

Week 4: Diagonalizability, Matrix Limits (textbook §5.2 and 5.3)  
 Invariant subspaces, Cayley-Hamilton Theorem (§5.4)

**Characterization of Diagonalizability**

Thm B: Let  $T: V \rightarrow V$  be a linear operator on  $V$  ( $\dim V < +\infty$ ).  
 Suppose the characteristic polynomial of  $T$  splits with  
 distinct eigenvalues:  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_k$ .  
 and algebraic multiplicity:  $m_1, m_2, \dots, m_k$ .  
 Then (a)  $T$  diagonalizable  $\iff \dim E_{\lambda_i} = m_i$  for all  $i=1, \dots, k$ .  
 (b) If  $T$  is diagonalizable and  $\beta_i$  is an ordered basis for  $E_{\lambda_i}$  ( $i=1, \dots, k$ ), then  $\beta = \beta_1 \cup \beta_2 \cup \dots \cup \beta_k$  is an eigenbasis of  $V$  for  $T$ .

Proof: We first prove (b), after establishing " $\implies$ " part of (a).

(I): (a) " $\implies$ " part: Assume  $T$  is diagonalizable, then  $\exists$  eigenbasis  $\beta$  s.t.

$$[T]_{\beta} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & \lambda_2 & \\ & & & \ddots \\ & & & & \lambda_k \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{Thus, } [T - \lambda_i I]_{\beta} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 - \lambda_i & & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & \lambda_2 - \lambda_i & \\ & & & \ddots \\ & & & & \lambda_k - \lambda_i \end{pmatrix}$$

$\implies \dim E_{\lambda_i} = m_i$

(II): (b): Assume  $T$  is diagonalizable and  $\beta_i$  is a basis for  $E_{\lambda_i}$ .

By (a) " $\implies$ ",  $\dim E_{\lambda_i} = m_i = \#\beta_i$ . Therefore, since char. poly. of  $T$  splits

$$\#\beta = \#\beta_1 + \#\beta_2 + \dots + \#\beta_k = m_1 + m_2 + \dots + m_k \stackrel{\downarrow}{=} \dim V$$


To show that  $\beta$  is an eigenbasis, it suffices to show that  $\beta$  is linearly independent.

Recall that: If  $0 \neq v_i \in E_{\lambda_i}$  belongs to distinct eigenspaces, then  $\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$  is linearly independent. (2) \*

Let  $\beta_i = \{v_{i1}, \dots, v_{in_i}\}$  and thus  $\beta = \{v_{ij} : 1 \leq i \leq k, 1 \leq j \leq n_i\}$ .

To show  $\beta$  is linearly indep., suppose  $\exists a_{ij} \in \mathbb{F}$  st.

$$\sum_{i,j} a_{ij} v_{ij} = \vec{0}$$

my goal is to show all  $a_{ij} = 0$  

regrouping terms:

$$\left( \sum_{j=1}^{n_1} a_{1j} v_{1j} \right) + \left( \sum_{j=1}^{n_2} a_{2j} v_{2j} \right) + \dots + \left( \sum_{j=1}^{n_k} a_{kj} v_{kj} \right) = \vec{0}$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{E_{\lambda_1}} \quad \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{E_{\lambda_2}} \quad \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{E_{\lambda_k}}$

By (\*), each term in the above expression vanishes:

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n_i} a_{ij} v_{ij} = \vec{0} \quad \text{for each } i=1, \dots, k.$$

Since  $\beta_i$  is linearly indep., we have  $a_{ij} = 0$  for  $i=1, \dots, k, j=1, \dots, n_i$ .

(III): (a) " $\Leftarrow$ " part: From the proof above, if  $\beta_i$  is a basis for  $E_{\lambda_i}$

then  $\beta = \beta_1 \cup \beta_2 \cup \dots \cup \beta_k$  is linearly indep. If furthermore  $\#\beta_i = m_i$

then  $\#\beta = m_1 + m_2 + \dots + m_k = \dim V$  and hence  $\beta$  is an eigenbasis.

