

# Homework #1

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Course: *EECS 227AT* – Professor: *Gireeja Ranade*  
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## Problem 1. Course Setup

Please complete the following steps to get access to all course resources.

- (a) Visit the course website at <http://eecs127.github.io/> and familiarize yourself with the syllabus.
- (b) Verify that you can access the class Ed site at <https://edstem.org/us/courses/93760/discussion>.
- (c) Verify that you can access the class Gradescope site.

**Answer.**

## Problem 2. Prerequisites

The prerequisites for this course are:

- MATH 54 (Linear Algebra & Differential Equations),
- CS 70 (Discrete Mathematics & Probability Theory),
- MATH 53 (Multivariable Calculus).

Please fill out the Google form provided on the homework PDF. For your written response, write the *secret word* revealed at the end of the form.

**Answer.** PinkpantheR

### Problem 3. Orthogonality

Let  $\vec{x}, \vec{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  be two linearly independent unit-norm vectors, i.e.,

$$\|\vec{x}\|_2 = \|\vec{y}\|_2 = 1.$$

- (a) Show that the vectors  $\vec{u} = \vec{x} - \vec{y}$  and  $\vec{v} = \vec{x} + \vec{y}$  are orthogonal.  
 (b) Find an orthonormal basis for  $\text{span}(\vec{x}, \vec{y})$ .

**Answer.**

(a) To show that  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$  are orthogonal, we need to show that their dot product is zero:

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = (\vec{x} - \vec{y}) \cdot (\vec{x} + \vec{y}).$$

Expanding the dot product, we have:

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = \vec{x} \cdot \vec{x} + \vec{x} \cdot \vec{y} - \vec{y} \cdot \vec{x} - \vec{y} \cdot \vec{y}.$$

Since the dot product is commutative,  $\vec{x} \cdot \vec{y} = \vec{y} \cdot \vec{x}$ . Also, given that  $\|\vec{x}\|_2 = \|\vec{y}\|_2 = 1$ , we have  $\vec{x} \cdot \vec{x} = 1$  and  $\vec{y} \cdot \vec{y} = 1$ . Therefore,

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = 1 + \vec{x} \cdot \vec{y} - \vec{x} \cdot \vec{y} - 1 = 0. \Rightarrow \vec{u} \perp \vec{v}$$

(b) We use the Gram-Schmidt process. Starting with the vectors  $\vec{x}$  and  $\vec{y}$ . First, we take  $\vec{u}_1 = \vec{x}$ . Next, we project  $\vec{y}$  onto  $\vec{u}_1$ :

$$\vec{p}_{\vec{y}} = \frac{\vec{y} \cdot \vec{u}_1}{\|\vec{u}_1\|_2^2} \vec{u}_1 = (\vec{y} \cdot \vec{x}) \vec{x}.$$

Now, we subtract this projection from  $\vec{y}$  to get  $\vec{u}_2$ :

$$\vec{u}_2 = \vec{y} - \vec{p}_{\vec{y}} = \vec{y} - (\vec{y} \cdot \vec{x}) \vec{x}.$$

Next, we normalize  $\vec{u}_1$  and  $\vec{u}_2$  to get the orthonormal basis vectors:

$$\vec{e}_1 = \frac{\vec{u}_1}{\|\vec{u}_1\|_2} = \vec{x},$$

$$\vec{e}_2 = \frac{\vec{u}_2}{\|\vec{u}_2\|_2} = \frac{\vec{y} - (\vec{y} \cdot \vec{x}) \vec{x}}{\|\vec{y} - (\vec{y} \cdot \vec{x}) \vec{x}\|_2}.$$

Thus, the orthonormal basis for  $\text{span}(\vec{x}, \vec{y})$  is given by the vectors  $\vec{e}_1$  and  $\vec{e}_2$ :

$$\left\{ \vec{x}, \frac{\vec{y} - (\vec{y} \cdot \vec{x}) \vec{x}}{\|\vec{y} - (\vec{y} \cdot \vec{x}) \vec{x}\|_2} \right\}.$$

### Problem 4. Least Squares

The Michaelis–Menten model for enzyme kinetics relates the rate  $y$  of an enzymatic reaction to the concentration  $x$  of a substrate, as follows:

$$y = \frac{\beta_1 x}{\beta_2 + x}, \quad (1)$$

for constants  $\beta_1, \beta_2 > 0$ .

- (a) Show that the model can be expressed as a linear relation between the values  $1/y = y^{-1}$  and  $1/x = x^{-1}$ . Specifically, give an equation of the form

$$y^{-1} = w_1 + w_2 x^{-1},$$

specifying the values of  $w_1$  and  $w_2$  in terms of  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$ .

