

## CSE 203B W22 Homework 1

Due Time : 11:50pm, Wednesday Jan. 12, 2022 Submit to Gradescope  
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In this homework, we work on the basic concepts of convex optimization and linear algebra.

All the problems are graded by content.

### 1. Convex Optimization (12 pts)

1.1. Given a function  $f_0(x) = x^4 - 4x^3 + 6x^2 - 4x + 1$ , where  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ . Solve  $\min_x f_0(x)$  using Kuhn-Tucker conditions. Show your derivation. (2 pts)

[Solution]

We can solve  $\min_x f_0(x)$  using the following KT conditions:

$$\nabla^2 f_0(x) \geq 0$$

$$\nabla f_0(x^*) = 0$$

First, we have  $\nabla^2 f_0(x) = 12(x-1)^2 \geq 0$  which shows that  $f_0(x)$  is a convex function. This means that the local minimum of  $f_0(x)$  is the global minimum. This allows us to find  $\min_x f_0(x)$  through the first derivative test. By solving  $\nabla f_0(x^*) = ((x^* - 1)^4)' = 4(x^* - 1)^3 = 0$ , we have  $x^* = 1$ , and  $\min_x f_0(x) = 0$ .

1.2. Given two functions  $f_0(x) = x^2 - 3x + 1$ , and  $f_1(x) = 3x + 1$ , where  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ . Solve  $\min_x f_0(x)$  subject to  $f_1(x) \leq 0$  using the primal dual transform with Lagrange multipliers. Show your derivation. (10 pts)

[Solution]

The Lagrangian is  $L(x, \lambda) = f_0(x) + \lambda f_1(x) = x^2 - 3x + 1 + \lambda(3x + 1)$ , where  $\lambda$  is the Lagrange multiplier,  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\lambda \geq 0$ .

The primal problem is  $\min_x \max_\lambda L(x, \lambda)$  and the dual problem is  $\max_\lambda \min_x L(x, \lambda) = \max_\lambda g(\lambda)$ . To solve the dual problem, we first solve  $\min_x L(x, \lambda)$  using KT conditions:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 L(x, \lambda)}{\partial x^2} &= 2 \geq 0 \\ \frac{\partial L(x, \lambda)}{\partial x} &= 2x + (3\lambda - 3) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

From the solution, we know that  $x = \frac{3-3\lambda}{2}$  is the global minimum of  $L(x, \lambda)$ . So we can plug this into  $g(\lambda)$  and get

$$g(\lambda) = \frac{-5 + 22\lambda - 9\lambda^2}{4}$$

Then, we solve  $\max_{\lambda} g(\lambda)$  using KT conditions:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial g^2(\lambda)}{\partial \lambda^2} &= -\frac{9}{2} \leq 0 \\ \frac{\partial g(\lambda)}{\partial \lambda} &= \frac{11 - 9\lambda}{2} = 0\end{aligned}$$

And we get  $\lambda = \frac{11}{9}$ . By plugging this back into  $x(\lambda)$ , we have  $x^* = -\frac{1}{3}$ , and  $\min_x f_0(x) = \frac{19}{9}$ .

## 2. Matrix Properties (14 pts)

### 2.1. Linear System (2pts)

Consider the following system of linear equations

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 + x_2 + 3x_3 &= 1 \\ 2x_1 - x_2 + 2x_3 &= -2 \\ 3x_1 + 5x_3 &= -1.\end{aligned}$$

Write the equations in a matrix form.

[Solution]

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 2 & -1 & 2 \\ 3 & 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$Ax = b$

2.2. For the matrix in problem 2.1, derive its range. What's the rank of this matrix? (2pts)

[Solution]

By row reducing matrix A we have:

$$\begin{aligned}\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 2 & -1 & 2 \\ 3 & 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix} &\xrightarrow{R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - 2R_1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & -3 & -4 \\ 3 & 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - 3R_1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & -3 & -4 \\ 0 & -3 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \\ &\xrightarrow{R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - R_2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & -3 & -4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \leftarrow -R_2/3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 4/3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

Since the row echelon form of A contains 2 pivots, its rank is 2. The range is the span of the column vectors that contain the pivot positions, which is

$$R(A) = c_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \forall c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{R}$$

2.3. Derive the nullspace of the matrix in problem 2.1. What's the relation between the range

and nullspace of a matrix? (2pts)

**[Solution]**

The nullspace of  $A$  consists of all solutions  $x$  to  $Ax = \mathbf{0}$ .

