



# GO CLASSES

## Positive Definite Matrices



- Every real symmetric matrix has real eigenvalues
- A positive definite matrix is a real symmetric matrix with all positive eigenvalues.
- Note that as it's a real symmetric matrix all the eigenvalues are real, so it makes sense to talk about them being positive or negative.



Now, it's not always easy to tell if a matrix is positive definite. Quick, is this matrix?

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Hard to tell just by looking at it.<sup>1</sup>

ISSUES



Now, it's not always easy to tell if a matrix is positive definite. Quick, is this matrix?

$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  ← to tell if this matrix is positive definite or not

If we need to find out eigen values

Hard to tell just by looking at it.<sup>1</sup>



One way to determine if a matrix  $A$  is positive definite is to calculate all the eigenvalues  $\lambda_i$  and check if  $\lambda_i > 0$  for all  $i$ .

The problem with this approach is that calculating eigenvalues can be a real pain, especially for large matrices.

Therefore, today we will learn some easier methods to determine if a matrix  $A$  is positive definite.



# Positive Definite Matrices

What Are They, and What Do They Want?



I've already told you what a positive definite matrix is.

A matrix is positive definite if it's symmetric and all its eigenvalues are positive.

We are just interested to know sign of eigenvalues.  
not the eigenvalues by itself.

## Motivation

: why we are studying  
definote matrices?

- . we need to optimise multivariate functions  
there we need Positive Definote matrices  
concept



# Property of Symmetric matrices

Sign of Pivots = Signs of eigenvalues





# Property of Symmetric matrices

Sign of Pivots = Signs of eigenvalues

- Number of +ve eigenvalues = Number of +ve pivots
- Number of -ve eigenvalues = Number of -ve pivots
- Number of 0 eigenvalues = Number of 0 pivots

this is true  
for symmetric  
matrices.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - 2R_1$$

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

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

Can we say eigenvalues of this matrix is 1, -3 ?  $\Rightarrow$  No

we can apply row operations here.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - 2R_1]{\sim} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$$



this is a symmetric matrix

$\Rightarrow$  one eigen value is +ve  
other eigen value is -ve }



The thing is, there are a lot of other equivalent ways to define a positive definite matrix. One equivalent definition can be derived using the fact that for a symmetric matrix the signs of the pivots are the signs of the eigenvalues. So, for example, if a  $4 \times 4$  matrix has three positive pivots and one negative pivot, it will have three positive eigenvalues and one negative eigenvalue.



*A matrix is positive definite if it's symmetric and all its pivots are positive.*





Pivots are, in general, *way* easier to calculate than eigenvalues.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

If we perform elimination (subtract  $2 \times$  row 1 from row 2) we get

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \text{this matrix is NOT positive definite}$$

The pivots are 1 and  $-3$ . In particular, one of the pivots is  $-3$ , and so the matrix is not positive definite.



A symmetric matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  is to be **positive definite** if

- ① all the eigenvalues are positive
  - ② all the pivots are positive
  - ③ all the  $n$  upper left determinants are positive
  - ④  $\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} > 0 \quad \forall \mathbf{x}$  except  $\mathbf{x} = 0$ .
- ← principle determinants

$$\begin{bmatrix} \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix}$$



## Question:

*Example - Is the following matrix positive definite?*

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



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

$$2 \begin{vmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 3$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} 2 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 8 - 2 - 2 = 4$$

✓

$2, 3, 4 > 0 \Rightarrow$  Positive definite.



## Question:

Find whether  $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$  is positive definite or not.





Consider  $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$

- 1  $\lambda = 2, 4.$  ✓
- 2  $\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \rightsquigarrow \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 0 & \frac{8}{3} \end{pmatrix}$  ✓
- 3  $|3| = 3, \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 \end{vmatrix} = 8$  ✓
- 4  $(x_1 \ x_2) \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = 3x_1^2 + 3x_2^2 + 2x_1x_2$   
 $= (x_1 + x_2)^2 + 2(x_1^2 + x_2^2) > 0$  for any  $x.$

$$(x_1 + x_2)^2 + 2(x_1^2 + x_2^2) > 0$$

$$\underline{x^T A x}$$

$\therefore$  It is a positive definite matrix.

**Any one** of the above tests is sufficient to check whether a matrix is positive definite or not )



## Question: T/F

If  $\mathbf{A}$  is positive definite,  $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$  will also be positive definite.

$$\lambda_i > 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{1}{\lambda_i} > 0$$



If  $\mathbf{A}$  is positive definite,  $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$  will also be positive definite.

