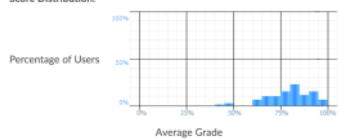


Lecture 23: Positive semidefinite matrices

(class)

Admin:

Score Distribution:



Class Average: 79.75 % (Std Dev = 11.49 %)

T/F If \vec{v} is an e-vector of A^* , then \vec{v} is an e-vector of A .

$$\text{e.g. } A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, A^* = I$$

$$A^* \vec{e}_1 = \vec{e}_1, A \vec{e}_1 = \vec{e}_2$$

A, B e-values the same

$$AB \rightsquigarrow BA$$

singular values

no relationship

$$AB = B^*(BA)B$$

if B invertible

$$AB = A(BA)A^{-1}$$

if A invertible

$$\text{if } BA\vec{v} = \lambda\vec{v},$$

$$\text{then } AB(A\vec{v}) = A(\lambda\vec{v})$$

$$\overline{AB(A\vec{v})} = \lambda(\overline{A\vec{v}})$$

e-vector for BA

$\Rightarrow A\vec{v}$ e-vector for AB

unless $A\vec{v} = \vec{0}$ ($\lambda = 0$)

POSITIVE SEMI-DEFINITE MATRICES

Reading: Meyer §7.6, Strang ch. 6

Definition: A Hermitian (or real-symmetric) matrix A with all eigenvalues ≥ 0 is called

positive semi-definite

denoted $A \succeq 0$.

If all e-values $> 0 \Rightarrow$ "positive definite"

$A \succ 0$

Key property:

Theorem: A Hermitian matrix A is positive semidefinite $\Leftrightarrow x^* A x \geq 0$ for all vectors x .

Proof:

\Rightarrow : Assume A Hermitian ($A = A^*$)

$$A = \sum_j \lambda_j \vec{v}_j \vec{v}_j^* \quad \text{with } \{\vec{v}_j\} \text{ orthonormal} \quad \lambda_j \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$A \succeq 0 \Rightarrow \lambda_j \geq 0 \quad (\text{definition})$$

$$x^* A x = \sum_j \lambda_j |\vec{v}_j \cdot \vec{x}|^2 \geq 0 \quad \checkmark$$

\Leftarrow : If Hermitian A is not p.s.d., then some $\lambda_i < 0$

Let \vec{x} be the corr. e-vector $\vec{x} = \vec{v}_i$:

$$\vec{v}_i^* A \vec{v}_i = \lambda_i \cdot 1 = \lambda_i < 0. \quad \checkmark$$

Example 1: For any real matrix A , $A^* A \succeq 0$.

Proof: for any x ,

$$x^* A^* A x = \|Ax\|^2 \geq 0 \Rightarrow A^* A \succeq 0.$$

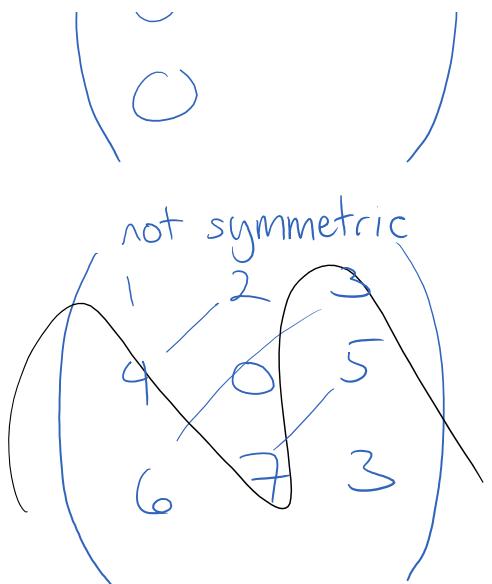
Proof 2: e-values of $A^* A$ are the squared singular values of A .

Examples:

a)

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \not\succeq 0$$



$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & -3 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \neq 0$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 4 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 0 & 5 \\ 3 & 5 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \neq 0$$

$e_1^T A e_1 = -1 < 0$
 \Rightarrow some e-value of A
 must be < 0

$$\frac{1}{2}(x-y) \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 4 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(x-1) \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ b & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = (x-1) \begin{pmatrix} ax+b \\ bx \end{pmatrix} = ax^2 + 2bx \cdot x = x(ax+2b)$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ b & c \end{pmatrix} \quad A \neq 0 \Leftrightarrow \begin{array}{l} a, c > 0 \\ \text{and} \\ ac - b^2 > 0 \end{array}$$

e.g. if $x = -\varepsilon$, then
 $(-\varepsilon-1) A \begin{pmatrix} -\varepsilon \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} < 0$
 $\Rightarrow A \neq 0$

$\nabla b \neq 0$
 $A \neq 0$

Notice:

$$(x-y) \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ b & c \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = (x-y) \begin{pmatrix} ax+by \\ bx+cy \end{pmatrix} = ax^2 + bxy = ax^2 + 2bx \cdot y + bxy + cy^2 + cy^2$$

b) $B = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 5 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \neq 0$

why?

