

Linear Algebra Class on 8 June

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6.5 Normal and Self-adjoint Operator

Theorem (Spectral Theorem). *\mathbf{T} is linear operator on a complex inner product space \mathbf{V} with finite dimension.*

\mathbf{T} is normal $\iff [\exists \beta : \text{orthonormal basis such that } \beta = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n\} \quad \mathbf{T}\mathbf{x}_i = \lambda_i \mathbf{x}_i]$

Proof. \implies

Suppose that \mathbf{T} is normal. Since $\phi_{\mathbf{T}}(t) \in \mathbb{C}[t]$, by the fundamental theorem of algebra, $\phi_{\mathbf{T}}(t)$ splits. So by the Schur's theorem, there is an orthonormal basis $\beta = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n\}$ such that $[\mathbf{T}]_{\beta}$ is upper-triangular matrix. Note that \mathbf{x}_1 is eigenvector of \mathbf{T} (\because since $[\mathbf{T}]_{\beta}$ is upper triangular matrix, $[\mathbf{T}]_{\beta} = \lambda_1 \mathbf{e}_1 + 0\mathbf{e}_2 + \dots + 0\mathbf{e}_n$). Assume that $\{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{k-1}\}$ is the set of eigenvectors of \mathbf{T} . We want to show that \mathbf{x}_k is eigenvector of \mathbf{T} . Put $A := [\mathbf{T}]_{\beta}$. Then $\mathbf{T}\mathbf{x}_k = A_{1k}\mathbf{x}_1 + A_{2k}\mathbf{x}_2 + \dots + A_{kk}\mathbf{x}_k$ (\because Since A is upper-triangular matrix, $A_{ik} = 0$ for $i > k$). For $j < k$

$$\begin{aligned} A_{jk} &= \langle \mathbf{T}\mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{x}_j \rangle \\ &= \langle \mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{T}^* \mathbf{x}_j \rangle \\ &= \langle \mathbf{x}_k, \bar{\lambda}_j \mathbf{x}_j \rangle \\ &= \lambda_j \langle \mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{x}_j \rangle \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Thus $\mathbf{T}\mathbf{x}_k = A_{kk}\mathbf{x}_k$. By the induction, β is an orthonormal basis consisting of eigenvectors of \mathbf{T} .

\impliedby

Since there exists a basis β consisting of eigenvectors of \mathbf{T} , $[\mathbf{T}]_{\beta}$ is diagonal matrix. Since $[\mathbf{T}^*]_{\beta} = [\mathbf{T}]_{\beta}^*$, $[\mathbf{T}^*]_{\beta}$ is also diagonal matrix. Since matrix multiplication of diagonal matrices commute, $\mathbf{T}\mathbf{T}^* = \mathbf{T}^*\mathbf{T}$. $\therefore \mathbf{T}$ is normal. \square

Definition. *\mathbf{T} is self-adjoint if $\mathbf{T}^* = \mathbf{T}$.*

Remark. *If \mathbf{T} is self-adjoint operator, then \mathbf{T} is also normal operator.*

Theorem. *\mathbf{T} is self-adjoint.*

- (1). *Every eigenvalue of \mathbf{T} is real.*
- (2). *If \mathbf{V} is \mathbb{R} -vector space, then $\phi_{\mathbf{T}}(t)$ splits.*

Proof.

