

# ORF525 - Problem Set 1

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## Q.1

1. The conversion is necessary because otherwise we would have an unwanted order relation. For three similar houses A, B, C in zipcodes 98001, 98002, 98003, a linear model would be forced to affect a price for the house A that lies between the price for house A and C, which is a bug and not a feature of the data itself.
- 2.

## Q.2

- $\|Y - \theta\|_2^2 + 4\tau^2\|\theta\|_0 = \sum (y_i - \theta_i)^2 + 4\tau^2 1_{\theta_i \neq 0} = \sum_i f(\theta_i)$  Where  $f : \theta \rightarrow (y - \theta)^2 + 4\tau^2 1_{\theta \neq 0}$ , eg

$$f(\theta) = \begin{cases} y^2 & \text{if } \theta = 0 \\ (y - \theta)^2 + 4\tau^2 & \text{if } \theta \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

The problem is linearly separable, we can minimize on each variable  $\theta_i$  independently:

- If  $|y| > 2\tau$ , then  $y^2 \geq 4\tau^2$  and  $(y - \theta)^2 + 4\tau^2 \geq 4\tau^2 = f(y)$ .
- If  $|y| \leq 2\tau$ , then  $f(0) = y^2 \leq 4\tau^2 \leq y^2 + (y - \theta)^2 = f(\theta) \forall \theta \neq 0$ .

So  $\arg \min \|Y - \theta\|_2^2 + 4\tau^2 = \hat{\theta}^{\text{hard}}$ .

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$$\|Y - \theta\|_2^2 + 4\tau\|\theta\|_1 = \sum (y_i - \theta_i)^2 + 4\tau|\theta_i| = \sum_i g(\theta_i)$$

The problem is linearly separable, we can minimize on each variable  $\theta_i$  independently.  $g : \theta \rightarrow (y - \theta)^2 + 4\tau|\theta|$ , eg

$$g(\theta) = \begin{cases} g_1(\theta) = (y - \theta)^2 + 4\tau\theta & = (\theta - (-2\tau + y))^2 + 2\tau(\tau + y) & \text{if } \theta \geq 0 \\ g_2(\theta) = (y - \theta)^2 - 4\tau\theta & = (\theta - (2\tau + y))^2 + 2\tau(\tau + y) & \text{if } \theta \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

- \* If  $|y| \leq 2\tau$ , then  $g_1$  is increasing on  $[0, \infty)$ , so it has a minimum at 0, and the minimum is  $y^2 = g(0)$ .  
\*  $g_2$  is decreasing on  $(-\infty, 0]$  so it has a minimum at 0.  
\* c/c  $\arg \min g$  in this case is 0.
- \* If  $y \geq 2\tau$  then  $g_1$  has minimum at  $y - 2\tau > 0$  and the minimum is  $y^2 - (2\tau - y)^2$ .  
\*  $g_2$  is decreasing and has a minimum at 0,  $g_2(0) = y^2 \geq g(y - 2\tau)$  with equality only if  $y - 2\tau = 0$

\* c/c  $\arg \min g$  in this case is  $y - 2\tau$ .

– if  $y \leq -2\tau$ , by a similar argument,  $\arg \min g$  in this case is  $y - 2\tau$ .

So  $\arg \min \|Y - \theta\|_2^2 + 4\tau\theta = \hat{\theta}^{\text{hard}}$ .

