# **Conceptual Questions for Review**

### **Chapter 1**

- 1.1 Which vectors are linear combinations of  $v = (3, 1)$  and  $w = (4, 3)$ ?
- 1.2 Compare the dot product of  $v = (3, 1)$  and  $w = (4, 3)$  to the product of their lengths. Which is larger? Whose inequality?
- 1.3 What is the cosine of the angle between *v* and *w* in Question 1.2? What is the cosine of the angle between the x-axis and *v?*

- 2.1 Multiplying a matrix A times the column vector  $x = (2, -1)$  gives what combination of the columns of *A?* How many rows and columns in *A?*
- 2.2 If  $Ax = b$  then the vector b is a linear combination of what vectors from the matrix A? In vector space language,  $\boldsymbol{b}$  lies in the space of A.
- 2.3 If *A* is the 2 by 2 matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 6 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$  what are its pivots?
- 2.4 If A is the matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  how does elimination proceed? What permutation matrix P is involved?
- 2.5 If *A* is the matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 6 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$  find *b* and *c* so that  $Ax = b$  has no solution and  $Ax = c$  has a solution.
- 2.6 What 3 by 3 matrix L adds 5 times row 2 to row 3 and then adds 2 times row 1 to row 2, when it multiplies a matrix with three rows?
- 2.7 What 3 by 3 matrix E subtracts 2 times row 1 from row 2 and then subtracts 5 times row 2 from row 3? How is *E* related to *L* in Question 2.6?
- 2.8 If *A* is 4 by 3 and *B* is 3 by 7, how many *row times column* products go into *AB?*  How many *column times row* products go into *AB?* How many separate small multiplications are involved (the same for both)?
- 2.9 Suppose  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  is a matrix with 2 by 2 blocks. What is the inverse matrix?
- 2.10 How can you find the inverse of A by working with [A I]? If you solve the *n*  equations  $Ax =$  columns of *I* then the solutions *x* are columns of  $\cdots$
- 2.11 How does elimination decide whether a square matrix *A* is invertible?
- 2.12 Suppose elimination takes *A* to *U* (upper triangular) by row operations with the multipliers in *L* (lower triangular). Why does the last row of *A* agree with the last row of *L* times *U?*
- 2.13 What is the factorization (from elimination with possible row exchanges) of any square invertible matrix?
- 2.14 What is the transpose of the inverse of *AB?*
- 2.15 How do you know that the inverse of a permutation matrix is a permutation matrix? How is it related to the transpose?

- 3.1 What is the column space of an invertible *n* by *n* matrix? What is the nullspace of that matrix?
- 3.2 If every column of *A* is a multiple of the first column, what is the column space of *A?*
- 3.3 What are the two requirements for a set of vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to be a subspace?
- 3.4 If the row reduced form  $R$  of a matrix  $A$  begins with a row of ones, how do you know that the other rows of *R* are zero and what is the nullspace?
- 3.5 Suppose the nullspace of *A* contains only the zero vector. What can you say about solutions to  $Ax = b$ ?
- 3.6 From the row reduced form *R,* how would you decide the rank of *A?*
- 3.7 Suppose column 4 of *A* is the sum of columns I, 2, and 3. Find a vector in the nullspace.
- 3.8 Describe in words the complete solution to a linear system  $Ax = b$ .
- 3.9 If  $Ax = b$  has exactly one solution for every b, what can you say about A?
- 3.10 Give an example of vectors that span  $\mathbb{R}^2$  but are not a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .
- 3.11 What is the dimension of the space of 4 by 4 symmetric matrices?
- 3.12 Describe the meaning of *basis* and *dimension* of a vector space.
- 3.13 Why is every row of *A* perpendicular to every vector in the nullspace?
- 3.14 How do you know that a column  $\boldsymbol{u}$  times a row  $\boldsymbol{v}^T$  (both nonzero) has rank 1?
- 3.15 What are the dimensions of the four fundamental subspaces, if *A* is 6 by 3 with rank 2?
- 3.16 What is the row reduced form *R* of a 3 by 4 matrix of all 2's?
- 3.17 Describe a *pivot column* of *A.*
- 3.18 True? The vectors in the left nullspace of A have the form  $A<sup>T</sup>y$ .
- 3.19 Why do the columns of every invertible matrix yield a basis?

- 4.1 What does the word *complement* mean about orthogonal subspaces?
- 4.2 If *V* is a subspace of the 7-dimensional space  $\mathbb{R}^7$ , the dimensions of *V* and its orthogonal complement add to \_\_\_\_\_\_.
- 4.3 The projection of  $\boldsymbol{b}$  onto the line through  $\boldsymbol{a}$  is the vector  $\_\_\_\_\$ .
- 4.4 The projection matrix onto the line through  $\alpha$  is  $P =$  \_\_\_\_\_\_.
- 4.5 The key equation to project *b* onto the column space of *A* is the *normal equation*
- 4.6 The matrix  $A<sup>T</sup>A$  is invertible when the columns of A are  $\qquad \qquad$ .
- 4.7 The least squares solution to  $Ax = b$  minimizes what error function?
- 4.8 What is the connection between the least squares solution of  $Ax = b$  and the idea of projection onto the column space?
- 4.9 If you graph the best'straight line to a set of 10 data points, what shape is the matrix A and where does the projection *p* appear in the graph?
- 4.10 If the columns of Q are orthonormal, why is  $Q^T Q = I$ ?
- 4.11 What is the projection matrix P onto the columns of *Q?*
- 4.12 If Gram-Schmidt starts with the vectors  $a = (2,0)$  and  $b = (1,1)$ , which two orthonormal vectors does it produce? If we keep  $a = (2,0)$  does Gram-Schmidt always produce the same two orthonormal vectors?
- 4.13 True? Every permutation matrix is an orthogonal matrix.
- 4.14 The inverse of the orthogonal matrix  $Q$  is  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ .

