

Lecture 23: Special matrices

Thursday, November 12, 2015 9:30 AM

Reading: Meyer 7.5 Normal matrices
7.6 Positive semi-definite matrices

Last time:

THEOREM: A has a complete, orthogonal set of eigenvectors

$$\begin{array}{c} \Updownarrow \\ A^\dagger A = A A^\dagger. \end{array} \quad (\text{"A is normal"})$$

$$\Rightarrow A = U D U^\dagger$$

$\swarrow$ diagonal w/ e-values
 $\nwarrow$ unitary w/ e-vector columns

Examples:

- Every diagonal matrix is normal ($U=I$ above)
- No upper- or lower-triangular matrix is normal, unless it is diagonal! (see the homework)

```
>> n = 4;
>> A = randn(n,n);
>> A = A + A'; % make the matrix symmetric (and hence normal)
>> [U, D] = eigs(A)
```

$$U = \begin{array}{c|c|c|c} \vec{v}_1 & \vec{v}_2 & \vec{v}_3 & \vec{v}_4 \\ \hline 0.6207 & -0.5958 & 0.1753 & -0.4785 \\ 0.6988 & 0.1282 & -0.1866 & 0.6786 \\ -0.1355 & -0.3777 & -0.9151 & -0.0408 \\ -0.3287 & -0.6971 & 0.3116 & 0.5558 \end{array}$$

the e-vectors are orthonormal:

```
>> U' * U
```

ans =

```
1.0000    0    0.0000    0.0000
0    1.0000    0.0000    0.0000
0.0000    0.0000    1.0000   -0.0000
0.0000    0.0000   -0.0000    1.0000
```

$$D = \begin{array}{c|c|c|c} \lambda_1 & \lambda_2 & \lambda_3 & \lambda_4 \\ \hline -7.2760 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3.7712 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1.8551 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -0.3472 \end{array}$$

```
>> A * U - U * D
```

ans =

```
1.0e-14 *
0.3553   -0.1776    0.0056   -0.1832
-0.0888   -0.0722    0.1554   -0.3608
-0.1221   -0.0444    0.1110    0.0073
0.0444     0   -0.0888   -0.0416
```

$$A \vec{v}_j = \lambda_j \vec{v}_j$$

Proposition: A normal $\Rightarrow \|A\| = \max_{\text{eigenvalues } \lambda} |\lambda|$.

Proof:

Recall $\|A\| = \max_{x: \|x\|=1} \|Ax\|$. Since unitaries don't change lengths,

$$\begin{aligned}\|A\| &= \|UDU^T\| \\ &= \|D\| \\ &= \max_i |D_{i,i}| \quad \checkmark\end{aligned}$$

□

This proposition is false for non-normal matrices, eg., both eigenvalues of $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ are 0, but $\|\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}\| = 1 \neq 0$. ✓

More about the power method

```
>> n = 10^6;
>> density = 10/n;
>> A = sprandsym(n, density);
>> tic; eigs(A); toc find all eigenvalues
Elapsed time is 192.303369 seconds.
>> tic; eigs(A, 1); toc
Elapsed time is 80.018051 seconds.
```

find largest magnitude eigenvalue

```
>> help sprandsym
sprandsym Sparse random symmetric matrix.
R = sprandsym(S) is a symmetric random matrix whose lower triangle
and diagonal have the same structure as S. The elements are
normally distributed, with mean 0 and variance 1.

R = sprandsym(n,density) is a symmetric random, n-by-n, sparse
matrix with approximately density*n*n nonzeros; each entry is
the sum of one or more normally distributed random samples.
```

$\text{eigs}(A, 1, 'SM')$ finds the smallest magnitude e-value

Exercise: Write Matlab code to find the e-value closest to 10.

Answer 1: $\text{eigs}(A - 10 \times \text{eye}(n), 1, 'SM')$

Answer 2: Using the power method:

```
B = A - 10 * eye(n);
x = randn(n, 1);
for j = 1:10000
    x = B \ x;
    x = x / norm(x);
end
```

← it would be better to check for convergence...

