

Chap 6-6.7 Definite Matrices

1. Definitions of different types of definite matrices
2. Some important theorems
3. Applications: Hessian matrix and identifying local extrema/saddle point

Recall:

Thm A is a real symmetric matrix \Leftrightarrow A is orthogonally diagonalizable.

Thm If A is a real symmetric matrix, and $\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$ are two distinct eigenvalues of A. \vec{v} and \vec{w} are corresponding eigenvectors. Then $\vec{v} \perp \vec{w}$.

E.g. $A = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 2 \\ 2 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$ $|A| = 5 > 0$
 $|A| = 25 - 4 = 21 > 0$

check:

$$\forall \text{ nonzero } \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2,$$

$$\vec{x}^T A \vec{x} = 5x_1^2 + 4x_1x_2 + 5x_2^2$$

$$= 5(x_1^2 + \frac{4}{5}x_1x_2 + \frac{4}{5}x_2^2) + \frac{21}{5}x_2^2$$

$$= 5(x_1 + \frac{2}{5}x_2)^2 + \frac{21}{5}x_2^2 > 0.$$

 $\Rightarrow A$ is positive definite matrix.

Exercise: $A = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$ is negative definite.

 \triangle Definition of Definite MatricesA real symmetric matrix A_{nn} is said to be

- (i) positive definite if $\vec{x}^T A \vec{x} > 0$ for all nonzero $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$.
- (ii) negative definite if $\vec{x}^T A \vec{x} < 0$ for all nonzero $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$.
- (iii) positive semidefinite if $\vec{x}^T A \vec{x} \geq 0$ for all nonzero $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$.
- (iv) negative semidefinite if $\vec{x}^T A \vec{x} \leq 0$ for all nonzero $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$.
- (v) indefinite if $\vec{x}^T A \vec{x}$ takes on values that differ in sign.

Thm Let A be a real symmetric $n \times n$ matrix. Then A is positive definite if and only if all its eigenvalues are positive.

Thm If A is a real symmetric positive (negative) definite matrix, then A is nonsingular.

$$\det(A) = \prod_{i=1}^n \lambda_i > 0 \quad \text{since } A \text{ is positive definite and } \lambda_i > 0 \quad \forall i.$$

(complete the proof for negative definite matrix).

 \triangle Eigenvalue Test

- (i) A is positive definite \Leftrightarrow All eigenvalues of A are positive.
- (ii) A is negative definite \Leftrightarrow All eigenvalues of A are negative.
- (iii) A is indefinite \Leftrightarrow Some eigenvalues of A > 0 and some < 0 .
- (iv) A is positive semidefinite \Leftrightarrow All eigenvalues of A are non-negative.
- (v) A is negative semidefinite \Leftrightarrow All eigenvalues of A are non-positive.

E.g. $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ $\lambda_1 = -1$
 $\lambda_2 = 4$

 \Rightarrow indefinite matrix

E.g. $A = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 4 & -2 \\ 4 & 5 & 3 \\ -2 & 3 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$ $\lambda_1 = 6$
 $\lambda_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 4 \\ 4 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$
 $\lambda_3 = A$

By eigenvalue test,

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} 6-\lambda & 4 & -2 \\ 4 & 5-\lambda & 3 \\ -2 & 3 & 6-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = (6-\lambda)[(5-\lambda)(6-\lambda) - 9] - 4[4(6-\lambda) + 6] - 2[12 + 2(5-\lambda)]$$

$$= (6-\lambda)(\lambda^2 - 11\lambda + 30 - 25) - 4(5-\lambda) - 48$$

$$= -\lambda^3 + 17\lambda^2 - 67\lambda - 38$$

$$\lambda_1 = -0.5015, \lambda_2 = 7.8569, \lambda_3 = 9.6445$$

 $\Rightarrow A$ is indefinite.Def (Leading Principal Submatrix)For an $n \times n$ matrix A, the leading principal submatrix A_r of A of order r is the matrix formed by deleting the last $n-r$ rows and columns of A.

$$A = \left[\begin{array}{ccc|cc|c} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & \cdots & a_{3n} \\ \vdots & & & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{array} \right]_{n \times n}$$

$$A_1 = a_{11}$$

$$A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vdots$$

$$A_r = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1r} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{r1} & \cdots & a_{rr} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} |A_1| &= 6 > 0 \\ |A_2| &= 30 - 4^2 = 14 > 0 \\ |A| &= \dots < 0 \quad \text{determinant Test fail} \end{aligned}$$

