

Goals

- Eigenvectors with distinct eigenvalues are linearly independent
- Algebraic & geometric multiplicity
- Jordan normal form

Recall If  $f: V \rightarrow V$  linear, then  $\chi_f(x) = \det(A_\alpha^\alpha(f) - x I_n)$   
 for a some/any ordered basis of  $V$  and  $n = \dim V$ .

Prop Suppose  $f: V \rightarrow V$  linear with eigenvectors  $v_1, \dots, v_k \in V$   
 corresponding to eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k$ ,  $\lambda_i \neq \lambda_j$  for  $i \neq j$ .  
 Then  $v_1, \dots, v_k$  are linearly independent.

Pf Proceed by induction on  $k$ .

$k=1$  Eigenvectors are nonzero. ✓

$k \geq 1$  For induction, suppose  $v_1, \dots, v_{k-1}$  are lin ind and that

$$\mu_1 v_1 + \dots + \mu_k v_k = 0. \quad \text{WTS } \mu_1 = \dots = \mu_k = 0$$

Apply  $f - \lambda_k \text{id}_V$  to this expression:

$$(f - \lambda_k \text{id}_V)(\mu_1 v_1 + \dots + \mu_k v_k) = (f - \lambda_k \text{id}_V)(0)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu_1 f(v_1) + \dots + \mu_k f(v_k) - (\mu_1 \lambda_k v_1 + \dots + \mu_k \lambda_k v_k) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu_1 \lambda_1 v_1 + \dots + \mu_k \lambda_k v_k - (\mu_1 \lambda_k v_1 + \dots + \mu_k \lambda_k v_k) = 0 \quad [v_i \text{ eigen for } f]$$

$$\Rightarrow (\mu_1 (\lambda_1 - \lambda_k) v_1 + \dots + \mu_{k-1} (\lambda_{k-1} - \lambda_k) v_{k-1}) + \cancel{\mu_k (\lambda_k - \lambda_k) v_k} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu_1 (\lambda_1 - \lambda_k) = \dots = \mu_{k-1} (\lambda_{k-1} - \lambda_k) = 0 \quad (= 0 \text{ (lin ind } v_1, \dots, v_{k-1}))$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu_1 = \dots = \mu_{k-1} = 0 \quad [\lambda_i \text{ distinct}]$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu_k v_k = 0 \Rightarrow \mu_k = 0 \text{ too.}$$

(by  $\star$ )

Thus  $v_1, \dots, v_k$  are lin ind, completing the induction.  $\square$

Cor If  $f: V \rightarrow V$  has dim V distinct eigenvalues, then  $f$  is diagonalizable.



With repeated eigenvalues,  $f$  might be diagonalizable, might not.

Note Now certain that diagonalization algorithm works!

Multiplicity

Defn A polynomial  $p(x) \in F[x]$  splits over  $F$  when

$\exists c, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n \in F$  such that  $p(x) = c(x-\lambda_1) \cdots (x-\lambda_n)$ .

E.g.  $x^2 + 1$  splits over  $\mathbb{C}$  but not over  $\mathbb{R}$ .  
$$= (x+i)(x-i)$$

Fundamental Theorem of Algebra Every  $p(x) \in \mathbb{C}[x]$  splits over  $\mathbb{C}$ .

Prop Suppose  $f: V \rightarrow V$  linear,  $\dim V = n < \infty$ . If  $f$  is diagonalizable, then  $\chi_f(x)$  splits over  $\mathbb{F}$ .

Pf If  $f$  is diagonalizable, then  $\exists$  ordered basis  $\alpha$  of  $V$  such that  $A_{\alpha}^{\alpha}(f) = D = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$  with  $\lambda_i \in \mathbb{F}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Thus } \chi_f(x) &= \det(D - x I_n) = (\lambda_1 - x) \cdots (\lambda_n - x) \\ &= (-1)^n (x - \lambda_1) \cdots (x - \lambda_n). \quad \square \end{aligned}$$



The converse fails:  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  has characteristic polynomial  $(x-1)^2$  but  $\dim E_1 = 1$ .

Defn Let  $\dim V < \infty$ . The geometric multiplicity of an eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of a linear transformation  $f: V \rightarrow V$  is  $\dim E_\lambda(f)$ .

The algebraic multiplicity of  $\lambda$  is the number of times  $(x-\lambda)$  divides  $\chi_f(x)$ .

Prop The geometric multiplicity of an eigenvalue of  $f$  is  $\leq$  its algebraic multiplicity.

Pf Let  $v_1, \dots, v_k$  be a basis of  $E_\lambda(f)$ , extend to a basis  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  of  $V$ .

The matrix for  $f$  wrt this basis looks like

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda I_k & B \\ 0 & C \end{pmatrix}, \quad f(v_i) = \lambda v_i \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq k$$

Thus  $\chi_f(x) = \det \begin{pmatrix} (\lambda-x)I_k & B \\ 0 & C-xI_{n-k} \end{pmatrix}$

 $= (\lambda-x)^k \chi_c(x)$

induction + Laplace expansion:

so  $k = \dim E_\lambda(f) \leq$  algebraic multiplicity of  $\lambda$ .

Jordan normal form

$1 \leq \text{geom mult} \leq \text{alg mult}$

↑ need = for diagonalizability

A Jordan block of size  $k$  for  $\lambda \in F$  is the  $k \times k$  matrix

$$J_k(\lambda) := \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & & & 0 \\ & \lambda & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ 0 & & & \lambda \end{pmatrix}.$$

E.g.  $J_4(3) = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad J_1(\lambda) = (\lambda)$

A matrix is in Jordan form when it is a "block sum" of Jordan blocks:

$$J_{k_1}(\lambda_1) \oplus \cdots \oplus J_{k_r}(\lambda_r) := \left( \begin{array}{cccc} J_{k_1}(\lambda_1) & & & \\ & J_{k_2}(\lambda_2) & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & J_{k_r}(\lambda_r) \end{array} \right)$$

E.g.

$$J_2(2) \oplus J_2(2) \oplus J_1(5) \oplus J_3(4) = \left( \begin{array}{ccccc} 2 & 1 & & & \\ 0 & 2 & & & \\ & & 2 & 1 & \\ & & 0 & 2 & \\ & & & 5 & \\ & & & 4 & 1 & 0 \\ & & & 0 & 4 & 1 \\ & & & 0 & 0 & 4 \end{array} \right)$$

Then Suppose  $\dim V < \infty$ ,  $f: V \rightarrow V$  linear with  $\chi_f(x)$  split over  $F$ .

Then  $\exists$  ordered basis  $\alpha$  of  $V$  such that  $A_{\alpha}^*(f)$  is in Jordan form; the Jordan form of  $f$  is unique up to permutation of Jordan blocks.

If Use the structure theorem for finitely generated modules over a principal ideal domain — Math 332.  $\square$

Note  $f$  is diagonalizable iff all its Jordan blocks have size 1.

$$U_n(\cos x) = \cos(nx)$$

Chebyshev polynomial  
of 1st type

$$U_n(x) = \det \begin{pmatrix} x & 1 & & & \\ 1 & 2x & 1 & & \\ & 1 & 2x & \ddots & \\ & & & \ddots & 2x \end{pmatrix}$$