### Q.3

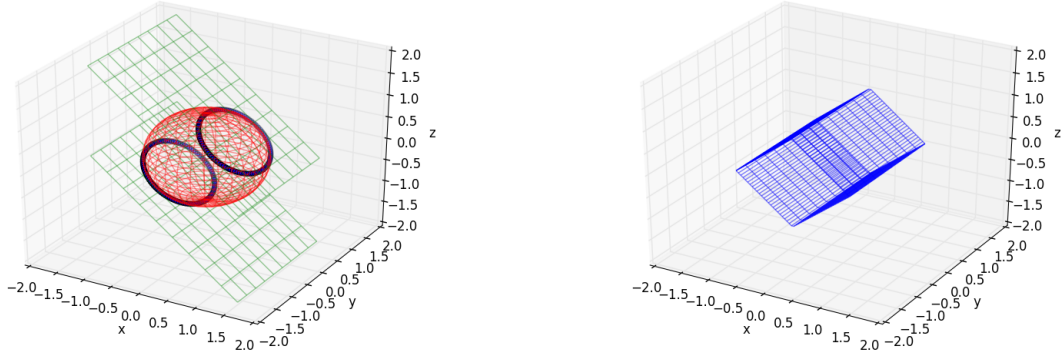


Figure 1: Set

1. (a)  $M(x, y, z)$  is of rank 1, so  $(xy)$  and  $(yz)$  are colinear, so  $\exists \lambda \in \mathbb{R} (xy) = \lambda(yz)$  or  $(yz) = \lambda(zx)$ 
  - i. Let's assume that  $(xy) = \lambda(yz)$ , and we can deduce the other case by symmetry. In this case  $x = \lambda^2 z, y = \lambda z$ . Which means that  $y^2 = \lambda^2 z z = xz$ .
  - ii. When  $(yz) = \lambda(xy)$ , by a similar argument,  $y^2 = xz$

The op norm is the biggest eigen value in absolute value, in this case since one of the eigen values is 0 (because the determinant is 0) the op norm is:  $|\text{tr}(M(x, y, z))| = |x + z|$ , this is equal to 1 only if  $1 = |x + z|^2 = x^2 + z^2 + 2xz = x^2 + z^2 + 2y^2$ . Letting  $t = \sqrt{y}$ , we have that:  $\{(x, \sqrt{2}y, z) | \text{Rank}(M) = 1, \|M\|_{op} = 1\} \subseteq \{(x, t, z) : x^2 + t^2 + z^2 = 1, |x + z| = 1\}$

For a matrix  $M(x, y, z)$  such that  $x^2 + z^2 + 2y^2 = 1$  and  $|x + z| = 1$ , it is easy to see that:

- $\|M\|_{op} = |\text{tr}(M)| = |x + z| = 1$
- $y^2 = \frac{1 - x^2 + z^2}{2} = \frac{(x+z)^2 - x^2 - y^2}{2} = xz$ , so  $\det(M) = 0$ , therefore  $M$  cannot have rank 2. It cannot have rank 0 either because  $x^2 + 2y^2 + z^2 = 1 \implies$  one of the coefficient is not 0.

Therefore we have:  $\{(x, \sqrt{2}y, z) | \text{Rank}(M) = 1, \|M\|_{op} = 1\} = \{(x, t, z) : x^2 + t^2 + z^2 = 1, |x + z| = 1\}$

$x^2 + t^2 + z^2$  describes the unit sphere,  $|x + z| = 1$  describe the union of the two hyperplanes  $x + z = \pm 1$ . Therefore this set is the union of intersection of sphere with two hyperplanes, e.g a union of two circles.

Or in parametric form:

$$\begin{cases} x &= \frac{1}{2} + \cos \theta \\ t &= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \sin \theta \\ z &= -\frac{1}{2} - \cos \theta \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} x &= -\frac{1}{2} + \cos \theta \\ t &= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \sin \theta \\ z &= -\frac{3}{2} - \cos \theta \end{cases}$$

(b)  $M := M(x, y, z)$  is symmetric, let's call  $\sigma_1, \sigma_2$  its eigen values, we know that:

$$\begin{aligned}\|M\|^* &= |\sigma_1| + |\sigma_2| \\ \text{tr}(M) &= x + z = \sigma_1 + \sigma_2 \\ \text{tr}(M^T M) &= x^2 + z^2 - 2y^2 = \sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2 \\ \det(M) &= xz - y^2 = \sigma_1 \sigma_2\end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $(\sigma_1 - \sigma_2)^2 = \sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2 - 2\sigma_1 \sigma_2 = \text{tr}(M^T M) - 2\det(M) = x^2 + z^2 - 2y^2 - 2(xz - y^2) = (x - z)^2$ . Since  $\|M\|_*^2 = \max\{|\sigma_1 + \sigma_2|^2, |\sigma_1 - \sigma_2|^2\}$ ,  $\|M\|_*^2 = \max\{(x + z)^2, (x - z)^2\}$ , and therefore

$$\|M\|_* \leq 1 \iff \begin{cases} (x + z)^2 \leq 1 \\ (x - z)^2 \leq 1 \end{cases} \iff \begin{cases} -1 \leq x + z \leq 1 \\ -1 \leq x - z \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

Which describes the square whose edges are  $(1, 0), (0, 1), (-1, 0), (0, -1)$  in the plane  $(X, Z)$ . In 3d it is the polyhedral obtained by extruding that square according to the  $Y$ -axis.

