#### Introduction to Linear Algebra

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LSSU Math 305

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#### Eigenvectors and Eigenvalues

- Eigenvectors and Eigenvalues
- The Characteristic Equation
- Diagonalization
- Eigenvectors and Linear Transformations

#### Subsection 1

#### Eigenvectors and Eigenvalues

• Let 
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -2 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
,  $\boldsymbol{u} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\boldsymbol{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

• The images of **u** and **v** under multiplication by A are shown in the figure



- In fact, Av is just 2v.
- So A only "stretches", or dilates, v.

## Eigenvectors and Eigenvalues

#### Definition

An **eigenvector** of an  $n \times n$  matrix A is a nonzero vector  $\mathbf{x}$  such that  $A\mathbf{x} = \lambda \mathbf{x}$  for some scalar  $\lambda$ . A scalar  $\lambda$  is called an **eigenvalue** of A if there is a nontrivial solution  $\mathbf{x}$  of  $A\mathbf{x} = \lambda \mathbf{x}$ ; such an  $\mathbf{x}$  is called an **eigenvector corresponding to**  $\lambda$ .

Example: Let 
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 6 \\ 5 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$
,  $\boldsymbol{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\boldsymbol{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$ .  
Are  $\boldsymbol{u}$  and  $\boldsymbol{v}$  eigenvectors of  $A$ ?

$$A\boldsymbol{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 6\\ 5 & 2\\ \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 6\\ -5\\ \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -24\\ 20\\ \end{bmatrix} = -4\begin{bmatrix} 6\\ -5\\ \end{bmatrix} = -4\boldsymbol{u},$$
$$A\boldsymbol{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 6\\ 5 & 2\\ \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3\\ -2\\ \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -9\\ 11\\ \end{bmatrix} \neq \lambda \begin{bmatrix} 3\\ -2\\ \end{bmatrix}.$$

Thus  $\boldsymbol{u}$  is an eigenvector corresponding to an eigenvalue -4, but  $\boldsymbol{v}$  is not an eigenvector of A.

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- Show that 7 is an eigenvalue of matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 6 \\ 5 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$  and find the corresponding eigenvectors.
- The scalar 7 is an eigenvalue of A if and only if the equation  $A\mathbf{x} = 7\mathbf{x}$  has a nontrivial solution.

This is equivalent to  $A\mathbf{x} - 7\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ , or  $(A - 7I)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ .

To solve this homogeneous equation, form the matrix

$$A-7I = \left[\begin{array}{rrr} 1 & 6\\ 5 & 2 \end{array}\right] - \left[\begin{array}{rrr} 7 & 0\\ 0 & 7 \end{array}\right] = \left[\begin{array}{rrr} -6 & 6\\ 5 & -5 \end{array}\right].$$

The columns of A - 7I are obviously linearly dependent, so the original equation has nontrivial solutions.

Thus 7 is an eigenvalue of A.

• To find the corresponding eigenvectors, use row operations:

$$\begin{bmatrix} -6 & 6 & 0 \\ 5 & -5 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The general solution has the form  $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_2 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ . Each vector of this form with  $x_2 \neq 0$  is an eigenvector corresponding to  $\lambda = 7$ .

#### Eigenspace Corresponding to an Eigenvalue

- Note that in general  $A\mathbf{x} = \lambda \mathbf{x}$  is equivalent to  $(A \lambda I)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ .
- Thus  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of an  $n \times n$  matrix A if and only if the equation

$$(A - \lambda I)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$$

has a nontrivial solution.

- The set of all solutions is just the null space of the matrix  $A \lambda I$ .
- So this set is a subspace of R<sup>n</sup> and is called the eigenspace of A corresponding to λ.
- The eigenspace consists of the zero vector and all the eigenvectors corresponding to  $\lambda$ .

• Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -1 & 6 \\ 2 & 1 & 6 \\ 2 & -1 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$ . An eigenvalue of A is 2. Find a basis for the corresponding eigenspace.

Form

$$A-2I = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -1 & 6 \\ 2 & 1 & 6 \\ 2 & -1 & 8 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 6 \\ 2 & -1 & 6 \\ 2 & -1 & 6 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Row reduce the augmented matrix for  $(A - 2I)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ :

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 6 & 0 \\ 2 & -1 & 6 & 0 \\ 2 & -1 & 6 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 6 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

At this point, it is clear that 2 is indeed an eigenvalue of A because the equation  $(A - 2I)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  has free variables.

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 We must have 2x<sub>1</sub> - x<sub>2</sub> + 6x<sub>3</sub> = 0. This gives x<sub>1</sub> = <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>x<sub>2</sub> - 3x<sub>3</sub>, with x<sub>2</sub> and x<sub>3</sub> free. So the general solution is

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = x_2 \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_3 \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, x_2 \text{ and } x_3 \text{ free.}$$

The eigenspace is a two-dimensional subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . A basis is  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1\\2\\0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -3\\0\\1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ .

## Eigenvalues of Triangular Matrices

#### Theorem

The eigenvalues of a triangular matrix are the entries on its main diagonal.

