

**NE 155/255, Fall 2019**  
**Vector Convergence, Matrix Norms and Convergence**  
**September 06, 2019**

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**Basic Theorems of Convergence**

**Definition** A sequence of vectors  $\{\vec{x}^{(k)}\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is said to *converge* to  $\vec{x}$  with respect to norm  $\|\cdot\|$  if given any  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists an integer  $N(\varepsilon)$  such that

$$\|\vec{x}^{(k)} - \vec{x}\| < \varepsilon \quad \text{for all } k \geq N(\varepsilon).$$

**Theorem 1.** *The sequence of vectors  $\{\vec{x}^{(k)}\}_{k=1}^{\infty} \rightarrow \vec{x}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with respect to  $\|\cdot\|_{\infty}$  iff*

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} x_i^{(k)} = x_i \quad \text{for each } i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

*Proof.* ( $\hookrightarrow$ )

Let  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|\vec{x}^{(k)}\|_{\infty} = \|\vec{x}\|_{\infty}$ . Then for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $N(\varepsilon)$  such that

$$\|\vec{x}^{(j)} - \vec{x}^{(m)}\|_{\infty} < \varepsilon \quad \text{for all } j, m > N(\varepsilon).$$

Thus

$$\max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |x_i^{(j)} - x_i^{(m)}| < \varepsilon \quad \text{for all } j, m > N(\varepsilon),$$

implying that

$$|x_i^{(j)} - x_i^{(m)}| < \varepsilon \quad \text{for all } i \quad \text{and for all } j, m > N(\varepsilon).$$

Therefore,

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} x_i^{(k)} = x_i \quad \text{for each } i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

□

*Proof.* ( $\leftarrow$ )

Let

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} x_i^{(k)} = x_i \quad \text{for each } i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

Then for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $N(\varepsilon)$  such that

$$|x_i^{(j)} - x_i^{(m)}| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \quad \text{for all } i \quad \text{and for all } j, m > N(\varepsilon).$$

Taking the limit as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , we have

$$|x_i^{(j)} - x_i| \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \quad \text{for all } i \quad \text{and for all } j > N(\varepsilon).$$

Thus,

$$\max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |x_i^{(j)} - x_i| \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \quad \text{for all } j > N(\varepsilon),$$

which means that

$$\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \|\vec{x}^{(j)} - \vec{x}\|_{\infty} \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2} < \varepsilon.$$

□

**Theorem 2.** For each  $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ :

- a.  $\|\vec{x}\|_{\infty} \leq \|\vec{x}\|_2 \leq \sqrt{n} \|\vec{x}\|_{\infty}$
- b.  $\|\vec{x}\|_2 \leq \|\vec{x}\|_1 \leq \sqrt{n} \|\vec{x}\|_2$
- c.  $\|\vec{x}\|_{\infty} \leq \|\vec{x}\|_1 \leq n \|\vec{x}\|_{\infty}$

*Proof.* We give the proof for (a.):

$$\|\vec{x}\|_2 = \|\vec{x}\|_{\infty} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{x_i^2}{\|\vec{x}\|_{\infty}^2} \right)^{1/2} \leq \|\vec{x}\|_{\infty} \sqrt{n},$$

because  $x_i / \|\vec{x}\|_{\infty} \leq 1$  for all  $i$ .

Moreover, there is a  $i$  such that  $\|\vec{x}\|_{\infty} = |x_i|$ , therefore

$$\left( \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{x_i^2}{\|\vec{x}\|_{\infty}^2} \right)^{1/2} \geq 1$$

and

$$\|\vec{x}\|_2 = \|\vec{x}\|_{\infty} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{x_i^2}{\|\vec{x}\|_{\infty}^2} \right)^{1/2} \geq \|\vec{x}\|_{\infty}.$$

□

Note: As a corollary of this theorem, convergence in the  $l_1$ ,  $l_2$ , and  $l_{\infty}$  norms is equivalent.

## Matrix Norms

We need to extend our definitions to include matrices.

**Definition** A *Matrix Norm* on the set of all  $n \times n$  matrices is a real-valued function  $\|\cdot\|$  defined on this set that satisfies the following properties for all  $n \times n$  matrices  $A$  and  $B$  and all real numbers  $\alpha$ :

1.  $\|A\| \geq 0$
2.  $\|A\| = 0$  iff  $A = 0$  (all zero entries)
3.  $\|\alpha A\| = |\alpha| \|A\|$  (scalar multiplication)
4.  $\|A + B\| \leq \|A\| + \|B\|$  (triangle inequality)

In this course, in the case of square matrices, we will deal with submultiplicative norms, which also satisfy

5.  $\|AB\| \leq \|A\| \|B\|$

The following theorem is offered without proof:

**Theorem 3.** (*Natural or Induced Matrix Norm*)

If  $\|\cdot\|$  is a vector norm on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , then

$$\|A\| = \max_{\|\vec{x}\|=1} \|A\vec{x}\|$$

is a matrix norm.

