

Please provide complete and well-written solutions to the following exercises.

Due October 6, 1159PM PST, to be uploaded as a single PDF document to blackboard (under the Assignments tab).

## Homework 6

**Exercise 1.** Write a computer program on your own that finds the QR factorization of an  $n \times n$  matrix for arbitrary  $n$ , and apply this program to the following matrix.

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 2 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 5 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ -6 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 4 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

(You should not use any built in linear algebra functions such as `qr`.)

**Exercise 2.** In this exercise, we will compare the speed and error of solving the linear system of equations

$$Ax = b$$

using either the LU or QR decomposition. Here  $A$  is a known  $n \times n$  real matrix,  $b \in \mathbf{R}^n$  is known, and we want to solve for  $x \in \mathbf{R}^n$ .

To do this, let's first construct an  $n \times n$  integer matrix  $A$  with  $n = 1000$ . Then, let's construct the LU decomposition using built-in commands, and then time how long it takes to solve  $Ax = b$  with a randomly chosen  $b$  (and let's also use built-in solver commands for the upper and lower triangular systems):

```
n=10^3;
A=round(n*(rand(n,n) - 1/2));
tic; % start the timer
[L U P]=lu(A);
b=rand(n,1);
%% Solve Ax=b, i.e. LUx=PAx=Pb.
%% first solve Ly=Pb, then solve Ux=y
y=L\(P*b);
x=U\y;
rtime=toc; % run time of the linear solver
aerr=norm(A*x -b); % approximate error of linear solver
```

In the last line, we approximated the error of  $Ax - b$ . (Since the computation of  $Ax$  itself has numerical errors, we only obtain an approximation of the actual value of  $Ax - b$ , where

$x$  is the output of the program.) Plot the run time a function of  $n$ , and also plot the error as a function of  $n$ , where  $n$  takes the values  $2^2, 2^3, 2^4, \dots, 2^{12}, 2^{13}$ .

Modify the above program to solve  $Ax = b$  using instead the QR decomposition.

Finally, repeat the above exercise (both for LU and QR decompositions) by using the specific matrix  $A$  that we previously found to be troublesome for the LU decomposition. An  $n \times n$  version of this matrix can be created in Matlab using the following commands.

```
A=-(ones(n,1))*(1:n)<((1:n)')*ones(1,n)) + eye(n);
A(1:n,n)=1;
```

In each above case, does the LU or QR decomposition do better? (Answer in terms of run time and in terms of errors.)

**Exercise 3.** Write a computer program on your own that finds a Cholesky Decomposition of an  $n \times n$  symmetric real matrix for arbitrary  $n > 1$ , and then use your program for the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 0 & -4 & 0 \\ 0 & 7 & 0 & -1 \\ -4 & 0 & 6 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 7 \end{pmatrix}.$$

(In a previous homework, we noted that  $A$  is symmetric and positive definite.)

**Exercise 4** (The Power Method). This exercise gives an algorithm for finding the eigenvectors and eigenvalues of a symmetric matrix. In modern statistics, this is often a useful thing to do. The Power Method described below is not the best algorithm for this task, but it is perhaps the easiest to describe and analyze.

Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  real symmetric matrix. Let  $\lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n$  be the (unknown) eigenvalues of  $A$ , and let  $v_1, \dots, v_n \in \mathbf{R}^n$  be the corresponding (unknown) eigenvectors of  $A$  such that  $\|v_i\| = 1$  and such that  $Av_i = \lambda_i v_i$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ .

Given  $A$ , our first goal is to find  $v_1$  and  $\lambda_1$ . For simplicity, assume that  $1/2 < \lambda_1 < 1$ , and  $0 \leq \lambda_n \leq \dots \leq \lambda_2 < 1/4$ . Suppose we have found a vector  $v \in \mathbf{R}^n$  such that  $\|v\| = 1$  and  $|\langle v, v_1 \rangle| > 1/n$ . (An exercise more suitable for a probability class shows that a randomly chosen  $v$  satisfies this property, with probability at least  $1/2$ .) Let  $k$  be a positive integer. Show that

$$A^k v$$

approximates  $v_1$  well as  $k$  becomes large. More specifically, show that for all  $k \geq 1$ ,

$$\|A^k v - \langle v, v_1 \rangle \lambda_1^k v_1\|^2 \leq \frac{n-1}{16^k}.$$

(Hint: use the spectral theorem for symmetric matrices.)