• For simplicity, consider the 3  $\times$  3 case. If A is upper triangular, then  $A - \lambda I$  has the form

$$\begin{array}{rcl} A - \lambda I & = & \left[ \begin{array}{ccc} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ 0 & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & a_{33} \end{array} \right] - \left[ \begin{array}{ccc} \lambda & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda \end{array} \right] \\ \\ = & \left[ \begin{array}{ccc} a_{11} - \lambda & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ 0 & a_{22} - \lambda & a_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & a_{33} - \lambda \end{array} \right]. \end{array}$$

The scalar  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of A if and only if the equation  $(A - \lambda I)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  has a nontrivial solution, that is, if and only if the equation has a free variable. Because of the zero entries in  $A - \lambda I$ ,  $(A - \lambda I)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  has a free variable if and only if at least one of the entries on the diagonal of  $A - \lambda I$  is zero. This happens if and only if  $\lambda$  equals one of the entries  $a_{11}, a_{22}, a_{33}$  in A.

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• Let 
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 6 & -8 \\ 0 & 0 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$
 and  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 5 & 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$ .

• The eigenvalues of A are 3, 0, and 2.

• The eigenvalues of *B* are 4 and 1.

## Eigenvalues and Invertibility

- Suppose a matrix A has an eigenvalue of 0.
- This happens if and only if the equation

$$A\mathbf{x} = 0\mathbf{x}$$

has a nontrivial solution.

- But this is equivalent to  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ , which has a nontrivial solution if and only if A is not invertible.
- Thus 0 is an eigenvalue of A if and only if A is not invertible.
- This fact may be added to the Invertible Matrix Theorem.

## Eigenvectors Corresponding to Distinct Eigenvalues

#### Theorem

If  $\mathbf{v}_1, \ldots, \mathbf{v}_r$  are eigenvectors that correspond to distinct eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_r$  of an  $n \times n$  matrix A, then the set  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \ldots, \mathbf{v}_r\}$  is linearly independent.

Suppose {v<sub>1</sub>,..., v<sub>r</sub>} is linearly dependent.
 Since v<sub>1</sub> is nonzero, we conclude by a previous theorem that one of the vectors in the set is a linear combination of the preceding vectors. Let p be the least index such that v<sub>p+1</sub> is a linear combination of the preceding (linearly independent) vectors. Then there exist scalars c<sub>1</sub>,..., c<sub>p</sub> such that

$$c_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + \cdots + c_p \mathbf{v}_p = \mathbf{v}_{p+1}.$$

Multiplying both sides by  $\lambda_{p+1}$ , we get

$$c_1\lambda_{p+1}\boldsymbol{v}_1+\cdots+c_p\lambda_{p+1}\boldsymbol{v}_{p+1}=\lambda_{p+1}\boldsymbol{v}_{p+1}.$$

# Proof (Cont'd)

• Multiplying  $c_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + \cdots + c_p \mathbf{v}_p = \mathbf{v}_{p+1}$  by A and using the fact that  $A\mathbf{v}_k = \lambda_k \mathbf{v}_k$  for each k, we obtain

$$c_1 A \mathbf{v}_1 + \dots + c_p A \mathbf{v}_p = A \mathbf{v}_{p+1},$$
  
$$c_1 \lambda_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + \dots + c_p \lambda_p \mathbf{v}_p = \lambda_{p+1} \mathbf{v}_{p+1}.$$

Subtracting  $c_1\lambda_{p+1}\boldsymbol{v}_1 + \cdots + c_p\lambda_{p+1}\boldsymbol{v}_{p+1} = \lambda_{p+1}\boldsymbol{v}_{p+1}$  from the equation above, we have

$$c_1(\lambda_1 - \lambda_{p+1})\mathbf{v}_1 + \cdots + c_p(\lambda_p - \lambda_{p+1})\mathbf{v}_p = \mathbf{0}.$$

Since  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \ldots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$  is linearly independent, the weights in the equation above are all zero. But none of the factors  $\lambda_i - \lambda_{p+1}$  are zero, because the eigenvalues are distinct. Hence  $c_i = 0$  for  $i = 1, \ldots, p$ . But then we get  $\mathbf{v}_{p+1} = \mathbf{0}$ , which is impossible. Hence  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \ldots, \mathbf{v}_r\}$  cannot be linearly dependent and therefore must be linearly independent.

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#### Subsection 2

#### The Characteristic Equation

- Find the eigenvalues of  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 3 & -6 \end{bmatrix}$ .
- We must find all scalars such that the matrix equation  $(A \lambda I)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  has a nontrivial solution.

By the Invertible Matrix Theorem, this problem is equivalent to finding all  $\lambda$  such that the matrix  $A - \lambda I$  is not invertible, where

$$A - \lambda I = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 3 & -6 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 - \lambda & 3 \\ 3 & -6 - \lambda \end{bmatrix}.$$

By a previous result, this matrix fails to be invertible precisely when its determinant is zero.

