

Recitation #6

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DS-GA 1014: Optimization and Computational Linear Algebra
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Markov chain

A sequence of random variables (X_0, X_1, \dots) is a Markov chain with state space E and transition matrix P if for all $t \geq 0$,

$$\mathbb{P}(X_{t+1} = y | X = x_0, \dots, X_t = x_t) = P(x_t, y)$$

for all x_0, \dots, x_t such that $\mathbb{P}(X_0 = x_0, \dots, X_t = x_t) > 0$

Intuitively, "if the future only depends on the present and not the past"

Stochastic matrix

Let $P \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ be a matrix, we say P is stochastic if:

- $P_{i,j} \geq 0$ for all $1 \leq i, j \leq n$
- $\sum_{i=1}^n P_{i,j} = 1$ for all $1 \leq j \leq n$

Exercise 1

Let $A, B \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ be stochastic matrices then

- ① A is invertible ✓True ✗False
- ② The eigenvector corresponding to the largest eigenvalue of A is unique ✓True ✗False
- ③ A does not have $\lambda = 0$ as eigenvalue ✓True ✗False

Exercise 2

Let $A, B \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ then be stochastic matrices then AB is also a stochastic matrix.

Hint: express the condition "sum of each column = 1" as a matrix multiplication.

recall: Markov chain

Proposition

For a Markov chain with the notation above, for all $t \geq 0$

$$\boxed{x^{(t+1)} = P x^{(t)}} \quad \text{and consequently,} \quad \boxed{x^{(t)} = P^t x^{(0)}}$$

and recall that the limit $t \rightarrow \infty$ is $\boxed{x^{(t)} \rightarrow \mu}$ for some $\mu \in \Delta_n$ (probability vector).

Perron-Frobenius Theorem

Let P be a stochastic matrix such that exists $k \geq 1$ such that all the entries of P^k are strictly positive. Then,

- $\lambda = 1$ is an eigenvalues of P with μ its an eigenvector.
- The eigenvalue $\lambda = 1$ has multiplicity equal to $\ker(P - Id) = \text{Span}(\mu)$
- For all probability vectors $x \in \Delta_n$ we have $P^t x \rightarrow \mu$ in the limit $t \rightarrow \infty$

Exercise 3

Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ be a matrix with eigenvectors v_1, \dots, v_n and associated eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$. Let $x = \alpha_1 v_1 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n$ be a vector in \mathbb{R}^n . Show

- 1 Let P be a linear transformation that maps the canonical basis e_1, \dots, e_n of \mathbb{R}^n to the eigenvector basis of A : v_1, \dots, v_n . Write P explicitly.
- 2 What is PDP^{-1} ? ($D = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$)
- 3 Simplify $(PDP^{-1})^k$ for $k \in \mathbb{N}$
- 4 If $A = PDP^{-1}$, give an interpretation of the action of A

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recall: Spectral theorem

Spectral theorem !!

Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ be a symmetric matrix. Then, there exists an orthonormal basis of \mathbb{R}^n composed of eigenvectors of A

Exercise 4

Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ be a symmetric matrix. Give a vector $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$ with $\|v\| = 1$ such that $\|Av\|$ is maximized.

Exercise 5

Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ be a symmetric matrix with eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ and orthonormal eigenvectors v_1, \dots, v_n .

Give an orthonormal basis of $\text{Ker}(A)$ and $\text{Im}(A)$ in terms of v_1, \dots, v_n only.

practice: Spectral theorem

Exercise 6(*)

Let $A, B \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ be symmetric matrices. Show that $AB = BA$ if and only if A and B diagonalize in the same basis. (Does the same hold if we just assume that A, B are diagonalizable?)