

# Orthogonal and Orthonormal Bases, Orthogonal Matrix, Gram-Schmidt

# Orthogonal and Orthonormal Bases

A collection of nonzero vectors  $\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n \in \mathbb{R}^m$  is said to be

- **orthogonal** if  $\mathbf{a}_i^T \mathbf{a}_j = 0$  for all  $i, j$  with  $i \neq j$
- **orthonormal** if  $\|\mathbf{a}_i\|_2 = 1$  for all  $i$  and  $\mathbf{a}_i^T \mathbf{a}_j = 0$  for all  $i, j$  with  $i \neq j$ .

The same definition applies to complex  $\mathbf{a}_i$ 's, but we need to replace “ $T$ ” with “ $H$ ”.

Examples:

- $\{\mathbf{e}_1, \dots, \mathbf{e}_m\} \subset \mathbb{R}^m$  is orthonormal; in fact, it's an orthonormal basis for  $\mathbb{R}^m$
- any subset of  $\{\mathbf{e}_1, \dots, \mathbf{e}_m\}$  is orthonormal
- (to be learnt) discrete Fourier transform (DFT), Haar transform, etc., form orthonormal bases

# Orthogonal and Orthonormal Bases

Some immediate facts:

- an orthonormal set of vectors is also linearly independent.
- let  $\{\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n\} \subset \mathbb{R}^m$  be an orthonormal set of vectors. Suppose  $\mathbf{y} \in \text{span}\{\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n\}$ . Then the coefficient  $\alpha$  for the representation

$$\mathbf{y} = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \mathbf{a}_i$$

is uniquely given by  $\alpha_i = \mathbf{a}_i^T \mathbf{y}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .

A not so immediate fact:

- (important) every subspace  $\mathcal{S}$  with  $\mathcal{S} \neq \{\mathbf{0}\}$  has an orthonormal basis.
  - this will be clear when we consider Gram-Schmidt later

# Orthogonal Matrices

A real matrix  $Q$  is said to be

- **orthogonal** if it is square and its columns are orthonormal  
(note: we often call it an orthogonal matrix, but not an orthonormal matrix)
- **semi-orthogonal** if its columns are orthonormal
  - a semi-orthogonal  $Q$  must be tall or square

A complex matrix  $Q$  is said to be

- **unitary** if it is square and its columns are orthonormal,
- **semi-unitary** if its columns are orthonormal.

# Orthogonal Matrices

Facts:

- $\mathbf{Q}^T \mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{I}$  and  $\mathbf{Q} \mathbf{Q}^T = \mathbf{I}$  for orthogonal  $\mathbf{Q}$
- $\mathbf{Q}^T \mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{I}$  (but *not* necessarily  $\mathbf{Q} \mathbf{Q}^T = \mathbf{I}$ ) for semi-orthogonal  $\mathbf{Q}$
- $\mathbf{Q}^{-1} = \mathbf{Q}^T$  for orthogonal  $\mathbf{Q}$
- $\mathbf{Q}^T$  is orthogonal if  $\mathbf{Q}$  is orthogonal
- $|\det(\mathbf{Q})| = 1$  for orthogonal  $\mathbf{Q}$
- the set of columns of semi-orthogonal  $\mathbf{Q}$  is a basis for  $\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{Q})$
- (isometry property)  $\|\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{x}\|_2 = \|\mathbf{x}\|_2$  for semi-orthogonal  $\mathbf{Q}$ 
  - physical meaning for square  $\mathbf{Q}$ : rotation and reflection (to be learnt next) do not affect the vector length
- for every tall and semi-orthogonal matrix  $\mathbf{Q}_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k}$ , there exists a matrix  $\mathbf{Q}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times (n-k)}$  such that  $[\mathbf{Q}_1 \mathbf{Q}_2]$  is orthogonal

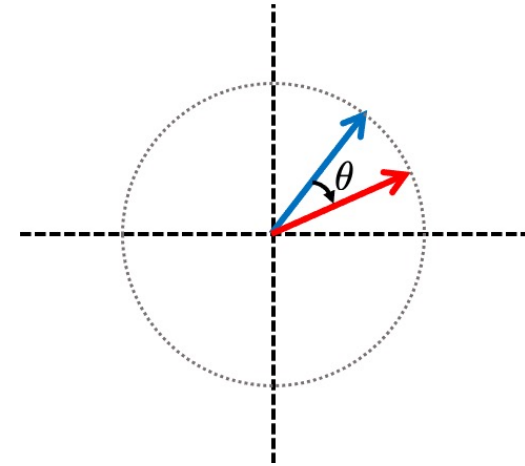
note: similar results hold for unitary and semi-unitary matrices

# Orthogonal Matrices

- a transformation  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{x}$  with orthogonal  $\mathbf{Q}$  performs rotations and/or reflections

Rotation in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ : Consider a rotation matrix

$$\mathbf{Q} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\theta) & \sin(\theta) \\ -\sin(\theta) & \cos(\theta) \end{bmatrix},$$



where  $\theta \in [0, 2\pi)$ . It describes a rotation by  $\theta$ .