Therefore,  $T$  is diagonalizable. □

Using the notion of "direct sum", we can rephrase Thm. B above:

Thm B rephrased:  $T: V \rightarrow V$  is diagonalizable if and only if

$$V = E_{\lambda_1} \oplus E_{\lambda_2} \oplus \dots \oplus E_{\lambda_k}$$

(see more details in textbook & tutorial)

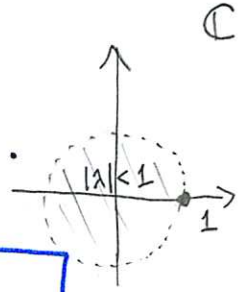


# Matrix Limits

Recall that if  $A \in M_{n \times n}(\mathbb{C})$  is diagonalizable, then we can compute  $A^k$  easily by the formula

$$A^k = Q D^k Q^{-1} = Q \begin{pmatrix} d_1^k & & \\ & d_2^k & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & d_n^k \end{pmatrix} Q^{-1}$$

Therefore,  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} A^k$  exists  $\Leftrightarrow \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} d_i^k$  exists for all  $i$ .



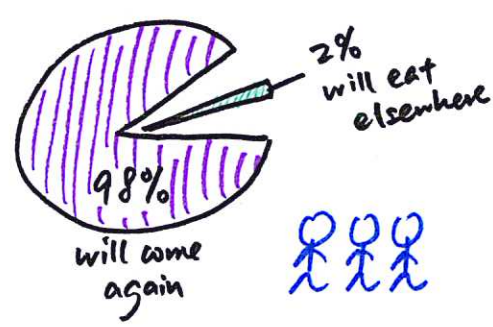
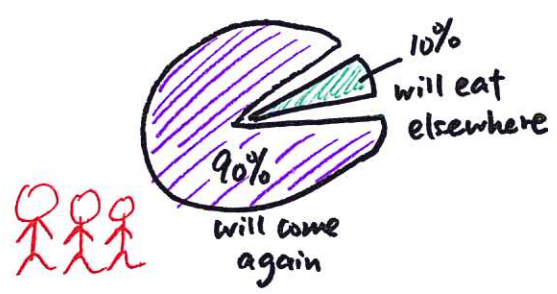
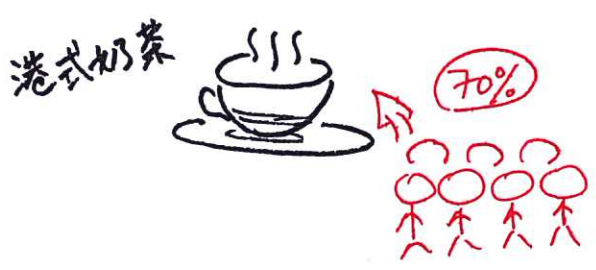
**FACT:** For  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \lambda^k$  exists  $\Leftrightarrow \lambda = 1$  or  $|\lambda| < 1$

Thm: If  $A \in M_{n \times n}(\mathbb{C})$  is diagonalizable and that for each eigenvalue  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ , either  $\lambda = 1$  or  $|\lambda| < 1$ , then  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} A^k$  exists.

## Example - a stochastic process

Coffee Corner

中大膳堂



Q: What will happen in the long run?

Let  $P = \begin{pmatrix} 0.7 \\ 0.3 \end{pmatrix}$  be the initial distribution of customers.

After 1 day, the proportion of people going to

Coffee conner:  $0.9 \times 0.7 + 0.02 \times 0.3 = 0.636$

中大小膳堂:  $0.1 \times 0.7 + 0.98 \times 0.3 = 0.364$

in matrix form:  $\begin{pmatrix} 0.9 & 0.02 \\ 0.1 & 0.98 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0.7 \\ 0.3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.636 \\ 0.364 \end{pmatrix}$   
"transition matrix"  $A$   $P$

Therefore,  $AP$  = proportion of customers after 1 day

Similarly,  $A^2P = A(AP)$  = proportion of customers after 2 days

$\vdots$   
 $A^kP$  = proportion of customers after  $k$  days.

