $A$ . We have then that  $A^*$  is of the form,

$$A^* = \begin{bmatrix} \overline{a_{11}} & \overline{a_{21}} & \cdots & \overline{a_{m1}} \\ 0 & \overline{a_{22}} & \cdots & \overline{a_{m2}} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \overline{a_{mm}} \end{bmatrix}$$

We then define the matrix  $C = A^*$ ,  $C^* = A$ . Notice that  $C$  is an upper triangular, unitary matrix. By the previous proof,  $C$  is a diagonal matrix. Notice all of its “off-diagonal” elements are zero. As a consequence, all  $(i, j)$ -elements of  $C$  which are zero imply that  $(j, i)$ -elements of  $C^*$  are zero. Therefore,  $C^* = A$  is a diagonal matrix.

□

2. Prove the following in each problem.

- (a) Let  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}$  be invertible and  $\lambda \neq 0$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$ . Show that  $\lambda^{-1}$  is an eigenvalue of  $A^{-1}$ .

*Proof.* Take any  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}$  to be invertible. Then we have inverse,  $A^{-1}$  exists such that,

$$AA^{-1} = I_m = A^{-1}A$$

We also have by the fact that  $\lambda \neq 0$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$  that,

$$\det(A - \lambda I_m) = 0$$

We can substitute for  $I_m$ .

$$\det(A - \lambda I_m) = \det(A - \lambda(A^{-1}A)) = \det(A)\det(I_m - \lambda A^{-1}) = 0$$

$$\det(I_m - \lambda A^{-1}) = -\det(A^{-1} - \frac{1}{\lambda}I_m) = 0$$

$$\det(A^{-1} - \frac{1}{\lambda}I_m) = 0$$

Therefore,  $\lambda^{-1}$  is an eigenvalue of  $A^{-1}$ .

□

- (b) Let  $A, B \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}$ . Show that  $AB$  and  $BA$  have the same eigenvalues.

*Proof.* Let  $A, B$  be square matrices as shown above. Now look at some eigenvalue of the matrix product  $AB$ ,  $\lambda$ . We have by definition of an eigenvalue the following equality.

$$AB\vec{v} = \lambda\vec{v}$$

Now we multiply both vectors by the matrix  $B$ .

$$B(AB\vec{v}) = B(\lambda\vec{v})$$

$$(BA)(B\vec{v}) = \lambda(B\vec{v})$$

$$BA\vec{w} = \lambda\vec{w}$$

Therefore  $\lambda$  is also an eigenvalue of the matrix product  $BA$ . Since our choice of  $\lambda$  was arbitrary, we have that all eigenvalues of  $AB$  are eigenvalues of  $BA$ . □

- (c) Let  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ . Show that  $A$  and  $A^*$  have the same eigenvalues. (Hint 1: Use  $\det(M) = \det(M^T)$  for any square matrix  $M \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$  in connection to the definition of characteristic polynomials. Hint 2: When a real-valued matrix  $A$  has a complex eigenvalue  $\lambda$ , then  $\bar{\lambda}$  is also an eigenvalue of  $A$ .)

*Proof.* First look at an arbitrary eigenvalue,  $\lambda$ , of  $A$ .

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$$

We look at two cases, 1.  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ , and 2.  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ .

Case 1:  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ . We have since  $A, I, \lambda$  are all real-valued, that the conjugate transpose of  $(A - \lambda I)^*$  is equal to the transpose of the same matrix quantity. i.e.

$$(A - \lambda I)^* = (A - \lambda I)^T = A^T - \lambda I = A^* - \lambda I$$

Therefore we can write,

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \det(A^* - \lambda I) = 0$$

We can immediately see that any real eigenvalue of  $A$  is also an eigenvalue of  $A^*$ .

Case 2:  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ , We again look at the conjugate transpose,

$$(A - \lambda I)^* = (A^* - \bar{\lambda}I)$$

□

3. Let  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}$  be hermitian. Suppose that for nonzero eigenvectors of  $A$ , there exist corresponding eigenvalues  $\lambda$  satisfying  $Ax = \lambda x$ .

a. Prove that all eigenvalues of  $A$  are real.

*Proof.* We look at an arbitrary eigenvalue of  $A$ .

$$Ax = \lambda x, x \in \mathbb{C}^m$$

we multiply both sides by the conjugate transpose of  $x$ .

$$x^*(Ax) = x^*(\lambda x)$$

$$x^*Ax = \lambda(x^*x)$$

We should notice that  $x^*x$  is a scalar with a real value. This is because each component of  $x$  is multiplied against its complex conjugate. Next we look at the dimensions and hermitian quantity of  $x^*Ax$ . We have that  $x^* \in \mathbb{C}^{1 \times m}$ , otherwise known as a row vector. We also have,  $Ax \in \mathbb{C}^m$ . Thereby, the matrix product of  $x^*$  and  $Ax$  is a  $1 \times 1$  quantity, a scalar! More importantly we have,

$$(x^*Ax)^* = x^*A^*(x^*)^* = x^*Ax$$

So,  $x^*Ax$  is hermitian, or rather,  $x^*Ax$  is a real-valued scalar. We then have,

$$x^*Ax = \lambda(x^*x)$$

Where both  $x^*Ax$  and  $x^*x$  are real valued, so consequently  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ .

□

- b. Let  $x$  and  $y$  be eigenvectors corresponding to distinct eigenvalues. Show that  $(x, y) = 0$ , i.e., they are orthogonal. (Hint: Use the result of Part (a).)