Rotation in a coordinate plane in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . For example,

$$\mathbf{Q} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\theta) & 0 & \sin(\theta) \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin(\theta) & 0 & \cos(\theta) \end{bmatrix}$$

describes a rotation in the  $(x_1, x_3)$  plane in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

# Orthogonal Matrices

- Reflection in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ : Consider a reflection matrix

$$\mathbf{Q} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\theta) & \sin(\theta) \\ \sin(\theta) & -\cos(\theta) \end{bmatrix},$$

where  $\theta \in [0, 2\pi)$ . It describes a reflection across a line at an angle of  $\frac{\theta}{2}$ .

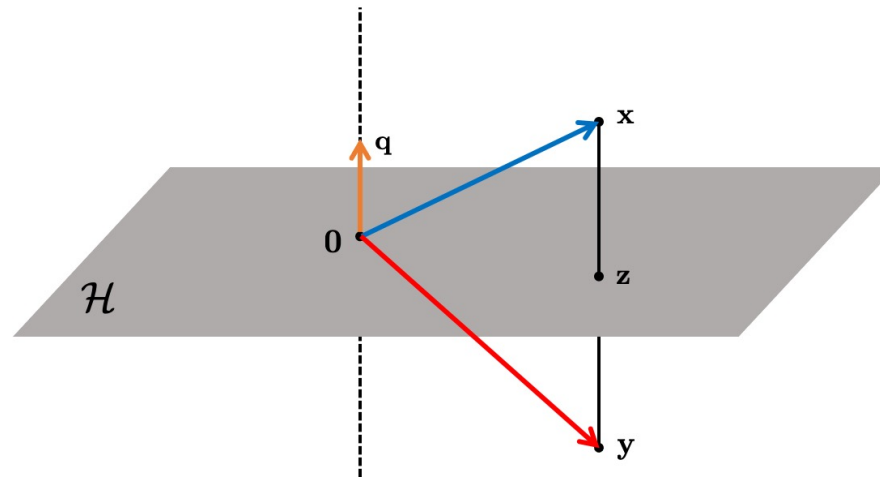
A Householder reflection: a matrix of the form

$$\mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{I} - 2\mathbf{q}\mathbf{q}^T$$

with  $\mathbf{q}$  a unit-norm vector (i.e.,  $\|\mathbf{q}\|_2 = 1$ )

- Properties: a reflection matrix is orthogonal and symmetric

# Orthogonal Matrices



- $\mathcal{H} = \{\mathbf{u} \mid \mathbf{q}^T \mathbf{u} = 0\}$  is the (hyper-)plane of vectors orthogonal to  $\mathbf{q}$
- if  $\|\mathbf{q}\|_2 = 1$ , the projection of  $\mathbf{x}$  on  $\mathcal{H}$  is given by

$$\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{x} - (\mathbf{q}^T \mathbf{x})\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{q}(\mathbf{q}^T \mathbf{x}) = (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{q}\mathbf{q}^T)\mathbf{x}$$

- reflection of  $\mathbf{x}$  through the hyperplane is given by product with reflection matrix:

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{z} + (\mathbf{z} - \mathbf{x}) = (\mathbf{I} - 2\mathbf{q}\mathbf{q}^T)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{x}$$



## Orthogonal Matrices

A **permutation matrix**  $\mathbf{Q} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is defined as

$$q_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & j = \pi_i \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\pi} = [\pi_1, \dots, \pi_n]^T$  is a permutation of  $[1, \dots, n]^T$

- interpretation:  $\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{x} = [x_{\pi_1}, \dots, x_{\pi_n}]^T$ ;  $\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{X}$  ( $\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Q}$ ) permutation of rows (columns)
- $\mathbf{Q}$  has exactly one element equal to 1 in each row and each column
- $\mathbf{Q}$  can be obtained by reordering the columns/rows of  $\mathbf{I}_n$  or arranging  $\mathbf{e}_i$ 's
- for permutation matrices  $\mathbf{Q}_1, \dots, \mathbf{Q}_n$ ,  $\mathbf{Q}_1 \cdots \mathbf{Q}_n$  is a permutation matrix
- a (general) permutation matrix can be decomposed into a product of elementary permutation matrices (only interchange two elements for  $\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{x}$ )
- permutation matrices are orthogonal

–  $\mathbf{Q}^T \mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{I}$  because

$$[\mathbf{Q}^T \mathbf{Q}]_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^n [\mathbf{Q}^T]_{ik} [\mathbf{Q}]_{kj} = \sum_{k=1}^n [\mathbf{Q}]_{ki} [\mathbf{Q}]_{kj} = \begin{cases} 1 & i = j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

–  $\mathbf{Q}^T = \mathbf{Q}^{-1}$  is the **inverse permutation matrix**

# Orthogonal Bases and Matrices

**Question:** given a subspace  $\mathcal{S}$ , how do we know that it has an orthonormal basis?

- we know that every subspace has a basis, c.f. Theorem 1
- but the theorem doesn't say if that basis is orthonormal
- we can construct an orthonormal basis from a basis—and one way to do it is the Gram-Schmidt procedure