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 0 & 5 \\ 3 & 5 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \neq 0$$

why?

we know $\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 4 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \not\succeq 0$

$$(-1) \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 4 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 3 - 8 = -5 < 0$$

$$(-1) \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 5 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = -5 < 0$$

Corollary: If $A \succeq 0$, then every submatrix along the diagonal must also be $\succeq 0$.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 5 & -1 \\ -1 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 100 & 0 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 100 & 4 & 0 \\ -3 & 4 & 100 & 0 \\ 4 & 0 & 0 & 100 \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0$$

Proof in a second...

c) $C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0$ e-vector e-value

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad 3$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad 2$$

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}(1 \ 1 \ 1) + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}(0 \ 1 \ -1)$$

Recall:
For any real matrix A , $A^T A \succeq 0$.

$$\succeq 0$$

$$\succeq 0$$

Claim: If $A \succeq 0$ and $B \succeq 0$, then $A+B \succeq 0$.

Proof: For any x ,

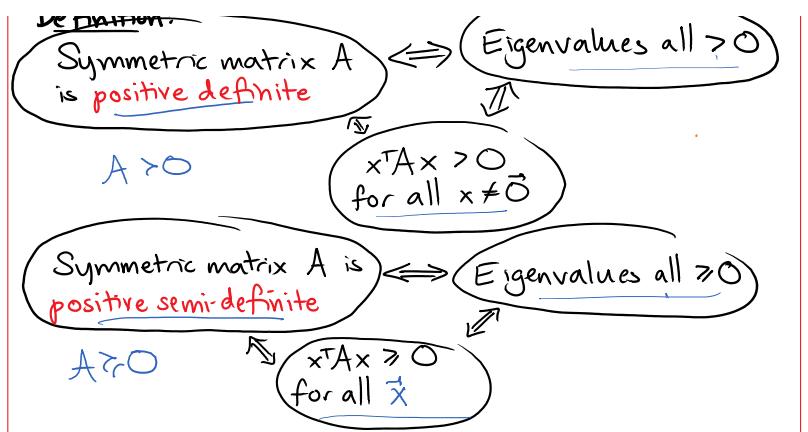
$$x^T(A+B)x = x^T A x + x^T B x \geq 0 \quad \square$$

SUMMARY:

Definition:

Symmetric matrix A is positive definite

Eigenvalues all > 0



hard

Ways to show that $A \geq 0$

- compute all eigenvalues, check ≥ 0 (lame)
 - write $A = B + C$ with $B \geq 0$, $C \geq 0$ (or $B + C + D$, etc)
 - show that $x^T A x \geq 0$ for all x
- Maybe also consider $\text{rank}(A), \dots$

Ways to show $A \not\geq 0$

- find an eigenvalue < 0
- find $x \neq \vec{0}$ so $x^T A x < 0$
- show that a submatrix of A is not ≥ 0 along diagonal

Exercise: Which of these matrices is p.s.d.?

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 4 & 5 & 0 & 1 \\ 4 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 5 & 1 & 10 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$A^T \neq A$ so can't be p.s.d.

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$e_3^T B e_3 = -1 < 0 \Rightarrow B \not\geq 0$$

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 2 & 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 6 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 5 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & 0 & 6 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 5 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \not\geq 0 \quad (\det = -1 < 0)$$

$$\Rightarrow C \not\geq 0 \quad (x \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1) C \begin{pmatrix} x \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 5x^2 + 2x + 0 \cdot 1^2 = x(5x+2) < 0 \text{ if } x = -\frac{1}{100}$$

$$D = \begin{pmatrix} 8 & -2 & 3 & 1/2 & 0 \\ -2 & 6 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 3 & 1 & 10 & 2 & 1 \\ 1/2 & 1 & 2 & 5 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 7 \end{pmatrix} > 0$$

$$E = \begin{pmatrix} 100 & 0 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 100 & 4 & 0 \\ 3 & 4 & 100 & 0 \\ 4 & 0 & 0 & 100 \end{pmatrix} = 100I + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 3 & 4 \\ 3 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\hookrightarrow \text{norm} \leq 7$
 $\Rightarrow \text{eigenvalues} \leq 7$

$E \geq 0$

$0 < 93 \leq \text{eigenvalues of } E \leq 107$

Also D is diagonally dominant: $\forall i, |D_{ii}| > \sum |D_{ii}|$.

