

**Introduction to Machine Learning**  
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Homework 1  
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**Notice**, to get the full credits, please present your solutions step by step.

**Exercise 1: Limit and Limit Points**

1. Show that  $\{\mathbf{x}_n\}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  converges to  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  if and only if  $\{\mathbf{x}_n\}$  is bounded and has a unique limit point  $\mathbf{x}$ .

**Solution:**

( $\Rightarrow$ ) Suppose that  $\mathbf{x}_n \rightarrow \mathbf{x}$ . For any  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists a positive integer  $N$  such that  $\|\mathbf{x}_k - \mathbf{x}\|_2 < \epsilon$  whenever  $k \geq N$ . Hence  $\|\mathbf{x}_k\|_2 \leq \|\mathbf{x}_k - \mathbf{x}\|_2 + \|\mathbf{x}\|_2 < \epsilon + \|\mathbf{x}\|_2$ . Let  $M = \max\{\|\mathbf{x}_1\|_2, \|\mathbf{x}_2\|_2, \dots, \|\mathbf{x}_{N-1}\|_2, \epsilon + \|\mathbf{x}\|_2\}$ . Then  $\|\mathbf{x}_n\|_2 \leq M$ , which implies that  $\{\mathbf{x}_n\}$  is bounded.

Let  $\{\mathbf{x}_{n_k}\}_k$  be an arbitrary subsequence of  $\{\mathbf{x}_n\}$ . Since  $n_k \geq k$ , we have  $\|\mathbf{x}_{n_k} - \mathbf{x}\|_2 < \epsilon$  whenever  $k \geq N$ , i.e.  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{x}_{n_k} = \mathbf{x}$ . Clearly  $\mathbf{x}_{n_k} \neq \mathbf{x}$ , so  $\mathbf{x}$  is a unique limit point of  $\{\mathbf{x}_n\}$ .

( $\Leftarrow$ ) Suppose that  $\{\mathbf{x}_n\}$  is bounded and has a unique limit point  $\mathbf{x}$ . Assume that  $\mathbf{x}_n \not\rightarrow \mathbf{x}$ . Then there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that given any positive integer  $N$ , we can find  $k \geq N$  satisfying  $\|\mathbf{x}_k - \mathbf{x}\|_2 \geq \delta$ . Let  $n_1 = 1$  and, for any  $n_k$ , find  $n_{k+1} \geq n_k + 1$  such that  $\|\mathbf{x}_{n_{k+1}} - \mathbf{x}\|_2 \geq \delta$ . By Bolzano-Weierstrass theorem, the bounded sequence  $\{\mathbf{x}_{n_k}\}$  has a convergent subsequence  $\{\mathbf{x}_{m_k}\}$ . Since  $\mathbf{x}$  is the unique limit point,  $\{\mathbf{x}_{m_k}\}$  must converge to  $\mathbf{x}$ , which contradicts  $\|\mathbf{x}_{m_k} - \mathbf{x}\|_2 \geq \delta$ . Therefore,  $\mathbf{x}_n \rightarrow \mathbf{x}$ . ■

2. (**Limit Points of a Set**). Let  $C$  be a subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . A point  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is called a limit point of  $C$  if there is a sequence  $\{\mathbf{x}_n\}$  in  $C$  such that  $\mathbf{x}_n \rightarrow \mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{x}_n \neq \mathbf{x}$  for all positive integers  $n$ . If  $\mathbf{x} \in C$  and  $\mathbf{x}$  is not a limit point of  $C$ , then  $\mathbf{x}$  is called an isolated point of  $C$ . Let  $C'$  be the set of limit points of the set  $C$ . Please show the following statements.

- (a) If  $C = (0, 1) \cup \{2\} \subset \mathbb{R}$ , then  $C' = [0, 1]$  and  $x = 2$  is an isolated point of  $C$ .
- (b) The set  $C'$  is closed.
- (c) The closure of  $C$  is the union of  $C'$  and  $C$ ; that is  $\text{cl } C = C' \cup C$ . Moreover,  $C' \subset C$  if and only if  $C$  is closed.

**Solution:**

- (a) For  $x \in (0, 1]$ , the sequence  $\{(1 - 2^{-n})x\} \subset C$  converges to  $x$ . For  $x = 0$ ,  $\{2^{-n}\} \subset C$  converges to  $x$ . Hence  $C' \supset [0, 1]$ .

Suppose  $\{x_n\}$  converges to some  $x \notin [0, 1]$ . For  $x \in (-\infty, 0)$ , the neighborhood  $(-2x, 0)$  intersects  $\{x_n\}$  but does not intersect  $C$ . For  $x \in (1, \infty)$ , the neighborhood  $(1, x) \cap (x, 2x - 1)$  intersects  $\{x_n\}$  but does not intersect  $C$ . Hence  $\{x_n\} \not\subset C \implies C' \subset [0, 1] \implies C' = [0, 1]$ .

Specifically,  $x = 2 \in C \setminus C'$  is an isolated point.

- (b) Let  $\mathbf{x}$  be a limit point of  $C'$ . From a sequence  $\{\mathbf{x}_n\} \subset C'$  converging to  $\mathbf{x}$ , pick  $\mathbf{x}_{n_k}$  satisfying  $\|\mathbf{x}_{n_k} - \mathbf{x}\|_2 < \frac{1}{k}$ , where  $k$  is a positive integer. Since  $\mathbf{x}_{n_k}$  is a limit point of  $C$ , we can similarly find some  $\mathbf{y}_k \in C$  satisfying  $\|\mathbf{y}_k - \mathbf{x}_{n_k}\|_2 < \frac{1}{k}$  and  $\mathbf{y}_k \neq \mathbf{x}$ . Then we

have  $\|\mathbf{y}_k - \mathbf{x}\|_2 \leq \|\mathbf{y}_k - \mathbf{x}_{n_k}\|_2 + \|\mathbf{x}_{n_k} - \mathbf{x}\|_2 < \frac{2}{k}$ , which implies that  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{y}_k = \mathbf{x}$ . Hence  $\mathbf{x}$  is a limit point of  $C' \implies \mathbf{x} \in C'$ . Since  $\mathbf{x}$  is arbitrary, we know  $C'$  contains all of its limit points. According to (c),  $C'$  is closed.

(c)( $\implies$ ) Assume that  $C' \subset C$  but  $C$  is not closed. Let  $\mathbf{x}$  be a point in  $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus C$ . Since  $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus C$  is not open, for any  $\epsilon > 0$ , the  $\epsilon$ -neighborhood  $N_\epsilon(\mathbf{x})$  must intersect  $C$ . For each positive integer  $n$ , we can let  $\epsilon = \frac{1}{n}$  and find some  $\mathbf{x}_n \in N_\epsilon(\mathbf{x}) \cap C$ . Clearly  $\mathbf{x}_n \neq \mathbf{x}$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{x}_n = \mathbf{x}$ , so  $\mathbf{x} \in C'$ . But  $\mathbf{x} \notin C$ , which is a contradiction.

( $\impliedby$ ) If  $\mathbf{x}$  is a limit point of  $C$ , then there exists  $\{\mathbf{x}_n\} \subset C$  converging to  $\mathbf{x}$ . Given any  $N_\epsilon(\mathbf{x})$  with  $\epsilon > 0$ , we can always find some  $\mathbf{x}_n$  in  $N_\epsilon(\mathbf{x})$ , which implies that  $N_\epsilon(\mathbf{x})$  intersects  $C$ , i.e.  $N_\epsilon(\mathbf{x}) \not\subset \mathbb{R}^n \setminus C$ . Since  $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus C$  is open,  $\mathbf{x}$  must be in  $C$ . Hence  $C' \subset C$ . ■

**Exercise 2: Open and Closed Sets**

The norm ball  $\{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}\|_2 < r, \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n\}$  is denoted by  $B_r(\mathbf{x})$ .

1. Given a set  $C \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ , please show the following are equivalent.

- (a) The set  $C$  is closed; that is  $\text{cl } C = C$ .
- (b) The complement of  $C$  is open.
- (c) If  $B_\epsilon(\mathbf{x}) \cap C \neq \emptyset$  for every  $\epsilon > 0$ , then  $\mathbf{x} \in C$ .

