

1.

Let A be an $n \times n$ real matrix. Prove that if A is symmetric, i.e. $A = A^T$, then all eigenvalues of A are real.

Proof. Assume, for a contradiction that A is a real, symmetric $n \times n$ matrix and that λ is a complex eigenvalue of A .

By definition we must have that

$$Av = \lambda v \quad (1)$$

for eigenvector v of A . Premultiplying both sides by $\overline{v^T}$:

$$\overline{v^T} Av = \overline{v^T} \lambda v = \lambda \overline{v^T} v$$

Now, taking the conjugate yields:

$$\overline{\overline{v^T} Av} = \overline{v^T \overline{A} \overline{v}} = \overline{\lambda} \overline{v^T} \overline{v} = \overline{\lambda \overline{v^T} v}$$

Taking the transpose:

$$(v^T \overline{A} \overline{v})^T = \overline{v^T} A^T v = \overline{\lambda} \overline{v^T} v = (\overline{\lambda} \overline{v^T} v)^T$$

Now as A is real, symmetric, and through (1):

$$\overline{\lambda} \overline{v^T} v = \overline{v^T} A^T v = \overline{v^T} Av = \lambda \overline{v^T} v \Rightarrow \overline{\lambda} = \lambda$$

which is a contradiction unless λ is real. Conclusively, all eigenvalues of real, symmetric matrices are themselves real. ■

2.

Through transformation with orthogonal matrix O , the problem $\hat{b} = \arg \min \|y - Xb\|^2$ is equivalent to $\hat{b} = \arg \min \|y^* - X^*b\|^2$ where y and y^* are in \mathbf{R}^m , X and X^* are in $\mathbf{R}^{m \times n}$ ($m \geq n$), and $y^* = Oy$ and $X^* = OX$. Let $y^* = [y_1^*, y_2^*, \dots, y_m^*]^T$. If X^* is upper-triangular, prove that the residual sum of square is

$$\|y - X\hat{b}\|^2 = \sum_{i=n+1}^m |y_i^*|^2$$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} \|y - X\hat{b}\|^2 &= \|I_m y - I_m X \hat{b}\|^2 \\ &= \|O^T O y - O^T O X \hat{b}\|^2 \\ &= \|O^T (y^* - X^* \hat{b})\|^2 \\ &= O^T \left(\begin{bmatrix} y_1^* \\ y_2^* \\ \vdots \\ y_{n-1}^* \\ y_n^* \\ y_{n+1}^* \\ \vdots \\ y_m^* \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} x_{1,1}^* & x_{1,2}^* & \dots & x_{1,n}^* \\ 0 & x_{2,2}^* & \dots & x_{2,n}^* \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & x_{n,n}^* \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \hat{b}_1 \\ \hat{b}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \hat{b}_{n-1} \\ \hat{b}_n \end{bmatrix} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Now, through backwards substitution we know that $\hat{b}_n = y_n^*/x_{n,n}^*$ so that

$$y_n^* - x_{n,n}^* \hat{b}_n = y_n^* - y_n^* = 0$$

Similarly, now since $\hat{b}_{n-1} = (y_{n-1}^* - x_{n-1,n}^* \hat{b}_n) / x_{n-1,n-1}^*$ we have

$$y_{n-1}^* - x_{n-1,n-1}^* \hat{b}_{n-1} - x_{n-1,n}^* \hat{b}_n = y_{n-1}^* - y_{n-1}^* + x_{n-1,n}^* \hat{b}_n - x_{n-1,n}^* \hat{b}_n = 0$$

and following the general formula, $\hat{b}_j = (y_j^* - \sum_{i=j+1}^n x_{j,i}^* \hat{b}_i) / x_{j,j}^*$, $j = n-1, n-2, \dots, 1$, we arrive at values of 0 for all \tilde{y}_k^* , $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ where $\tilde{y} = y^* - X^* \hat{b}$ and the k subscript denotes the k^{th} entry of \tilde{y} . Thus: $\tilde{y} = [0, 0, \dots, y_{n+1}^*, y_{n+2}^*, \dots, y_m^*]^T$. Now, observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \|O^T \tilde{y}\|^2 &= (O^T \tilde{y})^T (O^T \tilde{y}) \\ &= \tilde{y}^T O O^T \tilde{y} \\ &= \tilde{y}^T I_m \tilde{y} \\ &= \tilde{y}^T \tilde{y} \\ &= 0 + 0 + \dots + (y_{n+1}^*)^2 + (y_{n+2}^*)^2 + \dots + (y_m^*)^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=n+1}^m |y_i^*|^2 \end{aligned}$$

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3.

