

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 λ^{-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, λ^{-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 , λ . 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 λ is also an eigenvalue of the matrix product BA . Since our choice of λ 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 λ , then $\bar{\lambda}$ is also an eigenvalue of A .)

Proof. First look at an arbitrary eigenvalue, λ , 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, λ 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,

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

□

- (d) Let $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}$ be hermitian. Suppose that for nonzero eigenvectors of A , there exist corresponding eigenvalues λ 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 1×1 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).)