

Tuesday, November 29 \*\* Diagonalization & the Dot Product

1. Suppose that an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  has only the eigenvalue 1 and that  $A$  has  $n$  independent eigenvectors (all for the eigenvalue 1). What matrix is  $A$ ? Justify your answer.
2. (Generalized eigenvectors) Let

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 4 & 1 \\ -2 & -8 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

- (a) Find the eigenvalues of  $A$  and find a basis for each eigenspace.
- (b) The matrix  $A$  is *not* diagonalizable. One of the eigenvalues does not have “enough” eigenvectors. Call this eigenvalue  $\lambda_1$ . The dimension of the nullspace of  $A - \lambda_1 I$  is smaller than expected.

One can look for “generalized eigenvectors” by considering the nullspace of powers of the matrix  $A - \lambda_1 I$ . For instance, if  $(A - \lambda_1 I)^2 \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{0}$ , then  $(A - \lambda_1 I) \mathbf{w}$  is an eigenvector. Let  $\mathbf{v}_1$  be the eigenvector you found in part (a), and solve the matrix equation

$$(A - \lambda_1 I) \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{v}_1.$$

- (c) Use part (b) to show that  $A$  is similar to a matrix of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda_2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

This is called the “Jordan canonical form” for the nondiagonalizable matrix  $A$ .

3. Find the magnitude of  $\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$  and find a unit vector  $\mathbf{u}$  pointing in the same direction as  $\mathbf{v}$ .
4. Show that  $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0$  if and only if  $\|\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}\|^2 = \|\mathbf{u}\|^2 + \|\mathbf{v}\|^2$ .