## Lecture 4: Linear Algebra II

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#### Normed vector spaces

Recall that the definition of a vector space allows us to perform the operations of "addition" and "scalar multiplication" on elements of the set. Note that the definition does not require a notion of "distance" or "length".

A normed vector space is a pair  $(V, ||\cdot||)$  where V is a vector space and  $||\cdot||: V \to \mathbb{R}$  is a function with the following properties

- 1.  $||\mathbf{0}|| = 0$  and  $||\mathbf{x}|| > 0$  if  $\mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}$
- 2.  $||\alpha \mathbf{x}|| = |\alpha| ||\mathbf{x}||$  for any scalar  $\alpha$
- 3.  $||\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}|| \le ||\mathbf{x}|| + ||\mathbf{y}|| \quad \forall \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in V$

**Exercise 4.1** Show that ||x - y|| is a metric.

#### Normed vector spaces

In Euclidean space, we'll most often use one of the  $\ell_p$  norms  $(p \ge 1)$ :

$$||\mathbf{x}||_p = \left(\sum_i |x_i|^p\right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$$

Usually one of the following particular cases:

- The standard Euclidean norm:  $||\mathbf{x}||_2 = \sqrt{x_1^2 + \dots + x_n^2}$
- The  $\ell_1$  norm:  $||\mathbf{x}||_1 = \sum |x_i|$
- The sup-norm, or  $\ell_{\infty}$  norm:  $||\mathbf{x}||_{\infty} = \max\{|x_1|, \dots, |x_n|\}$

#### Inner product spaces

Norms endow a space with a notion of length, which induces a notion of distance between vectors. We can add an extra layer of structure to gain a notion of "angle" between two vectors.

An inner product space is a pair  $(V, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ , where V is a vector space and  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : V^2 \to \mathbb{R}$ , such that:

- 1.  $\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v} \rangle \ge 0$  (Positivity)
- 2.  $\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v} \rangle = 0$  iff  $\mathbf{v} = 0$  (Definiteness)
- 3.  $\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x} \rangle$  (Symmetry)
- 4.  $\langle \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{v} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v} \rangle + \langle \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{v} \rangle$  (Additivity)
- 5.  $\langle \alpha \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle = \alpha \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle$  (Homogeneity)

#### Euclidean Inner Product

Let  $\mathbf{a} = (a_1, ..., a_n)$  and  $\mathbf{b} = (b_1, ..., b_n)$  be vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . The **Euclidean inner product** of  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  is the scalar

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2 + \dots + a_n b_n$$

#### Exercise 4.2

- 1. Show that the dot product is an inner product.
- 2. What norm is induced by the inner product?

#### Euclidean Inner Product

#### Theorem

Let **a** and **b** be vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Let  $\theta$  be the angle between them. Then,

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = ||\mathbf{a}|| \, ||\mathbf{b}|| \, \cos \theta$$

(This will come in handy when we talk about gradients)

Recall that matrices are  $m \times n$  arrays of entries taken from a field (we'll only talk about the reals).

Matrix addition is componentwise:

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{1,1} & \dots & a_{1,n} \\ \vdots & a_{i,j} & \vdots \\ a_{m,1} & \dots & a_{m,n} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} b_{1,1} & \dots & b_{1,n} \\ \vdots & b_{i,j} & \vdots \\ b_{m,1} & \dots & b_{m,n} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} a_{1,1} + b_{1,1} & \dots & a_{1,n} + b_{1,n} \\ \vdots & a_{i,j} + b_{i,j} & \vdots \\ a_{m,1} + b_{m,1} & \dots & a_{m,n} + b_{m,n} \end{pmatrix}$$

as is scalar multiplication:

$$r\begin{pmatrix} a_{1,1} & \dots & a_{1,n} \\ \vdots & a_{i,j} & \vdots \\ a_{m,1} & \dots & a_{m,n} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} ra_{1,1} & \dots & ra_{1,n} \\ \vdots & ra_{i,j} & \vdots \\ ra_{m,1} & \dots & ra_{m,n} \end{pmatrix}$$

For two matrices, A and B, we can define a new operation, matrix multiplication, in terms of inner products:

$$(AB)_{ij} = \mathbf{a}_i \cdot \mathbf{b}_j$$

where  $\mathbf{a}_i$  and  $\mathbf{b}_j$  are the *i*th row of A and *j*th column of B respectively.

This is only well-defined if the matrices are **conformable** to multiplication: the number of columns in the first matrix must equal the number of rows in the second.