← compute $B^T x$
it would be faster to precompute the LU decomposition of B

Today: More examples and applications.

APPLICATIONS of unitary diagonalizability of normal matrices

I. Eigenvalues of orthogonal and unitary matrices

Recall:

Definition:

$n \times n$ real matrix w/ orthonormal columns = **orthogonal** $A^T = A^{-1}$

$n \times n$ complex matrix w/ orthonormal columns = **unitary** $A^\dagger = A^{-1}$

$\{\vec{u}_1, \vec{u}_2, \dots, \vec{u}_n\}$
an orthonormal basis for $\mathbb{R}^n$ or $\mathbb{C}^n$ $\Leftrightarrow A = \begin{pmatrix} | & | & & | \\ u_1 & u_2 & \dots & u_n \\ | & | & & | \end{pmatrix}$
is orthogonal or unitary

Example: 2D rotation $\begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$
is orthogonal and unitary
 $\begin{pmatrix} e^{i\theta} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-i\theta} \end{pmatrix}$ is unitary.

Every orthogonal matrix is unitary.

Theorem: Any orthogonal or unitary matrix is diagonalizable.

Examples: $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$, $\begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}$, $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & \omega & \omega^2 \\ 1 & \omega^2 & \omega \end{pmatrix}$
 $\omega = e^{2\pi i/3}$

Proof: U unitary $\Rightarrow U^\dagger = U^{-1}$
 $\Rightarrow UU^\dagger = I = U^\dagger U$
 $\Rightarrow U$ is normal $\checkmark$ □

Claim: All eigenvalues of an orthogonal or unitary matrix

have magnitude 1.

Proof:

Say $U^\dagger = U^{-1}$, and $\vec{v} \neq \vec{0}$ is an e-vector, $U\vec{v} = \lambda\vec{v}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \|\vec{v}\|^2 &= v^\dagger v = v^\dagger \underbrace{U^\dagger U}_I v \\ &= \|Uv\|^2 \\ &= |\lambda|^2 \times \|v\|^2 \quad \Rightarrow |\lambda| = 1 \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

Examples:

1) Fourier transform mod 3:

```
>> omega = exp(2*pi*i/3);
C = (1/sqrt(3)) * [1 1 1; 1 omega omega^2; 1 omega^2 omega]
eig(C)
```

C =

```
0.5774 + 0.0000i    0.5774 + 0.0000i    0.5774 + 0.0000i
0.5774 + 0.0000i   -0.2887 + 0.5000i   -0.2887 - 0.5000i
0.5774 + 0.0000i   -0.2887 - 0.5000i   -0.2887 + 0.5000i
```

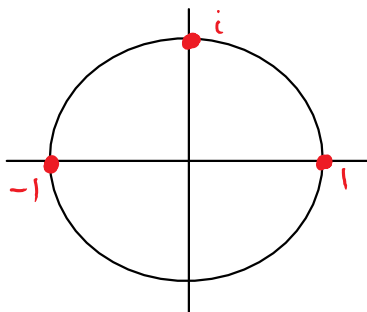
ans =

```
1.0000 + 0.0000i
-1.0000 + 0.0000i
0.0000 + 1.0000i
```

```
>> abs(eig(C))
```

ans =

```
1.0000
1.0000
1.0000
```



Fourier transform mod n:

```
>> n = 100;
>> C = dftmtx(n) / sqrt(n);
>> sum(sum(abs( C^4 - eye(n) )))
```

ans =

```
2.2902e-13
```

$C^4 = I$
 $\Rightarrow$ all e-values must be in $\{\pm 1, \pm i\}$.

```
2) >> B = (1/sqrt(2)) * [1 0 1; 0 sqrt(2) 0; -1 0 1]
eig(B)
abs(eig(B))
```

