

NORMS for MATRICES

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Matrices having the same format can be added and matrices can be multiplied by a scalar. Therefore, the sets of matrices $\mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ or $\mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ can be regarded as linear spaces (over \mathbb{R} , or \mathbb{C} , respectively).

Norms can be introduced over matrices adopting one of the following points of view:

- a matrix in $\mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ can be regarded as a real vector with mn components (**vectorial norms**), or
- a matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ is a transformation h_A of \mathbb{R}^n into \mathbb{R}^m defined by $h_A(\mathbf{x}) = A\mathbf{x}$ for $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ (**operatorial norms**).

Matrix Norms

Definition

A *consistent family of matrix norms* is a family of functions $\mu^{(m,n)} : \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$, where $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$, $m, n \geq 1$, that satisfies the following conditions:

- $\mu^{(m,n)}$ is a norm on $\mathbb{R}^{(m,n)}$ for $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$, $m, n \geq 1$;
- for every matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ and $B \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}$ we have

$$\mu^{(m,p)}(AB) \leq \mu^{(m,n)}(A)\mu^{(n,p)}(B)$$

(the **submultiplicative property**).

If the format of the matrix A is clear from context or is irrelevant, then we write $\mu(A)$ instead of $\mu^{(m,n)}(A)$.

Example

Consider the vectorial matrix norm μ_1 induced by the vector norm $\|\cdot\|_1$, where $\|\mathbf{x}\|_1 = \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|$. We have $\mu_1(A) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m |a_{ij}|$ for $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$. $\mu_1(A)$ is denoted by $\|A\|_1$.

Actually, this is a matrix norm. Indeed, for $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times p}$ and $B \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times n}$ we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_1(AB) &= \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n \left| \sum_{k=1}^p a_{ik} b_{kj} \right| \leq \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^p |a_{ik} b_{kj}| \\ &\leq \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k'=1}^p \sum_{k''=1}^p |a_{ik'}| |b_{k''j}| \\ &\quad \text{(because we added extra non-negative terms to the sums)} \\ &= \left(\sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{k'=1}^p |a_{ik'}| \right) \cdot \left(\sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k''=1}^p |b_{k''j}| \right) = \mu_1(A) \mu_1(B). \end{aligned}$$

Example

The vectorial matrix norm μ_2 induced by the vector norm $\|\cdot\|_2$ is also a matrix norm. Indeed, using the same notations we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\mu_2(AB))^2 &= \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n \left| \sum_{k=1}^p a_{ik} b_{kj} \right|^2 \leq \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n \left(\sum_{k=1}^p |a_{ik}|^2 \right) \left(\sum_{l=1}^p |b_{lj}|^2 \right) \\
 &\quad \text{(by Cauchy-Schwarz inequality)} \\
 &\leq (\mu_2(A))^2 (\mu_2(B))^2.
 \end{aligned}$$

We have $\mu_2(A) = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m |a_{ij}|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$. This norm is usually denoted by

$\|A\|_F$ and is known as the **Frobenius norm**.

If $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, $\|A\|_F^2 = \text{trace} A' A = \text{trace} A A'$.

Definition

A matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ is **orthogonal** if $A'A = AA' = I_n$.

Example

The matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \alpha & \sin \alpha \\ -\sin \alpha & \cos \alpha \end{pmatrix}$$

is orthogonal.

Theorem

If U is an orthogonal matrix, then $\| U\mathbf{x} \|_2 = \| \mathbf{x} \|_2$ (that is, the length of any vector is invariant under multiplication by U).

Proof If U is orthogonal we have

$$\| U\mathbf{x} \|_2^2 = (U\mathbf{x})' U\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}' U' U\mathbf{x} = \| \mathbf{x} \|_2^2$$

because $U' U = I_n$. Thus, $\| U\mathbf{x} \|_2 = \| \mathbf{x} \|_2$.

Properties of Orthogonal Matrices

- the inverse of an orthogonal matrix is $U^{-1} = U'$;
- $\det(U) \in \{-1, 1\}$;
- the Householder matrix $U = I_n - 2\mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}'$ (where \mathbf{v} is a unit vector) is orthogonal.

Frobenius Norm is Invariant

Let U be an orthogonal matrix. We have

$$\| UA \|_F = \sqrt{\text{trace}((UA)'UA)} = \sqrt{\text{trace}(A'U'UA)} = \sqrt{\text{trace}(A'A)} = \| A \|_F .$$

Definition

Let ν_m be a norm on \mathbb{R}^m and ν_n be a norm on \mathbb{R}^n and let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ be a matrix. The **operator norm** of A is the number $\mu^{(n,m)}(A) = \mu^{(n,m)}(h_A)$, where $\mu^{(n,m)} = N(\nu_m, \nu_n)$.

Theorem

Let $\{\nu_n \mid n \geq 1\}$ be a family of vector norms, where ν_n is a vector norm on \mathbb{R}^n . The family of norms $\{\mu^{(n,m)} \mid n, m \geq 1\}$ is consistent.