Q: What is  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} A^kP$ ?

An easy computation shows that  $A$  is diagonalizable and that

$$A = QDQ^{-1} \text{ where } Q = \begin{pmatrix} 1/6 & -1/6 \\ 5/6 & 1/6 \end{pmatrix}, D = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.88 \end{pmatrix}$$

therefore,  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} A^k = Q \cdot \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} D^k \cdot Q^{-1} = Q \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} Q^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1/6 & 1/6 \\ 5/6 & 5/6 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} A^k P = \begin{pmatrix} 1/6 & 1/6 \\ 5/6 & 5/6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0.7 \\ 0.3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1/6 \\ 5/6 \end{pmatrix}$$

As a result, "eventually"  $1/6$  of the people will go to Coffee Conner and  $5/6$  of the people will go to 中大小膳堂, independent of what the initial proportion  $P$ ! (can you explain why?)

## Another Application - Linear ODE system

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Consider a linear system of ODE (ordinary differential equations)

$$\begin{aligned} X &= x(t) \\ y &= y(t) \end{aligned} \quad (\#) \quad \begin{cases} x' = x + y \\ y' = 3x - y \end{cases} \quad \text{i.e.} \quad \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 3 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\boxed{\vec{x}' = A \vec{x}}$$

Idea: If there were only one (scalar) differential equation:

$$\boxed{x' = ax} \Rightarrow \text{general solution: } \boxed{x(t) = ce^{at}}, \quad c \in \mathbb{R}$$

For a system of  $n$  ODE's:

$$\boxed{\vec{x}' = A \vec{x}} \quad A \in M_{n \times n}(\mathbb{R}) \stackrel{?}{\Rightarrow} \boxed{\vec{x}(t) = ce^{At}}$$

Q: How to define  $e^{At}$   
for a matrix  $A \in M_{n \times n}(\mathbb{R})$ ?

Recall:  $e^{at} := 1 + at + \frac{1}{2}a^2t^2 + \dots + \frac{1}{k!}a^k t^k + \dots$

Just define:  $e^{At} := I + At + \frac{1}{2}A^2t^2 + \dots + \frac{1}{k!}A^k t^k + \dots$

If  $A$  is diagonal, i.e.

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} d_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & d_n \end{pmatrix}, \text{ then } e^{At} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{d_1 t} & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & e^{d_n t} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (\text{Verify this!})$$

If  $A$  is NOT diagonal but diagonalizable, then  $\exists Q$  invertible s.t.

$$A = \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{diagonal}}}{Q D Q^{-1}} \Rightarrow e^{At} = Q e^{Dt} Q^{-1} \quad (\text{since } A^k = Q D^k Q^{-1})$$

Let us look at the example (#) again now.



(6)

Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 3 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Char. Poly. =  $(1-\lambda)(-1-\lambda) - 3 = \lambda^2 - 4 = (\lambda+2)(\lambda-2)$

eigenvalues

$$\lambda_1 = -2$$

$$\lambda_2 = 2$$

eigenspaces

$$E_{\lambda_1} = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

$$E_{\lambda_2} = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

eigenbasis

$$\beta = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}, \quad Q = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A = Q \begin{pmatrix} -2 & \\ & 2 \end{pmatrix} Q^{-1}$$

Therefore,

$$e^{At} = Q \begin{pmatrix} e^{-2t} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{2t} \end{pmatrix} Q^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} e^{-2t} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{2t} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -1/4 & 1/4 \\ 3/4 & 1/4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{4}e^{-2t} + \frac{3}{4}e^{2t} & \frac{1}{4}e^{-2t} + \frac{1}{4}e^{2t} \\ -\frac{3}{4}e^{-2t} + \frac{3}{4}e^{2t} & \frac{3}{4}e^{-2t} + \frac{1}{4}e^{2t} \end{pmatrix}$$