So the eigenvalues of A are the solutions of the equation

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \det \begin{bmatrix} 2 - \lambda & 3 \\ 3 & -6 - \lambda \end{bmatrix} = 0.$$

Recall that

$$\det \left[ \begin{array}{cc} a & b \\ c & d \end{array} \right] = ad - bc.$$

So

$$det(A - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} 2 - \lambda & 3 \\ 3 & -6 - \lambda \end{vmatrix}$$
$$= (2 - \lambda)(-6 - \lambda) - 3 \cdot 3$$
$$= -12 + 6\lambda - 2\lambda + \lambda^2 - 9$$
$$= \lambda^2 + 4\lambda - 21$$
$$= (\lambda - 3)(\lambda + 7).$$

If det $(A - \lambda I) = 0$ , then  $\lambda = 3$  or  $\lambda = -7$ . So the eigenvalues of A are 3 and -7.

## The Determinant Reviewed

- Let A be an  $n \times n$  matrix;
- Let *U* be any echelon form obtained from *A* by row replacements and row interchanges (without scaling).
- Let r be the number of such row interchanges.
- Then the **determinant** of A, written as detA, is  $(-1)^r$  times the product of the diagonal entries  $u_{11}, \ldots, u_{nn}$  in U.
- If A is invertible, then u<sub>11</sub>,..., u<sub>nn</sub> are all pivots (because A ~ I<sub>n</sub> and the u<sub>ii</sub> have not been scaled to 1's).
- Otherwise, at least  $u_{nn}$  is zero, and the product  $u_{11} \cdots u_{nn}$  is zero.

Thus

$$det A = \begin{cases} (-1)^r \cdot (product of pivots of U), & \text{if } A \text{ is invertible,} \\ 0, & \text{if } A \text{ is not invertible.} \end{cases}$$

• Compute det *A* for 
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 & 0 \\ 2 & 4 & -1 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
.

• The following row reduction uses one row interchange:

$$A \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 & 0 \\ 0 & -6 & -1 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & -6 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = U.$$

So det *A* equals  $(-1)^1 \cdot (1 \cdot (-2) \cdot (-1)) = -2$ .

## The Invertible Matrix Theorem (Revisited)

#### Theorem (The Invertible Matrix Theorem Cont'd)

Let A be an  $n \times n$  matrix. Then A is invertible if and only if:

- (s) The number 0 is not an eigenvalue of A.
- (t) The determinant of A is not zero.

When A is a 3 × 3 matrix, |detA| turns out to be the volume of the parallelepiped determined by the columns a<sub>1</sub>, a<sub>2</sub>, a<sub>3</sub> of A. This volume is nonzero if and only if the vectors a<sub>1</sub>, a<sub>2</sub>, a<sub>3</sub> are linearly independent, in which case the matrix A is invertible.

## Properties of Determinants

#### Theorem (Properties of Determinants)

- Let A and B be  $n \times n$  matrices.
- (a) A is invertible if and only if  $det A \neq 0$ .
- (b) detAB = (detA)(detB).
- (c)  $\det A^T = \det A$ .
- (d) If A is triangular, then detA is the product of the entries on the main diagonal of A.
- (e) A row replacement operation on A does not change the determinant.A row interchange changes the sign of the determinant.
  - A row scaling also scales the determinant by the same scalar factor.

### The Characteristic Equation

- Part (a) of the preceding theorem shows how to determine when a matrix of the form A λI is not invertible.
- The scalar equation det(A λI) = 0 is called the characteristic equation of A.
- By previous work we know the following:

A scalar is an eigenvalue of an  $n \times n$  matrix A if and only if satisfies the characteristic equation

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = 0.$$

- Find the characteristic equation of  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -2 & 6 & -1 \\ 0 & 3 & -8 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .
- We have

$$det(A - \lambda I) = det \begin{bmatrix} 5 - \lambda & -2 & 6 & -1 \\ 0 & 3 - \lambda & -8 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 - \lambda & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 - \lambda \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= (5 - \lambda)(3 - \lambda)(5 - \lambda)(1 - \lambda).$$

The characteristic equation is

$$(5-\lambda)^2(3-\lambda)(1-\lambda)=0.$$

Expanding the product, we can also write

$$\lambda^4 - 14\lambda^3 + 68\lambda^2 - 130\lambda + 75 = 0.$$

### The Characteristic Polynomial

- It can be shown that if A is an  $n \times n$  matrix, then det $(A \lambda I)$  is a polynomial of degree n called the **characteristic polynomial** of A.
- An eigenvalue a of A is said to have multiplicity k if (λ a) occurs k times as a factor of the characteristic polynomial.
- In general, the (algebraic) multiplicity of an eigenvalue is its multiplicity as a root of the characteristic equation.

- The characteristic polynomial of a  $6 \times 6$  matrix is  $\lambda^6 4\lambda^5 12\lambda^4$ . Find the eigenvalues and their multiplicities.
- Factor the polynomial

$$\lambda^{6} - 4\lambda^{5} - 12\lambda^{4} = \lambda^{4}(\lambda^{2} - 4\lambda - 12)$$
$$= \lambda^{4}(\lambda - 6)(\lambda + 2).$$

The eigenvalues are 0 (multiplicity 4), 6 (multiplicity 1) and -2 (multiplicity 1).

## Similarity

• If A and B are  $n \times n$  matrices, then A is **similar to** B if there is an invertible matrix P such that

 $P^{-1}AP = B$ , or, equivalently,  $A = PBP^{-1}$ .