- 5.1 What is the determinant of the matrix  $-I$ ?
- 5.2 Explain how the determinant is a linear function of the first row.
- 5.3 How do you know that det  $A^{-1} = 1/\det A$ ?
- 5.4 If the pivots of *A* (with no row exchanges) are 2, 6, 6, what submatrices of *A* have known determinants?
- 5.5 Suppose the first row of A is  $0, 0, 0, 3$ . What does the "big formula" for the determinant of *A* reduce to in this case?
- 5.6 Is the ordering (2,5,3,4,1) even or odd? What permutation matrix has what determinant, from your answer?
- 5.7 What is the cofactor  $C_{23}$  in the 3 by 3 elimination matrix E that subtracts 4 times row 1 from row 2? What entry of  $E^{-1}$  is revealed?
- 5.8 Explain the meaning of the cofactor formula for det A using column 1.
- 5.9 How does Cramer's Rule give the first component in the solution to  $Ix = b$ ?
- 5.10 If I combine the entries in row 2 with the cofactors from row 1, why is  $a_{21}C_{11}$  +  $a_{22}C_{12} + a_{23}C_{13}$  automatically zero?
- 5.11 What is the connection between determinants and volumes?
- 5.12 Find the cross product of  $u = (0, 0, 1)$  and  $v = (0, 1, 0)$  and its direction.
- 5.13 If A is n by n, why is  $det(A \lambda I)$  a polynomial in  $\lambda$  of degree n?

- 6.1 What equation gives the eigenvalues of *A* without involving the eigenvectors? How would you then find the eigenvectors?
- 6.2 If A is singular what does this say about its eigenvalues?
- 6.3 If *A* times *A* equals *4A,* what numbers can be eigenvalues of *A?*
- 6.4 Find a real matrix that has no real eigenvalues or eigenvectors.
- 6.5 How can you find the sum and product of the eigenvalues directly from *A?*
- 6.6 What are the eigenvalues of the rank one matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ?
- 6.7 Explain the diagonalization formula  $A = S \Lambda S^{-1}$ . Why is it true and when is it true?
- 6.8 What is the difference between the algebraic and geometric multiplicities of an eigenvalue of *A?* Which might be larger?
- 6.9 Explain why the trace of *AB* equals the trace of *BA.*
- 6.10 How do the eigenvectors of A help to solve  $du/dt = Au$ ?
- 6.11 How do the eigenvectors of *A* help to solve  $u_{k+1} = Au_k$ ?
- 6.12 Define the matrix exponential  $e^A$  and its inverse and its square.
- 6.13 If *A* is symmetric, what is special about its eigenvectors? Do any other matrices have eigenvectors with this property?
- 6.14 What is the diagonalization formula when  $\Lambda$  is symmetric?
- 6.15 What does it mean to say that *A* is *positive definite?*
- 6.16 When is  $B = A^T A$  a positive definite matrix *(A* is real)?
- 6.17 If *A* is positive definite describe the surface  $x^T A x = 1$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
- 6.18 What does it mean for *A* and *B* to be *similar?* What is sure to be the same for *A* and *B?*
- 6.19 The 3 by 3 matrix with ones for  $i \geq j$  has what Jordan form?
- 6.20 The SVD expresses *A* as a product of what three types of matrices?
- 6.21 How is the SVD for *A* linked to *AT A?*

- 7.1 Define a linear transformation from  $\mathbb{R}^3$  to  $\mathbb{R}^2$  and give one example.
- 7.2 If the upper middle house on the cover of the book is the original, find something nonlinear in the transformations of the other eight houses.
- 7.3 If a linear transformation takes every vector in the input basis into the next basis vector (and the last into zero), what is its matrix?
- 7.4 Suppose we change from the standard basis (the columns of  $I$ ) to the basis given by the columns of *A* (invertible matrix). What is the change of basis matrix *M?*
- 7.5 Suppose our new basis is formed from the eigenvectors of a matrix  $\vec{A}$ . What matrix represents *A* in this new basis?
- 7.6 If *A* and *B* are the matrices representing linear transformations *S* and *T* on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , what matrix represents the transformation from v to  $S(T(v))$ ?
- 7.7 Describe five important factorizations of a matrix *A* and explain when each of them succeeds (what conditions on *A?).*