B =

```
2) >> B = (1/sqrt(2)) * [1 0 1; 0 sqrt(2) 0; -1 0 1]
    eig(B)
    abs(eig(B))
```

B =

```
0.7071    0    0.7071
    0    1.0000    0
-0.7071    0    0.7071
```

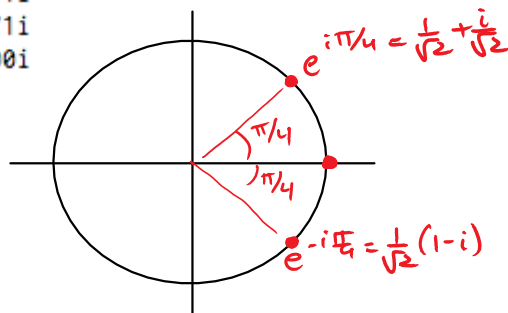
← rotation about the y-axis in $\mathbb{R}^3$

ans =

```
0.7071 + 0.7071i
0.7071 - 0.7071i
1.0000 + 0.0000i
```

ans =

```
1.0000
1.0000
1.0000
```



Observe: The eigenvalues are paired up:
 $\lambda = e^{i\theta}$ an e-value $\Rightarrow$ so is $\lambda^* = e^{-i\theta}$ (complex conjugate)
 Why?

Theorem: If A is any real matrix, then

• λ an e-value of $A \Rightarrow$ so is λ^*

w/ corr. e-vector $\vec{v}$

w/ corr. e-vector $\vec{v}^*$

Proof:

$$A\vec{v} = \lambda\vec{v}$$

$$\Rightarrow A^* \vec{v}^* = \lambda^* \vec{v}^*$$

$$\Rightarrow A \vec{v}^* = \lambda^* \vec{v}^*$$

(taking complex conjugates of everything)
 (since A is real, $A^* = A$). $\checkmark \square$

Exercise: What are the eigenvalues of

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} ?$$

Answer: A is orthogonal, so its eigenvalues lie on the unit circle.

A is a permutation matrix:

$$A\vec{e}_1 = \vec{e}_3$$

$$A\vec{e}_2 = \vec{e}_1$$



$$Ae_3 = e_2$$

$$\Rightarrow A^3 = I$$

$\Rightarrow$ each eigenvalue λ must satisfy $\lambda^3 = 1$

$\Rightarrow$ each $\lambda \in \{1, e^{2\pi i/3}, e^{-2\pi i/3}\}$

Since $A \neq I$, and A is diagonalizable, the e-values aren't all 1.

$\Rightarrow$ Either $e^{2\pi i/3}$ or $e^{-2\pi i/3}$ must be an e-value

$\Rightarrow$ Both $e^{2\pi i/3}$ and $e^{-2\pi i/3}$ are e-values

(since A is real, complex e-values are paired up)

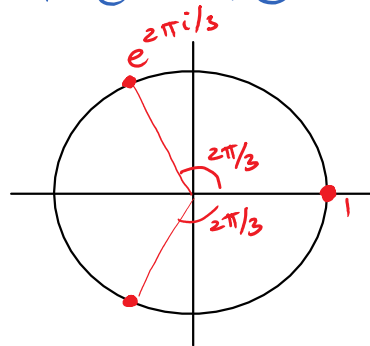
Only one dimension remains, so there isn't room for another complex e-value $\Rightarrow H$ must be real

