

**L19** How do we find the  $\Pi_i$ ? If  $\alpha$  is diagonalizable with basis  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  of eigenvectors, let

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 & v_2 & \dots & v_n \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{with some basis where } \alpha \mapsto A = (a_{ij})$$

(we regard the  $v_i$  as column vectors w.r.t. this)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } A \cdot P &= \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 v_1 & \dots & \lambda_n v_n \end{bmatrix} & \text{(the } \lambda_i \text{ here are not nec. distinct)} \\ &= P \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \dots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow P^{-1}AP = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & \\ & \dots & \\ & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}$$

if the matrix of eigenvectors actually puts  $A$  into diagonal form (assuming  $\alpha$  is diagonalizable)

Next, we group the eigenvectors according to the distinct eigenvalues (i.e. renumber the  $v_i$ )

$$P^{-1}AP = D = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 I_{d_1} & & 0 \\ & \dots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_r I_{d_r} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \lambda_i \text{ distinct}$$

$$\text{Here } V = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n E(\lambda_i, \alpha), \quad d_i = \dim(E(\lambda_i, \alpha))$$

$$\text{Let } \Pi_i^D = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & & 0 \\ & \dots & \\ 0 & & I_{d_i} & \dots & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{e.g. } \Pi_1^D = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \dots & 0 \\ & \dots & \\ 0 & & 0 & \dots & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{clearly } (\Pi_i^D)^2 = \Pi_i^D, \quad \Pi_i^D \Pi_j^D = 0 \quad j \neq i, \quad \sum_i \Pi_i^D = I_n$$

and  $D = \sum \lambda_i \Pi_i^D$

$\Rightarrow A = P D P^{-1} = \sum_i \lambda_i \underbrace{P \Pi_i^D P^{-1}}$

$\downarrow$

$\Pi_i \leftrightarrow \Pi_i$  as linear map.

i.e.  $\alpha = \sum_i \lambda_i \Pi_i$  in the basis.

check  $\Pi_i$  are projections etc.

$(P \Pi_i^D P^{-1})^2 = P \Pi_i^D \underbrace{P^{-1} P}_{\Pi_i^D} \Pi_i^D P^{-1} = P \Pi_i^D P^{-1}$

similarly for  $P \Pi_i^D P^{-1} P \Pi_j^D P^{-1} = 0$  if  $i \neq j$

and  $\sum_i P \Pi_i^D P^{-1} = P \underbrace{(\sum_i \Pi_i^D)}_{I_n} P^{-1} = I_n$

so  $\Pi_i$  have the required properties.

Example  $A = \begin{bmatrix} -6 & 6 \\ -12 & 11 \end{bmatrix} \leftrightarrow \alpha: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$   
wrt standard basis

we saw that  $v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}, v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$  eigenvector with  
eigenvalues  $\lambda_1 = 2$   
 $\lambda_2 = 3$

$\Rightarrow P = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 4 & 3 \end{bmatrix}, D = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \quad d_1 = d_2 = 1$

check  $\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 4 & 3 \end{bmatrix}}_P \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}}_D \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 3 & -2 \\ -4 & 3 \end{bmatrix}}_{P^{-1}} = \begin{bmatrix} -6 & 6 \\ -12 & 11 \end{bmatrix}$

$\Pi_1 \leftrightarrow \Pi_1 = P \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} P^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 4 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -2 \\ -4 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 9 & -6 \\ 12 & -8 \end{bmatrix}$

$\Pi_2 \leftrightarrow \Pi_2 = P \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} P^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 4 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -2 \\ -4 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -8 & 6 \\ -12 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$

$\alpha = 2\Pi_1 + 3\Pi_2 \leftrightarrow A = 2 \begin{bmatrix} 9 & -6 \\ 12 & -8 \end{bmatrix} + 3 \begin{bmatrix} -8 & 6 \\ -12 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \quad \checkmark$

Example / quiz

$V =$  polynomials of degree  $\leq 3$   
(and zero)

basis  $1, y, y^2, y^3$  over  $\mathbb{R}$

$$\alpha(f) = f' \iff A = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha(1) & \alpha(y) & \alpha(y^2) & \alpha(y^3) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{as } \alpha(1) = 0, \alpha(y) = 1, \alpha(y^2) = 2y, \alpha(y^3) = 3y^2$$
$$= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Q** Are there any eigenvectors of  $\alpha$ ?  $\alpha(f) = \lambda f$   
Some  $\lambda$

yes  no

$f = 1, \alpha(1) = 0 = 0 \cdot 1$  eigenvalue 0.

