

## Lecture 19

**Symmetric and Positive Definite Matrices****Dr. Ralph Chikhany**

# Recap

$$A \begin{matrix} \nearrow \text{eigen vector} \\ \textcircled{x} \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} \textcircled{\lambda} x \\ \nearrow \text{eigen value} \end{matrix} \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n, \quad A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}, \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$$

-  $\lambda$  is the solution to  $p(\lambda) = \det(\lambda I - A) = 0$  (poly).  $\lambda$  may be complex number!  
 $x$  is in the  $\text{Nul}(A - \lambda I)$

- If we have  $n$  distinct eigenvalue  $\lambda_1 \dots \lambda_n$

1. eigenvectors  $x_1 \dots x_n$  are linear independent  $X = [x_1 \dots x_n]$  is invertible

2.  $A = \underbrace{X \Lambda X^{-1}}_{\substack{\text{matrix of all} \\ \text{eigenvectors}}}$   $\Lambda = \text{diag}(\lambda_1 \dots \lambda_n)$   
 $X = [x_1 \dots x_n]$

1. distinct eigenvalues mean  $\dim(\text{Nul}(A - \lambda I))$  is always 1.

$\hookrightarrow$  the equation  $Ax = \lambda x$  only have a "single" solution "single"  $\Leftrightarrow$  same direction

Example.  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -1 & 6 \\ 2 & 1 & 6 \\ 2 & -1 & 8 \end{pmatrix}$  (in eigen slide)

$\text{Nul}(A - 2I) = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}^{\vec{v}_1}, \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}^{\vec{v}_2} \right\}$   $\vec{v}_1$  and  $\vec{v}_2$  both have eigenvalue 2 it's not the case of distinct eigenvalue

But this still can be diagonalized!

Example.  $B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$   $p(\lambda) = \det \begin{pmatrix} 1-\lambda & 1 \\ 0 & 1-\lambda \end{pmatrix} = (1-\lambda)^2$   $\lambda_1=1, \lambda_2=1$   
 Two same eigenvalue

but  $B - \lambda I = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$   $\text{Nul}(B - I) = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$

This is a  $2 \times 2$  only have 1 eigenvectors! so we can't do diagonalization!

(Not Required!) All matrix is not diagonalizable will similar to B (Jordan Form)

Similar Matrix A and B are similar means

$$A = X B X^{-1} \quad (X \text{ is invertible})$$

1. A and B have the same eigenvalue.

$$Ax = \lambda x \Rightarrow X B X^{-1} x = \lambda x \Rightarrow B (X^{-1} x) = \lambda (X^{-1} x)$$

if  $x$  is A's eigenvector, the  $X^{-1} x$  is B's eigenvector!

# Recap

$$A\vec{x} = \lambda\vec{x} \quad (\lambda, \vec{x})$$

eigen value ↓ eigenvector ←

-  $\lambda$  is the solution to  $\det(A - \lambda I) = 0 \rightarrow x \in \text{Nul}(A - \lambda I)$

$n$ -th order polynomial | " $\dim(\text{Nul}(A - \lambda I))$ "  
 ↓  
 $n$  solutions | How many eigenvectors we have for eigenvalue  $\lambda$ .

might be complex number

$n \times n$  matrix will always have  $n$  eigenvalues.

- If the  $n$  eigenvalues are different,  $\vec{x}_1, \dots, \vec{x}_n$   $n$ -eigenvectors will become linear independent.  $\Sigma = [\vec{x}_1, \dots, \vec{x}_n]$  is invertible

$$A = \Sigma \Lambda \Sigma^{-1} \quad \Lambda = \text{diag} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}$$

Example 1)  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \\ & 1 \end{bmatrix}$   $P(\lambda) = \det \begin{pmatrix} 1-\lambda & \\ & 1-\lambda \end{pmatrix} = (1-\lambda)^2 \Rightarrow \lambda_1 = 1, \lambda_2 = 1$  2x2 matrix have 2 eigen values

2)  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ & 1 \end{bmatrix}$   $P(\lambda) = \det \begin{pmatrix} 1-\lambda & 1 \\ & 1-\lambda \end{pmatrix} = (1-\lambda)^2 \Rightarrow \lambda_1 = 1, \lambda_2 = 1$

Eigenvector of Matrix  $A = \text{Nul}(A - I) = \text{Nul} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow \dim$  is 2 / 2 eigenvector

Eigenvector of Matrix  $B = \text{Nul}(B - I) = \text{Nul} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow \dim$  is 1 / 1 eigenvector. span  $\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \}$

$A$  - have 2-eigenvectors. so we can form the matrix  $\Sigma \Rightarrow A$  is diagonalizable.