2. If  $A = uv^T$  has rank  $\leq 1$ ,  $A$  has at most one non null singular value, then  $\|A\|_{op} = |\text{tr}(A)| = |v^T u| = \|A\|_*$ , if  $\|A\|_{op} \leq 1$ , then  $\|A\|_* \leq 1$ . The nuclear norm is a norm (fact proven in the next exercise), so the unit ball is convex, and therefore:  $\text{conv}\{uv^T : \|uv^T\|_{op} \leq 1\} \subseteq \{X : \|X\|_* \leq 1\}$ .

Let  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1 \times d_2}$  st  $\|X\|_* \leq 1$  and let  $U\Lambda V^T$  be its SVD. Then  $\Lambda = \sum_{i=1}^d \sigma_i(X) e_i^T e_i$  where  $(e_i)_i$  is the canonical basis of  $\mathbb{R}^{d^2}$ . Therefore  $X = \sum_{i=1}^d \sigma_i(X) \underbrace{U e_i^T e_i V^T}_{\text{Rank}=1} + (1 - \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^d \sigma_i(X)}_{\|X\|_{op} \leq 1}) 0 \in \text{conv}\{uv^T : \|uv^T\|_{op} \leq 1\}$ .

$\|uv^T\|_{op} \leq 1\}$ . c/c  $\text{conv}\{uv^T : \|uv^T\|_{op} \leq 1\} = \{X : \|X\|_* \leq 1\}$ .

3. Two remarks:

- For  $A, B$  square matrices of the same shape,  $\|AB\|_F^2 = \text{tr}(ABB^T A^T) = \text{tr}(A^T ABB^T) = \text{tr}(BB^T A^T A) = \|B^T A^T\|_F^2$
- If  $O$  is orthogonal, the  $\|AO\|_F^2 = \text{tr}(AOO^T A^T) = \text{tr}(AA^T) = \|A\|_F^2$ ,  $\|OA\|_F = \|A^T O^T\|_F = \|A^T\|_F = \|A\|_F$ .

$$\|X - XZ\|_F^2 = \|X(I - Z)\|_F^2 = \|U\Lambda V^T(I - Z)\|_F^2 = \|\Lambda V^T(I - Z)\|_F^2 = \|\Lambda V^T V(V^T V - V^T Z V)V^T\|_F^2 = \|\Lambda(I - V^T Z V)\|_F^2.$$

Since  $V$  is invertible, let's do the change of variable  $Y = V^T Z V$ . Moreover,  $V$  is orthogonal, so the singular values of  $Y$  and  $Z$  are the same as well as their nuclear norm. The problem can thus be reduced to:

$$\min_Y \|Y\|_* + \frac{\tau}{2} \|\Lambda(I - Y)\|_F^2$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\|\Lambda(I - Y)\|_F^2 &= \sum_{ij} [e_i^T \Lambda(I - Y) e_j]^2 \\
&= \sum_{ij} [\Lambda_i e_i^T (e_j - Y e_j)]^2 \\
&= \sum_{ij} [\Lambda_i (\delta_{ij} - Y_{ij})]^2 \\
&= \sum_{i \neq j} \underbrace{\Lambda_i^2 y_{ij}^2}_{\geq 0} + \sum_i \Lambda_i^2 (1 - y_{ii})^2 \\
&\geq \sum_i \Lambda_i^2 (1 - y_{ii})^2
\end{aligned}$$

