

math    235    L29

- Plan:
- \* Eigenvalues - Eigenvectors of an  $n \times n$  matrix.
  - \* Computing Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors
  - \* Algebraic and geometric multiplicities
  - \* The case of Hermitian matrices.

(7.3)

## \* Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

Def: A number  $\lambda$  and a non-zero n-vector  $v$  are called **eigenvalue** and **eigenvector** of an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  iff holds

$$Av = \lambda v$$

Example: Show that  $\lambda_1 = 4$ ,  $v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$   
and  $\lambda_2 = -2$ ,  $v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$   
are eigenvalues and eigenvectors of matrix

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

Sol:

$$Av_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} = 4 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = 4v_1$$

$$Av_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} = (-2) \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = -2v_2$$

\* Remark :

- If we interpret  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  as a function  $A: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ , the eigenvector  $\underline{v}$  determines a particular direction on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , where the action of  $A$  is simple:  $[A\underline{v}$  is proportional to  $\underline{v}]$

- Matrices usually change the direction of vectors;

Example:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

↑ ↑  
point in different directions

$$\underline{v} \rightarrow A\underline{v}$$

- except for eigenvectors:

Example:

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

$$\underline{v} \rightarrow A\underline{v} = 4\underline{v}$$

Example: Find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (\text{Reflection along } x_1 = x_2 \text{ axis}).$$

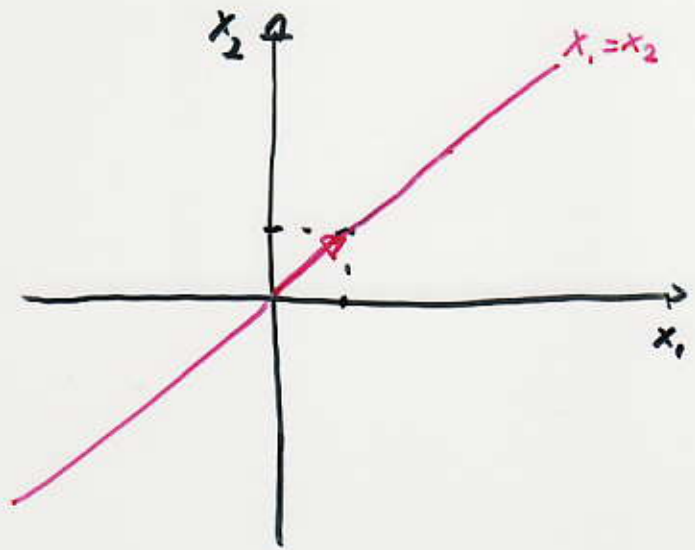
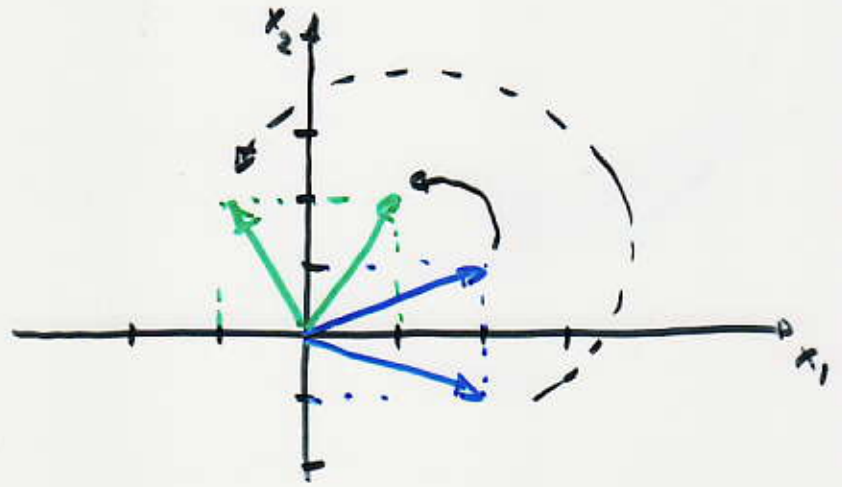
Sol:

A is  $2 \times 2$ ;  $A : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ .

$$A \underline{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_2 \\ x_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