## Gram-Schmidt Procedure

**Algorithm:** Gram-Schmidt

**input:** a collection of vectors  $\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n$ , presumably linearly independent

$\tilde{\mathbf{q}}_1 = \mathbf{a}_1$ ,  $\mathbf{q}_1 = \tilde{\mathbf{q}}_1 / \|\tilde{\mathbf{q}}_1\|_2$

for  $i = 2, \dots, n$

$\tilde{\mathbf{q}}_i = \mathbf{a}_i - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} (\mathbf{q}_j^T \mathbf{a}_i) \mathbf{q}_j$

$\mathbf{q}_i = \tilde{\mathbf{q}}_i / \|\tilde{\mathbf{q}}_i\|_2$

end

**output:**  $\mathbf{q}_1, \dots, \mathbf{q}_n$

- Fact: Suppose that  $\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n$  are linearly independent. The collection of vectors  $\mathbf{q}_1, \dots, \mathbf{q}_n$  produced by the Gram-Schmidt procedure is orthonormal and satisfies

$$\text{span}\{\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n\} = \text{span}\{\mathbf{q}_1, \dots, \mathbf{q}_n\}.$$

- here we use Gram-Schmidt to identify the existence of an orthonormal basis for a subspace, but it is a numerical algorithm

## Gram-Schmidt Procedure

Proof of the fact on the last page:

- assume linearly independent  $\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n$
- consider  $i = 2$ .
  - $\tilde{\mathbf{q}}_2$  is a linear combination of  $\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2$  and is nonzero:

$$\tilde{\mathbf{q}}_2 = \mathbf{a}_2 - (\mathbf{q}_1^T \mathbf{a}_2) \mathbf{q}_1 = \mathbf{a}_2 - (\mathbf{q}_1^T \mathbf{a}_2 / \|\mathbf{a}_1\|_2) \mathbf{a}_1; \quad (\dagger)$$

the linear independence of  $\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2$  implies  $\tilde{\mathbf{q}}_2 \neq \mathbf{0}$ .

- $\mathbf{a}_2$  is a linear combination of  $\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2$ : seen from  $(\dagger)$
- consequence:  $\text{span}\{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2\} = \text{span}\{\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2\}$  (why?)
- $\tilde{\mathbf{q}}_2$  is orthogonal to  $\mathbf{q}_1$ :

$$\mathbf{q}_1^T \tilde{\mathbf{q}}_2 = \mathbf{q}_1^T (\mathbf{a}_2 - (\mathbf{q}_1^T \mathbf{a}_2) \mathbf{q}_1) = \mathbf{q}_1^T \mathbf{a}_2 - \mathbf{q}_1^T \mathbf{a}_2 = 0.$$

## Gram-Schmidt Procedure

- consider  $i \geq 2$ .
  - $\tilde{\mathbf{q}}_i$  is a linear combination of  $\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_{i-1}$  and is nonzero: by induction,  $\mathbf{q}_1, \dots, \mathbf{q}_{i-1}$  are linear combinations of  $\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_{i-1}$ . So,

$$\tilde{\mathbf{q}}_i = \mathbf{a}_i - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} (\mathbf{q}_j^T \mathbf{a}_i) \mathbf{q}_j \quad (\dagger)$$

is a linear combination of  $\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_i$ . The linear independence of  $\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_i$  implies  $\tilde{\mathbf{q}}_i \neq \mathbf{0}$ .

- $\mathbf{a}_i$  is a linear combination of  $\mathbf{q}_1, \dots, \mathbf{q}_i$ : seen from  $(\dagger)$
- consequence:  $\text{span}\{\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_i\} = \text{span}\{\mathbf{q}_1, \dots, \mathbf{q}_i\}$
- $\tilde{\mathbf{q}}_i$  is orthogonal to  $\mathbf{q}_1, \dots, \mathbf{q}_{i-1}$ : by induction,  $\mathbf{q}_1, \dots, \mathbf{q}_{i-1}$  are orthonormal. For any  $k \in \{1, \dots, i-1\}$ ,

$$\mathbf{q}_k^T \tilde{\mathbf{q}}_i = \mathbf{q}_k^T (\mathbf{a}_i - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} (\mathbf{q}_j^T \mathbf{a}_i) \mathbf{q}_j) = \mathbf{q}_k^T \mathbf{a}_i - \mathbf{q}_k^T \mathbf{a}_i = 0.$$

# Gram-Schmidt Procedure

More comments:

- the step

$$\tilde{\mathbf{q}}_i = \mathbf{a}_i - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} (\mathbf{q}_j^T \mathbf{a}_i) \mathbf{q}_j$$

can be shown to be equivalent to

$$\tilde{\mathbf{q}}_i = \Pi_{\text{span}\{\mathbf{q}_1, \dots, \mathbf{q}_{i-1}\}^\perp}(\mathbf{a}_i) = \Pi_{\text{span}\{\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_{i-1}\}^\perp}(\mathbf{a}_i);$$

this will be seen in the [Least Squares Topic](#).