By determinant test,

$$\det(A_1) = \dots \quad \det(A_2) = \dots$$

↪

△ Determinant Test

Thm (i) A is positive definite \Leftrightarrow

- ① the leading principal submatrices A_k are all positive definite
- ② that is, $\det(A_k) > 0$ for $1 \leq k \leq n$

(optional)

(ii) A is negative definite \Leftrightarrow

- ① the leading principal submatrices are all negative definite
- ② that is, $(-1)^k \det(A_k) > 0$ for $1 \leq k \leq n \Leftrightarrow |A_1| < 0, |A_2| > 0, |A_3| < 0, \dots$

(iii) If neither of above fits, the determinant test fails.

Exercise: $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 & 3 \\ 0 & 3 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$ $|A_1| = 2 > 0$
 $|A_2| = 10 > 0$
 $|A| = 32 > 0$

"+"-time definite

$B = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$ $|B_1| = -2 < 0$
 $|B_2| = 2 > 0$
 $|B| = (-2)(-2) + 1 = -3 < 0$

"—" -time definite

$C = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ $\det(C) = 1, \lambda_2 < 0$

determinant Test fails
eigenvalue test suggests indefinite matrix

△ Applications: Using Definite Matrices to determine local extrema / saddle point

Recall 1-D case:

$y = f(x)$ has a critical point x_0

if $f'(x_0) = 0$.

↪ Second derivative test:

$$\begin{cases} f''(x_0) > 0, \text{ concave up} \Rightarrow \min \\ f''(x_0) < 0, \text{ concave down} \Rightarrow \max \end{cases}$$



$$f(x_0+h) = f(x_0) + h f'(x_0) + \frac{1}{2} h^2 f''(x_0) + \dots + \frac{1}{n!} h^n f^{(n)}(x_0) + \dots$$

$$= f(x_0) + \frac{1}{2} h^2 f''(x_0) + R$$

the remainder

$$R = \frac{1}{3!} h^3 f^{(3)}(\xi), \quad \xi \in (x_0-h, x_0+h)$$

2D case: (x_0, y_0) as a critical point:

$$f(x_0+h, y_0+k) \approx f(x_0, y_0)$$

$$+ \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} [h^2 f_{xx} + 2hk f_{xy} + k^2 f_{yy}]}_{\text{always } > 0? < 0? \text{ or } h, k}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} [h \ k] \begin{bmatrix} f_{xx}(x_0, y_0) & f_{xy}(x_0, y_0) \\ f_{yx}(x_0, y_0) & f_{yy}(x_0, y_0) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} h \\ k \end{bmatrix}$$

Where we define the Hessian matrix of $f(x, y)$ as

$$H(x, y) = \begin{bmatrix} f_{xx} & f_{xy} \\ f_{yx} & f_{yy} \end{bmatrix}$$

E.g. Let $f(x, y) = 3x^2 - xy + y^2$. find out the local extrema or saddle points.

Solution: ① Detet critical points: $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = 6x - y = 0, y = 6x; \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = -x + 2y, x = 2y$
 $\Rightarrow (x_0, y_0) = (0, 0)$

② Hessian matrix of f :

$$H(x, y) = \begin{bmatrix} f_{xx} & f_{xy} \\ f_{yx} & f_{yy} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Hessian matrix at the critical points $(0, 0)$:

$$H(0, 0) = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{positive definite}} \Rightarrow H(0, 0) \text{ is positive definite.}$$

By eigenvalue test. $\lambda_1 = 1.7639, \lambda_2 = 6.2361 \Rightarrow (0, 0)$ is a local minimum.

By determinant test, $|H| = 6 > 0, |H| = 13 > 0$

Thm Suppose an everywhere infinitely differentiable function $F(\vec{x})$ in n variables has a critical point \vec{x}_0

Then (i) \vec{x}_0 is a local minimum of F if $H(\vec{x}_0)$ is positive definite.

(ii) \vec{x}_0 is a local maximum of F if $H(\vec{x}_0)$ is negative definite.

... → ... ↑ ... ↓ ...

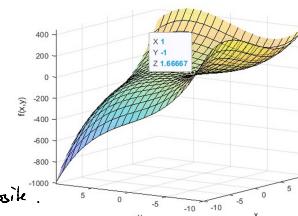
- (i) \vec{x}_0 is a local minimum of F if $H(\vec{x}_0)$ is positive definite.
- (ii) \vec{x}_0 is a local maximum of F if $H(\vec{x}_0)$ is negative definite.
- (iii) \vec{x}_0 is a saddle point of F if $H(\vec{x}_0)$ is indefinite.