**Solution:**

- (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b) Assume that  $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus C$  is not open. Let  $\mathbf{x}$  be a point in  $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus C$ . For each positive integer  $n$ , we have  $B_{\frac{1}{n}}(\mathbf{x}) \not\subset \mathbb{R}^n \setminus C$ , so there exists  $\mathbf{x}_n \in B_{\frac{1}{n}}(\mathbf{x}) \cap C$ . Clearly  $\mathbf{x}_n \neq \mathbf{x}$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{x}_n = \mathbf{x}$ , so  $\mathbf{x}$  is a limit point of  $C$ , i.e.  $\mathbf{x} \in \text{cl } C = C$ . But  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus C$ , which is a contradiction.
- (b)  $\Rightarrow$  (c) If  $B_\epsilon(\mathbf{x}) \cap C \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow B_\epsilon(\mathbf{x}) \not\subset \mathbb{R}^n \setminus C$  for every  $\epsilon > 0$ , then  $\mathbf{x}$  is not an interior point of  $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus C$ . Since  $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus C$  is open,  $\mathbf{x}$  must be in  $C$ .
- (c)  $\Rightarrow$  (a) Suppose  $\mathbf{x}$  is a limit point of  $C$ . Then there exists  $\{\mathbf{x}_n\} \subset C \setminus \{\mathbf{x}\}$  converging to  $\mathbf{x}$ . Given any  $\epsilon > 0$ , we can always find some  $\mathbf{x}_n \in B_\epsilon(\mathbf{x}) \Rightarrow B_\epsilon(\mathbf{x}) \cap C \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow \mathbf{x} \in C$ . Since  $\mathbf{x}$  is arbitrary, it follows that  $C$  contains all of its limit points, i.e.  $\text{cl } C = C$ . ■

2. Given  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ , a set  $C \subset A$  is called open in  $A$  if

$$C = \{\mathbf{x} \in C : B_\epsilon(\mathbf{x}) \cap A \subset C \text{ for some } \epsilon > 0\}.$$

A set  $C$  is said to be closed in  $A$  if  $A \setminus C$  is open in  $A$ .

- (a) Let  $B = [0, 1] \cup \{2\}$ . Please show that  $[0, 1]$  is not an open set in  $\mathbb{R}$ , while it is both open and closed in  $B$ .
- (b) Please show that a set  $C \subset A$  is open in  $A$  if and only if  $C = A \cap U$ , where  $U$  is open in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

**Solution:**

- (a) For every  $\epsilon > 0$ , we have  $(\epsilon, 0] \subset B_\epsilon(0)$  and  $(\epsilon, 0] \not\subset [0, 1]$ . Hence  $B_\epsilon(0) \cap \mathbb{R} \not\subset [0, 1]$ , i.e.  $x = 0$  is not an interior point of  $[0, 1]$ . Therefore,  $[0, 1]$  is not an open set in  $\mathbb{R}$ .  
For every  $x \in [0, 1]$ ,  $B_1(x) \cap B \subset (-1, 2) \cap B = [0, 1]$ , so  $[0, 1]$  is open in  $B$ .  
For  $x \in B \setminus [0, 1] = \{2\}$ ,  $B_1(x) \cap B = \{2\}$ , so  $\{2\}$  is open in  $B$ , i.e.  $[0, 1]$  is closed in  $B$ .
- (b)( $\Rightarrow$ ) For every  $\mathbf{x} \in C$ , there exists  $\epsilon_{\mathbf{x}} > 0$  such that  $B_{\epsilon_{\mathbf{x}}}(\mathbf{x}) \cap A \subset C$ . Let  $U = \bigcup_{\mathbf{x} \in C} B_{\epsilon_{\mathbf{x}}}(\mathbf{x})$ . On the one hand, since  $\mathbf{x} \in B_{\epsilon_{\mathbf{x}}}(\mathbf{x})$ , it follows that  $C \subset U \Rightarrow C \subset U \cap A$ . On the other hand,  $U \cap A = \bigcup_{\mathbf{x} \in C} (B_{\epsilon_{\mathbf{x}}}(\mathbf{x}) \cap A) \subset C$ . Hence  $U \cap A = C$ . Since every  $B_{\epsilon_{\mathbf{x}}}(\mathbf{x})$  is open in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $U$  is also open in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
- ( $\Leftarrow$ ) For every  $\mathbf{x} \in C \subset U$ , there exists  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $B_\epsilon(\mathbf{x}) \subset U \Rightarrow B_\epsilon(\mathbf{x}) \cap A \subset (U \cap A) = C$ . Hence  $C$  is open in  $A$ . ■

**Exercise 3: Bolzano-Weierstrass Theorem****The Least Upper Bound Axiom**

Any nonempty set of real numbers with an upper bound has a least upper bound. That is,  $\sup C$  always exists for a nonempty bounded above set  $C \subset \mathbb{R}$ .

Please show the following statements from **the least upper bound axiom**.

1. Let  $C$  be a nonempty subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  that is bounded above. Prove that  $u = \sup C$  if and only if  $u$  is an upper bound of  $C$  and

$$\forall \epsilon > 0, \exists a \in C \text{ such that } a > u - \epsilon.$$

**Solution:**

( $\Rightarrow$ ) Since  $u$  is the least upper bound, for any  $\epsilon > 0$ ,  $u - \epsilon$  cannot be an upper bound of  $C$ . Hence, there must be some  $a \in C$  such that  $a > u - \epsilon$ .

( $\Leftarrow$ ) For any  $u' < u$ , there exists some  $a \in C$  such that  $a > u'$ , implying that  $u'$  is not an upper bound of  $C$ . Hence,  $u$  is the least upper bound. ■

2. Every bounded sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$  has at least one limit point.

**Solution:**

Suppose  $\{x_n\}$  to be a bounded sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$ . Let  $C = \{x : x < x_n \text{ for an infinite number of } x_n\}$ .  $C$  is nonempty because it contains all lower bounds of  $x_n$ . Moreover,  $C$  is bounded above by every upper bound of  $x_n$ . By the least upper bound axiom,  $u = \sup C$  must exist. Then we can find  $a \in C$  satisfying  $a > u - \frac{1}{k}$  for each positive integer  $k$ . That is, there exist infinitely many  $x_n$  greater than  $u - \frac{1}{k}$ . Furthermore, since  $u + \frac{1}{k} \notin C$ , only a finite number of  $x_n$  is greater than  $u + \frac{1}{k}$ . From those infinitely many  $x_n$  who satisfy  $|x_n - u| < \frac{1}{k}$ , pick  $x_{n_k}$  such that  $x_{n_k} \neq u$ . Since  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} x_{n_k} = u$ , we know  $u$  is a limit point of  $\{x_n\}$ . ■

3. Every bounded sequence in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  has at least one limit point.

**Solution:**

Suppose  $\{\mathbf{x}^m\}$  to be a bounded sequence in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\mathbf{x}^m = (x_1^m, x_2^m, \dots, x_n^m)$ . Then  $\{x_1^m\}$  is a bounded sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$  with at least one limit point  $x_1$ , which implies that it has a subsequence  $\{x_1^{m_{1,k}}\}_k$  converging to  $x_1$ . For each  $d = 2, 3, \dots, n$ , let  $x_d$  be a limit point of the bounded sequence  $\{x_d^{m_{d-1,k}}\}_k$ . Then there exists a subsequence  $\{x_d^{m_{d,k}}\}_k \subset \{x_d^{m_{d-1,k}}\}_k$  converging to  $x_d$ . Now, consider the components of  $\{\mathbf{x}^{m_{n,k}}\}_k$ . Since  $\{x_1^{m_{n,k}}\}_k \subset \{x_1^{m_{1,k}}\}_k$ ,  $\{x_1^{m_{n,k}}\}_k$  must converge to  $x_1$ . Analogously,  $\{x_d^{m_{n,k}}\}_k$  must converge to  $x_d$  for each  $d = 2, 3, \dots, n-1$ . If we denote  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  by  $\mathbf{x}$ , then  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{x}^{m_{n,k}} = \mathbf{x}$ . Clearly  $\mathbf{x}^{m_{n,k}} \neq \mathbf{x}$ , so  $\{\mathbf{x}^m\}$  has a limit point  $\mathbf{x}$ . ■

**Exercise 4: Extreme Value Theorem**

1. Show that a set  $C \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is compact if and only if  $C$  is closed and bounded.

**Solution:**

( $\Rightarrow$ ) Let  $C$  be compact. Assume that  $C$  is not bounded. Then, given any positive integer  $n$ , there must exist some  $\mathbf{x}_n \in C$  such that  $\|\mathbf{x}_n\|_2 > n$ . Since  $C$  is compact,  $\{\mathbf{x}_n\}$  has a convergent subsequence  $\{\mathbf{x}_{n_k}\}$ . According to Exercise 1.1,  $\{\mathbf{x}_{n_k}\}$  must be bounded, but  $\|\mathbf{x}_{n_k}\|_2 > n_k$ , which is a contradiction. Therefore,  $C$  is bounded.

