

SYMMETRIC MATRICES

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Monday, November 1, 2021

LOGISTICS

Grades

- Midterm 1 was long... future exams will be better calibrated
- I will curve to get GPA similar to [past semesters](#)

My office hours on Tuesdays

- 8am-9am on BlueJeans (<https://bluejeans.com/205357142>)
- Tomorrow (Tuesday November 02, 2021) will focus on Midterm 1 solution
- I'll try to record the session

Midterm 2:

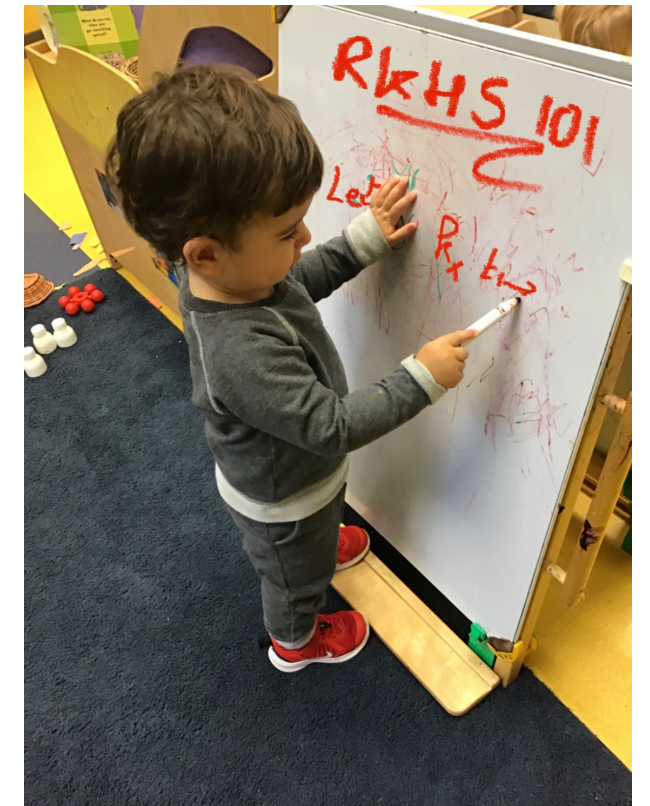
- Moved to **Monday November 8, 2021** (gives you weekend to prepare)
- Coverage: everything since Midterm 1 (dont' forget the fundamentals though), emphasis on **regression**

WHAT'S ON THE AGENDA FOR TODAY?

Last time:

- Symmetric matrices: more linear algebra
- *Objective*: further understand least-square problems

Reading: lecture notes 12



Toddlers can do it!

SYSTEMS OF SYMMETRIC EQUATIONS

Least square problems involved the normal equations $\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X} \boldsymbol{\theta} = \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y}$

This is a system of symmetric equations $\mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y}$ with $\mathbf{A}^T = \mathbf{A}$

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- Ultimately we will talk about the non-symmetric/non square case

Definition.

A real-valued matrix \mathbf{A} is symmetric if $\mathbf{A}^T = \mathbf{A}$ ($a_{ij} = a_{ji}$ for $A = [a_{ij}]$)

A complex-valued matrix \mathbf{A} is Hermitian if $\mathbf{A}^\dagger = \mathbf{A}$ (also written $\mathbf{A}^H = \mathbf{A}$)

$$A^\dagger = (A^T)^* = (A^*)^T$$

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Definition.

Given a matrix $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$, if a vector $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{C}^n$ satisfies $\mathbf{A} \mathbf{v} = \lambda \mathbf{v}$ for some $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$, then λ is an *eigenvalue* associated to the *eigenvector* \mathbf{v} .

If λ is an eigenvalue, there are infinitely many eigenvectors associated to it

$$\text{if } A\mathbf{v} = \lambda\mathbf{v} \quad \text{then } \forall \alpha \in \mathbb{C} \quad A(\alpha\mathbf{v}) = \alpha A\mathbf{v} = \alpha \lambda \mathbf{v} = \lambda(\alpha\mathbf{v}) \quad \alpha\mathbf{v} \text{ is another eigenvector}$$

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CHANGE OF BASIS

Consider the canonical basis $\{e_i\}_{i=1}^n$ for \mathbb{R}^n ; every vector can be viewed as a vector of coefficients $\{\alpha_i\}_{i=1}^n$,

$$\mathbf{x} = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i e_i = [\alpha_1 \quad \alpha_2 \quad \cdots \quad \alpha_n]^T$$

$$e_i = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow i\text{th position}$$

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How do we find the representation of \mathbf{x} in another basis $\{v_i\}_{i=1}^n$? Write $e_i = \sum_{j=1}^n \beta_{ij} v_j$

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How do we find the representation of \mathbf{x} in another basis $\{v_i\}_{i=1}^n$? Write $e_i = \sum_{j=1}^n \beta_{ij} v_j$

