

1. For each of the following statements, determine whether it is always, sometimes or never true.

(a) The matrix of orthogonal projection onto a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is symmetric.

Always

If  $Q$  is the  $m \times n$  whose columns are an orthonormal basis of the subspace, then orthogonal projection onto the subspace has matrix  $QQ^T$ . And  $(QQ^T)^T = (Q^T)^T Q^T = QQ^T$ .

Another argument: let  $\vec{v}_1 \dots \vec{v}_k$  be an orthonormal basis of the subspace and let  $\vec{v}_{k+1} \dots \vec{v}_n$  be an orthonormal basis of its orthogonal complement. Then  $\vec{v}_1 \dots \vec{v}_n$  is an o.n. basis of eigenvectors!

(b) Let  $a, b$  and  $c$  be real numbers. Then  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & a & b \\ -a & 1 & c \\ -b & -c & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  is orthogonally diagonalisable.

Sometimes

• True if  $a=b=c=0 \Rightarrow$  the matrix is  $I_3$  which is evidently orthogonally diagonalisable.

• False if  $a=b=c=1 \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}^T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

$\Rightarrow$  the  $m \times n$  is not symmetric  $\Rightarrow$  it's not orthogonally diagonalisable.

(c) Let  $A$  be a symmetric matrix. Then  $A$  is invertible.

Sometimes

• True when  $A = I_2 \Rightarrow A^{-1} = I_2 = A^T = A$

• False when  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

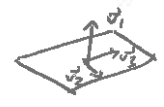
$\Rightarrow A^T = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = A$  but  $A$  is not invertible.

- (d) Let  $A$  be a matrix such that if  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  are eigenvectors of  $A$  with distinct eigenvalues, then  $\vec{v}$  is perpendicular to  $\vec{w}$ . Then  $A$  is orthogonally diagonalisable.

Sometimes True when  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$ , then the eigenspaces of  $A$  are  $E_1 = \text{span}\{\vec{e}_1\}$ ,  $E_2 = \text{span}\{\vec{e}_2\}$ ,  $E_3 = \text{span}\{\vec{e}_3\}$   
 $\Rightarrow \vec{e}_1, \vec{e}_2, \vec{e}_3$  is an o.n. basis of eigenvectors.

False when  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ , then  $A$  is not diagonalisable since  $GM(1) = 2$  but  $A - I = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow GM(1) = 1 < 2$ .  
 But  $E_1 = \text{span}\{\vec{e}_1\} \perp E_2 = \text{span}\{\vec{e}_3\}$  so any distinct e.vals have perpendicular eigenvectors.

- (e) Let  $A$  be the matrix of the transformation  $T: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  defined by rotation by  $\theta$  radians about the line spanned by  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ , where  $0 < \theta < \pi$ . Then  $A$  is symmetric.

Never Let  $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$  & let  $\vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3$  be orthogonal vectors in the plane perp. to  $\vec{v}_1$ , as in:  
 Then  $A$  is similar to  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos\theta & -\sin\theta \\ 0 & \sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{pmatrix}$    
 (this is the mx of  $A$  w.r.t. the basis  $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3$ ).

$$\Rightarrow f_A(\lambda) = (\lambda - 1)(\lambda^2 - 2\cos\theta + 1)$$

$$\text{But } (2\cos\theta)^2 - 4 \times 1 \times 1 = 4(\cos^2\theta - 1) < 0$$

since  $|\cos\theta| < 1$  for  $0 < \theta < \pi$

$\Rightarrow f_A(\lambda)$  can't be completely factorised

$\Rightarrow A$  is not diagonalisable

$\Rightarrow A$  is not symmetric.

2. Find an orthogonal matrix  $S$  such that  $S^T A S$  is diagonal, where  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 3 \\ 3 & -4 \end{pmatrix}$ .

$$f_A(\lambda) = \lambda^2 - 0 \cdot \lambda + (-16 - 9) = \lambda^2 - 25 = (\lambda - 5)(\lambda + 5)$$

$$\bullet A - 5I = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 3 \\ 3 & -9 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow E_5 = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

$$\bullet A + 5I = \begin{pmatrix} 9 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow E_{-5} = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{10}} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{10}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$  is an orthonormal basis of eigenvectors of  $A$ .

$\Rightarrow S$  is orthogonal, where  $S = \frac{1}{\sqrt{10}} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 1 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$

and  $S^T A S = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 0 & -5 \end{pmatrix}$  is diagonal.

Rephrased  
in actual  
handout.

3. Let  $A$  be a non-identity, symmetric, orthogonal  $2 \times 2$  matrix. Show that  $A$  is a reflection matrix, that is  $A$  is of the form  $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ b & -a \end{pmatrix}$  where  $a^2 + b^2 = 1$ .

$$\text{Let } A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}. \text{ Then } A^T = \begin{pmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} = A$$

$$\therefore A \text{ is symmetric} \Rightarrow b = c \text{ and } A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ b & d \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A \text{ is orthogonal} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} a^2 + b^2 = 1 \\ b^2 + d^2 = 1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow a^2 - d^2 = 0 \Rightarrow d = \pm a$$

$$\text{So } A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ b & \pm a \end{pmatrix} \text{ where } a^2 + b^2 = 1.$$

$$\text{And } \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} b \\ \pm a \end{pmatrix} = 0. \text{ If } \neq, \text{ then } 2ab = 0 \Rightarrow \text{either } a = 0 (\Rightarrow a = -a) \text{ or } b = 0 (\Rightarrow a = \pm 1)$$

$$\Rightarrow A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ or } \pm I_2$$

$$\text{If } =, \text{ then } \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} b \\ -a \end{pmatrix} = ab - ba = 0$$

So we're done.

$$\Rightarrow A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ b & -a \end{pmatrix}.$$

4. Let  $k$  be a real number. Find an orthonormal basis of eigenvectors of the transformation  $T: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  defined by  $T(\vec{x}) = A\vec{x}$ , where  $A$  is the  $3 \times 3$  matrix defined in terms of  $k$  by

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} k & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & k & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & k \end{pmatrix}$$

Note  $\begin{vmatrix} a & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & a & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & a \end{vmatrix} = a(a^2-1) - (a-1) + (1-a)$

$$= (a-1)[a(a+1) - 1 + (-1)]$$

$$= (a-1)(a^2+a-2)$$

$$= (a-1)^2(a+2)$$

so  $f_A(\lambda) = \begin{vmatrix} k-\lambda & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & k-\lambda & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & k-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = (k-\lambda-1)^2(k-\lambda+2)$

$\Rightarrow$  the eigenvalues of  $A$  are  $k-1$  ( $AM=2$ ) and  $k+2$  ( $AM=1$ ).

•  $\lambda = k-1$   $A - (k-1)I = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{rref}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$\Rightarrow E_{k-1}$  has basis  $\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

Gram-Schmidt:  $\vec{u}_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$\vec{u}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} - \frac{1}{2} \left( \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}}_{=1} \right) \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} - \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$

$\Rightarrow \vec{u}_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$

•  $\lambda = k+2$   $A - (k+2)I = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$

Observe that  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  is in the kernel  $\because -2+1+1=0$

$\Rightarrow \vec{u}_3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

So  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  is an orthonormal eigebasis

of  $A$ . (Curiously, the eigebasis is independent of  $k$ !)