Let  $\mathbf{x}$  be a limit point of  $C$ . Then there is a sequence  $\{\mathbf{x}_n\} \subset C \setminus \{\mathbf{x}\}$  that converges to  $\mathbf{x}$ . Since  $C$  is compact,  $\{\mathbf{x}_n\}$  has a convergent subsequence  $\{\mathbf{x}_{n_k}\}$  and  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{x}_{n_k} \in C$ . According to Exercise 1.1, we have  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{x}_{n_k} = \mathbf{x} \implies \mathbf{x} \in C$ . Since  $\mathbf{x}$  is arbitrary, we know  $C$  contains all of its limit points. Therefore,  $C$  is closed.

( $\Leftarrow$ ) Let  $C \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be closed and bounded. Then any sequence  $\{\mathbf{x}_n\} \subset C$  is also bounded. By Bolzano-Weierstrass theorem, we can find a convergent subsequence  $\{\mathbf{x}_{n_k}\}$  whose limit  $\mathbf{x}$  is also a limit point of  $C$ . Because  $C$  is closed, it follows that  $\mathbf{x} \in C$ . Hence  $C$  is compact. ■

2. Let  $C$  be a compact subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $f : C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be continuous. Please show that there exist  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \in C$  such that

$$f(\mathbf{a}) \leq f(\mathbf{x}) \leq f(\mathbf{b}), \forall \mathbf{x} \in C.$$

(**Hint:** first prove that  $f(C)$  is compact, in  $\mathbb{R}$ .)

**Solution:**

Consider an arbitrary sequence  $\{y_n\} \subset f(C)$ . For each positive integer  $n$ , there exists  $\mathbf{x}_n \in C$  such that  $f(\mathbf{x}_n) = y_n$ . Since  $C$  is compact,  $\{\mathbf{x}_n\} \subset C$  has a convergent subsequence  $\{\mathbf{x}_{n_k}\}$  satisfying  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{x}_{n_k} \in C$ . Denote  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{x}_{n_k}$  by  $\mathbf{x}$ . Because  $f$  is continuous,  $\mathbf{x}_{n_k} \rightarrow \mathbf{x} \implies y_{n_k} \rightarrow f(\mathbf{x})$ . Moreover,  $\mathbf{x} \in C \implies f(\mathbf{x}) \in f(C)$ . Therefore,  $f(C)$  is compact in  $\mathbb{R}$ , i.e. bounded and closed.

Since  $f(C)$  is bounded, we can find  $u = \sup f(C)$  and  $l = \inf f(C)$ . For each positive  $n$ , there exists  $u_n \in f(C)$  such that  $u - \frac{1}{n} < u_n \leq u$ , which implies that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = u$ . If  $u_n = u$  for some  $n$ , then  $u \in f(C)$ . Otherwise  $u$  is a limit point of  $f(C)$ , and since  $f(C)$  is closed, it still follows that  $u \in f(C)$ . Analogously, we can conclude that  $l \in f(C)$ . Hence, there exists  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \in C$  such that  $f(\mathbf{a}) = l$  and  $f(\mathbf{b}) = u$ , which leads to the desired statement. ■

3. Let  $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be continuous. Show that the range of  $f$  is a compact interval  $[c, d]$  for some  $c, d \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**Solution:**

Clearly,  $[a, b]$  is a compact in  $\mathbb{R}$ . By Exercise 4.2, we know that  $f([a, b])$  is also compact in  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $c = \min f([a, b])$ ,  $d = \max f([a, b])$  both exist. For any  $y \in (c, d)$ , we define  $C = \{x \in [a, b] : f(x) \leq y\}$ . Since  $C$  is nonempty and bounded above,  $u = \sup C$  must exist. Assume that  $f(u) > y$ . Since  $f$  is continuous, there exists  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $f(x) > y$  for all  $x \in (u - \epsilon, u + \epsilon)$ . Then  $u - \epsilon$  is an upper bound of  $C$  less than  $u$ , which is a contradiction. Assume that  $f(u) < y$ . Since  $f$  is continuous, there exists  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $f(x) < y$  for all  $x \in (u - \epsilon, u + \epsilon)$ . Then  $u + \frac{\epsilon}{2}$  is an element of  $C$  greater than  $u$ , which is a contradiction. Hence  $f(u) = y$ , from which we conclude that  $f([a, b]) \supset [c, d]$ , i.e.  $f([a, b]) = [c, d]$ . ■

**Exercise 5: Basis and Coordinates**

Suppose that  $\{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n\}$  is a basis of an  $n$ -dimensional vector space  $V$ .

1. Show that  $\{\lambda_1 \mathbf{a}_1, \lambda_2 \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \lambda_n \mathbf{a}_n\}$  is also a basis of  $V$  for nonzero scalars  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$ .

**Solution:**

Because  $\{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n\}$  is a basis of  $V$ , for every  $\mathbf{v} \in V$ , there exists  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  such that  $\mathbf{v} = x_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + x_2 \mathbf{a}_2 + \dots + x_n \mathbf{a}_n$ . Let  $y_i = \frac{x_i}{\lambda_i}$ , then  $\mathbf{v} = y_1 \lambda_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + y_2 \lambda_2 \mathbf{a}_2 + \dots + y_n \lambda_n \mathbf{a}_n$ . Therefore,  $\{\lambda_1 \mathbf{a}_1, \lambda_2 \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \lambda_n \mathbf{a}_n\}$  is a basis of  $V$ . ■

2. Let  $V = \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $(\mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_2, \dots, \mathbf{b}_n) = (\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n)\mathbf{P}$ , where  $\mathbf{P} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  and  $\mathbf{b}_i \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , for any  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ . Show that  $\{\mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_2, \dots, \mathbf{b}_n\}$  is also a basis of  $V$  for any invertible matrix  $\mathbf{P}$ .

**Solution:**

Let  $\mathbf{A} = (\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n)$  and  $\mathbf{B} = (\mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_2, \dots, \mathbf{b}_n)$ , then  $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{P}$ . Because  $\{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n\}$  is a basis of  $V$ , for every  $\mathbf{v} \in V$ , there exists  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)^\top$  such that  $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}$ . Let  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{P}^{-1}\mathbf{x}$ , then  $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{B}\mathbf{y}$ . Therefore,  $\{\mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_2, \dots, \mathbf{b}_n\}$  is a basis of  $V$ . ■

3. Suppose that the coordinate of a vector  $\mathbf{v}$  under the basis  $\{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n\}$  is  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ .

- (a) What is the coordinate of  $\mathbf{v}$  under  $\{\lambda_1 \mathbf{a}_1, \lambda_2 \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \lambda_n \mathbf{a}_n\}$ ?
- (b) What are the coordinates of  $\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{a}_1 + \dots + \mathbf{a}_n$  under  $\{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n\}$  and  $\{\lambda_1 \mathbf{a}_1, \lambda_2 \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \lambda_n \mathbf{a}_n\}$ ? Note that  $\lambda_i \neq 0$  for any  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ .

**Solution:**

- (a) By Exercise 5.1, the coordinate under  $\{\lambda_1 \mathbf{a}_1, \lambda_2 \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \lambda_n \mathbf{a}_n\}$  is  $(\frac{x_1}{\lambda_1}, \frac{x_2}{\lambda_2}, \dots, \frac{x_n}{\lambda_n})$ .

- (b) The coordinate under  $\{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n\}$  is  $(1, 1, \dots, 1)$ .

The coordinate under  $\{\lambda_1 \mathbf{a}_1, \lambda_2 \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \lambda_n \mathbf{a}_n\}$  is  $(\frac{1}{\lambda_1}, \frac{1}{\lambda_2}, \dots, \frac{1}{\lambda_n})$ . ■

**Exercise 6: Derivatives with Matrices**

**Definition 1** (Differentiability). [1] Let  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  be a function,  $\mathbf{x}_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$  be a point, and let  $L : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  be a linear transformation. We say that  $f$  is *differentiable at  $\mathbf{x}_0$  with derivative  $L$*  if we have

$$\lim_{\mathbf{x} \rightarrow \mathbf{x}_0; \mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{x}_0} \frac{\|f(\mathbf{x}) - f(\mathbf{x}_0) - L(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0)\|_2}{\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0\|_2} = 0.$$

We denote this derivative by  $f'(\mathbf{x}_0)$ .

1. Let  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ . Consider the functions as follows. Please show that they are differentiable and find  $f'(\mathbf{x})$ .

- (a)  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{a}^\top \mathbf{x}$ .  
 (b)  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}$ .  
 (c)  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}\|_2^2$ , where  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ .

