

# MSSC 6040 - Homework 6

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**Problem 1** (5 pts). Compute by hand an LDL-decomposition and a Cholesky decomposition of the following matrix.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

(i.e., first compute the LDL-decomposition then derive the Cholesky decomposition from it). Check your answer using the MATLAB commands `[L,D] = ld1(A)` and `R = chol(A)`.

Attempt to repeat the same steps for the matrix:

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Something will prevent you from being able to compute the Cholesky decomposition. What is it?

**Solution 1.**

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & \frac{7}{4} & \frac{-1}{4} \\ 0 & \frac{-1}{4} & \frac{3}{4} \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{-1}{4} & 1 & 0 \\ \frac{-1}{4} & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} A$$

Now we can repeat on columns

$$A^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{7}{4} & \frac{-1}{4} \\ 0 & \frac{-1}{4} & \frac{3}{4} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{-1}{4} & 1 & 0 \\ \frac{-1}{4} & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} A \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \frac{-1}{4} & \frac{-1}{4} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{7}{4} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{5}{7} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{7} & 1 \end{bmatrix} A^{(1)} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{7} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow$$

$$L_2 L_1 A L_1^* L_2^* = D$$

$$L = L_1^{-1} L_2^{-2} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{4} & 1 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{4} & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{-1}{7} & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{4} & 1 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{4} & \frac{-1}{7} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{7}{4} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{5}{7} \end{bmatrix}$$

Now for the Cholesky decomposition, let  $R = D^{\frac{1}{2}} L^*$ ,  $A = R^* R$

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{4} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{\frac{7}{4}} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sqrt{\frac{5}{7}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{-1}{7} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & \frac{\sqrt{7}}{2} & \frac{-\sqrt{7}}{14} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{\sqrt{35}}{7} \end{bmatrix}$$

```
A = [4 1 1; 1 2 0 ;1 0 1]
[L,D] = ld1(A)
R = chol(A)
%----- OUTPUT -----
%L =

%      1.0000      0      0
%      0.2500      1.0000      0
%      0.2500     -0.1429      1.0000

%D =

%      4.0000      0      0
%      0      1.7500      0
%      0      0      0.7143

%R =

%      2.0000      0.5000      0.5000
%      0      1.3229     -0.1890
%      0      0      0.8452
```

For the second part of the problem, B is not a positive definite matrix, so Cholesky decomposition is not possible, but let's follow the same steps as before.

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & \frac{7}{4} & \frac{-5}{4} \\ 0 & \frac{-5}{4} & \frac{3}{4} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{-1}{4} & 1 & 0 \\ \frac{-1}{4} & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} B$$

Now we can repeat on columns

$$B^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{7}{4} & \frac{-5}{4} \\ 0 & \frac{-5}{4} & \frac{3}{4} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{-1}{4} & 1 & 0 \\ \frac{-1}{4} & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} B \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \frac{-1}{4} & \frac{-1}{4} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{7}{4} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{-1}{7} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{5}{7} & 1 \end{bmatrix} A^{(1)} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{5}{7} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow$$

$$L_2 L_1 A L_1^* L_2^* = D$$

$$L = L_1^{-1} L_2^{-2} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{4} & 1 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{4} & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{-5}{7} & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{4} & 1 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{4} & \frac{-5}{7} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{7}{4} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{-1}{7} \end{bmatrix}$$

Now for the Cholesky decomposition, let  $R = D^{\frac{1}{2}} L^*$ ,  $B = R^* R$

$$\text{Where } D^{\frac{1}{2}} = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{4} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{\frac{7}{4}} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sqrt{\frac{-1}{7}} \end{bmatrix}, \text{ and we cannot proceed.}$$

**Problem 2** (5 pts). Many applications in statistics (e.g., Monte-Carlo methods) require generating samples from a [multivariate Gaussian distribution](#)  $\mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma)$  with a known mean  $\mu \in \mathbb{R}^m$  is and covariance matrix  $\Sigma \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ . Suppose  $R \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$  is any matrix such that  $\Sigma = R^* R$ . Then one can show that samples of  $\mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma)$  can be generated as  $R^* z + \mu$  where  $z \in \mathbb{R}^m$  is a vector whose entries are sampled from a standard normal distribution (i.e., in MATLAB, `z = randn(m, 1)`).