$B$  - have 1-eigenvector ... can't ...  $\Sigma \Rightarrow B$  is NOT diagonalizable.

(Not Required) all matrix can't be diagonalized will similar to matrix  $B$

Similar Matrix  $A = \Sigma B \Sigma^{-1}$ .  $A$  and  $B$  are similar! (Jordan Form)

- They have the same eigen values, but they don't have the same eigenvector!

2. If we know  $A = XBX^{-1}$ , how to find  $X$

$A$ 's eigenvector are  $[a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n]$

$B$ 's eigenvector are  $[b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n]$

$$= [X^{-1}a_1, \dots, X^{-1}a_n]$$

$$= X^{-1}[a_1, \dots, a_n]$$

$$\Rightarrow X^{-1}[a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n] = [b_1, \dots, b_n]$$

$$\Rightarrow X = [a_1, \dots, a_n][b_1, \dots, b_n]^{-1}$$

3.  $\text{Tr}(A) = \text{Tr}(B) = d_1 + \dots + d_n$

$$\det(A) = \det(B) = d_1 \dots d_n$$

Symmetric Matrix  $A = A^T$ .

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

① Symmetric Matrix will always have real eigenvalues, and it can be diagonalized.

Motivation Quadratic function.  $f(x_1, x_2) = a_{11}x_1^2 + a_{12}x_1x_2 + a_{21}x_1x_2 + a_{22}x_2^2$

$$A \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix} \quad \vec{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^2$$

let's calculate.  $x^T A x = (x_1, x_2) \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow 1 \times 2 \text{ matrix} \times (2 \times 1 \text{ vector})$

$$= (x_1, x_2) \begin{pmatrix} a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 \\ a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 \end{pmatrix} = x_1(a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2) + x_2(a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2)$$

$$= a_{11}x_1^2 + (a_{12} + a_{21})x_1x_2 + a_{22}x_2^2$$

let  $a_{12} = a_{21} = \frac{1}{2}a_{33} !!! \leftrightarrow A \text{ is symmetric}$

Symmetric Matrix  $\leftrightarrow$  Quadratic function.

Example  $f(x_1, x_2) = x_1^2 + 2x_1x_2 + x_2^2 = (x_1 + x_2)^2$

$$x_1^2 + 2x_1x_2 + x_2^2 = (x_1, x_2) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \lambda_1 = 2 \quad x_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix} \quad \lambda_2 = 0 \quad x_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} \\ -1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

(normalize to unit vector!)

$X = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} & 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} & -1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}$   $X$  is an orthogonal Matrix !!  $\leftarrow$  This is always True for Symmetric.

$X^{-1} = X^T$ .  $X$  is orthogonal

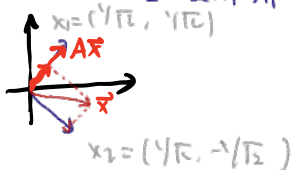
$$A = X \Lambda X^{-1} = X \Lambda X^T$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1^T \\ x_2^T \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2x_1 & 0x_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1^T \\ x_2^T \end{bmatrix}$$

$2x_1 x_1^T + 0x_2 x_2^T \rightarrow 2 \times 2$

$$A = 2x_1x_1^T + 0x_2x_2^T$$

project matrix project to  $x_1$       project matrix project to  $x_2$



$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \det \begin{pmatrix} 1-\lambda & 1 \\ 1 & 1-\lambda \end{pmatrix} = (1-\lambda)(1-\lambda) - 1 \times 1 = \lambda^2 - 2\lambda$$

Quadratic Function

$$f(x_1, x_2) = x_1^2 + 2x_1x_2 + x_2^2 = x^T A x = x^T (2x_1x_1^T + 0x_2x_2^T) x$$

$$= 2 \underbrace{x^T x_1 x_1^T x}_{\text{real numbers } (x \cdot x_1)} + 0 \cdot \underbrace{x^T x_2 x_2^T x}_{\text{real number } (x \cdot x_2)} = 2(x \cdot x_1)^2 + (x \cdot x_2)^2$$