**Q** Are there any others? No as  $f'$  lowers degree so can't have  $f' = \lambda f$  except  $\lambda = 0$ . So  $\alpha$  is an example of a linear map which is not diagonalizable.

S.S Characteristic and minimal polynomials

Recall that if  $\alpha: V \rightarrow V$  corresponds to  $A$  w.r.t a basis and we change the basis then  $A$  changes to  $A' = P^{-1}AP$ . The eigenvalues of  $\alpha$  don't change and other quantities like

$$\text{Tr}(A) = \text{Tr}(A')$$

$$\det(A) = \det(A')$$

$$P_A(x) = P_{A'}(x)$$

$\iff$  all properties of  $\alpha$  independent of the basis.

Det 5.16 (a) We define  $\det(\alpha)$  of a linear map  $\alpha: V \rightarrow V$  ( $V$  f.d.) as the det of any matrix corresponding to  $\alpha$  w.r.t a basis ("representing"  $\alpha$ ). Similarly  $\text{tr}(\alpha)$  is trace of any matrix representing  $\alpha$ .

(b) Define  $P_\alpha(x)$  as the characteristic polynomial  $P_A(x)$  for any  $A$  representing  $\alpha$ .

(c) We define  $m_\alpha(x)$  the "minimal polynomial of  $\alpha$ " as the least degree monic polynomial s.t.  $m_\alpha(\alpha) = 0$  as map  $V \rightarrow V$

(Here, "monic" means the coefficient of the top power of  $x$  is 1 so  $x^n + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + \dots + a_0$  is a monic of degree  $n$ )

We can also define  $m_A(x)$  in the same way as the smallest degree monic s.t.  $m_A(A) = 0$ . This is independent of the choice of matrix representing  $\alpha$ :

$$\text{If } m_0 I_n + m_1 A + \dots + A^n = 0 \quad (n = \dim V)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow P^{-1} (m_0 I_n + m_1 A + \dots + A^n) P = 0 \\ = m_0 I_n + m_1 A' + \dots + A'^n \quad (A' = P^{-1} A P)$$

$$\text{(e.g. } (P^{-1} A P)^n = P^{-1} A P P^{-1} A P \dots P^{-1} A P = P^{-1} A^n P \text{ etc.)}$$

$$\text{so } m_A(A') = 0$$

This is the property of  $m_{A'}(x)$  and this has the same degree as  $m_A(x)$ .

But  $m_{A'}(x)$  has small smallest degree s.t.  $m_{A'}(A) = 0$   
 $\therefore m_A = m_{A'}$ .

So  $m_\alpha(x)$  is defined, independently of the choice of basis.

We know that  $P_\alpha(x) = 0$  by Cayley-Hamilton theorem so  $m_\alpha(x)$  exists.

Finally,  $m_\alpha(x)$  is unique with the property stated since if  $m_\alpha(x)$ ,  $m'_\alpha(x)$  are two candidates for minimal polynomial

then  $(m_\alpha - m'_\alpha)(x) = 0 - 0 = 0$

but  $m - m'_\alpha$  is either zero or has

smaller degree. Latter case is not allowed since can divide thru by the coeff of the top degree and get a monic of smaller degree that vanishes on  $\alpha$ . (but  $m_\alpha, m'_\alpha$  were smallest such). So  $m_\alpha = m'_\alpha$

Last time we defined  $m_\alpha(t)$  the minimal polynomial of a map  $\alpha: V \rightarrow V$  as the lowest degree monic s.t.  $m_\alpha(\alpha) = 0$

- we saw its unique
- we saw its can be computed for any matrix representation  $A$  of  $\alpha$  as  $m_A(t)$  (smallest degree monic s.t.  $m_A(A) = 0$ ) and is independent of the choice of representative.

Prop 5.17 For any  $\alpha: V \rightarrow V$ ,  $m_\alpha(t)$  divides  $P_\alpha(t)$ .

Proof Suppose not. We have Euclidean algorithm (which works for polynomials over any field) to write  $P_\alpha(t) = q(t)m_\alpha(t) + r(t)$

where  $r=0$  or  $r$  has degree  $<$  degree of  $m_\alpha(t)$ .

$$\Rightarrow 0 = P_\alpha(\alpha) = \underbrace{m_\alpha(\alpha)}_0 q(\alpha) + r(\alpha) \quad \text{as}$$

map  $V \rightarrow V$ .  $\Rightarrow r(\alpha) = 0$ . If  $r \neq 0$  we can normalize so that it is monic, which contradicts that  $m_\alpha$  was minimal.

