## Trong December 19, 2018

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## 1 Orthogonal Matrix

**Definition 1.** A matrix Q is orthogonal iff its columns are orthonormal, IOW,

$$Q^TQ = I.$$

Corollary 2. If Q is an orthogonal matrix, then its inverse is its transpose.

Corollary 3. If Q is an orthogonal matrix, then

$$\det Q = \pm 1.$$

Proof.

$$1 = \det I$$

$$= \det(Q^{T}Q)$$

$$= \det Q^{T} \det Q$$

$$= \det Q \det Q$$

$$= (\det Q)^{2}$$

Therefore  $\det Q = \pm 1$ .

*Note* 4. This is why people like orthogonal matrices, because they're easy to invert.

**Theorem 5.** If Q is orthogonal, then

$$Q^T Q = Q Q^T = I.$$

*Proof.* Recall that  $Q^T = Q^{-1}$ , and inverses commute with each other, i.e.

$$Q^T Q = Q Q^T.$$

**Theorem 6.** If the columns of a square matrix are orthonormal, then its rows are also orthonormal, and vice versa.

**Problem 7** (6.11.). Find an orthogonal matrix whose first row is  $(\frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{2}{3})$ .

Solution. Find two other independent vectors by trial and error, then use Gram-Schmidt to orthogonalize the set, then normalize to get orthonormal set.  $\Box$ 

## 2 Normal Matrix

**Theorem 8.** A matrix is normal iff it is unitarily diagonalizable.

**Exercise 9** (6.12.). Let A be an  $n \times n$  real symmetric or complex normal matrix. Prove that

$$\det A = \prod_{i=1}^n \lambda_i,$$

where the  $\lambda_i s$  are the [not necessarily distinct] eigenvalues of A.

*Proof.* Recall that a symmetric / normal matrix is diagonalizable, i.e. it is similar to a diagonal matrix.

IOW there are matrices P and  $P^*$  s.t.

$$PAP^* = D.$$

Then

$$\det A = \det(PAP^*) = \det D = \prod \lambda_i.$$

Exercise 10 (6.13.). Suppose that A and B are diagonalizable matrices. Prove or disprove that A is similar to B iff A and B are unitarily equivalent.

*Proof.* The converse is true: if A and B are unitarily equivalent, then immediately they are similar. The forward direction is false: e.g. the two matrices

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

are similar, but they are not unitarily equivalent, because one is symmetric and the other is not. The conclusion follows from the following Proposition:

**Proposition 11.** If A and B are orthogonally equivalent on a vector space over R, then either they are both symmetric or neither is. IOW, orthogonal equivalence preserves symmetry.

*Proof.* Let  $A = W^t B W = W^{-1} B W$  with  $W^t = W^{-1}$ . Suppose A is symmetric:  $A = A^t$ . Then

$$B = WAW^{-1}$$

$$B^{t} = (WAW^{-1})^{t}$$

$$= (W^{-1})^{t}A^{t}W^{t}$$

$$= WAW^{-1}$$

$$= B.$$

**Proposition 12.** If A and B are unitarily equivalent, then either they are both self-adjoint or neither

is. IOW, unitary equivalence preserves self-adjointness.

**Exercise 13** (Ex. 6.14. Unitary equivalence preserves positive semi/definiteness). Prove that if A and B are Hermitian matrices and unitarily equivalent, then A is positive semi/definite iff B is.

*Proof.* Recall that a Hermitian matrix is positive semi/definite iff all its eigenvalues are positive/nonnegative; also recall that similar matrices have the same eigenvalues. Since A and B are unitarily equivalent, they are similar: there exists a matrix P with  $P^{-1} = P^*$  s.t.

$$A = P^{-1}BP.$$

Therefore A and B have the same eigenvalues, so they are either both positive semi/definite or neither is.  $\square$ 

**Proposition 14** (Ex. 6.15.). Let U be a unitary operator on an inner product space V, and let W

be a finite-dimensional U-invariant subspace of V. Then:

- 1. U(W) = W.
- 2.  $W^{\perp}$  is also U-invariant.

**Proof.** (1) follows immediately from the facts that U is invertible and W has finite dimension, and the Rank-Nullity Theorem. Note that this means W is also  $U^{-1}$ -invariant:

$$W = U^{-1}(W). \tag{*}$$

To prove (2), let  $v \in W^{\perp}$ ; we want to show that  $U(v) \in W^{\perp}$ , i.e. that U(v) is perpendicular to vectors in W. Let w be any vector in W. Then

$$\langle U(v), w \rangle = \langle v, U^*(w) \rangle = \langle v, U^{-1}(w) \rangle = \langle v, x \rangle$$

for some  $x \in W$ , since by (\*) we know that W is  $U^{-1}$ -invariant. Finally

$$\langle U(v), w \rangle = \langle v, x \rangle = 0$$

since  $v \in W^{\perp}$  and  $x \in W$ , therefore U(v) and w are perpendicular.