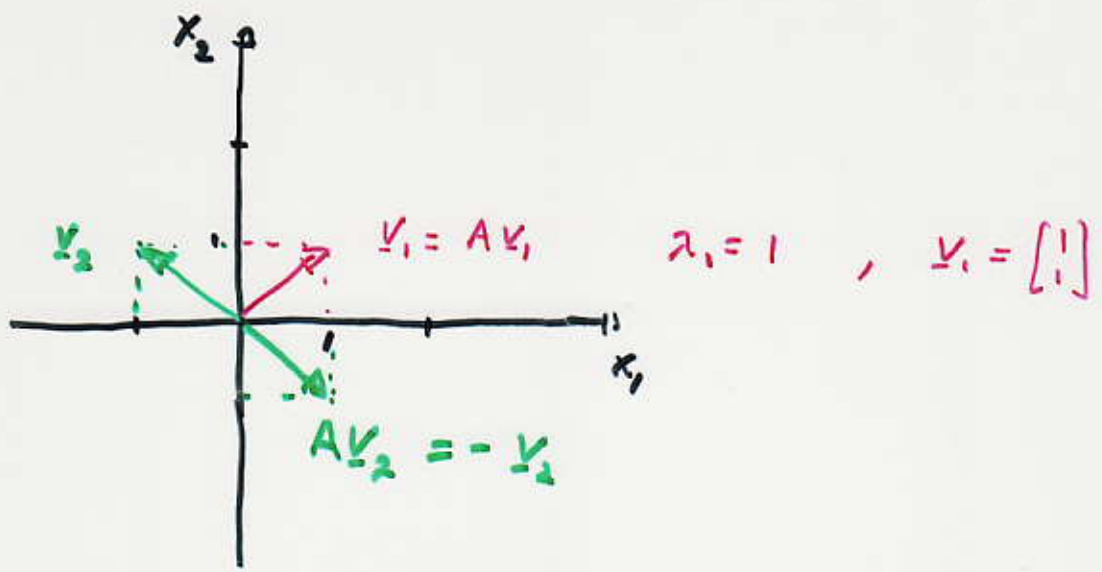
$$A \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

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



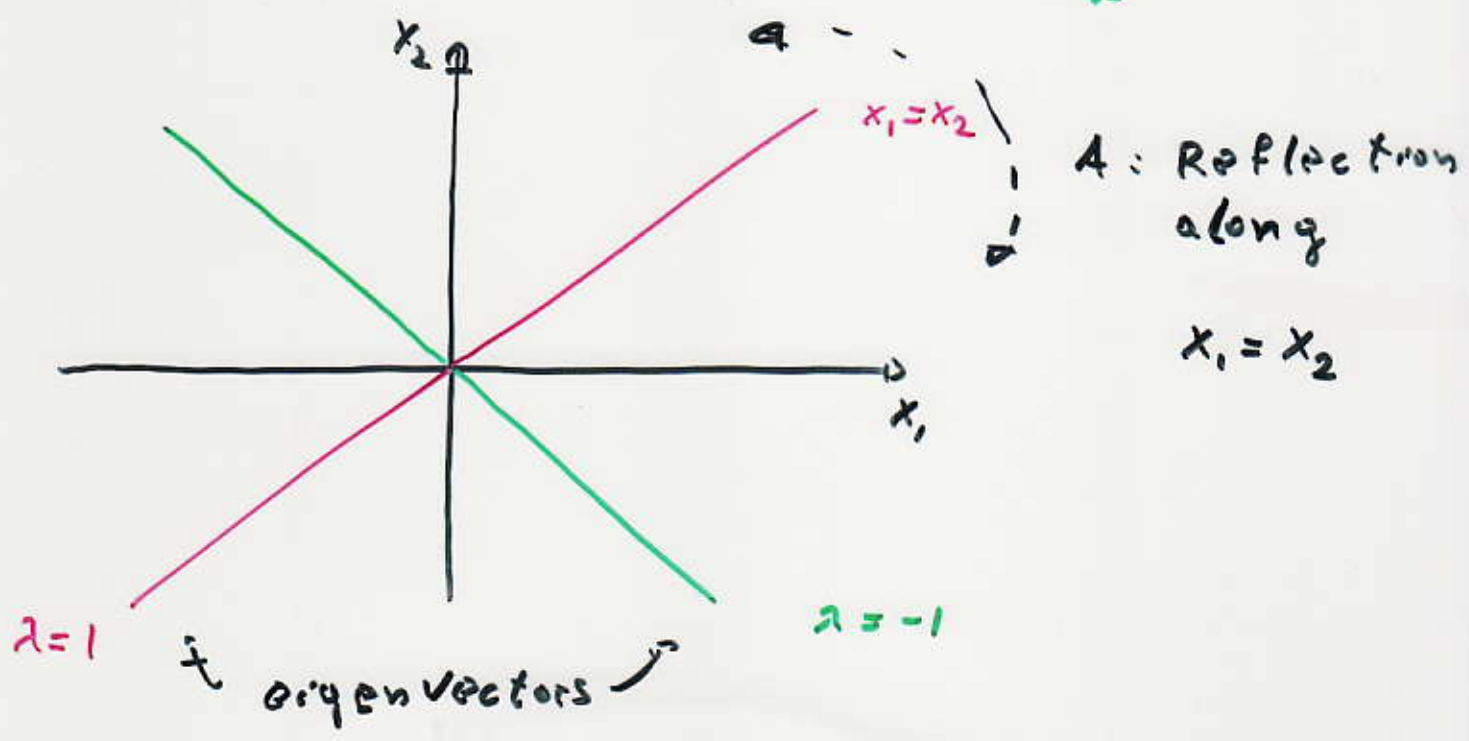
$$A \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\underline{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \lambda_1 = 1$$