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mu^{(n,p)}(AB) &= \sup\{\nu_n((AB)\mathbf{x}) \mid \nu_p(\mathbf{x}) \leq 1\} \\
 &= \sup\{\nu_n(A(B\mathbf{x})) \mid \nu_p(\mathbf{x}) \leq 1\} \\
 &= \sup\left\{\nu_n\left(A \frac{B\mathbf{x}}{\nu_m(B\mathbf{x})}\right) \nu_m(B\mathbf{x}) \mid \nu_p(\mathbf{x}) \leq 1\right\} \\
 &\leq \mu^{(n,m)}(A) \sup\{\nu_m(B\mathbf{x}) \mid \nu_p(\mathbf{x}) \leq 1\} \\
 &\quad \text{(because } \nu_m\left(\frac{B\mathbf{x}}{\nu_m(B\mathbf{x})}\right) = 1) \\
 &= \mu^{(n,m)}(A) \mu^{(m,p)}(B).
 \end{aligned}$$

Theorem

Let ν_n be a norm on \mathbb{R}^n for $n \geq 1$. The following equalities hold for $\mu^{(n,m)}(A)$, where $A \in \mathbb{R}^{(n,m)}$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mu^{(n,m)}(A) &= \inf\{M \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \mid \nu_n(A\mathbf{x}) \leq M\nu_m(\mathbf{x}) \text{ for every } \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^m\} \\
 &= \sup\{\nu_n(A\mathbf{x}) \mid \nu_m(\mathbf{x}) \leq 1\} = \max\{\nu_n(A\mathbf{x}) \mid \nu_m(\mathbf{x}) \leq 1\} \\
 &= \max\{\nu'(f(\mathbf{x})) \mid \nu(\mathbf{x}) = 1\} \\
 &= \sup\left\{\frac{\nu'(f(\mathbf{x}))}{\nu(\mathbf{x})} \mid \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^m - \{\mathbf{0}_m\}\right\}.
 \end{aligned}$$

The operator matrix norm induced by the vector norm $\|\cdot\|_p$ is denoted by $\|\cdot\|_p$.

The norm $\|A\|_1$

Example

Let the columns of A be $\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n$ and let $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ be a vector whose components are x_1, \dots, x_n . Then, $\mathbf{Ax} = x_1\mathbf{a}_1 + \dots + x_n\mathbf{a}_n$, so

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathbf{Ax}\|_1 &= \|x_1\mathbf{a}_1 + \dots + x_n\mathbf{a}_n\|_1 \leq \sum_{j=1}^n |x_j| \|\mathbf{a}_j\|_1 \\ &\leq \max_j \|\mathbf{a}_j\|_1 \sum_{j=1}^n |x_j| = \max_j \|\mathbf{a}_j\|_1 \cdot \|\mathbf{x}\|_1. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $\|A\|_1 \leq \max_j \|\mathbf{a}_j\|_1$.

The norm $\|A\|_1$ (cont'd)

Example

Let \mathbf{e}_j be the vector whose components are 0 with the exception of its j^{th} component that is equal to 1. Clearly, we have $\|\mathbf{e}_j\|_1 = 1$ and $\mathbf{a}_j = A\mathbf{e}_j$. This, in turn implies $\|\mathbf{a}_j\|_1 = \|A\mathbf{e}_j\|_1 \leq \|A\|_1$ for $1 \leq j \leq n$. Therefore, $\max_j \|\mathbf{a}_j\|_1 \leq \|A\|_1$, so

$$\|A\|_1 = \max_j \|\mathbf{a}_j\|_1 = \max_j \sum_{i=1}^n |a_{ij}|.$$

In other words, $\|A\|_1$ equals the maximum column sum of the absolute values.

Example

Let $D = \text{diag}(d_1, \dots, d_n) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ be a diagonal matrix. If $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ we have

$$D\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} d_1 x_1 \\ \vdots \\ d_n x_n \end{pmatrix},$$

so

$$\begin{aligned} \|D\|_2 &= \max\{\|D\mathbf{x}\|_2 \mid \|\mathbf{x}\|_2 = 1\} \\ &= \max\{\sqrt{(d_1 x_1)^2 + \dots + (d_n x_n)^2} \mid x_1^2 + \dots + x_n^2 = 1\} \\ &= \max\{|d_i| \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}. \end{aligned}$$

Norm $\|\cdot\|_2$ is invariant

For an orthogonal matrix U we have:

$$\begin{aligned}\|UA\|_2 &= \max\{\|(UA)\mathbf{x}\|_2 \mid \|\mathbf{x}\|_2 = 1\} = \max\{\|U(A\mathbf{x})\|_2 \mid \|\mathbf{x}\|_2 = 1\} \\ &= \max\{\|A\mathbf{x}\|_2 \mid \|\mathbf{x}\|_2 = 1\} = \|A\|_2.\end{aligned}$$