Let  $Y = \sum_i \sigma_i(Y) u_i v_i^T$  be the SVD of  $Y$ , then  $\text{tr}(Y) = \sum_i \sigma_i(Y) \text{tr}(u_i v_i^T) = \sum_i \sigma_i(Y) \underbrace{v_i^T u_i}_{\leq \|u_i\| \|v_i\| \leq 1} \leq \|Y\|_*$ . As a result  $\|Y\|_* + \frac{\tau}{2} \|\Lambda - \Lambda Y\|_F^2 \geq \sum_i y_{ii} + \frac{\tau}{2} \Lambda_i^2 (1 - y_{ii})^2$ . Minimizing the quadratic function  $y \rightarrow y + \frac{\tau}{2} \Lambda_i^2 (1 - y)^2$  leads to  $y = (1 - \frac{1}{\tau \Lambda_i^2})^+$ . Therefore  $Y =$

#### Q.4

1. (a) Let  $Y = U \Lambda V^T$  be the SVD decomposition of  $Y$ , then  $\langle Y, U V T \rangle = \text{tr}(V \Lambda U^T U V^T) = \text{tr}(V \Lambda V^T) = \text{tr}(\Lambda) = \|Y\|_*$ .  
 $\langle Y, X \rangle = \text{tr}(Y^T X) = \text{tr}(V \Lambda U^T X) = \text{tr}(\Lambda U^T X V) = \sum \Lambda_{ii} (U^T X V)_{ii} = \sum \Lambda_{ii} \underbrace{u_i^T X v_i}_{\leq \|X\|_{op}} \leq \|X\|_{op} \|\Lambda\|_* \leq \|Y\|_*$ .  
c/c  $\|Y\|_* = \max_{\|X\|_{op} \leq 1} \langle Y, X \rangle$
2. for  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ ,  $\|\alpha Y + (1 - \alpha)Z\|_* = \max_{\|X\|_{op} \leq 1} \alpha \langle Y, X \rangle + (1 - \alpha) \langle Z, X \rangle \leq \alpha \max_{\|X\|_{op} \leq 1} \langle Y, X \rangle + (1 - \alpha) \max_{\|X\|_{op} \leq 1} \langle Z, X \rangle \leq \alpha \|Y\|_* + (1 - \alpha) \|Z\|_*$
3.  $\Rightarrow$  Let's suppose  $Z \in \partial \|A\|_*$ . Then  $\|B\|_* \geq \|A\|_* + \langle Z, B - A \rangle$ . For  $B = Z$ ,  $\|Z\|_* \geq \|A\|_* + \|Z\|_F^2 - \langle Z, A \rangle$ . For  $B = 0$ ,  $0 \geq \|A\|_* - \langle Z, A \rangle \Rightarrow \langle Z, A \rangle \geq \|A\|_*$ .  
 $\Leftarrow$  Let  $Z$ , such that  $\|Z\|_{op} = 1$  and  $\langle Z, A \rangle = \|A\|_*$ , then  $\forall X \langle Z, X \rangle \leq \|X\|_*$  and:  $\|X\|_* - \|A\|_* \geq \langle Z, X \rangle - \langle Z, A \rangle$ , which means that  $Z \in \partial \|A\|_*$
4. (a)

$$\begin{aligned}
Z \in \partial \|A\| &\Rightarrow \|Z\|_{op} = 1, \|A\|_* = \|\Lambda\|_* = \langle Z, A \rangle \\
&\Rightarrow \|A\|_* = \text{tr}(Z^T U \Lambda V^T) = \text{tr}((U^T Z V)^T \Lambda) = \sum_i (U^T Z V)_{ii} \Lambda_i \\
&\Rightarrow \sum_i \underbrace{\Lambda_i (1 - u_i^T Z v_i)}_{\geq 0} = 0 \quad (|u_i^T Z v_i| \leq \|u_i\| \|v_i\| \|Z\|_{op}) \\
&\Rightarrow \forall i \ u_i^T Z v_i = 1
\end{aligned}$$

Let's complete the family  $(u_i)_{i \leq r}$  into  $(u_i)_{i \leq d_1}$  an orthonormal basis of  $\mathbb{R}^{d_1}$ . Then, for  $i \leq r$ ,  $1 \geq \|Z v_i\|^2 = \sum_{j=1}^{d_1} (u_j^T Z v_i)^2 \geq 1 + \sum_{j \neq i} \underbrace{(u_j^T Z v_i)^2}_{=0} \geq 1$

So  $u_j^T Z v_i = \delta_{ij}$  and  $Z v_i = \sum_{j=1}^{d_1} u_j^T Z v_i u_j = u_i^T Z v_i u_i = u_i$ . In matrix form:  $ZV = U$ , and using a similar argument  $U^T Z = V$ .