The natural norm describes how a matrix stretches unit vectors relative to that norm. For any  $\vec{y} \neq 0$ ,  $\vec{x} = \vec{y}/\|\vec{y}\|$  is a unit vector, and

$$\max_{\|\vec{x}\|=1} \|A\vec{x}\| = \max_{\|\vec{y}\| \neq 0} \left\| A \frac{\vec{y}}{\|\vec{y}\|} \right\| = \max_{\|\vec{y}\| \neq 0} \frac{\|A\vec{y}\|}{\|\vec{y}\|}.$$

## Common Norms

- $\|A\|_1 = \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} \sum_{i=1}^m |a_{ij}|$  = largest absolute column sum.

- $\|A\|_\infty = \max_{1 \leq i \leq m} \sum_{j=1}^n |a_{ij}| = \text{largest absolute row sum.}$
- In the special case of the Euclidean norm, the induced matrix norm is the *Spectral Norm*. The spectral norm of a matrix  $A$  is the largest singular value of  $A$ ; i.e. the square root of the largest eigenvalue of the positive-semidefinite matrix  $A^*A$ :

$$\|A\|_2 = \sqrt{\lambda_{\max}(A^*A)} = \sigma_{\max}(A).$$

It can be shown that

$$\|A\|_2 \leq \left( \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n |a_{ij}|^2 \right)^{1/2} = \|A\|_F,$$

where the right-hand side is the Frobenius norm, or  $L_{2,2}$  norm. The equality holds if and only if the matrix  $A$  is a rank-one matrix or a zero matrix.

**Example** Consider

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then

- i.  $\|A\|_1 = 3$
  - ii.  $\|A\|_\infty = 2$
  - iii.  $\|A\|_2 = \sqrt{3 + \sqrt{5}} \approx 2.2882$
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### Convergence and Spectral Radius

**Definition** An  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  is convergent if

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} (A^k)_{ij} = 0,$$

for each  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

**Example** Consider

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}.$$

We can see that

$$A^k = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2^k} & 0 \\ \frac{k}{2^{k+1}} & \frac{1}{2^k} \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow 0$$

as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ .

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**Definition** The spectral radius,  $\rho(A)$ , of a matrix  $A$  is defined by

$$\rho(A) = \max |\lambda|,$$

where  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$ .

The spectral radius provides a valuable measure of the eigenvalues, which helps determine if a

numerical scheme will converge.

**Theorem 4.** *If  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , then  $\rho(A) \leq \|A\|$  for any natural norm  $\|\cdot\|$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\|\vec{x}\|$  be a unit eigenvector of  $A$  with respect to the eigenvalue  $\lambda$ . Then

$$|\lambda| = |\lambda| \|\vec{x}\| = \|\lambda \vec{x}\| = \|A\vec{x}\| \leq \|A\| \|\vec{x}\| = \|A\|.$$

Thus,

$$\rho(A) = \max |\lambda| \leq \|A\|.$$

If  $A$  is symmetric, then  $\rho(A) = \|A\|_2$ . □

The following theorem is given here without proof. It will be used to prove Gelfand's Formula.

**Theorem 5.** *Let  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  with spectral radius  $\rho(A)$ ; then  $\rho(A) < 1$  iff*

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} A^k = 0.$$

*Moreover, if  $\rho(A) > 1$ ,  $\|A^k\|$  is not bounded for increasing values of  $k$ .*

**Theorem 6.** *(Gelfand's Formula)*

*For any matrix norm  $\|\cdot\|$ , we have*

$$\rho(A) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|A^k\|^{1/k}.$$

*Proof.* For any  $\varepsilon > 0$  we construct the following two matrices:

$$A_{\pm} = \frac{1}{\rho(A) \pm \varepsilon} A.$$

Then

$$\rho(A_{\pm}) = \frac{\rho(A)}{\rho(A) \pm \varepsilon},$$

which implies that  $\rho(A_+) < 1 < \rho(A_-)$ .

Using Theorem 6, there exists  $N_+ \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\forall k \geq N_+$ , we have  $\|A_+^k\| < 1$  and therefore

$$\forall k \geq N_+ \quad \|A^k\| < (\rho(A) + \varepsilon)^k,$$

and

$$\forall k \geq N_+ \quad \|A^k\|^{1/k} < \rho(A) + \varepsilon.$$

Applying Theorem 6 to  $A_-$  implies that  $\|A_-^k\|$  is not bounded and there exists  $N_- \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\forall k \geq N_-$  we have  $\|A_-^k\| > 1$  and therefore

$$\forall k \geq N_- \quad \|A^k\| > (\rho(A) - \varepsilon)^k,$$

and

$$\forall k \geq N_- \quad \|A^k\|^{1/k} > \rho(A) - \varepsilon.$$

Let  $N = \max\{N_+, N_-\}$ , then we have that  $\forall \varepsilon > 0$ , there is  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\forall k \geq N$

$$\rho(A) - \varepsilon < \|A^k\|^{1/k} < \rho(A) + \varepsilon$$

which implies that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|A^k\|^{1/k} = \rho(A).$$

□

Finally, we have the following result, offered without proof:

**Theorem 7.** *The following statements are equivalent:*

- a.  $A$  is a convergent matrix
- b.  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|A^n\| = 0$  for some natural norm
- c.  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|A^n\| = 0$  for all natural norms



d.  $\rho(A) < 1$

e.  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A^n \vec{x} = 0$  for every  $\vec{x}$