

MATH 2121 - Lecture #22

For webwork : use $\text{sqrt}(x)$ instead of $x^{0.5}$

Today:

- ① Review of Least-squares solutions
(new: line of best fit)
- ② Symmetric matrices and their eigenvalues

1 Last time: least-squares problems Want to solve $Ax=b$



Definition. If A is an $m \times n$ matrix and $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$ then $A^\top Ax = A^\top b$ is consistent.

A solution to $A^\top Ax = A^\top b$ is called a least-squares solution to the equation $Ax = b$.

Let $\|v\| = \sqrt{v_1^2 + v_2^2 + \cdots + v_n^2} \geq 0$ for $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$. Recall $\|v\| = 0$ if and only if $v = 0$.

Fact. A vector $s \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is a least-squares solution to $Ax = b$ if and only if

$$\|b - As\| \leq \|b - Ax\| \quad \text{for all } x.$$

The linear system $Ax = b$ is consistent if and only if $\|b - Ax\| = 0$ for some $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

If $Ax = b$ is consistent then all least-squares solutions s have $\|b - As\| = 0$ so $As = b$. ←

If $Ax = b$ is inconsistent, still at least one least-squares solution s , but $\|b - As\| > 0$.

a LS solution to $Ax=b$ is a vector $s \in \mathbb{R}^n$
that minimizes the distance $\|b - As\|$

Picture of a least-squares solution to $Ax=b$ ^{when system is inconsistent} (inconsistent)

LS solutions to $Ax=b$

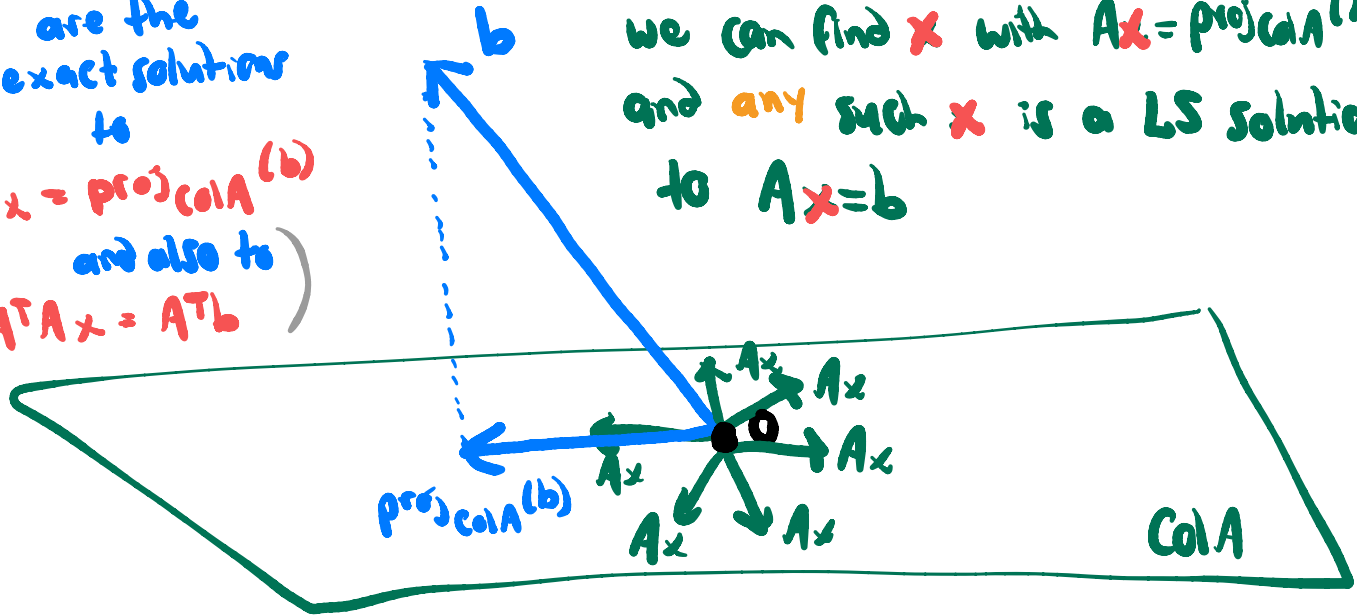
are the exact solutions to

$$Ax = \text{proj}_{\text{Col}A}(b)$$

and also to

$$A^T A x = A^T b$$

because $\text{proj}_{\text{Col}A}(b) \in \text{Col}A$,
we can find x with $Ax = \text{proj}_{\text{Col}A}(b)$
and any such x is a LS solution
to $Ax=b$




no vector Ax is equal to b so best we can do is find
 x such that Ax is as close to b as possible