- (a) As a warm-up, consider the Gaussian distribution  $\mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma)$  where the mean  $\mu \in \mathbb{R}^d$  and covariance matrix  $\Sigma \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}$  are given by:

$$\mu = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0.5 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0.5 & 0.5 \\ 0.5 & 2 & 0.3 \\ 0.5 & 0.3 & 1.5 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Using a Cholesky decomposition of  $\Sigma$ , generate  $N = 10,000$  random samples from the distribution  $\mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma)$ , and store them as the rows of a matrix  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times 3}$ . Verify that the sample covariance matrix  $\mathbf{C} = \text{cov}(X)$  computed from these samples is close to  $\Sigma$ .

- (b) Open the script `montecarlo.mat`. The script loads a matrix **X**, whose rows are vectorized  $32 \times 32$  image of a similar type. Treating these images as random samples from a Gaussian distribution, we may compute their sample mean  $\mu$  and sample covariance matrix  $\Sigma$ . These are computed for you in the `mu` and `Sigma` variables. Using a Cholesky decomposition, write a code snippet to generate a random sample from the distribution  $\mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma)$ , and visualize the samples as an image using the `imagesc` command (see the example provided at the top of the script). In your write-up, include images of three of your favorite of the generated random samples, and give them affectionate names.

**Solution 2.** a-) .

```
mu = [1 ; -1; 0.5];
sigma = [1 0.5 0.5; 0.5 2 0.3; 0.5 0.3 1.5];
csig = chol(sigma);
n = 10000;
X = zeros([n,3]);
for i=1:n
    X(i,:) = (csig'*randn(3,1) + mu);
end

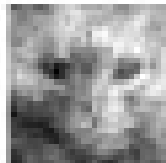
C = cov(X);
C
%----- OUTPUT -----
%C =

%      1.0004      0.5070      0.5143
%      0.5070      2.0104      0.2881
%      0.5143      0.2881      1.5402
```

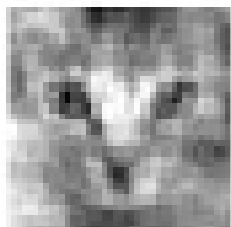
b-) .

```
figure(2)
samp_img = (chol(Sigma)'*randn(1024,1) + mu);
samp_img = reshape(samp_img,dim);
imagesc(samp_img); axis image; axis off; colormap gray
```

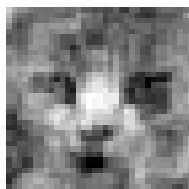
This is lp (short for little princess)



This is clumsy



This is cutie



**Problem 3** (5 pts). Suppose  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}$  is positive definite. Prove that  $\|x\|_A := \sqrt{x^*Ax}$  is a vector norm. [Hint: Cholesky].

**Solution 3.**

$$\|x\|_A := \sqrt{x^*Ax}, \text{ using Cholesky decomposition, } \sqrt{x^*Ax} = \sqrt{x^*R^*Rx}$$

Since  $Rx$  is a vector, and  $x^*R^*$  is the transpose of that vector, we can use the fact that  $v^*v = \|v\|_2^2$ , for any vector. Then we have:

$$\sqrt{x^*R^*Rx} = \sqrt{\|Rx\|_2^2} = \|Rx\|_2$$

**Problem 4** (5 pts). For this problem, start with the provided MATLAB script `poisson.m`. This script considers a discrete approximation of the Poisson equation given by  $Ax = b$  where  $A$  is a discrete approximation of the negative Laplacian,  $b$  is the source distribution, and  $x$  is the potential to be recovered. Here, the matrix  $A$  is defined implicitly as a function in MATLAB. To compute the matrix-vector product  $Ax$  use `A(x)` in MATLAB, rather than `A*x`.

Your task is to compare the steepest descent and conjugate gradients algorithms for solving this problem. The provided script already implements the steepest descent algorithm.

- (a) Run the steepest descent (SD) algorithm using the initialization  $x_0 = b$  and exit condition  $\delta_{k+1} := r_{k+1}^* r_{k+1} < 0.01$  (these are the defaults in the script). How many iterations  $k$  of SD does it take to reach the exit condition? Include an image of the final iterate output by the algorithm.
- (b) Modify the steepest descent code to implement the conjugate gradients (CG) algorithm. Run CG with the same initialization and the same exit condition,  $\delta_{k+1} < 0.01$ . How many iterates  $k$  does it take to reach the exit condition? Include a print-out/screenshot of your code in your write-up, along with an image of the final iterate output by the algorithm.

