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**GILBERT
STRANG:**

So last time was orthogonal matrices-- Q . And this time is symmetric matrices, S . So we're really talking about the best matrices of all. Well, I'll start with any square matrix and about eigenvectors. But you've heard of eigenvectors more than once-- more than twice-- more than 10 times, probably. OK. So eigenvectors. And then, let's be sure we know why they're useful, and maybe compute one or two.

But then we'll move to symmetric matrices and what is special about those. And then, even more special and more important will be positive definite symmetric matrices-- so that when I say, positive definite, I mean symmetric. So start with A . Next comes S . Then come the special S -- special symmetric matrices that have this extra positive definite property. OK.

So start with A . So an eigenvector-- if I multiply A by x , I get some vector. And sometimes, if x is especially chosen well, Ax comes out in the same direction as x . Ax comes out some number times x . So there are-- normally, there would be, for an n by n matrix-- so let's say A is n by n today. Normally, if we live right, there will be n different independent vectors-- x eigenvectors-- that have this special property.

And we can compute them by hand if n is 2 or 3-- 2, mostly. But the computation of the x 's and the λ 's-- so this is for i equal 1 up to n , if I use this sort of math shorthand-- that I have n of these almost always. And my first question is, what are they good for? Why does course after course introduce eigenvectors? And to me the key property is seen by looking at A squared.

So let me look at A squared. So it's another n by n matrix. And we would ask, suppose we know these guys? Suppose we've found those somehow. What about A squared? Is x an eigenvector of A squared also? Well, the way to find out is to multiply A squared by x , and see what happens. Do you see what's going to happen here? This is A times Ax , which is A times-- Ax is λx -- and now what do I do now? Because I'm shooting for the answer yes.

x is an eigenvector of A squared also. So what do I do? That number-- that λ is just a

number. I can put it anywhere I like. So I can put it out front. And then I have Ax , which is?

AUDIENCE: λx .

GILBERT λx . Thanks. So I have another λx . So there's $\lambda^2 x$. So I learned the crucial thing here-- that x is also an eigenvector of A^2 , and the eigenvalue is λ^2 . And of course, I can keep going. So $A^n x$ is $\lambda^n x$. We have found the right vectors for that particular matrix A . What about $A^{-1}x$?

That will be-- if everything is good-- $\frac{1}{\lambda} x$. Well, yeah. So anytime I write $\frac{1}{\lambda}$, my mind says, you gotta make some comment on the special case where it doesn't work, which is?

AUDIENCE: λ is not equal to 0.

GILBERT Yeah. If λ is not 0, I'm golden. If λ is 0, it doesn't look good. And what's happening if λ is 0?

AUDIENCE: A^{-1} [INAUDIBLE].

GILBERT A doesn't even have an inverse. If λ was 0-- which it could be-- no rule against it. If λ was 0, this would say, A times the eigenvector is 0 times the eigenvector. So that would tell me that the eigenvector is in the null space. It would tell me the matrix A isn't invertible. It's taking some vector x to 0. And so everything clicks. This works when it should work.

And if we have other fun-- any function of the matrix, we could define the exponential of a matrix. 18.03 would do that. Let's just write it down, as if we know what it means. Does it have the same eigenvector? Well, sure. Because e^{At} -- the exponential of a matrix-- if I see e to the something-- I think of that long, infinite series that gives the exponential. Those-- all the terms in that series have powers of A . So everything is working. Every term in that series-- x is an eigenvector.

And when I put it all together, I learn that the eigenvalue is $e^{\lambda t}$. That's just a typical and successful work use. OK. So that's eigenvectors and eigenvalues, and we'll find some in a minute. Now, so I'm claiming that this-- that from this first thing-- which was just about certain vectors are special-- now we're beginning to see why they're useful. So special is good. Useful is even better.

So let me take any vector, say v . And OK, what do I want to do? I want to use eigenvectors. This v is probably not an eigenvector. But I'm supposing that I've got n of them. You and I are agreed that there are some matrices for which there are not a full set of eigenvectors. That's really the main sort of annoying point in the whole subject of linear algebra, is some matrices don't have enough eigenvectors. But almost all do, and let's go forward assuming our matrix has.

OK. So if I've got n independent eigenvectors, that's a basis. I can write any vector v as a combination of those eigenvectors. Right. And then I can find out what A to any power. So that's the point. This is going to be the simple and reason why we like to have-- we like to know the eigenvectors. Because if I choose those as my basis vectors, v is a combination of them. Now if I multiply by A , or A squared, or A to the k power, then it's linear.

