

**MSc. Data Science**  
Linear Algebra and its applications - Midterm

SOLUTIONS

Time allowed: 3 hours

Total: 100 points

**Instructions:**

- Show all your work; writing only the answer will not carry any points.
- Any instances of copying will be severely dealt with.
- There is no partial marking for bonus points; you get all or none.

1. (5 points) Let  $A = U\Sigma V^*$  be the SVD of an  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$  of rank  $r$ . Define  $\hat{A} = V\hat{\Sigma}U^*$ , where  $\hat{\Sigma} = \text{diag}(1/\sigma_1, \dots, 1/\sigma_r, 0, \dots, 0)$  ( $\hat{A}$  is called the pseudoinverse of  $A$ ). Prove that if  $A$  is invertible, then  $\hat{A}$  is the inverse of  $A$ .

**Answer:**  $A$  invertible implies  $A$  must be square and  $A$  must be full rank. So  $m = n = r$ .

Further,

$$A^{-1} = (U\Sigma V^*)^{-1} = V^{*-1}\Sigma^{-1}U^{-1} = V\hat{\Sigma}U^* = \hat{A},$$

since  $U$  and  $V$  are unitary and  $\Sigma^{-1} = \text{diag}(1/\sigma_1, \dots, 1/\sigma_r)$  is the inverse of  $\Sigma = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_r)$ .

2. (25 points) Consider the matrix  $A = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 11 \\ -10 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$ .

- (a) Find an SVD  $A = U\Sigma V^*$  of  $A$ .
- (b) List the right singular vectors and left singular vectors of  $A$ .
- (c) Calculate the pseudoinverse  $\hat{A}$ .
- (d) What are the 1, 2,  $\infty$  and Frobenius norms of  $A$ ?
- (e) Draw a labelled picture of the unit ball in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  and its image under  $A$ . What are the images of the unit vectors  $[-1, 0]$  and  $[0, -1]$ ?

**Answer:**

(a)

$$\begin{pmatrix} -2 & 11 \\ -10 & 5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} & 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} & 1/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 10\sqrt{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 5\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3/5 & 4/5 \\ 4/5 & 3/5 \end{pmatrix}$$

(b) The right singular vectors are the columns of  $V$  and left singular vectors of  $A$  are the columns of  $U$ .

(c) Since  $A$  is invertible, the pseudoinverse of  $A$  is same as the inverse of  $A$ , which is:

$$\frac{1}{100} \begin{pmatrix} 5 & -11 \\ 10 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

(d)

$$\|A\|_1 = 16; \quad \|A\|_2 = 10\sqrt{2}; \quad \|A\|_\infty = 15; \quad \|A\|_F = 5\sqrt{10}.$$

- (e) The image of the unit ball in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  under  $A$  is an ellipse with the length of the semi-major axis being of  $10\sqrt{2}$  and that of the semi-minor axis being  $5\sqrt{2}$ .

3. (10 points) Consider the following system of equations:

$$\begin{aligned}x + y &= 2 \\x + 1.0001y &= 2\end{aligned}$$

- (i) Solve the linear system  $Ax = b$  associated to the above system of equations.
- (ii) Solve the linear system  $Ax = b'$ , where  $b' = (2, 2.0001)^t$
- (iii) Explain the variation in the solutions obtained in (i) and (ii) using  $\kappa(A)$ . Use the 1-norm for your calculations.

**Answer:**

(i)  $x = 0, y = 2$ .

(ii)  $x = y = 1$ .

(iii) Note that  $A^{-1} = \frac{1}{10^{-4}} \begin{pmatrix} 1.0001 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 10001 & -10000 \\ -10000 & 10000 \end{pmatrix}$ , so that

$$\kappa_1(A) = \|A\|_1 \|A^{-1}\|_1 = (2.0001)(20001) \approx 40002.$$

The fact that the condition number of  $A$  is so large explains the large variation in the solutions even when there is such little perturbation in the data  $b$ .

4. (25 points) Let  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}$  (unless otherwise indicated). For each of the following statements, prove that it is true or give an example to show it is false.

- (a) The rank of a square matrix  $A$  is the number of non-zero singular values of  $A$ .

**Answer: TRUE.**

Let  $A = U\Sigma V^*$ , then  $AV = U\Sigma$  i.e.  $Av_i = \sigma_i u_i$ . The right singular vectors  $\{v_i\}$  form an orthonormal basis of the domain, hence the range space of  $A$  is spanned by  $\{Av_i\} = \{\sigma_i u_i\}$  where  $\sigma_i \neq 0$ . Hence  $\text{rank}(A) = \text{dimension of the range space of } A = \text{number of non-zero singular values of } A$ .

- (b) If all the eigenvalues of  $A$  are zero, then  $A = 0$ .