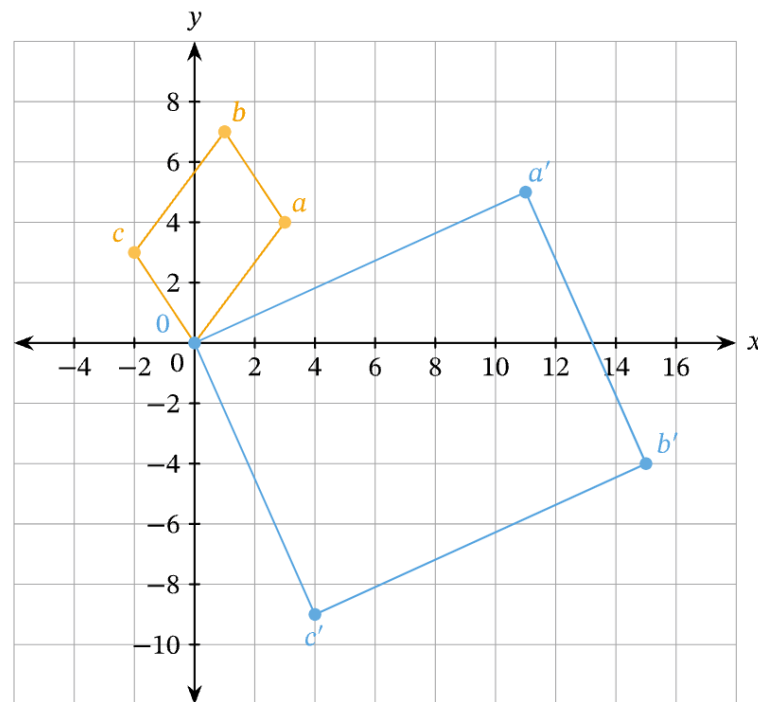
- the Gram-Schmidt procedure can be modified in various ways
  - e.g., it can be modified to do linear independence test, or to find a maximal linearly independent vector subset

# Matrix Multiplications and Representations, Block Matrix Manipulations

# Linear Transformations of Matrix

A matrix,  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ , is a 2-dimensional array of numbers that represents a linear transformation,  $L : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ , such that for all  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  the matrix-vector multiplication  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}$  yields the same result as does  $L(\mathbf{x})$ .

Let us take examples in  $\mathbb{R}^2$





# Matrix Product Representations

Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times k}$ ,  $\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times n}$ , and consider

$$\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{AB}.$$

- column representation:

$$\mathbf{c}_i = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{b}_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

- row representation: redefine  $\mathbf{c}_i \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\mathbf{a}_i \in \mathbb{R}^k$  as the  $i$ th row of  $\mathbf{C}$ ,  $\mathbf{A}$ , respectively.

$$\mathbf{c}_i^T = \mathbf{a}_i^T \mathbf{B}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

## Matrix Product Representations

- inner-product representation: redefine  $\mathbf{a}_i \in \mathbb{R}^k$  as the  $i$ th row of  $\mathbf{A}$ .

$$\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{AB} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a}_1^T \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{a}_m^T \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{b}_1 & \cdots & \mathbf{b}_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a}_1^T \mathbf{b}_1 & \cdots & \mathbf{a}_1^T \mathbf{b}_n \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \mathbf{a}_m^T \mathbf{b}_1 & \cdots & \mathbf{a}_m^T \mathbf{b}_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Thus,

$$c_{ij} = \mathbf{a}_i^T \mathbf{b}_j, \quad \text{for any } i, j.$$

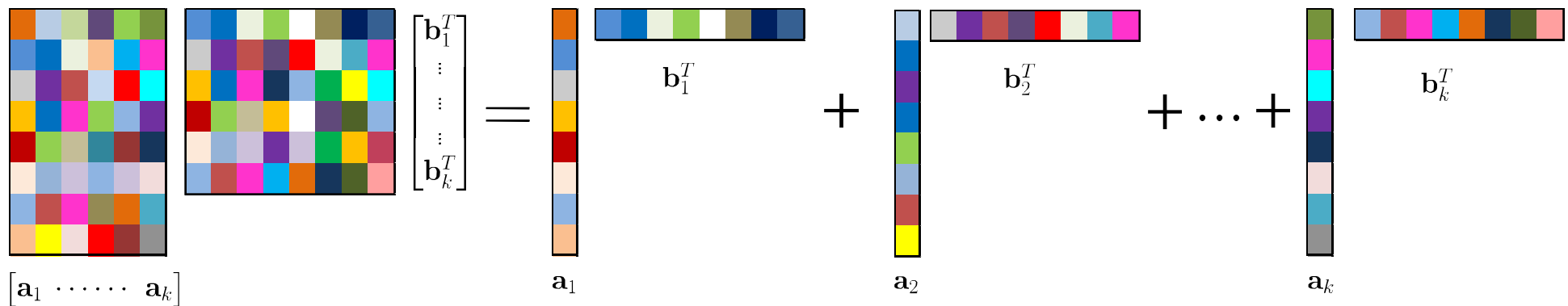
# Matrix Product Representations

- outer-product representation: redefine  $\mathbf{b}_i \in \mathbb{R}^k$  as the  $i$ th row of  $\mathbf{B}$ .