So I can multiply each one by A to the k . And what do I get if I multiply that guy by A to the k th power? OK. Well, I'm just going to use-- or, here I said n , but let me say k . Because n -- I'm sorry. I'm using n for the size of the matrix. So I better use k for the typical case here. So what do I get? Just help me through this and we're happy.

So what happens when I multiply that by A to the k ? It's an eigenvector, remember, so when I multiply by A to the k , I get?

AUDIENCE: $C1$.

GILBERT $C1$. That's just a number. And A to the k times that eigenvector gives?

STRANG:

AUDIENCE: λ^k .

GILBERT λ^k to the k times the eigenvector. Right? That's the whole point. And linearity says

STRANG: keep going. C_n , λ^n to the k th power, X_n . In other words, I can take-- I can apply any power of a matrix. I can apply the exponential of a matrix. I can do anything quickly, because I've got the eigenvector. So really, I'm saying the first use for eigenvectors-- maybe the principle use for which they were invented-- is to be able to solve difference equations.

So if I call that V_k -- the k th power-- then the equation I'm solving here is a one step difference equation. This is my difference equation. And if I wanted to use exponentials, the equation I would be solving would be dv, dt equal Av . Solution to discrete steps, or continuous time

evolution comes is trivial, if I know the eigenvectors. Because here is the solution to this one. And the solution to this one is the same thing, $C_1 e^{\lambda t} x_1$.

Is that what you were expecting for the solution here? Because if I take the derivative, it brings down a λ . If I multiply by A , it brings down a λ -- so, plus the other guys. OK. Not news, but important to remember what eigenvectors are for in the first place. Good. Yeah. Let me move ahead. Oh-- one matrix fact is about something called similar matrices. So I have on my matrix A . Then I have the idea of what it means to be similar to A , so B is similar to A . What does that mean?

So here's what it means, first of all. It means that B can be found from A , by-- this is the key operation here-- multiplying by a matrix M , and its inverse-- $M^{-1} A M$. When I see two matrices, B and A , that are connected by that kind of a change, M could be any invertible matrix. Then I would say B was similar to A . And that changed-- that appearance of $A M$ is pretty natural. If I change variables here by M , then I get-- that similar matrix will show up.

So what's the key factor? Do you remember the key fact about similar matrices? If B and A are connected like that--

AUDIENCE: They have the same eigenvalues.

GILBERT STRANG: They have the same eigenvalues. So this is just a useful point to remember. So I'll-- this is like one fact in the discussion of eigenvalues and eigenvectors. So similar matrices, same eigenvalues. Yeah. So in some way in the eigenvalue, eigenvector world, they're in this-- they belong together. They're connected by this relation that just turns out to be the right thing. Actually, that is-- it gives us a clue of how eigenvalues are actually computed.

Well, they're actually computed by typing `eig(A)`, with parentheses around A . That's how they're-- in real life. But what happens when you type `eig(A)`? Well, you could say the eigenvalue shows up on the screen. But something had to happen in there. And what happened was that MATLAB-- or whoever-- took that matrix A , started using good choices of m -- better and better. Took a bunch of steps with different m 's. Because if I do another m , I still have a similar matrix, right?

If I take B and do a different m_2 to B -- so I get something similar to B , then that's also similar to A . I've got a whole family of similar things there. And what does MATLAB do with all these m 's, m_1 and m_2 and m_3 and so on? It brings the matrix to a triangular matrix. It gets the

eigenvalues showing up on the diagonal. It's just tremendously-- it was an inspiration when that-- when the good choice of m appeared.

And let me just say-- because I'm going on to symmetric matrices-- that for a symmetric matrices, everything is sort of clean. You not only go to a triangular matrix, you go toward a diagonal matrix. They off-- you choose m 's that make the off diagonal stuff smaller and smaller and smaller. And the eigenvalues are not changing. So there, shooting up on the diagonal, are the eigenvalues. So I guess I should verify that fact, that similar matrices have the same eigenvalues.

Can we-- there can't be much to show. There can't be much in the proof because that's all I know. And I want to know its eigenvalues and eigenvectors. So let me say, suppose m inverse A_m has the eigenvector y and the eigenvalue of λ . And I want to show-- do I want to show that y is an eigenvector also, of A itself? No. Eigenvectors are changing.

