Recitation 12

Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ be symmetric matrix with eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$. Prove that $||Ax|| \leq \max_i |\lambda_i| ||x||$ for any $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

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Consider the optimization problem

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where $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ and $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$ are fixed and $b \in \text{Im}(A)$.

- (a) Prove that any minimizer x^* must belong to $Im(A^T)$.
- (b) Give a formula for the minimizer x^* , and show it is unique.

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Let $A\in\mathbb{R}^{n\times m}$ and $B\in\mathbb{R}^{n\times k}$ and define the block matrix $C\in\mathbb{R}^{n\times (m+k)}$ by

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} A & B \end{bmatrix}$$
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Either prove the following statement or give a counterexample:

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Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ be a square matrix with the (unusual) property that the image space (or column space) $\operatorname{Im}(A)$ of A is equal to its kernel (or nullspace) $\operatorname{Ker}(A)$.

- (a) What can you say about A^2 ?
- (b) Give an example of such an A.

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Let $A=U\Sigma V^{\top}$ denote the Singular Value Decomposition of $A\in\mathbb{R}^{m\times n}$. Let $A'=U\Sigma' V^{\top}$ where Σ' is obtained from Σ by replacing every entry by zero except for the entry corresponding to the largest singular value.

- (a) Show that A' is the best rank 1 approximation of A in the Frobenius norm, meaning that A' is the solution to $\min_{B:\operatorname{rank}(B)=1}\|B-A\|_F$.
- (b) Show that A' is the best rank 1 approximation of A in the spectral norm, meaning that A' is the solution to $\min_{B:\operatorname{rank}(B)=1}\|B-A\|.$

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For each of the following statement, say if they are true or false and justify your answer.

- If a continuous function $f:\mathbb{R}\to\mathbb{R}$ has a unique minimizer then f is convex.
- If a continuous function $f: \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ is such that there exists x_0 such that f is decreasing on $(-\infty, x_0]$ and increasing on $[x_0, +\infty)$ then f is convex.
- A twice differentiable function $f: \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ whose derivative f' is non-decreasing is convex.

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Let $f:\mathbb{R}^n\to\mathbb{R}$ be a convex, differentiable function. Assume that there exist $x,y\in\mathbb{R}^n$ such that $\nabla f(x)=\nabla f(y)=0$. Show that $\nabla f((x+y)/2)=0$.