Let  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$  be the eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{A}$ .

The eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$  are

$$\frac{1}{\lambda_1}, \frac{1}{\lambda_2}, \dots, \frac{1}{\lambda_n}$$

As  $\mathbf{A}$  is positive definite,  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n > 0$ .

$$\frac{1}{\lambda_1}, \frac{1}{\lambda_2}, \dots, \frac{1}{\lambda_n} > 0$$

Hence  $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$  is positive definite.

TRUE

$\mathbf{A}^{-1}$  is also  
Symm.

Ajay Sreenivas to Everyone 9:44 AM

AS  $(\mathbf{A}^{-1})^T = (\mathbf{A}^T)^{-1} = \mathbf{A}^{-1}$

1



## Question: T/F

If  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  are positive definite matrices,  $\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}$  will also be a positive definite matrix.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} &= \lambda\mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{B}\boxed{\mathbf{x}} &= \mu\mathbf{x} \end{aligned} \quad \Rightarrow \quad (\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B})\mathbf{x} = (\lambda + \mu)\mathbf{x}$$

eigen vector of  $\mathbf{B}$  need not be  $\mathbf{x}$



## Question: T/F

If  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  are positive definite matrices,  $\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}$  will also be a positive definite matrix.

$$\mathbf{x}^T (\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}) \mathbf{x} > 0$$

↓  
↳

$$\underline{\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}} + \underline{\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{B} \mathbf{x}} \stackrel{\mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}}{=} > 0$$



If  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  are positive definite matrices,  $\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}$  will also be a positive definite matrix.

$$\mathbf{x}^T(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B})\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}^T\mathbf{Ax} + \mathbf{x}^T\mathbf{Bx}$$

Since  $\mathbf{x}^T\mathbf{Ax} > 0$  and  $\mathbf{x}^T\mathbf{Bx} > 0$ ,

$$\therefore \mathbf{x}^T(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B})\mathbf{x} > 0$$

Hence  $\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}$  is also positive definite.



## Positive Definite

A symmetric matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  is to be **positive definite** if

- ① all the eigenvalues are positive  $> 0$
- ② all the pivots are positive  $> 0$
- ③ all the  $n$  upper left determinants are positive  $> 0$
- ④  $\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} > 0 \quad \forall \mathbf{x}$  except  $\mathbf{x} = 0$ .



## Positive Semi Definite

(PSD)

A symmetric matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  is to be *positive semidefinite* if

- ① all the eigenvalues are *nonnegative*  $\geq 0$
- ② all the pivots are *nonnegative*  $\geq 0$
- ③ all the  $n$  upper left determinants are *nonnegative*  $\geq 0$
- ④  $\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} \geq 0$ .



## Question:

Find whether  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$  is positive semidefinite or not.





## Solution

1. The eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1 = 0, \lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = 3$  (a zero eigenvalue).

$$2. A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{3}{2} & -\frac{3}{2} \\ 0 & -\frac{3}{2} & \frac{3}{2} \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{3}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

(missing pivot).

3.  $\det A = 0$  and smaller determinants are positive.

4.  $x^T Ax = (x_1 - x_2)^2 + (x_1 - x_3)^2 + (x_2 - x_3)^2 \geq 0$  (zero if  $x_1 = x_2 = x_3$ ).

$\therefore$  It is a positive *semi definite* matrix.

(Any one of the above tests is sufficient to check whether a matrix is positive *semi definite* or not )

Not positive Def.  
but positive semi def.

$\overline{\text{PSP}}$



## Question:

*Example - For what numbers  $b$  is the following matrix positive semidefinite?*

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & b \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ b & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & b \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ b & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} 2 & -1 & b \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ b & -1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 8 + b + b - 2 - 2 - 2b^2$$

$$= -2b^2 + 2b + 4 \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow b^2 - b - 2 \leq 0$$

$$(b-2)(b+1) \leq 0$$

$$\boxed{-1 \leq b \leq 2}$$

✓

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} + & & - & & + \\ \hline & | & & | & \\ & -1 & & 2 & \end{array}$$

