

# CX1104: Linear Algebra for Computing

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & a_{m3} & \cdots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix}}_{A \quad m \times n} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}}_{x \quad n \times 1} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_m \end{bmatrix}}_{b \quad m \times 1}$$

Chap. No : **8.3C**

Lecture : **Eigen and Singular Values**

Topic : **Eigenvalues**

Concept : **Properties and Theorems**

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# Important Properties of Eigenvalues

Let  $A$  be an arbitrary  $n \times n$  matrix of complex numbers with eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ . Each eigenvalue appears  $\mu_A(\lambda_i)$  times in this list, where  $\mu_A(\lambda_i)$  is the eigenvalue's algebraic multiplicity. The following are properties of this matrix and its eigenvalues:

- The **trace** of  $A$ , defined as the sum of its diagonal elements, is also the sum of all eigenvalues,
  - $\text{tr}(A) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ii} = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i = \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \dots + \lambda_n$ .<sup>[27][28][29]</sup>
- The **determinant** of  $A$  is the product of all its eigenvalues,
  - $\det(A) = \prod_{i=1}^n \lambda_i = \lambda_1 \lambda_2 \dots \lambda_n$ .<sup>[27][30][31]</sup>
- The eigenvalues of the  $k^{\text{th}}$  power of  $A$ ; i.e., the eigenvalues of  $A^k$ , for any positive integer  $k$ , are  $\lambda_1^k, \dots, \lambda_n^k$ .
- The matrix  $A$  is **invertible** if and only if every eigenvalue is nonzero.
- If  $A$  is invertible, then the eigenvalues of  $A^{-1}$  are  $\frac{1}{\lambda_1}, \dots, \frac{1}{\lambda_n}$  and each eigenvalue's geometric multiplicity coincides. Moreover, since the characteristic polynomial of the inverse is the **reciprocal polynomial** of the original, the eigenvalues share the same algebraic multiplicity.
- If  $A$  is equal to its **conjugate transpose**  $A^*$ , or equivalently if  $A$  is **Hermitian**, then every eigenvalue is real. The same is true of any **symmetric** real matrix.
- If  $A$  is not only Hermitian but also **positive-definite**, positive-semidefinite, negative-definite, or negative-semidefinite, then every eigenvalue is positive, non-negative, negative, or non-positive, respectively.
- If  $A$  is **unitary**, every eigenvalue has absolute value  $|\lambda_i| = 1$ .
- if  $A$  is a  $n \times n$  matrix and  $\{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k\}$  are its eigenvalues, then the eigenvalues of matrix  $I + A$  (where  $I$  is the identity matrix) are  $\{\lambda_1 + 1, \dots, \lambda_k + 1\}$ . Moreover, if  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ , the eigenvalues of  $\alpha I + A$  are  $\{\lambda_1 + \alpha, \dots, \lambda_k + \alpha\}$ . More generally, for a polynomial  $P$  the eigenvalues of matrix  $P(A)$  are  $\{P(\lambda_1), \dots, P(\lambda_k)\}$ .



# Important Eigenvalue Theorems - Theorem 1

The eigenvalues of a triangular matrix are the entries on its main diagonal.

**PROOF** For simplicity, consider the  $3 \times 3$  case. If  $A$  is upper triangular, then  $A - \lambda I$  has the form

$$\begin{aligned} A - \lambda I &= \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ 0 & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} - \lambda & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ 0 & a_{22} - \lambda & a_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & a_{33} - \lambda \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

The scalar  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$  if and only if the equation  $(A - \lambda I)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  has a nontrivial solution, that is, if and only if the equation has a free variable. Because of the zero entries in  $A - \lambda I$ , it is easy to see that  $(A - \lambda I)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  has a free variable if and only if at least one of the entries on the diagonal of  $A - \lambda I$  is zero. This happens if and only if  $\lambda$  equals one of the entries  $a_{11}, a_{22}, a_{33}$  in  $A$ . For the case in which  $A$  is lower triangular, see Exercise 28. ■

**EXAMPLE 5** Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 6 & -8 \\ 0 & 0 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 5 & 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$ . The eigenvalues of  $A$  are 3, 0, and 2. The eigenvalues of  $B$  are 4 and 1. ■

What does it mean for a matrix  $A$  to have an eigenvalue of 0, such as in Example 5? This happens if and only if the equation

$$A\mathbf{x} = 0\mathbf{x} \tag{4}$$

has a nontrivial solution. But (4) is equivalent to  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ , which has a nontrivial solution if and only if  $A$  is not invertible. Thus 0 is an eigenvalue of  $A$  if and only if  $A$  is not invertible. This fact will be added to the Invertible Matrix Theorem in Section 5.2.

