

Section 1: SPD Matrices (again). This lecture will be mainly about M-matrices, and so form a link between SPD matrices from Lecture 17, and the Perron–Frobenius theorem of Lecture 19. First, though, we'll finish the section on SPD matrices.

Recall that a real square matrix, A , is symmetric positive definite (SPD) if, for all non-zero vectors, x , we have that $x^T A x > 0$.

We now finished establishing some of the following properties of SPD matrices.

- (a) Let A and B both be real $n \times n$ matrices. If B^{-1} exists, then A is SPD $\iff B^T A B$ is SPD. (See Lecture 17).
- (b) If A is SPD, then any principle submatrix of A is SPD. (See Lecture 17).
- (c) A is SPD if and only if $A = A^T$ and all the eigenvalues of A are positive. In Lecture 17 we proved that all the eigenvalues of an SPD matrix are positive. For the converse, note that we are trying to show that, if a symmetric matrix has only positive eigenvalues, then it is SPD. The proof uses a fact established in Lecture 6, and Exercise Sheet 1. Any symmetric matrix is unitarily diagonalisable. That is, there is a unitary matrix V whose columns are eigenvectors associated with eigenvalues of A , such that $A = V D V^T$, where D is the diagonal matrix of eigenvalues of A . Then, for any vector x , we have that $x^T A x = x^T (V^T D V) x = (V x)^T D (V x)$. Since V is unitary (and so has full rank), there is some y such that $y = V x$. So $x^T A x = y^T D y = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i y_i^2 > 0$.
- (d) If A is SPD, then $a_{ii} > 0$ for all i , and $\max_{ij} |a_{ij}| = \max_i a_{ii}$.
- (e) A is SPD of the determinant of every leading principal submatrix is positive.
- (f) A is SPD \iff there exists a unique lower triangular matrix L with positive diagonal entries such that $A = L L^T$. This is called the Cholesky factorisation of A .

In this class we'll prove Part (d). For Part (e) it is easy to prove that the determinant of any principal submatrix of A is positive (the determinant of a matrix is the product of its eigenvalues). The converse is a little trickier, and usually involves an *interlacing* theorem.

Part (f) is very important in other contexts, but we probably won't get to it.

Definition 1 (Positive semi-definite). A matrix, $A \in M_{n \times n}(\mathbb{R})$, is *symmetric positive semi-definite* if and only if $A = A^T$ (i.e., it is symmetric) and $\vec{x}^T A \vec{x} \geq 0$ for all vectors $\vec{x} \neq 0$.

We encounter semi-definite matrices in, for example, areas of graph theory.

Section 2: M-matrices There is remarkable number of different but equivalent definitions of an M-matrix. To try to break it down, we'll first define a Z-matrix, then a non-negative matrix, then an M-matrix.

Definition 2 (Z-matrix). A square matrix A is a Z-matrix if all its non-diagonal entries are non-positive. That is,

$$a_{i,j} \leq 0 \quad \text{for any } i \neq j.$$

Definition 3 (Non-negative matrix). A square matrix A is non-negative all its are non-negative. That is,

$$a_{i,j} \geq 0 \quad \text{for all } i, j.$$

Notation: we write this as $A \geq 0$.

Definition 4 (Diagonally dominant). A matrix A is *diagonally dominant* if

$$|a_{ii}| \geq \sum_{j \neq i} |a_{ij}| \quad \text{for all } i, j.$$

We'll postpone a formal definition of M-matrices briefly, in favour of an example. We shall learn that if A is a Z-matrix with positive diagonal entries, and that is diagonally dominant, then $A^{-1} \geq 0$.

Example 5. The following matrix is an M-Matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \text{since} \quad A^{-1} = \frac{1}{4} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix},$$

It is also SPD; its eigenvalues are $1, 2 \pm \sqrt{2}$.

Definition 6 (Spectral radius). Denote the eigenvalues of the square matrix A as $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$. The *spectral radius* of A is

$$\rho(A) := \max_i |\lambda_i|.$$

Next week you'll learn about the Perron Frobenius theorem: if $A \geq 0$, then $\rho(A)$ is an eigenvalue of A , and its uniquely maximal one.

Our final fact that we need about the spectral radius of a matrix is that, if $\rho(T) < 1$, then $\|T^k\| \rightarrow 0$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$. (This is true for any norm). We say such a T is *convergent*. You can observe that $(I - T)^{-1}$ exists, and is given by $I + T + T^2 + T^3 + \dots$.

Finally, we can define an M-matrix.

Definition 7 (M-matrix). A square matrix A is an M-matrix if it is a non-singular Z-matrix that can be written as

$$A = sI - B,$$

where $B \geq 0$ and $s > \rho(B)$.

Theorem 8. If A is an M-matrix, then $A^{-1} \geq 0$.

To show this, write A as $A = sI - B$. Let $T = B/s$, and note that $\rho(T) < 1$. Then

$$A^{-1} = \frac{1}{s}(I - T)^{-1} = \frac{1}{s} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} T^k.$$

Since $T \geq 0$, it must be that each $T^k \geq 0$, and so $A^{-1} \geq 0$.