Exercise : $f(x,y) = \frac{1}{3}x^3 - \frac{1}{3}y^3 + 3xy + 2x - 2y$ at $(1, -1)$ \rightarrow critical point \rightarrow Saddle

$$\text{Hessian matrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f_{xx} & f_{xy} \\ f_{yx} & f_{yy} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2x & 3 \\ 3 & -2y \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Thus } H(1, -1) = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \text{ is } \det(H) = 4 - 9 = -5 < 0 \\ = \lambda_1, \lambda_2 \\ \text{So the signs of } \lambda_1 \text{ and } \lambda_2 \text{ are opposite.}$$

```
>> X=[-10:1:10]; Y=X;
>> [X,Y]=meshgrid(X,Y); % generate a grid with x and y
>> f=1/3*x.^3-1/3*Y.^3+3*x.*y+2*x.^2*y; % compute the function value at different grid points
>> surf(X,Y)
>> % plot a 3-D graph
```



$$\text{Exercise : } F(x,y,z) = x^2 + xz - 3 \cos y + z^2$$

Find the local extremum or saddle points and plot the graph using MATLAB!

△ More about positive definite matrices

properties : ① If $A_{n \times n}$ is a symmetric positive definite matrix, then A is nonsingular.

A is positive definite \Rightarrow all eigenvalues of $A > 0$

↓

A is nonsingular $\Leftarrow \det(A) = \lambda_1 \lambda_2 \cdots \lambda_n > 0$

② If A is a symmetric positive definite matrix, then $\det(A) > 0$.

③ If A is symmetric positive definite, then the leading principal submatrices of A are all positive definite.

$$\vec{x}_r^T A_r \vec{x}_r > 0 \quad \text{for } r=1, 2, \dots, n$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc} \vec{x}_r^T & : 0 \cdots 0 \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1r} & A_r \\ \vdots & \ddots & \cdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & \cdots & \cdots & a_{nr} & \vdots \\ \vdots & & & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{nn} & & & & a_{nn} \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{c} \vec{x}_r \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{array} \right] = \vec{x}_r^T A_r \vec{x}_r > 0 \quad \text{since } A \text{ is positive definite}$$

Similarly, we can prove each A_r is positive definite for $r=1, 2, \dots, n$.

By property ③, then ①, ② : If A is symmetric & positive definite, then $\det(A_r) > 0$ for all r .

(optional) ④ If A is symmetric positive definite, then A can be reduced to upper triangular form using only row operation ⑦. And the pivots will all be positive.

(optional) ⑤ $A = LL^T$ where L is lower triangular with positive diagonals.

⑥ $A = B^T B$ for some nonsingular matrix B .

Idea of proof in your textbook:

A positive definite \Rightarrow ③ \Rightarrow ④ \Rightarrow ⑤ \Rightarrow ⑥ \Rightarrow ①

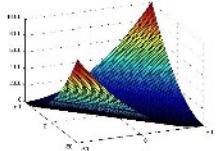
Idea of proof in your textbook:

A positive definite \Rightarrow (3) \Rightarrow (4) \Rightarrow (5) \Rightarrow (6) \Rightarrow (1)

Matlab code for plotting $z=x^2+2xy+y^2$ on domain [-50,50]x[-50,50]

```
>> x=[-50:2:50]; y=x; % generate two uniformly-spaced vectors x and y  
>> [X,Y]=meshgrid(x,y); % generate a grid with x and y  
>> Z=X.^2+2*X.*Y+Y.^2; % compute the function value at different grid points  
>> surf(X,Y,Z)
```

Try to plot the other examples in the notes!



Chap6.6-6.7

1. Definitions of positive/negative definite/semidefinite, indefinite matrix
2. Different ways to identify the matrices
 - a. Eigenvalues \Leftrightarrow positive, negative, indefinite
 - b. Every leading principal submatrix is positive definite $\Leftrightarrow \det|A|>0$ for all i \Leftrightarrow A positive definite
3. Applications in classification of stationary points
 - a. Hessian matrix
 - i. Positive definite \Leftrightarrow local min
 - ii. Negative definite \Leftrightarrow local max
 - iii. Indefinite \Leftrightarrow saddle