Negative

Definite

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \text{all } x_i < 0$$

$$\text{or } \textcircled{2} \quad \text{all pivots } < 0$$

$$\text{or } \textcircled{3} \quad \text{all principle det } < 0$$

$$\textcircled{4} \quad x^T Ax < 0 \quad \forall x \text{ (except)} \\ x=0$$

Negative      Semi definite

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \text{all } x_i \leq 0$$

$$\text{or } \textcircled{2} \quad \text{all pivots } \leq 0$$

$$\text{or } \textcircled{3} \quad \text{all principle det } \leq 0$$

$$\textcircled{4} \quad x^T Ax \leq 0 \quad \forall x \text{ (except)} \\ x=0$$

$Q$

a matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 5 \\ 0 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

it is not necessary for  
either of PD, PSD, Negative  
definite

or Negative Semi  
def.

this matrix is neither  
of any above.



# Quadratic Form





## GATE DA Syllabus:

**Linear Algebra:** Vector space, subspaces, linear dependence and independence of vectors, matrices, projection matrix, orthogonal matrix, idempotent matrix, partition matrix and their properties, quadratic forms, systems of linear equations and solutions; Gaussian elimination, eigenvalues and eigenvectors, determinant, rank, nullity, projections, LU decomposition, singular value decomposition.



- **Linear functions:** sum of terms of the form  $c_i x_i$  where the  $c_i$  are parameters and  $x_i$  are variables. General form:

$$c_1 x_1 + \cdots + c_n x_n = c^T x$$





- **Linear functions:** sum of terms of the form  $c_i x_i$  where the  $c_i$  are parameters and  $x_i$  are variables. General form:

$$c_1 x_1 + \cdots + c_n x_n = c^T x$$

- **Quadratic functions:** sum of terms of the form  $a_{ij} x_i x_j$  where  $a_{ij}$  are parameters and  $x_i$  are variables. General form:

$$a_{11} x_1^2 + a_{12} x_1 x_2 + \cdots + a_{nn} x_n^2$$



Examples 7.9. The following are quadratic forms:

$$1. f(x_1) = x_1^2 \rightarrow \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{f} \mathbf{x} = x_1^2$$

$$2. f(x_1, x_2) = 2x_1^2 + 3x_2^2 - x_1x_2 \quad \checkmark$$

$$3. f(x_1, x_2, x_3) = x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 - 2x_1x_2 - 2x_1x_3 - 2x_2x_3$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1/2 \\ -1/2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$



A function  $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  is a quadratic if and only if it can be written as

$$f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \underline{\mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x}}, \quad \text{where } \mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\underline{\mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x}}$$

for a symmetric  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$ .

The matrix  $A$  is uniquely determined by the quadratic form, and is called the **symmetric matrix** associated with the quadratic form.

**$\underline{\mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x}}$**

$$f(x_1, x_2) = 2x_1^2 + 3x_2^2 - x_1x_2$$

$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -\frac{1}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{2} & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$ 
  
↓  
 Symm. ✓

$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \end{bmatrix} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}}_{H_r} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$ 
  
 $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$ 
  
 Symm X

$\begin{array}{c} -1 \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ -\frac{1}{2} \quad -\frac{1}{2} \end{array}$

$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$

$\begin{array}{c} -1 \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ -\frac{1}{2} \quad -\frac{1}{2} \end{array}$



Example: find the quadratic polynomial for the following symmetric matrices:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- $Q(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x} = [x_1 \ x_2] \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = x_1^2 + 2x_2^2$
- $Q(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T B \mathbf{x} = [x_1 \ x_2 \ x_3] \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = x_1^2 + 2x_2^2 - x_3^2 - 2x_1x_2 + 2x_2x_3$

$x_2 \ x_3$

$x_1 \ x_2$



## Question:

Compute the product  $x^T A x$  when  $A$  is the symmetric  $2 \times 2$  matrix  
 $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ .





## Question:

Compute the product  $x^T A x$  when  $A$  is the symmetric  $2 \times 2$  matrix  
 $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = x_1^2 - x_2^2 + 4x_1x_2$$

Ajay Sreenivas to Everyone 10:15 AM



$x1^2 - X2^2 + 4x1x2$

Tejas More to Everyone 10:15 AM



$x1^2 - x2^2 + 4X1x2$

...  
...