Do I want to show that λ is an eigenvalue of A itself? Yes. That's my point. So can we see that? Ha. Can I see that λ is an eigenvalue? There's not a lot to do here. I mean, if I can't do it soon, I'm never going to do it, because-- so what am I going to do?

AUDIENCE: Define the vector x equals my --

GILBERT Yeah, I could. Yeah. x is-- $m \cdot y$ is going to be a key, and I can see $m \cdot y$ coming. Just-- when I
STRANG: see m inverse over there, what am I going to do with the darn thing?

AUDIENCE: [INAUDIBLE]

GILBERT I'm going to put it on the other side. I'm going to multiply that equation by m . So I'll have-- that
STRANG: will put the m over here. And I'll have $A \cdot M \cdot y$ equals $\lambda M y$, right? And is that telling me what I want to know? Yes. That's saying that $M y$ -- that you wisely suggested to give a name x to-- is λ times $M y$. Do you see that? That the eigenvalue λ didn't change. The eigenvector did change. It changed from y to $M y$.

That's the x . The eigenvector of x . This is λx . Yeah. So that's the role of M . It just gives you a different basis for eigenvectors. But it does not change eigenvalues. Right. Yeah. OK. So those are similar matrices. Yeah, some other good things happen. A lot of people don't know-- in fact, I wasn't very conscious of the fact that A times B has the same eigenvalues as B times A . Well, I should maybe write that down. AB has the same eigenvalues-- the same non-zero ones-- you'll see. I have to-- as BA .

This is any A and B same size. I'm not talking similar matrices here. I'm talking any two A and B . Yeah. So that's a good thing that happens. Now could we see y ? And then I'm going to be really pretty happy with basic fact about eigenvalues. So if I want to show that two things have the same eigenvalues, what do you propose? Show that they are similar. I already said, if they are similar.

So is there an m ? Is there an m that will connect this matrix? So is there an m that will multiply this matrix that way? So that would be similar to AB . And can I produce BA then? So I'll just put the word want up here. I want-- if I have that, then I'm done, because that's saying that those two matrices, AB and BA , are similar. And I know that then they have the same eigenvalues. So what should m be? M should be-- so what is M here? I want that to be true. Should M be B ? Yeah. M equal B . Boy. Not the most hidden fact here. Take M equal B .

So then I have B times A , times BB inverse-- which is the identity. So I have B times A . Yes. OK. So AB and BA are fine. Now, what do you think about this question? Are the eigenvalues-- I now know that AB and BA have the same eigenvalues. And the reason I had to be careful about non-zero is that if I had zero eigenvalues, then--

AUDIENCE: [INAUDIBLE]

GILBERT Yeah. I can't count on those inverses. Right. Right. So that's why I put it in that little qualifier.

STRANG: But now I want to ask this question. If I know the eigenvalues of A -- separately, by itself, A -- and of B -- now I'm talking about any two matrices, A and B . If I have two matrices, A -- I have a matrix A and a matrix B . And I know their eigenvalues and their eigenvalues. What about AB ? A times B . Can I multiply the eigenvalues of A times the eigenvalues of B ? Don't do it. Right. Yes. Right.

The eigenvalues of A times the eigenvalues of B could be damn near anything. Right. They're not connected to the eigenvalues of AB specially. And maybe something could be discovered, but not much. And similarly, for A plus B . So yeah. So let me just write down this point.

Eigenvalues of A plus B are generally not eigenvalues of A plus eigenvalues of B . Generally not. Just-- there is no reason. And the reason that that's-- I get that no answer is, that the eigenvectors can be all different.

If the eigenvectors for A are totally different from the eigenvectors for B , then A plus B will have probably some other, totally different eigenvectors, and there's nothing happening there.

That's sort of thoughts about eigenvalues in general. And I could-- there'd be a whole section on eigenvectors, but I'm really interested in eigenvectors of symmetric matrices. So I'm going to move on to that topic.

So now, having talked about any matrix A , I'm going to specialize to symmetric matrices, see what's special about the eigenvalues there, what's special about eigenvectors there. And I think we've already said it in class. So let me-- let me ask you to tell me about it-- tell me again. So I'll call that matrix S now, as a reminder always that I'm talking here about symmetric matrices. So what do I-- what are the key facts to know?