$\therefore r=0$ ,  $P_\alpha(t) = q(t)m_\alpha(t)$  some poly  $q(t)$  QED

Theorem 5.18 let  $\alpha: V \rightarrow V$  be a linear map

- ( $V$  is f.d.) TFAE (a)  $\lambda$  an eigenvalue of  $\alpha$   
 (b)  $\lambda$  a root of  $P_\alpha(t)$   
 (c)  $\lambda$  a root of  $m_\alpha(t)$

Example  $A = \begin{bmatrix} -6 & 6 \\ -12 & 11 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\alpha: V \rightarrow V$   
 $V = \mathbb{R}^2$  with its standard basis.

$$P_A(x) = \det(xI_2 - A) = \begin{vmatrix} x+6 & -6 \\ 12 & x-11 \end{vmatrix}$$
$$= (x+6)(x-11) + 72$$
$$= x^2 - 5x + 6$$
$$= (x-2)(x-3)$$

f.f. what we found for the eigenvalues:  $\lambda = 2, 3$  of  $A$ , these are the roots of  $P_A(x)$  and hence  $P_A(x)$ .  $m_\alpha(x)$  has to divide  $P_A(x)$

So options are  $m_\alpha(x) = \begin{cases} (x-2)(x-3) = P_A(x) \\ x-2 & \text{X doesn't have 3 as root} \\ x-3 & \text{X doesn't have 2 as root} \end{cases}$   
 $\therefore m_\alpha(x) = P_A(x) = (x-2)(x-3)$

Example  $\alpha = \frac{d}{dy}$ ,  $V = \mathbb{R}[y]_3$  (polys degree  $\leq 3$ )

$$\leftrightarrow A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ in basis } 1, y, y^2, y^3$$

$$P_A(x) = \det(xI_4 - A) = \begin{vmatrix} x & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & x & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & x-3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & x \end{vmatrix} = x^4 = P_A(x)$$

Spot quiz What is  $m_\alpha(x)$  or  $m_A(x)$ ?

- $x^4$
- $x^3$
- $x^2$
- $x$
- other

we know it divides  $P_A = x^4$  and can't be  $m_A = 1$  as vanishes  $m_\alpha$ , can't be  $x$  as  $M_A(x) = 0 \Rightarrow A = 0$ ,

but  $A^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \neq 0$ ,  $A^3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \neq 0$

so similarly  $m_A(x)$  can't be  $x^2, x^3 \dots m_A = x^4$ .

IF we do this over  $\mathbb{F}_3$ , define  $\frac{d}{dy} y^m = m y^{m-1}$

on  $\mathbb{F}_3[x]_3$  but now  $A \neq 0$ ,  $A^2 \neq 0$  but  $A^3 = 0$

so  $m_A(x) = x^3$  in this case.

Example (variant of previous)  $V = \mathbb{R}[y]_3$

$\beta(f) = y f' \iff B = [\beta(1), \beta(y), \beta(y^2), \beta(y^3)]$   
 $= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  eg  $\beta(y^3) = 3y^3$

so  $B = \sum_{i=1}^4 \lambda_i \Pi_i$ ,  $\Pi_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\Pi_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  etc.

$P_B(x) = \begin{vmatrix} x & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & x-1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & x-2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & x-3 \end{vmatrix} = x(x-1)(x-2)(x-3) = P_B(x)$

4 distinct roots corresponding to 4 distinct eigenvalues.  $m_B(x) = m_B(\lambda)$  has to have the same root, so  $m_B(x) = P_B(x)$ .

proof of Theorem 5.18 (a)  $\implies$  (c): let  $\lambda$  be an eigenvalue

of  $\alpha$  with eigenvector  $v$ ,  $\alpha(v) = \lambda v$ ,  $v \neq 0$

$\implies \alpha^k(v) = \lambda^k v \implies f(\alpha)v = f(\lambda)v$ , for any polynomial  $f$ . (choose  $f = m_\alpha$ )

$0 = m_\alpha(\alpha)v = m_\alpha(\lambda)v$ , but  $v \neq 0 \implies m_\alpha(\lambda) = 0$

(b)  $\Rightarrow$  (a): Suppose  $P_\alpha(\lambda) = 0$  i.e.  $\det(\lambda I - \alpha) = 0$  (92)  
 so  $\lambda I - \alpha$  is not invertible  
 i.e.  $\lambda I - \alpha$  not of full rank,  $\dim(\text{Im}(\lambda I - \alpha)) < \dim V$   
 $\Leftrightarrow$  by rank + nullity formula,  
 $\dim(\ker(\lambda I - \alpha)) > 0$ ,  
 i.e.  $\chi(\lambda I - \alpha) > 0$  i.e.  $\exists v \neq 0, v \in V$  s.t.  
 $(\lambda I - \alpha)v = 0$  i.e.  $\alpha v = \lambda v$  i.e. an eigenvector.