By doing row reduction the same way in question 2.2 we reach the same row echelon form of  $A$ :

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 2 & -1 & 2 \\ 3 & 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 4/3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Since the row echelon form of  $A$  contains 1 zero row, the dimension of nullspace is 1.

To find the nullspace, we first identify the free variable  $x_3$  which corresponds to the free column 3. Column 3 is free because it has no pivots. Then we can represent the pivot variables  $x_1, x_2$  with respect to the free variable  $x_3$  by solving:

$$\begin{aligned} x_2 + 4x_3/3 = 0 &\implies x_2 = -4x_3/3 \\ x_1 + x_2 + 3x_3 = 0 &\implies x_1 = -5x_3/3 \end{aligned}$$

These solutions form the nullspace of  $A$ :

$$N(A) = x_3 \begin{bmatrix} -5/3 \\ -4/3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \forall x_3 \in \mathbb{R}$$

Here, we have a 2-dimensional range, and a 1-dimensional nullspace, which adds up to 3, the number of columns in our matrix.

In general, for a  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$ , the dimensions of  $R(A)$  and  $N(A)$  sums to  $n$ .

2.4. Derive the trace and determinant of the matrix in problem 2.1. Write the eigenvalues and eigenvectors. (2pts)

**[Solution]**

1. The trace of a matrix is the sum of the elements along the main diagonal:

$$\text{tr}(A) = \text{tr} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 2 & -1 & 2 \\ 3 & 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \right) = 1 + (-1) + 5 = 5$$

2. The determinant of matrix  $A$  can be calculated as follows:

$$\det(A) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 2 & -1 & 2 \\ 3 & 0 & 5 \end{vmatrix} = 1 \begin{vmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 5 \end{vmatrix} - 1 \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 3 & 5 \end{vmatrix} + 3 \begin{vmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 3 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = 1(-5) - 1(4) + 3(3) = 0$$

Alternatively, since  $\text{rank}(A) = 2 < 3$ , the matrix is singular, thus  $\det(A) = 0$ .

3. The eigenvectors  $x$  and the associated eigenvalues  $\lambda$  of a matrix  $A$  satisfy  $(A - \lambda I)x = 0$  ( $x \neq \mathbf{0}$ ).

We can find the eigenvalues by solving  $\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
& \begin{vmatrix} 1-\lambda & 1 & 3 \\ 2 & -1-\lambda & 2 \\ 3 & 0 & 5-\lambda \end{vmatrix} \\
&= (1-\lambda) \begin{vmatrix} -1-\lambda & 2 \\ 0 & 5-\lambda \end{vmatrix} - 1 \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 3 & 5-\lambda \end{vmatrix} + 3 \begin{vmatrix} 2 & -1-\lambda \\ 3 & 0 \end{vmatrix} \\
&= (1-\lambda)(-1-\lambda)(5-\lambda) - (4-2\lambda) + 3(3+3\lambda) \\
&= \lambda(12+5\lambda-\lambda^2) = 0 \\
&\implies \lambda_1 = 0, \lambda_2 = \frac{5+\sqrt{73}}{2}, \lambda_3 = \frac{5-\sqrt{73}}{2}
\end{aligned}$$