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a)} \quad & \lim_{\mathbf{x} \rightarrow \mathbf{x}_0; \mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{x}_0} \frac{\mathbf{a}^\top \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{a}^\top \mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{a}^\top (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0)}{\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0\|_2} \\ &= \lim_{\mathbf{x} \rightarrow \mathbf{x}_0; \mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{x}_0} \frac{0}{\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0\|_2} = 0 \implies f'(\mathbf{x}) \equiv \mathbf{a}^\top. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(b)} \quad & \lim_{\mathbf{x} \rightarrow \mathbf{x}_0; \mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{x}_0} \frac{\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0^\top \mathbf{x}_0 - 2\mathbf{x}_0^\top (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0)}{\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0\|_2} \\ &= \lim_{\mathbf{x} \rightarrow \mathbf{x}_0; \mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{x}_0} \frac{(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0)^\top (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0)}{\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0\|_2} \\ &= \lim_{\mathbf{x} \rightarrow \mathbf{x}_0; \mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{x}_0} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0\|_2 = 0 \implies f'(\mathbf{x}) = 2\mathbf{x}^\top. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(c)} \quad f(\mathbf{x}) &= \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}\|_2^2 \\ &= (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x})^\top (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}) \\ &= \mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{y} - 2\mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}. \\ & \lim_{\mathbf{x} \rightarrow \mathbf{x}_0; \mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{x}_0} \frac{f(\mathbf{x}) - f(\mathbf{x}_0) - (-2\mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{A} + 2\mathbf{x}_0^\top \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A})(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0)}{\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0\|_2} \\ &= \lim_{\mathbf{x} \rightarrow \mathbf{x}_0; \mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{x}_0} \frac{\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - 2\mathbf{x}_0^\top \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{x}_0^\top \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_0}{\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0\|_2} \\ &= \lim_{\mathbf{x} \rightarrow \mathbf{x}_0; \mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{x}_0} \frac{(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0)^\top \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0)}{\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0\|_2} \\ &\leq \lim_{\mathbf{x} \rightarrow \mathbf{x}_0; \mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{x}_0} \|\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A}\|_2 \cdot \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0\|_2 = 0 \implies f'(\mathbf{x}) = -2\mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{A} + 2\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A}. \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

2. Please follow Definition 1 and give the definition of the differentiability of the functions  $f : \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

**Solution:**

Let  $f : \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function,  $\mathbf{X}_0 \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be a matrix, and let  $L : \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a linear transformation. We say that  $f$  is *differentiable at  $\mathbf{X}_0$  with derivative  $L$*  if we have

$$\lim_{\mathbf{X} \rightarrow \mathbf{X}_0; \mathbf{X} \neq \mathbf{X}_0} \frac{f(\mathbf{X}) - f(\mathbf{X}_0) - L(\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{X}_0)}{\|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{X}_0\|_F} = 0.$$

We denote this derivative by  $f'(\mathbf{X}_0)$ . ■

3. Let  $f(\mathbf{X}) = \det(\mathbf{X})$ , where  $\det(\mathbf{X})$  is the determinant of  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ . Please discuss the differentiability of  $f$  rigorously according to your definition in the last part. If  $f$  is differentiable, please find  $f'(\mathbf{X})$ .

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned} & \det(\mathbf{X} + \Delta\mathbf{X}) \\ &= \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} \left( \text{sgn}(\sigma) \prod_{i=1}^n (x_{i,\sigma_i} + \Delta x_{i,\sigma_i}) \right) \\ &= \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} \left( \text{sgn}(\sigma) \prod_{i=1}^n x_{i,\sigma_i} \right) + \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} \left( \text{sgn}(\sigma) \Delta x_{i,\sigma_i} \prod_{j \neq i} x_{j,\sigma_j} \right) + O(\|\Delta\mathbf{X}\|_F^2) \\ &= \det(\mathbf{X} + \Delta\mathbf{X}) + \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \text{cof}(\mathbf{X})_{ij} \Delta x_{ij} + O(\|\Delta\mathbf{X}\|_F^2) \\ &= \det(\mathbf{X} + \Delta\mathbf{X}) + \text{tr}(\text{adj}(\mathbf{X})\Delta\mathbf{X}) + o(\|\Delta\mathbf{X}\|_F). \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \lim_{\Delta\mathbf{X} \rightarrow \mathbf{0}} \frac{\det(\mathbf{X} + \Delta\mathbf{X}) - \det(\mathbf{X}) - \text{tr}(\text{adj}(\mathbf{X})\Delta\mathbf{X})}{\|\Delta\mathbf{X}\|_F} \\ &= \lim_{\Delta\mathbf{X} \rightarrow \mathbf{0}} \frac{o(\|\Delta\mathbf{X}\|_F)}{\|\Delta\mathbf{X}\|_F} = 0 \implies f'(\mathbf{X}) : \Xi \mapsto \text{tr}(\text{adj}(\mathbf{X})\Xi). \end{aligned} \quad \blacksquare$$

4. Let  $f(\mathbf{X}) = \text{tr}(\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{X})$ , where  $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ , and  $\text{tr}(\cdot)$  denotes the trace of a matrix. Please discuss the differentiability of  $f$  and find  $f'$  if it is differentiable.

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{\mathbf{X} \rightarrow \mathbf{X}_0; \mathbf{X} \neq \mathbf{X}_0} \frac{\text{tr}(\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{X}) - \text{tr}(\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{X}_0) - \text{tr}(\mathbf{A}^\top (\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{X}_0))}{\|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{X}_0\|_F} \\ &= \lim_{\mathbf{X} \rightarrow \mathbf{X}_0; \mathbf{X} \neq \mathbf{X}_0} \frac{0}{\|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{X}_0\|_F} = 0 \implies f'(\mathbf{X}) : \Xi \mapsto \text{tr}(\mathbf{A}^\top \Xi). \end{aligned} \quad \blacksquare$$

5. Let  $\mathbf{S}_{++}^n$  be the space of all positive definite  $n \times n$  matrices. Prove the function  $f : \mathbf{S}_{++}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by  $f(\mathbf{X}) = \text{tr} \mathbf{X}^{-1}$  is differentiable on  $\mathbf{S}_{++}^n$ . (Hint: Expand the expression  $(\mathbf{X} + t\mathbf{Y})^{-1}$  as a power series.)

**Solution:**

$$\frac{d\mathbf{X}^{-1}}{dt} \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{X}^{-1} \frac{d\mathbf{X}}{dt} = \frac{d(\mathbf{X}^{-1} \mathbf{X})}{dt} = \frac{d\mathbf{I}}{dt} = \mathbf{0} \implies \frac{d\mathbf{X}^{-1}}{dt} = -\mathbf{X}^{-1} \frac{d\mathbf{X}}{dt} \mathbf{X}^{-1}.$$



$$\therefore (\mathbf{X} + t\mathbf{Y})^{-1} = \mathbf{X}^{-1} - \mathbf{X}^{-1}(t\mathbf{Y})\mathbf{X}^{-1} + O(t^2).$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\text{tr}(\mathbf{X} + t\mathbf{Y}) - \text{tr}(\mathbf{X}) + \text{tr}(\mathbf{X}^{-1}(t\mathbf{Y})\mathbf{X}^{-1})}{\|t\mathbf{Y}\|_F} \\ = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{o(t)}{O(t)} = 0 \implies f'(\mathbf{X}) : \Xi \mapsto \text{tr}(-\mathbf{X}^{-1}\Xi\mathbf{X}^{-1}). \end{aligned}$$

■

6. Define a function  $f : \mathbf{S}_{++}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by  $f(\mathbf{X}) = \log \det \mathbf{X}$ . Prove  $\nabla f(\mathbf{I}) = \mathbf{I}$ . Deduce  $\nabla f(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{X}^{-1}$  for any  $\mathbf{X}$  in  $\mathbf{S}_{++}^n$ .

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \det(\mathbf{X})}{\partial x_{ij}} &= \sum_{k=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial x_{ik}}{\partial x_{ij}} \text{cof}(\mathbf{X})_{ik} + x_{ik} \frac{\partial \text{cof}(\mathbf{X})_{ik}}{\partial x_{ij}} \right) = \text{cof}(\mathbf{X})_{ij} \\ \implies \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{X})}{\partial x_{ij}} &= \frac{df(\mathbf{X})}{d \det(\mathbf{X})} \frac{\partial \det(\mathbf{X})}{\partial x_{ij}} = \frac{\text{cof}(\mathbf{X})_{ij}}{\det(\mathbf{X})} \\ \implies \nabla f(\mathbf{X}) &= \frac{\text{cof}(\mathbf{X})}{\det(\mathbf{X})} = \mathbf{X}^{-\top}. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{I} \implies \nabla f(\mathbf{I}) = \mathbf{I}$ . For any  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbf{S}_{++}^n$ ,  $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{X}^\top \implies \nabla f(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{X}^{-1}$ .