#### Example

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \\ e & f \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} W & X \\ Y & Z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} aW + bY & aX + bZ \\ cW + dY & cX + dZ \\ eW + fY & eX + fZ \end{pmatrix}$$

$$3 \times 2$$

$$3 \times 2$$

Observe that the matrices conform to multiplication:

$$(3 \times \underline{2}) \times (\underline{2} \times 2) = 3 \times 2$$

We can **transpose** an  $m \times n$  matrix A, to form the  $n \times m$  matrix A'.

When transposing a product, we reverse the order: (ABC)' = C'B'A'.

Matrices that are their own transpose are called **symmetric**: A' = A.

If A, B, and C are invertible:  $(ABC)^{-1} = C^{-1}B^{-1}A^{-1}$ .

Matrices whose inverse is their transpose are called **orthogonal**:  $A^{-1} = A'$ .

$$(AB)^{-1'} = (B'A')^{-1}$$

The **trace** of a square matrix is the sum of its diagonal entries:  $trace(A) = \sum_{i} A_{ii}$ .

#### Exercise 4.3

- 1. Let A and B be  $n \times n$  matrices. Show that trace(AB) = trace(BA).
- 2. Show that trace(A + B) = trace(A) + trace(B).
- 3. Show that there are no square matrices with the property AB BA = I.

If A is an  $m \times n$  matrix and B is a  $p \times q$  matrix, the **kronecker product** of these two matrices is a block matrix of size  $mp \times nq$ 

$$A \otimes B = \begin{pmatrix} a_{1,1}B & \dots & a_{1,n}B \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m,1}B & \dots & a_{m,n}B \end{pmatrix}$$

#### Example

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

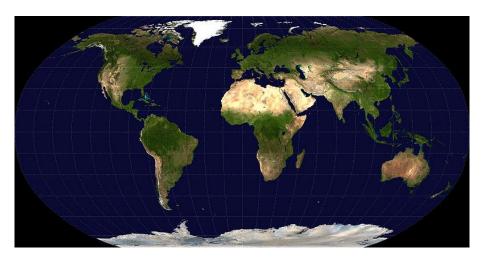
$$A \otimes B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} & 2 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ 3 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} & 4 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix}$$

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

The **outer product** is a special case of the kronecker product where we're multiplying a column vector with a row vector.

$$\mathbf{a} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ \vdots \\ a_n \end{bmatrix} \qquad \mathbf{b}' = \begin{bmatrix} b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\mathbf{a}\mathbf{b}' = \begin{bmatrix} a_1b_1 & a_1b_2 & \dots & a_1b_n \\ \vdots & \dots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_nb_1 & a_nb_2 & \dots & a_nb_n \end{bmatrix}$$

- Conventionally, vectors are assumed to be column vectors.
- When we want to write a row vector, we usually do it as the transpose of a column vector.
- A row vector times a column vector, a'b, represents an inner product
- A column vector times a row vector, ab' represents an outer product.



Projection involves "pushing" a vector from one space into a particular subspace.

A linear projection is a square matrix P that is idempotent. That is:

$$P^2 = P$$

Intuitively, this property means that once the matrix P pushes a vector into a subspace, applying the projection again will just yield the same results. Anything which is already in the subspace stays where it is.

It's often the case that we wish to break a vector down into the sum of two vectors which are orthogonal.

That is, turn  $\mathbf{y}$  into  $\mathbf{y} = \hat{\mathbf{y}} + \mathbf{e}$  such that  $\mathbf{y}'\mathbf{e} = 0$ .

Moreover, we may want  $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$  to lie in a particular subspace.

The **orthogonal projector** of a matrix X with full column rank is

$$\mathbf{P}_{\mathbf{X}} = \mathbf{X} \left( \mathbf{X}' \mathbf{X} \right)^{-1} \mathbf{X}'$$

#### Exercise 4.4

- 1. Show that the orthogonal projector is in fact a projection.
- 2. Show that  $P_X$  is a symmetric matrix.
- 3. Let the fitted value be  $\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{P}_{\mathbf{X}}\mathbf{y}$  and the residual,  $\mathbf{e} = \mathbf{y} \mathbf{P}_{\mathbf{X}}\mathbf{y}$ . Show that  $\hat{\mathbf{y}}'\mathbf{e} = 0$ .
- 4. Show that  $\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{e} = 0$ .

### Approximate Solutions to Linear Equations

Suppose we had a system of linear equations,  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y}$ , for which A is an  $n \times k$  matrix with full column rank and n > k.

That is, there are more equations than unknowns, but the unknowns are linearly independent.

Suppose further that the augmented system,  $[A \mid \mathbf{y}]$  also has full rank.

That is to say, two rows contain contradictory information.

