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 A, B $n \times n$ matrices

A similar to B if there is an invertible matrix P with $P^{-1}AP = B \iff A = Q^{-1}AQ$ where $Q = P^{-1}$. So A similar to $B \iff B$ similar to A .

$\det(A - \lambda I) = \det(B - \lambda I)$ if $B = P^{-1}AP$
 $\therefore$ similar matrices have same char. polyn.

$$\det(P^{-1}AP) = \det(P)^{-1} \det(A) \det(P) = \det(A)$$

$$\text{tr}(P^{-1}AP) = \text{tr}(APP^{-1}) = \text{tr}(A)$$

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = (-1)^n (\lambda^n + a_1 \lambda^{n-1} + \dots + a_n) = (-1)^n \Delta_A(\lambda)$$

$$\Delta_A(\lambda) = \lambda^n + a_1 \lambda^{n-1} + \dots + a_n = \text{normalized char. polyn of } A$$

Will show that the a_i 's can be expressed in terms of subdeterminants of A .

Case $n=2$: $A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{bmatrix}$

$$\Delta_\lambda(A) = \begin{vmatrix} \lambda - a_{11} & -a_{12} \\ -a_{21} & \lambda - a_{22} \end{vmatrix} = (\lambda - a_{11})(\lambda - a_{22}) - a_{12}a_{21}$$

$$= \lambda^2 - (a_{11} + a_{22})\lambda + a_{11}a_{22} - a_{12}a_{21}$$

$$= \lambda^2 - \text{tr}(A)\lambda + \det(A)$$

$$= (\lambda - \lambda_1)(\lambda - \lambda_2) = \lambda^2 - (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)\lambda + \lambda_1\lambda_2$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{tr}(A) = \lambda_1 + \lambda_2, \quad \det(A) = \lambda_1 \lambda_2$$

Example $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \Delta_A(\lambda) = \lambda^2 - 4\lambda + 1$

roots of char poly are $\frac{4 \pm \sqrt{12}}{2} = 2 \pm \sqrt{3}$

$\lambda_1 = 2 + \sqrt{3}, \lambda_2 = 2 - \sqrt{3}$ eigenvalues of A

$\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 = 4, \lambda_1 \lambda_2 = 4 - 3 = 1$

Problem. Construct a 2×2 matrix A with eigenvalues $2 + \sqrt{2}, 2 - \sqrt{2}$

Solution. $\text{tr}(A) = 4, \det(A) = 2$

$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ works, $B = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ also works

A and B are similar matrices since

$$P^{-1}AP = \begin{bmatrix} 2+\sqrt{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 2-\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix} = D$$

$$P = [P_1, P_2]$$

$$AP_1 = (2+\sqrt{2})P_1, AP_2 = (2-\sqrt{2})P_2$$

$$Q^{-1}BQ = \begin{bmatrix} 2+\sqrt{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 2-\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix} = D$$

$$Q = [Q_1, Q_2]$$

$$BQ_1 = (2+\sqrt{2})Q_1, BQ_2 = (2-\sqrt{2})Q_2$$

$$A = PDP^{-1} = PQ^{-1}BQP^{-1} = R^{-1}BR, \quad R = QP^{-1}$$

$\Rightarrow A$ similar to B

Case ($n=3$) $A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix}$

$$\Delta_A(\lambda) = \begin{vmatrix} \lambda - a_{11} & -a_{12} & -a_{13} \\ -a_{21} & \lambda - a_{22} & -a_{23} \\ -a_{31} & -a_{32} & \lambda - a_{33} \end{vmatrix} = (\lambda - a_{11})(\lambda - a_{22})(\lambda - a_{33}) \\ - a_{12}a_{23}a_{31} - a_{13}a_{21}a_{32} \\ - a_{13}a_{31}(\lambda - a_{22}) \\ - a_{32}a_{23}(\lambda - a_{11}) - (\lambda - a_{33})a_{21}a_{12} \\ = \lambda^3 - (a_{11} + a_{22} + a_{33})\lambda^2 + \left(\begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} \right) \lambda \\ - \det(A)$$

Ex $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ $\Delta_A(\lambda) = \lambda^3 - 6\lambda^2 + 9\lambda - 4$

