

MATH 122: Matrixology (Linear Algebra) Solutions to Level Tetris (1984) 2, 10 of 10 University of Vermont, Fall 2016



1. (Q 4, 6.5) Show that the function  $f(x_1, x_2) = x_1^2 + 4x_1x_2 + 3x_2^2$  does not have a minimum at (0, 0) even though it has positive coefficients.

Do this by rewriting  $f(x_1, x_2)$  as  $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{A} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$  and finding the pivots of  $\mathbf{A}$  and noting their signs (and explaining why the signs of the pivots matter). Write f as a difference of squares and find a point  $(x_1, x_2)$  where f is negative. Note of caution: All of this signs matching for pivots and eigenvalues falls apart if we have to do row swaps in our reduction.

## Solution:

First, we can rewrite our function as

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \end{bmatrix} f(x_1, x_2) = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{A} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

We need to do one step of row reduction to reveal the pivots:

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\mathbf{R2'} = \mathbf{R2} - 2 \mathbf{R1}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The pivots are 1 and -1 so we must have one positive and one negative eigenvalue: f is therefore not positive definite.

Completing the square:

$$f(x_1, x_2) = x_1^2 + 4x_1x_2 + 3x_2^2 = (x_1 + 2x_2)^2 - 4x_2^2 + 3x_2^2 = 1 \cdot (x_1 + 2x_2)^2 - 1 \cdot (x_2)^2.$$

Note the appearance of the pivots 1 and -1 in front of the squares. As we saw in class, the LU factorization of symmetric matrices,  $\mathbf{A} = LDL^{\mathrm{T}}$ , is behind all of this.

2. (Q 9, 6.5) Find the 3 by 3 matrix A and its pivots, rank, eigenvalues, and determinant:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A} \\ \mathbf{A} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = 4(x_1 - x_2 + 2x_3)^2$$

Is this matrix positive definite, semi-positive definite, or neither?

#### Solution:

Expanding  $4(x_1 - x_2 + 2x_3)^2$  we have

$$4x_1^2 + 4x_2^2 + 16x_3^2 - 8x_1x_2 - 16x_2x_3 + 16x_3x_1$$

and this can be written as

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -4 & 8 \\ -4 & 4 & -8 \\ 8 & -8 & 16 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

We can now find the pivots of A (much easier than finding the eigenvalues):

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & -4 & 8 \\ -4 & 4 & -8 \\ 8 & -8 & 16 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow[-1]{R1} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -4 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 8 & -8 & 16 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow[-R2]{R3} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -4 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -R3 & -8 & 16 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow[-R3]{R3'} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -4 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The pivots are 4, 0, 0 and our matrix is therefore semi-positive definite.

Some bonus sneaky grooviness: we can see straight away that  ${\bf A}$  is a rank one matrix:

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 2\\ -2\\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = 24 \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{6}\\ -1/\sqrt{6}\\ 2/\sqrt{6} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{6} & -1/\sqrt{6} & 2/\sqrt{6} \end{bmatrix}.$$

We now have A in its spectral decomposition form:

$$\mathbf{A} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_n \hat{v}_i \hat{v}_i^{\mathrm{T}}$$

So the eigenvalues are 24, 0, and 0, which means that  $\mathbf{A}$  is semi-positive definite. Another way to see this: we know from the pivots that two of the eigenvalues are 0. Since the trace of  $\mathbf{A}$  is the sum of the eigenvalues, we have that the trace of  $\mathbf{A}$  must be  $\lambda_1 + 0 + 0 = \lambda_1$ . Checking  $\mathbf{A}$ , we have  $\lambda_1 = 24$ .

The determinant of A is zilch since we have 0 eigenvalues.

3. (following set of questions based on Q 7, Section 6.7)

Singular Value Decomposition = Happiness.

Consider

$$\mathbf{A} = \left[ \begin{array}{rrr} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right].$$

- (a) What are *m*, *n*, and *r* for this matrix?
- (b) What are the dimensions of U,  $\Sigma$ , and V?
- (c) Calculate  $\mathbf{A}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^{\mathrm{T}}$ .

## Solution:

- (a) m = 2, n = 3, and r = 2.
- (b) U is 2x2,  $\Sigma$  is 2x3, and V is 3x3.
- (c)

$$\mathbf{A}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0\\ 1 & 1\\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0\\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0\\ 1 & 2 & 1\\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^{\mathrm{T}} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

4. For the matrix A given above, find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of  $A^{T}A$ , and thereby construct V and  $\Sigma$ .