Eigenvalues are real numbers, if the matrix is. I'm thinking of real symmetric matrices. Of course, other real matrices could have imaginary eigenvalues. Other real matrices-- so just-- let's just think for a moment. Yeah. Maybe I'll just put it here. Can I back up, before I keep going with symmetric matrices? So you take a matrix like that. Q , yeah. That would be a Q . But it's not specially a Q . Maybe the most remarkable thing about that matrix is that it's anti-symmetric. So I'll call it A . Right. If I transpose that matrix, what do I get?

AUDIENCE: The negative.

GILBERT
STRANG: The negative. So that's like anti-symmetric. And I claim that an anti-symmetric matrix has imaginary eigenvalues. So that's a 90 degree rotation. And you might say, what could be simpler than that? A 90 degree rotation-- that's not a weird matrix. But from the point of view of eigenvectors, something a little odd has to happen, right? Because if I have a 90 degree rotation-- if I take a vector x -- any vector x -- could it possibly be an eigenvector?

Well, apply A to it. You'd be off in this direction, Ax . And there is no way that Ax can be a multiple of x . So there's no real eigenvector for that anti-symmetric matrix, or any anti-symmetric matrix. So you see that when we say that the eigenvalues of a symmetric matrix are real, we're saying that this couldn't happen-- that this couldn't happen if A were symmetric. And here, it's the very opposite, it's anti-symmetric.

Well, while that's on the board, you might say, wait a minute. How could that have any eigenvector whatsoever? So what is an eigenvector of that matrix A ? How do you find the eigenvectors of A ? When they're 2 by 2, that's a calculation we know how to do. You remember the steps there? I'm looking for Ax equal λx . So right now I'm looking for both λ and x .

I've got 2. It's not linear, but I'm going to bring this over to this side and write it as $A - \lambda I$, $x = 0$. And then I'm going to look at that and say, wow, $A - \lambda I$ must be not invertible, because it's got this x in its null space. So the determinant of this matrix must be 0. I couldn't have a null space unless the determinant is 0.

And then when I look at $A - \lambda I$, for this A , I've got minus λ s, minus A -- oh, A is just the 1. And that's minus 1. I'm going to take the determinant. And what am I going to get for the determinant? λ^2 --

AUDIENCE: Plus 1.

GILBERT STRANG: Plus 1. And I set that to 0. So I'm just following all the rules, but it's showing me that the λ -- the two λ s-- there are two λ s here-- but they're not real, because that equation, the roots are i and $-i$. So those are the eigenvalues. And they have the nice-- they have all the-- well, they are the eigenvalues. No doubt about it. With 2 by 2 there are two quick checks that tell you, yeah, you did a calculation right. If I add up the two eigenvalues in this-- if I add up the two eigenvalues for any matrix, and I'm going to do it for this one-- I get what answer?

AUDIENCE: The trace?

GILBERT STRANG: I get the same answer from the adding-- add the λ s gives me the same answer as add the diagonal of the matrix-- which I'm calling A . So if I add the diagonal I get 0 and 0. So it's 0 plus 0. And this number adding the diagonal is called the trace. And we'll see it again because it's so simple. Just adding the diagonal entries gives you a key bit of information.

When you add down the diagonal it tells you the sum of the eigenvalue-- some of the λ s. Doesn't tell you each λ separately, but it tells you the sum. So it tells you one fact by doing one thing. Yeah. That's pretty handy. Gives you a quick check if you've-- when you compute this determinant and solve for λ -- the thing you-- this is a way to compute eigenvalues by hand.

You could make a mistake, because it's a quadratic formula for 2 by 2, but you can check by adding the two roots. Do you get the same as the trace 0 plus 0? Well, there's one other check, equally quick, for 2 by 2, so 2 by 2s-- you really get them right. What's the other check to-- we add the eigenvalues, we get the trace.

AUDIENCE: [INAUDIBLE]

GILBERT We multiply the eigenvalues. So we take-- so now multiply the lambdas. So then I get i times
STRANG: minus i . And that should equal-- let's-- don't look yet. What should it equal if I multiply the
eigenvalues I should get the?

AUDIENCE: Determinant.

GILBERT Determinant, right. Of A . So that's two handy checks. Add the eigenvalues-- for any size-- 3 by
STRANG: 3, 4 by 4-- but it's only two checks. So for 2 by 2, it's kind of, you've got it. 3 by 3, 4 by 4-- you
could still have made an error and the two checks could potentially still work. Let's just check it
out here. What's i times minus i ?

AUDIENCE: 1.