The general solution to (#) is:

$$\vec{x}(t) = e^{At} \begin{pmatrix} C_1 \\ C_2 \end{pmatrix} \Leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} x(t) \\ y(t) \end{pmatrix} = C_1 \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{4}e^{-2t} + \frac{3}{4}e^{2t} \\ -\frac{3}{4}e^{-2t} + \frac{3}{4}e^{2t} \end{pmatrix} + C_2 \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{4}e^{-2t} + \frac{1}{4}e^{2t} \\ \frac{3}{4}e^{-2t} + \frac{1}{4}e^{2t} \end{pmatrix}$$

Q: Why does it work?

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}' = A \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = Q \begin{pmatrix} -2 & \\ & 2 \end{pmatrix} Q^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \boxed{Q^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}'} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & \\ & 2 \end{pmatrix} \boxed{Q^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}}$$

If we do the change of variables  $\begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix} = Q^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$ , then we have

$$\begin{cases} u' = -2u \\ v' = 2v \end{cases} \quad \text{decoupled!!} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{cases} u = C_1 e^{-2t} \\ v = C_2 e^{2t} \end{cases} \quad C_1, C_2 \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Then back to  $\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$ -variable, we have

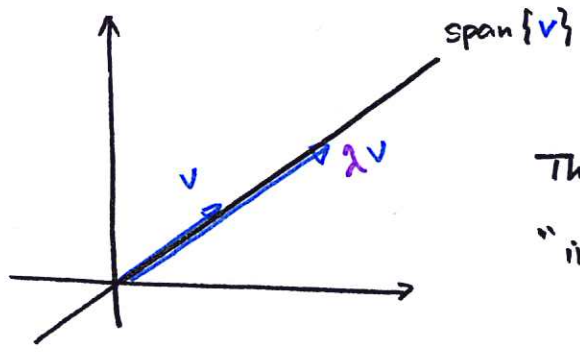
$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = Q \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -C_1 e^{-2t} + C_2 e^{2t} \\ 3C_1 e^{-2t} + C_2 e^{2t} \end{pmatrix}$$

(verify this gives the same answer as above!!)

Note: with different  $C_1, C_2$  which are arbitrary!

# Invariant Subspaces

If  $v \in V$  is an eigenvector of  $T: V \rightarrow V$  then  $Tv = \lambda v$



Note:  $T(\text{span}\{v\}) = \text{span}\{v\}$ .  $\lambda \neq 0$ .

The line  $\text{span}\{v\}$  is "preserved" or "invariant" under  $T$ .

Def<sup>n</sup>: Let  $T: V \rightarrow V$  be linear. A subspace  $W \subseteq V$  is a  $T$ -invariant subspace if  $T(W) \subseteq W$ .

Note: We may have  $T(W) \neq W$  !!

Examples of  $T$ -invariant subspace:

- $\{0\}, V$  trivial subspaces
- $R(T), N(T)$  (verify this!)
- $E_\lambda$  eigenspaces.

Pf: If  $v \in E_\lambda$ , then  $Tv = \lambda v$  and  $T(Tv) = T(\lambda v) = \lambda(Tv)$  therefore  $Tv \in E_\lambda$ .

Q: Given  $v \in V$ , can we find a smallest  $T$ -invariant subspace which contains  $v$ ?

$$W = \text{span}\{v, Tv, T^2v, \dots\}$$

$\uparrow$   
 $T$ -cyclic subspace generated by  $v$

$T$ -invariant  
(check this!)

Example:  $T: P_3(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow P_3(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $T(f) = f''$ .