Also D is diagonally dominant: $\forall i, D_{ii} > \sum_{j \neq i} |D_{ij}|$.

Claim: Any symmetric, diagonally dominant matrix is ≥ 0 .

Proof:

Assume for contradiction $D\vec{v} = \lambda \vec{v}$ with $\lambda < 0, \vec{v} \neq \vec{0}$.

Let $i = \operatorname{argmax} |v_j|$.

We may assume that $v_i > 0$. (If $v_i < 0$, multiply by -1)

$$\begin{aligned} 0 > (D\vec{v})_i &= \sum_j D_{ij} v_j = D_{ii} v_i + \sum_{j \neq i} D_{ij} v_j \\ (\lambda \vec{v})_i &= \lambda v_i \quad \Rightarrow D_{ii} v_i - \sum_{j \neq i} |D_{ij} v_j| \\ &\geq \left(D_{ii} - \sum_{j \neq i} |D_{ij}| \right) v_i \quad |v_j| \leq v_i \\ &> 0 \quad \text{contradiction. } \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

WHY CARE? one reason: optimization

Recall: A function $T: V \rightarrow W$ is linear if

- $T(x+y) = T(x) + T(y)$ for all $x, y \in V$,
- $T(\alpha x) = \alpha T(x)$ for all scalars α .

Linear functions $\xleftrightarrow[w/\text{fixed bases}]{\text{Matrices}}$

Not all functions are linear... but calculus lets us give affine approximations to differentiable functions.

Calculus \rightarrow linearity

$$f(x) - f(x_0) \approx f'(x_0) \cdot (x - x_0)$$

for $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ differentiable

Or for $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ differentiable,

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{f}(\vec{y}) - \vec{f}(\vec{y}_0) &= \frac{\partial \vec{f}}{\partial x_1}(\vec{y}_0) \cdot (\vec{y} - \vec{y}_0)_1 + \dots + \frac{\partial \vec{f}}{\partial x_n}(\vec{y}_0) \cdot (\vec{y} - \vec{y}_0)_n \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial \vec{f}}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial \vec{f}}{\partial x_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial \vec{f}}{\partial x_n} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \vec{y} - \vec{y}_0 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\partial \vec{f}}{\partial x_j} \cdot \vec{e}_j^\top \end{aligned}$$

But often, an affine approximation isn't enough!

Eg., studying local optima requires a quadratic approx¹:

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= f(x_0) + f'(x_0) \cdot (x - x_0) + \frac{1}{2} f''(x_0) \cdot (x - x_0)^2 \\ &\quad + O((x - x_0)^3) \end{aligned}$$

Single-variable functions

local minimum $\Leftrightarrow f'(x_0) = 0, f''(x_0) > 0$
 local maximum $\Leftrightarrow f'(x_0) = 0, f''(x_0) < 0$
 (if $f''(x_0) \neq 0$)

Multi-variable functions $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$f(y) = f(y_0) + \sum_j \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_j}(y_0) \cdot (y - y_0)_j + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j,k} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_j \partial x_k}(y_0) \cdot (y - y_0)_j \cdot (y - y_0)_k$$

$\left. \begin{array}{c} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_n} \end{array} \right\} (y - y_0)$
 $\left. \begin{array}{c} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1^2} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_n^2} \end{array} \right\} (y - y_0)$
 "Hessian matrix" for f

For $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, y_0 is a local minimum if

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_j}(y_0) = 0 \quad \forall j = 1, \dots, n$$

and $\underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{j,k} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_j \partial x_k}(y_0) \cdot (y - y_0)_j \cdot (y - y_0)_k}_{> 0}$

This is a **quadratic form** in the variables
 $(y - y_0)_1, \dots, (y - y_0)_n$

$$x^2 - 2xz + 2y^2 - 4yz + z^2 = (x \ y \ z) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & -2 \\ -1 & -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}$$

Definition: A **quadratic form** is a degree-two homogeneous polynomial.

Hessian $\frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2$$

Corollary: Symmetric matrices let us study homogeneous quadratic functions.

Observe: Quadratic forms

↓
Symmetric matrices

$$x^2 + 2xy + y^2 = (x \ y) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$$

It also equals $(x \ y) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$ and $(x \ y) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1/2 \\ 1/2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$,
 but the symmetric form is nicer.