Let O be an $n \times n$ orthogonal real matrix, i.e. $O^T O = I_n$ where I_n is an $n \times n$ identity matrix. Prove that

- i) Any entry in O is between -1 and 1.
- ii) If λ is an eigenvalue of O , then $|\lambda| = 1$.
- iii) $\det(O)$ is either 1 or -1.

i)

Proof. Let O be denoted as $O = [v_1 v_2 \dots v_n]$. Then

$$O^T O = \begin{bmatrix} v_1^T \\ v_2^T \\ \vdots \\ v_n^T \end{bmatrix} [v_1 \ v_2 \ \dots \ v_n] = \begin{bmatrix} v_1^T v_1 & v_1^T v_2 & \dots & v_1^T v_n \\ v_2^T v_1 & v_2^T v_2 & \dots & v_2^T v_n \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ v_n^T v_1 & v_n^T v_2 & \dots & v_n^T v_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix} = I_n$$

Thus, the rows and columns of O are orthonormal. This implies that $v_i^T v_i = \|v_i\|^2 = 1$, that is each row/column is of unit length. This is only possible if each element $u_i, j \in v_i, j = 1, \dots, n$, must be between 0 and 1.

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ii)

Proof. Let λ be an eigenvalue of O . By definition, we must have that $Ov = \lambda v$.

$$\begin{aligned} Ov &= \lambda v \\ (Ov)^T Ov &= (\lambda v)^T \lambda v \\ v^T O^T Ov &= (\lambda v)^T \lambda v \\ v^T v &= \lambda^2 v^T v \\ \lambda^2 &= 1 \\ \Rightarrow |\lambda| &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

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iii)

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} \det(O^T O) &= \det(O^T) \det(O) = 1 = \det(I_n) \\ &= \det(O) \det(O) = 1 \\ \Rightarrow \det(O) &= \pm 1 \end{aligned}$$

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4.

Let H be an $n \times n$ householder matrix given by

$$H = I_n - 2 \frac{vv^T}{v^T v}, \text{ for any non-zero } n \text{-length column vector } v (\neq 0).$$

Show that H is a symmetric, orthogonal, and reflection matrix. That is, H satisfies

- i) $H = H^T$
- ii) $HH^T = I_n$
- iii) $\det(H) = -1$

i) Symmetry

Proof. Let $a = v^T v$ and note that a is a scalar. Further, observe that

$$\begin{aligned}
 H &= I_n - 2 \frac{vv^T}{a} \\
 &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix} - 2 \begin{bmatrix} \frac{v_1^2}{a} & \frac{v_1 v_2}{a} & \dots & \frac{v_1 v_n}{a} \\ \frac{v_2 v_1}{a} & \frac{v_2^2}{a} & \dots & \frac{v_2 v_n}{a} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{v_n v_1}{a} & \frac{v_n v_2}{a} & \dots & \frac{v_n^2}{a} \end{bmatrix} \\
 H &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 - 2\frac{v_1^2}{a} & -2\frac{v_1 v_2}{a} & \dots & -2\frac{v_1 v_n}{a} \\ -2\frac{v_2 v_1}{a} & 1 - 2\frac{v_2^2}{a} & \dots & -2\frac{v_2 v_n}{a} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ -2\frac{v_n v_1}{a} & -2\frac{v_n v_2}{a} & \dots & 1 - 2\frac{v_n^2}{a} \end{bmatrix}
 \end{aligned}$$

Now as $v_i v_j = v_j v_i$ since v_i, v_j are scalars. Thus H is symmetric, since for any element, $h_{i,j}$ of H in the i^{th} row and j^{th} column will equal its transpose $h_{j,i}$. ■

ii) Orthogonality

Proof. Observe that as H is symmetric, $HH^T = H^T H = HH$. Thus,

$$HH = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - 2\frac{v_1^2}{a} & -2\frac{v_1 v_2}{a} & \dots & -2\frac{v_1 v_n}{a} \\ -2\frac{v_2 v_1}{a} & 1 - 2\frac{v_2^2}{a} & \dots & -2\frac{v_2 v_n}{a} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ -2\frac{v_n v_1}{a} & -2\frac{v_n v_2}{a} & \dots & 1 - 2\frac{v_n^2}{a} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 - 2\frac{v_1^2}{a} & -2\frac{v_1 v_2}{a} & \dots & -2\frac{v_1 v_n}{a} \\ -2\frac{v_2 v_1}{a} & 1 - 2\frac{v_2^2}{a} & \dots & -2\frac{v_2 v_n}{a} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ -2\frac{v_n v_1}{a} & -2\frac{v_n v_2}{a} & \dots & 1 - 2\frac{v_n^2}{a} \end{bmatrix}$$