$$\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{I})\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{A} \left( \sum_{i=1}^k \mathbf{e}_i \mathbf{e}_i^T \right) \mathbf{B} = \sum_{i=1}^k \mathbf{A} \mathbf{e}_i \mathbf{e}_i^T \mathbf{B}$$

Thus,

$$\mathbf{C} = \sum_{i=1}^k \mathbf{a}_i \mathbf{b}_i^T$$



# Matrix Product Representations

- a matrix of the form  $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{a}\mathbf{b}^T$  for some  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}$  is called a **rank-one outer product**. It can be verified that  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{X}) \leq 1$ , and  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{X}) = 1$  iff  $\mathbf{a} \neq \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{b} \neq \mathbf{0}$ .
- the outer-product representation  $\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{B} = \sum_{i=1}^k \mathbf{a}_i \mathbf{b}_i^T$  is a sum of  $k$  rank-one outer products
- does it mean that  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{C}) = k$ ?
  - $\text{rank}(\mathbf{C}) \leq \sum_{i=1}^k \text{rank}(\mathbf{a}_i \mathbf{b}_i^T) \leq k$  is true <sup>2</sup>
  - but the above equality is generally not attained; e.g.,  $k = 2, \mathbf{a}_1 = \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{b}_1 = -\mathbf{b}_2$  leads to  $\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{0}$
  - $\text{rank}(\mathbf{C}) = k$  only when  $\mathbf{A}$  has full column rank *and*  $\mathbf{B}$  has full row rank (in this case  $\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{B}$  is sometimes called a **(full-)rank factorization** of  $\mathbf{C}$ )  
(proof as an exercise)
- a rank- $k$  matrix can be written as the sum of  $k$  rank-1 matrices, but not fewer

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<sup>2</sup>use the rank inequality  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}) \leq \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) + \text{rank}(\mathbf{B})$ .

## Block Matrix Manipulations

Sometimes it may be useful to manipulate matrices in a block form.

- let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . By partitioning

$$\mathbf{A} = [\mathbf{A}_1 \quad \mathbf{A}_2], \quad \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1 \\ \mathbf{x}_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $\mathbf{A}_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n_1}$ ,  $\mathbf{A}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n_2}$ ,  $\mathbf{x}_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1}$ ,  $\mathbf{x}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2}$ , with  $n_1 + n_2 = n$ , we can write

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A}_1\mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{A}_2\mathbf{x}_2$$

- similarly, by partitioning

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}_{11} & \mathbf{A}_{12} \\ \mathbf{A}_{21} & \mathbf{A}_{22} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1 \\ \mathbf{x}_2 \end{bmatrix},$$

we can write

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}_{11}\mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{A}_{12}\mathbf{x}_2 \\ \mathbf{A}_{21}\mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{A}_{22}\mathbf{x}_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Block Matrix Manipulations

- consider  $\mathbf{AB}$ . By an appropriate partitioning,

$$\mathbf{AB} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}_1 & \mathbf{A}_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B}_1 \\ \mathbf{B}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{A}_1\mathbf{B}_1 + \mathbf{A}_2\mathbf{B}_2$$

- similarly, by an appropriate partitioning,

$$\mathbf{AB} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}_1 \\ \mathbf{A}_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B}_1 & \mathbf{B}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}_1\mathbf{B}_1 & \mathbf{A}_1\mathbf{B}_2 \\ \mathbf{A}_2\mathbf{B}_1 & \mathbf{A}_2\mathbf{B}_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

- we showcase two-block partitioning only, but the same manipulations apply to multi-block partitioning like

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}_{11} & \cdots & \mathbf{A}_{1q} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \mathbf{A}_{p1} & \cdots & \mathbf{A}_{pq} \end{bmatrix}$$

## Gram matrices

- **Gram matrices (Gramian matrices)**: Consider  $m$  real vectors  $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_m$ . The Gram matrix of the collection is the matrix  $\mathbf{G} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$  with elements  $g_{ij} = \mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_j$ . It can be expressed compactly in terms of the matrix  $\mathbf{X} = [\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_m]$ , as

$$\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1^T \\ \mathbf{x}_2^T \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_m^T \end{bmatrix} [\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_m].$$

By construction, a Gram matrix is always symmetric, i.e.,  $g_{ij} = g_{ji}$  for all  $i, j$ .

- Assume that each vector  $\mathbf{x}_i$  is normalized:  $\|\mathbf{x}_i\|_2 = 1$ . Then the coefficient  $g_{ij}$  can be expressed as

$$g_{ij} = \cos \theta_{ij},$$

where  $\theta_{ij}$  is the angle between the vectors  $\mathbf{x}_i$  and  $\mathbf{x}_j$ . Thus  $g_{ij}$  is a measure of how similar  $\mathbf{x}_i$  and  $\mathbf{x}_j$  are. Like in text document classification and information retrieval,  $\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j$  could represent the bag-of-words representation of the  $i$ -th and  $j$ -th document.