*Proof.* By the quality that  $A$  is hermitian, we have for any two vectors,  $x, y \in \mathbb{C}^m$ , that

$$(Ax, y) = x^*A^*y = x^*Ay = (x, Ay)$$

Therefore we can say for distinct eigenvectors,  $v_1, v_2$  ( $v_1 \neq v_2$ ), with distinct eigenvalues,  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$  ( $\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$ ),

$$\begin{aligned} (Av_1, v_2) - (v_1, Av_2) &= 0 \\ &= (\lambda_1 v_1, v_2) - (v_1, \lambda_2 v_2) = \overline{\lambda_1} v_1^* v_2 - v_1^* \lambda_2 v_2 \\ &= (\overline{\lambda_1} - \lambda_2) v_1^* v_2 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

There are two things to notice, first since all eigenvalues are real,  $\overline{\lambda_1} = \lambda_1$ . Second, by our construction of the problem,  $\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$ . Thereby,  $(\overline{\lambda_1} - \lambda_2) \neq 0$ . So,

$$v_1^* v_2 = 0 = (v_1, v_2)$$

□

4. A matrix  $A$  is called positive definite if and only if  $(Ax, x) > 0$  for all  $x \neq 0$  in  $\mathbb{C}^m$ . Suppose  $A$  is Hermitian. Show that  $A$  is positive definite if and only if  $\lambda_i > 0, \forall \lambda_i \in \Lambda(A)$ , the spectrum of  $A$ .

*Proof.* By the property of  $A$  being hermitian, that we can write any vector,  $x \in \mathbb{C}^m, x \neq \vec{0}$  as the linear combination of the orthonormal eigenvectors of  $A$ ,  $u_i$ .

$$x = \alpha_1 u_1 + \cdots + \alpha_m u_m$$

We then look the inner product,  $(Ax, x)$ .

$$Ax = A(\alpha_1 u_1 + \cdots + \alpha_m u_m) = \lambda_1 \alpha_1 u_1 + \cdots + \lambda_m \alpha_m u_m$$

$$(Ax)^* = \overline{\lambda_1 \alpha_1} u_1^* + \cdots + \overline{\lambda_m \alpha_m} u_m^*$$

$$(Ax, x) = (\overline{\lambda_1 \alpha_1} u_1^* + \cdots + \overline{\lambda_m \alpha_m} u_m^*)(\alpha_1 u_1 + \cdots + \alpha_m u_m)$$

Here by the property of an orthonormal vector set, we have that  $u_i^* u_j = 0$  if  $i \neq j$  and  $= 1$  if  $i = j$ .

$$(Ax, x) = \overline{\lambda_1 \alpha_1} \alpha_1 + \cdots + \overline{\lambda_m \alpha_m} \alpha_m = \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i |\alpha_i|^2$$

Of course,  $|\alpha_i|^2$  is a strictly positive value. So for  $(Ax, x) < 0$  we need at least one  $\lambda_i < 0$ . In fact, it is the case that if even one  $\lambda_i < 0$  that  $(Ax, x) \not\geq 0$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{C}^m$ . To prove that  $(Ax, x) > 0, \forall x \in \mathbb{C}^m$ , we take the case of only the smallest  $\lambda_i, \lambda_k < 0$  (i.e.  $|\lambda_k| < |\lambda_i|, \forall \lambda_i \in (\Lambda(A) - \{\lambda_k\})$ ). We can show by counter-example

$$\lambda_k < 0, x \in \mathbb{C}^m, x = \alpha_1 u_1 + \cdots + \alpha_m u_m$$

$$(Ax, x) = \lambda_k |\alpha_k|^2 + \sum_{i=1, i \neq k}^m \lambda_i |\alpha_i|^2$$

$$\exists x_* \in \mathbb{C}^m, \text{ such that } |\alpha_k|^2 = \frac{1}{\lambda_k} \sum_{i=1, i \neq k}^m \lambda_i |\alpha_i|^2 + 1$$

$$(Ax_*, x_*) < 0, \text{ by construction.}$$

□

5. Suppose  $A$  is unitary.

(a) Let  $(\lambda, x)$  be an eigenvalue-vector pair of  $A$ . Show  $\lambda$  satisfies  $|\lambda| = 1$ .

*Proof.* Since  $A$  is unitary, we have that it preserves the angle and length of vectors under transformations. (i.e  $(Ax, Ax) = (x, x)$  for any vector  $x \in \mathbb{C}^m$ ). Thereby we have,

$$(Ax, Ax) = (\lambda x, \lambda x) = \overline{\lambda} x^* \lambda x = |\lambda|^2 x^* x = |\lambda|^2 (x, x)$$

$$(x, x) = (Ax, Ax) = |\lambda|^2 (x, x) \implies |\lambda|^2 = 1$$

$$|\lambda| = 1$$

□

(b) Prove or disprove  $\|A\|_F = 1$

*Proof.* We have from the definition of the Frobenius Norm and since  $A$  is unitary,

$$\|A\|_F = \sqrt{\text{Tr}(A^* A)} = \sqrt{\text{Tr}(I)}$$

Assume now that  $I \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ . Then,  $\text{Tr}(I) = m$

$$\|A\|_F = \sqrt{m}$$

Therefore,  $\|A\|_F \neq 1$  unless,  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{1 \times 1}$  i.e.  $A$  is a scalar. In general though, for any  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$  where  $m, n > 1$ ,  $\|A\|_F \neq 1$ . □