# GLOSSARY: A DICTIONARY FOR LINEAR ALGEBRA

- Adjacency matrix of a graph. Square matrix with  $a_{ij} = 1$  when there is an edge from node *i* to node *j*; otherwise  $a_{ij} = 0$ .  $A = A^T$  when edges go both ways (undirected).
- Affine transformation  $Tv = Av + v_0 =$  linear transformation plus shift.
- Associative Law  $(AB)C = A(BC)$ . Parentheses can be removed to leave  $ABC$ .
- **Augmented matrix**  $[A \; b]$ .  $Ax = b$  is solvable when b is in the column space of A; then *[A* b] has the same rank as *A.* Elimination on *[A* b] keeps equations correct.
- **Back substitution.** Upper triangular systems are solved in reverse order  $x_n$  to  $x_1$ .
- **Basis for V.** Independent vectors  $v_1, \ldots, v_d$  whose linear combinations give each vector in *V* as  $v = c_1v_1 + \ldots + c_dv_d$ . *V* has many bases, each basis gives unique *c*'s. A vector space has many bases!
- Big formula for *n* by *n* determinants. Det(*A*) is a sum of *n*! terms. For each term: Multiply one entry from each row and column of  $A$ : rows in order  $1, \ldots, n$  and column order given by a permutation P. Each of the n! P's has a + or  $-$  sign.
- Block matrix. A matrix can be partitioned into matrix blocks, by cuts between rows and/or between columns. Block multiplication of  $AB$  is allowed if the block shapes permit.
- Cayley-Hamilton Theorem.  $p(\lambda) = \det(A \lambda I)$  has  $p(A) =$  *zero matrix.*
- **Change of basis matrix M.** The old basis vectors  $v_j$  are combinations  $\sum m_{ij} w_i$  of the new basis vectors. The coordinates of  $c_1 v_1 + \cdots + c_n v_n = d_1 w_1 + \cdots + d_n w_n$  are related by  $d = Mc$ . (For  $n = 2$  set  $v_1 = m_{11}w_1 + m_{21}w_2$ ,  $v_2 = m_{12}w_1 + m_{22}w_2$ .)
- Characteristic equation  $\det(A \lambda I) = 0$ . The *n* roots are the eigenvalues of *A*.
- **Cholesky factorization**  $A = C^{T}C = (L\sqrt{D})(L\sqrt{D})^{T}$  for positive definite A.
- Circulant matrix  $C$ . Constant diagonals wrap around as in cyclic shift  $S$ . Every circulant is  $c_0I + c_1S + \cdots + c_{n-1}S^{n-1}$ .  $Cx =$  convolution  $c * x$ . Eigenvectors in *F*.
- Cofactor  $C_{ij}$ . Remove row *i* and column *j*; multiply the determinant by  $(-1)^{i+j}$ .
- Column picture of  $Ax = b$ . The vector *b* becomes a combination of the columns of *A*. The system is solvable only when b is in the column space  $C(A)$ .
- **Column space**  $C(A)$  = space of all combinations of the columns of A.
- Commuting matrices  $AB = BA$ . If diagonalizable, they share *n* eigenvectors.
- Companion matrix. Put  $c_1, \ldots, c_n$  in row *n* and put  $n 1$  ones just above the main diagonal. Then  $\det(A - \lambda I) = \pm (c_1 + c_2\lambda + c_3\lambda^2 + \cdots + c_n\lambda^{n-1} - \lambda^n)$ .
- **Complete solution**  $x = x_p + x_n$  to  $Ax = b$ . (Particular  $x_p$ ) +  $(x_n$  in nullspace).
- **Complex conjugate**  $\overline{z} = a ib$  for any complex number  $z = a + ib$ . Then  $z\overline{z} = |z|^2$ .
- Condition number cond(A) =  $c(A) = ||A|| ||A^{-1}|| = \sigma_{\text{max}}/\sigma_{\text{min}}$ . In  $Ax = b$ , the relative change  $\|\delta x\|/\|x\|$  is less than  $cond(A)$  times the relative change  $\|\delta b\|/\|b\|$ . Condition numbers measure the *sensitivity* of the output to change in the input.
- Conjugate Gradient Method. A sequence of steps (end of Chapter 9) to solve positive definite  $Ax = b$  by minimizing  $\frac{1}{2}x^{T}Ax - x^{T}b$  over growing Krylov subspaces.
- **Covariance matrix**  $\Sigma$ . When random variables  $x_i$  have mean = average value = 0, their covariances  $\Sigma_{ij}$  are the averages of  $x_i x_j$ . With means  $\overline{x}_i$ , the matrix  $\Sigma$  = mean of  $(x - \overline{x})(x - \overline{x})^T$  is positive (semi)definite;  $\Sigma$  is diagonal if the  $x_i$  are independent.
- Cramer's Rule for  $Ax = b$ .  $B_i$  has *b* replacing column *j* of  $A$ ;  $x_i = \det B_i / \det A$
- Cross product  $u \times v$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . Vector perpendicular to *u* and *v*, length  $||u|| ||v|| |\sin \theta|$  = area of parallelogram,  $u \times v =$  "determinant" of  $\begin{bmatrix} i & j & k \\ u_1 & u_2 & u_3 \\ v_1 & v_2 & v_3 \end{bmatrix}$ .
- Cyclic shift S. Permutation with  $s_{21} = 1, s_{32} = 1, \ldots$ , finally  $s_{1n} = 1$ . Its eigenvalues are the *n*th roots  $e^{2\pi i k/n}$  of 1; eigenvectors are columns of the Fourier matrix *F*.
- **Determinant**  $|A| = \det(A)$ . Defined by  $\det I = 1$ , sign reversal for row exchange, and linearity in each row. Then  $|A| = 0$  when A is singular. Also  $|AB| = |A||B|$  and  $|A^{-1}| = 1/|A|$  and  $|A^{T}| = |A|$ . The big formula for  $det(A)$  has a sum of n! terms, the cofactor formula uses determinants of size  $n - 1$ , volume of box =  $|det(A)|$ .