Then the eigenvectors  $x$  can be found by solving  $(A - \lambda I)x = 0$ . We can row reduce the matrix  $A - \lambda I$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
& \begin{bmatrix} 1-\lambda & 1 & 3 \\ 2 & -1-\lambda & 2 \\ 3 & 0 & 5-\lambda \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_1 \leftarrow \frac{1}{1-\lambda} R_1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{1-\lambda} & \frac{3}{1-\lambda} \\ 2 & -1-\lambda & 2 \\ 3 & 0 & 5-\lambda \end{bmatrix} \\
& \xrightarrow{R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - 2R_1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{1-\lambda} & \frac{3}{1-\lambda} \\ 0 & \frac{\lambda^2-3}{1-\lambda} & \frac{-2\lambda-4}{1-\lambda} \\ 3 & 0 & 5-\lambda \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - 3R_1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{1-\lambda} & \frac{3}{1-\lambda} \\ 0 & \frac{\lambda^2-3}{1-\lambda} & \frac{-2\lambda-4}{1-\lambda} \\ 0 & \frac{-3}{1-\lambda} & \frac{\lambda^2-6\lambda-4}{1-\lambda} \end{bmatrix} \\
& \xrightarrow{R_2 \leftarrow \frac{1-\lambda}{\lambda^2-3} R_2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{1-\lambda} & \frac{3}{1-\lambda} \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{-2\lambda-4}{\lambda^2-3} \\ 0 & \frac{-3}{1-\lambda} & \frac{\lambda^2-6\lambda-4}{1-\lambda} \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_3 \leftarrow R_3 + \frac{3}{1-\lambda} R_2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{1-\lambda} & \frac{3}{1-\lambda} \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{-2\lambda-4}{\lambda^2-3} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{\lambda(12+5\lambda-\lambda^2)}{\lambda^2-3} \end{bmatrix} \\
& \xrightarrow{\lambda(12+5\lambda-\lambda^2)=0} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{1-\lambda} & \frac{3}{1-\lambda} \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{-2\lambda-4}{\lambda^2-3} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}
\end{aligned}$$

$x_3$  is the free variable, we can solve the following equations for  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  in terms of  $x_3$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
x_2 - \frac{2\lambda+4}{\lambda^2-3}x_3 &= 0 \implies x_2 = \frac{2\lambda+4}{\lambda^2-3}x_3 \\
x_1 + \frac{x_2}{1-\lambda} + \frac{3x_3}{1-\lambda} &= 0 \implies x_1 = \frac{3\lambda+5}{\lambda^2-3}x_3
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the eigenvectors are:

$$v = c \begin{bmatrix} \frac{3\lambda+5}{\lambda^2-3} \\ \frac{2\lambda+4}{\lambda^2-3} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \forall c \in \mathbb{R} - \{0\}$$

By plugging in  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$ , we can derive the corresponding eigenvectors:

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda_1 = 0 &\implies v_1 = c \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{5}{3} \\ -\frac{4}{3} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \forall c \in \mathbb{R} - \{0\} \\ \lambda_2 = \frac{5 + \sqrt{73}}{2} &\implies v_2 = c \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-5 + \sqrt{73}}{6} \\ \frac{11 - \sqrt{73}}{6} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \forall c \in \mathbb{R} - \{0\} \\ \lambda_3 = \frac{5 - \sqrt{73}}{2} &\implies v_3 = c \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-5 - \sqrt{73}}{6} \\ \frac{11 + \sqrt{73}}{6} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \forall c \in \mathbb{R} - \{0\}\end{aligned}$$

2.5. Prove the following properties. (3 pts)

- For  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}, B \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ ,  $\text{tr}AB = \text{tr}BA$ .
- For  $A, B \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ ,  $\det AB = \det A \det B$ .
- For  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ ,  $\det A = \prod_{i=1}^n \lambda_i$ , and  $\text{tr}A = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i$ , where  $\lambda_i, i = 1, \dots, n$  are the eigenvalues of  $A$ .

