# QUESTION 3

# CS663 (DIGITAL IMAGE PROCESSING) ASSIGNMENT 4

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#### Problem 1

Consider a set of N vectors  $\mathcal{X} = \{x_1, x_2, ..., x_N\}$  each in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , with average vector  $\bar{x}$ . We have seen in class that the direction e such that  $\sum_{i=1}^{N} \|x_i - \bar{x} - (e \cdot (x_i - \bar{x}))e\|^2$  is minimized, is obtained by maximizing  $e^t C e$ , where C is the covariance matrix of the vectors in  $\mathcal{X}$ . This vector e is the eigenvector of matrix C with the highest eigenvalue. Prove that the direction f perpendicular to e for which  $f^t C f$  is maximized, is the eigenvector of C with the second highest eigenvalue. For simplicity, assume that all non-zero eigenvalues of C are distinct and that  $\operatorname{rank}(C) > 2$ . Extend the derivation to handle the case of a unit vector g which is perpendicular to both e and f which maximizes  $g^t C g$ . [10 points]

Section 1

### Proof(a)

Proof

We aim to maximize the expression  $f^tCf$ , subject to the constraint that f is orthogonal to e. We will use the method of Lagrange multipliers. The Lagrangian for this optimization problem is as follows:

$$\mathcal{L}(f) = f^t C f - \lambda_1 (f^t f - 1) - \lambda_2 (f^t e)$$

Here,  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  are Lagrange multipliers introduced to enforce constraints. The constraint  $\mathbf{f}^t \mathbf{f} = 1$  ensures that  $\mathbf{f}$  is a unit vector, and  $\mathbf{f}^t \mathbf{e} = 0$  enforces that  $\mathbf{f}$  is perpendicular to  $\mathbf{e}$ .

Now to find the maximum of  $f^tCf$ , we set the gradient of  $\mathcal{L}$  with respect to f equal to zero:

$$\nabla \mathcal{L}(f) = 2Cf - 2\lambda_1 f - 2\lambda_2 e$$

We set this gradient to zero to maximize  $\mathcal{L}$ .

$$Cf - \lambda_1 f - \lambda_2 e = 0 \tag{1.1}$$

PROOF(A)

Now, we premultiply both sides by e to remove the e term from the equation:

$$e^t C f - \lambda_1 e^t f - \lambda_2 e^t e = 0$$

since  $e^t e = 1$  i.e, e is unit vector, therefore

$$e^t C f - \lambda_1 e^t f - \lambda_2 = 0 \tag{1.2}$$

Remark

From equation (1.2) , we can infer that  $\lambda_2 = 0$ . This can be shown from the following equations:

$$e^t C f - \lambda_1 e^t f - \lambda_2 = 0$$

Since  $e^t e = 1$ , we can write

$$e^t C e e^t f - \lambda_1 e^t f - \lambda_2 = 0$$

We also know that  $Ce = \lambda e$  since e is the eigenvector of matrix C with the highest eigenvalue( $\lambda$ ). Thus

$$e^t \lambda e e^t f - \lambda_1 e^t f - \lambda_2 = 0$$

$$\lambda e^t f - \lambda_1 e^t f - \lambda_2 = 0$$

Also, f is perpendicular to e, therefore  $e^t f = 0$  which gives:

$$\lambda_2 = 0 \tag{1.3}$$

Now using equations (1.1) and (1.3), we can write

$$Cf = \lambda_1 f \tag{1.4}$$

This result (1.4) establishes that f is an eigenvector of C with eigenvalue  $\lambda_1$ .

Moreover, we assumed that all eigenvalues of C are distinct and  $f^tCf = \lambda_1$  (this can be seen by premultiplying equation (1.4) by  $f^t$ ) which means that  $\lambda_1$  is the second highest eigenvalue.

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This concludes the formal proof that the direction f, which is perpendicular to e and maximizes  $f^tCf$ , corresponds to the eigenvector of C with the second highest eigenvalue, provided that all non-zero eigenvalues of C are distinct.

PROOF(B) 3

Section 2

### Proof(b)

Proof

We aim to maximize  $g^tCg$  subject to the constraints that g is orthogonal to both e and f. We will use the method of Lagrange multipliers. The Lagrangian for this optimization problem is as follows:

$$\mathcal{L}(g) = g^t C g - \lambda_3 (g^t g - 1) - \lambda_4 (g^t e) - \lambda_5 (g^t f)$$

Here,  $\lambda_3$ ,  $\lambda_4$  and  $\lambda_5$  are Lagrange multipliers.

- $g^t g = 1$  ensures that g is a unit vector
- $\mathbf{g}^t \mathbf{e} = 0$  enforces that  $\mathbf{g}$  is perpendicular to  $\mathbf{e}$
- $\mathbf{g}^t \mathbf{f} = 0$  enforces that  $\mathbf{g}$  is perpendicular to  $\mathbf{f}$

Now to find the maximum, we set the gradient of  $\mathcal{L}$  with respect to g equal to zero:

$$\nabla \mathcal{L}(g) = Cg - \lambda_3 g - \lambda_4 e - \lambda_5 f = 0 \tag{2.1}$$

Now, we premultiply both sides of the equation by e:

$$e^t Cg - \lambda_3 e^t g - \lambda_4 e^t e - \lambda_5 e^t f = 0$$

Since  $e^t e = 1$ :

$$e^t C g - \lambda_3 e^t g - \lambda_4 - \lambda_5 e^t f = 0 (2.2)$$

Remark

From equation (2.2), we can infer that  $\lambda_4 = 0$ . This can be concluded by the following series of equations:

$$e^{t}Cee^{t}g - \lambda_{3}e^{t}g - \lambda_{4} - \lambda_{5}e^{t}f = 0$$

$$e^{t}\lambda ee^{t}g - \lambda_{3}e^{t}g - \lambda_{4} - \lambda_{5}e^{t}f = 0$$

$$\lambda e^{t}g - \lambda_{3}e^{t}g - \lambda_{4} - \lambda_{5}e^{t}f = 0$$

Now since  $\mathbf{g}$ ,  $\mathbf{e}$  and  $\mathbf{f}$  are mutually perpendicular, therefore  $\mathbf{e}^t\mathbf{g}=0$  and  $\mathbf{e}^t\mathbf{f}=0$ . Hence we get

$$\lambda_4 = 0 \tag{2.3}$$

Similarly, premultipling both sides of the gradient equation by  $\boldsymbol{f}$ , we get

$$\lambda_1 f^t g - \lambda_3 f^t g - \lambda_4 f^t e - \lambda_5 = 0$$

$$\lambda_5 = 0 \tag{2.4}$$

PROOF(B)

Now using equations (2.1), (2.3) and (2.4), we can write

$$Cg = \lambda_3 g \tag{2.5}$$

This result (2.5) establishes that is an eigenvector of C with eigenvalue  $\lambda_1$ .

Moreover, we assumed that all eigenvalues of C are distinct and  $g^tCg = \lambda_3$  (this can be seen by premultiplying equation (2.5) by  $g^t$ ) which means that  $\lambda_3$  is the third highest eigenvalue.

This concludes the formal proof that the direction g, which is perpendicular to both e and f and maximizes  $g^tCg$ , corresponds to the eigenvector of C with the third highest eigenvalue, provided that all non-zero eigenvalues of C are distinct.