(c)  $\Rightarrow$  (b): Suppose  $\lambda$  a root of  $m_\alpha$  so  $\lambda - \lambda$   
 divides  $m_\alpha(\lambda)$ . But  $m_\alpha(\lambda)$  divides  $P_\alpha(\lambda)$   
 so  $\lambda - \lambda$  divides  $P_\alpha(\lambda)$   $\left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{i.e. } m_\alpha = (\lambda - \lambda) q(\lambda) \\ \text{or } P_\alpha = m_\alpha \cdot q'(\lambda) = (\lambda - \lambda) q q' \end{array} \right]$   
 $\therefore \lambda$  a root of  $P_\alpha$ . Q.E.D.

Theorem 5.20 If  $\alpha: V \rightarrow V$  a linear map  
 ( $V$  f.d.) then  $\alpha$  is diagonalizable iff  
 $m_\alpha$  is a product of distinct linear factors

e.g.  $A = \begin{bmatrix} -6 & 6 \\ -12 & 11 \end{bmatrix}$  we saw  $m_\alpha(\lambda) = (\lambda - 2)(\lambda - 3)$   
 $\uparrow$   $\uparrow$   
linear factors,  
distinct.

so  $\alpha$  diagonalizable as we saw.

$B_3$  untract  $A \mapsto \alpha(f) = f'$  over  $\mathbb{R}$ ,  $m_\alpha(\lambda) = \lambda^4$   
 is a product of linear factors  $(\lambda - 0)$  but repeated  
 so not diagonalizable. Similarly over  $\mathbb{F}_3, \mathbb{F}_2$ .

This theorem tells us that before trying  
 to find a basis of eigenvectors to  
 diagonalize  $\alpha$ , check its  $m_\alpha$  to see if  
 it is possible, and find the eigenvalues by

Theorem 5.18

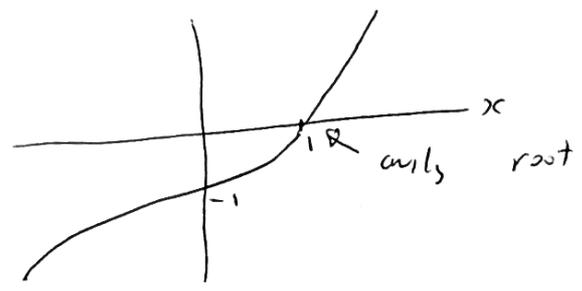
L21

Example  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  over  $\mathbb{R}$

$$P_A(\lambda) = \begin{vmatrix} \lambda & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & -1 \\ -1 & 0 & \lambda \end{vmatrix} = \lambda^3 - 1 = (\lambda - 1)(\lambda^2 + \lambda + 1)$$

this does not factorise further over  $\mathbb{R}$  as  $\lambda^2 + \lambda + 1$  has no roots over  $\mathbb{R}$  (from the formula for roots of quadratics).

Or sketch  $P_A(x) = x^3 - 1$



$m_A(x)$  divides  $P_A(x)$  so the options are  $x-1$  or  $(x-1)(x^2+x+1)$

X as  $M_A(A) = 0$  would need  $A - I_3 = 0$  (or  $x^2+x+1$  X as  $m_A$  has the same roots as  $P_A$ )

$A = I_3$  not true.  $\therefore M_A(x) = P_A(x) = (x-1)(x^2+x+1)$

$\therefore m_A$  not a product of distinct linear factors

$\therefore A$  not diagonalisable over  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Spot quiz is  $A$  above diagonalisable over  $\mathbb{C}$ ?