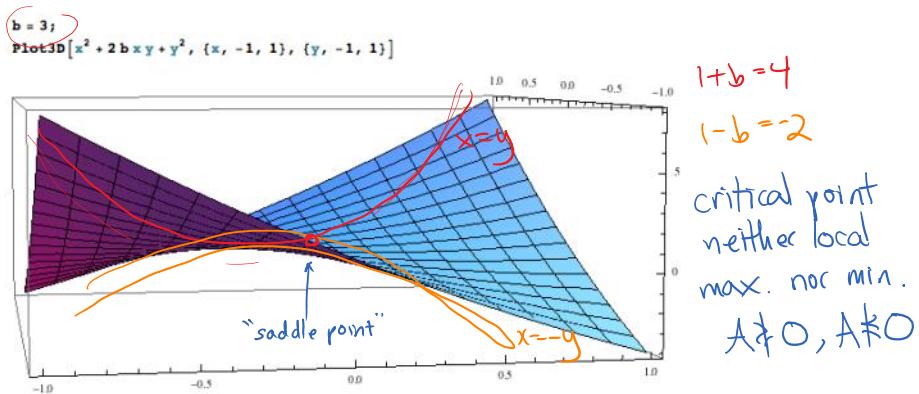
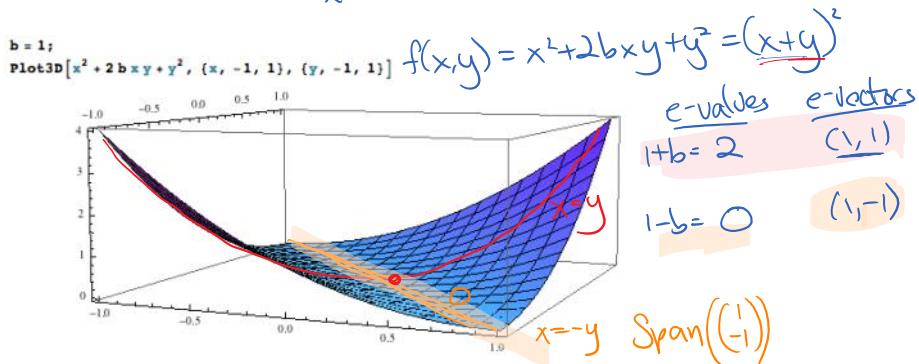
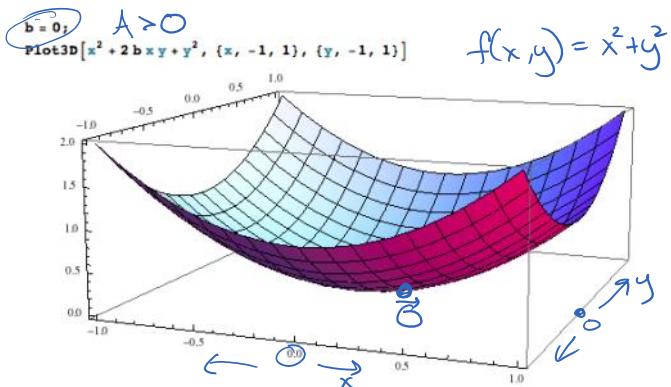
Example

$$\begin{aligned} f(x, y) &= x^2 + (2b)xy + y^2 \\ &= (x \ y) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & b \\ b & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \quad f(0, 0) = 0 \\ &\quad \overbrace{A = I + b \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}}^{\text{e-values}} \quad \overbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}}^{\text{e-vectors}} \\ &\quad 1+b \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &\quad 1-b \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$\Delta > 0$ if $-1 < b < 1 \Rightarrow \vec{0}$ is a global minimum

$A \geq 0$ if $-1 \leq b \leq 1$

$A \not\geq 0$ otherwise



$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & b \\ b & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{Eigenvalues} \\ 1+b \\ 1-b \end{matrix} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{Eigenvectors} \\ (1, 1) \\ (1, -1) \end{matrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & b \\ b & 0 \end{pmatrix} + I$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & b \\ b & 1 \end{pmatrix} = (1+b) \cdot \frac{1}{2} (1)(1) + (1-b) \cdot \frac{1}{2} (-1)(-1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow f(x,y) &= (x,y) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & b \\ b & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = x^2 + y^2 + 2bxy \\ &= (1+b) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}(1,1) \cdot (x,y) \right)^2 \\ &\quad + (1-b) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}(1,-1) \cdot (x,y) \right)^2 \\ &= \frac{1+b}{2} (x+y)^2 + \frac{1-b}{2} (x-y)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Observe: Any quadratic form can be expressed as a sum of squares like this, and it is ≥ 0 iff all coefficients are ≥ 0 .