$x_1 = (1/\sqrt{2}, 1/\sqrt{2})$        $x_2 = (1/\sqrt{2}, -1/\sqrt{2})$

$$= 2 \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}x_1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}x_2 \right)^2 + 0 \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}x_1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}x_2 \right)^2$$

There are all square functions!  
 $(x_1 + x_2)^2 + 0 \cdot (x_1 - x_2)^2$

just true for vectors  $x_1^T x_2 = x_1^T x_1$

$$x_1^T (\lambda x_2) = (x_1 \ x_2) \begin{pmatrix} \lambda x_{21} \\ \lambda x_{22} \end{pmatrix} = \lambda x_{11} x_{21} + \lambda x_{12} x_{22}$$

# Symmetric Matrix. $A = A^T$ .

① if  $A$  is symmetric, Then  $A$  can always be diagonalized (provide proof on website) and  $A$ 's eigenvalues are always real numbers!

## Motivation!

Quadratic function.  $f(x) = x^2$

Example.  $f(a, b) = a^2 + 2ab + b^2 = (a+b)^2$

check.  $f(a, b) = \begin{pmatrix} b & a \end{pmatrix}_{1 \times 2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}_{2 \times 2} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}_{2 \times 1} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \end{pmatrix}_{1 \times 2}^T A \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}_{2 \times 1}$   
 $= \begin{pmatrix} b & a \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a+b \\ a+b \end{pmatrix} = b(a+b) + a(a+b) = a^2 + 2ab + b^2$

Diagonalize.  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$   $\lambda_1 = 2$ ,  $x_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\lambda_2 = 0$ ,  $x_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$

$X = [x_1, x_2] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$   $X^{-1} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$  ( $X$  is orthogonal!)  
 $X^{-1} = X^T$

$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}$

!!!

$= 2 \times \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} + 0 \times \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}$

projec matrix to a vector  $\vec{x}$   
 $\frac{\vec{x} \vec{x}^T}{\|\vec{x}\|^2}$  (if  $\vec{x}$  is unit vecto.  $P = \vec{x} \vec{x}^T$ )

$x^T(A+B)x = x^T A x + x^T B x$

real number

$x^T A x = \sum \lambda_i x^T x_i x_i^T x$   
 $\rightarrow = \sum \lambda_i (x_i^T x)^2$

$f(a, b) = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}$  ("write quadratic function to sum of squares!!!")

$= 2 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} a & b \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} + 0 \times \begin{pmatrix} a & b \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}$   
 $= \frac{1}{2} a + \frac{1}{2} b = \frac{1}{2} a + \frac{1}{2} b$   $= \frac{1}{2} a - \frac{1}{2} b$   $= \frac{1}{2} a - \frac{1}{2} b$

$= 2 \cdot \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} a + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} b \right)^2 + 0 \cdot \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} a - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} b \right)^2$

Thm.  $A = \lambda_1 \underbrace{x_1 x_1^T}_{\text{projection to } x_1} + \lambda_2 \underbrace{x_2 x_2^T}_{\text{projection to } x_2} + \dots + \lambda_n \underbrace{x_n x_n^T}_{\text{projection to } x_n}$  ←

and  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  are orthogonal!

For General  $n \times n$  Symmetric Matrix  $A$

eigenvalue  $(\lambda_1, x_1) \dots (\lambda_n, x_n)$

-  $x_1 \dots x_n$  are all orthogonal

(same calculation)

$$A = \lambda_1 \underbrace{x_1 x_1^T}_{\text{project to vector } x_1} + \lambda_2 \underbrace{x_2 x_2^T}_{\text{project to vector } x_2} + \dots + \lambda_n \underbrace{x_n x_n^T}_{\text{project to vector } x_n}$$

lemma  $Ax_1 = \lambda_1 \cdot x_1$ ,  $Ax_2 = \lambda_2 \cdot x_2$ .  $A$  symmetric

$\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$ , aim  $x_1^T x_2 = 0$  ( $x_1, x_2$  are orthogonal)