- **Diagonal matrix** D.  $d_{ij} = 0$  if  $i \neq j$ . **Block-diagonal**: zero outside square blocks  $D_{ii}$ .
- **Diagonalizable matrix** A. Must have *n* independent eigenvectors (in the columns of S; automatic with *n* different eigenvalues). Then  $S^{-1}AS = \Lambda$  = eigenvalue matrix.
- **Diagonalization**  $\Lambda = S^{-1}AS$ .  $\Lambda =$  eigenvalue matrix and  $S =$  eigenvector matrix of A. A must have *n* independent eigenvectors to make *S* invertible. All  $A^k = S\Lambda^k S^{-1}$ .
- **Dimension of vector space** dim(V) = number of vectors in any basis for V.
- **Distributive Law**  $A(B + C) = AB + AC$ . Add then multiply, or multiply then add.
- Dot product = Inner product  $x^Ty = x_1y_1 + \cdots + x_ny_n$ . Complex dot product is  $\overline{x}^Ty$ . Perpendicular vectors have  $\overline{x}^T y = 0$ .  $(AB)_{ii} = (row i of A)^T$ (column j of B).
- Echelon matrix  $U$ . The first nonzero entry (the pivot) in each row comes in a later column than the pivot in the previous row. All zero rows come last.
- Eigenvalue  $\lambda$  and eigenvector x.  $Ax = \lambda x$  with  $x \neq 0$  so det $(A \lambda I) = 0$ .
- Elimination. A sequence of row operations that reduces *A* to an upper triangular *U* or to the reduced form  $R = \text{rref}(A)$ . Then  $A = LU$  with multipliers  $\ell_{ij}$  in *L*, or  $PA = LU$  with row exchanges in *P*, or  $EA = R$  with an invertible *E*.
- **Elimination matrix = Elementary matrix**  $E_{ij}$ . The identity matrix with an extra  $-\ell_{ij}$ in the i, j entry  $(i \neq j)$ . Then  $E_{ij}A$  subtracts  $\ell_{ij}$  times row j of A from row i.
- Ellipse (or ellipsoid)  $x^T A x = 1$ . A must be positive definite; the axes of the ellipse are eigenvectors of A, with lengths  $1/\sqrt{\lambda}$ . (For  $||x|| = 1$  the vectors  $y = Ax$  lie on the ellipse  $||A^{-1}y||^2 = y^T(AA^{T})^{-1}y = 1$  displayed by eigshow; axis lengths  $\sigma_i$ .)
- Exponential  $e^{At} = I + At + (At)^2/2! + \cdots$  has derivative  $Ae^{At}$ ;  $e^{At}u(0)$  solves  $u' = Au$ .
- **Factorization**  $A = L U$ . If elimination takes A to U without row exchanges, then the lower triangular *L* with multipliers  $\ell_{ij}$  (and  $\ell_{ii} = 1$ ) brings *U* back to *A*.
- **Fast Fourier Transform (FFT).** A factorization of the Fourier matrix  $F_n$  into  $\ell = \log_2 n$ matrices  $S_i$  times a permutation. Each  $S_i$  needs only  $n/2$  multiplications, so  $F_n x$ and  $F_n^{-1}c$  can be computed with  $n\ell/2$  multiplications. Revolutionary.
- **Fibonacci numbers** 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, ... satisfy  $F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2} = (\lambda_1^n \lambda_2^n)/(\lambda_1 \lambda_2)$ . Growth rate  $\lambda_1 = (1 + \sqrt{5})/2$  is the largest eigenvalue of the Fibonacci matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .
- Four Fundamental Subspaces  $C(A)$ ,  $N(A)$ ,  $C(A^T)$ ,  $N(A^T)$ . Use  $\overline{A}^T$  for complex *A*.
- Fourier matrix *F*. Entries  $F_{jk} = e^{2\pi i jk/n}$  give orthogonal columns  $\overline{F}^T F = nI$ . Then  $y = Fc$  is the (inverse) Discrete Fourier Transform  $y_j = \sum c_k e^{2\pi i jk/n}$ .
- Free columns of A. Columns without pivots; these are combinations of earlier columns.
- Free variable  $x_i$ . Column *i* has no pivot in elimination. We can give the  $n r$  free variables any values, then  $Ax = b$  determines the *r* pivot variables (if solvable!).
- Full column rank  $r = n$ . Independent columns,  $N(A) = \{0\}$ , no free variables.
- Full row rank  $r = m$ . Independent rows, at least one solution to  $Ax = b$ , column space is all of *Rm. Full rank* means full column rank or full row rank.
- Fundamental Theorem. The nullspace  $N(A)$  and row space  $C(A^T)$  are orthogonal complements in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  (perpendicular from  $Ax = 0$  with dimensions r and  $n - r$ ). Applied to  $A<sup>T</sup>$ , the column space  $C(A)$  is the orthogonal complement of  $N(A<sup>T</sup>)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .
- **Gauss-Jordan method.** Invert *A* by row operations on  $[A \mid I]$  to reach  $[I \mid A^{-1}]$ .
- **Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization**  $A = QR$ . Independent columns in A, orthonormal columns in Q. Each column  $q_j$  of Q is a combination of the first j columns of A (and conversely, so R is upper triangular). Convention: diag( $R$ ) > 0.
- Graph G. Set of *n* nodes connected pairwise by *m* edges. A complete graph has all  $n(n-1)/2$  edges between nodes. A tree has only  $n-1$  edges and no closed loops.
- **Hankel matrix** *H*. Constant along each antidiagonal;  $h_{ij}$  depends on  $i + j$ .