Theorem. Let A be an $m \times n$ matrix. The following properties are equivalent:

- (a) $Ax = b$ has a unique least-squares solution for each $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$.
- (b) The columns of A are linearly independent.
- (c) $A^T A$ is invertible.


$$A^T A x = A^T b$$

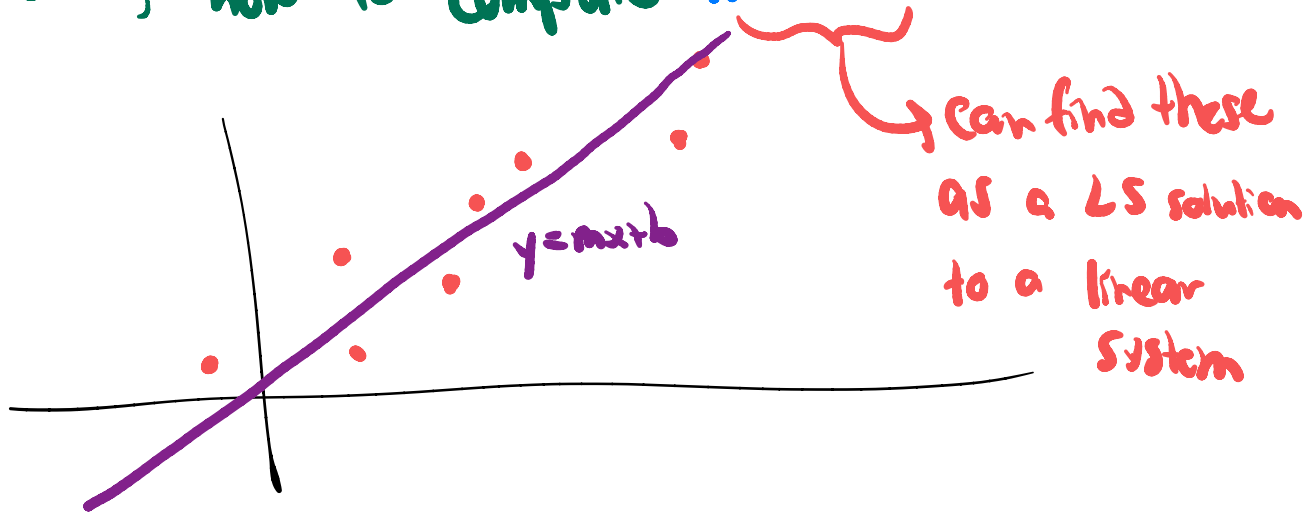


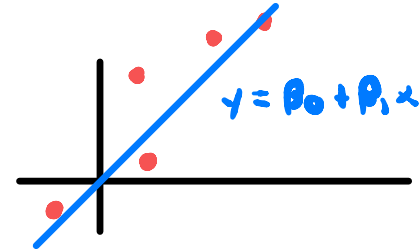
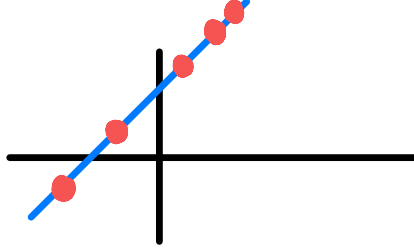
given by

$$x = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T b$$

New application: computing line of best fit

if you have some datapoints and you want to fit a line $y = mx + b$ to approximate the data, how to compute m and b ?





Example (Lines of best fit). Suppose we have n data points $(a_1, b_1), (a_2, b_2), \dots, (a_n, b_n)$.

Want to find $\beta_0, \beta_1 \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x$ is the line of best fit for this data.