Regroup the coefficients

$$\mathbf{x} = \cdots + \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \beta_{ij} \alpha_i \right) v_j + \cdots$$

$$x = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i e_i = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \left(\sum_{j=1}^n \beta_{ij} v_j \right) = \sum_{j=1}^n \underbrace{\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \beta_{ij} \alpha_i \right)}_{\text{indep of } i} v_j$$

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In matrix form

$$\mathbf{x}_{\text{new}} = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} e_1 & e_2 & \cdots & e_n \\ \downarrow & \downarrow & & \downarrow \end{matrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} \beta_{11} & \beta_{21} & \cdots & \beta_{n1} \\ \beta_{12} & \beta_{22} & \cdots & \beta_{n2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \beta_{1n} & \beta_{2n} & \cdots & \beta_{nn} \end{bmatrix} & \mathbf{x} & \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha_n \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_P$

SIMILARITY

A change of basis matrix \mathbf{P} is full rank (basis vectors are linearly independent)

Any full rank matrix \mathbf{P} can be viewed as a change of basis

\mathbf{P}^{-1} takes you back to the original basis

Warning: the columns of \mathbf{P} describe the *old* coordinates as a function of the *new* ones

Definition.

If $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ then \mathbf{B} is similar to \mathbf{A} if there exists an invertible matrix $\mathbf{P} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ such that

$$\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{P}^{-1} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{P}$$

Note: $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ $Bx = P^{-1} A P x$

Back to original basis

Apply transform

changing basis of x

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Intuition: similar matrices are the same up to a change of basis

Definition.

$\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ is diagonalizable if it is similar to a diagonal matrix, i.e., there exists an invertible matrix

$\mathbf{S} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ such that $\mathbf{D} = \mathbf{P}^{-1} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{P}$ with \mathbf{D} diagonal

$$\mathbf{D} = \begin{pmatrix} d_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & d_n \end{pmatrix} \quad \{d_i\}_{i=1}^n \in \mathbb{C}^n$$

$$\mathbf{D} \mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} d_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & d_n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} d_1 x_1 \\ \vdots \\ d_n x_n \end{pmatrix}$$

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Not all matrices are diagonalizable!

Example $R = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$

SPECTRAL THEOREM

Lemma (Existence of eigenvector) Every complex matrix \mathbf{A} has at least one complex eigenvector and every real symmetric matrix has real eigenvalues and at least one real eigenvector.

Proof: Let $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$

① Fact: $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ is an eigenvalue of A corresponding to $x \in \mathbb{C}^n$ iff λ is a root of $p(t) \triangleq \det(A - tI)$

Proof: $Ax = \lambda x$ iff $(A - \lambda I)x = 0$ iff $A - \lambda I$ has non zero kernel iff $\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$ iff λ is a root of p

② Fact: every complex matrix A has at least one eigenvalue

Proof: By the fundamental theorem of algebra (for complex polynomials) applied to $p(t) \triangleq \det(A - tI)$, there exists (at least) one complex root $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$

By Fact ①, there exists an associated eigenvector $x \in \mathbb{C}^n$

③ Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ and symmetric; let x be an eigenvector w/ eigenvalue $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$

$$\text{Then } x^t A x = x^t \lambda x = \lambda \|x\|_2^2$$

and $\lambda = \lambda^t$ so that $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$

$$x^t A x = (Ax)^t x = (\lambda x)^t x = \lambda^t \|x\|_2^2$$

By backtracking our Fact ①, we can find a real-valued eigenvector

SPECTRAL THEOREM

Lemma (Existence of eigenvector) Every complex matrix \mathbf{A} has at least one complex eigenvector and every real symmetric matrix has real eigenvalues and at least one real eigenvector.

Lemma (Schur triangularization lemma) Every matrix $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ is unitarily similar to an upper triangular matrix, i.e.,

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{V} \mathbf{\Delta} \mathbf{V}^\dagger = \mathbf{V} \begin{pmatrix} d_1 & & * \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & d_n \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{V}^\dagger$$

with $\mathbf{\Delta}$ upper triangular and $\mathbf{V}^\dagger = \mathbf{V}^{-1}$.