■

**Exercise 7: Rank of Matrices**

Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  and  $\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}$ .

1. Please show that

- (a)  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}^\top)$ ;
- (b)  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{AB}) \leq \text{rank}(\mathbf{A})$ ;
- (c)  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{AB}) \leq \text{rank}(\mathbf{B})$ ;
- (d)  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A})$ .

**Solution:**

- (a) Suppose  $\{\mathbf{c}_1, \mathbf{c}_2, \dots, \mathbf{c}_r\}$  is a basis of  $\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{A})$ , where  $r = \text{rank}(\mathbf{A})$ . Let  $\mathbf{C} = (\mathbf{c}_1, \mathbf{c}_2, \dots, \mathbf{c}_r) \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times r}$ . Since all  $n$  columns of  $\mathbf{A}$  are linear combinations of  $\{\mathbf{c}_1, \mathbf{c}_2, \dots, \mathbf{c}_r\}$ , there exists a matrix  $\mathbf{R} \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times n}$  such that  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{CR}$ . Then each row of  $\mathbf{A}$  can be written as a linear combination of rows of  $\mathbf{R}$ , implying that  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}^\top) \leq \text{rank}(\mathbf{R}) \leq r$ . Moreover,  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = \text{rank}((\mathbf{A}^\top)^\top) \leq \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}^\top)$ . Therefore,  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}^\top)$ .
- (b) Columns of  $\mathbf{AB}$  are linear combinations of columns of  $\mathbf{A} \implies \mathcal{C}(\mathbf{AB}) \subset \mathcal{C}(\mathbf{A}) \implies \text{rank}(\mathbf{AB}) = \dim(\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{AB})) \leq \dim(\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{A})) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{A})$ .
- (c) Rows of  $\mathbf{AB}$  are linear combinations of rows of  $\mathbf{B} \implies \mathcal{C}(\mathbf{B}^\top \mathbf{A}^\top) \subset \mathcal{C}(\mathbf{B}^\top) \implies \text{rank}(\mathbf{AB}) = \dim(\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{B}^\top \mathbf{A}^\top)) \leq \dim(\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{B}^\top)) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{B})$ .
- (d) According to (a),  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{CR}$ , where  $\mathbf{C}$  has full column rank and  $\mathbf{R}$  has full row rank. If  $\mathbf{C}^\top \mathbf{C} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  for some  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^r$ , then  $\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{C}^\top \mathbf{C} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0} \implies \mathbf{C} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0} \implies \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ . Hence  $\mathbf{C}^\top \mathbf{C}$  also has full rank. Analogously, we show that  $\mathbf{R} \mathbf{R}^\top$  has full rank. Then  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{C}^\top \mathbf{C})^{-1}(\mathbf{R} \mathbf{R}^\top)^{-1} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A}$ , which implies that  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) \leq \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A})$ . On the other hand,  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A}) \leq \text{rank}(\mathbf{A})$ , so  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A})$ . ■

2. The *column space* of  $\mathbf{A}$  is defined by

$$\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{A}) = \{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^m : \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n\}.$$

The *null space* of  $\mathbf{A}$  is defined by

$$\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A}) = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}\}.$$

Notice that, the rank of  $\mathbf{A}$  is the dimension of the column space of  $\mathbf{A}$ .

Please show that

- (a)  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) + \dim(\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A})) = n$ ;
- (b)  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{0}$  if and only if  $\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{y} = 0$  for  $i = 1, \dots, m$ , where  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^m$  and  $\{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \mathbf{a}_m\}$  is a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .

**Solution:**

- (a) Let  $r = \text{rank}(\mathbf{A})$ . There exists a permutation matrix  $\mathbf{P} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  such that  $\mathbf{AP} = (\mathbf{C} \quad \mathbf{CR})$ , where  $\mathbf{C} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times r}$  is  $r$  linearly independent columns of  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{CR} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times (n-r)}$  is the other columns.

Let  $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{P} \begin{pmatrix} -\mathbf{R} \\ \mathbf{I}_{n-r} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times (n-r)}$ . Then  $\mathbf{AX} = (\mathbf{C} \ \mathbf{CR}) \begin{pmatrix} -\mathbf{R} \\ \mathbf{I}_{n-r} \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{0}$ , implying that all columns of  $\mathbf{X}$  are in  $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A})$ .

If  $\mathbf{Xu} = \mathbf{0}$  for some  $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^{n-r}$ , then  $\mathbf{P} \begin{pmatrix} -\mathbf{Ru} \\ \mathbf{u} \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{0} \implies \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{0}$ . Hence columns of  $\mathbf{X}$  are linearly independent.

If  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{0}$  for some  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{P} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1 \\ \mathbf{u}_2 \end{pmatrix}$  where  $\mathbf{u}_1 \in \mathbb{R}^r$  and  $\mathbf{u}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{n-r}$ , then  $\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{I}_r \ \mathbf{R}) \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1 \\ \mathbf{u}_2 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{0} \implies (\mathbf{I}_r \ \mathbf{R}) \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1 \\ \mathbf{u}_2 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{0} \implies \mathbf{u}_1 = -\mathbf{Ru}_2 \implies \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{P} \begin{pmatrix} -\mathbf{Ru}_2 \\ \mathbf{u}_2 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{Xu}_2$ , i.e. any  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A})$  is a linear combination of columns of  $\mathbf{X}$ .

To conclude, columns of  $\mathbf{X}$  form a basis of  $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A})$ . Therefore,  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) + \dim(\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A})) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) + \text{rank}(\mathbf{X}) = r + (n - r) = n$ .

(b)  $(\implies) \ \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{0} \implies \mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{0} = 0, \forall i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ .

$(\impliedby) \ \{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \mathbf{a}_m\}$  is a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^m \implies \mathbf{A} = (\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \mathbf{a}_m) \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$  is invertible. Then  $\mathbf{Ay} = \mathbf{0} \implies \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{0} = \mathbf{0}$ . ■

3. Show that

$$\text{rank}(\mathbf{AB}) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{B}) - \dim(\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{B}) \cap \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A})). \quad (1)$$

**Solution:**

Suppose  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  and  $\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}$ . Let  $r = \text{rank}(\mathbf{AB})$  and  $s = \text{rank}(\mathbf{B})$ . Factor  $\mathbf{B}$  as  $\mathbf{C}_B \mathbf{R}_B$ , where  $\mathbf{C}_B \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times s}$  has full column rank and  $\mathbf{R}_B \in \mathbb{R}^{s \times p}$  has full row rank.  $\mathbf{AB} = \mathbf{AC}_B \mathbf{R}_B \implies \text{rank}(\mathbf{AB}) \leq \text{rank}(\mathbf{AC}_B)$ .  $\mathbf{AC}_B = \mathbf{AB} \mathbf{R}_B^\top (\mathbf{R}_B \mathbf{R}_B^\top)^{-1} \implies \text{rank}(\mathbf{AC}_B) \leq \text{rank}(\mathbf{AB})$ . Hence  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{AC}_B) = r$ . Find a permutation matrix  $\mathbf{P} \in \mathbb{R}^{s \times s}$  such that  $\mathbf{AC}_B \mathbf{P} = (\mathbf{C} \ \mathbf{CR})$ , where  $\mathbf{C} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times r}$  is  $r$  linearly independent columns of  $\mathbf{AC}_B$  and  $\mathbf{CR} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times (s-r)}$  is the other columns.

Let  $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{C}_B \mathbf{P} \begin{pmatrix} -\mathbf{R} \\ \mathbf{I}_{s-r} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times (s-r)}$ . Clearly, columns of  $\mathbf{X}$  are in  $\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{B})$ . Since  $\mathbf{AX} = (\mathbf{C} \ \mathbf{CR}) \begin{pmatrix} -\mathbf{R} \\ \mathbf{I}_{s-r} \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{0}$ , columns of  $\mathbf{X}$  are also in  $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A})$ , and thus in  $\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{B}) \cap \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A})$ .

If  $\mathbf{Xu} = \mathbf{0}$  for some  $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^{s-r}$ , then  $(\mathbf{C}_B^\top \mathbf{C}_B)^{-1} \mathbf{C}_B^\top \mathbf{Xu} = \mathbf{0} \implies \mathbf{P} \begin{pmatrix} -\mathbf{Ru} \\ \mathbf{u} \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{0} \implies \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{0}$ . Hence columns of  $\mathbf{X}$  are linearly independent.