By writing $A = \lambda_1 v_1 v_1^T + \dots + \lambda_n v_n v_n^T$,

$$x^T A x = \sum_j \lambda_j (v_j \cdot x)^2 \quad \checkmark$$

Claim: $A \succcurlyeq 0 \iff A = M^T M$ for some matrix M .

Proof:

$$\text{If } A = M^T M, x^T A x = \|Mx\|^2 \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow A \succcurlyeq 0. \quad \checkmark$$

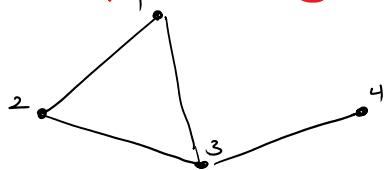
$$\text{If } A \succcurlyeq 0, A = \sum_j \lambda_j v_j v_j^T.$$

$$\text{Let } M = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{\lambda_1} v_1^T \\ \sqrt{\lambda_2} v_2^T \\ \vdots \\ \sqrt{\lambda_n} v_n^T \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow M^T M = A \quad \checkmark$$

(Remark: This also proves that $A \succcurlyeq 0$ if and only if A is the Gram matrix for a set of n vectors.)

Example:

The Laplacian of a graph



$$L = \begin{pmatrix} \text{degrees} & \text{-edges} \\ \text{diagonals} & \text{-edges} \\ \text{-edges} & \text{diagonals} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{matrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 2 & -1 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 & 0 \\ 3 & -1 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 \end{matrix}$$

$L = E E^T$ for the incidence matrix E

$$E = \sum_{\substack{\text{edges} \\ (u,v)}} (e_u - e_v) e_{(u,v)}^T$$

$$\Rightarrow L \succcurlyeq 0$$

$$x^T L x = \sum_{\substack{\text{edges} \\ (u,v)}} (x_u - x_v)^2$$

Question: Is L positive definite? (not just $\succcurlyeq 0$)

Answer: No! $L \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 0$.

Observe: For $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, a "critical point" (where all derivatives $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} = 0$) is a local minimum if

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1^2} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} & \dots \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_2 \partial x_1} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_2^2} & \dots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots \end{pmatrix} \text{ is positive definite.}$$

Geometrically:

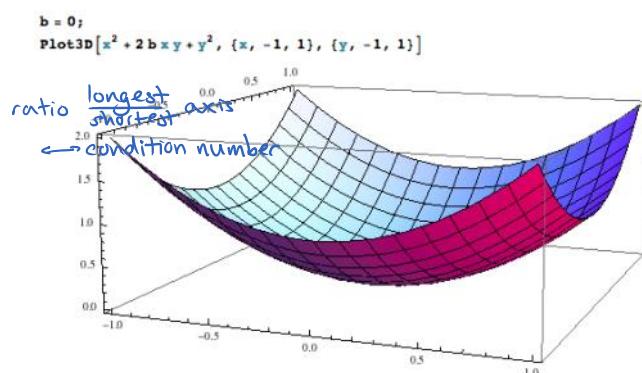
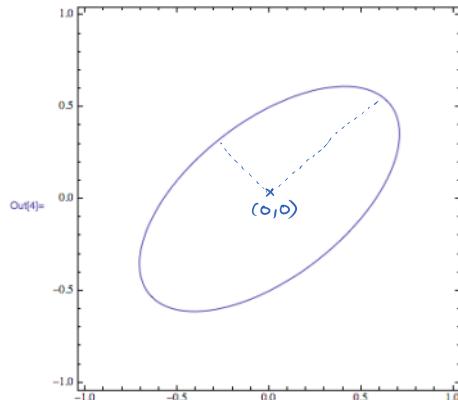
Quadratic forms
assoc. to
positive definite matrices