$\Rightarrow H$ is 1

Answer: $\boxed{1, e^{2\pi i/3}, e^{-2\pi i/3}}$

$$\text{Check: Trace} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0 + 0 + 0 = 0$$

$$\text{and } 1 + e^{2\pi i/3} + e^{-2\pi i/3} = 0$$



Check in Matlab:

```
>> A = [0 1 0; 0 0 1; 1 0 0]
eig(A)
```

A =

```
0    1    0
0    0    1
1    0    0
```

ans =

```
-0.5000 + 0.8660i
-0.5000 - 0.8660i
1.0000 + 0.0000i
```

```
>> abs(eig(A))
```

ans =

ans =

1.0000
1.0000
1.0000

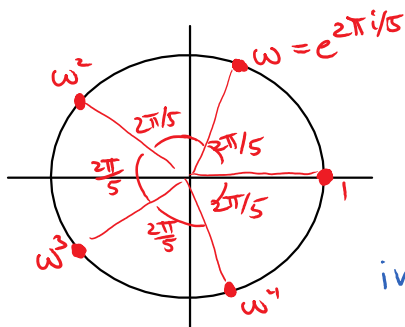
Exercise: Similarly, what are the eigenvalues of

$$A_5 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad ?$$

Answer: $A^5 = I$, so e-values must lie in:

$$\{1, \omega, \omega^2, \omega^3, \omega^4\}$$

$$\text{where } \omega = e^{2\pi i/5}$$



Since the dimension is odd and the complex e-values come in pairs, 1 is an e-value.

$$\text{Tr}(A) = 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{\{1, \omega, \omega^4, \omega^2, \omega^3\}}$$

Problem: If all the eigenvalues of A have the same magnitude, then how can we use the power method to find them?

$$\vec{x} = (v_1 \cdot x) \vec{v}_1 + (v_2 \cdot x) \vec{v}_2 + \dots + (v_n \cdot x) \vec{v}_n$$

$$\Rightarrow A \vec{x} = e^{i\theta_1} (v_1 \cdot x) \vec{v}_1 + e^{i\theta_2} (v_2 \cdot x) \vec{v}_2 + \dots + e^{i\theta_n} (v_n \cdot x) \vec{v}_n$$

$$\Rightarrow A^k \vec{x} = e^{ik\theta_1} (v_1 \cdot x) \vec{v}_1 + e^{ik\theta_2} (v_2 \cdot x) \vec{v}_2 + \dots + e^{ik\theta_n} (v_n \cdot x) \vec{v}_n$$

The magnitudes of the coefficients don't change

$$|e^{ik\theta_j} (v_j \cdot x)| = |v_j \cdot x|$$

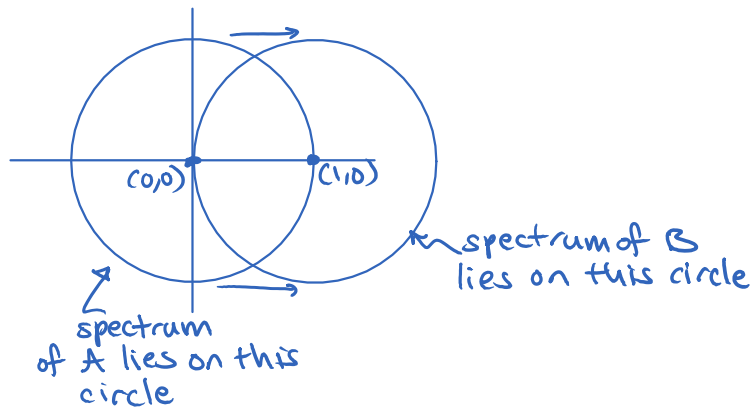
so no term dominates!

Possible answer:

Shift the matrix!

Eg., work with $B = A + I$ instead of with A ;

B 's eigenvalues are $e^{i\theta_j} + 1$, no longer all lying on the unit circle.



II. Eigenvalues of real-orthogonal and Hermitian matrices

Definition: Matrix A is

symmetric if $A^T = A$

← useful for real matrices

Hermitian if $A^\dagger = A$

← useful for complex matrices

adjoint = conjugate-transpose

(For real matrices, symmetric = Hermitian.)