The  $T$ -cyclic subspace generated by  $x^3 \in P_3(\mathbb{R})$  is:

$$W = \text{span} \left\{ x^3, \underbrace{T(x^3)}_{6x}, \underbrace{T^2(x^3)}_0, \underbrace{\dots}_0 \dots \right\} \leftarrow \text{terminates!}$$

$$= \text{span} \{ x^3, 6x \} = \{ c_1 x^3 + c_2 x \mid c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{R} \}$$

Example:  $T: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  rotation by  $2\pi/\sqrt{2}$ .

For any  $v \in \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $v \neq \vec{0}$ , the  $T$ -cyclic subspace it generates is

$$W = \text{span} \{ \underbrace{v, Tv, T^2v, \dots}_{\text{the vectors do not "terminate" but the span remains unchanged after finitely many terms!}} \} = \mathbb{R}^2$$

the vectors do not "terminate" but the span remains unchanged after finitely many terms!

- We care about  $T$ -invariant subspaces because we can restrict  $T$  to this subspace to get a "new" linear operator.

Given  $T: V \rightarrow V$  linear operator on  $V$   
 $U \rightarrow U$   
 $W \rightarrow W$   $T$ -invariant subspace.

then  $T_W: W \rightarrow W$  linear operator on  $W$   
 restriction of  $T$  to  $W$

Lemma: char. poly. of  $T_W$  divides char. poly. of  $T$ .

Proof: Let  $\gamma = \{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$  be a basis for  $W$  and extend it to a basis  $\beta = \{v_1, \dots, v_k, v_{k+1}, \dots, v_n\}$  for  $V$ .

$$[T]_{\beta} = \begin{pmatrix} [T_W]_{\gamma} & * \\ \mathcal{O} & * \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \det([T_W]_{\gamma} - \lambda I_k) \mid \det([T]_{\beta} - \lambda I_n)$$

∵  $W$  is  $T$ -invariant.



## Properties of $\det(A)$ : A Review

(9)

(1)  $\det(A^t) = \det(A)$  and  $\det(AB) = \det(A) \cdot \det(B)$ .

(2)  $\det(A) \neq 0 \Leftrightarrow A$  is invertible.

Moreover, in this case,  $\det(A^{-1}) = \frac{1}{\det(A)}$ .

(3) If  $B$  is obtained by switching two rows (or columns) of  $A$ , then  $\det(B) = -\det(A)$ .

(Cor: If  $A$  has two identical rows (or columns), then  $\det(A) = 0$ )

(4) If  $B$  is obtained by multiplying a row (or column) of  $A$  by a scalar  $c$ , then  $\det(B) = c \det(A)$ .

(Cor:  $\det(cA) = c^n \det(A)$  where  $A \in M_{n \times n}(\mathbb{F})$ .)

(5) If  $B$  is obtained by adding a multiple of a row (or column) to another of  $A$ , then  $\det(B) = \det(A)$ .

(6)  $\det(A) = \text{product of its diagonal entries}$  if  $A$  is upper (or lower) triangular.

Ex: If  $M = \begin{pmatrix} A & C \\ 0 & B \end{pmatrix}$  is a "block matrix", then where  $M \in M_{n \times n}(\mathbb{F})$ ,  $A \in M_{k \times k}(\mathbb{F})$ .

$$\det(M) = \det(A) \cdot \det(B)$$

Caution!

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} A & C \\ D & B \end{pmatrix} \neq \det(A) \det(B) - \det(C) \det(D)$$

(Ex: find an example -)

Example:  $T: P_3(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow P_3(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $T(f) = f''$ . (10)

Recall  $W = \text{span}\{x^3, x\}$   $T$ -invariant (generated by  $x^3$ )

For  $T_W: W \rightarrow W$  with basis  $\gamma = \{x^3, x\}$

$$[T_W]_{\gamma} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 6 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ since } \begin{cases} T_W(x^3) = 6x \in W \\ T_W(x) = 0 \in W \end{cases}$$

