

Short Takes 331

Eigensystems
&
Inverses
Part 2



Eigen systems & inverses. Part 2.

Consider A normal (i.e. $A^*A = AA^*$)

→ A is unitarily equivalent to a diagonal matrix D

$$U^*AU = D, \quad U^* = U^{-1}$$

$\left(\begin{array}{ccc} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \lambda_2 & \\ 0 & & \dots & \lambda_n \end{array} \right)$ matrix of eigenvalues

→ $A = UDU^*$ "spectral decomposition/representation"

$$A_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^N (\vec{v}_k)_i \lambda_k (\vec{v}_k^*)_j$$

\vec{v}_k eigenvectors
 λ_k eigenvalues

→ If A is invertible, we also have

$$(A^{-1})_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^N (\vec{v}_k)_i \lambda_k^{-1} (\vec{v}_k^*)_j$$

• Note

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_{ij} &= (A^{-1}A)_{ij} = \sum_{q=1}^N (A^{-1})_{iq} A_{qj} \\ &= \sum_{q=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^N (\vec{v}_k)_i \lambda_k^{-1} (\vec{v}_k^*)_q \sum_{h=1}^N (\vec{v}_h)_q \lambda_h (\vec{v}_h^*)_j \end{aligned}$$

$\hookrightarrow \delta_{kh}$ "orthonormality"

$$= \sum_{k=1}^N (\vec{v}_k)_i \lambda_k^{-1} \sum_{h=1}^N \lambda_h (\vec{v}_h^*)_j \delta_{kh}$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^N (\vec{v}_k)_i (\vec{v}_k^*)_j = \delta_{ij} \quad \text{"completeness"}$$

?

• Why completeness?

$$\delta_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^N (\vec{v}_k)_i (\vec{v}_k^*)_j$$

Take an arbitrary vector \vec{w} , then

$$[\mathbb{1} \cdot \vec{w}]_i = (\vec{w})_i$$

$$= \sum_j \delta_{ij} (\vec{w})_j =$$

$$= \sum_{j,k} (\vec{v}_k)_i (\vec{v}_k^*)_j (\vec{w})_j = \sum_k (\vec{v}_k)_i b_k,$$

$$b_k = \sum_j (\vec{v}_k^*)_j (\vec{w})_j$$

$$\rightarrow \boxed{\vec{w} = \sum_k \vec{v}_k b_k}$$

i.e. \vec{w} can be written as a linear combination of the \vec{v}_k eigenvectors, with coefficients b_k .

• In the example of the previous video ...

$$A = -\frac{d^2}{dx^2}$$



$$\phi(0) = \phi(L) = 0$$

$$\begin{cases} \psi_k = C \sin\left(\frac{k\pi}{L} x\right), & k=1, 2, \dots \\ \lambda_k = \left(\frac{k\pi}{L}\right)^2 \end{cases}$$

orthonormality: $\int_0^L \psi_k^*(x) \psi_{k'}(x) dx = \delta_{kk'}$

completeness: $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \psi_k(x) \psi_k^*(x') = \delta(x-x')$