The following important theorem will be needed later. Its proof illustrates a typical calculation with eigenvectors. One way to prove the statement “If  $P$  then  $Q$ ” is to show that  $P$  and the negation of  $Q$  leads to a contradiction. This strategy is used in the proof of the theorem.

## The Invertible Matrix Theorem (continued)

Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix. Then  $A$  is invertible if and only if:

- s. The number 0 is *not* an eigenvalue of  $A$ .
- t. The determinant of  $A$  is *not* zero.

# Important Eigenvalue Theorems - Theorem 2

If  $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_r$  are eigenvectors that correspond to distinct eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_r$  of an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$ , then the set  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_r\}$  is linearly independent.

**PROOF** Suppose  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_r\}$  is linearly dependent. Since  $\mathbf{v}_1$  is nonzero, Theorem 7 in Section 1.7 says that one of the vectors in the set is a linear combination of the preceding vectors. Let  $p$  be the least index such that  $\mathbf{v}_{p+1}$  is a linear combination of the preceding (linearly independent) vectors. Then there exist scalars  $c_1, \dots, c_p$  such that

$$c_1\mathbf{v}_1 + \dots + c_p\mathbf{v}_p = \mathbf{v}_{p+1} \quad (5)$$

Multiplying both sides of (5) by  $A$  and using the fact that  $A\mathbf{v}_k = \lambda_k\mathbf{v}_k$  for each  $k$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} c_1A\mathbf{v}_1 + \dots + c_pA\mathbf{v}_p &= A\mathbf{v}_{p+1} \\ c_1\lambda_1\mathbf{v}_1 + \dots + c_p\lambda_p\mathbf{v}_p &= \lambda_{p+1}\mathbf{v}_{p+1} \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

Multiplying both sides of (5) by  $\lambda_{p+1}$  and subtracting the result from (6), we have

$$c_1(\lambda_1 - \lambda_{p+1})\mathbf{v}_1 + \dots + c_p(\lambda_p - \lambda_{p+1})\mathbf{v}_p = \mathbf{0} \quad (7)$$

Since  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$  is linearly independent, the weights in (7) are all zero. But none of the factors  $\lambda_i - \lambda_{p+1}$  are zero, because the eigenvalues are distinct. Hence  $c_i = 0$  for  $i = 1, \dots, p$ . But then (5) says that  $\mathbf{v}_{p+1} = \mathbf{0}$ , which is impossible. Hence  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_r\}$  cannot be linearly dependent and therefore must be linearly independent. ■



# Important Eigenvalue Theorems - Theorem 3

## Properties of Determinants

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be  $n \times n$  matrices.

- a.  $A$  is invertible if and only if  $\det A \neq 0$ .
- b.  $\det AB = (\det A)(\det B)$ .
- c.  $\det A^T = \det A$ .
- d. If  $A$  is triangular, then  $\det A$  is the product of the entries on the main diagonal of  $A$ .
- e. A row replacement operation on  $A$  does not change the determinant. A row interchange changes the sign of the determinant. A row scaling also scales the determinant by the same scalar factor.

# Important Eigenvalue Theorems - Theorem 4

If  $n \times n$  matrices  $A$  and  $B$  are similar, then they have the same characteristic polynomial and hence the same eigenvalues (with the same multiplicities).

**PROOF** If  $B = P^{-1}AP$ , then

$$B - \lambda I = P^{-1}AP - \lambda P^{-1}P = P^{-1}(AP - \lambda P) = P^{-1}(A - \lambda I)P$$

Using the multiplicative property (b) in Theorem 3, we compute

$$\begin{aligned}\det(B - \lambda I) &= \det[P^{-1}(A - \lambda I)P] \\ &= \det(P^{-1}) \cdot \det(A - \lambda I) \cdot \det(P)\end{aligned}\tag{2}$$

Since  $\det(P^{-1}) \cdot \det(P) = \det(P^{-1}P) = \det I = 1$ , we see from equation (2) that  $\det(B - \lambda I) = \det(A - \lambda I)$ . ■

## WARNINGS:

1. The matrices

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

are not similar even though they have the same eigenvalues.

2. Similarity is not the same as row equivalence. (If  $A$  is row equivalent to  $B$ , then  $B = EA$  for some invertible matrix  $E$ .) Row operations on a matrix usually change its eigenvalues.

# Important Eigenvalue Theorems - Theorem 5

## The Diagonalization Theorem

An  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  is diagonalizable if and only if  $A$  has  $n$  linearly independent eigenvectors.