- Writing Q for  $P^{-1}$ , we have  $Q^{-1}BQ = A$ .
- So B is also similar to A.
- We say simply that A and B are similar.
- Changing A into  $P^{-1}AP$  is called a similarity transformation.

## Similarity and Characteristic Polynomials

#### Theorem

If  $n \times n$  matrices A and B are similar, then they have the same characteristic polynomial and hence the same eigenvalues (with the same multiplicities).

• If  $B = P^{-1}AP$ , then

$$B - \lambda I = P^{-1}AP - \lambda P^{-1}P = P^{-1}(AP - \lambda P) = P^{-1}(A - \lambda I)P.$$

Using the multiplicative property of the determinant, we compute

$$det(B - \lambda I) = det[P^{-1}(A - \lambda I)P] = det(P^{-1}) \cdot det(A - \lambda I) \cdot det(P).$$

But  $\det(P^{-1}) \cdot \det(P) = \det(P^{-1}P) = \det I = 1$ . So we get  $\det(B - \lambda I) = \det(A - \lambda I)$ .

#### Subsection 3

Diagonalization

## Example: Powers of Diagonal Matrices

• Let 
$$D = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$
.  
• Then  $D^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3^2 \end{bmatrix}$ .  
• Also  $D^3 = DD^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3^2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5^3 & 0 \\ 0 & 3^3 \end{bmatrix}$   
• In general,  $D^k = \begin{bmatrix} 5^k & 0 \\ 0 & 3^k \end{bmatrix}$ .

• Let 
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 7 & 2 \\ -4 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
.  
Find a formula for  $A^k$ , given that  $A = PDP^{-1}$ , where  
 $P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $D = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ .  
• The standard formula for the inverse of a 2 × 2 matrix yields  
 $P^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$ .  
• Then, by associativity of matrix multiplication,  
 $A^2 = (PDP^{-1})(PDP^{-1}) = PD(P^{-1}P)DP^{-1} = PDDP^{-1}$ 

$$= PD^2P^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

• Again

$$A^{3} = (PDP^{-1})A^{2} = (PDP^{-1})(PD^{2}P^{-1}) = PDD^{2}P^{-1} = PD^{3}P^{-1}.$$

• In general, for  $k \ge 1$ ,

$$A^{k} = PD^{k}P^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5^{k} & 0 \\ 0 & 3^{k} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{bmatrix} 5^{k} & 3^{k} \\ -5^{k} & -2 \cdot 3^{k} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{bmatrix} 2 \cdot 5^{k} - 3^{k} & 5^{k} - 3^{k} \\ -2 \cdot 5^{k} + 2 \cdot 3^{k} & -5^{k} + 2 \cdot 3^{k} \end{bmatrix}.$$

## Diagonalizability

 A square matrix A is said to be diagonalizable if A is similar to a diagonal matrix, that is, if A = PDP<sup>-1</sup> for some invertible matrix P and some diagonal matrix D.

#### Theorem (The Diagonalization Theorem)

An  $n \times n$  matrix A is diagonalizable if and only if A has n linearly independent eigenvectors. In fact,  $A = PDP^{-1}$ , with D a diagonal matrix, if and only if the columns of P are n linearly independent eigenvectors of A. In this case, the diagonal entries of D are eigenvalues of A that correspond, respectively, to the eigenvectors in P.

• In other words, A is diagonalizable if and only if there are enough eigenvectors to form a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

We call such a basis an **eigenvector basis** of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

### Proof of the Diagonalization Theorem

First, observe that if P is any n × n matrix with columns v<sub>1</sub>,..., v<sub>n</sub>, and if D is any diagonal matrix with diagonal entries λ<sub>1</sub>,..., λ<sub>n</sub>, then

$$AP = A[\mathbf{v}_1 \ \mathbf{v}_2 \ \cdots \ \mathbf{v}_n] = [A\mathbf{v}_1 \ A\mathbf{v}_2 \ \cdots \ A\mathbf{v}_n].$$

Also

$$PD = P \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix} = [\lambda_1 \mathbf{v}_1 \ \lambda_2 \mathbf{v}_2 \ \cdots \ \lambda_n \mathbf{v}_n].$$

Now suppose A is diagonalizable and  $A = PDP^{-1}$ . Then right-multiplying this relation by P, we have AP = PD. In this case, we get that

$$[A\boldsymbol{v}_1 \ A\boldsymbol{v}_2 \ \cdots \ A\boldsymbol{v}_n] = [\lambda_1 \boldsymbol{v}_1 \ \lambda_2 \boldsymbol{v}_2 \ \cdots \ \lambda_n \boldsymbol{v}_n].$$

### Proof of the Diagonalization Theorem (Cont'd)

 Equating columns, we find that Av<sub>1</sub> = λ<sub>1</sub>v<sub>1</sub>, Av<sub>2</sub> = λ<sub>2</sub>v<sub>2</sub>, ..., Av<sub>n</sub> = λ<sub>n</sub>v<sub>n</sub>. Since P is invertible, its columns v<sub>1</sub>,..., v<sub>n</sub> must be linearly independent. Also, since these columns are nonzero, the last equations show that λ<sub>1</sub>,..., λ<sub>n</sub> are eigenvalues and v<sub>1</sub>,..., v<sub>n</sub> are corresponding eigenvectors. This argument proves the "only if" parts of the first and second statements, along with the third statement, of the theorem.