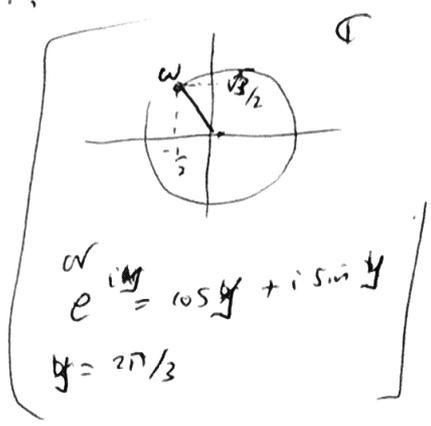
yes

no

Either factorize  $P_A(x)$  using roots of  $x^2+x+1$  (11)

as  $\frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{-3}}{2} = \frac{-1 \pm i\sqrt{3}}{2} = \begin{cases} \omega = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{3}} \text{ (+)} \\ \omega^2 = e^{-\frac{2\pi i}{3}} \text{ (-)} \end{cases}$

So  $m_\alpha(x) = (x-1)(x-\omega)(x-\omega^2)$   
 three distinct linear factors  $\therefore$  diagonalizable  
 with eigenvalues  $1, \omega, \omega^2$



OR without knowing the value of  $\omega$  as root of  $x^2+x+1$ , we know

$\omega$  is not real  $\therefore \bar{\omega}$  is also root as  $\omega^2 + \omega + 1 = 0 \Rightarrow \bar{\omega}^2 + \bar{\omega} + 1 = 0$

and  $\bar{\omega} \neq \omega$  so  $m_\alpha(x) = (x-1)(x-\omega)(x-\bar{\omega})$   
 $\therefore$  diagonalizable as product of distinct linear factors.

Note in this example that since  $A$  over  $\mathbb{C}$  is diagonalizable,  $\exists$  a basis of eigen-vectors, namely

$v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \lambda = 1$       $v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \omega \\ \omega^2 \end{bmatrix}, \lambda = \omega$       $v_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \omega^2 \\ \omega \end{bmatrix}, \lambda = \omega^2$

hence  $P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & \omega & \omega^2 \\ 1 & \omega^2 & \omega \end{bmatrix}$  diagonalizer  $A$ ,

$P \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \omega & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \omega^2 \end{bmatrix} P^{-1} = A$   
 diagonal form.

There could be other reasons that  $m_\alpha$  is not a product of distinct linear factor.

e.g.  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $P_B(\lambda) = \begin{vmatrix} \lambda-2 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda-2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda-1 \end{vmatrix}$  (95)

$m_B(\lambda)$  has same roots so must contain at least  $(\lambda-2)(\lambda-1)$  so options are

$$m_B = (\lambda-2)(\lambda-1), \text{ or } (\lambda-2)^2(\lambda-1) = P_B$$

(check  $(B - 2I_3)(B - I_3) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \neq 0$ )

$\therefore m_B \neq (\lambda-2)(\lambda-1) \therefore m_B = P_A = (\lambda-2)^2(\lambda-1)$

$\therefore m_B$  is not the product of distinct linear factors  $\therefore$  not diagonalizable by Theorem 5.20.

Proof of Theorem 5.20 (in one direction) Assume

$\alpha$  is diagonalizable so  $\rightarrow$  basis  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  ( $n = \dim V$ ) of eigenvectors

$\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_r$  be the distinct eigenvalues. ( $r \leq n$ ) and

consider  $m(\lambda) = (\lambda - \lambda_1)(\lambda - \lambda_2) \dots (\lambda - \lambda_r)$ .

We'll show this is  $m_\alpha$ . Indeed

$$m(\alpha)v_j = (\alpha - \lambda_1 I) \dots (\alpha - \lambda_r I)v_j$$

$$= 0 \text{ or } (\alpha - \lambda_i I)v_j = 0 \text{ if } v_j \text{ eigenvect of eigenvalue } \lambda_i$$

and  $(\alpha - \lambda_i I)$  is among the  $(\alpha - \lambda_1 I) \dots (\alpha - \lambda_r I)$

(Here each basis element  $v_j$  is associated to some  $\lambda_i$  in the list  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_r$  as its eigenvalue)

Here the order of factors doesn't matter so we can bring this  $(\alpha - \lambda_i I)$  to the right to act on  $v_j$ .

So  $m(\alpha)v_i = 0$  for all eigenvectors  $v_1, \dots, v_n$ , but <sup>(96)</sup>  
 these are a basis so  $m(\alpha) = 0$ . Now by  
 Thm 5.18 all the eigenvalues of  $\alpha$  are roots  
 of  $m_\alpha$  so  $m_\alpha$  must have degree  $\geq r$   
 and obey  $m_\alpha(\alpha) = 0$   
 So  $m$  already does this, so  $m_\alpha = m$ .

(Proof in the other direction is in the printed  
 notes) Q.E.D.

Looked at Q4 May 2019 Exam