**Hermitian matrix**  $A^H = \overline{A}^T = A$ . Complex analog  $\overline{a_{ii}} = a_{ii}$  of a symmetric matrix.

- **Hessenberg matrix**  $H$ **.** Triangular matrix with one extra nonzero adjacent diagonal.
- **Hilbert matrix** hilb(*n*). Entries  $H_{ij} = 1/(i + j 1) = \int_0^1 x^{i-1} x^{j-1} dx$ . Positive definite but extremely small  $\lambda_{\min}$  and large condition number: *H* is *ill-conditioned*.
- **Hypercube matrix**  $P_L^2$ . Row  $n + 1$  counts corners, edges, faces, ... of a cube in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
- **Identity matrix** *I* (or  $I_n$ ). Diagonal entries = 1, off-diagonal entries = 0.
- Incidence matrix of a directed graph. The *m* by *n* edge-node incidence matrix has a row for each edge (node i to node j), with entries  $-1$  and 1 in columns i and j.
- **Indefinite matrix.** A symmetric matrix with eigenvalues of both signs  $(+)$  and  $-)$ .
- **Independent vectors**  $v_1, \ldots, v_k$ . No combination  $c_1 v_1 + \cdots + c_k v_k =$  zero vector unless all  $c_i = 0$ . If the *v*'s are the columns of *A*, the only solution to  $Ax = 0$  is  $x = 0$ .
- **Inverse matrix**  $A^{-1}$ . Square matrix with  $A^{-1}A = I$  and  $AA^{-1} = I$ . No inverse if det  $A = 0$  and rank $(A) < n$  and  $Ax = 0$  for a nonzero vector *x*. The inverses of AB and  $A^{T}$  are  $B^{-1}A^{-1}$  and  $(A^{-1})^{T}$ . Cofactor formula  $(A^{-1})_{ii} = C_{ii}/\det A$ .
- **Iterative method.** A sequence of steps intended to approach the desired solution.
- **Jordan form**  $J = M^{-1}AM$ . If *A* has *s* independent eigenvectors, its "generalized" eigenvector matrix *M* gives  $J = diag(J_1, \ldots, J_s)$ . The block  $J_k$  is  $\lambda_k I_k + N_k$  where  $N_k$  has 1's on diagonal 1. Each block has one eigenvalue  $\lambda_k$  and one eigenvector.
- **Kirchhoff's** Laws. *Current Law:* net current (in minus out) is zero at each node. *Voltage Law*: Potential differences (voltage drops) add to zero around any closed loop.
- **Kronecker product (tensor product)**  $A \otimes B$ . Blocks  $a_{ij}B$ , eigenvalues  $\lambda_p(A)\lambda_q(B)$ .
- **Krylov subspace**  $K_j(A, b)$ . The subspace spanned by  $b, Ab, ..., A^{j-1}b$ . Numerical methods approximate  $A^{-1}b$  by  $x_j$  with residual  $b - Ax_j$  in this subspace. A good basis for  $K_j$  requires only multiplication by  $A$  at each step.
- **Least squares solution**  $\hat{x}$ **.** The vector  $\hat{x}$  that minimizes the error  $||e||^2$  solves  $A^T A \hat{x} =$  $A^T b$ . Then  $e = b - A\hat{x}$  is orthogonal to all columns of *A*.
- Left inverse  $A^+$ . If *A* has full column rank *n*, then  $A^+ = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T$  has  $A^+ A = I_n$ .
- **Left nullspace**  $N(A^T)$ . Nullspace of  $A^T$  = "left nullspace" of *A* because  $y^T A = 0^T$ .
- **Length**  $||x||$ . Square root of  $x^Tx$  (Pythagoras in *n* dimensions).
- **Linear combination**  $cv + dw$  or  $\sum c_i v_i$ . Vector addition and scalar multiplication.
- **Linear transformation** T. Each vector  $v$  in the input space transforms to  $T(v)$  in the output space, and linearity requires  $T(cv + dw) = c T(v) + d T(w)$ . Examples: Matrix multiplication *Av*, differentiation and integration in function space.
- **Linearly dependent**  $v_1, \ldots, v_n$ . A combination other than all  $c_i = 0$  gives  $\sum c_i v_i = 0$ .
- **Lucas numbers**  $L_n = 2, 1, 3, 4, \ldots$  satisfy  $L_n = L_{n-1} + L_{n-2} = \lambda_1^n + \lambda_2^n$ , with  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 =$  $(1 \pm \sqrt{5})/2$  from the Fibonacci matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ . Compare  $L_0 = 2$  with  $F_0 = 0$ .
- **Markov matrix** M. All  $m_{ij} \ge 0$  and each column sum is 1. Largest eigenvalue  $\lambda = 1$ . If  $m_{ij} > 0$ , the columns of  $M^k$  approach the steady state eigenvector  $Ms = s > 0$ .
- **Matrix multiplication** AB. The i, j entry of AB is (row i of A) $\cdot$ (column j of B) =  $\sum a_{ik}b_{ki}$ . By columns: Column *j* of  $AB = A$  times column *j* of *B*. By rows: row i of *A* multiplies *B*. Columns times rows:  $AB = \text{sum of } (\text{column } k)(\text{row } k)$ . All these equivalent definitions come from the rule that  $\overline{AB}$  times  $\overline{x}$  equals  $\overline{A}$  times  $\overline{B}x$ .
- **Minimal polynomial of** A. The lowest degree polynomial with  $m(A) =$  zero matrix. This is  $p(\lambda) = \det(A - \lambda I)$  if no eigenvalues are repeated; always  $m(\lambda)$  divides  $p(\lambda)$ .
- **Multiplication**  $Ax = x_1$ (column 1) +  $\cdots$  +  $x_n$ (column n) = combination of columns.
- **Multiplicities** AM and GM. The algebraic multiplicity AM of  $\lambda$  is the number of times  $\lambda$  appears as a root of  $det(A - \lambda I) = 0$ . The geometric multiplicity *GM* is the number of independent eigenvectors for  $\lambda$  (= dimension of the eigenspace).
- **Multiplier**  $\ell_{ij}$ . The pivot row j is multiplied by  $\ell_{ij}$  and subtracted from row i to eliminate the *i*, *j* entry:  $\ell_{ij}$  = (entry to eliminate) / (*j* th pivot).
- Network. A directed graph that has constants  $c_1, \ldots, c_m$  associated with the edges.
- **Nilpotent matrix** N. Some power of N is the zero matrix,  $N^k = 0$ . The only eigenvalue is  $\lambda = 0$  (repeated *n* times). Examples: triangular matrices with zero diagonal.
- **Norm** || A||. The " $\ell^2$  norm" of A is the maximum ratio  $||Ax||/||x|| = \sigma_{\text{max}}$ . Then  $||Ax|| \le$  $\|A\|\|x\|$  and  $\|AB\| \le \|A\|\|B\|$  and  $\|A + B\| \le \|A\| + \|B\|$ . Frobenius norm  $||A||_F^2 = \sum \sum a_{ij}^2$ . The  $\ell^1$  and  $\ell^\infty$  norms are largest column and row sums of  $|a_{ij}|$ .
- **Normal equation**  $A^T A \hat{x} = A^T b$ . Gives the least squares solution to  $Ax = b$  if A has full rank n (independent columns). The equation says that (columns of  $A \cdot (b - A\hat{x}) = 0$ .

Normal matrix. If  $NN^T = N^T N$ , then *N* has orthonormal (complex) eigenvectors.