## Schur complement

- the Schur complement: let

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{C} & \mathbf{D} \end{bmatrix},$$

where  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ ,  $\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $\mathbf{C} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ , and  $\mathbf{D} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ .

If  $\mathbf{A}$  is invertible, then the Schur complement of  $\mathbf{A}$  of  $\mathbf{M}$  is defined by

$$\mathbf{S}_A = \mathbf{D} - \mathbf{C}\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{B};$$

If  $\mathbf{D}$  is invertible, then the Schur complement of  $\mathbf{D}$  of  $\mathbf{M}$  is defined by

$$\mathbf{S}_D = \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}\mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{C}.$$

- For square  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{D}$ , we have  $\text{tr}(\mathbf{M}) = \text{tr}(\mathbf{A}) + \text{tr}(\mathbf{D})$ . This result generalizes the trace formula for  $2 \times 2$  matrices.



## Schur complement

let

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{C} & \mathbf{D} \end{bmatrix},$$

where  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ ,  $\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $\mathbf{C} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ , and  $\mathbf{D} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ .

- If  $\mathbf{A}$  is invertible, then

$$\mathbf{M}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}^{-1} + \mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{S}_A^{-1}\mathbf{C}\mathbf{A}^{-1} & -\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{S}_A^{-1} \\ -\mathbf{S}_A^{-1}\mathbf{C}\mathbf{A}^{-1} & \mathbf{S}_A^{-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

- If  $\mathbf{D}$  is invertible, then

$$\mathbf{M}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{S}_D^{-1} & -\mathbf{S}_D^{-1}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{D}^{-1} \\ -\mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{C}\mathbf{S}_D^{-1} & \mathbf{D}^{-1} + \mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{C}\mathbf{S}_D^{-1}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{D}^{-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

The results generalize the inversion formula for  $2 \times 2$  matrices.

## Schur complement

let

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{C} & \mathbf{D} \end{bmatrix},$$

where  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ ,  $\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $\mathbf{C} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ , and  $\mathbf{D} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ .

- If  $\mathbf{A}$  is invertible, then

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{CA}^{-1} & \mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{D} - \mathbf{CA}^{-1}\mathbf{B} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix}$$

we have

$$\det(\mathbf{M}) = \det(\mathbf{A}) \det(\mathbf{D} - \mathbf{CA}^{-1}\mathbf{B}) = \det(\mathbf{A}) \det(\mathbf{S}_A).$$

- If  $\mathbf{D}$  is invertible, then

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{BD}^{-1} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{BD}^{-1}\mathbf{C} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{D} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{C} & \mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix}$$

we have

$$\det(\mathbf{M}) = \det(\mathbf{D}) \det(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{BD}^{-1}\mathbf{C}) = \det(\mathbf{D}) \det(\mathbf{S}_D).$$

The results generalize the determinant formula for  $2 \times 2$  matrices.

## Extension to $\mathbb{C}^n$

- all the concepts described above apply to the complex case
- we only need to replace every “ $\mathbb{R}$ ” with “ $\mathbb{C}$ ”, and every “ $T$ ” with “ $H$ ”; e.g.,

$$\text{span}\{\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n\} = \{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{C}^m \mid \mathbf{y} = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \mathbf{a}_i, \alpha \in \mathbb{C}^n\},$$

$$\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle = \mathbf{y}^H \mathbf{x}, \|\mathbf{x}\|_2 = \sqrt{\mathbf{x}^H \mathbf{x}}, \text{ and so forth.}$$

## Extension to $\mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$

- the concepts also apply to the matrix case
  - e.g., we may write

$$\text{span}\{\mathbf{A}_1, \dots, \mathbf{A}_k\} = \{\mathbf{Y} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \mid \mathbf{Y} = \sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i \mathbf{A}_i, \boldsymbol{\alpha} \in \mathbb{R}^k\}.$$

- sometimes it is more convenient to *vectorize*  $\mathbf{X}$  as a vector  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{mn}$ , and use the same treatment as in the  $\mathbb{R}^n$  case
- inner product for  $\mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ :

$$\langle \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y} \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n x_{ij} y_{ij} = \text{tr}(\mathbf{Y}^T \mathbf{X}),$$

- the matrix version of the Euclidean norm is called the **Frobenius norm**:

$$\|\mathbf{X}\|_F = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n |x_{ij}|^2} = \sqrt{\text{tr}(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})}$$

- extension to  $\mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$  is just as straightforward as in that to  $\mathbb{C}^n$

# Complexity, Floating Point Operations (flops)

# Complexities of Matrix Computations

- every vector/matrix operation such as  $\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}$ ,  $\mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{x}$ ,  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}$ , ... incurs computational costs, and they cost more as the vector and matrix sizes get bigger
- we typically look at floating point (arithmetic) operations (flops), such as add, subtract, multiply, and divide