Calculate  $x_1^T A x_2$

$$- x_1^T A x_2 = x_1^T (\lambda_2 x_2) \quad x_2 \text{ is the eigenvector}$$

$$= \lambda_2 (x_1^T x_2)$$

$$- \overset{(1 \times n \quad n \times n \quad n \times 1)}{x_1^T A x_2} = (x_1^T A x_2)^T \quad x_1^T A x_2 \text{ is a real number}$$

$$= x_2^T A^T x_1$$

$$(AB)^T = B^T A^T$$

$$= x_2^T A x_1$$

$$A^T = A \quad (A \text{ is symmetric})$$

$$(see *) \quad \leftarrow = x_2^T (\lambda x_1)$$

$x_1$  is the eigenvector

$$= \lambda_1 (x_1^T x_2)$$

$$\underline{\text{So!}} \quad \lambda_1 (x_1^T x_2) = \lambda_2 (x_1^T x_2) = x_1^T A x_2 \quad \lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1^T x_2 = 0 !!$$

This tells us  $x_1 \dots x_n$  are orthogonal

if  $\|x_1\|_2 = \dots = \|x_n\|_2 = 1$  are all unit vector

$\Sigma = [x_1 \dots x_n]$  is orthogonal  $\textcircled{1}$

$$A = \Sigma \Lambda \Sigma^{-1} = \underbrace{Q}_{\text{orthogonal}} \Lambda \underbrace{Q^T}_{\text{orthogonal}} \quad \textcircled{2}$$
$$\Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A = \sum \lambda_i \underbrace{x_i x_i^T}_{\text{projection}} \quad \textcircled{2}$$

Thm.  $A = \lambda_1 \underbrace{x_1 x_1^T}_{\text{projection to } x_1} + \lambda_2 \underbrace{x_2 x_2^T}_{\text{projection to } x_2} + \dots + \lambda_n \underbrace{x_n x_n^T}_{\text{projection to } x_n}$  !!  $A$  is symmetric  
 and  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  are orthogonal! !! Most important

lemma.  $Ax_1 = \lambda_1 x_1$ ,  $Ax_2 = \lambda_2 x_2$  and  $\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$

Then  $x_1^T x_2 = 0$

proof. Calculate  $\left. \begin{matrix} x_1^T A x_2 \end{matrix} \right\} \Rightarrow \text{a real number}$

-  $x_1^T A x_2 = x_1^T (\lambda_2 x_2)$  because  $x_2$  is eigenvector

$= \lambda_2 (x_1^T x_2)$

-  $x_1^T A x_2 = (x_1^T A x_2)^T$

$= x_2^T A^T x_1$

$= x_2^T A x_1$

$= x_2^T (\lambda_1 x_1)$

$= \lambda_1 (x_1^T x_2)$

This is because  $x_1^T A x_2$  is a real number.  
 by the rule of transport of product

$A$  is symmetric

$Ax_1 = \lambda_1 x_1$

$x_2^T x_1 = x_1^T x_2$  because it's dot product

We know  $\lambda_1 (x_1^T x_2) = x_1^T A x_2 = \lambda_2 (x_1^T x_2)$

$\Rightarrow x_1^T x_2 = 0$  (for  $\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$ )

$\Sigma = [x_1 \dots x_n] \Rightarrow \Sigma$  is an orthogonal matrix  
 all eigenvector

$A = \Sigma \Lambda \Sigma^{-1} = Q \Lambda Q^T \rightarrow Q$  is orthogonal



# Positive Definite Matrix. (P.S.D Matrix)

- PSD Matrix A means:

- A is symmetric

- all the eigenvalues  $\lambda_i > 0$

$x_1 \dots x_n$  are real numbers  
but variables.

$$\vec{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}$$

Why PSD Matrix?

$\vec{x}^T A \vec{x}$  is a quadratic function respect to  $x_1 \dots x_n$

$$x^T A x = \sum \lambda_i (x_i^T x)^2$$

This is the coefficient!

↪ This is square function  
(e.g.  $(a+b)^2$ ,  $(a-b)^2$ )

always larger than 0

P.S.D Matrix  $\Leftrightarrow$  it is sum of positive square function!!

So  $x^T A x$  is always larger than zero!!! ↪ The same  
by eigen decomposition/diagonalization

- If A and B are P.S.D Matrix. Then  $A+B$  is P.S.D.

- If A is P.S.D. Then  $A^{-1}$  is P.S.D.

①  $x^T A x$ ,  $x^T B x$  is always positive, so  $x^T (A+B) x = x^T A x + x^T B x$   
are also positive.