**Answer: FALSE.**

Eg. the matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  is a nonzero matrix having all eigenvalues zero. Nilpotent matrices have all eigenvalues zero.

- (c) If  $A$  is hermitian and  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$ , then  $|\lambda|$  is a singular value of  $A$ .

**Answer: TRUE.**

Let  $Av = \lambda v$ , then  $A^*Av = A^2v = \lambda^2v$  implies  $\lambda^2$  is an eigenvalue of  $A^*A$ , i.e.  $|\lambda|$  is a singular value of  $A$ .

- (d) If  $A$  is diagonalizable and all its eigenvalues are equal, then  $A$  is diagonal.

**Answer:** *TRUE.*

Suppose  $A = P^{-1}\Lambda P$  is the eigenvalue decomposition of  $A$ . If all eigenvalues of  $A$  are equal (to  $\lambda$ , say) then  $\Lambda = \lambda I$  so that  $A = P^{-1}\Lambda P = P^{-1}\lambda I P = \lambda P^{-1}IP = \lambda I$ . Hence  $A$  is diagonal.

- (e) Two square matrices  $A$  and  $B$  are *unitarily equivalent* (i.e. there exists a unitary matrix  $Q$  such that  $A = QBQ^*$ ) iff they have the same singular values.

**Answer:** *FALSE.*

Let  $A = U_1\Sigma_1V_1^*$  and  $B = U_2\Sigma_2V_2^*$  be SVDs.

$$\begin{aligned} A = QBQ^* &\implies A = Q(U_2\Sigma_2V_2^*)Q^* \\ &\implies A = U\Sigma_2V^* \quad \text{where } U = QU_2, \quad V = QV_2 \\ &\implies U_1\Sigma_1V_1^* = U\Sigma_2V^* \\ &\implies \Sigma_1 = \Sigma_2. \end{aligned}$$

However, the converse is not true. Consider the matrices  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . They have the same singular values, namely 1, 1 (check!), but they are not unitarily equivalent. (For if they were unitarily equivalent, the eigenspaces of  $A$  and  $B$  corresponding to the same eigenvalue (i.e. 1) would have to have the same dimension; but  $\dim \ker(A - 1 \cdot I) = 2$ , while  $\dim \ker(B - 1 \cdot I) = 1$ .)

- (f) A zero pivot is encountered while applying Gaussian elimination without pivoting to  $A$ . So  $A$  must be singular.

**Answer:** *FALSE.*

The matrix  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  has the first pivot as zero, but is invertible since  $\det A = -1 \neq 0$ .

## 5. (20 points)

- (a) Let  $A$  be a  $m \times n$  matrix and  $B$  be a  $n \times k$  matrix. Write a pseudocode for the matrix multiplication  $C = AB$ . What is the operation count for the matrix multiplication using your code?
- (b) Write a pseudocode for back substitution, i.e. solving the system of equations  $Ux = y$ , where  $U$  is a  $m \times m$  upper triangular matrix. What is the operation count?
- (c) Let  $A$  be an invertible matrix. In solving the linear system  $A^2u = b$ , is it more advantageous (in terms of flops) to calculate the matrix  $A^2$  or to solve the two linear systems  $Av = b$  and  $Au = v$  in turn making use of the same  $LU$  factorization?

**Answer:**

- (a) Let  $A = (a_{ij}), B = (b_{ij}), C = (c_{ij})$ .

Pseudocode:

```

for  $i=1$  to  $m$  do
    for  $j=1$  to  $k$  do
         $c_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik}b_{kj}$ 
    end
end

```

Operation count:

Number of flops required to calculate one entry of the product matrix  $= 2n - 1$  ( $n$  multiplications and  $n - 1$  additions).

Number of entries in the product matrix  $= m \times k$ .

Therefore, total number of flops required to multiply a  $m \times n$  matrix with a  $n \times k$  matrix equals

$$m \times k \times (2n - 1).$$

(b) Suppose

$$\begin{pmatrix} u_{11} & u_{12} & \dots & u_{1m} \\ 0 & u_{22} & \dots & u_{2m} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & u_{mm} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_m \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_m \end{pmatrix}$$

Back Substitution:

$$\begin{aligned} x_m &= \frac{y_m}{u_{mm}} \\ x_{m-1} &= \frac{y_{m-1} - u_{m-1,m}x_m}{u_{m-1,m-1}} \\ &\vdots \\ x_j &= \frac{y_j - \sum_{k=j+1}^m u_{jk}x_k}{u_{jj}} \\ &\vdots \\ x_1 &= \frac{y_1 - \sum_{k=2}^m u_{1k}x_k}{u_{11}} \end{aligned}$$