# Complexities of Matrix Computations

- **flop**: one flop means one floating point operation, i.e., one addition, subtraction, multiplication, or division of two floating-point numbers.
- to estimate complexity of an algorithm: express number of flops as a (polynomial) function of the problem dimensions, and simplify by keeping only the leading terms

- flop counts of some standard vector/matrix operations:

for  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}$ ,

- $\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}$ :  $n$  adds, so  $n$  flops
- $\mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{x}$ :  $n$  multiplies and  $n - 1$  adds, so  $2n - 1$  flops
- $\mathbf{Ax}$ :  $m$  inner products, so  $m(2n - 1)$  flops
- $\mathbf{AB}$ : do “ $\mathbf{Ax}$ ” above  $p$  times, so  $pm(2n - 1)$  flops

# Complexities of Matrix Computations

- we are often interested in the *order* of the complexity
- **big O notation:** given two functions  $f(n), g(n)$ , the notation

$$f(n) = \mathcal{O}(g(n))$$

means that there exists a constant  $C > 0$  and  $n_0$  such that  $|f(n)| \leq C|g(n)|$  for all  $n \geq n_0$ .

- big O complexities of standard vector/matrix operations:
  - $\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}$ :  $\mathcal{O}(n)$  flops
  - $\mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{x}$ :  $\mathcal{O}(n)$  flops
  - $\mathbf{Ax}$ :  $\mathcal{O}(mn)$  flops
  - $\mathbf{AB}$ :  $\mathcal{O}(mnp)$  flops
  - (we'll learn it later) solve  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{Ax}$  for  $\mathbf{x}$ , with  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ :  $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$  flops



# Complexities of Matrix Computations

- big O complexities are commonly used, although we should be careful sometimes
- example: suppose you have an algorithm whose exact flop count is

$$f(n) = 3n^3 + 8n^2 + 2n + 1234.$$

- $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$  flops
- big O makes sense for large  $n$ ;  $n^3$  dominates as  $n$  is large
- but be careful: for small  $n$ , it's 1234 that consumes more
- example: suppose you have two algorithms for the same problem. Their exact flop counts are

$$f_1(n) = n^3, \quad f_2(n) = \frac{1}{2}n^3.$$

- their big O complexities are the same:  $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$
- but two times faster is two times faster!

## Complexities of Matrix Computations

- example: suppose our algorithm deals with complex vector and matrix operations. Define one flop as one real flop.
  - one complex add = 2 real adds = 2 flops
  - one complex multiply = 4 real multiplies + 2 real adds = 6 flops
  - $\vdots$

When we report big O complexity, the scaling factors above are not seen

## Exercise: Count the Complexity of Gram-Schmidt

- recall the Gram-Schmidt procedure recursively computes

$$\tilde{\mathbf{q}}_i = \mathbf{a}_i - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} (\mathbf{q}_j^T \mathbf{a}_i) \mathbf{q}_j, \quad \mathbf{q}_i = \tilde{\mathbf{q}}_i / \|\tilde{\mathbf{q}}_i\|_2, \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

- consider iteration  $i$ .
  - every  $\mathbf{q}_j^T \mathbf{a}_i$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, i-1$ , takes  $\mathcal{O}(m)$
  - then, computing  $\tilde{\mathbf{q}}_i = \mathbf{a}_i - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} (\mathbf{q}_j^T \mathbf{a}_i) \mathbf{q}_j$  is almost the same as the operation “ $\mathbf{Ax}$ ”; it takes  $\mathcal{O}(mi)$
  - $\mathbf{q}_i = \tilde{\mathbf{q}}_i / \|\tilde{\mathbf{q}}_i\|_2$  requires  $\mathcal{O}(m)$  (one divide, one  $\sqrt{\cdot}$ , one inner product  $\tilde{\mathbf{q}}_i^T \tilde{\mathbf{q}}_i$ )
  - total complexity for iteration  $i$ :  $(i-1) \times \mathcal{O}(m) + \mathcal{O}(mi) + \mathcal{O}(m) = \mathcal{O}(mi)$
- total complexity of the whole algorithm:

$$\mathcal{O}(m \sum_{i=1}^n i) = \mathcal{O}(m \frac{n(n+1)}{2}) = \mathcal{O}(mn^2)$$

# Complexities of Matrix Computations

- **Discussion:** flop counts do not always translate into the actual efficiency of the execution of an algorithm, say, in terms of actual running time.
- things like pipelining, FPGA, parallel computing (multiple GPUs, multiple servers, cloud computing), etc., can make the story different.
- flop counts also ignore memory usage and other overheads...
- that said, we need at least a crude measure of how computationally costly an algorithm would be, and counting the flops serves that purpose.

