

Chapter 1

Reminders on matrix topology

On multiple occasions, we will have to examine the convergence of a sequence of vectors or matrices. This is why this chapter will

1.1 Vector and matrix norms

Given an integer $n \geq 0$, we recall that a norm over \mathbb{C}^n is an application $|\cdot|_* : \mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ satisfying: for all $\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{C}^n$ and all $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$

- $|\mathbf{v}|_* = 0 \Rightarrow \mathbf{v} = 0$
- $|\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}|_* \leq |\mathbf{v}|_* + |\mathbf{w}|_*$
- $|\lambda \mathbf{v}|_* = |\lambda| |\mathbf{v}|_*$

In the case of the space $V = \mathbb{C}^n$, let us mention three classical norms. Given a vector $\mathbf{u} = (u_j)_{j=1}^n \in \mathbb{C}^n$, we define

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathbf{u}|_1 &:= \sum_{j=1}^n |u_j| \\ |\mathbf{u}|_2 &:= (\sum_{j=1}^n |u_j|^2)^{1/2} \\ |\mathbf{u}|_\infty &:= \sup_{j=1 \dots n} |u_j| \end{aligned}$$

It can be easily verified that each of these three applications is indeed a norm. Besides, let us point that $|\cdot|_2$ is the norm naturally attached to the scalar product $(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) \mapsto \mathbf{u}^\top \bar{\mathbf{v}}$ over \mathbb{C}^n . Let us recall that these norms are equivalent as \mathbb{C}^n is a finite dimensional space: we have $|\mathbf{u}|_1 \leq \sqrt{n} |\mathbf{u}|_2 \leq n |\mathbf{u}|_\infty \leq n |\mathbf{u}|_1$ for all $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{C}^n$. The choice of a norm $|\cdot|_*$ over \mathbb{C}^n induces a norm over $\mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ defined by

$$\|\mathbf{A}\|_* := \sup_{\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{C}^n \setminus \{0\}} \frac{|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{u}|_*}{|\mathbf{u}|_*} \quad \text{for } \mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}. \quad (1.1)$$

A norm over $\mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ taking the form above is said to be subordinated. Subordinated norms possess the following elementary property.

Lemme 1.1.

If $\|\cdot\|_$ is a subordinated norm over $\mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ then $\|\mathbf{A}^k\|_* \leq \|\mathbf{A}\|_*^k$ for all $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$, $k \geq 0$.*

In the following we will denote $\|\cdot\|_1$ the norm subordinated to $|\cdot|_1$. Similarly we will denote $\|\cdot\|_2$ and $\|\cdot\|_\infty$. There exist matrix norms that are not subordinated. Here is an example. Given a matrix $A = (a_{j,k}) \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$, let $\text{tr}(A) := \sum_{j=1}^n a_{j,j}$ refer to its trace. In addition, we shall denote $A^* := (\overline{A})^\top$ its adjoint i.e. its hermitian transpose. Then the application $(A, B) \mapsto \text{tr}(B^*A)$ provides a scalar product over $\mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$. The norm associated to this scalar product, called the Frobenius norm,

$$\|A\|_F := \sqrt{\text{tr}(A^*A)} = \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n |a_{j,k}|^2$$

is not subordinated. Indeed if it was, one would necessarily have $\|\text{Id}\|_* = 1$. However in the case of the Frobenius norm, a direct calculation shows that $\|\text{Id}\|_F = \sqrt{n}$.

Proposition 1.2.

For any matrix $A = (a_{j,k}) \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|A\|_1 &= \sup_{k=1 \dots n} \sum_{j=1}^n |a_{j,k}| \\ \|A\|_\infty &= \sup_{j=1 \dots n} \sum_{k=1}^n |a_{j,k}| \end{aligned}$$

Proof:

We start by proving the identity for $\|A\|_1$. Given a vector $\mathbf{u} = (u_k)_{k=1}^n \in \mathbb{C}^n \setminus \{0\}$, applying a simple triangular inequality yields

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathbf{A}\mathbf{u}|_1 &= \sum_{j=1}^n \left| \sum_{k=1}^n a_{j,k} u_k \right| \leq \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n |a_{j,k}| |u_k| \\ &\leq \sum_{k=1}^n |u_k| \left(\sum_{j=1}^n |a_{j,k}| \right) \leq |\mathbf{u}|_1 \sup_{k=1 \dots n} \sum_{j=1}^n |a_{j,k}| \end{aligned}$$

Since this holds for all $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{C}^n \setminus \{0\}$, dividing the last inequality by $|\mathbf{u}|_1$ and taking the supremum with respect to \mathbf{u} , we obtain that $\|A\|_1 \leq \sup_{k=1 \dots n} \sum_{j=1}^n |a_{j,k}|$. To conclude we can construct a $\mathbf{u}_\star \in \mathbb{C}^n$ such that $|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{u}_\star|_1 / |\mathbf{u}_\star|_1 = \sup_{k=1 \dots n} \sum_{j=1}^n |a_{j,k}|$. Pick $k_\star \in \{1 \dots n\}$ such that $\sup_{k=1 \dots n} \sum_{j=1}^n |a_{j,k}| = \sum_{j=1}^n |a_{j,k_\star}|$. It suffices then to define $\mathbf{u}_\star = (u_k)$ by $u_k = 0$ if $k \neq k_\star$ and $u_{k_\star} = 1$.