Ellipses
and
ellipsoids

```

In[1]:= A = {{3, -2}, {-2, 4}};
Eigenvalues[A // N]
EigenSystem[A] // N // Transpose // MatrixForm
ContourPlot[{x, y}.A.{x, y} == 1, {x, -1, 1}, {y, -1, 1}]
Out[2]= {5.56155, 1.43845}
Out[3]= {{5.56155, {-0.780776, 1.}}, {1.43845, {1.28078, 1.}}}

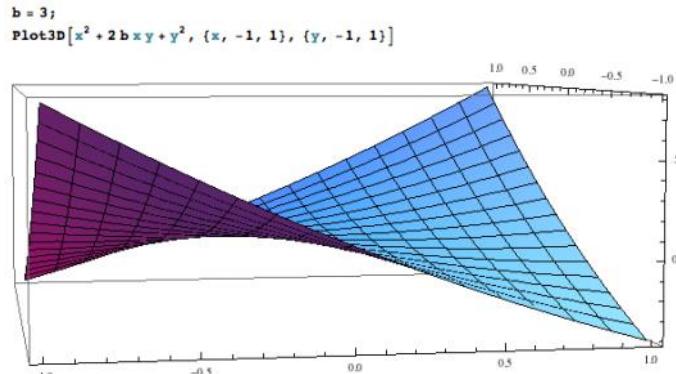
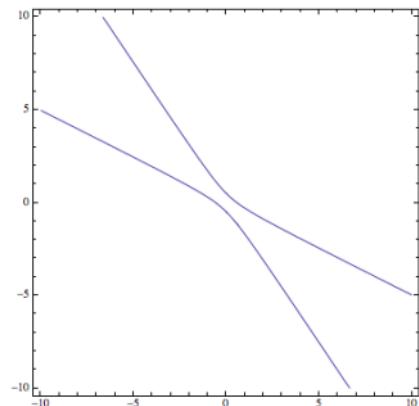
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A = {{3, 4}, {4, 4}};
Eigenvalues[A // N]
ContourPlot[{x, y}.A.{x, y} == 1, {x, -10, 10}, {y, -10, 10}]
{7.53113, -0.531129}

```



Ellipsoids also correspond to inner products/norms where some directions are weighted differently than others.

Example: GRADIENT DESCENT

Goal: Solve $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$.

Recall: If A is $n \times n$, Gaussian elimination solves for \vec{x} using $O(n^3)$ basic operations.

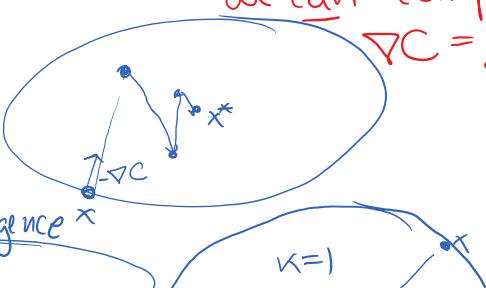
Can we approximately solve for \vec{x} faster? if $A \succ 0$ use $C(x) = (\vec{x} - \vec{x}^*)^T A (\vec{x} - \vec{x}^*)$

Define the cost function

$$\begin{aligned} C(\vec{x}) &= \|A\vec{x} - \vec{b}\|^2 \\ &= \|A(\vec{x} - \vec{x}^*)\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$= (\vec{x} - \vec{x}^*)^T \underbrace{A^T A}_{\text{p.s.d. matrix}} (\vec{x} - \vec{x}^*)$$

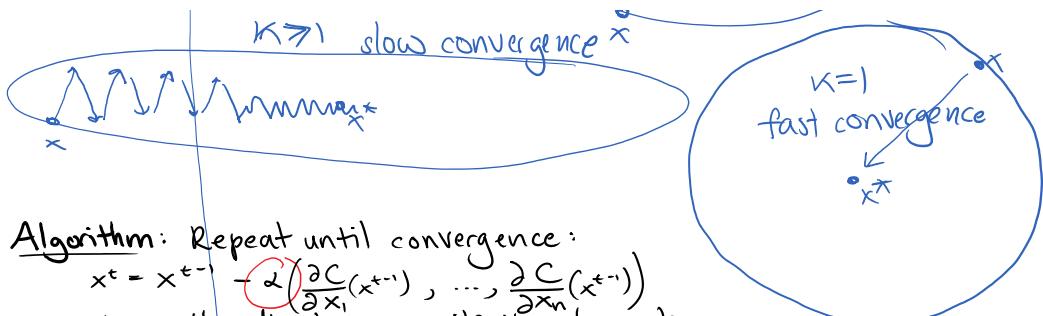
$K \geq 1$ slow convergence \vec{x}



$$\nabla C = 2(A\vec{x} - \vec{b})$$

↑ we can't compute it!
we can compute

$\lambda \vec{v}_1 \vec{v}_1^T \dots \vec{v}_n \vec{v}_n^T$



Algorithm: Repeat until convergence:

$x^t = x^{t-1} - \alpha \left(\frac{\partial C}{\partial x_1}(x^{t-1}), \dots, \frac{\partial C}{\partial x_n}(x^{t-1}) \right)$
i.e., step in the direction opposite the largest increase in C .

$$\nabla C = \left(\frac{\partial C}{\partial x_1}, \dots, \frac{\partial C}{\partial x_n} \right)$$

