

More Linear Algebra¹

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Overview

- 1 Things you already know
- 2 Trace
- 3 Spectral decomposition
- 4 Positive definite matrices
- 5 Square root matrices

You already know about

- Matrices $\mathbf{A} = [a_{ij}]$
- Matrix addition and subtraction $\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B} = [a_{ij} + b_{ij}]$
- Scalar multiplication $a\mathbf{B} = [a b_{ij}]$
- Matrix multiplication $\mathbf{AB} = \left[\sum_k a_{ik} b_{kj} \right]$
- Inverse $\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{AA}^{-1} = \mathbf{I}$
- Transpose $\mathbf{A}' = [a_{ji}]$
- Symmetric matrices $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A}'$
- Determinants
- Linear independence

Linear independence

\mathbf{X} be an $n \times p$ matrix of constants. The columns of \mathbf{X} are said to be *linearly dependent* if there exists $\mathbf{v} \neq \mathbf{0}$ with $\mathbf{X}\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$. We will say that the columns of \mathbf{X} are linearly *independent* if $\mathbf{X}\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$ implies $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$.

For example, show that \mathbf{A}^{-1} exists implies that the columns of \mathbf{A} are linearly independent.

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow \mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{0} \Rightarrow \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$$

How to show $\mathbf{A}^{-1'} = \mathbf{A}'^{-1}$

Suppose $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{A}^{-1}$, meaning $\mathbf{AB} = \mathbf{BA} = \mathbf{I}$. Must show two things: $\mathbf{B}'\mathbf{A}' = \mathbf{I}$ and $\mathbf{A}'\mathbf{B}' = \mathbf{I}$.

$$\mathbf{AB} = \mathbf{I} \Rightarrow \mathbf{B}'\mathbf{A}' = \mathbf{I}' = \mathbf{I}$$

$$\mathbf{BA} = \mathbf{I} \Rightarrow \mathbf{A}'\mathbf{B}' = \mathbf{I}' = \mathbf{I}$$



Trace of a square matrix: Sum of the diagonal elements

$$\text{tr}(\mathbf{A}) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_{i,i}.$$

- Of course $\text{tr}(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}) = \text{tr}(\mathbf{A}) + \text{tr}(\mathbf{B})$, etc.
- But less obviously, even though $\mathbf{AB} \neq \mathbf{BA}$,
- $\text{tr}(\mathbf{AB}) = \text{tr}(\mathbf{BA})$

$$tr(\mathbf{AB}) = tr(\mathbf{BA})$$

Let \mathbf{A} be an $r \times p$ matrix and \mathbf{B} be a $p \times r$ matrix, so that the product matrices \mathbf{AB} and \mathbf{BA} are both defined.

$$\begin{aligned} tr(\mathbf{AB}) &= tr\left(\left[\sum_{k=1}^p a_{i,k} b_{k,j}\right]\right) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^r \sum_{k=1}^p a_{i,k} b_{k,i} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^p \sum_{i=1}^r b_{k,i} a_{i,k} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^p \sum_{k=1}^r b_{i,k} a_{k,i} \quad (\text{Switching } i \text{ and } k) \\ &= tr\left(\left[\sum_{k=1}^r b_{i,k} a_{k,j}\right]\right) \\ &= tr(\mathbf{BA}) \end{aligned}$$

Eigenvalues and eigenvectors

Let $\mathbf{A} = [a_{i,j}]$ be an $n \times n$ matrix, so that the following applies to square matrices. \mathbf{A} is said to have an *eigenvalue* λ and (non-zero) *eigenvector* \mathbf{x} corresponding to λ if

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \lambda\mathbf{x}.$$

- Eigenvalues are the λ values that solve the determinantal equation $|\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}| = 0$.
- The determinant is the product of the eigenvalues:

$$|\mathbf{A}| = \prod_{i=1}^n \lambda_i$$

Spectral decomposition of symmetric matrices

The *Spectral decomposition theorem* says that every square and symmetric matrix $\mathbf{A} = [a_{i,j}]$ may be written

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{\Lambda}\mathbf{P}',$$

where the columns of \mathbf{P} (which may also be denoted $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$) are the eigenvectors of \mathbf{A} , and the diagonal matrix $\mathbf{\Lambda}$ contains the corresponding eigenvalues.

$$\mathbf{\Lambda} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Because the eigenvectors are orthonormal, \mathbf{P} is an orthogonal matrix; that is, $\mathbf{P}\mathbf{P}' = \mathbf{P}'\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{I}$.

