

# Announcements

- 1) We're covering sections 6.3 - 6.6 in text.

## Definitions:

1)  $U \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$  is said to be

unitary

if  $U^* U = U U^* = I_n$

2)  $A \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$  is said to be

self-adjoint

if  $A = A^*$

# Example 1:

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\left( \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

$$= -\frac{i}{2} + \frac{i}{2} = 0$$

$\Rightarrow U$  is unitary

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & \pi + i \\ \pi - i & -6 \end{pmatrix}$$

is self-adjoint

(the diagonal must  
be real)

# Proposition: (eigenvalues)

a) If  $U \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$  is unitary and  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $U$ , then

$$|\lambda| = 1$$

b) If  $A \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$  is self-adjoint and  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue, then

$$\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$$

proof: a) Let  $\lambda$  be an eigenvalue for  $U$  and let  $x \in \mathbb{C}^n$  be an eigenvector.

$$\|x\|_2^2 = \langle x, x \rangle$$

$$= \langle I_n x, x \rangle$$

$$= \langle U^* U x, x \rangle \text{ (} U \text{ unitary)}$$

$$= \langle Ux, Ux \rangle$$

$$= \langle \lambda x, \lambda x \rangle = |\lambda|^2 \|x\|_2^2$$

Then since  $x \neq 0$ ,  
dividing by  $\|x\|_2^2$   
gives  $|\lambda|^2 = 1$

$$\Rightarrow |\lambda| = 1.$$

b) Let  $\gamma$  be an eigenvalue  
for  $A$ . Let  $x$  be an  
eigenvector associated  
to  $\gamma$ .

Then

$$\gamma \|x\|_2^2$$

$$= \gamma \langle x, x \rangle$$

$$= \langle \gamma x, x \rangle$$

$$= \langle Ax, x \rangle$$

$$= \langle x, A^* x \rangle$$

$$= \langle x, Ax \rangle \text{ (since } A \text{ self-adjoint)}$$

$$= \langle x, \gamma x \rangle$$

$$= \bar{\gamma} \langle x, x \rangle = \bar{\gamma} \|x\|_2^2$$



Since  $x \neq 0$ , dividing  
by  $\|x\|_2^2$  gives

$$\boxed{\gamma = \overline{\gamma}} \quad \text{and so}$$

$\gamma$  is real. □

Analogy:  $(\mathbb{C})$

Normal Matrix  $\sim$  Complex Number

Self-Adjoint Matrix  $\sim$  Real Number

Unitary Matrix  $\sim$  Complex number  
of modulus 1.

# Orthogonal Projections

Recall that if

$\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  is an

orthonormal (really only need  
orthogonal) basis for

$\mathbb{C}^n$ , we can define an

orthogonal projection onto

$$W = \text{span} \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k\}$$

by,  $\forall x \in \mathbb{C}^n$ ,

$$P_X = \sum_{i=1}^k \langle x, x_i \rangle x_i$$

By Gram-Schmidt, every orthogonal projection onto a subspace  $W$  arises in such a manner.

If  $1 \leq i \leq k$ ,

$$\underline{Px_i = x_i}.$$

If  $k < i \leq n$ , then

$$\underline{Px_i = 0}$$

Then  $P$  has only two

eigenvalues:  $\lambda_0 = 0$  (multiplicity

$n-k$ ) and  $\lambda_1 = 1$  (multiplicity

$k$ ).

Then since  $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n$  is  
an orthonormal basis of  
eigenvectors of  $P$ ,

$P$  is unitarily diagonalizable:

$$P = U D U^*$$

Where  $U$  is unitary and  
 $D$  is diagonal with only  
zeros and ones on the diagonal.

Then

$$P^* = (U D U^*)^*$$

$$= U D^* U^*$$

$$= U D U^* \quad (D \text{ real})$$

$$= P.$$

Moreover,

$$P^2 = (UDU^*)(UDU^*)$$

$$= UD(U^*U)DU^*$$

$$= UDI_nDU^*$$

$$= UD^2U^*$$

$$= UDU^* \text{ (since all entries of } D \text{ are either zero or one)}$$

$$= P$$



This is a complete  
characterization of  
orthogonal projections:

$P \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$  is an  
orthogonal projection  
if and only if

$$P = P^2 = P^*$$

## End of the Class :

What can we say for  
any matrix? Don't  
want to assume  
special properties.

We already know  
not every  $A \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$   
is diagonalizable.

Theorem: Let  $A \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$ .

Then  $\exists$  unitary matrix

$U \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$  and an

upper-triangular matrix

$T \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$  with

$$A = U T U^*$$

Proof: (idea)

The proof is by induction.

$n=1$  is trivial.

Assume the result is true for  $k = n-1$ .

Let  $\lambda$  be an eigenvalue for  $A^*$ ; let  $x$  be an associated eigenvector.

Suppose  $\|x\|_2 = 1$ .

Let  $y \in \{x\}^\perp$ .

Claim:  $Ay \in \{x\}^\perp$ .

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle x, Ay \rangle \\ &= \langle A^*x, y \rangle \\ &= \langle \lambda x, y \rangle \\ &= \lambda \langle x, y \rangle \\ &= 0 \quad \text{since } y \in \{x\}^\perp. \end{aligned}$$

Then  $A(\{x\}^\perp) \subseteq \{x\}^\perp$ ;

and  $\{x\}^\perp$  has complex dimension  $(n-1)$ .

Idea: Apply induction

to  $A|_{\{x\}^\perp}$  and

obtain a basis  $\{x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}\}$

of  $\{x\}^\perp$  such that "A is upper triangular with respect to  $\{x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}\}$ ".

We can choose

$\{x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}\}$  to be  
orthonormal.

Then, with respect  
to the basis

$$B = \{x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}\} \cup \{x\},$$

$A$  is upper triangular.