[Solution]

1.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{tr}(AB) &= \sum_{i=1}^m (AB)_{ii} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m A_{ij} B_{ji} \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n B_{ji} A_{ij} \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^n (BA)_{jj} \\ &= \text{tr}(BA)\end{aligned}$$

2. If  $A$  is not invertible, then  $AB$  is not invertible, we have  $\det(AB) = \det(A) \det(B) = 0$ .  
If  $A$  is invertible,  $A$  can be row reduced to an identity matrix  $I$  by a finite number of elementary row operations  $E_1, E_2, \dots, E_n$ , i.e.

$$A = E_n E_{n-1} \dots E_1 I$$

Multiplying the LHS and RHS by  $B$ , we have

$$AB = E_n E_{n-1} \dots E_1 B$$

Taking the determinant of LHS and RHS, we have

$$\det(A) = \det(E_n E_{n-1} \dots E_1)$$

$$\det(AB) = \det(E_n E_{n-1} \dots E_1 B)$$

If  $E$  is an elementary row operation, we have  $\det(EA) = \det(E) \det(A)$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \det(E_n E_{n-1} \dots E_1 B) &= \det(E_n) \det(E_{n-1} \dots E_1 B) \\ &= \det(E_n) \dots \det(E_1) \det(B) \\ &= \det(E_n \dots E_1) \det(B) \\ &= \det(A) \det(B) \end{aligned}$$

3. (a) **[Solution 1]**

By definition,  $\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$  at  $\lambda = \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ , which means  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  are the roots of the characteristic polynomial  $\det(A - \lambda I)$ :

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = (\lambda_1 - \lambda) \dots (\lambda_n - \lambda)$$

By setting  $\lambda = 0$ , we have  $\det(A) = \prod_{i=1}^n \lambda_i$ .

**[Solution 2]**

For any matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , it can be transformed to Jordan canonical form  $J$  by a similarity transformation  $T$ :

$$J = T^{-1}AT$$

where  $J$  is an upper triangular matrix and have  $A$ 's eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  on its diagonal. Using property  $\det(AB) = \det(A) \det(B)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \det(J) &= \det(T^{-1}AT) = \det(T^{-1}) \det(A) \det(T) = \det(T^{-1}) \det(T) \det(A) \\ \det(I) &= \det(T^{-1}T) = \det(T^{-1}) \det(T) = 1 \end{aligned}$$

Since  $J$  is a triangular matrix,  $\det(J) = \prod_{i=1}^n \lambda_i$ .

Therefore,  $\det(A) = \prod_{i=1}^n \lambda_i$ .

(b) For any matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , it can be transformed to Jordan canonical form  $J$  by a similarity transformation  $T$ :

$$J = T^{-1}AT$$

where  $J$  has  $A$ 's eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  on its diagonal, therefore  $\text{tr}(J) = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i$ . It is easy to see that similarity transformation preserves trace by using property  $\text{tr}(AB) = \text{tr}(BA)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{tr}(J) &= \text{tr}(T^{-1}AT) \\ &= \text{tr}(T^{-1}(AT)) \\ &= \text{tr}((AT)T^{-1}) \\ &= \text{tr}(A(TT^{-1})) \\ &= \text{tr}(AI) \\ &= \text{tr}(A) \end{aligned}$$

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

2.6. Suppose that you are a tutor. Devise a simple but meaningful numerical example to illustrate the three equations in problem 2.5.(3 pts)

**[Solution]**

We are not providing examples here, but any simple and meaningful numerical matrices illustrating the above properties are correct.

### 3. Matrix Operations (14 pts)

**Gradient:** consider a function  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  that takes a vector  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and returns a real value. Then the gradient of  $f$  (w.r.t.  $x$ ) is the vector of partial derivatives, defined as

$$\nabla_x f(x) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x_2} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix}.$$

**Hessian:** consider a function  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  that takes a vector  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and returns a real value. Then the Hessian matrix of  $f$  (w.r.t.  $x$ ) is the  $n \times n$  matrix of partial derivatives, defined as

$$\nabla_x^2 f(x) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_1^2} & \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_1 \partial x_n} \\ \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} & \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_2^2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_2 \partial x_n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_n \partial x_1} & \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_n \partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_n^2} \end{bmatrix}.$$

3.1. Write the gradient and Hessian matrix for the linear function

$$f(x) = 2b^T x,$$

where  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and vector  $b \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . (2 pts)