If our points are all on the same line, then for some $\begin{bmatrix} \beta_0 \\ \beta_1 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^2$ we would have

Can solve $\rightarrow b_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 a_i$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, **(a linear system)**

meaning that $x = \begin{bmatrix} \beta_0 \\ \beta_1 \end{bmatrix}$ is an exact solution to the linear system $Ax = b$ where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & a_1 \\ 1 & a_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & a_n \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad b = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_n \end{bmatrix}$$

If the given points are not on the same line, then no exact solution to $Ax = b$ exists, and we should instead try to find a **least-squares solution** to the system.

$$A \begin{bmatrix} \beta_0 \\ \beta_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \beta_0 + \beta_1 a_1 \\ \beta_0 + \beta_1 a_2 \\ \beta_0 + \beta_1 a_3 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

want to find β_0, β_1 such that
 $y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x$ is close to these pts

To be concrete, suppose we have four points $(2, 1), (5, 2), (7, 3),$ and $(8, 3)$ so that

① Form: $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 5 \\ 1 & 7 \\ 1 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$ and $b = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$. $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 \\ 1 & x_2 \\ 1 & x_3 \\ 1 & x_4 \end{bmatrix}$ $b = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \\ y_4 \end{bmatrix}$

The least-squares solutions to $Ax = b$ are the exact solutions to $A^T Ax = A^T b$.

② $A^T A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 5 & 7 & 8 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 5 \\ 1 & 7 \\ 1 & 8 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 22 \\ 22 & 142 \end{bmatrix}$ and $A^T b = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 5 & 7 & 8 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 9 \\ 57 \end{bmatrix}$.
 2×2

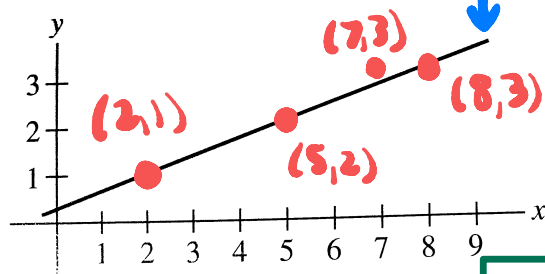
The matrix $A^T A$ is invertible. So a least-squares solution is

$$\begin{bmatrix} \beta_0 \\ \beta_1 \end{bmatrix} = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T b = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 22 \\ 22 & 142 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 9 \\ 57 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{84} \begin{bmatrix} 142 & -22 \\ -22 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 9 \\ 57 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2/7 \\ 5/14 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y\text{-intercept} \\ \text{slope} \end{bmatrix}$$

③ Solve $A^T A x = A^T b \rightsquigarrow x = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T b$ $\begin{bmatrix} \beta_0 \\ \beta_1 \end{bmatrix}$

From prev slide:

Thus our line of best fit for the data is $y = \frac{2}{7} + \frac{5}{14}x$:



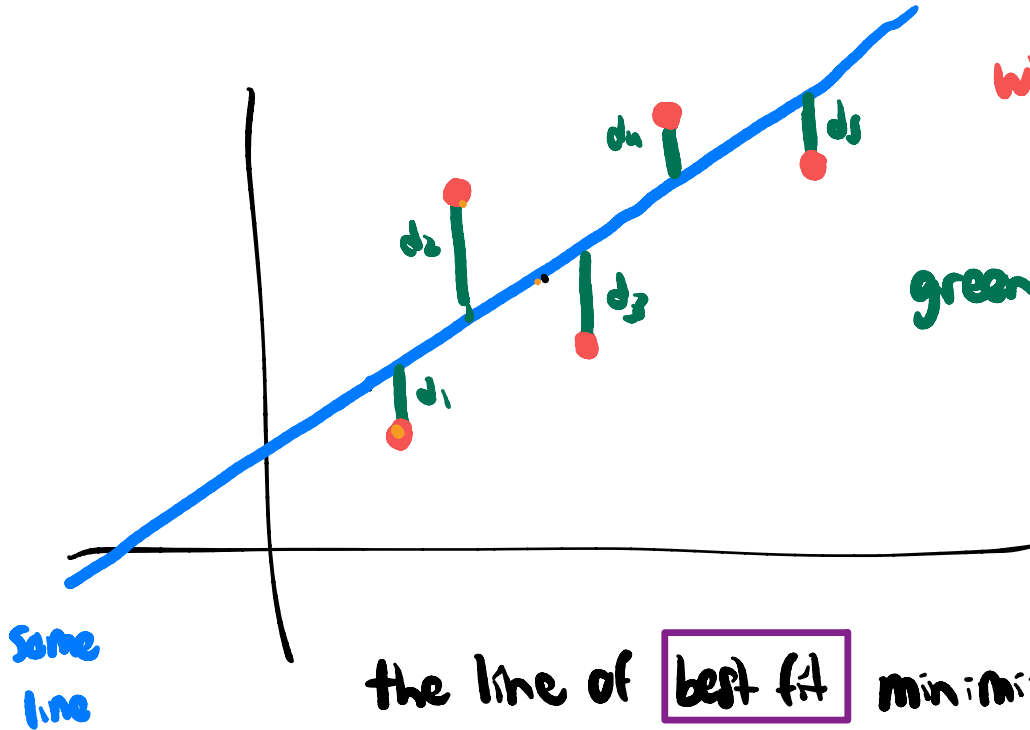
Fix $d \geq 1$

$$\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i + \beta_2 x_i^2 + \dots + \beta_d x_i^d = y_i$$