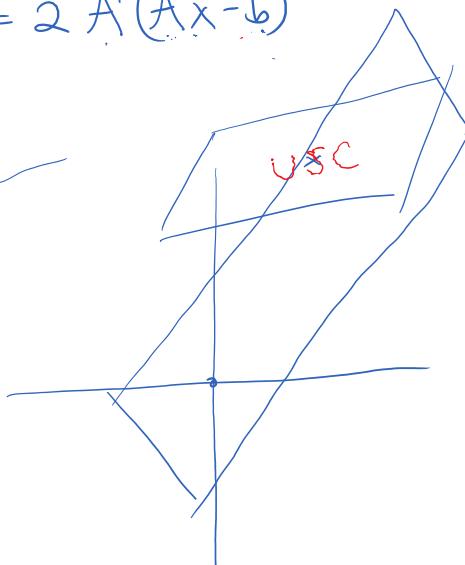
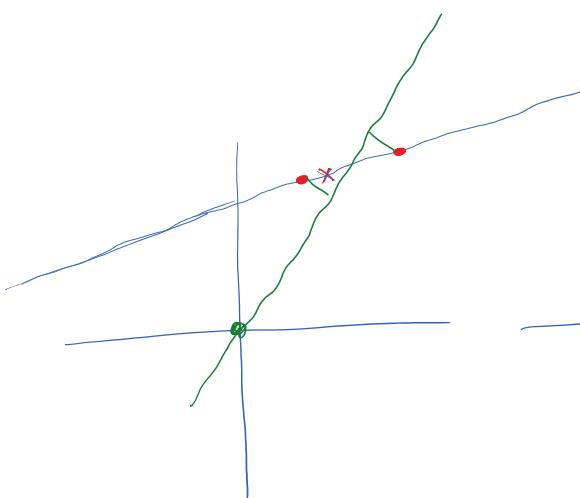
$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial x_j} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left(\sum_{i,k} (x_i - x_k^*) (\bar{A}^T A)_{ik} (x_i - x_k^*) \right) \\ = 2 (\bar{A}^T A)_{jj} (x_j - x_j^*)$$

$$+ \sum_{k \neq j} (\bar{A}^T A)_{jk} (x_k - x_k^*) + \sum_{i \neq j} (x_i - x_i^*) (\bar{A}^T A)_{ij}$$

$$= 2 \left[(\bar{A}^T A) (x - x^*) \right]_j$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla C = 2 \bar{A}^T A (x - x^*) = 2 \bar{A}^T (Ax - b)$$

Next time:
Convergence speed
as a function of
 $\kappa(A)$ or $\kappa(\bar{A}^T A)$
 $= \kappa(A)^2$.



Example:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1.5 \\ -1.5 & 4 \end{pmatrix}; \\ b = A \cdot \{3, 3\}; \\ \text{Eigenvalues}[A]$$

$$= \text{Midterm} + (1 - \text{Midterm}) * (\text{Midterm 2})$$

```

 $\alpha = .01;$ 
 $x = \{0, -4\};$ 
 $list = \{x\};$ 
 $\text{For}[k = 1, k \leq 1000, k++,$ 
 $\quad x = x - 2 \alpha (A \cdot x - b) \cdot A;$ 
 $\quad \text{AppendTo}[list, x];$ 
 $\text{];}$ 
 $\text{"The solution is:"}$ 
 $x$ 
 $\{4.80278, 1.19722\}$ 

```

The solution is:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1.5 \\ -1.5 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \\
 & b = A \cdot (3, 3) \\
 & \text{Eigenvalues}[A]
 \end{aligned}
 \quad = \text{Midterm} + (1 - \text{Midterm}) * (\text{Midterm 2})$$