See this tweet for some post-it based help: https://twitter.com/matrixologyvox/status/593540446845947904

#### Solution:

Okay, we have to solve  $|\mathbf{A} - \lambda I| = 0$ . Using the 'big formula' and going across the top row (to take advantage of the 0 in the (1,3) entry), we have:

$$0 = \begin{vmatrix} 1-\lambda & 1 & 0\\ 1 & 2-\lambda & 1\\ 0 & 1 & 1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = (1-\lambda) \begin{vmatrix} 2-\lambda & 1\\ 1 & 1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} - 1 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1\\ 0 & 1-\lambda \end{vmatrix}$$
$$= (1-\lambda)[(2-\lambda)(1-\lambda) - (1)(1)] - (1)(1-\lambda) - (0)(1)$$
$$= -\lambda^3 4\lambda^2 - 3\lambda$$
$$= -\lambda(\lambda - 3)(\lambda - 1).$$

Our eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1 = 3$ ,  $\lambda_2 = 1$ , and  $\lambda_1 = 0$ . Ordering for largest to smallest is important here.

We notice a couple of things: (1) The eigenvalues are all  $\geq 0$ . This is good as these are the squares of our singular values, the  $\sigma_i$ . (2) One eigenvalue is 0. This

makes sense as the rank r = 2 which means that we have two non-zero singular values.

Our singular values are the square roots of the eigenvalues:

$$\sigma_1=\sqrt{3}$$
 and  $\sigma_2=1.$ 

Note that there are only two singular values as A is 2x3.

Next task: find the eigenvectors.

(a) For  $\lambda_1 = 3$ , we solve  $(\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} - 3I)\vec{v}_1 = \vec{0}$ .  $\begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 & 0\\ 1 & -1 & 1\\ 0 & 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \vec{v}_1 = \vec{0}.$ 

You can do this be inspection, or by systematically finding the nullspace vector, or however you please. By inspection:  $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ . Normalizing, we

have 
$$\hat{v}_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \begin{bmatrix} 1\\ 2\\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

(b) For  $\lambda_2 = 1$ , we solve  $(\mathbf{A}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{A} - I)\vec{v}_2 = \vec{0}$ :

$$\left[\begin{array}{rrr} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{array}\right] \vec{v}_2 = \vec{0}.$$

By inspection:  $\vec{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1\\0\\-1 \end{bmatrix}$  and the normalized eigenvector is  $\hat{v}_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1\\0\\-1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

(c) For  $\lambda_3 = 0$ , solve  $(\mathbf{A}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{A} - 0I)\vec{v}_3 = \vec{0}$ :

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \vec{v}_3 = \vec{0}.$$

By inspection:  $\vec{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  and the normalized eigenvector is  $\hat{v}_3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

We can now write down  $\mathbf{V} = [\hat{v}_1 | \hat{v}_2 | \hat{v}_3]$ :

$$\mathbf{V} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \\ \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} & 0 & \frac{-1}{\sqrt{3}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \end{bmatrix}.$$

 $\left[\begin{array}{rrr} \sqrt{3} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{array}\right].$ 

And the  $\Sigma$  matrix is

5. For the same A, now find the basis  $\{\hat{u}_i\}$  using the essential connection  $\mathbf{A}\hat{v}_i = \sigma_i\hat{u}_i$ .

Construct  ${\bf U}$  from the basis you find.

Again see this tweet for some post-it based help: https://twitter.com/matrixologyvox/status/593540446845947904

## Solution:

We multiply the  $\hat{v}_i$  for which  $\sigma_i > 0$  by A to find the  $\hat{u}_i$ . We'll need to pull the  $\sigma_i$  out to find the  $\hat{u}_i$ . Recall that  $\sigma_1 = \sqrt{3}$  and  $\sigma_2 = 1$ . First off:

$$\mathbf{A}\hat{v}_{1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \sqrt{3}\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \sqrt{3}\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \sqrt{3}\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \sigma_{1}\hat{u}_{1}.$$

Notice how when we pull out  $\sigma_1$ , we (almost magically) end up with a happy little unit vector.

Second vector:

$$\mathbf{A}\hat{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= 1 \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \sigma_2 \hat{u}_2.$$

Smashing. Note that  $\hat{u}_1^{\rm T}\hat{u}_2 = 0$  and we have an orthonormal basis for  $R^2$ . Finally,

$$\mathbf{U} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix}$$

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6. Next find the  $\{\hat{u}_i\}$  in a different way by finding the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of  $AA^T$ .

#### Solution:

Eigenvalues:

$$0 = |\mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^{\mathrm{T}} - \lambda I| = \begin{bmatrix} 2-\lambda & 1\\ 1 & 2-\lambda \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= (2-\lambda)^2 - 1$$
$$= (2-\lambda-1)(2-\lambda+1)$$
$$= (1-\lambda)(3-\lambda),$$

where we have used the difference of perfect squares. So  $\lambda_1 = 3$  and  $\lambda_2 = 1$  which again gives  $\sigma_1 = \sqrt{3}$  and  $\sigma_2 = 1$ . Eigenvector time (la-la-la) for  $\lambda_1 = 3$ :

$$\vec{0} = (\mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^{\mathrm{T}} - \lambda_{1}I)\vec{u}_{1}$$
$$= \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} - 3I$$
$$= \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

By inspection, we have  $\hat{u}_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Next,

$$\vec{0} = (\mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^{\mathrm{T}} - \lambda_2 I)\vec{u}_2$$
$$= \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} - 1I$$
$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

This gives  $\hat{u}_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$ . Note that we could have chosen  $\hat{u}_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ , the negative of the one we have above.