How many solutions are there to the system?

Could we get an approximate solution to this system?

## Approximate Solutions to Linear Equations

Let's pick some candidate solution  $\mathbf{x}^*$ .

The error we make using  $\mathbf{x}^*$  as our approximate solution is  $\varepsilon = \mathbf{y} - A\mathbf{x}^*$ .

A "good" solution should attempt to minimize this error.

Since this error is a vector, a reasonable choice might be to minimize the length of this vector,  $||\mathbf{y} - A\mathbf{x}^*||$ .

Recall that (under the Euclidean norm)  $||\varepsilon|| = \sqrt{\varepsilon_1^2 + \dots + \varepsilon_n^2}$ . Minimising the length of the vector is equivalent to minimising the sum of squared errors.

#### Approximate Solutions to Linear Equations

So we have a vector  $\mathbf{y}$  that is *not* in the column space of A; otherwise there would be a solution.

We're trying to find a vector in the column space of A such that the distance between that vector and  $\mathbf{y}$  is minimised.

That is, we're trying to project  $\mathbf{y}$  into the column space of A.

To be minimum distance, we specifically want to drop a *perpendicular* from the tip of  $\mathbf{y}$  into the col space of A.

Recall that the shortest distance between a point and a line forms a right angle between the two.

The same principle is operating here. As you may of guessed, we want the *orthogonal projection* of  $\mathbf{y}$  into the column space of A.

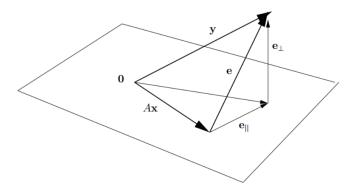


Figure: Orthogonal Projection

Source: http://www.math.ku.edu/lerner/LAnotes/LAnotes.pdf

## Economic Application: Ordinary Least Squares

Let's say we wish to estimate the following multiple linear regression model.

$$y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{1,i} + \dots + \beta_k x_{p,i} + \varepsilon_i \qquad i = 1,\dots, n$$

Why don't we make this more compact by stacking them in vectors and matrices?

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}\beta + \varepsilon$$

Where **y** and  $\varepsilon$  are  $n \times 1$  vectors, **X** is an  $n \times (p+1)$  matrix with n > p+1 and full column rank, and  $\beta$  is a  $(p+1) \times 1$  vector.

### Economic Application: Ordinary Least Squares

What is it we're asking for when we run an OLS regression?

We're trying to find the causal effect of each x variable on y; typically interpreted as "if  $x_1$  goes up by one unit, y goes up  $\beta_1$  units on average".

Another way to say this is that we're looking for a solution to the deterministic model  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}\beta$ .

To solve this we need a  $\beta$  in the column space of **X**.

The system typically has no solution (why?), so we need to approximate a solution by projecting y into the column space of X.

OLS picks  $\beta$  to minimize the sum of square residuals. I.e., the projection of  $\mathbf{y}$  into Col( $\mathbf{X}$ ) must be an *orthogonal* projection.

# Economic Application: Ordinary Least Squares

#### Exercise 4.5

- 1. Show that  $\hat{\beta}_{OLS} = (\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})^{-1}\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{y}$  solves the least squares problem.
- 2. Show that  $\hat{\beta}_{OLS}$  is unique.
- 3. Suppose **X** is rank deficient. What is the solution set? How does it affect fitted values  $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$ ?

First let's recall that a matrix A may be thought of as a linear map between two vector spaces. That is, it takes as input a vector  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^m$  and transforms it into another vector,  $A\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

Let  $A : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^n$  be a linear map. An **eigenvector v** of A and its corresponding **eigenvalue**,  $\lambda$ , are a vector and scalar satisfying

$$A\mathbf{v} = \lambda \mathbf{v}$$

Exercise: Why are eigenvectors only defined for square matrices?

$$A\mathbf{v} = \lambda \mathbf{v}$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda \mathbf{v} - A\mathbf{v} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (\lambda \mathbf{I} - A)\mathbf{v} = 0$$

But if  $(\lambda \mathbf{I} - A)\mathbf{v} = 0$  for some non-zero vector  $\mathbf{v}$ , then  $(\lambda \mathbf{I} - A)$  can't be full rank (why?).

Since it's a square matrix, if it's not full rank then it must be singular! That is, it must be the case that

$$\det(\lambda \mathbf{I} - A) = 0$$

This determinant expands to an nth order polynomial in  $\lambda$  called the characteristic equation.