- **Nullspace**  $N(A) =$  All solutions to  $Ax = 0$ . Dimension  $n r =$  (# columns) rank.
- **Nullspace matrix** N. The columns of N are the  $n r$  special solutions to  $As = 0$ .
- **Orthogonal matrix** Q. Square matrix with orthonormal columns, so  $Q^T = Q^{-1}$ . Preserves length and angles,  $||Qx|| = ||x||$  and  $(Qx)^{T}(Qy) = x^{T}y$ . All  $|\lambda| = 1$ , with orthogonal eigenvectors. Examples: Rotation, reflection, permutation.
- Orthogonal subspaces. Every  $v$  in  $V$  is orthogonal to every  $w$  in  $W$ .
- Orthonormal vectors  $q_1, \ldots, q_n$ . Dot products are  $q_i^T q_j = 0$  if  $i \neq j$  and  $q_i^T q_i = 1$ . The matrix Q with these orthonormal columns has  $Q^T Q = I$ . If  $m = n$  then  $Q^T =$  $Q^{-1}$  and  $\widetilde{q_1, \ldots, q_n}$  is an orthonormal basis for  $\widetilde{R^n}$ : every  $v = \sum (v^T q_i) \widetilde{q_i}$ .
- Outer product  $uv^T =$  column times row  $=$  rank one matrix.
- Partial pivoting. In each column, choose the largest available pivot to control roundoff; all multipliers have  $|\ell_{ij}| \leq 1$ . See *condition number*.
- **Particular solution**  $x_p$ . Any solution to  $Ax = b$ ; often  $x_p$  has free variables = 0.
- **Pascal matrix**  $P_S$  = pascal(n) = the symmetric matrix with binomial entries  $\binom{i+j-2}{i-1}$ .  $P_S = P_L P_U$  all contain Pascal's triangle with det = 1 (see Pascal in the index).
- Permutation matrix *P.* There are *n!* orders of 1, ... , *n.* The *n! P* 's have the rows of *I* in those orders. PA puts the rows of A in the same order. P is *even* or *odd* (det  $P=1$ or  $-1$ ) based on the number of row exchanges to reach I.
- Pivot columns of A. Columns that contain pivots after row reduction. These are *not*  combinations of earlier columns. The pivot columns are a basis for the column space.
- Pivot. The diagonal entry *(first nonzero)* at the time when a row is used in elimination.
- **Plane (or hyperplane)** in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Vectors x with  $a^T x = 0$ . Plane is perpendicular to  $a \neq 0$ .
- **Polar decomposition**  $A = QH$ . Orthogonal Q times positive (semi)definite H.
- Positive definite matrix A. Symmetric matrix with positive eigenvalues and positive pivots. Definition:  $x^T Ax > 0$  unless  $x = 0$ . Then  $A = LDL^T$  with diag(D)> 0.
- Projection  $p = a(a^Tb/a^Ta)$  onto the line through *a*.  $P = aa^T/a^Ta$  has rank 1.
- **Projection matrix P onto subspace S.** Projection  $p = Pb$  is the closest point to b in S, error  $e = b - Pb$  is perpendicular to S.  $P^2 = P = P^T$ , eigenvalues are 1 or 0, eigenvectors are in S or  $S^{\perp}$ . If columns of  $A = \text{basis for } S$  then  $P = A(A^{T}A)^{-1}A^{T}$ .
- **Pseudoinverse**  $A^+$  (Moore-Penrose inverse). The *n* by *m* matrix that "inverts" A from column space back to row space, with  $N(A^+) = N(A^T)$ .  $A^+A$  and  $AA^+$  are the projection matrices onto the row space and column space. Rank $(A^{+}) = \text{rank}(A)$ .
- **Random matrix** rand(n) or randn(n). MATLAB creates a matrix with random entries, uniformly distributed on  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  for rand and standard normal distribution for randn.
- **Rank one matrix**  $A = uv^T \neq 0$ . Column and row spaces = lines *cu* and *cv*.
- **Rank**  $r(A)$  = number of pivots = dimension of column space = dimension of row space.
- **Rayleigh quotient**  $q(x) = x^T A x / x^T x$  for symmetric A:  $\lambda_{\text{min}} \le q(x) \le \lambda_{\text{max}}$ . Those extremes are reached at the eigenvectors *x* for  $\lambda_{\text{min}}(A)$  and  $\lambda_{\text{max}}(A)$ .
- **Reduced row echelon form**  $R = \text{rref}(A)$ . Pivots = 1; zeros above and below pivots; the r nonzero rows of R give a basis for the row space of  $A$ .
- **Reflection matrix (Householder)**  $Q = I 2uu^T$ . Unit vector *u* is reflected to  $Qu = -u$ . All x in the plane mirror  $u^Tx = 0$  have  $Qx = x$ . Notice  $Q^T = Q^{-1} = Q$ .
- **Right inverse**  $A^+$ . If A has full row rank m, then  $A^+ = A^T (AA^T)^{-1}$  has  $AA^+ = I_m$ .
- **Rotation matrix**  $R = \begin{bmatrix} c & -s \\ s & c \end{bmatrix}$  rotates the plane by  $\theta$  and  $R^{-1} = R^{T}$  rotates back by  $-\theta$ . Eigenvalues are  $e^{i\theta}$  and  $e^{-i\theta}$ , eigenvectors are  $(1, \pm i)$ .  $c, s = \cos \theta$ ,  $\sin \theta$ .
- Row picture of  $Ax = b$ . Each equation gives a plane in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ; the planes intersect at x.
- **Row space**  $C(A^T) =$  all combinations of rows of A. Column vectors by convention.
- **Saddle point of**  $f(x_1, \ldots, x_n)$ . A point where the first derivatives of f are zero and the second derivative matrix  $\left(\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i \partial x_j}\right)$  = **Hessian matrix**) is indefinite.
- Schur complement  $S = D CA^{-1}B$ . Appears in block elimination on  $\begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{bmatrix}$ .
- Schwarz inequality  $|v \cdot w| \le ||v|| ||w||$ . Then  $|v^T A w|^2 \le (v^T A v)(w^T A w)$  for pos def A.
- **Semidefinite matrix** A. (Positive) semidefinite: all  $x^T Ax > 0$ , all  $\lambda > 0$ ;  $A = \text{any } R^T R$ .
- Similar matrices A and B. Every  $B = M^{-1}AM$  has the same eigenvalues as A.
- **Simplex method for linear programming.** The minimum cost vector  $x^*$  is found by moving from comer to lower cost comer along the edges of the feasible set (where the constraints  $Ax = b$  and  $x \ge 0$  are satisfied). Minimum cost at a corner!
- **Singular matrix** A. A square matrix that has no inverse:  $det(A) = 0$ .
- Singular Value Decomposition (SVD)  $A = U\Sigma V^{T} =$  (orthogonal) ( diag) ( orthogonal) First r columns of *U* and *V* are orthonormal bases of  $C(A)$  and  $C(A^T)$ ,  $Av_i = \sigma_i u_i$ with singular value  $\sigma_i > 0$ . Last columns are orthonormal bases of nullspaces.

