

The theorem we discussed in the last class is sometimes referred to as the spectral theorem. As a result of the theorem, we can say every symmetric tensor has the following representation:

$$S = \sum_{i=1}^3 \lambda_i \hat{u}_i \otimes \hat{u}_i \quad \xrightarrow{\text{spectral decomposition of } S} \quad \text{①}$$

where \hat{u}_i denoted eigenvectors with norm 1.

The set of eigenvalues is called the spectrum of S .

Cayley-Hamilton theorem Every second-order tensor satisfies its own characteristic equation:

$$T^3 - I_1(T) T^2 + I_2(T) T - I_3(T) \mathbf{I} = \mathbf{0}, \quad T \in \text{Lin} \quad \text{②}$$

Comment: If $T \in \text{Sym}$, it is easy to prove the above statement. Just substitute ① into ②! But the C-H theorem holds for any $T \in \text{Lin}$! We will not prove the general result here.

Arthur Cayley - British mathematician

William Hamilton - Irish

Positive definite second-order tensors &

Polar decomposition

Before we start...

Geometric significance of the spectral decomposition:

Recall our geometric interpretation of a tensor action as "expansion/contraction and shear". The spectral decomposition (written for only $S \in \text{Sym}$) says that there are three mutually orthogonal directions along which vectors are either shrunk ($\lambda < 1$), expanded ($\lambda > 1$), or reflected ($\lambda < 0$). This is only for $S \in \text{Sym}$. But what about for an arbitrary $T \in \text{Lin}$?

Definition: A tensor $T \in \text{Lin}$ is positive definite if

$$T \underline{v} \cdot \underline{v} > 0 \quad \forall \text{ nonzero } \underline{v} \in V$$

8) Can a $W \in \text{Skw}$ be positive-definite?

No! - You can always find a $\underline{v} \in V$ such that

$$W \underline{v} \cdot \underline{v} = 0.$$

\therefore For any $T \in \text{Lin}$, since $T = \underbrace{S + W}_{\substack{\text{TTT} \\ \text{S}}} \quad (\text{from Lecture 6, pg 2})$

$$T \underline{v} \cdot \underline{v} = S \underline{v} \cdot \underline{v}.$$

(3)

Notation: - P_{sym} : positive-definite symmetric tensors.

Theorem: Let $S \in \text{Sym}$. Then $S \in P_{\text{sym}} \Leftrightarrow$ its eigenvalues are strictly positive.

Proof: (\Rightarrow) Assume $S \in P_{\text{sym}}$. This implies $S_{\underline{v}} \cdot \underline{v} > 0 \forall \underline{v} \neq \underline{0} \in V$

From the spectral theorem, we know S has three real eigenvalues and three mutually orthogonal eigenvectors, say $(\underline{u}_1, \underline{u}_2, \underline{u}_3)$:

$$S_{\underline{u}_i} = \lambda_i \underline{u}_i \quad (\text{no sum}) \quad i=1,2,3.$$

Then, By assumption $S_{\underline{u}_i} \cdot \underline{u}_i > 0$ (no sum), which implies

$$\lambda_i \underline{u}_i \cdot \underline{u}_i > 0. \quad (\text{no sum}) \quad i=1,2,3.$$

Since $\underline{u}_i \cdot \underline{u}_i > 0$ (property of dot product), $\lambda_i > 0$

(\Leftarrow) Assume all eigenvalues are positive. By the spectral decomposition theorem

$$S = \sum_{i=1}^3 \lambda_i \hat{\underline{u}}_i \otimes \hat{\underline{u}}_i, \quad \text{where } \hat{\underline{u}}_i = \underline{u}_i / \|\underline{u}_i\| \quad (\text{no sum})$$

For an arbitrary non-zero $\underline{v} \in V$

$$S_{\underline{v}} = \sum_{i=1}^3 \lambda_i (\hat{\underline{u}}_i \cdot \underline{v}) \hat{\underline{u}}_i.$$

Therefore $S_{\underline{v}} \cdot \underline{v} = \sum_{i=1}^3 \lambda_i (\hat{\underline{u}}_i \cdot \underline{v}) (\hat{\underline{u}}_i \cdot \underline{v}) > 0.$

□

(4)

\mathcal{P}_{sym} $\xleftrightarrow{\text{Analogy}}$ Positive numbers,

in the sense that tensors in \mathcal{P}_{sym} have a square root.