# How to Save Computations

- computational complexities depend much on how we design and write an algorithm
- generally, it is about
  - top-down, analysis-guided, designs: often seen in class, often look elegant
  - street-smart, possibly bottom-up, tricks: usually *not* taught much in class, also not commonplace in papers (unless you download and read somebody's code), subtly depends on your problem at hand, but a bunch of small differences can make a big difference, say in actual running time
- here we give several, but by no means all, tips for saving computations

# How to Save Computations

- apply matrix operations wisely
- example: try this on MATLAB

```
>> A=randn(5000,2); B=randn(2,10000); C=randn(10000,10000);  
>>  
>> tic; D= A*B*C; toc  
Elapsed time is 12.238567 seconds.  
>> tic; D= (A*B)*C; toc      % ask MATLAB to do AB first  
Elapsed time is 12.640961 seconds.  
>> tic; D= A*(B*C); toc      % ask MATLAB to do BC first  
Elapsed time is 0.222270 seconds.
```

## How to Save Computations

- let us analyze the complexities in the last example
  - $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}$ ,  $\mathbf{C} \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times p}$ , with  $n \ll \min\{m, p\}$ . We want to compute  $\mathbf{D} = \mathbf{ABC}$ .
  - if we compute  $\mathbf{AB}$  first, and then  $\mathbf{D} = (\mathbf{AB})\mathbf{C}$ , the flop count will be

$$\mathcal{O}(mnp) + \mathcal{O}(mp^2) = \mathcal{O}(m(n+p)p) \approx \mathcal{O}(mp^2)$$

- if we compute  $\mathbf{BC}$  first, and then  $\mathbf{D} = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{BC})$ , the flop count will be

$$\mathcal{O}(np^2) + \mathcal{O}(mnp) = \mathcal{O}((m+p)np).$$

- the 2nd option is preferable if  $n$  is much smaller than  $m, p$

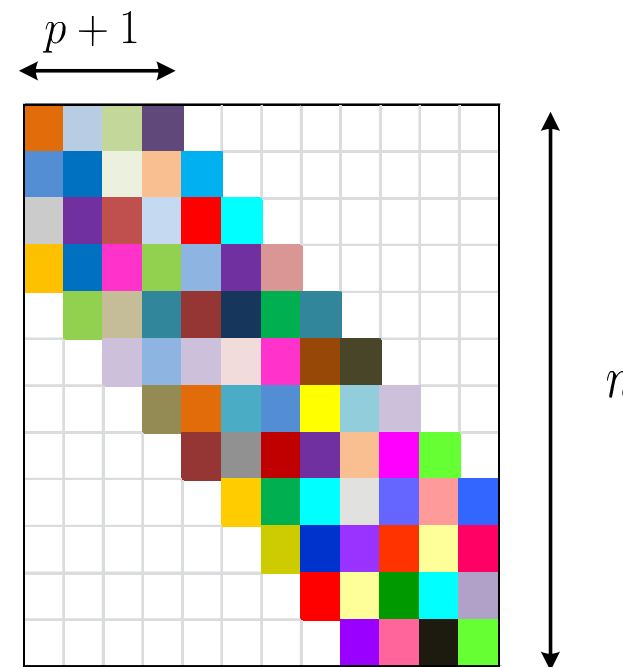
# How to Save Computations

- use **structures**, if available
- example: let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  and suppose that

$$a_{ij} = 0 \text{ for all } i, j \text{ such that } |i - j| > p,$$

for some integer  $p > 0$ .

- such a structured  $\mathbf{A}$  is a **band matrix**
- if we don't use structures, computing  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}$  requires  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$
- if we use the band diagonal structures, we can compute  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}$  with  $\mathcal{O}(pn)$





# How to Save Computations

- use **sparsity**, if available
- a vector or matrix is said to be **sparse** if it contains many zero elements
  - we assume unstructured sparsity



- computations involving sparse matrices are important tasks to be investigated

## How to Save Computations

- let  $\text{nnz}(\mathbf{x})$  denote the number of nonzero elements of a vector  $\mathbf{x}$ ; the same notation applies to matrices
- flop counts: for  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}$ ,
  - $\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}$ : from 0 and  $\min\{\text{nnz}(\mathbf{x}), \text{nnz}(\mathbf{y})\}$  flops  $\implies \mathcal{O}(\min\{\text{nnz}(\mathbf{x}), \text{nnz}(\mathbf{y})\})$
  - $\mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{x}$ : from 0 to  $2 \min\{\text{nnz}(\mathbf{x}), \text{nnz}(\mathbf{y})\}$  flops  $\implies \mathcal{O}(\min\{\text{nnz}(\mathbf{x}), \text{nnz}(\mathbf{y})\})$
  - $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}$ ,  $\mathbf{x}$  being dense: from  $\text{nnz}(\mathbf{A})$  to  $2\text{nnz}(\mathbf{A})$  flops  $\implies \mathcal{O}(\text{nnz}(\mathbf{A}))$
  - $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{B}$ : no simple expression for the flops, but at most  $2 \min\{\text{nnz}(\mathbf{A})p, \text{nnz}(\mathbf{B})m\}$  flops  $\implies \mathcal{O}(\min\{\text{nnz}(\mathbf{A})p, \text{nnz}(\mathbf{B})m\})$
- reference: S. Boyd and L. Vandenberghe, *Introduction to Applied Linear Algebra – Vectors, Matrices, and Least Squares*, 2018. Available online at <https://web.stanford.edu/~boyd/vmls/vmls.pdf>.