**Skew-symmetric matrix** K. The transpose is  $-K$ , since  $K_{ij} = -K_{ji}$ . Eigenvalues are pure imaginary, eigenvectors are orthogonal, *eKt* is an orthogonal matrix.

Solvable system  $Ax = b$ . The right side b is in the column space of A. **Spanning set.** Combinations of  $v_1, \ldots, v_m$  fill the space. The columns of A span  $C(A)$ ! **Special solutions to**  $As = 0$ . One free variable is  $s_i = 1$ , other free variables = 0. Spectral Theorem  $A = Q \Lambda Q^{T}$ . Real symmetric A has real  $\lambda$ 's and orthonormal q's. **Spectrum of**  $A =$  the set of eigenvalues  $\{\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_n\}$ . **Spectral radius** = max of  $|\lambda_i|$ . **Standard basis for**  $\mathbb{R}^n$ **.** Columns of *n* by *n* identity matrix (written *i*, *j*, *k* in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ). Stiffness matrix If x gives the movements of the nodes,  $Kx$  gives the internal forces.

 $K = A<sup>T</sup>CA$  where *C* has spring constants from Hooke's Law and  $Ax =$  stretching. **Subspace S of V.** Any vector space inside V, including V and  $Z = \{$ zero vector only $\}$ . Sum  $V + W$  of subspaces. Space of all  $(v \text{ in } V) + (w \text{ in } W)$ . Direct sum:  $V \cap W = \{0\}$ . Symmetric factorizations  $A = LDL^T$  and  $A = Q\Lambda Q^T$ . Signs in  $\Lambda =$  signs in *D*. **Symmetric matrix** A. The transpose is  $A^T = A$ , and  $a_{ij} = a_{ji}$ .  $A^{-1}$  is also symmetric. Toeplitz matrix. Constant down each diagonal  $=$  time-invariant (shift-invariant) filter. **Trace of**  $A =$ sum of diagonal entries  $=$  sum of eigenvalues of A. Tr  $AB =$  Tr  $BA$ . **Transpose matrix**  $A^T$ . Entries  $A_{ij}^T = A_{ji}$ .  $A^T$  is *n* by *m*,  $A^T A$  is square, symmetric,

positive semidefinite. The transposes of AB and  $A^{-1}$  are  $B^{T}A^{T}$  and  $(A^{T})^{-1}$ . **Triangle inequality**  $||u + v|| \le ||u|| + ||v||$ . For matrix norms  $||A + B|| \le ||A|| + ||B||$ . **Tridiagonal matrix**  $T: t_{ij} = 0$  if  $|i - j| > 1$ .  $T^{-1}$  has rank 1 above and below diagonal. Unitary matrix  $U^H = \overline{U}^T = U^{-1}$ . Orthonormal columns (complex analog of *Q*). **Vandermonde matrix** *V*.  $Vc = b$  gives coefficients of  $p(x) = c_0 + \cdots + c_{n-1}x^{n-1}$ 

with  $p(x_i) = b_i$ .  $V_{ij} = (x_i)^{j-1}$  and det  $V =$  product of  $(x_k - x_i)$  for  $k > i$ .

Vector *v* in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Sequence of *n* real numbers  $v = (v_1, \ldots, v_n) =$  point in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

Vector addition.  $v + w = (v_1 + w_1, \ldots, v_n + w_n)$  = diagonal of parallelogram.

Vector space V. Set of vectors such that all combinations  $cv + dw$  remain within V. Eight required rules are given in Section 3.1 for scalars  $c, d$  and vectors  $v, w$ .

**Volume of box.** The rows (or the columns) of A generate a box with volume  $|det(A)|$ . **Wavelets**  $w_{ik}(t)$ . Stretch and shift the time axis to create  $w_{ik}(t) = w_{00}(2^{j}t - k)$ .

# **MATRIX FACTORIZATIONS**

1.  $A = LU = \begin{pmatrix} \text{lower triangular } L \\ \text{linear } L \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \text{upper triangular } U \\ \text{linear } L \end{pmatrix}$ s on the diagonal  $\int \int$  pivots on the diagonal

Requirements: No row exchanges as Gaussian elimination reduces *A* to *U.* 

- 2.  $A = LDU = \begin{pmatrix} \text{lower tri} \\ \text{lower tri} \end{pmatrix}$ h  $\limsup_{n \to \infty}$  angular  $L \cup \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{div}{\mathbf{0}} \\ \text{div}{\mathbf{0}} \end{array} \right]$  ( u  $1,$ pper triangular U l ) s on the diagonal  $\int \int$  is diagonal  $\int \int 1$ 's on the diagonal **Requirements:** No row exchanges. The pivots in  $D$  are divided out to leave 1's on the diagonal of *U*. If *A* is symmetric then *U* is  $L^T$  and  $A = LDL^T$ .
- 3.  $PA = LU$  (permutation matrix *P* to avoid zeros in the pivot positions).

Requirements: *A* is invertible. Then *P, L, U* are invertible. *P* does all of the row exchanges in advance, to allow normal LU. Alternative:  $A = L_1 P_1 U_1$ .

4.  $EA = R$  (*m* by *m* invertible E) (any matrix A) = rref(A).

**Requirements:** None! *The reduced row echelon form R* has *r* pivot rows and pivot columns. The only nonzero in a pivot column is the unit pivot. The last  $m - r$  rows of *E* are a basis for the left nullspace of *A;* they multiply *A* to give zero rows in *R.*  The first r columns of  $E^{-1}$  are a basis for the column space of A.

5.  $A = C<sup>T</sup>C$  = (lower triangular) (upper triangular) with  $\sqrt{D}$  on both diagonals

Requirements: A is symmetric and positive definite (all *n* pivots in D are positive). This *Cholesky factorization*  $C = \text{chol}(A)$  has  $C^T = L\sqrt{D}$ , so  $C^TC = LDL^T$ .

6.  $A = QR =$  (orthonormal columns in Q) (upper triangular R).