If  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{0}$  for some  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{C}_B \mathbf{P} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1 \\ \mathbf{u}_2 \end{pmatrix}$  where  $\mathbf{u}_1 \in \mathbb{R}^r$  and  $\mathbf{u}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{s-r}$ , then  $\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{I}_r \ \mathbf{R}) \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1 \\ \mathbf{u}_2 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{0} \implies (\mathbf{I}_r \ \mathbf{R}) \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1 \\ \mathbf{u}_2 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{0} \implies \mathbf{u}_1 = -\mathbf{Ru}_2 \implies \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{C}_B \mathbf{P} \begin{pmatrix} -\mathbf{Ru}_2 \\ \mathbf{u}_2 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{Xu}_2$ , i.e. any  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C}(\mathbf{B}) \cap \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A})$  is a linear combination of columns of  $\mathbf{X}$ .

To conclude, columns of  $\mathbf{X}$  form a basis of  $\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{B}) \cap \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A})$ . Therefore,  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{AB}) = r = s - (s - r) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{B}) - \text{rank}(\mathbf{X}) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{B}) - \dim(\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{B}) \cap \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A}))$ . ■

4. Suppose that the first term on the right-hand side (RHS) of Eq. (1) changes to  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A})$ . Please find the second term on the RHS of Eq. (1) such that it still holds.

**Solution:**

$$\text{rank}(\mathbf{B}^\top \mathbf{A}^\top) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}^\top) - \dim(\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{A}^\top) \cap \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{B}^\top))$$

$$\implies \text{rank}(\mathbf{AB}) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) - \dim(\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{A}^\top) \cap \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{B}^\top)).$$

The second term on the RHS changes to  $\dim(\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{A}^\top) \cap \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{B}^\top))$ . ■

5. Show the results in 1. by Eq. (1) or the one you established in 4.

**Solution:**

- (a)  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{IA}) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{I}) - \dim(\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{I})^\top \cap \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A}^\top)) \implies \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = n - \dim(\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A}^\top)).$   
 $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{I}) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{I}) - \dim(\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{I}) \cap \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A}^\top)) \implies \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}^\top) = n - \dim(\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A}^\top)).$   
Hence  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}^\top)$ .
- (b)  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{AB}) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) - \dim(\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{A}^\top) \cap \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{B}^\top)) \leq \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}).$
- (c)  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{AB}) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{B}) - \dim(\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{B}) \cap \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A})) \leq \text{rank}(\mathbf{B}).$
- (d)  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A}) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) - \dim(\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{A}) \cap \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A}^\top)).$  For any  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{C}(\mathbf{A}) \cap \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A}^\top)$ , we have  $\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{u}^\top \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{u}^\top \mathbf{0} = 0 \implies \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ , so  $\dim(\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{A}) \cap \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A}^\top)) = 0$ , and hence  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A}) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{A})$ . ■

**Exercise 8: Linear Equations**

Consider the system of linear equations in  $\mathbf{w}$

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w}, \quad (2)$$

where  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , and  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ .

1. Give an example for “ $\mathbf{X}$ ” and “ $\mathbf{y}$ ” to satisfy the following three situations respectively:

- (a) there exists one unique solution;
- (b) there does not exist any solution;
- (c) there exists more than one solution.

**Solution:**

(a)  $\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{I} \\ \mathbf{O} \end{pmatrix} (n > d)$ ,  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{0}$ . The unique solution is  $\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{0}$ .

(b)  $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{O}$ ,  $\mathbf{y} \neq \mathbf{0}$ . No solution because  $\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} \equiv \mathbf{0}$ .

(c)  $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{O}$ ,  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{0}$ . The solution can be any  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ . ■

2. Suppose that  $\mathbf{X}$  has full column rank and  $\text{rank}((\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{y})) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{X})$ . Show that the system of linear equations (2) always admits a unique solution.

**Solution:**

$\text{rank}((\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{y})) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{X}) \implies \dim \mathcal{C}((\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{y})) = \dim \mathcal{C}(\mathbf{X}) = d$ . Since  $\mathbf{X}$  has full column rank, the  $d$  columns of  $\mathbf{X}$  are linearly independent and thus form a basis of  $\mathcal{C}((\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{y}))$ . Then  $\mathbf{y}$  can be represented as a linearly combination of columns of  $\mathbf{X}$ , i.e.  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w}$  admits a solution. Because  $\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X}$  is invertible, we have  $\mathbf{w} = (\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y}$ , which must be unique. ■

3. (**Normal equations**) Consider another system of linear equations in  $\mathbf{w}$

$$\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} \mathbf{w}. \quad (3)$$

Please show that the system (3) always admits a solution. Moreover, does it always admit a unique solution?

**Solution:**

$\text{rank}(\mathbf{X}^\top) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X}) \leq \text{rank}((\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} \quad \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y})) \leq \text{rank}(\mathbf{X}^\top) \implies \text{rank}(\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X}) = \text{rank}((\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} \quad \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y}))$ . According to Exercise 8.2,  $\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} \mathbf{w}$  admits a solution.

If  $\mathbf{X}$  has full column rank, then  $\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X}$  is invertible and  $\mathbf{w} = (\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y}$  is the unique solution.

If  $\mathbf{X} \neq \mathbf{O}$  is rank-deficient, it can be factored as  $\mathbf{C}\mathbf{R}$ , where  $\mathbf{C}$  has full column rank and  $\mathbf{R}$  has full row rank. Then  $\mathbf{w}_0 = \mathbf{R}^\top (\mathbf{R}\mathbf{R}^\top)^{-1} (\mathbf{C}^\top \mathbf{C})^{-1} \mathbf{C}^\top \mathbf{y}$  is a solution to  $\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} \mathbf{w}$ . For any  $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $\mathbf{v} = (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{R}^\top (\mathbf{R}\mathbf{R}^\top)^{-1} \mathbf{R}) \mathbf{u} \neq \mathbf{0}$  is a solution to  $\mathbf{0} = \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} \mathbf{w}$ , and hence  $\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{w}_0 + \mathbf{v}$  is a solution to  $\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} \mathbf{w}$ , which is not unique. ■

**Exercise 9: Properties of Eigenvalues and Singular Values**

1. Suppose the maximum eigenvalue, minimum eigenvalue of a given symmetric matrix  $\mathbf{A} \in S^n$  are denoted by  $\lambda_{\max}(\mathbf{A})$  and  $\lambda_{\min}(\mathbf{A})$ , respectively. Please show that

$$\lambda_{\max}(\mathbf{A}) = \sup_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n, \mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}} \frac{\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}}{\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}}, \quad \lambda_{\min}(\mathbf{A}) = \inf_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n, \mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}} \frac{\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}}{\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}}.$$

**Solution:**

Consider the optimization problem  $\max / \min R_{\mathbf{A}} = \frac{\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}}{\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}}$  s.t.  $\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x} = 1$ . We have the Lagrangian  $L(\mathbf{x}, \lambda) = \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} - \lambda(\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x} - 1)$ . Then the first order conditions become  $\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} L(\mathbf{x}, \lambda) = 2\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - 2\lambda\mathbf{x} = 0 \implies (\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I})\mathbf{x} = 0$  and  $\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x} = 1$ , implying that  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{x}$  is a unit eigenvector corresponding to  $\lambda$ . For the maximization problem, the second order condition is  $\nabla_{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}}^2 L(\mathbf{x}, \lambda) = 2\mathbf{A} - 2\lambda\mathbf{I} \leq 0 \implies \mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I} \leq 0$ , which is satisfied if and only if  $\lambda = \lambda_{\max}(\mathbf{A})$ . For the minimization problem, the second order condition is  $\nabla_{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}}^2 L(\mathbf{x}, \lambda) = 2\mathbf{A} - 2\lambda\mathbf{I} \geq 0 \implies \mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I} \geq 0$ , which is satisfied if and only if  $\lambda = \lambda_{\min}(\mathbf{A})$ . Therefore, the global maximum is  $R_{\mathbf{A}} = \mathbf{x}^\top \lambda_{\max}(\mathbf{A}) \mathbf{x} = \lambda_{\max}(\mathbf{A})$  and the global minimum is  $R_{\mathbf{A}} = \mathbf{x}^\top \lambda_{\min}(\mathbf{A}) \mathbf{x} = \lambda_{\min}(\mathbf{A})$ . In other words,  $\lambda_{\max}(\mathbf{A}) = \sup_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n, \mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}} \frac{\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}}{\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}}$  and  $\lambda_{\min}(\mathbf{A}) = \inf_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n, \mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}} \frac{\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}}{\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}}$ . ■

2. Suppose  $\mathbf{B} = (b_{ij}) \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  with maximum singular value  $\sigma_{\max}(\mathbf{B})$ .

