

Lecture 10

How to classify Quadratic form?

First we need to transform quadratic form into matrix form $Q = X^T A X$. Then we can transform

$$Q = \sum_i^n \sum_j^n a_{ij} x_i x_j \quad \text{into} \quad \sum_{i=1}^n b_i y_i^2$$

which will have only the square terms called the *canonical form*. This way it would be easy to classify the quadratic form just by looking at the coefficients of the term.

Taking $X = PY$,

$$\begin{aligned} Q &= X^T A X = (PY)^T A (PY) = Y^T P^T A P \\ &= Y^T (P^T A P) Y \\ &= Y^T D Y \end{aligned}$$

we need to choose P such that D is a diagonal matrix. Thus when A is a symmetric matrix, we can diagonalize the matrix A to get $D = P^T A P$.

$$\Rightarrow P = \begin{bmatrix} \uparrow & \uparrow & \dots & \uparrow \\ \frac{X_1}{\|X_1\|} & \frac{X_2}{\|X_2\|} & \dots & \frac{X_n}{\|X_n\|} \\ \downarrow & \downarrow & & \downarrow \end{bmatrix}, \quad D = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}$$

If all $\lambda_i > 0$ then $Q = Y^T D Y = \sum \lambda_i y_i^2 > 0, Q = 0$ iff $Y = 0$
 \Rightarrow *Positive definite form*.

If any of the $\lambda_i = 0$ & $\lambda_i > 0$ for all other i ,
 \Rightarrow *Positive semi definite form*.

If all $\lambda_i < 0$ then $Q = Y^T D Y = \sum \lambda_i y_i^2 < 0, Q = 0$ iff $Y = 0$
 \Rightarrow *Negative definite form*.

If $\lambda \leq 0$ and atleast one $\lambda_i = 0$
 \Rightarrow *Negative semi definite form*.

Ex: for $n = 2$ & $k > 0$,

$$Q = \lambda_1 y_1^2 + \lambda_2 y_2^2 = k \quad \forall \quad \lambda_i > 0$$

we get the equation of ellipse in 2-D plane.

Ex: Reduce the quadratic form $6x^2 + 3y^2 + 3z^2 - 4xy - 2yz + 4xz$ into canonical form by an orthogonal transformation.

$$Q = [x \quad y \quad z] \begin{bmatrix} 6 & -2 & 2 \\ -2 & 3 & -1 \\ 2 & -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = X^T A X$$

where,

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \quad \& \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & -2 & 2 \\ -2 & 3 & -1 \\ 2 & -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$|A - \lambda I| = 0$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} 6 - \lambda & -2 & 2 \\ -2 & 3 - \lambda & -1 \\ 2 & -1 & 3 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

we get $\lambda = 2, 2, 8$.

Finding eigen vector for $\lambda = 8$ gives $X_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \frac{X_1}{\|X_1\|} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} \\ \frac{-1}{\sqrt{6}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \end{bmatrix}$.

for $\lambda = 2$, $X_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \frac{X_2}{\|X_2\|} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix}$

for another $\lambda = 2$, $X_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \frac{X_3}{\|X_3\|} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \\ 0 \\ \frac{-2}{\sqrt{5}} \end{bmatrix}$

$$\Rightarrow P = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} & 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \\ \frac{-1}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{-2}{\sqrt{5}} \end{bmatrix}$$

Since P is orthogonal, $P^{-1} = P^T$.

$$\Rightarrow P^{-1}AP = \begin{bmatrix} 8 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$Q = Y^T AY = Y^T \begin{bmatrix} 8 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} Y$$

$$= 8y_1^2 + 2y_2^2 + 2y_3^2$$

Thus $Q > 0 \forall Y \neq 0$ and $Q = 0$ iff $Y = 0$ is positive definite form.

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