#### Example

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

Find the characteristic equation for A and determine A's eigenvalues.

$$\det(\lambda \mathbf{I} - A) = \begin{vmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -2 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \end{vmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{vmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & -1 \\ 2 & \lambda + 3 \end{pmatrix} \end{vmatrix}$$
$$= \lambda(\lambda + 3) - (-1)(2)$$
$$= \lambda^2 + 3\lambda + 2$$

Solving  $\lambda^2 + 3\lambda + 2 = 0$  yields  $\lambda_1 = -1$ ,  $\lambda_2 = -2$ .

Once we've obtained the set of eigenvalues, we can find their corresponding eigenvectors by solving the homogeneous system  $(\lambda \mathbf{I} - A)\mathbf{v} = 0$  for  $\mathbf{v}$ .

#### Example (continued)

First solve for  $\lambda_1$ . In order to solve  $(-1\mathbf{I} - A)\mathbf{v} = 0$ , simplify the term in brackets and construct an augmented system.

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc|c} -1 & -1 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & 0 \end{array}\right) \quad \stackrel{rref}{\rightarrow} \quad \left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array}\right)$$

Recall that to solve we set  $x_2$  to be a free variable.

$$\begin{aligned}
x_1 &= -x_2 \\
x_2 &= x_2
\end{aligned} \qquad 
\begin{pmatrix}
x_1 \\
x_2
\end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix}
-1 \\
1
\end{pmatrix} x_2$$

#### Example (continued)

Doing the same for  $\lambda_2$  gives

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc|c} -2 & -1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \end{array}\right) \quad \stackrel{rref}{\rightarrow} \quad \left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array}\right)$$

Set  $x_2$  to be a free variable.

$$x_1 = -\frac{1}{2}x_2$$

$$x_2 = x_2$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} x_2$$

Thus the eigenvector corresponding to  $\lambda_1 = -1$  is [-1, 1]' and corresponding to  $\lambda_2 = -2$  is  $[-\frac{1}{2}, 1]'$ .

#### Exercise 4.6

- 1. Verify manually that the above are actually eigenvectors.
- 2.  $\left[\frac{1}{2},1\right]'$  is not very nice to look at. Is  $\left[-1,2\right]$  an eigenvector corresponding to  $\lambda_2$ ?
- 3. Suppose  $\mathbf{v}$  is an eigenvector of A. Is  $k\mathbf{v}$  also an eigenvector for any scalar k?

# Diagonalization

#### Theorem

Let A be an  $n \times n$  matrix. Let  $\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_n$  be eigenvalues of A with corresponding eigenvectors  $\mathbf{v}_1, \ldots, \mathbf{v}_n$ . Construct the matrix

$$P = [\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n]$$

whose columns are A's eigenvectors. If P in invertible, then

$$P^{-1}AP = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \cdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}$$

**Exercise 4.7** Verify that the matrix A in the previous example is diagonalizable.

## Diagonalization

But how do we know that the invertibility condition will be satisfied? We have a sufficient (but not necessary) condition!

#### Theorem

Let  $\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_n$  be n distinct eigenvalues of an  $n \times n$  matrix. Then the corresponding eigenvectors are linearly independent.

If a matrix is not diagonalizable (called a **defective** matrix), other methods may be available for solving the problem at hand (see Schur decomposition).

## Diagonalization

#### Theorem (The Spectral Theorem)

Let A be an  $n \times n$  matrix of real entries that is symmetric (i.e., A' = A). Then A can be diagonalized

$$A = QDQ'$$

where Q is an orthogonal matrix  $(Q^{-1} = Q')$ .

$$x_{t+1} = ax_t$$

Perhaps  $x_t$  is a bank balance and a = 1 + r is the gross rate of return, for example. The solution to this is fairly straight forward and can be achieved through back substitution:

$$x_t = a^t x_0$$

An alternative way to say this is that

$$x_t = ca^t$$

where c is a constant determined by the boundary condition (initial value).

But what about an arbitrary *system* of first order linear difference equations.

Written more compactly as

$$\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = A\mathbf{x}_t$$

Suppose that A is diagonalizable. Such that we can right

$$A = PDP^{-1}$$

We can consider the transformed system

$$\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = A\mathbf{x}_t$$

$$P^{-1}\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = D\left(P^{-1}\mathbf{x}_t\right)$$

$$\mathbf{z}_{t+1} = D\mathbf{z}_t$$

Such that  $\mathbf{x}_t = P\mathbf{z}_t$  and D is a diagonal matrix of the eigenvalues of A.

