# A Takagi Factorization of a Real Symmetric Tridiagonal Matrix

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#### Abstract

This paper presents an explicit Takagi Factorization of a real symmetric tridiagonal matrix.

**Keywords:** Tridiagonal matrices; Takagi Factorization; Eigenvalues; Eigenvectors; Orthogonal Polynomials

# 1 Introduction

Complex symmetric matrices arise from many applications, such as chemical exchange in nuclear magnetic resonance and power systems. Singular value decomposition (SVD) reveals a great deal of properties of a matrix. A complex symmetric matrix has a symmetric SVD (SSVD), also called Takagi Factorization, which exploits the symmetry [3]. Let A be a complex symmetric matrix, its Takagi factorization has the form:

$$A = U\Sigma U^T \tag{1.1}$$

where U is unitary and the  $\Sigma$  diagonal singular value matrix. The columns of U are called the Takagi vectors.

As the case of a general matrix, computing the Takagi Factorization of a complex symmetric matrix consists of two stages: tridiagonalization and diagonalization. In the first stage, a complex symmetric matrix A is reduced to a

complex symmetric tridiagonal T using two-side Householder transformations or Lanczos method [8, 9]. In the second stage, the Takagi Factorization

$$T = U\Sigma U^T \tag{1.2}$$

of the complex symmetric tridiagonal T resulted from the first stage is computed. The methods for the second stage include the implicit QR method [9] and the divide-andconquer method [12].

This paper presents a Takagi Factorization of a real symmetric tridiagonal matrix.

### 2 Preliminaries

For the symmetric tridiagonal matrix

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ b_1 & a_2 & b_2 & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & b_2 & \ddots & \ddots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & b_{n-1} \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & b_{n-1} & a_n \end{pmatrix} \in \mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{R}),$$

where  $\{a_i\}_{1\leq i\leq n}$  and  $\{b_i\}_{1\leq i\leq n-1}$  are sequences of real numbers such that  $b_i\neq 0$  for i=1,2,...,n-1, we associate the polynomial sequence  $\{P_i\}_{-1\leq i\leq n}$  characterized by a three-term recurrence relation

$$xP_i(x) = b_{i+1}P_{i+1}(x) + a_{i+1}P_i(x) + b_iP_{i-1}(x), \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, n-1,$$
 (2.1)

with initial conditions  $P_{-1}(x) = 0$  and  $P_0(x) = 1$ , where  $b_n = b_0 = 1$ . Let put for  $i \geq 0$ ,  $Q_i = \left(\prod_{k=0}^i b_k\right) P_i$ . Then the polynomial sequence  $\{Q_i\}_{-1 \leq i \leq n}$  characterized by a three-term recurrence relation

$$xQ_i(x) = Q_{i+1}(x) + a_{i+1}Q_i(x) + b_i^2 Q_{i-1}(x).$$
(2.2)

with with initial conditions  $Q_{-1}(x) = 0$  and  $Q_0(x) = 1$ . By a theorem of Favard [13] we know that the family of polynomials  $\{Q_i(x)\}$  defined by (2.2) is orthogonal with respect to a probability distribution F(x). A standard result in the theory of orthogonal polynomials (see [11,Theorem 3.2.1]) is that for each  $i \geq 2$ , the zeros of  $Q_i(x)$  (an so for  $P_i(x)$ ) are real, distinct, and separate those of  $Q_{i-1}(x)$ . We can write the relations (2.1) in a matrix form

$$x\mathbf{P}_{n-1}(x) = T\mathbf{P}_{n-1}(x) + P_n(x)E_n,$$
 (2.3)

where  $\mathbf{P}_{n-1}(x) = [P_0(x), P_1(x), \ldots, P_{n-1}(x)]^t$ , and  $E_n = [0, 0, \ldots 0, 1]^t \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . If  $(\lambda_j)_{0 \le j \le n-1}$  are the zeros of the polynomial  $P_n$ , then it follows from (2.2) that each  $\lambda_j$  is an eigenvalue of the corresponding tridiagonal matrix T and

$$\mathbf{P}_{n-1}(\lambda_i) = [P_0(\lambda_i), P_1(\lambda_i), \dots, P_{n-1}(\lambda_i)]^t$$

is a corresponding eigenvector. Hence the (monic) characteristic polynomial of T is precisely  $Q_n$ , i.e.,

$$Q_n(x) = det(xI_n - T) = \left(\prod_{k=0}^n b_k\right) P_n, \quad n = 1, 2, ..., .$$