$$A \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = (-1) \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\lambda_2 = -1$



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\* Remark: Not every  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  has real eigenvalues:

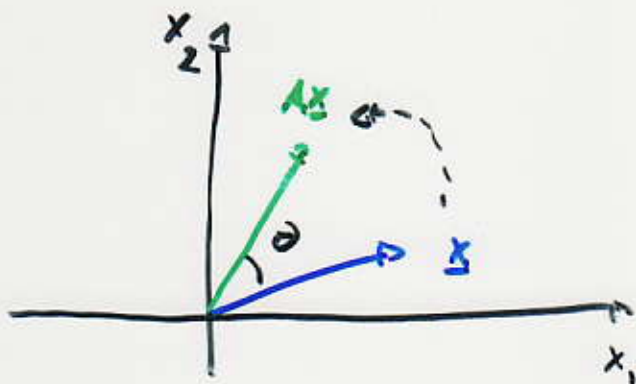
Example: Fix  $\theta \in (0, \pi)$  and define

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\theta) & -\sin(\theta) \\ \sin(\theta) & \cos(\theta) \end{bmatrix}$$

Show that  $A$  has no real eigenvalues.

Sol:

$A: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $A$  is a rotation  $\theta$  by  $\theta$ .



There is no direction kept fixed by  $A$ .

So  $A$  has no real eigenvalues - eigenvectors

Remark:  $A$  has complex eigenvalues and eigenvectors

\* Computing eigenvalues - eigen vectors

Problem: [ Given  $n \times n$   $A$ , find, if possible,  $\lambda$  and  $v \neq 0$ , such that

$$\boxed{Av = \lambda v} \quad (1)$$

This is more complicated than solving  $Av = b$ , since in our case (1) we do not know  $v$  nor the source  $b = \lambda v$ .

- Sol:
- (a) First solve for  $\lambda$ .
  - (b) Having  $\lambda$ , then solve for  $v$ .

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Thm: (a) The number  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  iff

$$\det(A - \lambda I_n) = 0$$

Notation:  $P(\lambda) = \det(A - \lambda I_n)$   
characteristic polynomial (degree  $n$ )

Remark: An eigenvalue  $\lambda$  is a root of the polynomial  $P$ .