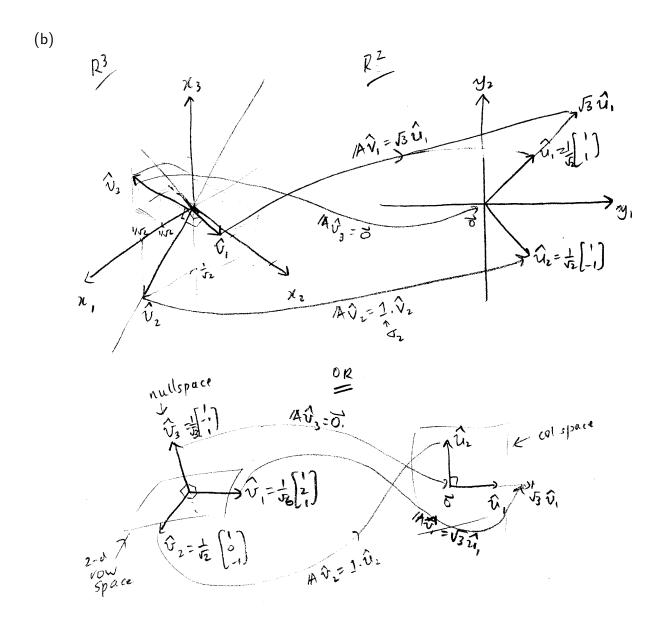
In fact, we always need to compute  $\mathbf{A}\hat{v}_i$  to find out which direction  $\hat{u}_i$  should take. Beyond this, we don't need to compute the  $\hat{u}_i$  directly ever as once we have  $\vec{v}_i$  we need only multiply by  $\mathbf{A}$  (as per the previous question). We found the u's directly here to (1) see that both ways give the same thing and (2) punish ourselves just a little more.

- 7. (a) Put everything together and show that  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{U} \mathbf{\Sigma} \mathbf{V}^{\mathrm{T}}.$ 
  - (b) Draw the 'big picture' for this A showing which  $\hat{v}_i$ 's are mapped to which  $\hat{u}_i$ 's.
  - (c) Which basis vectors, if any, belong to the two nullspaces?

## Solution:

(a)

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{U} \mathbf{\Sigma} \mathbf{V}^{\mathrm{T}} &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{3} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{-1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \\ \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{-1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 + 1/2 & 1 + 0 & 1/2 - 1/2 \\ 1/2 - 1/2 & 1 + 0 & 1/2 + 1/2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}. \end{split}$$



(c) Left nullspace is just  $\{\vec{0}\}$ .

A's nullspace has dimension 1 and has the basis vector  $\hat{v}_3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

8. Finally, for this same  $\mathbf{A}$ , perform the following calculation:

$$\sigma_1 \hat{u}_1 \hat{v}_1^{\mathrm{T}} + \sigma_2 \hat{u}_2 \hat{v}_2^{\mathrm{T}} + \ldots + \sigma_r \hat{u}_r \hat{v}_r^{\mathrm{T}}$$

where r is the rank of  $\mathbf{A}$ .

You should obtain A...

# Solution:

$$\sigma_{1}\hat{u}_{1}\hat{v}_{1}^{\mathrm{T}} + \sigma_{2}\hat{u}_{2}\hat{v}_{2}^{\mathrm{T}} = \sqrt{3}\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1 \end{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + 1\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1\\-1 \end{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1\\1 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1\\-1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 & 0\\0 & 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0\\0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{A}.$$

9. Matlab question.

Verify the signs you found for the pivots of A in question 1 by using Matlab to find A's eigenvalues.

## Solution:

Using Matlab, we find  $\lambda_1 = -0.2361$  and  $\lambda_1 = 4.2361$ :

```
>> eig([ 1 2; 2 3])
ans =
    -0.2361
    4.2361
```

One positive and one negative, matching the signs of the pivots.

10. Matlab question.

Use Matlab to compute the SVD for the matrix  ${\bf A}$  you explored in questions 3–8.

# Solution:

```
>> [U,Sigma,V] = svd([ 1 1 0 ; 0 1 1])
U =
-0.7071 -0.7071
-0.7071 0.7071
Sigma =
```

1.7321	0	0
0	1.0000	0
V =		
-0.4082	-0.7071	0.5774
-0.8165	0.0000	-0.5774
-0.4082	0.7071	0.5774

# 11. (The bonus one pointer)

Where does the fearsome kiwi rank among among rattites and what's unusual about the kiwi egg?

# Solution:

The kiwi is the smallest of all struthious birds.

A kiwi egg can weight up to 1/4 of the mother's own weight, which is believed to be the highest ratio of all birds.