Finally, given any *n* eigenvectors  $\mathbf{v}_1, \ldots, \mathbf{v}_n$ , use them to construct the columns of *P* and use corresponding eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_n$  to construct *D*. Then, we get

$$AP = A[\mathbf{v}_1 \cdots \mathbf{v}_n] = [A\mathbf{v}_1 \cdots A\mathbf{v}_n] = [\lambda_1 \mathbf{v}_1 \cdots \lambda_n \mathbf{v}_n] = PD.$$

This is true without any condition on the eigenvectors. If, in fact, the eigenvectors are linearly independent, then P is invertible (by the Invertible Matrix Theorem), and AP = PD implies that  $A = PDP^{-1}$ .

### The Diagonalization Process

• Diagonalize the the matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 3 \\ -3 & -5 & -3 \\ 3 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ , if possible.

That is, find an invertible matrix P and a diagonal matrix D such that  $A = PDP^{-1}$ .

**Step 1** (Find the eigenvalues of A): We have

$$D = \det(A - \lambda I) = \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \lambda & 3 & 3 \\ -3 & -5 - \lambda & -3 \\ 3 & 3 & 1 - \lambda \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= (1 - \lambda)(-5 - \lambda)(1 - \lambda) - 27 - 27$$
$$-9(-5 - \lambda) + 9(1 - \lambda) + 9(1 - \lambda)$$
$$= -\lambda^3 + 2\lambda^2 - \lambda - 5\lambda^2 + 10\lambda - 5 - 27 - 27$$
$$+ 45 + 9\lambda + 9 - 9\lambda + 9 - 9\lambda$$
$$= -\lambda^3 - 3\lambda^2 + 4$$

#### The Diagonalization Process (Step 1 Cont'd)

$$\begin{aligned} -\lambda^3 - 3\lambda^2 + 4 &= -\lambda^3 + \lambda^2 - 4\lambda^2 + 4 \\ &= -\lambda^2(\lambda - 1) - 4(\lambda - 1)(\lambda + 1) \\ &= (\lambda - 1)(-\lambda^2 - 4\lambda - 4) \\ &= -(\lambda - 1)(\lambda + 2)^2. \end{aligned}$$

The eigenvalues are  $\lambda = 1$  and  $\lambda = -2$ .

### The Diagonalization Process (Step 2)

**Step 2** (Find three linearly independent eigenvectors of *A*): Three vectors are needed because *A* is a  $3 \times 3$  matrix. This is the critical step. If it fails, then the theorem says that *A* cannot be diagonalized.

• Basis for  $\lambda = 1$ :

$$(A-I)\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 3 & 3 \\ -3 & -6 & -3 \\ 3 & 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{0}$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 3 & 3 & 0 \\ -3 & -6 & -3 & 0 \\ 3 & 3 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\begin{cases} x_1 + x_2 = 0 \\ x_2 + x_3 = 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = x_3 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$
So  $\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  is a basis.

## The Diagonalization Process (Step 2 Cont'd)

**Basis for**  $\lambda = -2$ :

### The Diagonalization Process (Steps 3 and 4)

**Step 3** (Construct P from the vectors in Step 2): The order of the vectors is unimportant. Using the order chosen in Step 2, form

$$P = [\mathbf{v}_1 \ \mathbf{v}_2 \ \mathbf{v}_3] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Step 4** (Construct *D* from the corresponding eigenvalues): In this step, it is essential that the order of the eigenvalues matches the order chosen for the columns of *P*. Use the eigenvalue  $\lambda = -2$  twice, once for each of the eigenvectors corresponding to  $\lambda = -2$ :

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

## The Diagonalization Process (Final Check)

- We check that P and D really work.
- To avoid computing  $P^{-1}$ , simply verify that AP = PD.

$$AP = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 3 \\ -3 & -5 & -3 \\ 3 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ -1 & -2 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$PD = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ -1 & -2 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

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- Diagonalize the matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 3 \\ -4 & -6 & -3 \\ 3 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ , if possible. • The characteristic equation of A is

$$0 = \det(A - \lambda I) = \det \begin{bmatrix} 2 - \lambda & 4 & 3 \\ -4 & -6 - \lambda & -3 \\ 3 & 3 & 1 - \lambda \end{bmatrix}$$
  
=  $(2 - \lambda)(-6 - \lambda)(1 - \lambda) - 36 - 36$   
 $+ 9(6 + \lambda) + 9(2 - \lambda) + 16(1 - \lambda)$   
=  $-\lambda^3 - 4\lambda^2 + 12\lambda + \lambda^2 + 4\lambda - 12 - 36 - 36$   
 $+ 54 + 9\lambda + 18 - 9\lambda + 16 - 16\lambda$   
=  $-\lambda^3 - 3\lambda^2 + 4$   
previous  
=  $-(\lambda - 1)(\lambda + 2)^2$ .

