

## 5.3 Diagonalization

### Ex 1

If  $D = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ , then  $D^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3^2 \end{bmatrix}$

and

$$D^3 = DD^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3^2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5^3 & 0 \\ 0 & 3^3 \end{bmatrix}$$

In general,

$$D^k = \begin{bmatrix} 5^k & 0 \\ 0 & 3^k \end{bmatrix}, \quad \text{for } k \geq 1$$

If  $A = PDP^{-1}$ , for some invertible  $P$  and diagonal  $P$ , then  $A^k$  is also easy to compute.

### Ex 2

Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 7 & 2 \\ -4 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ . Find a formula for  $A^k$ , given that  $A = PDP^{-1}$ , where

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \& \quad D = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A^2 = (PDP^{-1})(PDP^{-1}) = PD(P^{-1}P)DP^{-1} = PDDP^{-1}, \quad P^{-1}P = I$$

$$PD^2P^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A^3 = (PDP^{-1})(PDP^{-1})(PDP^{-1}) = PD(P^{-1}PPP^{-1}P^{-1}P)D^2 = PD^3P^{-1}$$

So in general, for  $k \geq 1$

$$A^k = PD^kP^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -2 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5^k & 0 \\ 0 & 3^k \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \cdot 5^k - 3^k & 5^k - 3^k \\ 2 \cdot 3^k - 2 \cdot 5^k & 2 \cdot 3^k - 5^k \end{bmatrix}$$

### The Diagonalization Theorem

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

$$A = PDP^{-1}, \text{ with } D$$