

Let $V = \mathbb{C}^n$ with the standard dot product,

$$\left\langle \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_n \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_n \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{pmatrix} = u_1 \bar{v}_1 + \dots + u_n \bar{v}_n$$

Let $f: V \rightarrow V$ be a linear transformation.

Let $f^*: V \rightarrow V$ be the adjoint linear transformation,

i.e. if $u, v \in V$ then $\langle f(u), v \rangle = \langle u, f^*(v) \rangle$.

Then

(a) f is self adjoint if $f = f^*$,

(b) f is an isometry if $ff^* = I$.

(c) f is normal if $ff^* = f^*f$.

Let A be the matrix of f and

A^* the matrix of f^*

with respect to the favourite basis (e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n)

$$f: V \rightarrow V \\ v \mapsto Av$$

$$\text{and } f^*: V \rightarrow V \\ v \mapsto A^*v$$

Then

$$A^* = \bar{A}^t$$

Then

A is self adjoint, or Hermitian, if $A = A^*$,

A is unitary if $AA^* = I$,

A is normal if $AA^* = A^*A$.

The unitary group is

$$U_n(\mathbb{C}) = \{ A \in M_n(\mathbb{C}) \mid AA^* = I \}$$

There is a bijection

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{ordered orthonormal} \\ \text{bases } (u_1, \dots, u_n) \end{array} \right\} \longrightarrow U_n(\mathbb{C})$$

$$(u_1, \dots, u_n) \longmapsto \begin{pmatrix} | & & & | \\ u_1 & & & u_n \\ | & & & | \end{pmatrix}$$

Proposition Let $A \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$

Let $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ and $V_\lambda = \ker(\lambda - A)$

If $AA^* = A^*A$ then

- (1) V_λ is A -invariant,
- (2) V_λ is A^* -invariant,
- (3) V_λ^\perp is A -invariant,
- (4) V_λ^\perp is A^* -invariant

Theorem (Spectral Theorem)

Let $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ and $V = \mathbb{C}^n$ with the standard dot product.

(a) Let $A \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$ such that $AA^* = A^*A$. Then there exist $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n \in \mathbb{C}$ and a unitary matrix $U \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$ such that

$$U^{-1}AU = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}$$

(b) Let $f: V \rightarrow V$ be a normal linear transformation. Then there exists an orthonormal basis (u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n) of V consisting of eigenvectors of f .

Proof

Proof by induction on n .

Base case $n=1$: $A \in M_1(\mathbb{C})$. So $A = (\lambda_1)$ with $\lambda_1 \in \mathbb{C}$ and $U = (1)$.

Induction step:

Let $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ be a root of $\det(x-A)$.

Let $V_\lambda = \ker(\lambda - A)$, the λ -eigenspace of A .

Since $\det(\lambda - A) = 0$ then $V_\lambda = \ker(\lambda - A) \neq 0$

Let $k = \dim(V_\lambda)$ and let

(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k) be an orthonormal basis of V_λ
(construct it with Gram-Schmidt). Then

(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k) are all eigenvectors of A
of eigenvalue λ .

Since A is normal then V_λ^\perp is A -invariant
and V_λ^\perp is A^* -invariant.

Let $g: V_\lambda^\perp \rightarrow V_\lambda^\perp$ and $g^*: V_\lambda^\perp \rightarrow V_\lambda^\perp$
 $v \mapsto Av$ and $v \mapsto A^*v$

Then $gg^* = g^*g$ and so g is normal.

By induction, there exists an orthonormal
basis (u_{k+1}, \dots, u_n) of eigenvectors of g .

Since (u_{k+1}, \dots, u_n) are eigenvectors of g
they are eigenvectors of A .

Since (u_{k+1}, \dots, u_n) are in V_λ^\perp they are
orthogonal to (u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k) .

So $(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k, u_{k+1}, \dots, u_n)$ is an orthonormal basis of eigenvectors of $V = V_\lambda \oplus V_\lambda^\perp$. \parallel

Corollary If A is unitary then the eigenvalues of A have absolute value 1.

Proof Assume A is unitary.

Then $AA^* = I = A^*A$ and A is normal.

$$\text{Let } D = U^{-1}AU = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} DD^* &= (U^{-1}AU)(U^{-1}AU)^* = (U^{-1}AU)(U^*A^*U) \\ &= U^{-1}AA^*U = U^{-1}U = I. \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } \lambda_i \bar{\lambda}_i = 1.$$

$$\text{So } |\lambda_i|^2 = 1.$$

$$\text{So } |\lambda_i| = 1. \parallel$$