## Solution

We compute the matrix product

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x} &= (x_1 \quad x_2) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = (x_1 + 2x_2 \quad 2x_1 - x_2) \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= x_1^2 + 2x_2x_1 + 2x_1x_2 - x_2^2 = x_1^2 + 4x_1x_2 - x_2^2\end{aligned}$$

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## Question:

Let  $x = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$ . Compute  $x^T Ax$  for the following matrices:

a.  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$



$$4x_1^2 + 3x_2^2$$

b.  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -2 \\ -2 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$



$$3x_1^2 + 7x_2^2 - 4x_1x_2$$



a.

**Solution:**

$$\mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x} = [x_1 \quad x_2] \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = [x_1 \quad x_2] \begin{bmatrix} 4x_1 \\ 3x_2 \end{bmatrix} = 4x_1^2 + 3x_2^2$$

b. There are two  $-2$  entries in  $A$ . Watch how they enter the calculations. The  $(1, 2)$ -entry in  $A$  is in boldface type.

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x} &= [x_1 \quad x_2] \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -2 \\ -2 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = [x_1 \quad x_2] \begin{bmatrix} 3x_1 - 2x_2 \\ -2x_1 + 7x_2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= x_1(3x_1 - 2x_2) + x_2(-2x_1 + 7x_2) \\ &= 3x_1^2 - 2x_1x_2 - 2x_2x_1 + 7x_2^2 \\ &= 3x_1^2 - 4x_1x_2 + 7x_2^2\end{aligned}$$

The presence of  $-4x_1x_2$  in the quadratic form in Example 1(b) is due to the  $-2$  entries off the diagonal in the matrix  $A$ . In contrast, the quadratic form associated with the diagonal matrix  $A$  in Example 1 (a) has no  $x_1x_2$  cross-product term.



## Question:

Let  $Q(\mathbf{x}) = x_1^2 - 8x_1x_2 - 5x_2^2$ .

Compute  $Q(\mathbf{x})$  for  $\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$ , and  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$ .



Solution:

$$Q(-3, 1) = (-3)^2 - 8(-3)(1) - 5(1)^2 = 9 + 24 - 5 = 28$$

$$Q(2, -2) = (2)^2 - 8(2)(-2) - 5(-2)^2 = 4 + 32 - 20 = 16$$

$$Q(1, -3) = (1)^2 - 8(1)(-3) - 5(-3)^2 = 1 + 24 - 45 = -20$$



## Question:

For  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^3$ , let  $Q(\mathbf{x}) = 5x_1^2 + 3x_2^2 + 2x_3^2 - x_1x_2 + 8x_2x_3$ .

Write this quadratic form as  $\mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x}$ .





## Question:

For  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^3$ , let  $Q(\mathbf{x}) = 5x_1^2 + 3x_2^2 + 2x_3^2 - x_1x_2 + 8x_2x_3$ .

Write this quadratic form as  $\mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x}$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} 5 & -\frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{2} & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 4 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Ajay Sreenivas to Everyone 10:18 AM  
AS [5 -1/2 0  
-1/2 3 4  
0 4 2]

Tejas More to Everyone 10:18 AM  
 5 -1/2 0  
-1/2 3 4  
0 4 2

Aditya to Everyone 10:18 AM  
A 5 -1/2 0  
-1/2 3 4  
0 2 2

044\_sumaya to Everyone 10:18 AM  
 4 4

Reply ⌂ Like ⌂ ...



## Solution:

The coefficients of  $x_1^2$ ,  $x_2^2$ , and  $x_3^2$  go on the diagonal of  $A$ .

To make  $A$  symmetric, the coefficient of  $x_i x_j$  for  $i \neq j$  must be split evenly between the  $(i, j)$  and  $(j, i)$  entries in  $A$ .

The coefficient of  $x_1 x_3$  is 0. It is readily checked that:

$$Q(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x} = [x_1 \quad x_2 \quad x_3] \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -\frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{2} & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 4 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}$$



# Example

$$2x^2 + 6xy - 7y^2 = [x \ y] \begin{bmatrix} \quad \\ \quad \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

$$4x^2 - 5y^2 = [x \ y] \begin{bmatrix} \quad \\ \quad \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

$$xy = [x \ y] \begin{bmatrix} \quad \\ \quad \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_1^2 + 7x_2^2 - 3x_3^2 + 4x_1x_2 - 2x_1x_3 + 6x_2x_3 =$$

$$[x_1 \ x_2 \ x_3] \begin{bmatrix} \quad \\ \quad \\ \quad \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