Proof: Let $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$; we know \exists eigenvalue λ_1 w/ eigenvector v_1 (non-zero)

$$V_1 = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 & U_1 \end{bmatrix} \quad U_1 \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n-1} \quad \text{so that } U_1^+ U_1 = I \text{ and } U_1^+ v_1 = 0 \quad ; \text{ assume wlog that } \|v_1\| = 1$$

$$\text{Hence } AV_1 = A \begin{bmatrix} v_1 & U_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 v_1 & AU_1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and } V_1^+ AV_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -v_1^+ \\ U_1^+ \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 v_1 & AU_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & \\ 0 & V_1^+ AU_1 \\ \vdots & \\ 0 & \end{bmatrix}$$

Assume we can write $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ as $A_p = \begin{pmatrix} \Delta_p & W_p \\ 0 & M_p \end{pmatrix}$ w/ $p \in \llbracket 1, n-1 \rrbracket$ W_p, M_p arbitrary

Let v_{p+1} be an eigenvector (non-zero) of M_p w/ eigenvalue λ_{p+1} (assume wlog that $\|v_{p+1}\| = 1$)

Construct $Z_{p+1} = \begin{bmatrix} v_{p+1}^+ \\ U_{p+1} \end{bmatrix}$ orthonormal ($Z_{p+1}^+ = Z_{p+1}^{-1}$); Set $V_{p+1} \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} I_p & 0 \\ 0 & Z_{p+1} \end{bmatrix}$

$$\text{Then } A_p V_{p+1} = \begin{bmatrix} \Delta_p & W_p Z_{p+1} \\ 0 & \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_{p+1} v_{p+1} & M_p U_{p+1} \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and } V_{p+1}^+ A_p V_{p+1} = \begin{bmatrix} \Delta_p & W_p Z_{p+1} \\ 0 & \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_{p+1} & 0 \\ 0 & Z_{p+1}^+ M_p U_{p+1} \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix}$$

Finally

$$A_1 = V_1^+ A V_1$$

$$A_2 = V_2^+ A_1 V_2 = V_2^+ V_1^+ A V_1 V_2$$

⋮

$$A_n = \underbrace{V_n^+ \dots V_1^+}_{\triangleq V^+} A \underbrace{V_1 \dots V_n}_{\triangleq V} = \Delta$$

So that $A = V \Delta V^+$



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$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{V} \mathbf{\Delta} \mathbf{V}^\dagger$$

with $\mathbf{\Delta}$ upper triangular and $\mathbf{V}^\dagger = \mathbf{V}^{-1}$.

Theorem (Spectral theorem) Every hermitian matrix is unitarily similar to a real-valued diagonal matrix.

$$A^\dagger = A$$

$$A = V \Lambda V^\dagger \text{ w/ } \Lambda \text{ diagonal and } V^\dagger V = I$$

Proof: By the Schur triangularization lemma

$$A = V \Delta V^t = A^t = (V \Delta V^t)^t = V \Delta^t V^t$$

$$\text{Hence } \Delta = \Delta^t \quad (V^t A V = \Delta = \Delta^t)$$

$$\Delta = \begin{pmatrix} * & & \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \Delta^t \begin{pmatrix} 0 & & \\ * & \ddots & \\ & & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} d_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & d_n \end{pmatrix} \quad d_i \in \mathbb{R} \quad \square$$

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Note that if $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{V} \mathbf{D} \mathbf{V}^\dagger$ then

$$\mathbf{A} = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \mathbf{v}_i \mathbf{v}_i^\dagger$$

How about real-valued matrices $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$

SYMMETRIC POSITIVE DEFINITE MATRICES

Definition.

A symmetric matrix \mathbf{A} is positive definite if it has positive eigenvalues, i.e., $\forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\} \quad \lambda_i > 0$.

A symmetric matrix \mathbf{A} is positive semidefinite if it has nonnegative eigenvalues, i.e., $\forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\} \quad \lambda_i \geq 0$.

Convention: $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n$

Variational form of extreme eigenvalues for symmetric positive definite matrices \mathbf{A}

$$\lambda_1 = \max_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n: \|\mathbf{x}\|_2=1} \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} = \max_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n} \frac{\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}}{\|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2}$$
$$\lambda_n = \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n: \|\mathbf{x}\|_2=1} \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} = \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n} \frac{\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}}{\|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2}$$

Theorem (Sylvester theorem)

For any analytic function f , we have

$$f(\mathbf{A}) = \sum_{i=1}^n f(\lambda_i) \mathbf{v}_i \mathbf{v}_i^\top$$

SYSTEM OF SYMMETRIC DEFINITE EQUATIONS

Consider the system $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}$ with \mathbf{A} symmetric positive definite

Proposition.

Let $\{\mathbf{v}_i\}$ be the eigenvectors of \mathbf{A} .

$$\mathbf{x} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\lambda_i} \langle \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{v}_i \rangle \mathbf{v}_i$$

Assume that there exists some observation error $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{e}$

- \mathbf{e} is unknown
- we try to reconstruct \mathbf{x} as $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$ by applying \mathbf{A}^{-1}

Proposition.

$$\frac{1}{\lambda_1} \|\mathbf{e}\|_2^2 \leq \|\mathbf{x} - \tilde{\mathbf{x}}\|_2^2 \leq \frac{1}{\lambda_n} \|\mathbf{e}\|_2^2.$$