

Warmup last time we proved:

Thm if  $F = \mathbb{C}$  and  $V$  is fin. dim.  
then any linear op on  $V$  has  
an upper-triangular matrix

Q can we remove the hypothesis  $F = \mathbb{C}$ ?

no: upper-triangular matrix implies  
existence of eigenvector

we saw that rotations in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  have no eigenvector

Q can we remove the hypothesis  $V$  f.d.?

no: same issue of eigenvectors [recall  $F[x]$ ]

suppose  $T$  has upper-triangular matrix  $M$

$T = T' + T''$       $T'$  diagonalizable  
                          $T''$  nilpotent

corresponds to

$M = D + N$ ,      $D$  diagonal,  
                          $N$  upper-triangular with zero diag.

let  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k$  be the diagonal entries of  $D$ ,  
in order, without including repeated entries

they are eigenvals of  $T'$   
[are they eigenvals of  $T$ ? need  $\ker(T - \lambda)$  nonzero]  
know  $\lambda_1$  is an eigenval of  $T$ ; the others, unclear

Ex  $\lambda \neq \mu$

$$M1 = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & x & y \\ & \mu & z \\ & & \mu \end{pmatrix} \quad M2 = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & x & y \\ & \lambda & z \\ & & \mu \end{pmatrix}$$

$\ker(M1 - \mu), \ker(M2 - \mu) \neq \{0\}$ ?

$$\begin{pmatrix} \lambda - \mu & x & y \\ 0 & z & * \\ 0 & * & 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0 \quad \text{e.g. } \begin{pmatrix} x \\ -(\lambda - \mu) \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \lambda - \mu & x & y \\ \lambda - \mu & z & * \\ 0 & * & 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0 \quad \text{e.g. } \begin{pmatrix} -xz/(\lambda - \mu) + y \\ z \\ -(\lambda - \mu) \end{pmatrix}$$

we will prove:

Thm if  $T$  has an upper-triangular matrix  $M$   
then every diagonal entry of  $M$  is  
an eigenval of  $T$

and  $\dim \ker(T - \lambda) \leq$  # of times  $\lambda$  occurs  
a.k.a. multiplicity of  $\lambda$

Ex multiplicity of  $\mu$  is 2 in both cases below:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \lambda & & \\ & \mu & \\ & & \mu \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & & \\ & \mu & 1 \\ & & \mu \end{pmatrix}$$

eigenspace:  $\{(0, y, z)\} \quad \{(0, y, 0)\}$

to “fix” discrepancy, weaken notion of eigenspace

(Axler §8A–8B) let  $T : V \rightarrow V$  be arbitrary

Df the generalized  $\lambda$ -eigenspace for  $T$  is

$$\{v \in V \mid (T - \lambda)^n v = \mathbf{0} \text{ for some } n\} \\ = \bigcup_{n > 0} \ker((T - \lambda)^n)$$

its elts are called generalized  $\lambda$ -eigenvectors for  $T$

Lem the gen’lized eigenspace is indeed  
a linear subspace of  $V$

Pf  $\ker(T - \lambda) \subset \ker((T - \lambda)^2) \subset \dots$   
so  $\bigcup_{n > 0} \ker((T - \lambda)^n) = \sum_{n > 0} \ker((T - \lambda)^n)$

Lem the generalized  $\lambda$ -eigenspace for  $T$  is  
the largest  $T$ -stable lin. sub.  $W \subset V$  s.t.  
 $(T - \lambda)|_W$  is nilpotent

Pf  $\ker((T - \lambda)^n)$  is  $T$ -stable for all  $n$   
by stability lem  
so  $\bigcup_{n > 0} \ker((T - \lambda)^n)$  is stable  
and nilpotence condition holds for it

conversely: easy to show that  
if  $W$  is  $T$ -stable and  $(T - \lambda)|_W$  is nilpotent,  
then  $W \subset \ker((T - \lambda)^n)$

[i.e., if  $W$  is the gen’lized  $\lambda$ -eigenspace,  
then  $T|_W$  has an upper-triangular matrix  
with only  $\lambda$ ’s on the diagonal]

even when  $V$  is not a sum of eigenspaces for  $T$ ,  
we still have:

Thm      if  $F = \mathbb{C}$  and  $V$  is fin. dim.  
            then  $V$  is a direct sum of  
            gen'lized eigenspaces for  $T$ :

there exist a finite list of (pairwise distinct)  $\lambda_i$  s.t.

$$V = \sum_i W_i$$

where  $W_i$  is the generalized  $\lambda_i$ -eigenspace for  $T$   
and this sum is a direct sum

[slightly stronger than triangularity of  $T$ ]

Pf              again, want to induct on  $\dim V$

[recall proof of triangularity:] pick an eigenval  $\lambda$

then  $\dim \ker(T - \lambda) > 0$

so  $\dim \operatorname{im}(T - \lambda) < \dim V$

want:      to replace  $\ker$  with gen'lized eigensp.  
                 direct-sum structure

solution: since  $\dim V$  finite, can pick  $k$  s.t.

$$\ker((T - \lambda)^k) = \bigcup_{n > 0} \ker((T - \lambda)^{k+n})$$

$$\text{i.e. } \ker((T - \lambda)^k) = \ker((T - \lambda)^{k+1}) = \dots$$

Lem              for such  $k$ ,

$$1) \quad \ker((T - \lambda)^k) \cap \operatorname{im}((T - \lambda)^k) = \{\mathbf{0}\}$$

$$2) \quad \ker((T - \lambda)^k), \operatorname{im}((T - \lambda)^k) \text{ are } T\text{-stable}$$

let  $W = \text{im}((T - \lambda)^k)$

if 2) holds, then can apply inductive hypothesis

to  $T|_W$ , a linear op on  $W$

so  $W$  is a direct sum of gen'lized eigensp.'s

if 1) holds, then  $V = \ker((T - \lambda)^k) + \text{im}((T - \lambda)^k)$

by dim formula (PS3)

and the sum is a direct sum

remains to check  $\lambda$  is not an eigenval of  $T|_W$ :

follows from lem about maximality  $\square$

### Pf of Lem

1) pick  $w$  in  $\ker((T - \lambda)^k) \cap \text{im}((T - \lambda)^k)$

then  $w = (T - \lambda)^k v$  for some  $v$  in  $V$

but  $(T - \lambda)^k w = \mathbf{0}$

altogether  $\mathbf{0} = (T - \lambda)^k w$

$= (T - \lambda)^{2k} v$

$= (T - \lambda)^k v$  by maximality of  $k$

$= w$

2)  $\text{im}((T - \lambda)^k)$  is  $T$ -stable by stability lem

suppose  $v$  in  $\ker((T - \lambda)^k)$

then  $(T - \lambda)^k(T v) = T((T - \lambda)^k v) = \mathbf{0}$

so  $Tv$  in  $\ker((T - \lambda)^k)$

that is: the stability lem has an analogue for  $\ker$ 's

next time:

analyze structure of  $T$  on each gen'lized eigensp.