IES



# Example

$$2x^2 + 6xy - 7y^2 = [x \ y] \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 3 & -7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

$$4x^2 - 5y^2 = [x \ y] \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 \\ 0 & -5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

$$xy = [x \ y] \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_1^2 + 7x_2^2 - 3x_3^2 + 4x_1x_2 - 2x_1x_3 + 6x_2x_3 =$$

$$[x_1 \ x_2 \ x_3] \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & 7 & 3 \\ -1 & 3 & -3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Answer



# Symmetric Matrix

- Symmetric matrices are useful, but not essential, for representing quadratic forms.
- For example, the quadratic form  $2x^2+6xy-7y^2$  can be written as

$$2x^2 + 6xy - 7y^2 = \begin{bmatrix} x & y \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 5 \\ 1 & -7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

where the coefficient 6 of the cross-product term has been split as 5+1 rather than 3+3, as in the symmetric representation.

ES



# Symmetric Matrix

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- For example, the quadratic form  $2x^2+6xy-7y^2$  can be written as

$$2x^2 + 6xy - 7y^2 = \begin{bmatrix} x & y \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 5 \\ 1 & -7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}$$

where the coefficient 6 of the cross-product term has been split as 5+1 rather than 3+3, as in the symmetric representation.

- However, symmetric matrices are usually more convenient to work with, so it will always be understood that  $A$  is symmetric when we write a quadratic form as  $\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}$ , even if not stated explicitly.



## Question:

Consider the quadratic form  $Q(x_1, x_2) = 5x_1^2 - 10x_1x_2 + x_2^2$ .

Find the symmetric matrix  $A$  such that  $Q(x) = x^T Ax$ , where  $x = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}$ .

A.  $\begin{pmatrix} 5 & -5 \\ -5 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

C.  $\begin{pmatrix} 5 & -10 \\ -10 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

B.  $\begin{pmatrix} 5 & -5 \\ -5 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

D.  $\begin{pmatrix} 5 & -10 \\ -10 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

S

**Solution:**

**Example.** The quadratic form  $Q(x_1, x_2, x_3) = 5x_1^2 - 10x_1x_2 + x_2^2$  whose symmetric matrix is  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & -5 \\ -5 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  is the product of three matrices

$$(x_1, x_2, x_3) \cdot \boxed{\begin{pmatrix} 5 & -5 \\ -5 & 1 \end{pmatrix}} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

### 1.1.1 Symmetrization of matrix

The quadratic form  $Q(x_1, x_2, x_3) = 5x_1^2 - 10x_1x_2 + x_2^2$  can be represented, for example, by the following  $2 \times 2$  matrices

$$\begin{matrix} -10 & -10 \\ -7 & -3 \\ -8 & -2 \end{matrix}, \quad \begin{matrix} -10 & -10 \\ -7 & -3 \\ -5 & -5 \end{matrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 5 & -2 \\ -8 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 5 & -3 \\ -7 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 5 & -5 \\ -5 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

the last one is *symmetric*:  $a_{ij} = a_{ji}$ .



## Question:

### Example

*Find the symmetric matrix associated with the quadratic form*

$$Q(x_1, x_2, x_3) = x_1^2 + 2x_1x_2 + x_2^2 + 4x_2x_3 - x_3^2.$$



## Solution

We note that the diagonal entry  $a_{ii}$  in the matrix  $A$  is the coefficient in front of the term  $x_i^2$ , and that the sum  $a_{ij} + a_{ji}$  of corresponding entries off the diagonal in  $A$  is the coefficient in front of the term  $x_i x_j$ . Since  $A$  is symmetric,  $a_{ij} = a_{ji}$  is half the coefficient in front of  $x_i x_j$ . Therefore, the quadratic form  $Q(x_1, x_2, x_3) = x_1^2 + \underline{2x_1 x_2} + x_2^2 + 4x_2 x_3 - x_3^2$  has symmetric matrix

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



In some cases, quadratic forms are easier to use when they have no cross-product terms—that is, when the matrix of the quadratic form is a diagonal matrix. Fortunately, the cross-product term can be eliminated by making a suitable change of variable.

if we don't want any cross product term  
then corresponding matrix should be diagonal