Let us now examine the case of $\|A\|_\infty$. Similarly to what precedes, for an arbitrary $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{C}^n$ we have

$$|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{u}|_\infty = \sup_{j=1 \dots n} \left| \sum_{k=1}^n a_{j,k} u_k \right| \leq \sup_{j=1 \dots n} \sum_{k=1}^n |a_{j,k}| |\mathbf{u}|_\infty.$$

Again dividing by $|\mathbf{u}|_\infty$ and taking the supremum of the left hand side with respect to \mathbf{u} , we obtain $\|A\|_\infty \leq \sup_{j=1 \dots n} \sum_{k=1}^n |a_{j,k}|$. Let us prove that this upper bound is reached. Choose j_\star such that $\sum_{k=1}^n |a_{j_\star,k}| = \sup_{j=1 \dots n} \sum_{k=1}^n |a_{j,k}|$. We can take $\mathbf{u}_\star = (u_k) \in \mathbb{C}^n$ with entries given by $u_k = \overline{a_{j_\star,k}} / |a_{j_\star,k}|$, and we then obtain $|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{u}_\star|_\infty / |\mathbf{u}_\star|_\infty = \sup_{j=1 \dots n} \sum_{k=1}^n |a_{j,k}|$. \square

Given a matrix $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$, we denote $\sigma(A)$ the spectrum of A defined as the set of its

eigenvalues $\sigma(A) = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C}, \text{Ker}(\lambda \text{Id} - A) \neq \{0\}\}$. On the other hand, we will denote $\varrho(A) = \sup\{|\lambda|, \lambda \in \sigma(A)\}$, the spectral radius of the matrix A .

Proposition 1.3.

For any matrix $A = (a_{j,k}) \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$, we have $\|A\|_2 = \sqrt{\varrho(A^*A)}$

Proof:

Remind that a matrix $U \in \mathbb{C}^n$ is called unitary if and only if $\|U\mathbf{x}\|_2 = \|\mathbf{x}\|_2$ for all $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{C}^n$. We also recall that $U^{-1} = U^*$ when U is unitary. As the matrix A^*A is symteirc positive, we know that there exists a unitary matrix $U \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ and a diagonal matrix $\Lambda = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$ with $\lambda_j \in \sigma(A) \subset \mathbb{R}_+$ such that $A^*A = U^*\Lambda U$. Renumbering if necessary, we can assume that $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n$, so that $\lambda_1 = \varrho(A^*A)$. Given a vector $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{C}^n$, set $\mathbf{y} = U\mathbf{x}$ and denote $\mathbf{y} = (y_j)_{j=1}^n$ the entries of this vector. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|A\mathbf{x}\|_2^2 &= \mathbf{x}^* A^* A \mathbf{x} = (U\mathbf{x})^* \Lambda (U\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{y}^* \Lambda \mathbf{y} = \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j |y_j|^2 \\ &\leq \lambda_1 \sum_{j=1}^n |y_j|^2 = \lambda_1 \|\mathbf{y}\|_2^2 = \lambda_1 \|U\mathbf{x}\|_2^2 = \varrho(A^*A) \|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2. \end{aligned}$$

Since this holds for any $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{C}^n \setminus \{0\}$, we can divide by $\|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2$ and take the supremum. We finally obtain that $\|A\|_2^2 \leq \varrho(A^*A)$.

To conclude, let us choose $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{C}^n \setminus \{0\}$ as an eigenvector of A^*A attached to the eigenvalue λ_1 . Then we have $\|A\mathbf{v}\|_2^2 = \mathbf{v}^* A^* A \mathbf{v} = \lambda_1 \|\mathbf{v}\|_2^2$, which implies $\|A\mathbf{v}\|_2^2 / \|\mathbf{v}\|_2^2 = \varrho(A^*A)$. This ends the proof. \square

In the particular case where A is hermitian $A^* = A$ we have $\sqrt{\varrho(A^*A)} = \sqrt{\varrho(A^2)} = \sqrt{\varrho(A)^2} = \varrho(A)$ as $\sigma(A^2) = \{\lambda^2, \lambda \in \sigma(A)\}$. We then conclude that $\|A\|_2 = \varrho(A)$ for the particular case of an hermitian matrix.