Square-root theorem: Let $S \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{sym}}$. Then there exists a unique $U \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{sym}}$ such that

$$U^2 = S.$$

We write \sqrt{S} for U .

Proof: (Existence) By the spectral decomposition theorem, we have

$$S = \sum_{i=1}^3 \lambda_i \hat{u}_i \otimes \hat{u}_i \quad \begin{array}{l} \nearrow \text{orthonormal eigenvectors.} \\ \searrow \text{eigenvalues} \end{array} \quad (3)$$

From the previous theorem, $\lambda_i > 0$ since $S \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{sym}}$. Let

$$U := \sum_{i=1}^3 \sqrt{\lambda_i} \hat{u}_i \otimes \hat{u}_i \quad (4)$$

Clearly, $U^2 = S$ (check it yourself).

(Uniqueness): Assume there exists another $V \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{sym}}$ such that

$$V^2 = U^2 = S.$$

(5)

Since $(S - \lambda_i I) \hat{\underline{u}}_i = \underline{0}$ (no sum), we have

$$(U^2 - \lambda_i I) \hat{\underline{u}}_i = \underline{0} \quad (\text{no sum}) \quad (i=1,2,3)$$

$$\Rightarrow (U - \lambda_i I) \underbrace{(U + \lambda_i I) \hat{\underline{u}}_i}_{=: \underline{v}_i} = \underline{0} \quad (i=1,2,3)$$

$$\Rightarrow (U - \lambda_i I) \underline{v}_i = \underline{0} \quad (i=1,2,3)$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{v}_i \text{ is an eigenvector of } U. \quad (i=1,2,3)$$

Similarly, $\underline{v}_1, \underline{v}_2, \underline{v}_3$ are eigenvectors of V . Since $U \in \text{Psym}$, $\{\underline{v}_1, \underline{v}_2, \underline{v}_3\}$ form a basis and

$$U \underline{v}_i = V \underline{v}_i \quad (i=1,2,3)$$

$$\Rightarrow U = V. \quad \square$$

(set of all invertible tensors).

Polar decomposition theorem: Let $F \in \widetilde{\text{Inv}}$. Then \exists unique $U, V \in \text{Psym}$, and a unique $R \in \text{Orth}$ such that

$$\boxed{\text{Right polar decomposition of } F} \quad \boxed{F = RU = VR} \quad \boxed{\text{Left polar decomposition of } F}$$

Moreover, $\det R = 1$ or -1 according as $\det F > 0$ or < 0 , and

$$U = \sqrt{F^T F}, \quad V = \sqrt{F F^T}. \quad \text{--- (5)}$$

Proof: We first prove that $F^T F$ and $F F^T$ belong to Psym for (6) to be meaningful: For any nonzero $\underline{v} \in V$

$$F^T F \underline{v} \cdot \underline{v} = F \underline{v} \cdot F \underline{v}. \quad \text{--- (7)}$$

Now, if $F \underline{v} = \underline{0}$ for a non-zero \underline{v} , then this is equivalent to saying the following equation

$$\begin{bmatrix} F_{1j} \\ F_{2j} \\ F_{3j} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

has a non-trivial solution. In the last class we have seen that this happens $\Leftrightarrow \det F = 0$. Since $F \in \text{Inv}$, it follows that $F \underline{v} \neq \underline{0}$, and by the property of dot product $F \underline{v} \cdot F \underline{v} > 0 \Rightarrow F^T F$ is positive definite.

Moreover since $(F^T F)^T = F^T F$, we have $F^T F \in \text{Psym}$. Similarly, it can be shown that $F F^T \in \text{Psym}$. Therefore, by the square root theorem $\sqrt{F^T F}$ and $\sqrt{F F^T}$ exist.