Examples:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

✓

✓

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

✓

✗

$$\begin{pmatrix} e^{i\alpha} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

✓

only if $\frac{\alpha}{\pi} \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & a+bi \\ a-bi & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

✗

✓

Example: $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$

basis for 2×2 symmetric matrices

$$\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

basis over $\mathbb{R}$ for 2×2 Hermitian matrices

Note: $\{n \times n \text{ Hermitian matrices}\}$ is only a vector space over $\mathbb{R}$.

It is not closed under multiplication by complex numbers.

It is not closed under multiplication by complex numbers.

Eg.: $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ is Hermitian,
 $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} = i \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ is not.

Theorem: Any real symmetric matrix is diagonalizable.

Proof: Let A be a real symmetric matrix: $A^T = A$.

Since A is real, $A^\dagger = A^T$.

$$\Rightarrow A^T A = A^2 = A A^T$$

$\Rightarrow A$ is normal $\Rightarrow$ diagonalizable $\square$

Theorem: Any complex **Hermitian** matrix is diagonalizable.
($A^\dagger = A$)

Same proof.

Claim: Any real symmetric or complex Hermitian matrix has **all real eigenvalues**.

Proof: Let $\vec{v}$ be an eigenvector of A , with ev. λ .

$$\begin{aligned} & \vec{v}^\dagger A \vec{v} \\ &= (\vec{v}^\dagger A) \vec{v} \quad \quad \quad = \vec{v}^\dagger (A \vec{v}) \\ &= (A^\dagger \vec{v})^\dagger \vec{v} \quad \quad \quad = \lambda \cdot \vec{v}^\dagger \vec{v} = \lambda \|\vec{v}\|^2 \\ &= (A \vec{v})^\dagger \vec{v} \\ &= (\lambda \vec{v})^\dagger \vec{v} = \lambda^* \|\vec{v}\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda = \lambda^*$$

ie., λ is real. $\square$

Furthermore, a real symmetric matrix has an orthonormal basis of **real** eigenvectors.

Proof: All the eigenvalues are real.

For each eigenvalue λ , we can compute an orthonormal basis for the eigenspace
 $N(A - \lambda I)$

using Gaussian elimination and the Gram-Schmidt procedure, using only real numbers. $\checkmark$

Examples:

- ```
>> n = 10;
A = -2 * diag(ones(n,1)) + diag(ones(n-1,1),1) + diag(ones(n-1,1),-1)
```

A =

```
-2 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
 1 -2 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
 0 1 -2 1 0 0 0 0 0 0
 0 0 1 -2 1 0 0 0 0 0
 0 0 0 1 -2 1 0 0 0 0
 0 0 0 0 1 -2 1 0 0 0
 0 0 0 0 0 1 -2 1 0 0
 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 -2 1 0
 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 -2 1
 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 -2
```

```
>> eig(A)
```

symmetric  $A = A^T$

ans =

```
-3.9190
-3.6825
-3.3097
-2.8308
-2.2846
-1.7154
-1.1692
-0.6903
-0.3175
-0.0810
```

} all real

- How to create a random symmetric matrix?

Of course it depends on what distribution you want.

If you don't care, then  $A + A^T$  is symmetric for any real matrix  $A$ . (Since  $(A + A^T)^T = A^T + A = A + A^T$ . ✓)

If you want every entry to follow the same dist<sup>n</sup>, eg, uniform on  $[0,1]$ , use something like

```
>> n = 6;
A = rand(n,n)
A = diag(diag(A)) + triu(A,1) + triu(A,1)'
```

*picks out diagonal*      *terms above diagonal*

A =

|        |        |        |        |        |        |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 0.4211 | 0.5710 | 0.3736 | 0.3474 | 0.8006 | 0.5301 |
| 0.1841 | 0.1769 | 0.0875 | 0.6606 | 0.7458 | 0.2751 |
| 0.7258 | 0.9574 | 0.6401 | 0.3839 | 0.8131 | 0.2486 |
| 0.3704 | 0.2653 | 0.1806 | 0.6273 | 0.3833 | 0.4516 |
| 0.8416 | 0.9246 | 0.0451 | 0.0216 | 0.6173 | 0.2277 |
| 0.7342 | 0.2238 | 0.7232 | 0.9106 | 0.5755 | 0.8044 |