The eigenvalues are  $\lambda = 1$  and  $\lambda = -2$ .

• Consider  $\lambda = 1$ : We have

$$(A - I)\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 3 \\ -4 & -7 & -3 \\ 3 & 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 3 & 0 \\ -4 & -7 & -3 & 0 \\ 3 & 3 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 9 & 9 & 0 \\ 0 & -9 & -9 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{cases} x_1 + 4x_2 + 3x_3 = 0 \\ x_2 + x_3 = 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = x_3 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$
So a basis for  $\lambda = 1$  consists of  $\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$ 

Consider λ = -2:
 We have

$$(A+2I)\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 4 & 3 \\ -4 & -4 & -3 \\ 3 & 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 4 & 3 & | & 0 \\ -4 & -4 & -3 & | & 0 \\ 3 & 3 & 3 & | & 0 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & | & 0 \\ -4 & -4 & 3 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{cases} x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 0 \\ -x_3 = 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = x_2 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$
So a basis for  $\lambda = 1$  consists of  $\mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$ 

• There are no other eigenvalues, and every eigenvector of A is a multiple of either **v**<sub>1</sub> or **v**<sub>2</sub>.

Hence it is impossible to construct a basis of  $\mathbf{R}^3$  using eigenvectors of A.

So by the theorem, A is not diagonalizable.

## Sufficient Condition for Diagonalizability

#### Theorem

An  $n \times n$  matrix with *n* distinct eigenvalues is diagonalizable.

- Let v<sub>1</sub>,..., v<sub>n</sub> be eigenvectors corresponding to the n distinct eigenvalues of a matrix A.
   Then {v<sub>1</sub>,..., v<sub>n</sub>} is linearly independent, by a previous theorem.
   Hence A is diagonalizable.
- It is not necessary for an  $n \times n$  matrix to have n distinct eigenvalues in order to be diagonalizable.

The  $3 \times 3$  matrix in a previous example was diagonalizable even though it has only two distinct eigenvalues.

- Determine if the matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -8 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$  is diagonalizable.
- Since the matrix is triangular, its eigenvalues are 5,0 and −2.
   Since A is a 3 × 3 matrix with three distinct eigenvalues, A is diagonalizable.

## Matrices Whose Eigenvalues Are Not Distinct

#### Theorem

Let A be an  $n \times n$  matrix whose distinct eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_p$ .

- (a) For  $1 \le k \le p$ , the dimension of the eigenspace for  $\lambda_k$  is less than or equal to the multiplicity of the eigenvalue  $\lambda_k$ .
- (b) The matrix A is diagonalizable if and only if the sum of the dimensions of the eigenspaces equals n, and this happens if and only if:
  - (i) the characteristic polynomial factors completely into linear factors;
  - (ii) the dimension of the eigenspace for each k equals the multiplicity of k.
- (c) If A is diagonalizable and B<sub>k</sub> is a basis for the eigenspace corresponding to λ<sub>k</sub> for each k, then the total collection of vectors in the sets B<sub>1</sub>,..., B<sub>p</sub> forms an eigenvector basis for ℝ<sup>n</sup>.

- Diagonalize the matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 4 & -3 & 0 \\ -1 & -2 & 0 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$ , if possible.
- Since A is a triangular matrix, the eigenvalues are 5 and -3, each with multiplicity 2.

We find a basis for each eigenspace.

• For  $\lambda = 5$ :

$$(A-5I)\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 4 & -8 & 0 \\ 1 & -2 & 0 & -8 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{0}$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 4 & -8 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -2 & 0 & -8 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{(A-3)} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & 8 \\ 0 & 1 & -4 & -4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{(A-3)} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -8x_3 - 16x_4 \\ 4x_3 + 4x_4 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = x_3 \begin{bmatrix} -8 \\ 4 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_4 \begin{bmatrix} -16 \\ 4 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

• For  $\lambda = -3$ :

• The set 
$$\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_4\} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -8\\4\\1\\0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -16\\4\\0\\1\\0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0\\0\\1\\0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0\\0\\1\\0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$
 is linearly independent, by the preceding theorem.  
So the matrix  $P = [\mathbf{v}_1 \ \mathbf{v}_2 \ \mathbf{v}_3 \ \mathbf{v}_4]$  is invertible, and  $A = PDP^{-1}$ , where

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} -8 & -16 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } D = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

#### Subsection 4

#### Eigenvectors and Linear Transformations

#### Linear Transformations and Bases

- Let V be an *n*-dimensional vector space.
- Let W be an m-dimensional vector space.
- Let T be any linear transformation from V to W.
- To associate a matrix with *T*, choose (ordered) bases *B* and *C* for *V* and *W*, respectively.
- Given any x in V, the coordinate vector [x]<sub>B</sub> is in R<sup>n</sup> and the coordinate vector of its image, [T(x)]<sub>C</sub>, is in R<sup>m</sup>:



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#### The Matrix of a Linear Transformation

- We establish a connection between  $[\mathbf{x}]_{\mathcal{B}}$  and  $[T(\mathbf{x})]_{\mathcal{C}}$ .
- Let  $\{\boldsymbol{b}_1, \ldots, \boldsymbol{b}_n\}$  be the basis  $\mathcal{B}$  for V.

