

Linear Algebra Unit Test (Pre-Reading for Data Science MSc) #1

- ✓ 1. Define a symmetric matrix and give an example. State one key property of its eigenvectors.

Symmetric matrix $\rightarrow A^{-1} = A \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$
↳ all real eigenvalues

- ✓ 2. For the matrix

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

find the determinant and state whether it is invertible.

$$\det(A) = 3 \rightarrow \text{it is invertible as } \det(A) \neq 0$$

- ✓ 3. Solve the system

$$\begin{cases} 2x + y = 5 \\ x - y = 1 \end{cases}$$

using Gaussian elimination.

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 5 \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 3 & 3 \end{array} \right] \quad \begin{array}{l} y=1 \\ x=2 \end{array}$$

- ✓ 4. State the dimension of the vector space \mathbb{R}^4 and give a basis.

4D

$(1, 0, 0, 0), (0, 1, 0, 0), (0, 0, 1, 0), (0, 0, 0, 1)$

✓ 5. Compute

$$3 \times \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ -3 \\ 12 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ -5 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

✗ 6. For $v = (3, 4)$, compute its magnitude and the unit vector in the same direction.

$$\|v\| = 5 \quad \text{Unit vector} = \left(\frac{3}{5}, \frac{4}{5} \right)$$

✓ 7. Compute the dot product of

$$a = (1, 2, 3), \quad b = (4, -5, 6).$$

$$ab = 12$$

✓ 8. Find the eigenvalues of

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} 4-\lambda & 2 \\ 1 & 3-\lambda \end{bmatrix} = (4-\lambda)(3-\lambda) - 2 = 0$$
$$\lambda^2 - 7\lambda + 10 = 0$$
$$\lambda = 5, 2$$



9. For the largest eigenvalue of B , compute one corresponding eigenvector.

$$\lambda = 5$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = 0 \Rightarrow x = 2y$$

$$\therefore \vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$



10. Diagonalise

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$C = PDP^{-1} \quad \lambda = 2, 3$$

$$\lambda = 2$$

$$\lambda = 3$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = 0 \Rightarrow \vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \therefore v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\therefore P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad D = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- ✓ 11. Write the covariance matrix for two variables X_1, X_2 and explain what the diagonal and off-diagonal entries represent.

Diagonals \Rightarrow variances

Off-diagonals \Rightarrow covariances

$$\text{Cov}(X_1, X_2) = \begin{bmatrix} \text{Var}(X_1) & \text{Cov}(X_1, X_2) \\ \text{Cov}(X_1, X_2) & \text{Var}(X_2) \end{bmatrix}$$

- ✓ 12. Compute the variance of $x = (2, 4, 6, 8)$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(x) &= \frac{1}{3} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{3} (9 + 1 + 1 + 9) = \frac{20}{3} \end{aligned}$$

- ✗ 13. Compute the covariance of $x = (1, 2, 3)$ and $y = (2, 4, 5)$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov}(x, y) &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y}) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (2 - 1 + 0) = \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov}(x, y) &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y}) \\ &= 1.5 \end{aligned}$$



14. Let

$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -2 \\ -2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Verify that it is positive semidefinite by evaluating $z^\top \Sigma z$ for $z = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -2 \\ -2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R.C_1 \rightarrow 4 - 4 = 0$$

$$R.C_2 \rightarrow -2 + 6 = 4$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = 8 \quad 8 \geq 0 \text{ so } \Sigma \text{ is PSD}$$



15. State the rank-nullity theorem and give an example with a 2×3 matrix.

$$r = n - p$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \end{array} \right]$$

$$p + r = n$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{l} \text{Rank} = 2 \\ r = 1 \\ \therefore n = 3 \end{array}$$