Thm: (b) Given  $\lambda$  eigenvalue of  $A$ , the corresponding eigenvectors  $\underline{v}$  are the non-zero sols. of

$$(A - \lambda I) \underline{v} = \underline{0}$$





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Example: Find  $\lambda, v$  for  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

sol:

$$(a) \quad A - \lambda I_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} - \lambda \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\boxed{A - \lambda I_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1-\lambda & 3 \\ 3 & 1-\lambda \end{bmatrix}}$$

$$\det(A - \lambda I_2) = \begin{vmatrix} 1-\lambda & 3 \\ 3 & 1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = (1-\lambda)^2 - 9$$

$$\boxed{P(\lambda) = (\lambda - 1)^2 - 9}$$

characteristic  
polyn. (degree 2)

$$P(\lambda) = 0 \Leftrightarrow (\lambda - 1)^2 - 9 = 0$$

$$(\lambda_i - 1) = \pm 3$$

$$\lambda_i = 1 \pm 3 \Rightarrow$$

$$\boxed{\lambda_1 = 4}$$

$$\boxed{\lambda_2 = -2}$$

(b)  $\lambda_1 = 4$

$$A - 4I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 & 3 \\ 3 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$(A - 4I) \underline{v} = \underline{0}$  ← Gauss ops.

$$\begin{bmatrix} -3 & 3 \\ 3 & -3 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} v_1 - v_2 = 0 \\ v_2: \text{ free.} \end{array}$$

choose  $v_2 = 1 \Rightarrow v_1 = 1 \Rightarrow$

$$\underline{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_1 = 4$$

(b)  $\lambda_2 = -2$ .

$$A + 2I_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 3 \\ 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$(A + 2I_2) \underline{v} = \underline{0}$  ← Gauss ops.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 3 \\ 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} v_1 + v_2 = 0 \\ v_2: \text{ free.} \end{array}$$

choose:  $v_2 = 1 \Rightarrow v_1 = -1 \Rightarrow$

$$\underline{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_2 = -2$$

Remarks : \* Not every matrix  $n \times n$  has eigenvectors

\* Not every  $n \times n$  matrix has a l.i. set of  $n$  vectors.

\* Information useful to know the maximum number of eigenvectors forming a l.i. set : The algebraic and geometric multiplicities of an eigenvalue.

Def. Let  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k, 1 \leq k \leq n$  be the roots of the characteristic polynomial  $P$  of an  $n \times n$  matrix, that is

$$P(\lambda) = (\lambda - \lambda_1)^{\Gamma_1} \dots (\lambda - \lambda_k)^{\Gamma_k}.$$

The numbers  $\Gamma_1, \dots, \Gamma_k$  are called the algebraic multiplicities of the eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k$ , respectively.

Example

Find the algebraic multiplicities of the eigenvalues of

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

Sol:

Recall:

$$P(\lambda) = \begin{vmatrix} 1-\lambda & 3 \\ 3 & 1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = (\lambda-1)^2 - 9$$

Since  $P(\lambda) = \lambda^2 - 2\lambda + 1 - 9$   
 $= \lambda^2 - 2\lambda - 8$

$$P(\lambda) = (\lambda - 4)(\lambda + 2)$$

$$\lambda_1 = 4, \quad \boxed{\Gamma_1 = 1}$$

$$\lambda_2 = -2, \quad \boxed{\Gamma_2 = 1}$$

Def: The geometric multiplicity of an eigenvalue  $\lambda_i$ , denoted by  $S_i$ , is the maximum number of eigenvectors with eigenvalue  $\lambda_i$  that form a l.i. set.

Example: Find the geometric multiplicities of the eigenvalues of

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Sol:

$$\lambda_1 = 4 \Rightarrow v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} v_2 \Rightarrow \boxed{S_1 = 1}$$

$$\lambda_2 = -2 \Rightarrow v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} v_2 \Rightarrow \boxed{S_2 = 1}$$

Thm: If  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  having algebraic multiplicity  $r$  and geometric multiplicity  $S$ ,  
Then

$$\boxed{S \leq r}$$

Example: Find all eigenvalues, eigenvectors and multiplicities of

(a)  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$       (b)  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