A =

|        |        |        |        |        |        |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 0.4211 | 0.5710 | 0.3736 | 0.3474 | 0.8006 | 0.5301 |
| 0.5710 | 0.1769 | 0.0875 | 0.6606 | 0.7458 | 0.2751 |
| 0.3736 | 0.0875 | 0.6401 | 0.3839 | 0.8131 | 0.2486 |
| 0.3474 | 0.6606 | 0.3839 | 0.6273 | 0.3833 | 0.4516 |
| 0.8006 | 0.7458 | 0.8131 | 0.3833 | 0.6173 | 0.2277 |
| 0.5301 | 0.2751 | 0.2486 | 0.4516 | 0.2277 | 0.8044 |

ans =

```
-0.6673
-0.3633
0.2743
0.4173
0.7283
2.8979
```

- What about an **anti-symmetric** matrix ( $A^T = -A$ )?  
 $A - A^T$  is always antisymmetric  
 (since  $(A - A^T)^T = A^T - A = -(A - A^T)$ . ✓)

```
>> n = 6;
A = rand(n,n);
A = triu(A,1) - triu(A,1)';
eig(A)

A =

 0 0.0669 0.8854 0.0418 0.9843 0.6624
 -0.0669 0 0.8990 0.1069 0.9456 0.2442
 -0.8854 -0.8990 0 0.6164 0.6766 0.2955
 -0.0418 -0.1069 -0.6164 0 0.9883 0.6802
 -0.9843 -0.9456 -0.6766 -0.9883 0 0.5278
 -0.6624 -0.2442 -0.2955 -0.6802 -0.5278 0

ans =

0.0000 + 2.3224i
0.0000 - 2.3224i
0.0000 + 1.0839i
0.0000 - 1.0839i
-0.0000 + 0.2142i
-0.0000 - 0.2142i
```

Question: Why are the eigenvalues purely imaginary?

Answer:

If  $A$  is a real matrix with  $A^T = -A$ ,  
 $\Rightarrow (iA)^T = -iA^T$   
 $\quad \quad \quad = iA$   
 $\Rightarrow iA$  is Hermitian  
 $\Rightarrow$  Eigenvalues of  $iA$  are real  
 $\Rightarrow$  Eigenvalues of  $A$  are purely imaginary. ✓

### III. POSITIVE SEMI-DEFINITE MATRICES

Definition: A Hermitian (or real-symmetric) matrix  $A$  with all eigenvalues  $\geq 0$  is called  
positive semi-definite  
denoted  $A \succeq 0$ .

Key property:

Theorem: A Hermitian matrix  $A$   
is positive semidefinite  
 $\Leftrightarrow$

$x^T A x \geq 0$  for all vectors  $x$ .

Proof:

$\Rightarrow$ : If  $A \geq 0$ ,

let  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  be an orthonormal basis of eigenvectors, with corresponding e-values  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n \geq 0$ .

Any vector  $x$  can be expanded as

$$\vec{x} = \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j \vec{v}_j$$

where  $\alpha_j = v_j \cdot x$ .

$$\Rightarrow x^T A x = \sum_{i,j} \alpha_i^* \underbrace{v_i^T A v_j}_{\lambda_j v_i^T v_j} \alpha_j$$

$$\lambda_j v_i^T v_j = \begin{cases} \lambda_j, & \text{if } i=j \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
$$= \sum_{j=1}^n |\alpha_j|^2 \cdot \lambda_j$$
$$\geq 0 \quad \checkmark$$

$\Leftarrow$ : If  $A \not\geq 0$ , i.e., some eigenvalue  $\lambda < 0$ , let  $\vec{x}$  be a corresponding e-vector.

$$\Rightarrow x^T A x = \lambda x^T x$$
$$= \lambda \|x\|^2$$
$$< 0 \quad \checkmark$$

□

Example 1: For any real matrix  $A$ ,  $A^T A \geq 0$ .

