

# Spectral theorem and its applications

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# References

**A. Ramachandra Rao and P Bhimasankaram** , Linear Algebra, Second edition, Hindustan book agency.

# Outline

- Eigenvalues and eigenvectors,

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- Schur's lemma,
- Singular value decomposition.

# Eigenvalues and eigenvectors

## Definition

*A complex number  $\lambda$  is said to be an eigenvalue of an  $n \times n$  complex matrix  $A$ , if there exists a nonzero vector  $x \in \mathbb{C}^n$  such that  $Ax = \lambda x$ .*



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A complex number  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of a complex matrix  $A$  if and only if  $\lambda$  is a root of the characteristic polynomial  $\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$ .

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## Definition

Two  $n \times n$  matrices  $A$  and  $B$  are said to be similar, if there exists an invertible matrix  $C$  such that  $B = C^{-1}AC$ .

# Algebraic and geometric multiplicity

## Definition

*For an eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of  $A$ , the subspace of all eigenvectors of  $A$  corresponding to the eigenvalue  $\lambda$  together with the zero vector is called the eigenspace of  $A$  corresponding to the  $\lambda$ .*

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**Algebraic multiplicity** of an eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of a matrix  $A$  is defined as the multiplicity of  $\lambda$  considered as a root of the characteristic polynomial. An eigenvalue  $\lambda$  is said to be simple, if its algebraic multiplicity is 1.

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**Geometric multiplicity** of an eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of a matrix  $A$  is defined as the dimension of the eigenspace associated with  $\lambda$ . An eigenvalue  $\lambda$  is said to be regular, if its algebraic multiplicity is equal the geometric multiplicity.

A.M.  $\geq$  G.M.

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*For any eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of  $A$ , the algebraic multiplicity of  $\lambda$  with respect to  $A$  is greater than or equal to the geometric multiplicity of  $\lambda$ , as an eigenvalue of  $A$ .*

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## Proof

- Let  $\{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$  be a basis for the eigenspace of  $\lambda$ , and let  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$  be an extension to a basis of  $\mathbb{C}^n$ .



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- Set  $P = [x_1 \ x_2 \ \dots \ x_n]$ .
- Then  $P$  is nonsingular, and

$$\begin{aligned} P^{-1}AP &= P^{-1}[Ax_1 \ Ax_2 \ \dots \ Ax_k \ \dots \ Ax_n] \\ &= P^{-1}[\lambda x_1 \ \lambda x_2 \ \dots \ \lambda x_k \ \dots \ Ax_n]. \end{aligned}$$

## Proof cont...

- Thus,

$$P^{-1}AP = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda I_k & B \\ 0 & C \end{pmatrix},$$

for some matrices  $B$  and  $C$ .

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- Hence,  $\chi_A(\alpha) = \chi_{P^{-1}AP}(\alpha) = (\lambda - \alpha)^k \chi_C(\alpha)$ .

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- Hence,  $\chi_A(\alpha) = \chi_{P^{-1}AP}(\alpha) = (\lambda - \alpha)^k \chi_C(\alpha)$ .
- Thus, the algebraic multiplicity of  $\lambda$  is greater than or equal geometric multiplicity of  $\lambda$ .

# Properties

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- If  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_k$  are the distinct eigenvalues of  $A$ , and  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k$  are the corresponding eigenvectors. Then the  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k$  are linearly independent.

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- If  $\lambda$  is a nonzero eigenvalue of a square matrix  $AB$  ( $A$  and  $B$  need not be square), then  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of the matrix  $BA$  with the same algebraic and geometric multiplicities.

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- If  $\lambda$  is a nonzero eigenvalue of a square matrix  $AB$  ( $A$  and  $B$  need not be square), then  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of the matrix  $BA$  with the same algebraic and geometric multiplicities. If  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_r$  are linearly independent eigenvectors of  $AB$  corresponding to  $\lambda$ , then  $Bx_1, \dots, Bx_r$  are linearly independent eigenvectors of  $BA$  corresponding to  $\lambda$ .

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- Let  $P$  be a nonsingular matrix with  $x$  as the first column.
- Then,  $P^{-1}AP = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & y^T \\ 0 & C \end{pmatrix}$ , for some  $1 \times n - 1$  vector  $y^T$  and  $(n - 1) \times (n - 1)$  matrix  $C$ .