General formula for $\Delta_A(\lambda) = \lambda^n + a_1\lambda^{n-1} + \dots + a_n$

$$a_i = (-1)^i \text{tr}_i(A)$$

where $\text{tr}_i(A)$ = sum of the principal i xi minors of A

principal minor of A = det of the submatrix det.
by rows $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_i$ and cols $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_i$
 $r_1 < r_2 < \dots < r_i$

$$\text{tr}_1(A) = \text{tr}(A), \quad \text{tr}_n(A) = \det(A)$$

$$\text{tr}_i(A) = \sum_{k_1 < \dots < k_i} \lambda_{k_1} \dots \lambda_{k_i}$$

Ex. $n=3$ $\text{tr}_2(A) = \lambda_1\lambda_2 + \lambda_1\lambda_3 + \lambda_2\lambda_3$

We now show that a symmetric 2×2 matrix is diagonalizable.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ b & c \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Delta_A(\lambda) = \lambda^2 - (a+c)\lambda + ac - b^2$$

Discriminant of this polyn is $(a+c)^2 - 4(ac - b^2)$
 $= (a+c)^2 - 4ac + 4b^2 = (a-c)^2 + 4b^2 \geq 0$

roots of char polyn. = $\frac{a+c \pm \sqrt{(a-c)^2 + 4b^2}}{2}$

Let λ_1, λ_2 be the eigenvalues of A

Let P_1 be an eigenvector with eigenvalue λ_1

if $\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$ let P_2 be an eigenvector with eigenvalue λ_2

Claim $P_1 \cdot P_2 = 0 = P_1^T P_2$

$$\lambda_1 P_1 \cdot P_2 = A P_1 \cdot P_2 = (A P_1)^T P_2 = P_1^T A P_2 = P_1^T \lambda_2 P_2 = \lambda_2 P_1^T P_2$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda_1 P_1 \cdot P_2 = \lambda_2 P_1 \cdot P_2$$

$$\Rightarrow (\lambda_1 - \lambda_2) P_1 \cdot P_2 = 0 \Rightarrow P_1 \cdot P_2 = 0 \text{ since } \lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$$

Now suppose $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2$.

Let P_2 be any col matrix orthogonal to P_1

claim $A P_2$ is orthogonal to P_1

Indeed, $A P_2 \cdot P_1 = (A P_2)^T P_1 = P_2^T A P_1 = P_2^T (\lambda_1 P_1) = \lambda_1 P_2^T P_1 = 0$

$$\Rightarrow A P_2 = c P_2 \Rightarrow P_2 \text{ is an eigenvector of } A \text{ with eigenvalue } c$$

as λ_1 is the only eigenvalue $\Rightarrow c = \lambda_1$

as λ_1 is the only eigenvalue

$$P = [P_1, P_2] \quad Q = [Q_1, Q_2]$$

$Q_i = P_i / \|P_i\|$ Now Q has for columns an orthogonal basis of $\mathbb{R}^2$ consisting of vectors of unit length, i.e.

$$Q^T Q = I$$

$$P^T P = \begin{bmatrix} \|P_1\|^2 & 0 \\ 0 & \|P_2\|^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\Rightarrow Q^{-1} = Q^T$ such a matrix called orthogonal

To do the above in general we need to work in $\mathbb{R}^n$ with the standard inner product

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}, Y = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$X \cdot Y = x_1 y_1 + \dots + x_n y_n = X^T Y$$

$$\|X\| = \sqrt{X \cdot X} = \sqrt{x_1^2 + \dots + x_n^2}$$

$$X, Y \text{ orthogonal if } X \cdot Y = 0$$

$P_1, \dots, P_n \in \mathbb{R}^n$ called orthogonal vectors

$$\text{if } P_i \cdot P_j = 0 \text{ for } i \neq j$$

if in addition $\|P_i\| = 1$ for all i the vectors are called orthonormal e.g. standard basis is orthonormal

$$\text{Ex } \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 2 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} \text{ orthogonal vectors}$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ orthonormal set of vectors}$$

$P_1, P_2, \dots, P_n$ are orthogonal vectors in $\mathbb{R}^{n \times 1}$

$$\Leftrightarrow P^T P = I \quad \text{where } P = [P_1, P_2, \dots, P_n]$$

$$\text{since } (i, j) \text{ entry of } P^T P = P_i^T P_j = P_i \cdot P_j = \begin{cases} 1 & i=j \\ 0 & i \neq j \end{cases}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow P \text{ invertible} \text{ \& } P^{-1} = P^T$$