• If 
$$\mathbf{x} = r_1 \mathbf{b}_1 + \cdots + r_n \mathbf{b}_n$$
, then  $[\mathbf{x}]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} r_1 \\ \vdots \\ r_n \end{bmatrix}$ .

• Moreover, since T is linear,

$$T(\mathbf{x}) = T(r_1\mathbf{b}_1 + \cdots + r_n\mathbf{b}_n) = r_1T(\mathbf{b}_1) + \cdots + r_nT(\mathbf{b}_n).$$

• Since the coordinate mapping from W to  $\mathbb{R}^m$  is linear we get

$$[T(\mathbf{x})]_{\mathcal{C}} = r_1[T(\mathbf{b}_1)]_{\mathcal{C}} + \cdots + r_n[T(\mathbf{b}_n)]_{\mathbf{c}}.$$

## The Matrix of a Linear Transformation (Cont'd)

• Since C-coordinate vectors are in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ , the last vector equation can be written as a matrix equation, namely,

$$[T(\mathbf{x})]_{\mathcal{C}} = M[\mathbf{x}]_{\mathcal{B}},$$

where

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} [T(\boldsymbol{b}_1)]_{\mathcal{C}} & [T(\boldsymbol{b}_2)]_{\mathcal{C}} & \cdots & [T(\boldsymbol{b}_n)]_{\mathcal{C}} \end{bmatrix}$$

• The matrix *M* is a matrix representation of *T*, called the **matrix for** *T* relative to the bases *B* and *C*.



- Suppose  $\mathcal{B} = \{\boldsymbol{b}_1, \boldsymbol{b}_2\}$  is a basis for V and  $\mathcal{C} = \{\boldsymbol{c}_1, \boldsymbol{c}_2, \boldsymbol{c}_3\}$  is a basis for W.
- Let  $T: V \rightarrow W$  be a linear transformation with the property that

$$T(m{b}_1) = 3m{c}_1 - 2m{c}_2 + 5m{c}_3$$
 and  $T(m{b}_2) = 4m{c}_1 + 7m{c}_2 - m{c}_3.$ 

- Find the matrix M for T relative to  $\mathcal{B}$  and  $\mathcal{C}$ .
- The  $\mathcal{C}$ -coordinate vectors of the images of  $\boldsymbol{b}_1$  and  $\boldsymbol{b}_2$  are

$$[T(\boldsymbol{b}_1)]_{\mathcal{C}} = \begin{bmatrix} 3\\-2\\5 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } [T(\boldsymbol{b}_2)]_{\mathcal{C}} = \begin{bmatrix} 4\\7\\-1 \end{bmatrix}.$$
  
Hence
$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4\\-2 & 7\\5 & -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

#### Linear Transformations from V into V

In case W is the same as V and the basis C is the same as B, the matrix M is called the matrix for T relative to B, or simply the B-matrix for T, and is denoted by [T]<sub>B</sub>:



• The  $\mathcal{B}$ -matrix for  $T: V \to V$  satisfies

 $[T(\mathbf{x})]_{\mathcal{B}} = [T]_{\mathcal{B}}[\mathbf{x}]_{\mathcal{B}}, \text{ for all } \mathbf{x} \text{ in } V.$ 

• The mapping  $T : \mathbb{P}_2 \to \mathbb{P}_2$  defined by

$$T(a_0 + a_1t + a_2t^2) = a_1 + 2a_2t$$

- is a linear transformation.
  - (a) Find the  $\mathcal{B}$ -matrix for T, where  $\mathcal{B}$  is the basis  $\{1, t, t^2\}$ .
  - (b) Verify that  $[T(\mathbf{p})]_{\mathcal{B}} = [T]_{\mathcal{B}}[\mathbf{p}]_{\mathcal{B}}$  for each  $\mathbf{p}$  in  $\mathbb{P}_2$ .
- (a) Compute the images of the basis vectors:

$$T(1) = 0, \quad T(t) = 1, \quad T(t^2) = 2t.$$

Then write the  $\mathcal{B}$ -coordinate vectors of T(1), T(t) and  $T(t^2)$  (which are found by inspection in this example): and place them together as the  $\mathcal{B}$ -matrix for T:

$$[T(1)]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0\\0\\0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad [T(t)]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} 1\\0\\0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad [T(t^2)]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0\\2\\0 \end{bmatrix}$$

We place the coordinate vectors together to form  $[T]_{\mathcal{B}} = [[T(1)]_{\mathcal{B}} [T(t)]_{\mathcal{B}} [T(t^2)]_{\mathcal{B}}]$ :

$$[T]_{\mathcal{B}} = \left[ \begin{array}{ccc} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right].$$

(b) For a general  $p(t) = a_0 + a_1 t + a_2 t^2$ ,

$$[T(\mathbf{p})]_{\mathcal{B}} = [a_1 + 2a_2t]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ 2a_2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_0 \\ a_1 \\ a_2 \end{bmatrix} = [T]_{\mathcal{B}}[\mathbf{p}]_{\mathcal{B}}.$$

#### **Diagonal Matrix Representation**

#### Theorem (Diagonal Matrix Representation)

Suppose  $A = PDP^{-1}$ , where *D* is a diagonal  $n \times n$  matrix. If  $\mathcal{B}$  is the basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$  formed from the columns of *P*, then *D* is the  $\mathcal{B}$ -matrix for the transformation  $\mathbf{x} \mapsto A\mathbf{x}$ .