GILBERT 1. Because it's minus i squared, and that's plus 1. And the determinant of that matrix is 0
STRANG: minus-- is 1. Yeah. OK. So we got 1. Good. Those are really the key fact about eigenvalues.
But of course they're not-- it's not as simple as solving $Ax = B$ to find them, but if you follow
through on this idea of similar matrices, and sort of chop down the off diagonal part, then sure
enough, the eigenvalue's gotta show up. OK.

Symmetric. Symmetric matrices. So now we're going to have symmetric, and then we'll have
the special, even better than symmetric, is symmetric positive definite. OK. Symmetric-- you
told me the main facts are the eigenvalues real, the eigenvectors orthogonal. And I guess,
actually-- yeah. So I want to put those into math symbols instead of words. So yeah. I guess--
shall I just jump in? And the other thing hidden there-- but very important is-- there's a full set
of eigenvectors, even if some eigenvalues happen to be repeated, like the identity matrix.

It's still got plenty of eigenvectors. So that's a added point that I've not made there. And I could
prove those two statements, but why don't I ask you to accept them and go onward? What are
we going to do with them? OK. Can you just-- let's have an example. Let me put an example
here. Suppose S -- now I'm calling it S -- is $0s, 1$ and 1 . So that's symmetric. What are its
eigenvalues? What are the eigenvalues of that symmetric matrix, S ?

AUDIENCE: Plus and minus 1.

GILBERT Plus and minus 1. Well, if you propose two eigenvalues, I'll write them down, 1 and minus 1.
STRANG: And then what will I do to check them?

AUDIENCE: Trace and determinant.

GILBERT Trace and determinant. OK. So are they-- is it true that the eigenvalues are 1 and minus 1?

STRANG: OK. How do I check the trace? What is the trace of that matrix? 0. And what's the sum of the eigenvalues-- 0. Good. What about determinant? What's the determinant of S?

AUDIENCE: Minus 1.

GILBERT Minus 1. The product of the eigenvalues-- minus 1. So we've got it. OK. What are the

STRANG: eigenvectors? What vector can you multiply by and it doesn't change direction-- in fact, doesn't change at all? I'm looking for the eigenvector that's a steady state?

AUDIENCE: 0, 1?

GILBERT 0, 1?

STRANG:

AUDIENCE: 1, 1.

GILBERT I think it's 1, 1. Yeah. So here is the lambdas. And then the eigenvectors are-- I think 1, 1. Is

STRANG: that right? Yeah. Sure. S is just a permutation here. It's just exchanging the two entries. So 1 and 1 won't change. And what's the other eigenvector?

AUDIENCE: Minus 1?

GILBERT 1 and minus 1. And then, I'm thinking-- remembering about this similar stuff-- I'm thinking that

STRANG: S is similar to a matrix that just shows the eigenvalues. So S is similar to-- I'm going to put in an M-- well, I'm going to connect S-- that matrix-- with the eigenvalue matrix, which has the eigenvalues. So here is my-- everybody calls that matrix capital lambda, because everybody calls the eigenvalues little lambda. So the matrix that has them is called capital lambda.

And I-- my claim is that these guys are similar-- that this matrix, S, that you're seeing up there-- I believe there is an M I believe there is an M. So that S-- what did I put in here? So I'm following this pattern. I believe that there would be an M and an M inverse, so that this would mean that. And that's nice. First of all, it would confirm that the eigenvalues stay the same, which was certain to happen.

And then it would also mean that I had got a diagonal matrix. And of course, that's a natural goal-- to get a diagonal matrix. So we might hope that the M that gets us there is like an

important matrix. So do you see what I'm doing here? It comes under the heading of diagonalizing a matrix. I start with a matrix, S . I find its eigenvalues. They go on into λ . And I believe I can find an M , so that I see they're similar.

They have the same eigenvalues, 1 and minus 1, both sides. So only remaining question is, what's M ? What's the matrix that diagonalizes S ? The-- what have we got left to use?

AUDIENCE: The eigenvectors.

GILBERT
STRANG: The eigenvectors. The matrix that-- so, can I put the M over there? Yeah. I'll put-- that M inverse is going to go over to the other side. Oh. It goes here, doesn't it? I was worried there. It didn't look good, but yeah. So this is all going to be right, if-- this is what I'd like to have-- SM equal $M\lambda$. SM equal $M\lambda$. That's diagonalizing a matrix. That's finding the M using the eigenvectors. That produces a similar matrix λ , which has the eigenvalues. That's the great fact about diagonalizing. That's how you use-- that's another way to say, this is how the eigenvectors pay off.