**[Solution]**

$$f(x) = 2b^T x = \sum_{i=1}^n 2b_i x_i$$

Gradient:

$$\nabla_x f(x) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x_2} \\ \cdots \\ \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2b_1 \\ 2b_2 \\ \cdots \\ 2b_n \end{bmatrix} = 2b$$

Hessian:

$$\nabla_x^2 f(x) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_1^2} & \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_1 \partial x_n} \\ \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} & \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_2^2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_2 \partial x_n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_1 \partial x_n} & \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_2 \partial x_n} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_n^2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

3.2. Write the gradient and Hessian matrix of the quadratic function

$$f(x) = x^T A x + b^T x + c,$$

where  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , vector  $b \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ . (2 pts)

**[Solution]**

$$f(x) = x^T A x + b^T x + c = \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^n x_j A_{ji} x_i + \sum_{i=1}^n b_i x_i + c$$

Gradient:

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_x f(x) &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x_2} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} (\sum_{i=1}^n A_{1i} x_i + \sum_{j=1}^n x_j A_{j1}) + b_1 \\ (\sum_{i=1}^n A_{2i} x_i + \sum_{j=1}^n x_j A_{j2}) + b_2 \\ \cdots \\ (\sum_{i=1}^n A_{ni} x_i + \sum_{j=1}^n x_j A_{jn}) + b_n \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^n (A_{1i} + A_{i1}) x_i + b_1 \\ \sum_{i=1}^n (A_{2i} + A_{i2}) x_i + b_2 \\ \cdots \\ \sum_{i=1}^n (A_{ni} + A_{in}) x_i + b_n \end{bmatrix} \\ &= (A + A^T)x + b \end{aligned}$$

Hessian:

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_x^2 f(x) &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_1^2} & \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_1 \partial x_n} \\ \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} & \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_2^2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_2 \partial x_n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_1 \partial x_n} & \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_2 \partial x_n} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x_n^2} \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 2A_{11} & A_{12} + A_{21} & \cdots & A_{1n} + A_{n1} \\ A_{21} + A_{12} & 2A_{22} & \cdots & A_{2n} + A_{n2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ A_{n1} + A_{1n} & A_{n2} + A_{2n} & \cdots & 2A_{nn} \end{bmatrix} = A + A^T \end{aligned}$$

3.3. Write the gradient and Hessian matrix of the quadratic function

$$f(x) = x^T (A + A^T)x + b^T x + c,$$



where  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , vector  $b \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ . (2 pts)

**[Solution]**

Based on the results from 3.2, we have

$$\nabla_x f(x) = 2(A + A^T)x + b$$

$$\nabla_x^2 f(x) = 2(A + A^T)$$

3.4. Given matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  where  $m < n$  and  $\text{rank}(A) = m$ , and vector  $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$ , find a solution  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  such that  $Ax = b$ . (3 pts)

**[Solution 1]**

Since  $A$  has full row rank and  $m < n$ ,  $Ax=b$  has infinitely many solutions. One particular solution among those is the one with a minimal  $l^2$ -norm. Finding it can be formulated as solving the following constrained optimization problem:

$$\begin{aligned} \min_x \|x\|_2^2 &= \min_x x^T x \\ \text{s.t. } Ax &= b \end{aligned}$$

The Lagrangian is  $L(x, \lambda) = x^T x + \lambda^T (Ax - b)$ ,  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $\lambda \geq \mathbf{0}$ .

The Lagrange dual problem can be solved as follows:

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x} = 2x + A^T \lambda = 0 \implies x = -\frac{1}{2} A^T \lambda \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \lambda} = Ax - b = \mathbf{0} \quad (2)$$

By plugging (1) to (2), we have

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{1}{2} AA^T \lambda - b &= \mathbf{0} \\ \implies AA^T \lambda &= -2b \\ \implies \lambda &= -2(AA^T)^{-1} b \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

Since  $\text{rank}(A) = m$ , we have  $\text{rank}(AA^T) = \text{rank}(A) = m$ , i.e., the  $m \times m$  square matrix  $AA^T$  has full rank, therefore it is invertible.