- (a) Let  $\|\mathbf{B}\|_2 := \sup_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n, \mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}} \frac{\|\mathbf{B}\mathbf{x}\|_2}{\|\mathbf{x}\|_2}$ . Please show that

$$\sigma_{\max}(\mathbf{B}) = \|\mathbf{B}\|_2.$$

- (b) Please show that

$$\sigma_{\max}(\mathbf{B}) = \sup_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^m, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \neq \mathbf{0}} \frac{\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{B} \mathbf{y}}{\|\mathbf{x}\|_2 \|\mathbf{y}\|_2}.$$

- (c) Let  $\|\mathbf{B}\|_1 := \sup_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n, \mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}} \frac{\|\mathbf{B}\mathbf{x}\|_1}{\|\mathbf{x}\|_1}$ . Please show that

$$\|\mathbf{B}\|_1 = \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} \sum_{i=1}^m |b_{ij}|.$$

- (d) Let  $\|\mathbf{B}\|_\infty := \sup_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n, \mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}} \frac{\|\mathbf{B}\mathbf{x}\|_\infty}{\|\mathbf{x}\|_\infty}$ . Please show that

$$\|\mathbf{B}\|_\infty = \max_{1 \leq i \leq m} \sum_{j=1}^n |b_{ij}|.$$

**Solution:**

- (a)  $\|\mathbf{B}\|_2 = \sup_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n, \mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}} \sqrt{\frac{\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{B}^\top \mathbf{B} \mathbf{x}}{\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}}}$ . Since  $\mathbf{B}^\top \mathbf{B}$  is symmetric, by Exercise 9.1, we have  $\|\mathbf{B}\|_2 = \sqrt{\lambda_{\max}(\mathbf{B}^\top \mathbf{B})} = \sigma_{\max}(\mathbf{B})$ .

- (b) Consider maximizing  $R_{\mathbf{B}} = \frac{\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{B} \mathbf{y}}{\|\mathbf{x}\|_2 \|\mathbf{y}\|_2}$  subject to  $\|\mathbf{x}\|_2 = \|\mathbf{y}\|_2 = 1$ . Let  $\mathbf{z} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{y} \end{pmatrix}$  and the Lagrangian  $L(\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\lambda}) = \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{B} \mathbf{y} - \frac{1}{2} \lambda_1 (\|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2 - 1) - \frac{1}{2} \lambda_2 (\|\mathbf{y}\|_2^2 - 1)$ . The necessary conditions  $\nabla_{\mathbf{z}} L(\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\lambda}) = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{y} - \lambda_1 \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{B}^\top \mathbf{x} - \lambda_2 \mathbf{y} \end{pmatrix} = 0$  and  $\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{y} = 1$  imply that  $\sigma := \lambda_1 = \lambda_2$  is a singular value of  $\mathbf{B}$  with unit left and right singular vectors  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$ , respectively. Let  $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{B} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{B}^\top \end{pmatrix}$ . Then  $\nabla_{\mathbf{z}\mathbf{z}}^2 L(\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\lambda}) = \begin{pmatrix} -\lambda_1 \mathbf{I}_m & \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{B}^\top & -\lambda_2 \mathbf{I}_n \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{A} - \sigma \mathbf{I}$ . Clearly, every eigenvalue of  $\mathbf{A}$  is also a singular value of  $\mathbf{B}$ , and  $\sigma_{\max}(\mathbf{B})$  is the largest eigenvalue of  $\mathbf{A}$ . So  $\nabla_{\mathbf{z}\mathbf{z}}^2 L(\mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\lambda})$  is negative semidefinite if and only if  $\sigma = \sigma_{\max}(\mathbf{B})$ , and hence the maximum of  $R_{\mathbf{B}} = \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{B} \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{x}^\top \sigma \mathbf{x} = \sigma_{\max}(\mathbf{B})$ . In other words,  $\sigma_{\max}(\mathbf{B}) = \sup_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^m, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \neq 0} \frac{\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{B} \mathbf{y}}{\|\mathbf{x}\|_2 \|\mathbf{y}\|_2}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\|\mathbf{B}\mathbf{x}\|_1}{\|\mathbf{x}\|_1} &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^m \left| \sum_{j=1}^n b_{ij} x_j \right|}{\sum_{j=1}^n |x_j|} \leq \frac{\sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n |b_{ij}| |x_j|}{\sum_{j=1}^n |x_j|} = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n \left( \sum_{i=1}^m |b_{ij}| \right) |x_j|}{\sum_{j=1}^n |x_j|} \\ &\leq \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n |x_j|}{\sum_{j=1}^n |x_j|} \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} \sum_{i=1}^m |b_{ij}| = \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} \sum_{i=1}^m |b_{ij}|. \end{aligned}$$

The equality holds if  $x_j = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j = \mathbf{argmax}_{1 \leq j \leq n} \sum_{i=1}^m |b_{ij}| \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$ , so  $\|\mathbf{B}\|_1 = \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} \sum_{i=1}^m |b_{ij}|$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\|\mathbf{B}\mathbf{x}\|_\infty}{\|\mathbf{x}\|_\infty} &= \frac{\max_{1 \leq i \leq m} \left| \sum_{j=1}^n b_{ij} x_j \right|}{\max_{1 \leq j \leq n} |x_j|} \leq \frac{\max_{1 \leq i \leq m} \sum_{j=1}^n |b_{ij}| |x_j|}{\max_{1 \leq j \leq n} |x_j|} \\ &\leq \frac{\max_{1 \leq j \leq n} |x_j|}{\max_{1 \leq j \leq n} |x_j|} \max_{1 \leq i \leq m} \sum_{j=1}^n |b_{ij}| = \max_{1 \leq i \leq m} \sum_{j=1}^n |b_{ij}|. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $k = \mathbf{argmax}_{1 \leq i \leq m} \sum_{j=1}^n |b_{ij}|$ . The equality holds if  $x_j = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } b_{kj} \geq 0 \\ -1, & \text{if } b_{kj} < 0 \end{cases}$ , so  $\|\mathbf{B}\|_\infty = \max_{1 \leq i \leq m} \sum_{j=1}^n |b_{ij}|$ . ■

**Exercise 10: Projection to a Linear Subspace**

1. Let  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$  with rank  $d$  and  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Consider the optimization problem

$$\min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w}\|_2^2,$$

- (a) We denote the column space of  $\mathbf{X}$  by  $\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{X})$ . Please show that  $\hat{\mathbf{y}} := \mathbf{X}(\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y}$  is the projection of  $\mathbf{y}$  on  $\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{X})$ , i.e.  $\langle \mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}}, \mathbf{x} \rangle = 0$  for any  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C}(\mathbf{X})$ .
- (b) Please solve the above optimization problem by completing the square.
- (c) Please show that  $\min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w}\|_2 \leq \|\mathbf{y}\|_2$ . Then find the necessary and sufficient condition where the equality holds and give it a geometric interpretation.

**Solution:**

- (a) For any  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{C}(\mathbf{X})$ ,  $\langle \mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}}, \mathbf{x} \rangle = (\mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}})^\top \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y}^\top (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{X}(\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^\top) \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y}^\top (\mathbf{X}\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{X}(\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X})^{-1} (\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X})\mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{0} = 0$ .
- (b)  $\|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w}\|_2^2 = \|\mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}} + \hat{\mathbf{y}} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w}\|_2^2 = \|\mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}}\|_2^2 + 2\langle \mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}}, \hat{\mathbf{y}} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} \rangle + \|\hat{\mathbf{y}} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w}\|_2^2$ . Since  $\hat{\mathbf{y}} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{X}(\mathbf{X}(\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{w}) \in \mathcal{C}(\mathbf{X})$ , it follows that  $\langle \mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}}, \hat{\mathbf{y}} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w} \rangle = 0$ . So  $\|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w}\|_2^2 = \|\mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}}\|_2^2 + \|\hat{\mathbf{y}} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w}\|_2^2 \geq \|\mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}}\|_2^2$ , where the equality holds if and only if  $\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w}$ , i.e.  $\mathbf{w} = (\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y}$ . And hence  $\min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w}\|_2^2 = \|\mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}}\|_2^2$ .
- (c)  $\min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w}\|_2^2 = \langle \mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}}, \mathbf{y} + \hat{\mathbf{y}} - 2\hat{\mathbf{y}} \rangle = \|\mathbf{y}\|_2^2 - \|\hat{\mathbf{y}}\|_2^2 - 2\langle \mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}}, \hat{\mathbf{y}} \rangle = \|\mathbf{y}\|_2^2 - \|\hat{\mathbf{y}}\|_2^2 \leq \|\mathbf{y}\|_2^2$   
 $\implies \min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{w}\|_2 \leq \|\mathbf{y}\|_2$ . The equality holds if and only if  $\|\hat{\mathbf{y}}\|_2 = 0 \iff \hat{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{0} \iff \langle \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x} \rangle = 0$  for any  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C}(\mathbf{X})$ . In other words, the projection of  $\mathbf{y}$  on  $\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{X})$  is zero, and thus  $\mathbf{y}$  is orthogonal to  $\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{X})$ , i.e.  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{X}^\top)$ . ■
2. Suppose  $X$  and  $Y$  are both random variables defined in the same sample space  $\Omega$  with finite second-order moment, i.e.  $\mathbb{E}[X^2], \mathbb{E}[Y^2] < \infty$ .

