

Homework 6

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1. Real-valued matrix

(a) Linearly independent eigenvectors

Proof. Using the sesquilinear form of the inner product, we observe that

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \mathbf{x} + i\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x} - i\mathbf{y} \rangle &= \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} - i\mathbf{y} \rangle + \langle i\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x} - i\mathbf{y} \rangle \\ &= \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle + i\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle - i\langle \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x} \rangle + i^2\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle \\ &= \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle + i\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle - i\langle \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x} \rangle - \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle \\ &= \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle - \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle \\ &= 0\end{aligned}$$

and so the two are orthogonal and necessarily linearly independent. □

(b) Linearly independent components

Proof. We begin by showing $\mathbf{y} \neq \mathbf{0}$. Observe that this statement is equivalent to stating that the eigenvector corresponding to a complex eigenvalue has a nonzero imaginary component. Suppose now towards the contrary that \mathbf{z}_1 is purely real, such that $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{0}$ and

$$\begin{aligned}A\mathbf{z}_1 &= \lambda_1\mathbf{z}_1 \\ A(\mathbf{x} + i\mathbf{y}) &= (a + bi)(\mathbf{x} + i\mathbf{y}) \\ A\mathbf{x} + iA\mathbf{y} &= a\mathbf{x} + bix + aiy - by \\ A\mathbf{x} &= a\mathbf{x} + bix\end{aligned}$$

But since $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, we have that a *purely real transformation* applied to a *purely real vector* yields a *complex vector*, which is not possible. Then we must have $\mathbf{y} \neq \mathbf{0}$.

To show \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} are linearly independent, it suffices to follow a similar structure as the above. Towards a contradiction, we will denote, for some scalar $k \in \mathbb{R}$:

$$\mathbf{y} = k\mathbf{x}$$

such that

$$\begin{aligned}
 A\mathbf{z}_1 &= \lambda_1 \mathbf{z}_1 \\
 A(\mathbf{x} + ki\mathbf{x}) &= (a + bi)(\mathbf{x} + ki\mathbf{x}) \\
 A\mathbf{x} + kiA\mathbf{x} &= (a + bi)(1 + ki)\mathbf{x} \\
 (1 + ki)A\mathbf{x} &= (a + bi)(1 + ki)\mathbf{x} \\
 A\mathbf{x} &= (a + bi)\mathbf{x} \\
 &= a\mathbf{x} + bi\mathbf{x}
 \end{aligned}$$

where once again a contradiction arises as we cannot have complex vectors as the product of a purely real matrix and a purely real vector. Therefore \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} need be linearly independent. \square

2. Outer product matrix

(a) Zero eigenvalue

Proof. Given the outer product $A = \mathbf{xy}^T$ it follows that the i th row of A for $1 \leq i \leq n$ is given by $x_i \mathbf{y}$ where x_i is the i th entry of \mathbf{x} . Since $\dim \mathbb{R}^n = n$, pick any $n - 1$ linearly independent vectors $\mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n$ such that

$$\{\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$$

is a basis for \mathbb{R}^n . Using Gram-Schmidt, we can then orthonormalise this basis to obtain the orthonormal basis

$$\mathcal{B} = \{\hat{\mathbf{x}}, \hat{\mathbf{v}}'_2, \dots, \hat{\mathbf{v}}'_n\}$$

Then, each of $\hat{\mathbf{v}}'_i$ for $2 \leq i \leq n$ is orthogonal to \mathbf{x} . We can therefore write

$$A\hat{\mathbf{v}}'_i = \mathbf{xy}^T \hat{\mathbf{v}}'_i$$

By orthogonality, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= 0\mathbf{x} \\
 A\hat{\mathbf{v}}'_i &= 0\hat{\mathbf{v}}'_i
 \end{aligned}$$

Since this holds for all $n - 1$ linearly independent vectors $\hat{\mathbf{v}}'_i$, we have found $n - 1$ linearly independent eigenvectors corresponding to the eigenvalue 0, as required. \square

(b) Single eigenvalue

Proof. It suffices to show that $(\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle, \mathbf{x})$ is an eigenpair of A . Algebraically,

$$\begin{aligned}
 A\mathbf{x} &= \mathbf{xy}^T \mathbf{x} \\
 &= \mathbf{x} \langle \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x} \rangle \\
 &= \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle \mathbf{x}
 \end{aligned}$$

and since the inner product is a scalar, it follows immediately that $\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{y}$ is an eigenvalue corresponding to the eigenvector \mathbf{x} of A . \square

(c) Diagonalisability

Proof. From part (a) it is evident that A has n linearly independent eigenvectors. Using the same notation, we may then express

$$A \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{x}} & \hat{\mathbf{v}}'_2 & \hat{\mathbf{v}}'_3 & \cdots & \hat{\mathbf{v}}'_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{x}} & \hat{\mathbf{v}}'_2 & \hat{\mathbf{v}}'_3 & \cdots & \hat{\mathbf{v}}'_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Observe that from part (a), $\lambda_1 = \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{y}$ and $\lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = \dots = \lambda_n = 0$, such that we can form a diagonal matrix Λ that is all zero except for the λ_1 entry. Then, using P to denote the eigenvector matrix, we may write

$$AP = P\Lambda$$

We know from part (a) that P has linearly independent columns, by explicit construction of an orthonormal basis. Hence, P is invertible and we may write

$$P^{-1}AP = \Lambda$$

and thus A is diagonalisable. □

3. Nonsingularity of the matrix exponential

Proof. Let A be an arbitrary $n \times n$ matrix. Then it has n eigenvalues (counting multiplicities). Suppose λ_i is one such eigenvalue, and let \mathbf{v}_i be an associated eigenvector such that

$$A\mathbf{v}_i = \lambda_i \mathbf{v}_i$$

Suppose we multiply the matrix exponential into the eigenvector, to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} e^A \mathbf{v}_i &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} A^k \mathbf{v}_i \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} \lambda_i^k \mathbf{v}_i \end{aligned}$$