1.2 Condition number

Although to any norm is attached a condition number, most of the time one considers the so-called "quadratic" condition number attached to the norm $\|\cdot\|_2$. For a matrix $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$, it is defined by

$$\text{cond}_2(A) := \|A\|_2 \|A^{-1}\|_2. \quad (1.2)$$

This quantity is only meaningful for an invertible matrix i.e. whose kernel is trivial $\text{Ker}(A) = \{0\}$. The condition number is systematically greater than 1. Indeed $1 = \|\text{Id}\|_2 = \|A \cdot A^{-1}\|_2 \leq \|A\|_2 \|A^{-1}\|_2 = \text{cond}_2(A)$. On the other hand, applying the remark after Proposition 1.3, we deduce that $\text{cond}_2(A) = |\lambda_1|/|\lambda_n|$ for an hermitian matrix A , assuming that the eigenvalues are arranged by ascending order $|\lambda_1| \geq |\lambda_2| \geq \dots \geq |\lambda_n|$. The next proposition shows that the condition number quantifies the sensibility of a linear system with respect to perturbations.

Théorème 1.4.

Consider $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ invertible and $\mathbf{b}, \delta\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{C}^n$ with $\mathbf{b} \neq 0$. Let $\mathbf{x}, \delta\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{C}^n$ refer to vectors such that $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ and $A(\mathbf{x} + \delta\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{b} + \delta\mathbf{b}$. Then we have

$$\frac{\|\delta\mathbf{x}\|_2}{\|\mathbf{x}\|_2} \leq \text{cond}_2(A) \frac{\|\delta\mathbf{b}\|_2}{\|\mathbf{b}\|_2}.$$

Proof:

We have $A(\mathbf{x} + \delta\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{b} + A\delta\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b} + \delta\mathbf{b}$ hence $A\delta\mathbf{x} = \delta\mathbf{b}$ and thus $\mathbf{x} = A^{-1}\delta\mathbf{b}$. We then deduce $|\mathbf{b}|_2 \leq \|A\|_2|\mathbf{x}|_2$ on the one hand, and $|\delta\mathbf{x}|_2 \leq \|A^{-1}\|_2|\delta\mathbf{b}|_2$ on the other hand. Multiplying the last two inequalities, and dividing by $|\mathbf{x}|_2|\mathbf{b}|_2$, we finally obtain the required inequality. \square

1.3 Spectral radius

Proposition 1.5.

For any square matrix $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$, there exists an invertible matrix $P \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ such that PAP^{-1} is upper triangular.

Proof:

We prove this result by recurrence over the dimension n . It obviously holds for $n = 1$. Suppose the result holds for $n - 1$ and let us prove that it still holds for n . Pick an arbitrary square matrix $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$. There exists $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ and $\mathbf{e}_1 \in \mathbb{C}^n \setminus \{0\}$ such that $A\mathbf{e}_1 = \lambda\mathbf{e}_1$. We can find linearly independent vectors $\mathbf{e}_2, \dots, \mathbf{e}_n$ such that $\mathbf{e}_1, \dots, \mathbf{e}_n$ forms a basis of \mathbb{C}^n . For each $k = 2 \dots n$, there are coefficients α_k and $\beta_{j,k} \in \mathbb{C}$, $j = 2 \dots n$ such that

$$A\mathbf{e}_k = \alpha_k\mathbf{e}_1 + \sum_{j=2}^n \beta_{j,k}\mathbf{e}_j \quad k = 2 \dots n \quad (1.3)$$

Note $B = (B_{j,k}) \in \mathbb{C}^{(n-1) \times (n-1)}$ defined by the coefficients $B_{j,k} = \beta_{j+1,k+1}$, as well as the vector $\boldsymbol{\alpha} := (\alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)^\top \in \mathbb{C}^{n-1}$. Let us also define $P := [\mathbf{e}_1, \dots, \mathbf{e}_n]$ the matrix associated to basis we have just defined. Writing the matrix representation of (1.3) then leads to

$$P^{-1} \cdot A \cdot P = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & \boldsymbol{\alpha}^\top \\ 0 & B \end{bmatrix} \quad (1.4)$$

By recurrence hypothesis, there exists $Q \in \mathbb{C}^{(n-1) \times (n-1)}$ invertible such that $T := Q^{-1}BQ \in \mathbb{C}^{(n-1) \times (n-1)}$ is upper triangular. Setting $R = \text{diag}(1, Q) \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$, we then obtain

$$(PR)^{-1} \cdot A \cdot (PR) = R^{-1} \cdot (P^{-1}AP) \cdot R = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & \boldsymbol{\alpha}^\top Q \\ 0 & T \end{bmatrix}$$

Note that PR is invertible since both P and R are invertible. As the matrix in the right hand side above is upper triangular, the preceding identity exhibits a trigonalisation of the matrix A which concludes the recurrence, and hence the proof. \square

Proposition 1.6.