By plugging (3) back to (1), we have

$$x = A^T (AA^T)^{-1} b$$

as one particular solution.

**[Solution 2]**

Since  $\text{rank}(A) = m$ , we can rearrange the columns of  $A$  such that

$$A = [A_1 A_2]$$

where  $A_1$  contains  $m$  linearly independent columns of  $A$ , and  $A_2$  contains the rest  $n - m$  columns.  $A_1$  is therefore a  $m \times m$  full rank matrix, i.e. it is invertible. We can further rewrite  $Ax = b$  as

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_1 & A_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = b$$

where vector  $x_1 \in \mathbb{R}^m$ , vector  $x_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{n-m}$ .

Then, one particular solution can be found as  $x_1 = A_1^{-1}b$  and  $x_2$  is a zero vector.

3.5. Given a nonsingular matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{bmatrix},$$

write the analytic solution of  $A^{-1}$ . (2 pts)

**[Solution]**

The cofactor matrix  $C$  is

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} ei - fh & fg - di & dh - eg \\ ch - bi & ai - cg & bg - ah \\ bf - ce & cd - af & ae - bd \end{bmatrix}$$

The adjoint of matrix  $A$  is  $\text{adj}(A)$  is

$$\text{adj}(A) = C^T = \begin{bmatrix} ei - fh & ch - bi & bf - ce \\ fg - di & ai - cg & cd - af \\ dh - eg & bg - ah & ae - bd \end{bmatrix}$$

The determinant of  $A$  is

$$\begin{aligned} \det(A) &= a(ei - fh) - b(di - fg) + c(dh - eg) \\ &= aei - afh - bdi + bfg + cdh - ceg \end{aligned}$$

And the inverse of  $A$  is

$$A^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det(A)} \text{adj}(A)$$

3.6. Given a nonsingular matrix

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{bmatrix},$$

where elements  $A, B, C, D \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$ , write an analytic solution of  $M^{-1}$ . Hint: For matrices, the multiplication does not commute, e.g. we cannot claim that  $AB = BA$  (3 pts)

**[Solution]**

The inverse can be found by doing row reduction as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left[ \begin{array}{cc|cc} A & B & I & 0 \\ C & D & 0 & I \end{array} \right] \\
& \xrightarrow{R_1 \leftarrow A^{-1}R_1} \\
& \left[ \begin{array}{cc|cc} I & A^{-1}B & A^{-1} & 0 \\ C & D & 0 & I \end{array} \right] \\
& \xrightarrow{R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - CR_1} \\
& \left[ \begin{array}{cc|cc} I & A^{-1}B & A^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & D - CA^{-1}B & -CA^{-1} & I \end{array} \right] \\
& \xrightarrow{R_2 \leftarrow (D - CA^{-1}B)^{-1}R_2} \\
& \left[ \begin{array}{cc|cc} I & A^{-1}B & A^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & I & -(D - CA^{-1}B)^{-1}CA^{-1} & (D - CA^{-1}B)^{-1} \end{array} \right] \\
& \xrightarrow{R_1 \leftarrow R_1 - A^{-1}BR_2} \\
& \left[ \begin{array}{cc|cc} I & 0 & A^{-1} + A^{-1}B(D - CA^{-1}B)^{-1}CA^{-1} & -A^{-1}B(D - CA^{-1}B)^{-1} \\ 0 & I & -(D - CA^{-1}B)^{-1}CA^{-1} & (D - CA^{-1}B)^{-1} \end{array} \right] \\
M^{-1} = & \left[ \begin{array}{cc|cc} A^{-1} + A^{-1}B(D - CA^{-1}B)^{-1}CA^{-1} & -A^{-1}B(D - CA^{-1}B)^{-1} \\ -(D - CA^{-1}B)^{-1}CA^{-1} & (D - CA^{-1}B)^{-1} \end{array} \right]
\end{aligned}$$

This holds under the assumption that  $D - CA^{-1}B$  and  $A$  are invertible.