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Interesting Properties of Matrix Norms and Singular Values

Matrix norms and singular values have special relationships. Before I forget about them, I'll summarize them in this post.

Definitions

- Schatten p-Norm

The Schatten p-Norm is defined as the following.¹

$$\|X\|_{S_p} := \left(\sum_i^n s_i(X)^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$$

- Nuclear Norm

The nuclear norm of a matrix is defined as a special case of the Schatten p-norm where $p = 1$.

- Frobenius Norm

$$\|X\|_F = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n |a_{ij}|^2}$$

- Matrix p-Norm

Matrix p-norm is defined as

$$\|A\|_p = \sup_{x \neq 0} \frac{\|Ax\|_p}{\|x\|_p}$$

In another word, matrix p-Norm is defined as the largest scalar that you can get for a unit vector e .

- Spectral Norm

Largest singular value of a matrix $\sigma_1(X)$.

Special case of the matrix p-norm where $p = 2$ when the matrix X is positive semi-definite. For negative definite matrix, the matrix 2-norm is not necessarily the largest norm.

Lemmas

$$1. A \in \mathbb{S}^n \quad \text{tr}(A) = \sum_i^n \lambda_i = \|A\|_{S_1}$$

Trace of a symmetric matrix A is equal to the sum of eigen values. Let A be a symmetric matrix $A \in \mathbb{S}^n$. Then there exists a orthogonal matrix U and diagonal matrix Λ such that $A = U\Lambda U^T$.

$$\text{tr}(A) = \text{tr}(A^T) \quad (1)$$

$$= \sum_i^n e_i^T A^T e_i \quad (2)$$

$$= \sum_i^n e_i^T U^T \Lambda U e_i \quad (3)$$

$$= \sum_i^n \sum_j^n u_{ji}^T \lambda_j u_{ji} \quad (4)$$

$$= \sum_j^n \lambda_j \sum_i u_{ji}^2 \quad (5)$$

$$= \sum_j^n \lambda_j \quad (6)$$

Where $U = [u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots, u_n]$. We used the fact that $u_i^T u_i = 1$.

$$2. A \in \mathbf{S}_+^n \quad \text{tr}(A) = \sum_i^n |\sigma_i| = \|A\|_{S_1}$$

Trace of a positive semi-definite matrix A is equal to the L1 norm of singular values, or is equal to the Schatten 1-Norm (Nuclear Norm).

This is the direct extension of Lemma 1.

$$\text{tr}(A) = \sum_i^n \lambda_i \quad (7)$$

$$= \sum_i^n \sigma_i \quad (8)$$

$$= \sum_i^n \|\sigma_i\| \quad (9)$$

$$= \|A\|_{S_1} \quad (10)$$

Since the L1 norm of singular values enforce sparsity on the matrix rank, the result is used in many application such as low-rank matrix completion and matrix approximation.

$$3. \|X\|_F = \sqrt{\sum_i^n \sigma_i^2} = \|X\|_{S_2}$$

Frobenius norm of a matrix is equal to L2 norm of singular values, or is equal to the Schatten 2 norm.

$$\|X\|_F = \sqrt{\text{tr}(X^T X)} \quad (11)$$

$$= \sqrt{\text{tr}(V \Sigma U^T U \Sigma V^T)} \quad (12)$$

$$= \sqrt{\text{tr}(V \Sigma^2 V^T)} \quad (13)$$

$$= \sqrt{\sum_i \sigma_i^2} \quad (14)$$

$$= \|X\|_{S_2} \quad (15)$$

$$4. \|A\|_1 = \max_j \sum_i^n |a_{ij}|$$

L1 matrix norm of a matrix is equal to the maximum of L1 norm of a column of the matrix.

To begin with, the solution of L1 optimization usually occurs at the corner. If the function of interest is piece-wise linear, the extrema always occur at the corners. One can show this by showing that $\frac{\|Ax\|_1}{\|x\|_1}$ is Lipschitz except $x = 0$ and differentiate $\frac{\|Ax\|_1}{\|x\|_1}$ w.r.t. x_i . Then show that they are non-zero. Use the fact on line 1 and 2.

Finally, we can just compute the L1 norms of each column. Let's reformulate the problem.

$$\|A\|_1 = \sup_{x \neq 0} \frac{\|Ax\|_1}{\|x\|_1} \quad (16)$$

$$= \max_{\|x\|_1=1} \sum_j \sum_i^n |a_{ij}| |x_j| \quad (17)$$

$$= \max_j \sum_i |a_{ij}| \quad (18)$$

$$5. \|A\|_\infty = \max_i \sum_j^n |a_{ij}|$$

The supremum occurs at the corner of the hypercube since infinity norm of a vector is the absolute value of the largest element in it. Thus,

$$\|A\|_\infty = \max \frac{\|Ax\|_\infty}{\|x\|_\infty} \quad (19)$$

$$= \max_{\|x\|_\infty=1} \|Ax\|_\infty \quad (20)$$

$$= \max_i \|a_i^T\| \quad (21)$$

Where a_i^T is the i th row of the matrix A .

1. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Schatten_norm ↗

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