

# Lecture 29



Matrix powers w/  
Complex eigenvalues II.

Warm Up:

Find a (complex) eigenbasis  
for

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

① Find char. poly

② Find roots (eigenvalues)

③ For each eigenvalue find eigenspace + a basis.

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①  $(1-t)(4-t) + 6$   
 $= t^2 - 5t + 10.$

②  $\frac{5 \pm \sqrt{25-40}}{2} = \frac{1}{2} (5 \pm i\sqrt{15}).$

③ For each  $\lambda$  we have  
to row reduce  $A - \lambda I$ .

$$A - \lambda I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \lambda & 2 \\ -3 & 4 - \lambda \end{bmatrix}.$$

Rank 2       $\ker(A - \lambda I) = \{0\}$ .  
No eigenvectors  
(bad).

Know that there are eigenvectors

Rank  $< 2$ .

2nd row some multiple of  
1st.

$$A - \lambda I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \lambda & 2 \\ -3 & 4 - \lambda \end{bmatrix}$$

row  
 $\Rightarrow$   
reduce

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

Span

$\downarrow$

$$\text{Ker}(A - \lambda I) = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ \lambda - 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}.$$

$$\lambda_1 = \frac{1}{2} (5 + i\sqrt{15})$$

$$v_1 = 2 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ \frac{1}{2} (3 + i\sqrt{15}) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 + i\sqrt{15} \end{bmatrix}$$

eigenvalue  
w/  
eigenvector  
1.

$$\lambda_2 = \frac{1}{2} (5 - i\sqrt{15})$$

$$v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 - i\sqrt{15} \end{bmatrix}.$$

$v_1, v_2$   
eigenbasis.

□

The "actual"  
lecture began  
here.

Important thm (from last time):

Two diagonalizable matrices

$A$  and  $B$  are similar

(i.e.  $A = SBS^{-1}$  with

$S$  real entries)

if and only if  $A$  and  $B$

have the same set of complex eigenvalues (counting multiplicity).

Equivalently:

$$A \sim B \iff P_A(t) = P_B(t)$$

( $A$  is similar to  $B$ )



Warning! This is not true  
w/o diagonalizable assumption

Example:  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

$$P_A(t) = t^2$$

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P_B(t) = t^2. \quad A \neq B$$

Why?

$$SBS^{-1} = \text{Zero matrix} \neq A. \\ (\text{for any } S)$$

Why is this the case? If

A and B have real eigenvalues,

$$\textcircled{1} A = S_1 D S_1^{-1}$$

$$\textcircled{2} B = S_2 D S_2^{-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow D = S_2^{-1} B S_2$$

Plug in for D in  $\textcircled{1}$  using

$\textcircled{2}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} A &= S_1 (S_2^{-1} B S_2) S_1^{-1} \\ &= (S_1 S_2^{-1}) B (S_2 S_1^{-1}). \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{If } S = S_1 S_2^{-1} \text{ then } S^{-1} = S_2 S_1^{-1}$$

So

$$A = SBS^{-1} \quad \checkmark$$

If  $A$  and  $B$  have  
complex entries there  
is a choice of  $S_1, S_2$   
such that  $S_1 S_2^{-1}$   
has real entries.  $\square$ .

Today, I'll focus on  
the  $2 \times 2$  case

of this thru end

Show/ find the  
matrix  $S$  such that

$$A = S B S^{-1}$$

when  $A, B$  have

complex eigenvalues.

# Finding $S$ when $A$ has complex eigenvalues.

Consider:

$A$

$2 \times 2$  matrix  
with real  
entries

$\lambda = x + iy$

Complex  
(non-real)  
eigenvalue

$v + iw$

eigenvector  
w/  
eigenvalue  
 $\lambda$

e.g.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{2}(5 + i\sqrt{15})$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 + i\sqrt{15} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + i \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \sqrt{15} \end{bmatrix}$$

Observe:

$$\textcircled{1} \quad A(\vec{v} + i\vec{w}) = \underbrace{A\vec{v}}_{\mathbb{R}^2 \text{ (real part)}} + i \underbrace{A\vec{w}}_{i\mathbb{R}^2 \text{ (imag.)}}$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad A(\vec{v} + i\vec{w}) = (x + iy)(\vec{v} + i\vec{w})$$

$$= x\vec{v} - y\vec{w} + iy\vec{v} + ix\vec{w}.$$

$$= \underbrace{(x\vec{v} - y\vec{w})}_{\text{real}} + i \underbrace{(y\vec{v} + x\vec{w})}_{\text{imaginary}}.$$

Equating real <sup>and</sup> imaginary parts we get a pair of equations.

$$\begin{matrix} \text{(real)} \\ \text{(part)} \end{matrix} A\vec{v} = x\vec{v} - y\vec{w}$$

$$\begin{matrix} \text{(im)} \\ \text{(part)} \end{matrix} A\vec{w} = y\vec{v} + x\vec{w}.$$

So, In  $(\vec{w}, \vec{v}) = \beta$  coordinates

$$[A]_{\beta} = \begin{bmatrix} x & -y \\ y & x \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$\begin{matrix} x = r \cos \theta \\ y = r \sin \theta \end{matrix} = r \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

Point: A in  $(\vec{w}, \vec{v})$ -coordinates  
is a rotation + scaling  
matrix.

Equivalently:

if  $S = \begin{bmatrix} w & v \\ i & i \end{bmatrix}$  then

$$A = S \begin{pmatrix} x & -y \\ y & x \end{pmatrix} S^{-1}.$$

Then: let  $A$  be a  $2 \times 2$  matrix with eigenvalues  $x \pm iy$ . If  $v + iw$  is an eigenvector with eigenvalue  $x + iy$  then

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} w & v \\ i & i \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x & -y \\ y & x \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} w & v \\ i & i \end{bmatrix}^{-1}$$

(rotation + scaling)



Problem: let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Find a matrix  $S$  and  
a rotation and scaling matrix

$$B = r \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

Such that  $A = SBS^{-1}$ .

Solution:

- $B$  is determined by ~~one~~ a choice of one of the eigenvalues of

$A$ . Choose one.

(I always choose the one with  $y > 0$ ).

$$\frac{1}{2}(5 + i\sqrt{15}) = A = x + iy$$

$$= r(\cos\theta + i\sin\theta).$$

$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{25}{4} + \frac{15}{4}}$$

$$= \sqrt{10}.$$

Remark: Another way to find

$$r = \sqrt{\det(A)} = \sqrt{10}.$$

$$\det(A) = \det(B) = \det(rI).$$

$$\det(\text{rotation}) = 1 = r^2$$

$$\Theta = \text{Arccos}\left(\frac{x}{r}\right)$$

$$= \text{Arccos}\left(\frac{5}{2\sqrt{10}}\right)$$

$$\approx 37.76^\circ$$

$$B = \sqrt{10} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{5}{2\sqrt{10}} & -\frac{\sqrt{13}}{2\sqrt{10}} \\ \frac{\sqrt{13}}{2\sqrt{10}} & \frac{5}{2\sqrt{10}} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\approx \sqrt{10} \begin{bmatrix} \cos(38) & -\sin(38) \\ \sin(38) & \cos(38) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A = x + iy$$

$$\text{Eigenvector } v + iw = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + i \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \sqrt{15} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} i & -i \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 4 \\ \sqrt{15} & 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$A = S B S^{-1}. \quad \square.$$

Exercise: Do vectors spiral  
clockwise or  
counterclockwise  
under  $A$ ?