Uniqueness of U, V and R : Assume $U, V \in \text{Psym}$ are given by (6) and $R \in \text{Orth}$ exists such that (5) holds.

Assume $\exists \tilde{U}, \tilde{V} \in \text{Psym}$ and $\tilde{R} \in \text{Orth}$ such that

$$F = \tilde{R}\tilde{U} = \tilde{V}\tilde{R}.$$

This implies

$$\begin{aligned} F^T F &= (\tilde{R}\tilde{U})^T (\tilde{R}\tilde{U}) \\ &= \tilde{U}^T \underbrace{\tilde{R}^T \tilde{R}}_{=I} \tilde{U} \\ &= \tilde{U}^T \tilde{U} \Rightarrow \tilde{U} = \sqrt{F^T F} \end{aligned}$$

By the uniqueness of the square root theorem $\tilde{U} = U$.
 Similarly, we can show that (fill up the gap here!)
 $\tilde{V} = V$. Since

$$R = F U^{-1} \quad \left(U^{-1} \text{ exists since } \det U > 0, \right. \\ \left. U \text{ being in Psym} \right)$$

$$\tilde{R} = F \tilde{U}^{-1},$$

and $U = \tilde{U}$, it follows that $R = \tilde{R}$.

Existence: Assume U is given by (6a). Then $U, V \in \text{Psym}$ by construction. Define

$$R := F U^{-1}.$$

Let's now check if $R \in \text{Orth}$:

$$\begin{aligned}
 R^T R &= (F U^{-1})^T (F U^{-1}) \\
 &= U^{-T} F^T F U^{-1} \quad (\because U = U^T) \\
 &= U^{-T} U U U^{-1} \\
 &= I
 \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow R \in \text{Orth.}$

We will now construct V such that $F = VR$.

Let $V = R U R^T \in \text{Psym}$ (check! - exercise)

$$\begin{aligned}
 VR &= (R U R^T) R \\
 &= R U \underbrace{(R^T R)}_I \\
 &= R U \\
 &= F.
 \end{aligned}$$

□

Tensor fields

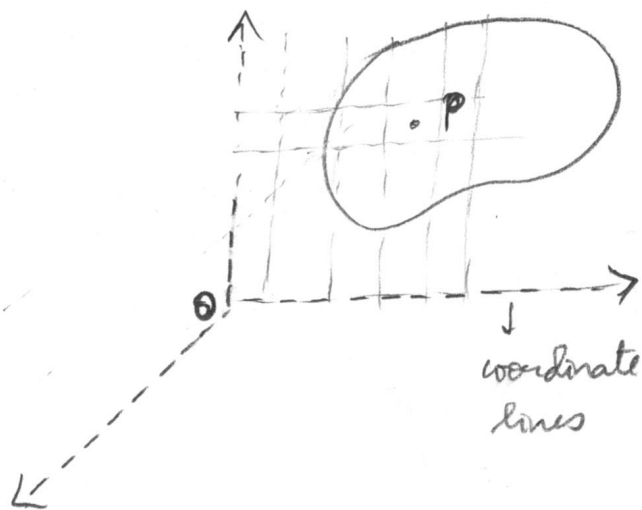
From Lecture 4, we have been living in Euclidean vector spaces. Let us now revisit Euclidean point space (E) :

- \rightarrow coordinate system
- \rightarrow cartesian coordinate system
- \rightarrow "translation operator" etc.

} Recall

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Typically, a continuum body is modeled as an open subset B of the Euclidean point space. ($B \subset E$).



The point p in E has coordinates (x_1, x_2, x_3) . Moreover, the point p may be identified with a vector $\underline{x} := p - 0$.

A scalar-valued function on the body can be represented as $f(p)$ or $\hat{f}(\underline{x})$ or $\tilde{f}(x_1, x_2, x_3)$. These functions are representing the same property, but are expressed as functions of points, vectors or ordered tuple of reals.

We will not make a fuss about using different notation, such as f , \hat{f} or \tilde{f} . Instead, we will use the same symbol $f(p)$, $f(\underline{x})$ or $f(x_1, x_2, x_3)$ and the domain of definition is to be understood from the context.