Extend  $\gamma$  to a basis  $\beta = \{x^3, x, x^3+x^2, 1\}$  for  $P_3(\mathbb{R})$

$$[T]_{\beta} = \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{\begin{matrix} 0 & 0 \\ 6 & 0 \end{matrix}} & \boxed{\begin{matrix} 0 & 0 \\ 6 & 0 \end{matrix}} \\ \boxed{\begin{matrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{matrix}} & \boxed{\begin{matrix} 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 \end{matrix}} \end{pmatrix} \text{ since } \begin{cases} T(x^3) = 6x \in W \\ T(x) = 0 \in W \\ T(x^3+x^2) = 6x + 2 \cdot 1 \\ T(1) = 0 \end{cases}$$

Therefore, the characteristic polynomial of  $T$  is

$$\det([T]_{\beta} - \lambda I) = \det \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{-\lambda} & \boxed{0} & \boxed{0} & \boxed{0} \\ \boxed{6} & \boxed{-\lambda} & \boxed{6} & \boxed{0} \\ \boxed{0} & \boxed{0} & \boxed{-\lambda} & \boxed{0} \\ \boxed{0} & \boxed{0} & \boxed{2} & \boxed{-\lambda} \end{pmatrix} = \det \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{-\lambda} & \boxed{0} \\ \boxed{6} & \boxed{-\lambda} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \det \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{-\lambda} & \boxed{0} \\ \boxed{2} & \boxed{-\lambda} \end{pmatrix}$$

"block matrix"!!  $\det([T_W]_{\gamma} - \lambda I)$

Hence,

$$\det([T_W]_{\gamma} - \lambda I) = \lambda^2 \mid \lambda^4 = \det([T]_{\beta} - \lambda I).$$

## Cayley-Hamilton Theorems

Theorem (Cayley-Hamilton)

(matrix form) Let  $f(\lambda)$  be the characteristic polynomial of  $A \in M_{n \times n}(\mathbb{F})$ .

Then,  $f(A) = \mathbf{0}$ , i.e.  $A$  "satisfies" the char. equation.

(operator form) Let  $f(\lambda)$  be the char. poly. of  $T: V \rightarrow V$  ( $\dim V < \infty$ ).

Then,  $f(T) = \mathbf{0}$ .

↑  
zero transformation

Example: Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in M_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{R})$ .

(11)

$$\text{Char. Poly.} = f(\lambda) = \det(A - \lambda I) = \det \begin{pmatrix} 1-\lambda & 2 \\ -2 & 1-\lambda \end{pmatrix} = (1-\lambda)^2 + 4$$

$$\text{i.e. } f(\lambda) = \lambda^2 - 2\lambda + 5.$$

Direct calculation:

$$A^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -3 & 4 \\ -4 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} f(A) &= A^2 - 2A + 5I = \begin{pmatrix} -3 & 4 \\ -4 & -3 \end{pmatrix} - 2 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + 5 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{0} \quad \underline{\text{zero matrix!}} \end{aligned}$$

Application: We can make use of this to find  $A^{-1}$ . (if  $A$  is invertible)

$$\boxed{A^2 - 2A + 5I = 0} \xrightarrow[\text{by } A^{-1}]{\text{multiply}} \boxed{A - 2I + 5A^{-1} = 0}$$

$$\text{rearrange } \Rightarrow A^{-1} = -\frac{1}{5}A + \frac{2}{5}I = -\frac{1}{5} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{2}{5} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{5} & -\frac{2}{5} \\ \frac{2}{5} & \frac{1}{5} \end{pmatrix}$$

To prove Cayley-Hamilton Theorem, we need the following:

Lemma: Let  $T: V \rightarrow V$  be a linear operator ( $\dim V < +\infty$ ).

$$W = \text{span}\{v, Tv, T^2v, \dots\} \quad T\text{-cyclic subspace gen. by } v \neq 0$$

Suppose  $k = \dim W$ . Then,

(a)  $\{v, Tv, T^2v, \dots, T^{k-1}v\}$  is a basis for  $W$

(b) If  $\boxed{a_0v + a_1Tv + \dots + a_{k-1}T^{k-1}v + T^k v = 0}$ ,

then char. poly. of  $T|_W = f(\lambda) = (-1)^k (a_0 + a_1\lambda + \dots + a_{k-1}\lambda^{k-1} + \lambda^k)$ .