Let  $W := Z - UV^T$ , then the last equations can be written as  $U = (W + UV^T)V = WV + UV^T V = WV + U \implies WV = 0$  and similarly  $U^T W = 0$ . Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}^{d_2}$ , and let  $x = x_1 + x_2$  be a decomposition according to  $\mathbb{R}^{d_2} = \text{im}(V) + \text{im}(V)^\perp$ , and let  $y \in \mathbb{R}^r$  such that  $x_1 = Vy$ . (note that  $\|x\|^2 = \|x_1\|^2 + \|x_2\|^2$ )

Then  $\|Wx\|^2 = \|\underbrace{ZV}_U y + Zx_2 - U \underbrace{V^T V}_{I_r} y - U \underbrace{V^T x_2}_{=0}\|^2 = \|Uy + Zx_2 - Uy\|^2 = \|Zx_2\|^2 \leq$

$$\|x_2\|^2 \leq \|x\|^2$$

$$\text{c/c } Z = U^T V + W, \|W\|_{op} \leq 1.$$

(b) Now take  $Z$  of the form  $UV^T + W$ , and let's prove that  $\|Z\|_{op} \leq 1$  and  $\langle Z, A \rangle = \|A\|_*$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \langle UV^T + W, A \rangle &= \text{tr}(VU^T U \Lambda V^T) + \text{tr}(W^T U \Lambda V^T) \\ &= \text{tr}(\Lambda) \\ &= \|A\|_* \end{aligned}$$

Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}^{d_2}$ , then :

$$\begin{aligned} \|UV^T x + Wx\|^2 &= \|UV^T x\|^2 + \|Wx\|^2 && (\text{because } \text{im}(U) \perp \text{im}(W)) \\ &= \|V^T x\|^2 + \|Wx\|^2 && (\text{Because } U \text{ is an isometrie}) \end{aligned}$$

Let's write  $x = x_1 + x_2$  according to the decomposition  $\mathbb{R}^{d_2} = \text{im}(V) + \text{im}(V)^\perp$ , and let  $y \in \mathbb{R}^r$  such that  $x_1 = Vy$ . (note that  $\|x_1\| = \|y\|$ )  $V^T x = V^T x_1 + V^T x_2 = V^T V y = y$ ,  $Wx = WVy + Wx_2 = Wx_2$  so  $\|(UV^T + W)x\|^2 = \|y\|^2 + \|Wx_2\|^2 \leq \|x_1\|^2 + \|x_2\|^2 = \|x\|^2$ , which proves that  $\|UV^T + W\|_{op} \leq 1$ .

5. • Let  $Z \in \partial\|A\|_*$ , then  $Z$  can be written as  $Z = UV^T + W$  where  $U^T W = WV = 0$  and  $\|W\|_{op} \leq 1$ .  $UV^T = U \frac{V^T}{2} + \frac{U}{2} V^T \in T$ . Let's now prove that  $W \perp T$ . Let  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1 \times r}$ ,  $Y \in \mathbb{R}^{d_2 \times r}$ :  $\langle UX^T + Y^T V, W \rangle = \text{tr}(UX^T W) + \text{tr}(Y^T V W) = \text{tr}(W U X^T) = 0$ . As a conclusion  $\Pi_T(Z) = UV^T$ ,  $\Pi_{T^c}(Z) = W$ ,  $\|\Pi_{T^c}(Z)\|_{op} = \|W\|_{op} \leq 1$ .
- Let  $Z$  be such that  $\Pi_T(Z) = UV^T$  and  $\|\Pi_{T^c}(Z)\|_{op} \leq 1$ . Let's note  $W = Z - UV^T$ . To prove that  $Z \in \partial\|W\|_*$ , it is enough to prove that  $W = \Pi_{T^c}(Z)$ .