Proof:

$$x^T A^T A x = (Ax)^T (Ax)$$
$$= \|Ax\|^2$$
$$\geq 0$$

$\Rightarrow$  by the theorem,  $A^T A \geq 0$ .  $\checkmark$  □

Example 2: **A simple iterative solver for  $Ax=b$**

Gaussian elimination solves for  $x$  in  $Ax=b$  using  $O(n^3)$  basic operations, when  $A$  is  $n \times n$ .

Goal: Approximately solve  $Ax=b$  faster than G.E.

Assume:  $A \geq 0$  (i.e.  $A^T = A$  and eigenvalues  $\geq 0$ )  
(Otherwise, solve the normal equations  $\underbrace{A^T A}_{\geq 0} x = A^T b$ .)

(Otherwise, solve the normal equations  $\underbrace{A^T A}_{\mathbf{0}} x = A^T b$ .)

### Algorithm:

0. Choose initial guess  $\tilde{x}^0$ , and some  $\alpha > 0$ .

1. Repeat for  $t=1, 2, \dots$ :

$$x^t = x^{t-1} - \alpha \underbrace{(Ax^{t-1} - b)}_{\text{error}}$$

### Complexity:

time  $\sim$  (# of iterations)  $\cdot$   $\left( \begin{array}{l} \text{time for matrix multiplication} \\ = \# \text{ nonzero entries in } A \\ \leq O(n^2) \end{array} \right)$

### Convergence analysis:

Let  $x^*$  solve  $Ax^* = b$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow x^t - x^* &= (I - \alpha A)x^{t-1} + \alpha \underbrace{b}_{Ax^*} - x^* \\ &= (I - \alpha A)x^{t-1} - (I - \alpha A)x^* \\ &= (I - \alpha A)(x^{t-1} - x^*) \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow$  error magnitude

$$\|x^t - x^*\| \leq \|I - \alpha A\| \cdot \|x^{t-1} - x^*\|$$

How should we choose  $\alpha$ ?

If  $A$ 's eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n \geq 0$ , the eigenvalues of  $I - \alpha A$  are  $1 - \alpha\lambda_1 \leq \dots \leq 1 - \alpha\lambda_n$ .

$$\Rightarrow \|I - \alpha A\| = \max_i |1 - \alpha\lambda_i|$$

The maximum is achieved at one of the endpoints,  $i=1$  or  $i=n$ , and to make it as small as possible we should ideally choose  $\alpha$  to equalize them:

$$\begin{aligned} -(1 - \alpha\lambda_1) &= 1 - \alpha\lambda_n \\ \Rightarrow \alpha &= \frac{2}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_n} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \|I - \alpha A\| &= 1 - \frac{2\lambda_n}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_n} \leq 1 - \frac{\lambda_n}{\lambda_1} \\ &\leq 1 - \frac{1}{\kappa} \end{aligned}$$

$\kappa$  condition number

$$\begin{aligned}
\Rightarrow \|x^t - x^*\| &\leq \|I - \alpha A\|^t \cdot \|x^0 - x^*\| \\
&\leq \left(1 - \frac{1}{\kappa}\right)^t \cdot \|x^0 - x^*\| \\
\Rightarrow t &= \kappa \left( \log \frac{1}{\varepsilon} + \log \frac{1}{\|x^0 - x^*\|} \right) \quad \text{since } \left(1 - \frac{1}{\kappa}\right)^k \leq e^{-1} \\
&\text{ensures } \|x^t - x^*\| \leq \varepsilon.
\end{aligned}$$

Remark: The **conjugate gradient algorithm** has  $O(\sqrt{\kappa})$  dependence instead of  $O(\kappa)$  dependence, but this is simpler!

Note:  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  might be an even better example of clever diagonalization

- normal