Since  $|\langle v, v_1 \rangle| \lambda_1^k > 2^{-k}/n$ , this inequality implies that  $A^k v$  is approximately an eigenvector of  $A$  with eigenvalue  $\lambda_1$ . That is, by the triangle inequality,

$$\|A(A^k v) - \lambda_1(A^k v)\| \leq \|A^{k+1} v - \langle v, v_1 \rangle \lambda_1^{k+1} v_1\| + \lambda_1 \|\langle v, v_1 \rangle \lambda_1^k v_1 - A^k v\| \leq 2 \frac{\sqrt{n-1}}{4^k}.$$

Moreover, by the reverse triangle inequality,

$$\|A^k v\| = \|A^k v - \langle v, v_1 \rangle \lambda_1^k v_1 + \langle v, v_1 \rangle \lambda_1^k v_1\| \geq \frac{1}{n} 2^{-k} - \frac{\sqrt{n-1}}{4^k}.$$

In conclusion, if we take  $k$  to be large (say  $k > 10 \log n$ ), and if we define  $z := A^k v$ , then  $z$  is approximately an eigenvector of  $A$ , that is

$$\left\| A \frac{A^k v}{\|A^k v\|} - \lambda_1 \frac{A^k v}{\|A^k v\|} \right\| \leq 4n^{3/2} 2^{-k} \leq 4n^{-4}.$$

And to approximately find the first eigenvalue  $\lambda_1$ , we simply compute

$$\frac{z^T A z}{z^T z}.$$

That is, we have approximately found the first eigenvector and eigenvalue of  $A$ .

*Remarks.* To find the second eigenvector and eigenvalue, we can repeat the above procedure, where we start by choosing  $v$  such that  $\langle v, v_1 \rangle = 0$ ,  $\|v\| = 1$  and  $|\langle v, v_2 \rangle| > 1/(10\sqrt{n})$ . To find the third eigenvector and eigenvalue, we can repeat the above procedure, where we start by choosing  $v$  such that  $\langle v, v_1 \rangle = \langle v, v_2 \rangle = 0$ ,  $\|v\| = 1$  and  $|\langle v, v_3 \rangle| > 1/(10\sqrt{n})$ . And so on.

Google's PageRank algorithm uses the power method to rank websites very rapidly. In particular, they let  $n$  be the number of websites on the internet (so that  $n$  is roughly  $10^9$ ). They then define an  $n \times n$  matrix  $C$  where  $C_{ij} = 1$  if there is a hyperlink between websites  $i$  and  $j$ , and  $C_{ij} = 0$  otherwise. Then, they let  $B$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix such that  $B_{ij}$  is 1 divided by the number of 1's in the  $i^{\text{th}}$  row of  $C$ , if  $C_{ij} = 1$ , and  $B_{ij} = 0$  otherwise. Finally, they define

$$A = (.85)B + (.15)D/n$$

where  $D$  is an  $n \times n$  matrix all of whose entries are 1.

The power method finds the eigenvector  $v_1$  of  $A$ , and the size of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  entry of  $v_1$  is proportional to the "rank" of website  $i$ .

**Exercise 5.** Consider the following symmetric real matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 1 & -2 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 & 6 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & 6 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 3 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Using the power method (i.e. by examining large powers of  $A$  in Matlab), find the largest eigenvalue  $\lambda \in \mathbf{R}$  of  $A$  and a corresponding eigenvector  $v \in \mathbf{R}^5$  with  $\|v\|_2 = 1$ .

Note that  $(A - \lambda vv^T)v = Av - \lambda v = 0$ , and if  $w$  is any other eigenvector of  $A$ , then  $(A - \lambda vv^T)w = Aw$ . Using this observation, apply the power method to  $A - \lambda vv^T$  to find the second largest eigenvalue of  $A$ .

Finally, compare your results with the built-in Matlab function `eigs`.

**Exercise 6.** Let  $A$  be an  $m \times n$  complex matrix. Show that  $\|A\|_{2 \rightarrow 2}^2$  is equal to the largest eigenvalue of  $AA^*$  (or of  $A^*A$ ). That is,  $\|A\|_{2 \rightarrow 2}$  is the largest singular value of  $A$ .