In fact,  $A = PDP^{-1}$ , with  $D$  a diagonal matrix, if and only if the columns of  $P$  are  $n$  linearly independent eigenvectors of  $A$ . In this case, the diagonal entries of  $D$  are eigenvalues of  $A$  that correspond, respectively, to the eigenvectors in  $P$ .

**PROOF** First, observe that if  $P$  is any  $n \times n$  matrix with columns  $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n$ , and if  $D$  is any diagonal matrix with diagonal entries  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ , then

$$AP = A[\mathbf{v}_1 \ \mathbf{v}_2 \ \cdots \ \mathbf{v}_n] = [A\mathbf{v}_1 \ A\mathbf{v}_2 \ \cdots \ A\mathbf{v}_n] \quad (1)$$

while

$$PD = P \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix} = [\lambda_1 \mathbf{v}_1 \ \lambda_2 \mathbf{v}_2 \ \cdots \ \lambda_n \mathbf{v}_n] \quad (2)$$

Now suppose  $A$  is diagonalizable and  $A = PDP^{-1}$ . Then right-multiplying this relation by  $P$ , we have  $AP = PD$ . In this case, equations (1) and (2) imply that

$$[A\mathbf{v}_1 \ A\mathbf{v}_2 \ \cdots \ A\mathbf{v}_n] = [\lambda_1 \mathbf{v}_1 \ \lambda_2 \mathbf{v}_2 \ \cdots \ \lambda_n \mathbf{v}_n] \quad (3)$$

Equating columns, we find that

$$A\mathbf{v}_1 = \lambda_1 \mathbf{v}_1, \quad A\mathbf{v}_2 = \lambda_2 \mathbf{v}_2, \quad \dots, \quad A\mathbf{v}_n = \lambda_n \mathbf{v}_n \quad (4)$$

Since  $P$  is invertible, its columns  $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n$  must be linearly independent. Also, since these columns are nonzero, the equations in (4) show that  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  are eigenvalues and  $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n$  are corresponding eigenvectors. This argument proves the “only if” parts of the first and second statements, along with the third statement, of the theorem.

Finally, given any  $n$  eigenvectors  $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n$ , use them to construct the columns of  $P$  and use corresponding eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  to construct  $D$ . By equations (1)–(3),  $AP = PD$ . This is true without any condition on the eigenvectors. If, in fact, the eigenvectors are linearly independent, then  $P$  is invertible (by the Invertible Matrix Theorem), and  $AP = PD$  implies that  $A = PDP^{-1}$ . ■



# Important Eigenvalue Theorems - Theorem 6

An  $n \times n$  matrix with  $n$  distinct eigenvalues is diagonalizable.

**PROOF** Let  $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n$  be eigenvectors corresponding to the  $n$  distinct eigenvalues of a matrix  $A$ . Then  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  is linearly independent, by Theorem 2 in Section 5.1. Hence  $A$  is diagonalizable, by Theorem 5. ■

It is not *necessary* for an  $n \times n$  matrix to have  $n$  distinct eigenvalues in order to be diagonalizable. The  $3 \times 3$  matrix in Example 3 is diagonalizable even though it has only two distinct eigenvalues.

## Theorem 2

If  $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_r$  are eigenvectors that correspond to distinct eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_r$  of an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$ , then the set  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_r\}$  is linearly independent.

## Theorem 5

### The Diagonalization Theorem

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# Important Eigenvalue Theorems - Theorem 7

Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix whose distinct eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_p$ .

- a. For  $1 \leq k \leq p$ , the dimension of the eigenspace for  $\lambda_k$  is less than or equal to the multiplicity of the eigenvalue  $\lambda_k$ .
- b. The matrix  $A$  is diagonalizable if and only if the sum of the dimensions of the eigenspaces equals  $n$ , and this happens if and only if (i) the characteristic polynomial factors completely into linear factors and (ii) the dimension of the eigenspace for each  $\lambda_k$  equals the multiplicity of  $\lambda_k$ .
- c. If  $A$  is diagonalizable and  $\mathcal{B}_k$  is a basis for the eigenspace corresponding to  $\lambda_k$  for each  $k$ , then the total collection of vectors in the sets  $\mathcal{B}_1, \dots, \mathcal{B}_p$  forms an eigenvector basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

# Important Eigenvalue Theorems - Theorem 9

Let  $A$  be a real  $2 \times 2$  matrix with a complex eigenvalue  $\lambda = a - bi$  ( $b \neq 0$ ) and an associated eigenvector  $\mathbf{v}$  in  $\mathbb{C}^2$ . Then

$$A = PCP^{-1}, \quad \text{where } P = [\operatorname{Re} \mathbf{v} \quad \operatorname{Im} \mathbf{v}] \quad \text{and} \quad C = \begin{bmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{bmatrix}$$