Requirements: *A* has independent columns. Those are *orthogonalized* in Q by the Gram-Schmidt or Householder process. If *A* is square then  $O^{-1} = O^{T}$ .

- 7.  $A = S \Lambda S^{-1}$  = (eigenvectors in S) (eigenvalues in  $\Lambda$ ) (left eigenvectors in  $S^{-1}$ ). Requirements: A must have *n* linearly independent eigenvectors.
- **8.**  $A = Q\Lambda Q^{T}$  = (orthogonal matrix Q) (real eigenvalue matrix  $\Lambda$ ) ( $Q^{T}$  is  $Q^{-1}$ ). Requirements: *A* is *real and symmetric.* This is the Spectral Theorem.

9.  $A = MJM^{-1}$  = (generalized eigenvectors in M) (Jordan blocks in J)  $(M^{-1})$ .

Requirements: *A* is any square matrix. This *Jordan form* J has a block for each independent eigenvector of A. Every block has only one eigenvalue.

**10.**  $A = U \Sigma V^{T} = \begin{pmatrix} \text{orthogonal} \\ \text{with} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} m \times n \text{ singular value matrix} \\ \text{with} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \text{orthogonal} \\ \text{with} \end{pmatrix}$ . *V* is  $m \times n$   $\left| \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n, a_n \right|$  on its diagonal  $\left| \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} V$  is  $n \times n \right|$ 

Requirements: None. This *singular value decomposition* (SVD) has the eigenvectors of  $AA^T$  in U and eigenvectors of  $A^T A$  in  $V$ ;  $\sigma_i = \sqrt{\lambda_i (A^T A)} = \sqrt{\lambda_i (A A^T)}$ .

11. 
$$
A^+ = V\Sigma^+U^T = \begin{pmatrix} orthogonal \ n \times n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} n \times m \text{ pseudoinverse of } \Sigma \\ 1/\sigma_1, \dots, 1/\sigma_r \text{ on diagonal} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} orthogonal \ m \times m \end{pmatrix}
$$
.

**Requirements:** None. The *pseudoinverse*  $A^+$  has  $A^+A$  = projection onto row space of *A* and  $AA^+$  = projection onto column space. The shortest least-squares solution to  $Ax = b$  is  $\hat{x} = A^{\dagger}b$ . This solves  $A^{\dagger}A\hat{x} = A^{\dagger}b$ .

**12.**  $A = QH$  = (orthogonal matrix Q) (symmetric positive definite matrix H).

**Requirements:** *A* is invertible. This *polar decomposition* has  $H^2 = A^T A$ . The factor *H* is semidefinite if *A* is singular. The reverse polar decomposition  $A = KO$ has  $K^2 = AA^T$ . Both have  $Q = U V^T$  from the SVD.

13.  $A = U \Lambda U^{-1} = (unitary U)$  (eigenvalue matrix  $\Lambda$ )  $(U^{-1}$  which is  $U^H = \overline{U}^T$ ).

**Requirements:** A is *normal:*  $A^H A = AA^H$ . Its orthonormal (and possibly complex) eigenvectors are the columns of U. Complex  $\lambda$ 's unless  $A=A^H$ : Hermitian case.

14.  $A = UTU^{-1}$  = (unitary U) (triangular T with  $\lambda$ 's on diagonal) ( $U^{-1} = U^{\text{H}}$ ).

Requirements: *Schur triangularization* of any square *A.* There is a matrix *U* with orthonormal columns that makes  $U^{-1}AU$  triangular: Section 6.4.

15.  $F_n = \begin{bmatrix} I & D \\ I & -D \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} F_{n/2} \\ F_{n/2} \end{bmatrix}$  even-odd  $\epsilon$  = one step of the (recursive  $F_{n/2}$  | permutation | = one step of the (recursive) FFT.

**Requirements:**  $F_n$  = Fourier matrix with entries  $w^{jk}$  where  $w^n = 1$ :  $F_n \overline{F}_n = nI$ . *D* has  $1, w, \ldots, w^{n/2-1}$  on its diagonal. For  $n = 2^{\ell}$  the *Fast Fourier Transform* will compute  $F_n x$  with only  $\frac{1}{2}n\ell = \frac{1}{2}n \log_2 n$  multiplications from  $\ell$  stages of *D*'s.

# **MATLAB TEACHING CODES**

These Teaching Codes are directly available from web.mit.edu/ 18.06



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# **LINEAR ALGEBRA IN A NUTSHELL**

 $((The matrix A is n by n))$ 

#### **Nonsingular**

A is invertible The columns are independent The rows are independent The determinant is not zero  $Ax = 0$  has one solution  $x = 0$  $Ax = b$  has one solution  $x = A^{-1}b$ *A* has *n* (nonzero) pivots *A* has full rank  $r = n$ The reduced row echelon form is  $R = I$ The column space is all of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ The row space is all of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ All eigenvalues are nonzero  $A<sup>T</sup>A$  is symmetric positive definite *A* has *n* (positive) singular values

#### **Singular**

*A* is not invertible The columns are dependent The rows are dependent The determinant is zero  $Ax = 0$  has infinitely many solutions  $Ax = b$  has no solution or infinitely many A has  $r < n$  pivots A has rank  $r < n$ *R* has at least one zero row The column space has dimension  $r < n$ The row space has dimension  $r < n$ Zero is an eigenvalue of *A*   $A<sup>T</sup>A$  is only semidefinite *A* has  $r < n$  singular values

This book is designed to help students understan central problems of linear algebra:



es



The diagram on the front cover shows the four fundamental subspaces for the matrix A. Those subspaces lead to the Fundamental Theorem of Linear Algebra:

- 1. The dimensions of the four subspaces
- 2. The orthogonality of the two pairs
- 3. The best bases for all four subspaces

This is the textbook that accompanies the author's video lectures and the review material on MIT's OpenCourseWare.

#### ocw.mit.edu and web.mit.edu/18.06

Many universities and colleges (and now high schools) use this textbook. Chapters 7-10 are for a second course on linear algebra.