David C Lay Chapter 7

$$Q(x) = x^T \underset{PDP^T}{\underset{\cdot}{A}} x = y^T D y$$

$Ax = \lambda x = x\lambda$

$$AU = U\Lambda$$

$$A = U\Lambda U^{-1} = \underset{\text{Symm}}{U\Lambda U^T}$$

$$Q(x) = \underbrace{x^T A x}_{P D P^T} = y^T D y$$
$$x^T P D \underbrace{P^T x}_y \quad y = P^T x$$
$$\Rightarrow y^T = x^T P$$

$$Q(x) = x^T A x = y^T D y$$

Step 1:

put  $A = P D P^T$

$$Q(x) = x^T P D P^T x$$

Step 2:

put  $y = P^T x$

$$\begin{aligned} Q(x) &= (P^T x)^T D P^T x \\ &= y^T D y \end{aligned}$$

$$Q(x) = x^T A x = y^T D y$$

Step 1:

put  $A = P D P^T$

$$Q(x) = x^T P D P^T x$$

$y$  is just  $x$  only  
but in the basis of  $P$ .

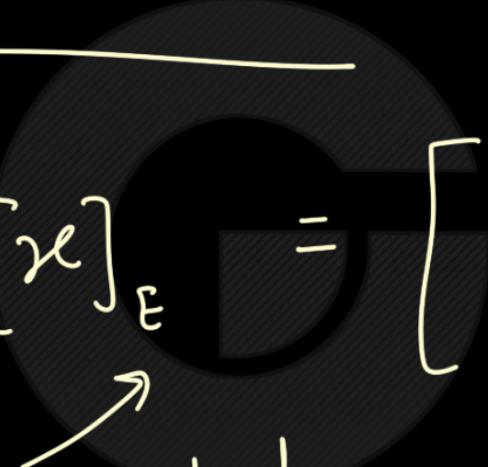
Step 2:

put  $y = P^T x$

$$\begin{aligned} Q(x) &= (P^T x)^T D (P^T x) \\ &= y^T D y \end{aligned}$$

## Change of Basis :

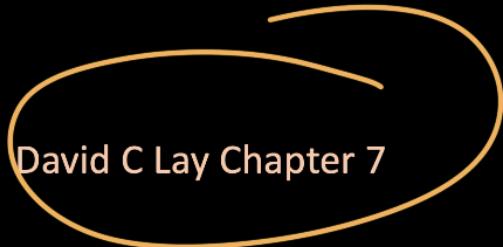
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \end{bmatrix}_E = \begin{bmatrix} P \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \end{bmatrix}_P$$


  
 Standard basis

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Downarrow \quad & \begin{bmatrix} x \end{bmatrix}_P = P^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} x \end{bmatrix}_E \\
 & = P^T \begin{bmatrix} x \end{bmatrix}_E
 \end{aligned}$$



# Change of Variable in a Quadratic Form





## Change of Variable in a Quadratic Form

If  $\mathbf{x}$  represents a variable vector in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , then a **change of variable** is an equation of the form

$$\mathbf{x} = P\mathbf{y}, \quad \text{or equivalently, } \mathbf{y} = P^{-1}\mathbf{x} = P^T \mathbf{x} \quad (1)$$

where  $P$  is an invertible matrix and  $\mathbf{y}$  is a new variable vector in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Here  $\mathbf{y}$  is the coordinate vector of  $\mathbf{x}$  relative to the basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  determined by the columns of  $P$ . (See Section 4.4.)

If the change of variable (1) is made in a quadratic form  $\mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x}$ , then

$$\mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x} = (P\mathbf{y})^T A (P\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{y}^T P^T A P \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y}^T (P^T A P) \mathbf{y} \quad . \quad (2)$$

and the new matrix of the quadratic form is  $P^T A P$ . Since  $A$  is symmetric, Theorem 2 guarantees that there is an *orthogonal* matrix  $P$  such that  $P^T A P$  is a diagonal matrix  $D$ , and the quadratic form in (2) becomes  $\mathbf{y}^T D \mathbf{y}$ . This is the strategy of the next example.



## Question:

Make a change of variable that transforms the quadratic form

$$Q(\mathbf{x}) = x_1^2 - 8x_1x_2 - 5x_2^2$$

into a quadratic form with no cross-product term.