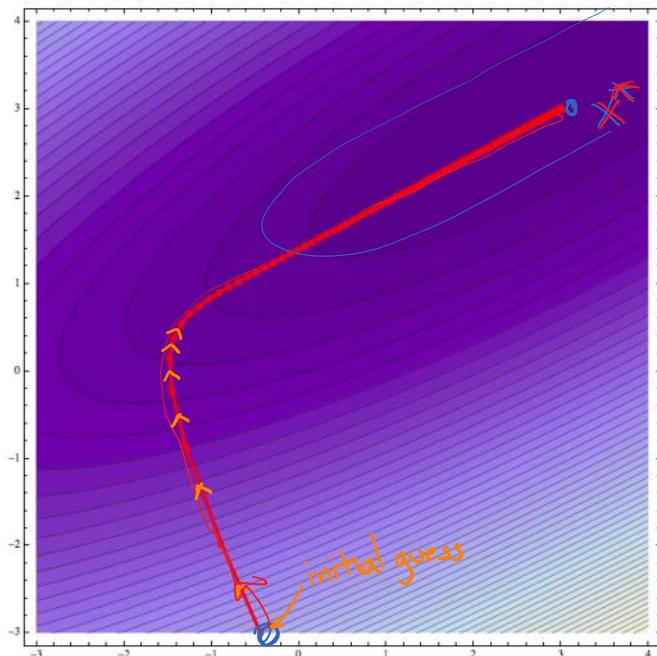
```

 $\alpha = .01;$ 
 $x = \{0, -4\};$ 
 $list = \{x\};$ 
 $\text{For}[k = 1, k \leq 1000, k++,$ 
 $\quad x = x - 2 \alpha (A.x - b).A;$ 
 $\quad \text{AppendTo}[list, x];$ 
 $]$ ;
 $"The solution is:"$ 
 $x$ 
 $\{4.80278, 1.19722\}$ 

The solution is:
 $(3., 3.)$ 

"Display the results:";
iter = ListPlot[list, PlotRange -> 3 {{-1, 1}, {-1, 1}}, Joined -> True,
PlotStyle -> Red, Thickness[.005], PlotMarkers -> Automatic];
contour = ContourPlot[Norm[A.(x, y) - b]^2, {x, -3, 4}, {y, -3, 4}, Contours -> 50];
Show[contour, iter]

```



For small enough α , this has to converge, since there is a unique local and global minimum.

Observe: Smaller condition number
 \Rightarrow Rounder ellipse \Rightarrow Faster convergence

Remark: Although not generally the fastest way of solving a set of linear equations, the gradient descent approach is very robust, and many variants are used in many applications.

Convergence analysis:

Let x^* solve $Ax^* = b$.

$$x_t = x_{t-1} - 2\alpha A^T(Ax_{t-1} - b)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Rightarrow x_t - x^* &= (x_{t-1} - x^*) - 2\alpha A^T A(x_{t-1} - x^*) \\
 &= (I - 2\alpha A^T A)(x_{t-1} - x^*)
 \end{aligned}$$

\Rightarrow error magnitude

$$\|\vec{x}_t - \vec{x}^*\| \leq \|I - 2\alpha A^T A\| \cdot \|\vec{x}_{t-1} - \vec{x}^*\|$$

If the e-values of $A^T A$ are

$$\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n > 0$$

\leftarrow these are (singular values of A)²

$I - 2\alpha A^T A$ has e-values

$$1 - 2\alpha \lambda_1 \leq \dots \leq 1 - 2\alpha \lambda_n$$

$$\Rightarrow \|I - 2\alpha A^T A\| = \max_i |1 - 2\alpha \lambda_i| \\ \max \{ |1 - 2\alpha \lambda_1|, |1 - 2\alpha \lambda_n| \}$$

The best choice of α will make these equal in magnitude, centered on 0:

$$\Rightarrow -(1 - 2\alpha \lambda_1) = + (1 - 2\alpha \lambda_n)$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha = \frac{1}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_n}$$

With this choice for α ,

$$\begin{aligned} \|I - 2\alpha A^T A\| &= 1 - \frac{2\lambda_n}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_n} \leq 1 - \frac{\lambda_n}{\lambda_1} \\ &= 1 - \frac{1}{\text{condition \# of } A^T A} \\ &= 1 - \frac{1}{(\text{condition \# of } A)^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \|x^t - x^*\| \leq \left(1 - \frac{1}{\kappa}\right)^t \cdot \|x^0 - x^*\|$$

$$\Rightarrow t = \kappa^2 \left(\log \frac{1}{\epsilon} + \log \frac{1}{\|x^0 - x^*\|} \right) \quad \text{since } \left(1 - \frac{1}{\kappa}\right)^{\kappa^2} \leq e^{-1}$$

ensures $\|x^t - x^*\| \leq \epsilon$.

Remark: The conjugate gradient algorithm has $O(\sqrt{\kappa})$

dependence instead of $O(\kappa^2)$ dependence, and

$$x^t = x^{t-1} - \alpha \underbrace{(Ax^{t-1} - b)}_{\text{error}}$$

has $O(\kappa)$ dependence if $A \geq 0$.

One more motivation for positive semi-definite matrices:

Semi-definite programming

This was touched on in the homework...

SDPs $\max \text{Trace}(A^T B)$ are everywhere!

st. $A \geq 0$

They can be solved efficiently and have a notion of duality roughly because the set of p.s.d. matrices is convex.