Positive definite matrices

The $n \times n$ matrix \mathbf{A} is said to be *positive definite* if

$$\mathbf{y}'\mathbf{A}\mathbf{y} > 0$$

for *all* $n \times 1$ vectors $\mathbf{y} \neq \mathbf{0}$. It is called *non-negative definite* (or sometimes positive semi-definite) if $\mathbf{y}'\mathbf{A}\mathbf{y} \geq 0$.

Example: Show $\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X}$ non-negative definite

Let \mathbf{X} be an $n \times p$ matrix of real constants and \mathbf{y} be $p \times 1$.
Then $\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{y}$ is $n \times 1$, and

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{y}'(\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X})\mathbf{y} \\ &= (\mathbf{X}\mathbf{y})'(\mathbf{X}\mathbf{y}) \\ &= \mathbf{Z}'\mathbf{Z} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n Z_i^2 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Some properties of symmetric positive definite matrices

Variance-covariance matrices are often assumed positive definite.

Positive definite

\Rightarrow All eigenvalues positive \Leftrightarrow Determinant positive

\Rightarrow Inverse exists \Leftrightarrow Columns (rows) linearly independent

If a real symmetric matrix is also non-negative definite, as a variance-covariance matrix *must* be, Inverse exists \Rightarrow Positive definite

Showing Positive definite \Rightarrow Eigenvalues positive

For example

Let \mathbf{A} be square and symmetric as well as positive definite.

- Spectral decomposition says $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{\Lambda}\mathbf{P}'$.
- Using $\mathbf{y}'\mathbf{A}\mathbf{y} > 0$, let \mathbf{y} be an eigenvector, say the third one.
- Because eigenvectors are orthonormal,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{y}'\mathbf{A}\mathbf{y} &= \mathbf{y}'\mathbf{P}\mathbf{\Lambda}\mathbf{P}'\mathbf{y} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \lambda_3 \\ &> 0 \end{aligned}$$

Square root matrices

Define

$$\mathbf{\Lambda}^{1/2} = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{\lambda_1} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{\lambda_2} & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \sqrt{\lambda_n} \end{pmatrix}$$

So that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{\Lambda}^{1/2} \mathbf{\Lambda}^{1/2} &= \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{\lambda_1} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{\lambda_2} & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \sqrt{\lambda_n} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{\lambda_1} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{\lambda_2} & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \sqrt{\lambda_n} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{\Lambda} \end{aligned}$$

For a general symmetric matrix \mathbf{A}

Define

$$\mathbf{A}^{1/2} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{\Lambda}^{1/2}\mathbf{P}'$$

So that

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{A}^{1/2}\mathbf{A}^{1/2} &= \mathbf{P}\mathbf{\Lambda}^{1/2}\mathbf{P}'\mathbf{P}\mathbf{\Lambda}^{1/2}\mathbf{P}' \\ &= \mathbf{P}\mathbf{\Lambda}^{1/2}\mathbf{I}\mathbf{\Lambda}^{1/2}\mathbf{P}' \\ &= \mathbf{P}\mathbf{\Lambda}^{1/2}\mathbf{\Lambda}^{1/2}\mathbf{P}' \\ &= \mathbf{P}\mathbf{\Lambda}\mathbf{P}' \\ &= \mathbf{A}\end{aligned}$$

More about symmetric positive definite matrices

Show as exercises

Let \mathbf{A} be symmetric and positive definite. Then
 $\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{\Lambda}^{-1}\mathbf{P}'$.

Letting $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{\Lambda}^{-1/2}\mathbf{P}'$,

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{B} &= (\mathbf{A}^{-1})^{1/2} \\ \mathbf{B} &= (\mathbf{A}^{1/2})^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

This justifies saying $\mathbf{A}^{-1/2} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{\Lambda}^{-1/2}\mathbf{P}'$

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