

(a) We want to prove that A is similar to A . (A is $n \times n$)

We need to find an invertible S such that $A = S^{-1} A S$.

Take $S = I_n$.

(b) If A is similar to B , we want to prove that B is similar to A .

We know that there is an invertible matrix S such that $B = S^{-1} A S$.

We want an invertible T such that $A = T^{-1} B T$.

$$(S^{-1})^{-1} = S \quad \text{so} \quad S \cdot (S^{-1}) = I_n$$

Since $B = S^{-1} A S$, multiplying by S on the left gives:

$$S B = S (S^{-1} A S) \quad \text{so} \quad S B = (S S^{-1}) A S \quad \text{so} \quad S B = I_n A S$$

$$\text{so} \quad S B = A S.$$

Multiplying by S^{-1} on the right gives:

$$S B S^{-1} = (A S) S^{-1} = A (S S^{-1}) = A I_n = A. \quad \text{so} \quad A = S B S^{-1}.$$

Recall that we want $A = T^{-1} B T$. Take (i.e. define) $T = S^{-1}$. Now:

$$(S^{-1})^{-1} B S^{-1} = S B S^{-1} = A.$$

Since S is invertible, S^{-1} is also invertible.