The process to find a "polynomial of best fit" for some datapoints $(x_1, y_1) \dots (x_n, y_n)$ is similar (just will involve more variables)

Question: what does our defn of line of best fit optimize?

what does "best" mean?



green lines = vertical distances from points to line

the line of best fit minimizes this sum:

error measurement $\rightarrow \sum_i (d_i)^2 \geq 0$

when this sum is small, the line is a good fit

2 Symmetric matrices

A matrix A is *symmetric* if $A^T = A$.

This happens if A is square and $A_{ij} = A_{ji}$ for all i, j .

Goal today: these matrices
have a different
characterization in terms
of diagonalization

* Example. $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 5 & 8 \\ 0 & 8 & -7 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \\ b & d & e \\ c & e & f \end{bmatrix}$ are symmetric.

$$A = PDP^T$$

(D diag)

$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 \\ 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -4 & 0 \\ -6 & 1 & -4 \\ 6 & -6 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$ are not symmetric.

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}^T = \begin{bmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{bmatrix}$$

Proposition. If A is symmetric and $k \in \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ then A^k is also symmetric.

Proof. If $A = A^\top$ then $(A^k)^\top = (AA \cdots A)^\top = A^\top \cdots A^\top A^\top = (A^\top)^k = A^k$. \square

Proposition. If A is an invertible symmetric matrix then A^{-1} is also symmetric.

Proof. This is because $(A^{-1})^\top = (A^\top)^{-1}$. \square

* powers and inverses preserve (transpose) Symmetry

Fact If A is any matrix, not nec. square,
then $A^\top A$ is symmetric: $(A^\top A)^\top = A^\top (A^\top)^\top = A^\top A$

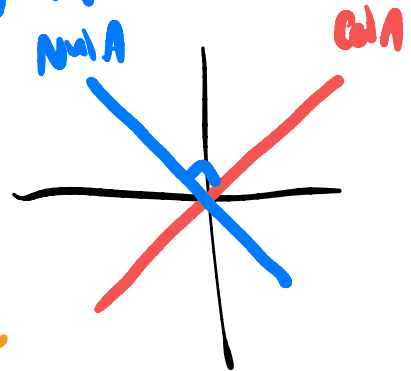
What else do we know? always true true when $A^T = A$

if $A = A^T$ then $\text{Col}(A)^\perp = \text{Null}(A^T) = \text{Null}(A)$

So the column space and nullspace of
symmetric matrices are orthogonal

Ex If $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ b & c \end{bmatrix}$ has rank 1 then

so $\text{Col } A$ is a line
($\dim(\text{Col } A) = 1$)



Illustrate eigenvector/value properties of $A = A^T$ by example:

Recall how we can diagonalize a matrix.

Example. Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & -2 & -1 \\ -2 & 6 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 5 \end{bmatrix} = A^T$

all real eigenvalues

* Then $\det(A - xI) = (8 - x)(6 - x)(3 - x)$ so the eigenvalues of A are 8, 6, and 3.

By constructing bases for the null spaces of $A - 8I$, $A - 5I$, and $A - 3I$, we find that the following are eigenvectors of A :

$$v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ with eigenvalue 8.} \quad v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \text{ with eigenvalue 6.}$$

$$v_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ with eigenvalue 3.}$$

* Observe v_1, v_2, v_3 are Orthogonal!

These eigenvectors are actually an orthogonal basis for \mathbb{R}^3 .

→ Nontrivial to find, easy to check: $Av_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -6+2-2 \\ 2-6-2 \\ 1+1+10 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -6 \\ -6 \\ 12 \end{bmatrix} = 6v_2$

Converting these vectors to unit vectors gives an orthonormal basis of eigenvectors



$$u_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad u_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1/\sqrt{6} \\ -1/\sqrt{6} \\ 2/\sqrt{6} \end{bmatrix}, \quad u_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{3} \\ 1/\sqrt{3} \\ 1/\sqrt{3} \end{bmatrix}.$$

As usual we then have $A = PDP^{-1}$ where

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 & u_2 & u_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} 8 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Since the columns of P are orthonormal, we actually have $P^T = P^{-1}$ so $A = PDP^T$.