- (b) In general, reaction parameters  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  (and, thus,  $w_1$  and  $w_2$ ) are not known a priori and must be fit from data, for example using least squares. Suppose you collect  $m$  measurements  $(x_i, y_i)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, m$ , over the course of a reaction. Formulate the least squares problem

$$\vec{w}^* = \arg \min_{\vec{w}} \|X\vec{w} - \vec{y}\|_2^2, \quad (2)$$

where

$$\vec{w}^* = \begin{bmatrix} w_1^* \\ w_2^* \end{bmatrix},$$

and you must specify  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times 2}$  and  $\vec{y} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ . Specifically, your solution should include explicit expressions for  $X$  and  $\vec{y}$  as a function of  $(x_i, y_i)$  values and a final expression for  $\vec{w}^*$  in terms of  $X$  and  $\vec{y}$ , which should contain only matrix multiplications, transposes, and inverses.

Assume without loss of generality that  $x_1 \neq x_2$ .

- (c) Assume that we have used the above procedure to calculate values for  $w_1^*$  and  $w_2^*$ , and we now want to estimate

$$\hat{\beta} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\beta}_1 \\ \hat{\beta}_2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Write an expression for  $\hat{\beta}$  in terms of  $w_1^*$  and  $w_2^*$ .

**NOTE:** This problem was taken (with some edits) from the textbook *Optimization Models* by Calafiore and El Ghaoui.

**Answer.**

- (a) Taking the reciprocal of both sides of equation (1), we have:

$$y^{-1} = \frac{\beta_2 + x}{\beta_1 x} = \frac{\beta_2}{\beta_1 x} + \frac{x}{\beta_1 x} = \frac{\beta_2}{\beta_1} x^{-1} + \frac{1}{\beta_1}.$$

Thus, we can express the model as a linear relation between  $y^{-1}$  and  $x^{-1}$ :

$$y^{-1} = \frac{1}{\beta_1} + \frac{\beta_2}{\beta_1} x^{-1}.$$

Therefore, we have:

$$w_1 = \frac{1}{\beta_1}, \quad w_2 = \frac{\beta_2}{\beta_1}.$$

**(b)** To formulate the least squares problem, we first need to express the measurements in terms of  $y^{-1}$  and  $x^{-1}$ . For each measurement  $(x_i, y_i)$ , we have:

$$y_i^{-1} = w_1 + w_2 x_i^{-1}.$$

We can rewrite this in matrix form as:

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_1^{-1} \\ y_2^{-1} \\ \vdots \\ y_m^{-1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1^{-1} \\ 1 & x_2^{-1} \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_m^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Thus, we can define:

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1^{-1} \\ 1 & x_2^{-1} \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_m^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times 2}, \quad \vec{y} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1^{-1} \\ y_2^{-1} \\ \vdots \\ y_m^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^m.$$

The least squares problem can then be expressed as:

$$\vec{w}^* = \arg \min_{\vec{w}} \|X\vec{w} - \vec{y}\|_2^2.$$

The solution to this least squares problem is given by the normal equation:

$$\vec{w}^* = (X^\top X)^{-1} X^\top \vec{y}.$$

**(c)** From part (a),

$$w_1 = \frac{1}{\beta_1} \Rightarrow \beta_1 = \frac{1}{w_1}, \quad w_2 = \frac{\beta_2}{\beta_1} \Rightarrow \beta_2 = \beta_1 w_2 = \frac{w_2}{w_1}.$$

$$\hat{\beta} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\beta}_1 \\ \hat{\beta}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{w_1^*} \\ \frac{w_2^*}{w_1^*} \end{bmatrix}.$$

### Problem 5. Subspaces and Dimensions

Consider the set  $S$  of points  $(x_1, x_2, x_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3$  such that

$$x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 0, \quad 3x_1 + 2x_2 + x_3 = 0. \quad (3)$$

- (a) Find a  $2 \times 3$  matrix  $A$  for which  $S$  is exactly the null space of  $A$ .  
 (b) Determine the dimension of  $S$  and find a basis for it.

**Answer.**

(a) We can express the given equations in matrix form as follows:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{0}.$$

Thus, the matrix  $A$  is given by:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

(b) To determine the dimension of  $S$  and find a basis for it, we first need to find the null space of the matrix  $A$ . We can perform row reduction on the matrix  $A$ :

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - 3R_1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & -4 & -8 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \leftarrow -\frac{1}{4}R_2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Now, we can express the system of equations represented by the row-reduced matrix:

$$x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 0,$$

$$x_2 + 2x_3 = 0.$$

From the second equation, we have:

$$x_2 = -2x_3.$$

Substituting this into the first equation, we get:

$$x_1 + 2(-2x_3) + 3x_3 = 0 \implies x_1 - 4x_3 + 3x_3 = 0 \implies x_1 - x_3 = 0 \implies x_1 = x_3.$$

Letting  $x_3 = t$ , we can express the solution as:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} t \\ -2t \\ t \end{bmatrix} = t \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Thus, the null space of  $A$  is spanned by the vector  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ , and the dimension of  $S$  is 1.