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- By induction, there exists a non-singular matrix  $W$  such that  $T = W^{-1}CW$  is upper triangular.

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- Set  $Q = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & W \end{pmatrix}$ .

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- $(PQ)^{-1}A(PQ) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & W^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & y^T \\ 0 & C \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & W \end{pmatrix} =$   
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## Corollary

*Let  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_k$  be the eigenvalues of the matrix  $A$  and let  $f(\alpha)$  be a polynomial. Then  $f(\lambda_1), f(\lambda_2), \dots, f(\lambda_k)$  are the eigenvalues of  $f(A)$ .*



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**Proof** Exercise!

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- (2) implies (3) is clear.

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- (2) implies (3) is clear.
- (2) implies (1) follows from the observation.



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- 2 Any idempotent matrix is diagonalizable ( $P^2 = P$ ).
- 3 Any nonzero nilpotent matrix is not diagonalizable ( $A^k = 0$ , for some integer  $k$ ).

# Spectral representation for semi-simple matrices

## Theorem

The following statements about an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  are equivalent:

- 1  $A$  is semi-simple and has rank  $r$ ,
- 2 there exists a non-singular matrix  $P$  of order  $n$ , and a diagonal nonsingular matrix  $\Delta$  of order  $r$  such that  $A = P \begin{pmatrix} \Delta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} P^{-1}$ ,
- 3 There exists nonzero scalars  $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_r$  and vectors  $u_1, \dots, u_r$  and  $v_1, \dots, v_r$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  such that  $v_i^T u_j = \delta_{ij}$  for all  $i, j$  and

$$A = \sum_{i=1}^r \gamma_i u_i v_i^T$$

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- (2) implies (3). Set  $\delta_i = i^{\text{th}}$  diagonal entry of  $\Delta$ ,  $u_i = i^{\text{th}}$  column of  $P$ , and  $v_i^T = i^{\text{th}}$  row of  $P^{-1}$ .

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- (3) implies (2).



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- (3) implies (2). Exercise!

Happy Tea !

## Session - II

# Symmetric and Hermitian matrices

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A real matrix  $A$  is said to be orthogonal if  $AA^T = A^T A = I$ , and a complex matrix  $A$  is said to be unitary if  $AA^* = A^* A = I$ .

## Theorem (Spectral theorem for real matrices)

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- Let  $P$  be an orthogonal matrix with  $x$  as the first column.
- Then  $P^{-1}AP = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & y^T \\ 0 & C \end{pmatrix}$ , for some vector  $y^T$  and some  $(n - 1) \times (n - 1)$  matrix  $C$ .

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# Spectral theorem for Hermitian matrices and Schur's lemma

## Theorem

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Similar to spectral theorem real symmetric matrices. □

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- 3 There exists matrices  $R$  and  $\Delta$  of orders  $n \times r$  and  $r \times r$ , respectively, such that  $\Delta$  is real, diagonal and non-singular,  $R^* R = I$  and  $A = R \Delta R^*$ .

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- 1 *True or False: Every real matrix is orthogonally similar to an upper triangular matrix. Answer : False*
- 2 *Every real matrix  $A$  with real eigenvalues is orthogonally similar to an upper triangular matrix.*

## Normal matrices

Suppose an  $n \times n$  complex matrix  $A$  is unitarily similar to a diagonal matrix  $D$  i.e.,  $A = U^*DU$ , where  $U$  is a unitary matrix. Then  $AA^* = A^*A$ .

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- So,  $T$  is diagonal, by previous theorem.



# Positive Semidefinite Matrices(PSD)

Let  $\mathcal{S}^n$  denote the subspace of symmetric matrices in  $\mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ .  $A \in \mathcal{S}^n$  is *positive semidefinite*(PSD) if  $x^T A x \geq 0$  for every  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

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- Define  $S = BG$  where  $G = \text{diag}(\frac{1}{d_1}, \dots, \frac{1}{d_r})$ .
- Verify  $RG^{-1}S^*$  is a singular value decomposition for  $A$ .

# Applications!

Applications! Ask Swanand!