$$(1) \lambda \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{T}^* \mathbf{x} = \bar{\lambda} \mathbf{x}. \quad \lambda = \bar{\lambda}$$

$$\therefore \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$$

- (2) Put $A := [\mathbf{T}]_\beta$. Since $A = [\mathbf{T}]_\beta = [\mathbf{T}^*]_\beta = [\mathbf{T}]_\beta^* = A^*$, A is self-adjoint. Let $\mathbf{T}_A : \mathbf{x} \mapsto A\mathbf{x}$. Note that \mathbf{T}_A is self-adjoint because $[\mathbf{T}]_\gamma = A$, where γ is the standard ordered (normal) basis for \mathbb{C}^n . So by (1), the eigenvalues of \mathbf{T}_A are real. By the fundamental theorem of algebra, the characteristic polynomial of $\phi_{\mathbf{T}_A}(t)$ splits into factors of $\lambda - t$. Since each λ is real-value, $\phi_{\mathbf{T}_A}(t)$ splits over \mathbb{R} . Since $\phi_{\mathbf{T}_A}(t) = \phi_A(t) = \phi_{\mathbf{T}}(t)$, $\phi_{\mathbf{T}}(t)$ also splits over \mathbb{R} .

□

Theorem (Spectral Theorem of real-version). *\mathbf{T} is linear operator on a real inner product space with finite dimension.*

\mathbf{T} is self-adjoint $\iff [\beta : \text{orthonormal basis such that } \mathbf{T}\mathbf{x}_i = \lambda_i \mathbf{x}_i \quad \lambda_i \in \mathbb{R}]$

Proof. \implies

Suppose that \mathbf{T} is self-adjoint. Since $\phi_{\mathbf{T}}(t)$ splits over \mathbb{R} , by Schur's theorem there exists an orthonormal basis $\beta = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n\}$ such that $[\mathbf{T}]_\beta$ is upper triangular matrix. Put $A := [\mathbf{T}]_\beta$, then $A^* = [\mathbf{T}]_\beta^* = [\mathbf{T}^*]_\beta = [\mathbf{T}]_\beta = A$. Thus A is diagonal.

\impliedby

Let β be an orthonormal basis for $\mathbf{V}_{\mathbb{R}}$ consisting of eigenvectors. Put $A := [\mathbf{T}]_\beta$, then $A = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$ where λ_i is eigenvalue. $A^* = \text{diag}(\bar{\lambda}_1, \dots, \bar{\lambda}_n)$. Since $\lambda_i \in \mathbb{R}$, $A^* = A$. Thus, $[\mathbf{T}]_\beta = A = A^* = [\mathbf{T}^*]_\beta$.
 $\therefore \mathbf{T} = \mathbf{T}^*$

□

6.6 Unitary and Orthogonal Operators

Definition. *\mathbf{T} is unitary (on $\mathbf{V}_{\mathbb{C}}$) if $\|\mathbf{T}\mathbf{x}\| = \|\mathbf{x}\| \quad \forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{V}$ and \mathbf{T} is orthogonal (on $\mathbf{V}_{\mathbb{R}}$) if $\|\mathbf{T}\mathbf{x}\| = \|\mathbf{x}\| \quad \forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{V}$.*

Theorem.

- (1) $\mathbf{T}\mathbf{T}^* = \mathbf{T}^*\mathbf{T} = \mathbf{I}$ (\mathbf{T} is normal and invertible)
- (2) $\langle \mathbf{T}\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{T}\mathbf{y} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle$ (preserving inner product)
- (3) β is an orthonormal basis $\implies \mathbf{T}(\beta)$ is an orthonormal basis
- (4) $\exists \beta : \text{orthonormal basis such that } \mathbf{T}(\beta) \text{ is an orthonormal basis}$
- (5) $\|\mathbf{T}\mathbf{x}\| = \|\mathbf{x}\| \quad \forall \mathbf{x} \in V$

Proof. (1) \implies (2)

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

□

Proof. (2) \implies (3)

Let $\beta = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n\}$ be an orthonormal basis. $\langle \mathbf{T}\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{T}\mathbf{x}_j \rangle = \langle \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j \rangle = \delta_{ij}$
 $\therefore \mathbf{T}(\beta)$ is an orthonormal basis. □

Proof. (3) \implies (4)

Let β be an orthonormal basis. Then by (3), $\mathbf{T}(\beta)$ is an orthonormal basis.
 $\therefore \exists \beta$ such that $\mathbf{T}(\beta)$ is an orthonormal basis. □