The special properties in this example turn out to hold for all symmetric matrices.

because u_1, u_2, u_3 are orthonormal

$$P^{-1} = [u_1 \ u_2 \ u_3]^T = P^T = \begin{bmatrix} u_1^T \\ u_2^T \\ u_3^T \end{bmatrix}$$

P is an
orthogonal
matrix

In this example: $A = A^T$ has all real eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n \in \mathbb{R}$

and we can find an orthogonal matrix P
(with $P^{-1} = P^T$)

such that $A = P D P^{-1} = P D P^T$



$D = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n)$

We'll say: " $A = A^T$ is orthogonally diagonalizable"

$$\curvearrowright A = A^T$$

if $Av = \lambda v$ then $v \cdot w = 0$
 $Aw = \mu w$
 $\lambda \neq \mu$

Theorem. Suppose A is a symmetric matrix.

Then any two eigenvectors from different eigenspaces of A are orthogonal.

So if $A = A^T$ is $n \times n$ and $u, v \in \mathbb{R}^n$ are such that

$$Au = au \quad Av = bv \quad \text{for numbers } a \neq b,$$

then $u \bullet v = 0$.

symmetry is used here

(But if u, v are eigenvectors of A with **same** eigenvalue then could have $u \bullet v \neq 0$.)

Proof. Let u and v be eigenvectors of A with eigenvalues a and b , where $a \neq b$.

$$\text{Then } au \bullet v = Au \bullet v = (Au)^T v = u^T A^T v = u^T Av = u \bullet Av = u \bullet bv.$$

But $au \bullet v = a(u \bullet v)$ and $u \bullet bv = b(u \bullet v)$, so $a(u \bullet v) = b(u \bullet v)$, thus $(a - b)(u \bullet v) = 0$.

Since $a - b \neq 0$, it follows that $u \bullet v = 0$. □

pf idea:

$$u^T Av$$

is both

$$\begin{cases} a(u \cdot v) \\ b(u \cdot v) \end{cases}$$

if $a \neq b$, then
 these can only
 be equal if $u \cdot v = 0$

Recall that a matrix P is orthogonal if P is invertible and $P^{-1} = P^{\top}$.

Definition. A matrix A is orthogonally diagonalizable if there is an orthogonal matrix P and a diagonal matrix D such that $A = PDP^{-1} = PDP^{\top}$.

When A is orthogonally diagonalizable and $A = PDP^{-1} = PDP^{\top}$, the diagonal entries of D are the eigenvalues of A , and the columns of P are the corresponding eigenvectors; moreover, these eigenvectors form an orthonormal basis of \mathbb{R}^n .

In fact, it follows by the arguments in our earlier lectures about diagonalizable matrices that **an $n \times n$ matrix A is orthogonally diagonalizable if and only if there is an orthonormal basis for \mathbb{R}^n consisting of eigenvectors for A .**

Surprisingly, there is a much more direct characterization:

*** Theorem.** A square matrix A is orthogonally diagonalizable if and only if $A = A^{\top}$.

nontrivial

equivalent

in words: we can find an orthogonal basis of eigenvectors for A iff $A = A^{\top}$

easy direction of Thm orthogonally diagonalizable \Leftrightarrow symmetric




The complete proof of previous theorem is in lecture notes.

We will just note some key parts of the argument.

Proposition. If A is orthogonally diagonalizable then A is symmetric.

Proof. If X, Y, Z are $n \times n$ matrices then $(XYZ)^\top = Z^\top(XY)^\top = Z^\top Y^\top X^\top$.

Suppose $A = PDP^\top$ where D is diagonal. Then $D = D^\top$ and $(P^\top)^\top = P$, so


$$A^\top = (PDP^\top)^\top = (P^\top)^\top D^\top P^\top = PDP^\top = A.$$


$$= P$$


$= D$ as D is diagonal

□

$$(\bar{v}^T A v)^T = \bar{v}^T A^T (v^T)^T = \bar{v}^T A v \text{ if } A = A^T$$

→ was a practice problem

Proposition. Suppose A is a symmetric matrix with all real entries. Then all complex eigenvalues of A belong to \mathbb{R} .