A is symmetric

② if  $A = A^T \Rightarrow (A^{-1})^T = (A^T)^{-1} = A^{-1} \Rightarrow A^{-1}$  is symmetric

$$\text{if } Ax = \lambda x \Leftrightarrow A^{-1}x = \frac{1}{\lambda}x$$

$$\begin{array}{l} x \text{ is } A \text{'s} \\ \text{eigenvalue} \end{array} \Leftrightarrow \lambda^{-1} \text{ is } A^{-1} \text{'s} \\ \text{eigenvalue.}$$

$A$  is symmetric.  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  are orthogonal

$$A = \lambda_1 x_1 x_1^T + \lambda_2 x_2 x_2^T + \dots + \lambda_n x_n x_n^T$$

$$A^{-1} = \lambda_1^{-1} x_1 x_1^T + \lambda_2^{-1} x_2 x_2^T + \dots + \lambda_n^{-1} x_n x_n^T$$



**Strang Section 6.4 – Symmetric Matrices  
and Section 6.5 – Positive Definite Matrices**



# Symmetric Matrices

# Diagonalizing a Symmetric Matrix

An  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  is symmetric if  $A^T = A$ .

The eigenvalues of a symmetric matrix are real and the eigenvectors are orthogonal (or can be made orthogonal).

Every symmetric matrix is diagonalizable

$$A = X\Lambda X^{-1} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{eigenvectors are orthogonal} \\ \text{they can be made orthonormal} \end{array}$$

$$\implies A = Q\Lambda Q^T \quad \text{orthogonal matrix: } Q^{-1} = Q^T$$

# Eigenvectors of a Symmetric Matrix

Let  $\vec{x}_1, \vec{x}_2$  be eigenvectors of  $A$  associated with  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$ , such that  $\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$

$$\implies A\vec{x}_1 = \lambda_1\vec{x}_1, \quad A\vec{x}_2 = \lambda_2\vec{x}_2 \quad (\text{by def of e-value/e-vector})$$

We want to show that  $\vec{x}_1 \perp \vec{x}_2 \implies \vec{x}_1^T \vec{x}_2 = 0$

Consider  $\lambda_1 \vec{x}_1^T \vec{x}_2 = (\lambda_1 \vec{x}_1)^T \vec{x}_2 = (A\vec{x}_1)^T \vec{x}_2 = \vec{x}_1^T \underbrace{A^T}_{\lambda_1} \vec{x}_2 = \vec{x}_1^T \lambda_2 \vec{x}_2 = \lambda_2 \underbrace{\vec{x}_1^T \vec{x}_2}_2$

$\lambda_1^T = \lambda_1$  (def of e-value)

$= A\vec{x}_2$  (A is symmetric)

$= \lambda_2 \vec{x}_2$

Thus  $\lambda_1 \vec{x}_1^T \vec{x}_2 = \lambda_2 \vec{x}_1^T \vec{x}_2 \iff \lambda_1 \vec{x}_1^T \vec{x}_2 - \lambda_2 \vec{x}_1^T \vec{x}_2 = 0$

$(\lambda_1 - \lambda_2) \vec{x}_1^T \vec{x}_2 = 0$

$(\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2)$  Thus  $\vec{x}_1^T \vec{x}_2 = 0$

# Example

Diagonalize  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & -2 & -1 \\ -2 & 6 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$ . (into the form  $Q\Lambda Q^T$  since  $A$  is symmetric)

• eigenvalues

$$|A - \lambda I| = \begin{vmatrix} 6-\lambda & -2 & -1 \\ -2 & 6-\lambda & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 5-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = \dots = (6-\lambda)(\lambda-8)(\lambda-3) = 0$$

$\Rightarrow \lambda = 3, 6, 8$

$\lambda_1 = 3$   $\text{Nul}(A - 3I)$

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 3 & -2 & -1 & 0 \\ -2 & 3 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & 2 & 0 \end{array} \right) \sim \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$x_3$  is free

$$x_2 = x_3$$

$$-x_1 - x_2 + 2x_3 = 0$$

$$x_1 = 2x_3 - x_3 = x_3$$

$$\vec{x}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Example

$$\lambda_2 = 6$$

$$\text{Nul}(A - 6I) : \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 0 & -2 & -1 & 0 \\ -2 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 & 0 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \vec{x}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_3 = 8$$

$$\text{Nul}(A - 8I) : \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} -2 & -2 & -1 & 0 \\ -2 & -2 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & -3 & 0 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \vec{x}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1/\sqrt{3} & -1/\sqrt{6} & -1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{3} & -1/\sqrt{6} & 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{3} & 2/\sqrt{6} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 8 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1/\sqrt{3} & 1/\sqrt{3} & 1/\sqrt{3} \\ -1/\sqrt{6} & -1/\sqrt{6} & 2/\sqrt{6} \\ -1/\sqrt{2} & 1/\sqrt{2} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