For any subordinated matrix norm $\|\cdot\|_*$ over $\mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ we have $\varrho(A) \leq \|A\|_*$, $\forall A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$. Reciprocally, for any matrix $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ and any $\epsilon > 0$, there exists a subordinated norm $\|\cdot\|_*$ over $\mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ such that

$$\|A\|_* \leq \varrho(A) + \epsilon. \quad (1.5)$$

Proof:

First consider a matrix norm $\| \cdot \|_*$ over $\mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ subordinated to the vector norm $| \cdot |_*$. For a matrix $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$, take $\lambda \in \sigma(A)$ such that $|\lambda| = \varrho(A)$, and let $\mathbf{x}_0 \in \mathbb{C}^n \setminus \{0\}$ be an eigenvector of A attached to this eigenvalue. Then we have

$$\varrho(A) = \frac{|A\mathbf{x}_0|_*}{|\mathbf{x}_0|_*} \leq \sup_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{C}^n \setminus \{0\}} \frac{|A\mathbf{x}|_*}{|\mathbf{x}|_*} \leq \|A\|_* \quad (1.6)$$

This proves the first part of the proposition. Next consider a matrix $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$. We have to propose a subordinated norm satisfying (1.5). According to Proposition 1.5, there exists an invertible matrix $P \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ such that $T := P^{-1}AP$ is upper triangular,

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} t_{1,1} & t_{1,2} & \cdots & t_{1,n} \\ 0 & \ddots & & \vdots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & t_{n,n} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Note that the entries $t_{j,j}, j = 1 \dots n$ are the eigenvalues of the matrix A . Given some $\delta > 0$ that we shall choose a posteriori, set $D_\delta := \text{diag}(1, \delta, \dots, \delta^{n-1})$ and define the matrix $T_\delta := D_\delta^{-1}P^{-1}APD_\delta = (PD_\delta)^{-1}A(PD_\delta) = D_\delta^{-1}TD_\delta$. Examining its values, we see that

$$T_\delta = \begin{bmatrix} t_{1,1} & \delta t_{1,2} & \cdots & \delta^{n-1} t_{1,n} \\ 0 & \ddots & & \vdots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \delta t_{n-1,n} \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & t_{n,n} \end{bmatrix}$$

The matrix above decomposes as $T_\delta = \Lambda + R_\delta$ where $\Lambda = \text{diag}(t_{1,1}, \dots, t_{n,n})$ and R_δ is the upper triangular part located strictly above the diagonal. According to Proposition 1.2, we have $\lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \|R_\delta\|_1 = 0$. Given some ϵ , we can choose δ small enough to guarantee that $\|R_\delta\|_1 \leq \epsilon$. In addition, one readily checks that $\|\Lambda\|_1 = \max_{j=1 \dots n} |t_{j,j}| = \varrho(A)$. With δ chosen as indicated, we obtain $\|T_\delta\|_1 \leq \varrho(A) + \epsilon$. Now set $P_\delta := PD_\delta$ and consider the norm $|\mathbf{x}|_* := |P_\delta^{-1}\mathbf{x}|_1$. With the matrix norm $\| \cdot \|_*$ subordinated to $| \cdot |_*$, the matrix A then satisfies

$$\|A\|_* = \sup_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{C}^n \setminus \{0\}} \frac{|A\mathbf{x}|_*}{|\mathbf{x}|_*} = \sup_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{C}^n \setminus \{0\}} \frac{|P_\delta^{-1}AP_\delta\mathbf{x}|_1}{|\mathbf{x}|_1} = \|T_\delta\|_1 \leq \varrho(A) + \epsilon$$

□

Proposition 1.7.

Given a $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$, the following conditions are equivalent:

- i) $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} A^k = 0$
- ii) $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} A^k \mathbf{x} = 0$ for all $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{C}^n$
- iii) $\varrho(A) < 1$
- iv) $\|A\|_* < 1$ for at least one subordinated norm $\| \cdot \|_*$.

Proof:

The implication $i) \Rightarrow ii)$ is obvious. To prove $ii) \Rightarrow iii)$, let us establish the contrapositive, assuming that $\varrho(A) \geq 1$. Then there exists $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{C}^n$ such that $\|\mathbf{x}\|_2 = 1$ and $A\mathbf{x} = \lambda\mathbf{x}$ for a certain $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ satisfying $|\lambda| \geq 1$, and we have $\|A^k\mathbf{x}\|_2 = |\lambda|^k \geq 1$ so $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} A^k\mathbf{x} \neq 0$ and $ii)$ does not hold. The implication $iii) \Rightarrow iv)$ is a direct consequence of Proposition 1.6. The implication $iv) \Rightarrow i)$ is a direct consequence of Lemma 1.1. \square