Can we solve this diagonal system? Actually, it's very easy. The diagonal matrix makes this system **decoupled**. That is, each difference equation only depends on its own lag, not the lag of the other variables. That is

$$z_{1,t+1} = \lambda_1 z_{1,t}$$

$$z_{2,t+1} = \lambda_2 z_{2,t}$$

$$\vdots$$

$$z_{n,t+1} = \lambda_n z_{n,t}$$

But we've seen how to easily solve these separate difference equations!

$$\begin{pmatrix} z_{1,t} \\ \vdots \\ z_{n,t} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \lambda_1^t \\ \vdots \\ c_n \lambda_n^t \end{pmatrix}$$

But we don't wish to know the solution in terms of  $\mathbf{z}_t$ , we want it in terms of  $\mathbf{x}_t$ . But recall that  $\mathbf{x}_t = P\mathbf{z}_t$ ! Yielding

$$\mathbf{x}_{t} = P\mathbf{z}_{t}$$

$$= [\mathbf{v}_{1}, \dots, \mathbf{v}_{n}]\mathbf{z}_{t}$$

$$= z_{1,t}\mathbf{v}_{1} + \dots z_{n,t}\mathbf{v}_{n}$$

$$= c_{1}\lambda_{1}^{t}\mathbf{v}_{1} + \dots + c_{n}\lambda_{n}^{t}\mathbf{v}_{n}$$

The solution to a system of difference equations can be written as a linear combination of its eigenvectors!

### Quadratic Forms

After linear functions, the next simplest are the quadratic forms. A quadratic form on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is a real-valued function of the form

$$Q(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \sum_{i \le j} a_{ij} x_i x_j$$

Any quadratic form can be written more compactly as

$$Q(x_1,\ldots,x_n)=\mathbf{x}'A\mathbf{x}$$

where A is a unique real-valued symmetric matrix.

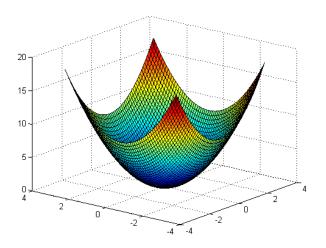


Figure: Positive Definite:  $\mathbf{x}'A\mathbf{x} > 0$ 

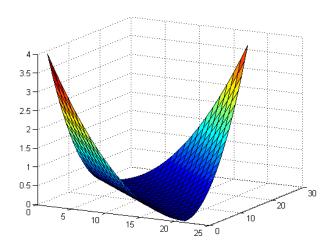


Figure: Positive Semi-definite:  $\mathbf{x}'A\mathbf{x} \geq 0$ 

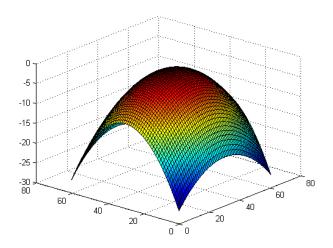


Figure: Negative Definite:  $\mathbf{x}'A\mathbf{x} < 0$ 

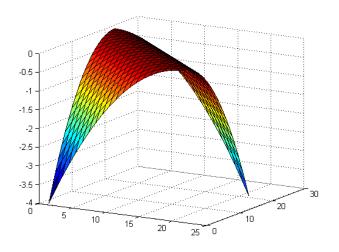


Figure: Negative Semi-definite:  $\mathbf{x}'A\mathbf{x} \leq 0$ 

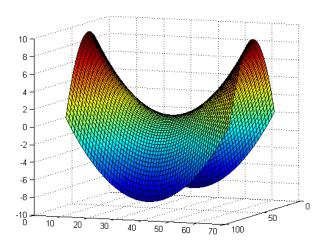


Figure: Indefinite:  $\mathbf{x}'A\mathbf{x} > 0$  for some  $\mathbf{x}$ ,  $\mathbf{x}'A\mathbf{x} < 0$  for others.

#### Theorem

Let A be a symmetric matrix. Then

- a) A is positive definite iff all eigenvalues are > 0.
- b) A is negative definite iff all eigenvalues are < 0.
- c) A is positive semidefinite iff all eigenvalues are  $\geq 0$ .
- d) A is negative semidefinite iff all eigenvalues are  $\leq 0$
- e) A is indefinite iff it has at least one positive and one negative eigenvalue.

# Cholesky Decomposition

### Theorem (Cholesky Decomposition)

If A is symmetric and positive definite, then A can be decomposed as

$$A = CC'$$

where C is a lower-triangular matrix.

## Learning Outcomes

#### You should be able to:

- Show that a function is a valid norm or inner product.
- Perform common matrix operations.
- Construct the orthogonal projector for a matrix.
- Find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of a matrix.
- Diagonalize a matrix.
- Solve very simple linear dynamical systems.
- Determine the definiteness of a square matrix.