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Make a change of variable that transforms the quadratic form

$$Q(\mathbf{x}) = x_1^2 - 8x_1x_2 - 5x_2^2$$

into a quadratic form with no cross-product term.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -4 \\ -4 & -5 \end{bmatrix}$$

↓

first eigenvects      2<sup>nd</sup> eigen  
vects

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} & & \\ & & \\ & & \end{bmatrix}$$



**SOLUTION** The matrix of the quadratic form in Example 3 is

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -4 \\ -4 & -5 \end{bmatrix}$$

The first step is to orthogonally diagonalize  $A$ . Its eigenvalues turn out to be  $\lambda = 3$  and  $\lambda = -7$ . Associated unit eigenvectors are

$$\lambda = 3: \begin{bmatrix} 2/\sqrt{5} \\ -1/\sqrt{5} \end{bmatrix}; \quad \lambda = -7: \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{5} \\ 2/\sqrt{5} \end{bmatrix}$$

These vectors are automatically orthogonal (because they correspond to distinct eigenvalues) and so provide an orthonormal basis for  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Let

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 2/\sqrt{5} & 1/\sqrt{5} \\ -1/\sqrt{5} & 2/\sqrt{5} \end{bmatrix}, \quad D = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 0 & -7 \end{bmatrix}$$

Then  $A = PDP^{-1}$  and  $D = P^{-1}AP = P^TAP$ , as pointed out earlier. A suitable change of variable is

$$\mathbf{x} = P\mathbf{y}, \quad \text{where } \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

ES



Then

$$\begin{aligned}x_1^2 - 8x_1x_2 - 5x_2^2 &= \mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x} = (P\mathbf{y})^T A (P\mathbf{y}) \\&= \mathbf{y}^T P^T A P \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y}^T D \mathbf{y} \\&= 3y_1^2 - 7y_2^2\end{aligned}$$

■





Then

$$\begin{aligned}x_1^2 - 8x_1x_2 - 5x_2^2 &= \mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x} = (P\mathbf{y})^T A (P\mathbf{y}) \\&= \mathbf{y}^T P^T A P \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y}^T D \mathbf{y} \\&= 3y_1^2 - 7y_2^2\end{aligned}$$

■

To illustrate the meaning of the equality of quadratic forms in Example 4, we can compute  $Q(\mathbf{x})$  for  $\mathbf{x} = (2, -2)$  using the new quadratic form. First, since  $\mathbf{x} = P\mathbf{y}$ ,

$$\mathbf{y} = P^{-1}\mathbf{x} = P^T \mathbf{x}$$

so

$$\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 2/\sqrt{5} & -1/\sqrt{5} \\ 1/\sqrt{5} & 2/\sqrt{5} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 6/\sqrt{5} \\ -2/\sqrt{5} \end{bmatrix}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned}3y_1^2 - 7y_2^2 &= 3(6/\sqrt{5})^2 - 7(-2/\sqrt{5})^2 = 3(36/5) - 7(4/5) \\&= 80/5 = 16\end{aligned}$$

$$Q(x) = x_1^2 - 8x_1x_2 - 5x_2^2$$

find out  $Q(x)$  for  $(2, -2)$  but using the diagonal form.

Convert  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$  in Basis of  $P$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 2/\sqrt{5} & 1/\sqrt{5} \\ -1/\sqrt{5} & 2/\sqrt{5} \end{bmatrix} \quad P^T \quad [x]_P = P^T x = \begin{bmatrix} 6/\sqrt{5} \\ -2/\sqrt{5} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[x]_E = P [x]_P$$

$x_P = P x$

$$Q(x) = x_1^2 - 8x_1x_2 - 5x_2^2$$

find out  $Q(x)$  for  $(2, -2)$  but using the  
diagonal form.

Convert  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$  in basis of  $P$

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 2/\sqrt{5} & 1/\sqrt{5} \\ -1/\sqrt{5} & 2/\sqrt{5} \end{bmatrix}$$