The polynomials  $\{P_i\}_{-1 \leq i \leq n}$  verify the well known *Christoffel-Darboux* formula:

#### Lemma 2.1 We have

$$\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} P_i(x) P_i(y) = \frac{P_n(y) P_{n-1}(x) - P_n(x) P_{n-1}(y)}{x - y} \text{ for } x \neq y.$$
 (2.4)

$$\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} P_i(x) P_i(x) = P'_n(x) P_{n-1}(x) - P_n(x) P'_{n-1}(x).$$
 (2.5)

**Proof.** Using (2.1) we can write

$$(x - a_{i+1}) P_i(x) = b_i P_{i-1}(x) + b_{i+1} P_{i+1}(x).$$

In particular,

$$(x - a_{i+1}) P_i(x) P_i(y) = b_i P_{i-1}(x) P_i(y) + b_{i+1} P_{i+1}(x) P_i(y),$$
  

$$(y - a_{i+1}) P_i(x) P_i(y) = b_i P_{i-1}(y) P_i(x) + b_{i+1} P_{i+1}(y) P_i(x).$$

This implies that

$$(y-x) P_i(x) P_i(y) = b_i P_{i-1}(y) P_i(x) - b_{i+1} P_i(y) P_{i+1}(x) + b_{i+1} P_{i+1}(y) P_i(x) - b_i P_i(y) P_{i-1}(x).$$

Hence

$$(y-x)\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} P_i(x)P_i(y) = b_0 P_{-1}(y)P_0(x) - b_n P_{n-1}(y)P_n(x) + b_n P_n(y)P_{n-1}(x) - b_0 P_{-1}(x)P_0(y).$$

Finally,

$$(y-x)\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} P_i(x)P_i(y) = P_n(y)P_{n-1}(x) - P_{n-1}(y)P_n(x).$$

Tending y to x we get formula (2.5). The proof is completed.  $\square$ 

Since all the eigenvalues  $\lambda_0, \lambda_1, ..., \lambda_{n-1}$  of T are distincts, we can write

$$T = PDP^{-1}$$

where  $D = diag(\lambda_0, \lambda_1, ..., \lambda_{n-1})$  and P is the transforming matrix. Namely  $P = (p_{ij} = P_{i-1}(\lambda_{j-1}))_{1 \leq i,j \leq n}$ .

#### Lemma 2.2

 $P^{-1} = (s_{ij})_{1 \le i; j \le n}$  is defined as follows:.

$$s_{ij} = \frac{P_{j-1}(\lambda_{i-1})}{P'_{n}(\lambda_{i-1})P_{n-1}(\lambda_{i-1})}.$$
(2.6)

**Proof.** By using 2.4) and (2.5) we obtain

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n} s_{ik} p_{kj} = \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{P_{k-1}(\lambda_{i-1}) P_{k-1}(\lambda_{j-1})}{P'_{n}(\lambda_{i-1}) P_{n-1}(\lambda_{i-1})} = \delta_{ij},$$

where  $\delta_{ij}$  is the Kronecker symbol. The result follows.  $\square$ 

#### Lemma 2.3

Let  $(\lambda_k)_{0 \le k \le n-1}$  are the eigenvalues of T, then

$$P'_{n}(\lambda_{k}) P_{n-1}(\lambda_{k}) > 0 \text{ for } k = 0, 1, ..., n-1.$$
 (2.7)

**Proof.** Without loss of generality one can assume that

$$\lambda_0 < \lambda_0^{(n-1)} < \lambda_1 < \dots < \lambda_{n-2} < \lambda_{n-2}^{(n-1)} < \lambda_{n-1},$$

where  $\left(\lambda_k^{(n-1)}\right)_{0 \leq k \leq n-2}$  are the roots of the polynomial  $P_{n-1}$ . Since  $b_n = 1$ , from the relation (2.1),  $P_n$  and  $P_{n-1}$  has the same leading coefficient  $\beta \in \mathbb{R}$ . We can write

$$P'_{n}(\lambda_{k}) = n\beta \prod_{\substack{i=0\\i\neq k}}^{n-1} (\lambda_{k} - \lambda_{i}) \text{ and } P_{n-1}(\lambda_{k}) = \beta \prod_{j=0}^{n-2} (\lambda_{k} - \lambda_{i}^{(n-1)})$$