~~Q~~  $\wedge$  ~~Q~~  $(= Q^{-1})$





# Positive Definite Matrices

# Definition

An  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  is positive definite if:

(i)  $A = A^T$

(ii)  $\lambda_i > 0$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$

The following statements are equivalent to “all eigenvalues are positive”:

(1) all pivots are positive

(2) all upper left determinants are positive

(3)  $\vec{x}^T A \vec{x}$  is positive for all  $\vec{x} \neq 0$

# Example

Show all equivalent positive definite properties for

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$\vec{x}^T A \vec{x} > 0 \quad \forall \vec{x} \neq \vec{0}$$

here,  $\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}$ ;  $\vec{x}^T = [x_1 \ x_2 \ x_3]$

$$\vec{x}^T A \vec{x} = [x_1 \ x_2 \ x_3] \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = [2x_1 - x_2 \quad -x_1 + 2x_2 - x_3 \quad -x_2 + 2x_3] \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= 2(x_1^2 - x_1x_2 + x_2^2 - x_2x_3 + x_3^2) > 0? \quad \text{not clear yet}$$

*(Note:  $x_1^2$  and  $x_3^2$  are circled in the original image)*

$$= 2x_1^2 - 2x_1x_2 + 2x_2^2 - 2x_2x_3 + 2x_3^2$$

$$= \underbrace{x_1^2}_{\geq 0} + \underbrace{(x_1 - x_2)^2}_{\geq 0} + \underbrace{(x_2 - x_3)^2}_{\geq 0} + \underbrace{x_3^2}_{\geq 0}$$

but  $x_1 \neq 0$  or  
 $x_2 \neq 0$  or  $x_3 \neq 0$

# Properties

**Theorem:** If  $A$  is positive definite, then so is  $A^{-1}$ .

$A$  is positive definite  $\Leftrightarrow$  all of its eigenvalues are positive

Lemma:  $\lambda \neq 0$  is an e-value of  $A \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{\lambda}$  is an e-value of  $A^{-1}$

$(A \in M(\mathbb{R})_{n \times n})$   $A \vec{x} = \lambda \vec{x}$  for some  $\lambda \neq 0; \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$   $A^{-1} \vec{v} = \frac{1}{\lambda} \vec{v}$  (for some  $\vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ )

pf (of lemma):  $A \vec{x} = \lambda \vec{x} \Leftrightarrow A^{-1} A \vec{x} = A^{-1} \lambda \vec{x}$   
 $\Leftrightarrow \vec{x} = \lambda A^{-1} \vec{x}$   
 $\Leftrightarrow A^{-1} \vec{x} = \frac{1}{\lambda} \vec{x}$  (same e-vector!)

pf (of thm):  $A$  is positive definite, so all of its eigenvalues  $\lambda_i > 0$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ). So  $\frac{1}{\lambda_i} > 0$  ( $\lambda_i \neq 0 \nabla i$ , since  $A$  is invertible) and the e-values of  $A^{-1}$  are  $\frac{1}{\lambda_i}$ ; so  $A^{-1}$  is pos. definite

# Properties

**Theorem:** If  $A$ ,  $B$  are positive definite, then  $A + B$  is positive definite.

pf/  $A$  and  $B$  are positive definite, so

$$\vec{x}^T A \vec{x} > 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \vec{x}^T B \vec{x} > 0 \quad \forall \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n; \vec{x} \neq \vec{0}$$

(note:  $\vec{x}$  is arbitrary, so we can keep it the same in both quadratic forms)

Adding both sides of the inequalities:

$$\vec{x}^T A \vec{x} + \vec{x}^T B \vec{x} > 0 + 0$$

which means  $\vec{x}^T (A + B) \vec{x} > 0$

thus  $A + B$  is positive definite

# Properties

**Theorem:** If  $A$ ,  $B$  are positive definite, then  $A + B$  is positive definite.