But this is equivalent to the Maclaurin expansion of the exponential, so we have

$$e^A \mathbf{v}_i = e^{\lambda_i} \mathbf{v}_i$$

It follows that all eigenvectors of A are eigenvectors of e^A . But the associated eigenvalues are of the form e^{λ_i} , which is never zero. Since $\det e^A = \prod_{i=1}^n e^{\lambda_i}$ and $e^{\lambda_i} \neq 0$, the determinant is nonzero, and so the matrix exponential is nonsingular for *any* matrix A . □

4. Hermitian matrix

Proof. Observe that

$$\mathbf{x}^H A \mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{x}^H A) \mathbf{x} \tag{1}$$

$$= (A^H \mathbf{x})^H \mathbf{x} \tag{2}$$

$$= (A \mathbf{x})^H \mathbf{x} \tag{3}$$

$$= \langle \mathbf{x}, A \mathbf{x} \rangle \tag{4}$$

Associating terms differently yields

$$\mathbf{x}^H A \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}^H (A \mathbf{x}) \tag{5}$$

$$= \langle A \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle \tag{6}$$

$$\langle A \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle = \overline{\langle \mathbf{x}, A \mathbf{x} \rangle} \tag{7}$$

Equating with (4) yields

$$\langle \mathbf{x}, A \mathbf{x} \rangle = \overline{\langle \mathbf{x}, A \mathbf{x} \rangle} \tag{8}$$

but for a quantity to be equal to its complex conjugate requires it to be purely real, as required. □

5. *Unitary matrix*(a) *Normality*

Proof. A matrix U is unitary if and only if we have

$$U^{-1} = U^H$$

but because matrices commute with their inverses, we have

$$U^H U = U U^H = I$$

so U is normal. □

(b) *Preservation of the norm*

Proof. Let U be unitary. Then we may write, for $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{C}^n$

$$\begin{aligned}\langle U\mathbf{x}, U\mathbf{x} \rangle &= (U\mathbf{x})^H U\mathbf{x} \\ &= \mathbf{x}^H U^H U\mathbf{x}\end{aligned}$$

Since U is unitary, the middle terms go to the identity, and we have

$$\begin{aligned}&= \mathbf{x}^H \mathbf{x} \\ &= \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle\end{aligned}$$

as required. □

(c) *Eigenvalue magnitude*

Proof. Take λ to be an eigenvalue of the unitary matrix U . Let \mathbf{x} be an associated eigenvector, such that

$$U\mathbf{x} = \lambda\mathbf{x}$$

Taking the inner product of both sides, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}\langle U\mathbf{x}, U\mathbf{x} \rangle &= \langle \lambda\mathbf{x}, \lambda\mathbf{x} \rangle \\ &= |\lambda|^2 \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle\end{aligned}$$

Per part (b), transformations encoded by unitary matrices preserve length, such that we now have

$$\begin{aligned}\langle U\mathbf{x}, U\mathbf{x} \rangle &= \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle = |\lambda|^2 \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle \\ 1 &= |\lambda|^2 \\ |\lambda| &= 1\end{aligned}$$

as required. □

6. *Eigenvalues of Hermitian matrices*

Proof. Given that A is Hermitian, the spectral theorem applies and it is diagonalised by a unitary matrix U that $UTU^H = A$. Furthermore, we can write

$$\begin{aligned}A &= UTU^H \\ AU &= UT\end{aligned}$$

The i th column of AU is equal to the i th column of UT , and since T is diagonal, we may write, using \mathbf{u}_i to denote the i th column in U ,

$$A\mathbf{u}_i = \mathbf{u}_i t_{ii}$$

from which it follows that the columns of U are eigenvectors of A , and the diagonal entries of T are the associated eigenvalues. Therefore, we may rewrite the diagonalisation as an eigendecomposition:

$$\begin{aligned} A &= UTU^H \\ &= [\mathbf{u}_1 \quad \mathbf{u}_2 \quad \cdots \quad \mathbf{u}_n] \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1^H \\ \mathbf{u}_2^H \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{u}_n^H \end{bmatrix} \\ &= [\lambda_1 \mathbf{u}_1 \quad \lambda_2 \mathbf{u}_2 \quad \cdots \quad \lambda_n \mathbf{u}_n] \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1^H \\ \mathbf{u}_2^H \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{u}_n^H \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

The column matrix on the right can be rewritten as a matrix sum, and distributivity of matrix multiplication applies to yield

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sum_{i=1}^n [0 \quad \cdots \quad \lambda_i \mathbf{u}_i \quad \cdots \quad 0] \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1^H \\ \mathbf{u}_2^H \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{u}_n^H \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n (0 + 0 + \cdots + \lambda_i \mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{u}_i^H + 0 + \cdots + 0) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{u}_i^H \\ &= \lambda_1 \mathbf{u}_1 \mathbf{u}_1^H + \lambda_2 \mathbf{u}_2 \mathbf{u}_2^H + \cdots + \lambda_n \mathbf{u}_n \mathbf{u}_n^H \end{aligned}$$

so A can be expressed as a linear combination of the outer products of its eigenvectors, as required. \square