Example:  $T: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ .  $T \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -b+c \\ a+c \\ 3c \end{pmatrix}$ .

$W = T$ -cyclic subspace generated by  $e_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ .

$T(e_1) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$  ;  $T^2(e_1) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = -e_1$

Thus,  $\dim W = 2$  and  $\beta = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\} = \{e_1, T e_1\}$  basis.

Since  $T^2 e_1 = -e_1 \Rightarrow e_1 + T^2 e_1 = 0$ . By Lemma (b),

char. poly. of  $T|_W = 1 + \lambda^2$ . [Check:  $[T|_W]_\beta = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ].

Proof of Lemma:

(a) Let  $j$  be the largest integer st.

$\beta = \{v, T v, \dots, T^{j-1} v\}$  is linearly independent (Note:  $j \geq 1$ )

Claim:  $j = k = \dim W$ .  $\Rightarrow$  (a)

Let  $Z = \text{Span } \beta$ . We will show that  $Z = W$

Clearly,  $Z \subseteq W$ . To prove  $W \subseteq Z$ , it suffices to prove that  $Z$  is  $T$ -invariant (since  $W$  is the smallest  $T$ -invariant subspace containing  $v$ ).

Pick any  $w \in Z$ ,  $\exists a_0, \dots, a_{j-1} \in \mathbb{F}$  st.

$w = a_0 v + a_1 T v + \dots + a_{j-1} T^{j-1} v$

$\Rightarrow T w = \underbrace{a_0 T v + a_1 T^2 v + \dots}_{\in Z} + \underbrace{a_{j-1} T^j v}_{\in Z \text{ by the choice of } j}$

So  $T w \in Z$ . We are done!

(b)  $T^k v \in Z = \text{span } \beta$

$\Rightarrow T^k v = -a_0 v - a_1 T v - a_2 T^2 v - \dots - a_{k-1} T^{k-1} v$   
for some  $a_i \in F$ .

Therefore, in the basis  $\beta = \{v, T v, T^2 v, \dots, T^{k-1} v\}$  for  $W$

$$[T_W]_\beta = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & -a_0 \\ 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & -a_1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & -a_{k-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

and the char. poly. is given by

$$f(\lambda) = \det([T_W]_\beta - \lambda I) = \det \begin{pmatrix} -\lambda & 0 & \dots & 0 & -a_0 \\ 1 & -\lambda & \dots & 0 & -a_1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & -a_{k-1} - \lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

Ex: By induction on  $k$   $= (-1)^k (a_0 + a_1 \lambda + \dots + a_{k-1} \lambda^{k-1} + \lambda^k)$

—  $\square$

Proof of Cayley-Hamilton Theorem: (operator form)

Need to show  $f(T)(v) = \vec{0}$  for all  $v \in V$ .

WLOG, assume  $v \neq \vec{0}$ , and let  $W = T$ -cyclic subspace gen. by  $v$ .  
with  $\dim W = k$ .

Denote  $f_W(\lambda)$  as the char. poly. of  $T_W$ .

Previous lemma (b)  $\Rightarrow$   $f_W(T)(v) = \vec{0}$  (why?)

An earlier lemma  $\Rightarrow f_W(\lambda) \mid f(\lambda)$   
 $\Rightarrow f(T)(v) = \vec{0}$

We have proved the theorem since  $v$  is arbitrary.

—  $\square$

[Caution:  $f_W(T) \neq O$ , it only gives  $\vec{0}$  when acting on  $v$ .]