**Solution 4.** a-) The algorithm took 3547 iterations to converge.

**iteration k=3547, delta=0.009991**



b-) The algorithm took 442 iterations to converge.

```
x = b;
```

```

r = b-A(x);
p = r;
delta = r'*r;
for k=1:5000
    S = A(p);
    alpha = delta/(p'*S);
    x = x + alpha*p;
    r = r - alpha*S;
    prev_delt = delta;
    delta = r'*r;
    p = r+delta/prev_delt*p;

    %visualize current iterate x (comment out to speed up
    computation)
    if mod(k,10)==2 %every 10 iterates update the plot
        figure(1);
        imshow(imresize(unvec(x),2,'nearest'),[]);
        title(sprintf('iteration k=%d, delta=%f',k,delta),'
            fontsize',16);
    end

    if delta < 0.01
        fprintf('reached exit tol at iter %d\n',k);
        break;
    end
end
end

```

iteration k=442, delta=0.009461



**Problem 5** (5 pts). Recall that the iterates of the steepest descent algorithm for solving  $Ax = b$  with  $A$  positive definite are given by

$$x_{k+1} = x_k + \alpha_k r_k,$$

where  $r_k = b - Ax_k$  and  $\alpha_k = \frac{r_k^* r_k}{r_k^* A r_k}$ . Prove that  $(x_{k+2} - x_{k+1})^* (x_{k+1} - x_k) = 0$  for all  $k \geq 0$ . [Hint: it suffices to show  $r_{k+1}^* r_k = 0$  (Why?). Now expand  $r_{k+1}$  in terms of  $r_k$  and see what happens.]

**Solution 5.**

$$(x_{k+2} - x_{k+1})^* (x_{k+1} - x_k) = (x_{k+1} + \alpha_{k+1} r_{k+1} - x_{k+1})^* (x_k + \alpha_k r_k - x_k) \Rightarrow$$

$$(\alpha_{k+1} r_{k+1})^* (\alpha_k r_k) = r_{k+1}^* \alpha_{k+1}^* \alpha_k r_k$$

Since  $\alpha$  is a scalar, we can move it up front

$$(\alpha_{k+1} \alpha_k) (r_{k+1}^* r_k) = 0 \Rightarrow r_{k+1}^* r_k = 0$$



Then, let's expand  $r_{k+1}^*$

$$r_{k+1}^* = (b - Ax_{k+1})^* = (b - A(x_k + \alpha_k r_k))^* = b^* - (x_k + \alpha_k r_k)^* A^*$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} r_{k+1}^* r_k &= (b^* - (x_k + \alpha_k r_k)^* A^*) r_k = b^* r_k - (x_k + \alpha_k r_k)^* A^* r_k \\ &\Rightarrow b^* r_k - \left[ x_k + \frac{r_k^* r_k}{r_k^* A r_k} r_k \right]^* A^* r_k = b^* r_k - \left[ x_k^* + \frac{r_k^* r_k}{r_k^* A r_k} r_k^* \right] A^* r_k \\ &\Rightarrow b^* r_k - \left( x_k^* A^* r_k + \frac{r_k^* r_k}{r_k^* A r_k} r_k^* A^* r_k \right) = b^* r_k - (x_k^* A^* r_k + r_k^* r_k) \\ &\Rightarrow b^* r_k - (x_k^* A^* (b - Ax_k) + (b - Ax_k)^* (b - Ax_k)) \\ &\Rightarrow b^* r_k - (x_k^* A^* b - x_k^* A^* A x_k + (b^* - x_k^* A^*) (b - Ax_k)) \\ &\Rightarrow b^* r_k - (x_k^* A^* b - x_k^* A^* A x_k + b^* b - b^* A x_k - x_k^* A^* b + x_k^* A^* A x_k) \\ &\Rightarrow b^* r_k - (b^* b - b^* A x_k) = b^* (b - Ax_k) - (b^* b - b^* A x_k) \\ &\Rightarrow b^* b - b^* A x_k - b^* b + b^* A x_k = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, since  $r_{k+1}^* r_k = 0$ , then  $(x_{k+2} - x_{k+1})^* (x_{k+1} - x_k) = 0$ .