You put them into M . You take the similar matrix and it's nice and diagonal. And do you see that this will happen? S times-- so M has the first eigenvector and the second eigenvector. And I believe that first eigenvector times the second-- and the second eigenvector-- that's M again, on this side. Let me just write in 1, 0, 0, minus 1. I believe it has got to be confirming that we've done the thing right-- confirming that the eigenvectors work here. Please make sense out of that last line.

When you see that last line, what do I mean to make sense out of it? I want to see that that's true. How do I see that-- how do I do this-- so what's the left side and what's the right side? So what-- if I multiply S by a couple of columns, what's the answer?

AUDIENCE: Sx_1 and Sx_2 .

GILBERT
STRANG: Sx_1 and Sx_2 . That's the beauty of matrix multiplication. If I multiply a matrix by another matrix, I can do it a column at a time. There are four great ways to multiply matrices, so this is another one-- a column at a time. So this left hand side is Sx_1 , Sx_2 . I just do each column. And what about the right hand side? I can do that multiplication.

AUDIENCE: x_1 minus x_2 .

GILBERT x_1 minus x_2 did somebody say? Death. No. I don't want-- Oh, x_1 -- sorry. You said it right. OK.

STRANG: When you said x_1 minus x_2 , I was subtracting. But you meant that that's-- the first column is x_1 , and the second column is minus x_2 . Correct. Sorry about that. And did we come out right? Yes. Of course, now I compare. Sx_1 is $\lambda_1 x_1$. Sx_2 is $\lambda_2 x_2$. And I'm golden. So what was the point of this board? What did we learn?

We learned-- well, we kind of expected that the original S would be similar to the λ s, because the eigenvalues match. S has eigenvalues λ . And this diagonal matrix certainly has eigenvalues $1/n$ minus 1 . A diagonal matrix-- the eigenvalues are right in front of you. So they're similar. S is similar to the λ . And there should be an M . And then somebody suggested, maybe the M is the eigenvectors. And that's the right answer.

So finally, let me write that conclusion here-- which isn't just for symmetric matrices. So maybe I should put it for matrix A . So if it has λ s and eigenvectors, and the claim is that A times the eigenvector matrix is the eigenvector matrix times the eigenvalues. And I would shorten that to $Ax = x\lambda$. And I could rewrite that, and then I'll slow down, as $A = x\lambda x^{-1}$.

Really, this is bringing it all together in a simple, small formula. It's telling us that A is similar to λ . It's telling us the matrix M , that does the job-- it's a matrix of eigenvectors. And so it's like a shorthand way to write the main fact about eigenvalues and eigenvectors. What about A^2 ? Can I go back to the very first-- I see time is close to the end here. What about A^2 ? What are the eigenvectors of A^2 ? What are the eigenvalues of A^2 ? That's like the whole point of eigenvalues.

Well, or I could just square that stupid thing. $x\lambda x^{-1} x\lambda x^{-1}$. And what have I got? $x^{-1} x$ in the middle is--

AUDIENCE: Identity.

GILBERT
STRANG: Identity. So I have $x\lambda^2 x^{-1}$. And to me and to you that says, the eigenvalues have been squared. The eigenvectors didn't change. Yeah. OK. And now finally, last breath is, what if the matrix is symmetric? Then we have different letters. That's the only-- that's the significant change. The eigenvector matrix is now an orthogonal matrix. I'm coming back to the key fact of what makes symmetric-- how do I read-- how do I see symmetric helping me in the eigenvector and eigenvalue world?

Well, it tells me that the eigenvectors are orthogonal. So the x is Q . The eigenvalues are real.

And the eigenvectors is x inverse. But now I'm going to make those eigenvectors unit vectors. I'm going to normalize it. So I'm really allowing-- I have an orthogonal matrix Q . So I have a different way to write this, and this is the end of the-- today's class. $Q\lambda$. And what can you tell me about Q inverse?

AUDIENCE: It's Q transpose.

GILBERT It's Q transpose. Thanks. So that was the last lecture. So now the orthogonal lecture is coming up at the last second of the symmetric matrices lecture. And this has the name spectral theorem, which I'll just put there. And the whole point is that it tells you what every symmetric matrix looks like-- orthogonal eigenvectors, real eigenvalues.