Pseudocode:

```

for  $i=0$  to  $m-1$  do
     $j=m-i$ 
     $x_j = \left( y_j - \sum_{k=j+1}^m u_{jk}x_k \right) / u_{jj}$ 
end

```

Operation count: The  $i$ -th step in the loop requires  $(1 + 2(m - i))$  floating point operations. So total number of flops required equals-

$$\sum_{i=1}^m (1 + 2(m - i)) = m + 2 \sum_{i=1}^m (m - i) = m + 2 \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} i = m + \frac{2(m-1)(m)}{2} = m^2.$$

(c) Solving  $A^2u = b$  would involve:

- i. calculating  $A^2$ :  $n^2(2n - 1) = 2n^3 - n^2$  flops;
  - ii. LU factorization for  $A^2$ :  $\approx \frac{2n^3}{3}$  flops;
  - iii. solving  $(LU)u = b$ : involves solving  $Lx = b$  for  $x$  and then  $Uu = x$  for  $u$ , so a total of  $2n^2$  flops.
- Thus the operation count for this method would be  $\approx (2n^3 - n^2 + \frac{2n^3}{3} + 2n^2) = \frac{8n^3}{3} + n^2$  flops.

On the other hand, the second method would involve:

i. LU factorization of  $A$ :  $\approx \frac{2n^3}{3}$  flops;

ii. 2 forward and 2 back substitutions:  $\approx 4n^2$  flops.

So the operation count would be  $\approx \frac{2n^3}{3} + 4n^2$  flops, which is definitely cheaper than the first method.

6. (5 points) Consider an algorithm for computing the full SVD  $U\Sigma V^*$  of a given matrix  $A$ . Let  $\tilde{U}$ ,  $\tilde{\Sigma}$  and  $\tilde{V}$  denote the computed matrices. Explain what it would mean for this algorithm to be:

- (a) accurate;
- (b) forward stable;
- (c) backward stable.

**Answer:** The algorithm  $\tilde{f}$  takes data  $A$  and produces 3 matrices  $\tilde{U}, \tilde{V}$  and  $\tilde{\Sigma}$ . Let  $\tilde{A}$  denote the product  $\tilde{U}\tilde{\Sigma}\tilde{V}^*$ .

- (a) The algorithm would be said to be **accurate** if

$$\frac{\|\tilde{A} - A\|}{\|A\|} = O(\epsilon_{mach}).$$

- (b) The algorithm would be said to be **(forward) stable** if

$$\frac{\|\tilde{A} - A'\|}{\|A'\|} = O(\epsilon_{mach}),$$

for some  $A' = A + \delta A$  such that  $\frac{\|\delta A\|}{\|A\|} = O(\epsilon_{mach})$ .

- (c) The algorithm would be said to be **backward stable** if

$$\tilde{A} = A',$$

for some  $A' = A + \delta A$  such that  $\frac{\|\delta A\|}{\|A\|} = O(\epsilon_{mach})$ .

7. (5 points) Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 6 \\ 9 & 8 \end{pmatrix}$ .

- (a) Calculate the LU factorization of  $A$  in exact arithmetic.
- (b) Calculate the LU factorization of  $A$  in base 10, precision 2, floating point arithmetic. Let these computed matrices be denoted by  $\tilde{L}, \tilde{U}$ .
- (c) (5 points bonus) Write  $\tilde{L}\tilde{U}$  as  $A + \delta A$ . What can you say about  $\frac{\|\delta A\|}{\|\tilde{L}\|\|\tilde{U}\|}$ ? Can you draw conclusions about the stability of LU factorization in this case?

**Answer:**

- (a) In exact arithmetic:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 7 & 6 \\ 9 & 8 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 9/7 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 6 \\ 0 & 2/7 \end{pmatrix}.$$

(b) In base 10, precision 2 floating point arithmetic:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 7 & 6 \\ 9 & 8 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1.2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 6 \\ 0 & 2.8 \times 10^{-1} \end{pmatrix}.$$

(c)  $\tilde{L}\tilde{U} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 6 \\ 8.4 & 7.4 \end{pmatrix} = A + \delta A$ , where  $\delta A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ -0.6 & -0.6 \end{pmatrix}$ . So  $\|\delta A\|_1 = 0.6$ .

Now  $\|L\|_1 = 16/7$ ,  $\|U\|_1 = 7$ , so that  $\|L\|_1\|U\|_1 = 16$ , so

$$\frac{\|\delta A\|}{\|L\| \cdot \|U\|} = \frac{0.6}{16} = 0.0375 < \frac{1}{20} = \epsilon_{mach},$$

which is as expected. The growth factor  $\rho = \frac{\max|u_{ij}|}{\max|a_{ij}|} = \frac{7}{9} < 1$ , so stability is expected.