- (a) Let  $L^2(\Omega) = \{Z : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid \mathbb{E}[Z^2] < \infty\}$  be the set of random variables with finite second-order moment. Please show that  $L^2(\Omega)$  is a linear space, and  $\langle X, Y \rangle := \mathbb{E}[XY]$  defines an inner product in  $L^2(\Omega)$ . Then find the projection of  $Y$  on the subspace of  $L^2(\Omega)$  consisting of all constant variables.
- (b) Please find a real constant  $\hat{c}$ , such that

$$\hat{c} = \underset{c \in \mathbb{R}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \mathbb{E}[(Y - c)^2].$$

[Hint: you can solve it by completing the square.]

- (c) Please find the necessary and sufficient condition where  $\min_{c \in \mathbb{R}} \mathbb{E}[(Y - c)^2] = \mathbb{E}[Y^2]$ . Then give it a geometric interpretation using inner product and projection.

**Solution:**

- (a) Suppose  $X, Y, Z \in L^2(\Omega)$  and  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then  $\mathbb{E}[(X + Y)^2] = \mathbb{E}[X^2] + \mathbb{E}[Y^2] + 2\mathbb{E}[XY] \leq \mathbb{E}[X^2] + \mathbb{E}[Y^2] + 2\sqrt{\mathbb{E}[X^2]\mathbb{E}[Y^2]} < \infty$  and  $\mathbb{E}[aX^2] = a\mathbb{E}[X^2] < \infty$ , implying that  $X + Y, aX \in L^2(\Omega)$ . Therefore, we can define vector addition in  $L^2(\Omega)$  as the usual addition of random variables, and scalar multiplication as the usual multiplication of a random variable by a real constant. Clearly, the addition is associative and commutative, with 0 as the identity element, i.e.  $X + (Y + Z) = (X + Y) + Z$ ,  $X + Y = Y + X$  and



$X + 0 = X$ . The scalar multiplication, with 1 as the identity element, is compatible with field multiplication and distributive with respect to both vector addition and field addition, i.e.  $1X = X$ ,  $a(bX) = (ab)X$ ,  $a(X + Y) = aX + aY$  and  $(a + b)X = aX + bX$ . To conclude,  $L^2(\Omega)$  is a linear space.

Moreover, the given definition of inner product satisfies symmetry, linearity and positive definiteness, i.e.  $\mathbb{E}[XY] = \mathbb{E}[YX]$ ,  $\mathbb{E}[(aX + bY)Z] = a\mathbb{E}[XZ] + b\mathbb{E}[YZ]$  and  $\mathbb{E}[X^2] \geq 0$ , where the equality holds if and only if  $X \equiv 0$ .

For any real constant variable  $C$  in the subspace,  $\langle Y - \mathbb{E}[Y], C \rangle = \mathbb{E}[C](\mathbb{E}[Y] - \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[Y]]) = C(\mathbb{E}[Y] - \mathbb{E}[Y]) = 0$ . Hence the projection of  $Y$  on the subspace is  $\mathbb{E}[Y]$ .

- (b)  $\mathbb{E}[(Y - c)^2] = \mathbb{E}[(Y - \mathbb{E}[Y] + \mathbb{E}[Y] - c)^2] = \mathbb{E}[(Y - \mathbb{E}[Y])^2] + 2\langle Y - \mathbb{E}[Y], \mathbb{E}[Y] - c \rangle + \mathbb{E}[(\mathbb{E}[Y] - c)^2] = \text{Var}(Y) + (\mathbb{E}[Y] - c)^2 \geq \text{Var}(Y)$ , where the equality holds if and only if  $\mathbb{E}[Y] - c = 0$ . Hence  $\hat{c} = \mathbb{E}[Y]$ .
- (c)  $\min_{c \in \mathbb{R}} \mathbb{E}[(Y - c)^2] = \text{Var}(Y) = \mathbb{E}[Y^2] - \mathbb{E}[Y]^2 \leq \mathbb{E}[Y^2]$ . The equality holds if and only if  $\mathbb{E}[Y] = 0 \iff \langle Y, C \rangle = 0$  for any  $C$  in the subspace consisting of constant variables. In other words, the projection of  $Y$  on the subspace is zero, and thus  $Y$  is orthogonal to the subspace. ■

3. Suppose  $X$  and  $Y$  are both random variables defined in the same sample space  $\Omega$  and all the expectations exist in this problem. Consider the problem

$$\min_{f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}} \mathbb{E}[(f(X) - Y)^2].$$

- (a) Please solve the above problem by completing the square.
- (b) We let  $\mathcal{C}(X)$  denote the subspace  $\{f(X) \mid f(\cdot) : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{E}[f(X)^2] < \infty\}$  of  $L^2(\Omega)$ . Please show that the solution of the above problem is the projection of  $Y$  on  $\mathcal{C}(X)$ .
- (c) Please show that question 2 is a special case of question 3.

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a)} \quad \mathbb{E}[(f(X) - Y)^2] &= \mathbb{E}[(f(X) - \mathbb{E}[Y|X] + \mathbb{E}[Y|X] - Y)^2] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[(f(X) - \mathbb{E}[Y|X])^2] + \mathbb{E}[(\mathbb{E}[Y|X] - Y)^2] \\ &\quad + 2\mathbb{E}[(f(X) - \mathbb{E}[Y|X])(\mathbb{E}[Y|X] - Y)]. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[(f(X) - \mathbb{E}[Y|X])(\mathbb{E}[Y|X] - Y)] &= \mathbb{E}\{(f(X) - \mathbb{E}[Y|X])\mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[Y|X] - Y|X]\} \\ &= \mathbb{E}\{(f(X) - \mathbb{E}[Y|X])(\mathbb{E}[Y|X] - \mathbb{E}[Y|X])\} \\ &= \mathbb{E}\{(f(X) - \mathbb{E}[Y|X]) \cdot 0\} = 0. \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \mathbb{E}[(f(X) - Y)^2] = \mathbb{E}[(f(X) - \mathbb{E}[Y|X])^2] + \mathbb{E}[(\mathbb{E}[Y|X] - Y)^2] \geq \mathbb{E}[(\mathbb{E}[Y|X] - Y)^2].$$

The equality holds if and only if  $f(X) = \mathbb{E}[Y|X]$ . Hence  $\min_{f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}} \mathbb{E}[(f(X) - Y)^2] = \mathbb{E}[(\mathbb{E}[Y|X] - Y)^2] = \text{Var}(Y|X)$ .

- (b) For any  $f(X) \in \mathcal{C}(X)$ ,  $\langle Y - \mathbb{E}[Y|X], f(X) \rangle = \mathbb{E}[f(X)(Y - \mathbb{E}[Y|X])] = \mathbb{E}\{f(X)\mathbb{E}[Y - \mathbb{E}[Y|X]|X]\} = \mathbb{E}\{f(X) \cdot 0\} = 0$ . Hence the projection of  $Y$  on  $\mathcal{C}(X)$  is  $\mathbb{E}[Y|X]$ .
- (c) If  $X, Y$  are independent, then  $\mathbb{E}[Y|X] = \mathbb{E}[Y]$  and  $\min_{f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}} \mathbb{E}[(f(X) - Y)^2] = \min_{c \in \mathbb{R}} \mathbb{E}[(Y - c)^2] = \text{Var}(Y)$ . More specifically, if  $X$  is a constant variable, then  $\mathcal{C}(X)$  consists of all constant variables, and hence question 3 becomes question 2. ■

## References

- [1] T. Tao. *Analysis II*. Springer, 2015.