Proof. Suppose A is a symmetric $n \times n$ matrix with real entries, so that $A = A^T = \bar{A}$.

Let $v \in \mathbb{C}^n$. Consider $\bar{v}^T A v$. For example, if $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ and $v = \begin{bmatrix} 1+i \\ 1-i \end{bmatrix}$ then

$$\bar{v}^T A v = \begin{bmatrix} 1-i & 1+i \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1+i \\ 1-i \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3+i & 3-i \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1+i \\ 1-i \end{bmatrix} = 4.$$

* The number $\bar{v}^T A v$ always belongs to \mathbb{R} since $\overline{\bar{v}^T A v} = v^T A \bar{v} = (\bar{v}^T A v)^T = \bar{v}^T A v$.

(The last equality holds since both sides are 1×1 matrices, i.e., scalars.)

↑ holds if $A = A^T$

Now suppose $v \in \mathbb{C}^n$ is an eigenvector for A with eigenvalue $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$.

Then $\bar{v}^T A v = \bar{v}^T (\lambda v) = \lambda (\bar{v}^T v) \in \mathbb{R}$. But $\bar{v}^T v \in \mathbb{R}$ so we must also have $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$. \square

$$\bar{v}^T v = \bar{v}^T B v \text{ for } B = I = B^T$$

Thm: If $A = A^T$ then can find P with $P^{-1} = P^T$ and D diagonal with $A = PDP^{-1}$
How?!

To orthogonally diagonalize an $n \times n$ symmetric matrix A , we just need to find an orthogonal basis of eigenvectors v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n for \mathbb{R}^n .

Then $A = UDU^T$ with $U = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 & u_2 & \dots & u_n \end{bmatrix}$ where $u_i = \frac{1}{\|v_i\|}v_i$ and D is the diagonal matrix of the corresponding eigenvalues.

If all eigenspaces of A are 1-dimensional, then any basis of eigenvectors will be orthogonal. If A has an eigenspace of dimension greater than one, then after finding a basis for this eigenspace, it may be necessary to apply the Gram-Schmidt process to convert this basis to one that is orthogonal.

Can either: find basis for 1-eigspace \rightarrow GS \rightarrow take union for all eigspaces

or: find basis for each eigspace \rightarrow take union \rightarrow GS

First: ① find eigenvals λ for $A = A^T$ ② compute for each $\text{Nul}(A - \lambda I)$

③ After finding basis for each $\text{Nul}(A - \lambda I)$

When $A = A^T$, can either do GS process
on each basis, then collect
or

can collect the bases into
one long list and do GS process

(order doesn't matter if $A = A^T$ as
eigenspaces are orthogonal)

an orthogonal diagonalization
 $V = (V^{-1})^T = (V^T)^T \quad (\Leftrightarrow V^{-1} = V^T)$

Corollary. If $A = UDU^T$ where

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 & u_2 & \dots & u_n \end{bmatrix} \text{ has orthonormal columns and } D = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & & \\ & \lambda_2 & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}$$

then $A = \lambda_1 u_1 u_1^T + \lambda_2 u_2 u_2^T + \dots + \lambda_n u_n u_n^T$. ← multiply out $[u_1 \dots u_n] D [u_1 \dots u_n]^T$

Each product $u_i u_i^T$ is an $n \times n$ matrix of **rank 1**.

One calls this expression a *spectral decomposition* of A .

↓
 Practice problem
 rank $M = 1$
 \Updownarrow
 $M = v w^T$

$$\rightarrow A = U \begin{bmatrix} 8 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} U^T$$

Example. Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} 7 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$. A spectral decomposition of A is given by

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2/\sqrt{5} & -1/\sqrt{5} \\ 1/\sqrt{5} & 2/\sqrt{5} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 8 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2/\sqrt{5} & 1/\sqrt{5} \\ -1/\sqrt{5} & 2/\sqrt{5} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= 8 \begin{bmatrix} 2/\sqrt{5} \\ 1/\sqrt{5} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2/\sqrt{5} & 1/\sqrt{5} \end{bmatrix} + 3 \begin{bmatrix} -1/\sqrt{5} \\ 2/\sqrt{5} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1/\sqrt{5} & 2/\sqrt{5} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 32/5 & 16/5 \\ 16/5 & 8/5 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 3/5 & -6/5 \\ -6/5 & 12/5 \end{bmatrix}.$$