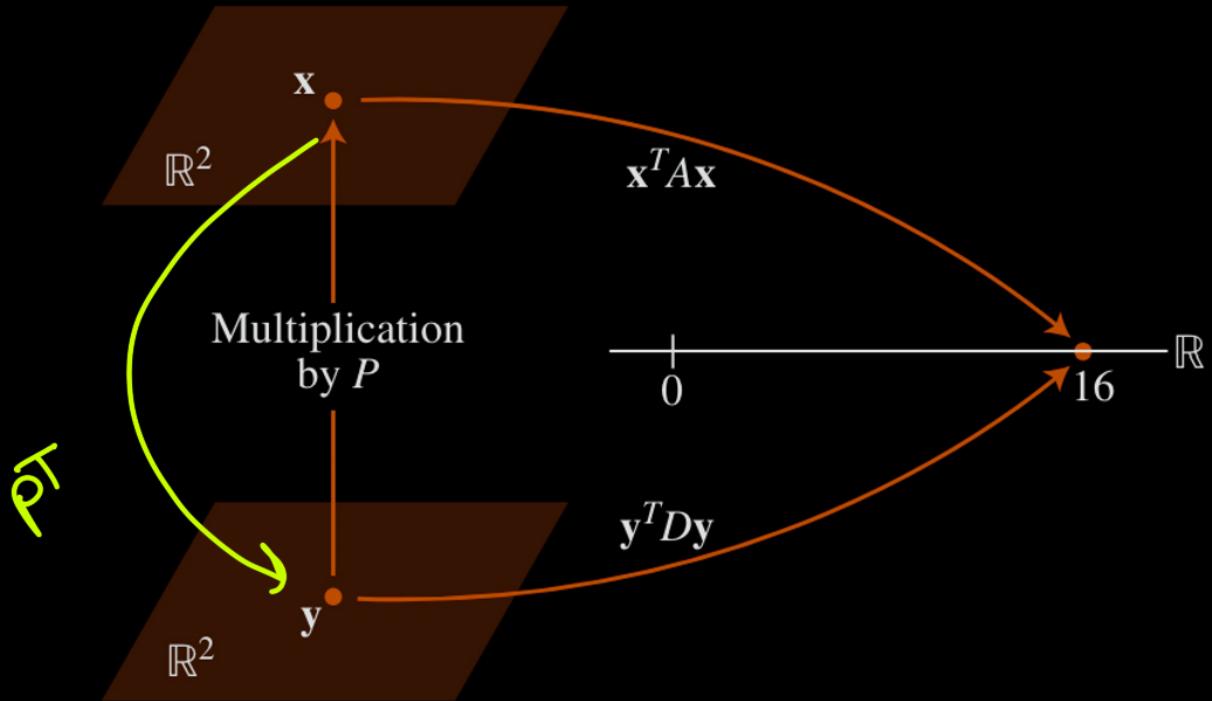
$$P^T$$

$$[x]_P = P^T x = \begin{bmatrix} 6/\sqrt{5} \\ -2/\sqrt{5} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[x]_E = P [x]_P$$

$$x^T P x$$

$$Q(x) = y^T \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 0 & -7 \end{bmatrix} y = \underline{3y_1^2 - 7y_2^2}$$



**FIGURE 1** Change of variable in  $\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}$ .



## Question:

Find an orthogonal change of variable of the quadratic form

$$Q = x_1^2 - x_3^2 - 4x_1x_2 + 4x_2x_3.$$

$$Q = \mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 0 \\ -2 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}$$



- The characteristic equation of the matrix  $A$  is

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & -2 & 0 \\ -2 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = \lambda^3 - 9\lambda = \lambda(\lambda + 3)(\lambda - 3) = 0$$

- The eigenvalues are 0, -3, 3. The orthonormal bases for the three eigenspace are

$$\lambda = 0 : \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2}{3} \\ \frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{2}{3} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\lambda = -3 : \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{3} \\ -\frac{2}{3} \\ \frac{2}{3} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\lambda = 3 : \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{2}{3} \\ \frac{2}{3} \\ \frac{1}{3} \end{bmatrix}$$



- A substitution  $\mathbf{x} = P\mathbf{y}$  that eliminates the cross product terms is

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2}{3} & -\frac{1}{3} & -\frac{2}{3} \\ \frac{1}{3} & -\frac{2}{3} & \frac{2}{3} \\ \frac{2}{3} & \frac{2}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

y<sub>3</sub>

- This produces the new quadratic form

$$Q = \mathbf{y}^T (P^T A P) \mathbf{y} = [y_1 \ y_2 \ y_3] \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

SESSES

Q = y^T (P^T A P) y



- A substitution  $\mathbf{x} = P\mathbf{y}$  that eliminates the cross product terms is

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2}{3} & -\frac{1}{3} & -\frac{2}{3} \\ \frac{1}{3} & -\frac{2}{3} & \frac{2}{3} \\ \frac{2}{3} & \frac{2}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

- This produces the new quadratic form

$$Q = \mathbf{y}^T (P^T A P) \mathbf{y} = [y_1 \ y_2 \ y_3] \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \end{bmatrix} = -3y_2^2 + 2y_3^2$$