

MATH 271.1: Statistical Methods
Supplementary Notes on Principal Components Analysis
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1 Linear Algebra Review

This section presents the concepts and theorems from Linear Algebra which we will use in this class.

1. Eigenvectors and Eigenvalues

Let \mathbf{A} be an $n \times n$ matrix, and $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ a nonzero vector. If there exists a scalar value λ such that

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \lambda\mathbf{x},$$

then we define λ as an *eigenvalue* of \mathbf{A} , and the corresponding nonzero vector \mathbf{x} is called an *eigenvector* of \mathbf{A} .

To determine eigenvalues and eigenvectors, we solve the characteristic equation

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

The eigenvectors of \mathbf{A} corresponding to λ are the nonzero solutions of

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

2. If c is a nonzero scalar and λ is an eigenvalue of an $n \times n$ matrix \mathbf{A} where \mathbf{x} is its corresponding eigenvector, then $c\lambda$ is an eigenvalue of the scaled matrix $c\mathbf{A}$, and \mathbf{x} is the eigenvector corresponding to the eigenvalue $c\lambda$.

3. Eigenvalues of Triangular Matrices

If \mathbf{A} is an $n \times n$ triangular matrix, then its eigenvalues are the entries on its main diagonal.

4. Diagonalizable Matrix

An $n \times n$ matrix \mathbf{A} is diagonalizable when \mathbf{A} is similar to a diagonal matrix.

That is, \mathbf{A} is diagonalizable when there exists an invertible matrix \mathbf{P} such that $\mathbf{P}^{-1}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{P}$ is a diagonal matrix.

5. If \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} are similar $n \times n$ matrices, then they have the same eigenvalues.

6. Condition for Diagonalization

An $n \times n$ matrix \mathbf{A} is diagonalizable if and only if it has n linearly independent eigenvectors.

7. Properties of Symmetric Matrices

If \mathbf{A} is an $n \times n$ symmetric matrix, then

- (a) \mathbf{A} is diagonalizable
- (b) All eigenvalues of \mathbf{A} are real

- (c) If λ is an eigenvalue of \mathbf{A} with multiplicity k , then λ has k linearly independent eigenvectors
- (d) If λ_1 and λ_2 are distinct eigenvalues of \mathbf{A} , then their corresponding eigenvectors \mathbf{x}_1 and \mathbf{x}_2 are orthogonal.

8. Orthogonal Matrix

A square matrix \mathbf{P} is orthogonal when it is invertible and $\mathbf{P}^{-1} = \mathbf{P}^T$.

In general, an $n \times m$ matrix \mathbf{Q} is orthogonal if $\mathbf{Q}^T \mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{I}$.

9. Orthogonally Diagonalizable Matrix

A matrix \mathbf{A} is orthogonally diagonalizable when there exists an orthogonal matrix \mathbf{P} such that $\mathbf{P}^{-1} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{P}$ is a diagonal matrix.

10. Fundamental Theorem of Symmetric Matrices

Let \mathbf{A} be an $n \times n$ matrix. Then \mathbf{A} is orthogonally diagonalizable if and only if \mathbf{A} is symmetric.

11. Diagonalizing a Square Matrix (Spectral Decomposition, Eigendecomposition)

If \mathbf{A} is a diagonalizable square matrix, then \mathbf{A} can be expressed as

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{P} \mathbf{D} \mathbf{P}^{-1}$$

where \mathbf{P} is an $n \times n$ matrix whose columns consist of n linearly independent eigenvectors of \mathbf{A} , and \mathbf{D} is a diagonal matrix with the corresponding eigenvalues of \mathbf{A} on its main diagonal.

The order of the eigenvectors used to form \mathbf{P} will determine the order in which the eigenvalues appear on the main diagonal of \mathbf{D} .

12. Positive Definite and Semidefinite Matrices

(a) A matrix \mathbf{A} is *positive definite* if it is symmetric and $\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} > 0$ for all nonzero \mathbf{x} .

(b) A matrix \mathbf{A} is *positive semidefinite* if it is symmetric and $\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} \geq 0$ for all \mathbf{x} .

13. Eigenvalues of Positive Definite and Semidefinite Matrices

The eigenvalues of a positive definite matrix are all positive. The eigenvalues of a positive semidefinite matrix are all nonnegative.

14. Derivatives of Matrices

If $\mathbf{u} = u(\mathbf{x})$, $\mathbf{v} = v(\mathbf{x})$, and \mathbf{A} is not a function of \mathbf{x} , then the following properties hold true:

$$(a) \frac{\partial (\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{A} \mathbf{v})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \frac{\partial (\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{v})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{v} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{u}$$

$$(b) \frac{\partial (\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \frac{\partial (\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{v})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \mathbf{v} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \mathbf{u}$$