

233 Computational Techniques

Assessed Coursework #1

Problem 1

For each of the following statements, indicate whether it is true or false and briefly justify your answer. If a statement is false, a counterexample is sufficient as an explanation.

(a) If $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ are linearly independent vectors then their dot product is equal to zero.
No. Eg: $\mathbf{a} = (1, 0)^T$ and $\mathbf{b} = (1, 1)^T$.

(b) The product \mathbf{AB} of two matrices is defined whenever the number of rows of \mathbf{A} is the same as the number of columns of \mathbf{B} .

No. The number of columns of \mathbf{A} must be the same as the number of rows of \mathbf{B} .

(c) The norm of the sum of two vectors is at most the sum of their norms.

Correct. It is the triangular inequality.

(d) The map $\mathbf{x} \mapsto \sqrt{\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x}}$ is a vector norm.

It is the ℓ_2 norm.

(e) In \mathbb{R}^m , a set of less than m vectors is linearly independent.

No. Eg. $\mathbf{a} = (0, 0)^T$ in \mathbb{R}^2 .

(f) If $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, then $\text{range}(\mathbf{A}) \cap \text{null}(\mathbf{A}^T) = \{\mathbf{0}\}$.

Yes. Since if $u \in \text{range}(\mathbf{A}) \cap \text{null}(\mathbf{A}^T)$, then $u \cdot u = 0$, which implies $\sum_{i=1}^m u_i^2 = 0$ i.e. $u_i = 0$ for $i = 1, \dots, m$.

(g) If, for given $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ and $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$, $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$ has no solution, then \mathbf{A} is singular.

Yes, since it means that $\mathbf{b} \notin \text{range}(\mathbf{A})$, i.e. \mathbf{A} is rank deficient.

(i) If \mathbf{A} is a square matrix and $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$ has two different solutions, then \mathbf{A} is singular.

Yes. Since if $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$ and $\mathbf{Ay} = \mathbf{b}$ for $\mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{y}$, then $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{0}$ for $\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y} \neq \mathbf{0}$.

Problem 2

For the matrix

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 3 \\ 4 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

find

(a) the eigenvalues

1, -4, 6.

and

(b) a set of corresponding eigenvectors normalized such that their ℓ_2 norm is 1.

$\mathbf{a}_1 = \frac{1}{5}(0, -3, 4)^T$, $\mathbf{a}_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{50}}(5, -4, -3)^T$ and $\mathbf{a}_3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{50}}(5, 4, 3)^T$.

(c) Check that the eigenvectors form an orthonormal set.

(d) From (a) and (c), find the spectral decomposition $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{\Lambda}\mathbf{Q}^T$ where \mathbf{Q} is orthogonal and $\mathbf{\Lambda}$ is diagonal.

$\mathbf{Q} = [\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3]$ and $\mathbf{\Lambda} = \text{diag}(1, -4, 6)$. (e) Check that your decomposition really gives the matrix \mathbf{A} .

Problem 3

With the notations in the notes, show that for any matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ we have:

$$\|A\|_1 = \max_{x \neq 0} \frac{\|Ax\|_1}{\|x\|_1} = \max_{\|x\|_1=1} \|Ax\|_1.$$

1) We have for all $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$: $\|Ax\|_1 = \sum_{j=1}^m |\sum_{i=1}^n a_{ji}x_i| \leq \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n |a_{ji}||x_i| = \sum_{i=1}^n (\sum_{j=1}^m |a_{ji}|)|x_i|$.

2) Since $\|A\|_1 = \max_{1 \leq j \leq m} \sum_{i=1}^n |a_{ji}|$, the sum between brackets in the last term in (1) is bounded by $\|A\|_1$ for each $i = 1, \dots, n$, so we get: for all $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$: $\|Ax\|_1 \leq \|A\|_1 \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i| = \|A\|_1 \|x\|_1$.

3) Suppose k with $1 \leq k \leq n$ is such that $\|A\|_1 = \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \sum_{j=1}^m |a_{ji}| = \sum_{j=1}^m |a_{jk}|$. Then put $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)^T$ with $x_k = 1$ and $x_i = 0$ for $i \neq k$. Thus, the LHS can actually be equal to the RHS and the first equality is proved.

4) For the second equality, we let $y = x/\|x\|_1$ for $x \neq 0$.

Problems 1 and 2 carry 40% of the marks each, problem 3 carries 20%.