The elements on the main diagonal of HH , $\tilde{h}_{i,i}$, are:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \tilde{h}_{i,i} &= (1 - 2\frac{v_i^2}{a})(1 - 2\frac{v_i^2}{a}) + \sum_{j \neq i}^n (-2\frac{v_i v_j}{a})(-2\frac{v_i v_j}{a}) \\
 &= 1 + 4(\frac{v_i^4}{a^2}) - 4\frac{v_i v_j}{a} + \sum_{j \neq i}^n 4\left(\frac{v_i v_j}{a}\right)^2 \\
 &= 1 + 4\frac{v_i^2}{a} \left(-1 + \sum_{j \neq i}^n \frac{v_j^2}{a}\right) \\
 &= 1 + 4\frac{v_i^2}{a} \left(-1 + \frac{v^T v}{a}\right) \\
 &= 1 + 4\frac{v_i^2}{a} \left(-1 + \frac{a}{a}\right) \\
 &= 1 + 4\frac{v_i^2}{a} (0) = 1
 \end{aligned}$$

For the elements on the off-diagonal, $\tilde{h}_{i,j}$, $i \neq j$, we focus only on the specific case of $\tilde{h}_{1,2}$ since all other off-diagonal elements follow similarly:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \tilde{h}_{1,2} &= (1 - \frac{v_1^2}{a})(-2\frac{v_1 v_2}{a}) + (-2\frac{v_1 v_2}{a})(1 - \frac{v_2^2}{a}) + \dots + (-2\frac{v_1 v_n}{a})(-2\frac{v_n v_2}{a}) \\
 &= -4\frac{v_1 v_2}{a} + 4\frac{v_1^3 v_2}{a^2} + 4\frac{v_1 v_2^3}{a^2} + \dots + 4\frac{v_1 v_n^2 v_2}{a^2} \\
 &= 4\frac{v_1 v_2}{a} \left(-1 + \frac{1}{a}(v_1^2 + v_2^2 + \dots + v_n^2) \right) \\
 &= 4\frac{v_1 v_2}{a} \left(-1 + \frac{1}{a}(v^T v) \right) \\
 &= 4\frac{v_1 v_2}{a} \left(-1 + \frac{1}{a}(a) \right) = 4\frac{v_1 v_2}{a} (-1 + 1) = 0
 \end{aligned}$$

Consequently, we have that

$$HH = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - 2\frac{v_1^2}{a} & -2\frac{v_1 v_2}{a} & \dots & -2\frac{v_1 v_n}{a} \\ -2\frac{v_2 v_1}{a} & 1 - 2\frac{v_2^2}{a} & \dots & -2\frac{v_2 v_n}{a} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ -2\frac{v_n v_1}{a} & -2\frac{v_n v_2}{a} & \dots & 1 - 2\frac{v_n^2}{a} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 - 2\frac{v_1^2}{a} & -2\frac{v_1 v_2}{a} & \dots & -2\frac{v_1 v_n}{a} \\ -2\frac{v_2 v_1}{a} & 1 - 2\frac{v_2^2}{a} & \dots & -2\frac{v_2 v_n}{a} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ -2\frac{v_n v_1}{a} & -2\frac{v_n v_2}{a} & \dots & 1 - 2\frac{v_n^2}{a} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Conclusively, H is orthogonal. ■

iii) $\det(\mathbf{H}) = -1$

Proof. Through our results in *i)* and *ii)* we have established symmetry and orthogonality. Now observe that:

$$\begin{aligned}
 H &= H^T \Rightarrow HH^T = I_n \Rightarrow HH = I_n \\
 &\Rightarrow \det(HH) = \det(H) \det(H) = \det(I_n) = 1 \\
 &\Rightarrow \lambda_H = \pm 1 \\
 &\Rightarrow H = v \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix} v^T
 \end{aligned}$$

Where λ_H represents some eigenvalue of H . Now, taking the trace of H , which is equal to the sum of its eigenvalues:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i &= \text{tr}(H) = \text{tr}(I_n - 2\frac{vv^T}{v^T v}) \\
 &= \text{tr}(I_n - 2) - 2\text{tr}(\frac{vv^T}{v^T v}) \\
 &= n - 2\text{tr}(\frac{vv^T}{v^T v}) \\
 &= n - 2\text{tr}(\frac{v^T v}{v^T v}) \\
 &= n - 2\text{tr}(1) \\
 \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i &= n - 2
 \end{aligned}$$

where the third-to-last line comes from the fact that $\text{tr}(AB) = \text{tr}(BA)$ for matrices A and B . This result implies that there can only be one “ -1 ” in the λ_i ’s. Consequently,

$$\det(H) = -1 = \prod_{i=1}^n \lambda_i$$

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