Assuming  $\beta > 0$ , then the sign of  $P'_n(\lambda_k)$  is that of  $(-1)^k$  and the sign of  $P'_{n-1}(\lambda_k)$  is that of  $(-1)^k$ . The result follows.  $\square$ 

## 3 Main Result

Let the matrix tridiagonal

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ b_1 & a_2 & b_2 & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & b_2 & \ddots & \ddots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & b_{n-1} \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & b_{n-1} & a_n \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $\{a_i\}_{1\leq i\leq n-1}$  and  $\{b_i\}_{1\leq i\leq n-1}$  are sequences of real numbers such that  $b_i\neq 0$  for all n=1,2,...,n-1.

**Theorem 3.1** The Takaqi Factorization of T is:

$$T = U\Sigma U^T,$$

where  $\Sigma = diag(\lambda_0, \lambda_1, ..., \lambda_{n-1}), \lambda_0, \lambda_1, ..., \lambda_{n-1}$  are the eigenvalues of T, and  $U = (u_{ij})_{1 \leq i,j \leq n}$  such that :

$$u_{ij} = \frac{P_{j-1}(\lambda_{i-1})}{\sqrt{P'_n(\lambda_{i-1})P_{n-1}(\lambda_{i-1})}}.$$
(2.8)

**Proof.** The proof follow from Lemma 2.2. and Lemma 2.3..  $\Box$ 

# 4 Example

A most important OPS is the Chebyshev polynomial of the second kind,  $\{Un\}_{n\geq 0}$ , which satisfies the three-term recurrence relations

$$2xU_n(x) = U_{n+1}(x) + U_{n-1}(x), \ n = 1, 2, ...,$$

with initial conditions  $U_0(x) = 1$  and  $U_1(x) = 2x$ . It is well known (cf. [4], e.g.) that each  $U_n$  also satisfies  $U_n(x) = \frac{\sin((n+1)\theta)}{\sin(\theta)}$ ,  $x = \cos(\theta)$  ( $0 \le \theta < \pi$ ) and by consequent the zeros of  $U_n$  are  $\cos\left(\frac{(l+1)\pi}{n+1}\right)$ , l = 0, 1, ..., n-1.

Let T be an n-by-n real tridiagonal Toeplitz matrix defined by

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} a & b & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ b & a & b & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & b & \ddots & \ddots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & b \\ 0 & \cdots & b & b & a \end{pmatrix} \in \mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{R}),$$

where  $b \neq 0$ . The polynomial sequence  $\{P_i\}_{1 \leq i \leq n-1}$  associated to T verifies

$$xP_i(x) = bP_{i+1}(x) + aP_i(x) + bP_{i-1}(x), \quad i = 0, 1, 2 \dots, n-1,$$

with initial conditions  $P_{-1}(x) = 0$  and  $P_0(x) = 1$ . By simple calculation we can show that  $P_i(x) = U_n\left(\frac{x-a}{2h}\right)$ , i = 0, ..., n. The eigenvalues of T are

$$\lambda_l = a + 2b \cos\left(\frac{(l+1)\pi}{n+1}\right), \quad l = 0, 1, ..., n-1.$$

Then:

$$T = U\Sigma U^T,$$

where  $\Sigma = diag(\lambda_0 , \lambda_1 , ..., \lambda_{n-1})$  and  $U = (u_{ij})$  such that :

$$u_{ij} = \frac{P_{j-1}(\lambda_{i-1})}{\sqrt{P'_n(\lambda_{i-1})P_{n-1}(\lambda_{i-1})}} = \frac{\sin\left(\frac{(ij)\pi}{n+1}\right)}{\sqrt{(n+1)\sin\left(\frac{(i)\pi}{n+1}\right)}}.$$

We leave the details to the reader.

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Received: January 1, 2008