So:  
 case (a) - eigenvalues:

$$P(\lambda) = \begin{vmatrix} 3-\lambda & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 3-\lambda & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = (3-\lambda)^2 (1-\lambda)$$

$$P(\lambda) = -(\lambda-3)^2 (\lambda-1)$$

$\lambda_1 = 3$	$\Gamma_1 = 2$
$\lambda_2 = 1$	$\Gamma_2 = 1$

- eigenvectors:  $\lambda_1 = 3$

$$(A - 3I) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow v_3 = 0$$

$v_2, v_1$  : free.

$$Y = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} v_1 + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} v_2$$

choose  $v_1=1, v_2=0$

choose  $v_1=0, v_2=1$

$$\begin{array}{|l}
 v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \\
 \hline
 v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}
 \end{array}$$

$\lambda_1 = 3.$

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

l.i. eigenvectors set

for  $\lambda_1 = 3.$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{s_1 = 2.}$$

$$(\tau_1 = s_1 = 2)$$

$\lambda_2 = 1.$

$$A - I = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow v_1 = -\frac{v_3}{2}$$

$$v_2 = -v_3$$

$v_3$ : free.

$$v = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} v_3$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{s_2 = 1}$$

$$(\tau_2 = s_2 = 1)$$

choose  $v_3 = 2$

$$\boxed{v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \lambda_2 = 1, \tau_1 = 1, s_1 = 1}$$



case (b) - eigenvalues: same as in (a).

$$P(\lambda) = \begin{vmatrix} 3-\lambda & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 3-\lambda & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = (3-\lambda)^2 (1-\lambda)$$

$$P(\lambda) = -(\lambda-3)^2 (\lambda-1) \Rightarrow$$

$\lambda_1 = 3$	$\Gamma_1 = 2$
$\lambda_2 = 1$	$\Gamma_2 = 1$

- eigenvectors:

$$\lambda_1 = 3$$

$$B - 3I_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} v_2 = 0 \\ v_3 = 0 \\ v_1: \text{free.} \end{array}$$

$$\underline{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} v_1$$

 $\Rightarrow$ 

$$S_1 = 1$$

$$\Gamma_1 = 2$$

$v_1$ : free.

$$S_1 < \Gamma_1$$

Choose  $v_1 = 1$ .

$$\underline{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \lambda_1 = 3, \quad \Gamma_1 = 2, \quad S_1 = 1$$

$$\lambda_2 = 1$$

$$B - I_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} v_1 = 0 \\ v_2 = -v_3 \\ v_3: \text{free.} \end{array}$$

$$v = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} v_3 \Rightarrow \boxed{S_2 = 1} \\ \boxed{\Gamma_2 = 1} \quad S_2 = \Gamma_2.$$

choose  $v_3 = 1$

$$\boxed{v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \lambda_2 = 1, \quad \Gamma_2 = 1, \quad S_2 = 1}$$

Eigenvectors of  $A$  :  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  l.i.  
3x3

Eigenvectors of  $B$  :  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  l.i.  
3x3

\* The case of Hermitian matrices

Def:  $A, n \times n$  is Hermitian iff  $A = A^*$

Remark: If  $A$  is Hermitian and real-valued, then  $A = A^* = \bar{A}^T = A^T$ .

Def:  $A, n \times n$ , (real- or complex-valued) is symmetric iff  $A = A^T$

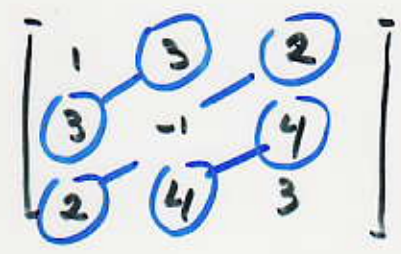
Remark: If  $A = [a_{ij}]$  and  $A = A^T$ , then  $a_{ij} = a_{ji}$

Example : Matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 2 \\ 3 & -1 & 4 \\ 2 & 4 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$  is symmetric,

since:  $a_{12} = 3 = a_{21}$

$a_{13} = 2 = a_{31}$

$a_{23} = 4 = a_{32}$ .



\* Properties of Hermitian nxn matrices

- (1) They always have real eigenvalues
- (2) They always have a l.i. set of n eigenvectors.

(Spectral Decomposition Thm.)