Therefore, a basis for  $S$  is given by:

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}.$$

### Problem 6. Vector Spaces and Rank

The rank of a  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$ ,  $\text{rank}(A)$ , is the dimension of its range, also called span, and denoted

$$\mathcal{R}(A) := \{A\vec{x} : \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n\}.$$

- (a) Assume that  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  takes the form

$$A = \vec{u}\vec{v}^\top,$$

with  $\vec{u} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $\vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \neq \vec{0}$ . (Note that a matrix of this form is known as a dyad.) Find the rank of  $A$ .

**HINT:** Consider the quantity  $A\vec{x}$  for arbitrary  $\vec{x}$ .

- (b) Show that for arbitrary  $A, B \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,

$$\text{rank}(A + B) \leq \text{rank}(A) + \text{rank}(B). \quad (4)$$

**HINT:** First, show that  $\mathcal{R}(A + B) \subseteq \mathcal{R}(A) + \mathcal{R}(B)$ . Remember that for any matrix  $A$ ,  $\mathcal{R}(A)$  is a subspace, and for any two subspaces  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ ,  $\dim(S_1 + S_2) \leq \dim(S_1) + \dim(S_2)$ . The sum of vector spaces is defined as

$$S_1 + S_2 := \{\vec{s}_1 + \vec{s}_2 \mid \vec{s}_1 \in S_1, \vec{s}_2 \in S_2\}.$$

- (c) Consider an  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$  that takes the form

$$A = UV^\top,$$

with  $U \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times k}$  and  $V \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k}$ . Show that the rank of  $A$  is less than or equal to  $k$ .

**HINT:** Use parts (a) and (b), and remember that this decomposition can also be written as the dyadic expansion

$$A = UV^\top = [\vec{u}_1 \quad \cdots \quad \vec{u}_k] \begin{bmatrix} \vec{v}_1^\top \\ \vdots \\ \vec{v}_k^\top \end{bmatrix} = \sum_{i=1}^k \vec{u}_i \vec{v}_i^\top. \quad (5)$$

**Answer.**

(a)

$$A\vec{x} = \vec{u}\vec{v}^\top \vec{x} = \vec{u}(\vec{v}^\top \vec{x}).$$

The term  $\vec{v}^\top \vec{x}$  is a scalar, so we can denote it as  $c = \vec{v}^\top \vec{x}$ . Therefore,

$$A\vec{x} = c\vec{u}.$$

This shows that the image of any vector  $\vec{x}$  under the transformation defined by  $A$  is a scalar multiple of the vector  $\vec{u}$ . Hence, the range of  $A$  is spanned by the single vector  $\vec{u}$ . Since  $\vec{u} \neq \vec{0}$ , the range of  $A$  is one-dimensional. Therefore, the rank of  $A$  is:

$$\text{rank}(A) = 1.$$

(b) To show that  $\text{rank}(A + B) \leq \text{rank}(A) + \text{rank}(B)$ , we first need to show that  $\mathcal{R}(A + B) \subseteq \mathcal{R}(A) + \mathcal{R}(B)$ . Let  $\vec{y} \in \mathcal{R}(A + B)$ . Then, by definition of the range, there exists a vector  $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  such that:

$$\vec{y} = (A + B)\vec{x} = A\vec{x} + B\vec{x}.$$

Since  $A\vec{x} \in \mathcal{R}(A)$  and  $B\vec{x} \in \mathcal{R}(B)$ , thus:  $\mathcal{R}(A + B) \subseteq \mathcal{R}(A) + \mathcal{R}(B)$ .  
Now, using the property of dimensions of subspaces, we have:

$$\dim(\mathcal{R}(A + B)) \leq \dim(\mathcal{R}(A) + \mathcal{R}(B)) \leq \dim(\mathcal{R}(A)) + \dim(\mathcal{R}(B)).$$

Therefore,

$$\text{rank}(A + B) \leq \text{rank}(A) + \text{rank}(B).$$

(c) Using the dyadic expansion of  $A$  from equation (5), we can express  $A$  as a sum of  $k$  dyads:

$$A = \sum_{i=1}^k \vec{u}_i \vec{v}_i^\top.$$

From part (a), we know that each dyad  $\vec{u}_i \vec{v}_i^\top$  has rank 1. Therefore, we can apply the result from part (b) to find the rank of  $A$ :

$$\text{rank}(A) = \text{rank}\left(\sum_{i=1}^k \vec{u}_i \vec{v}_i^\top\right) \leq \sum_{i=1}^k \text{rank}(\vec{u}_i \vec{v}_i^\top) = \sum_{i=1}^k 1 = k.$$

Thus, we have shown that the rank of  $A$  is less than or equal to  $k$ :

$$\text{rank}(A) \leq k.$$

### Problem 7. Homework Process

With whom did you work on this homework? List the names and SIDs of your group members.

**NOTE:** If you didn't work with anyone, you can put "none" as your answer.

**Answer.** none