• Denote the columns of P by  $\boldsymbol{b}_1, \ldots, \boldsymbol{b}_n$ , so that  $\mathcal{B} = \{\boldsymbol{b}_1, \ldots, \boldsymbol{b}_n\}$ and  $P = [\boldsymbol{b}_1 \cdots \boldsymbol{b}_n]$ .

In this case, P is the change-of-coordinates matrix  $P_{\mathcal{B}}$  where

$$P[\mathbf{x}]_{\mathcal{B}} = \mathbf{x}$$
 and  $[\mathbf{x}]_{\mathcal{B}} = P^{-1}\mathbf{x}$ .

#### Diagonal Matrix Representation (Cont'd)

• If  $T(\mathbf{x}) = A\mathbf{x}$  for  $\mathbf{x}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , then

$$[T]_{\mathcal{B}} = [[T(\boldsymbol{b}_1)]_{\mathcal{B}} \cdots [T(\boldsymbol{b}_n)]_{\mathcal{B}}]$$
  
= 
$$[[A\boldsymbol{b}_1]_{\mathcal{B}} \cdots [A\boldsymbol{b}_n]_{\mathcal{B}}]$$
  
= 
$$[P^{-1}A\boldsymbol{b}_1 \cdots P^{-1}A\boldsymbol{b}_n]$$
  
= 
$$P^{-1}A[\boldsymbol{b}_1 \cdots \boldsymbol{b}_n]$$
  
= 
$$P^{-1}AP.$$

Since  $A = PDP^{-1}$ , we have  $[T]_{\mathcal{B}} = P^{-1}AP = D$ .

Define 
$$T: \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}^2$$
 by  $T(\mathbf{x}) = A\mathbf{x}$ , where  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 7 & 2 \\ -4 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Find a basis  $\mathcal B$  for  $\mathbb R^2$  with the property that the  $\mathcal B$ -matrix for  $\mathcal T$  is a diagonal matrix.

• We diagonalize A by finding its eigenvalues and the corresponding eigenvectors.

$$\begin{aligned} |A - \lambda I| &= \begin{vmatrix} 7 - \lambda & 2 \\ -4 & 1 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = (7 - \lambda)(1 - \lambda) + 8 \\ &= \lambda^2 - 8\lambda + 15 = (\lambda - 3)(\lambda - 5). \end{aligned}$$

• For  $\lambda = 3$ :

$$(A-3I)\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 \\ -4 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{0}$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 & | & 0 \\ -4 & -2 & | & 0 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2} & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

• For  $\lambda = 5$ :

$$(A-5I)\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ -4 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{0}$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 & 0 \\ -4 & -4 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

So we get  $A = PDP^{-1}$ , with  $P = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} & -1\\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $D = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0\\ 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Since the columns of *P* are eigenvectors of *A*, by the preceding theorem, *D* is the *B*-matrix for *T* when  $B = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\}$ .

The mappings  $\mathbf{x} \mapsto A\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{u} \mapsto D\mathbf{u}$  describe the same linear transformation, relative to different bases.

#### Similarity of Matrix Representations

• If A is similar to a matrix C, with  $A = PCP^{-1}$ , then  $C = P^{-1}AP$  is the  $\mathcal{B}$ -matrix for the transformation  $\mathbf{x} \mapsto A\mathbf{x}$  when the basis  $\mathcal{B}$  is formed from the columns of P.



- Conversely, if  $T : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^n$  is defined by  $T(\mathbf{x}) = A\mathbf{x}$ , and if  $\mathcal{B}$  is any basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , then the  $\mathcal{B}$ -matrix for T is similar to A.
- Thus, the set of all matrices similar to a matrix A coincides with the set of all matrix representations of the transformation x → Ax.

• Let 
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -9 \\ 4 & -8 \end{bmatrix}$$
,  $\boldsymbol{b}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\boldsymbol{b}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

The characteristic polynomial of A is  $(\lambda + 2)^2$ , but the eigenspace for the eigenvalue -2 is only one-dimensional; so A is not diagonalizable. However, the basis  $\mathcal{B} = \{\boldsymbol{b}_1, \boldsymbol{b}_2\}$  has the property that the  $\mathcal{B}$ -matrix C for the transformation  $\boldsymbol{x} \mapsto A\boldsymbol{x}$  is a triangular matrix called the **Jordan form** of A. Find this  $\mathcal{B}$ -matrix C.

• If  $P = [\boldsymbol{b}_1 \ \boldsymbol{b}_2]$ , then the  $\mathcal{B}$ -matrix is  $C = P^{-1}AP$ . Compute

$$AP = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -9 \\ 4 & -8 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -6 & -1 \\ -4 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$C = P^{-1}AP = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 2 & -3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -6 & -1 \\ -4 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$