

11.17 Notes

Math 403/503

November 2022

1 Game Plan For Future Weeks

- Today - finish spectral theorem
- Next week - break
- Following week - maybe chapter 10
- Dead week - review and give out final quiz
- Finals week - submit quiz

2 Last Time...

Last time we introduced the (complex) spectral theorem which consisted of two statements:

- If T is normal ($T^*T = TT^*$) then T and T^* have the same eigenvectors but with conjugate eigenvalues: $Tv = \lambda v \leftrightarrow T^*v = \bar{\lambda}v$
- If T is normal then the eigenvectors of T are mutually orthogonal, and there are $\dim V$ many eigenvectors (an orthonormal basis of V consisting of eigenvectors).

I owe you a few portions of proofs.

- Assume $Tv = \lambda v$ (i.e. $(T - \lambda I)v = 0$). Note that $(T - \lambda I)^* = T^* - \bar{\lambda}I$. Note that $T - \lambda I$ is also normal (if T is): $(T - \lambda I)^*(T - \lambda I) = (T^* - \bar{\lambda}I)(T - \lambda I)$
 $= T^*T - \lambda T^* - \bar{\lambda}T + \bar{\lambda}\lambda I$
 $= TT^* - \lambda T^* - \bar{\lambda}T + \bar{\lambda}\lambda I$
 $= (T - \lambda I)(T^* - \bar{\lambda}I)$
Now, $(T - \lambda I)v = 0 \rightarrow \|(T - \lambda I)v\|^2 = 0$
 $\rightarrow \langle (T - \lambda I)v, (T - \lambda I)v \rangle = 0$
 $\rightarrow \langle v, (T - \lambda I)^*(T - \lambda I)v \rangle = 0$
 $\rightarrow \langle v, (T - \lambda I)(T - \lambda I)^*v \rangle = 0$
 $\rightarrow \langle (T - \lambda I)^*v, (T - \lambda I)^*v \rangle = 0$
 $\rightarrow (T - \lambda I)^*v = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} &\rightarrow (T^* - \overline{\lambda}I)v = 0 \\ &\rightarrow T^*v = \overline{\lambda}v. \end{aligned}$$

- We showed last time that the various eigenspaces of T are pairwise and orthogonal. Let me just repeat: Let $Tv_1 = \lambda_1 v_1, Tv_2 = \lambda_2 v_2 (\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2)$. (know that $T^*v_1 = \overline{\lambda_1}v_1, T^*v_2 = \overline{\lambda_2}v_2$). Now, $\langle Tv_1, v_2 \rangle = \langle v_1, T^*v_2 \rangle$
 $\rightarrow \langle \lambda_1 v_1, v_2 \rangle = \langle v_1, \overline{\lambda_2}v_2 \rangle$
 $\rightarrow \lambda_1 \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle = \lambda_2 \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle$
 $\rightarrow \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle = 0$

The last thing we need to do is show that in fact T is diagonalized by its eigenvectors. We can do this in two parts:

- There exists an orthonormal basis in which T has an upper triangular matrix
- Any upper triangular matrix that happens to be normal must be diagonal

The first bullet point follows from some things we have already done. Begin with any basis v_1, \dots, v_n and let A be the matrix of T in this basis. Since we are working over \mathbb{C} we know that T has an upper triangular matrix with respect to some basis (e.g. the Jordan form) so: $A = BUB^{-1}$ where U is upper triangular. Now from Gram-Schmidt we can factor B as $B = QR$ where Q is orthonormal and R is upper triangular, then:

$$\begin{aligned} A &= BUB^{-1} \\ &= QRU(QR)^{-1} \\ &= QRUR^{-1}Q^{-1} \\ &= Q(RUR^{-1})Q^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

For the second bullet point we simply inspect what it means for an upper triangular matrix U to be normal. $U = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ 0 & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ 0 & 0 & a_{33} & \\ \dots & & & \end{bmatrix}$ Normal: $U^*U = UU^*$.

Looking at the (1,1) entry:

$$\begin{aligned} |a_{11}|^2 &= |a_{11}|^2 + \dots + |a_{1n}|^2 \\ \rightarrow |a_{12}|^2 &= \dots = |a_{1n}|^2 = 0 \\ \rightarrow a_{12} &= \dots = a_{1n} = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Looking at the (2,2) entry:

$$\begin{aligned} |a_{12}|^2 + |a_{22}|^2 &= |a_{22}|^2 + \dots + |a_{2n}|^2 \\ \rightarrow |a_{23}|^2 + \dots + |a_{2n}|^2 &= 0 \\ \rightarrow a_{23} &= \dots = a_{2n} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Inductively we can find that all off-diagonal entries are zero, so, normal and upper triangular implies diagonal. So we conclude that normal matrices over \mathbb{C} have the decomposition $A = Q\Lambda Q^*$ where Q is orthonormal and Λ is diagonal (over a real vector space one must assume A is symmetric i.e. self adjoint).

One application of the spectral theorem is the "Polar decomposition". Any complex number z can be written in a polar form $e^{i\theta} \cdot r$, as a product of a unit (norm 1) and a positive real number. There is a similar result for operators! The unit will be replaced by a "unitary" or orthonormal matrix Q . The positive real number will be replaced by a "positive operator".

Definition: An operator $p \in L(V)$ is called positive if for all $v \in V$, $\langle Pv, v \rangle \geq 0$. Note that over C , positive is equivalent to P being orthogonally diagonalizable with all eigenvalues being real and nonnegative.

Theorem: Any square matrix A may be decomposed as $Q \cdot P$ where Q is orthonormal and P is positive.

Proof (in the special case when A is normal): We know $A = Q\Lambda Q^*$ from the spectral theorem. Then for each λ_{ii} in Λ write it as $\lambda_{ii} = u_i |\lambda_{ii}|$ where u_i satisfies $|u_i| = 1$. Then let U be a matrix with just entries along the diagonal, and similarly $|\Lambda|$ just has entries along the diagonal. Then $A = QU|\Lambda|Q^* = QUQ^* \cdot Q|\Lambda|Q^*$

An arbitrary matrix A gives rise to a normal matrix A^*A ... then work harder to get the result for A too