Proof. (4) \implies (5)

Let β be an orthonormal basis such that $\mathbf{T}(\beta)$ is an orthonormal basis.
Put $\mathbf{x} := \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \mathbf{x}_i$ where $\beta = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n\}$

$$\begin{aligned}
\|\mathbf{x}\|^2 &= \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle \\
&= \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \mathbf{x}_i, \sum_{j=1}^n a_j \mathbf{x}_j \right\rangle \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n a_i \bar{a}_j \langle \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j \rangle \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^n |a_i|^2 \\
\langle \mathbf{T}\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{T}\mathbf{x} \rangle &= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n a_i \bar{a}_j \langle \mathbf{T}\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{T}\mathbf{x}_j \rangle \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^n |a_i|^2 \\
\therefore \|\mathbf{T}\mathbf{x}\| &= \|\mathbf{x}\|
\end{aligned}$$

□

Lemma. \mathbf{U} is self-adjoint. If $\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{U}\mathbf{x} \rangle = 0 \forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{V}$, then $\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{0}$.

Proof. By the spectral theorem, there is an orthonormal basis $\beta = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n\}$ such that $\mathbf{U}\mathbf{x}_i = \lambda_i \mathbf{x}_i$.

$$\begin{aligned}
\forall i \langle \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{U}\mathbf{x}_i \rangle &= \langle \mathbf{x}_i, \lambda_i \mathbf{x}_i \rangle \\
&= \bar{\lambda}_i \langle \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_i \rangle \\
&= \bar{\lambda}_i \|\mathbf{x}_i\|^2 \\
&= 0 \\
\bar{\lambda}_i &= 0 \forall i
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\forall \mathbf{x} &= \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \mathbf{x}_i \\
\mathbf{U}\mathbf{x} &= \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \mathbf{U}\mathbf{x}_i \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \lambda_i \mathbf{x}_i \\
&= \mathbf{0}
\end{aligned}$$

□

Proof. (5) \implies (1)

Suppose $\forall \mathbf{x} \|\mathbf{T}\mathbf{x}\| = \|\mathbf{x}\|$.

$$\begin{aligned}
\|\mathbf{x}\|^2 &= \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle \\
&= \langle \mathbf{T}\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{T}\mathbf{x} \rangle \\
&= \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{T}^* \mathbf{T} \mathbf{x} \rangle \\
\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle - \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{T}^* \mathbf{T} \mathbf{x} \rangle &= 0 \\
\langle \mathbf{x}, (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{T}^* \mathbf{T}) \mathbf{x} \rangle &= 0
\end{aligned}$$

Since $(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{T}^* \mathbf{T})^* = \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{T}^* \mathbf{T}$, $\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{T}^* \mathbf{T}$ is self-adjoint operator. By the previous lemma, $\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{T}^* \mathbf{T} = \mathbf{0}$. Thus $\mathbf{T}^* \mathbf{T} = \mathbf{I}$, \mathbf{T}^* is onto and \mathbf{T} is one-to-one. Since $\dim \mathbf{V} < +\infty$, by the pigeonhole's principle \mathbf{T}^* is also one-to-one and \mathbf{T} is also onto. Thus \mathbf{T}, \mathbf{T}^* are invertible and $\mathbf{T}^{-1} = \mathbf{T}^*$. $\therefore \mathbf{T}\mathbf{T}^* = \mathbf{I}$ □

Definition (Inner Product Isomorphism). \mathbf{V} is vector space with inner product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_1$ and \mathbf{W} is vector space with another inner product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_2$. $\mathbf{T} : \mathbf{V} \longrightarrow \mathbf{W}$ is inner product isomorphism $\iff \mathbf{T}$ is vector space isomorphism and $\langle \mathbf{T}\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{T}\mathbf{y} \rangle_2 = \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle_1$