

The condition numbers

Measure how output changes when make a small change in the input.

View problem as a function $f(X)$

let δX be small change, and

$$\delta f = f(X + \delta X) - f(X)$$

Absolute condition number at x is

$$\tilde{\kappa} = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \sup_{\|\delta x\| \leq \epsilon} \frac{\|\delta f\|}{\|\delta x\|}$$

Restrict changes to be small.

View δX as measurement error - error in input
(but also comes from floating point)

So, we want $f(X)$, but get $f(X + \delta X)$

From this perspective $\frac{\|\delta f\|}{\|\delta x\|} = \frac{\text{forward error}}{\text{backward error}}$

If condition number is large at X ,

then we better be sure we know X to high accuracy.

Will call such X "ill-conditioned"

Note: restricting to small δX is reasonable,
but feels arbitrary for some problems.

Ex. again consider invertible A ,

$$\text{and } f_A(b) = A^{-1}b$$

$$\text{So, } f_A(b + \delta b) = A^{-1}(b + \delta b) \text{ and}$$

$$\delta f_A = f_A(b + \delta b) - f_A(b) = A^{-1}(\delta b)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\|\delta f_A\|_2}{\|\delta b\|_2} = \frac{\|A^{-1}(\delta b)\|_2}{\|\delta b\|_2} \leq \|A^{-1}\|_2$$

Often consider the relative condition #:

$$K = \frac{\|f(\delta x)\| / \|f(x)\|}{\|\delta x\| / \|x\|}$$

$$\text{For } f_A, \text{ it equals } \hat{K} \cdot \frac{\|b\|}{\|A^{-1}b\|} = \hat{K} \frac{\|Ay\|}{\|y\|}$$

$$\text{where } y = A^{-1}b.$$

$$\text{So, } K \leq \|A^{-1}\| \cdot \|A\|$$

Can find examples on which this is tight:

$$\text{if } \delta b \text{ satisfies } \|A^{-1}(\delta b)\| = \|A^{-1}\| \cdot \|\delta b\| \text{ and}$$

$$y = A^{-1}b \text{ satisfies } \|Ay\| = \|A\| \cdot \|y\|.$$

Now, let's examine perturbations to A .

For simplicity we will fix b (for now).

Add δA to A , and look at change in solution, δy .

$$(A + \delta A)(y + \delta y) = b$$

Gives $Ay + A\delta y + \delta Ay = b$, as $\delta A\delta y \rightarrow 0$ for small $\delta A, \delta y$

$$\Rightarrow A\delta y = -(\delta A)y \quad (Ay = b)$$

$$\delta y = -A^{-1}(\delta A)y$$

$$\|\delta y\| \leq \|\delta A\| \cdot \|A^{-1}\| \cdot \|y\|$$

$$\tilde{\kappa} = \frac{\|\delta y\|}{\|\delta A\|} \leq \|A^{-1}\| \cdot \|y\|$$

$$\kappa = \frac{\|\delta y\| / \|y\|}{\|\delta A\| / \|A\|} \leq \|A\| \cdot \|A^{-1}\|$$

and this can be tight.

See Solomon or Demmel for an analysis in A and b together.

We define $\kappa(A) = \|A\| \cdot \|A^{-1}\|$

Alternate approach:

$$\text{For } f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m, \quad f(x + \delta x) \approx f(x) + \nabla f(x)^T \delta x$$

But, what is ∇f for $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$?

It is the Jacobian: the matrix obtained by concatenating the gradients of each output of f

$$J = \left(\nabla f(x)(1), \dots, \nabla f(x)(m) \right)$$

$$\tilde{K} = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \sup_{\|\delta x\|_2 \leq \varepsilon} \frac{\|f(x + \delta x) - f(x)\|}{\|\delta x\|}$$

$$= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \sup_{\|\delta x\|_2 \leq \varepsilon} \frac{\|J \cdot \delta x\|_2}{\|\delta x\|_2} = \|J\|_2$$

Norms and the Singular Value Decomposition.

Theorem (proof in a later lecture)

Every square matrix A can be written $A = USV^T$,
where U and V are orthogonal and
 S is nonnegative and diagonal.

The diagonal entries of $S(i,i) = \sigma_i$ are the singular values

Usually order so $\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \dots \geq \sigma_n \geq 0$

Rectangular is Ok, too. Just add zero rows or
columns to make it square.

Recall U is orthogonal iff $U^T U = I$.

Called orthogonal because implies for

$$i \neq j, 0 = I(i,j) = (U^T U)(i,j) = U(:,i)^T U(:,j)$$

So, columns of U are orthogonal.

And, $\|U(:,i)\|_2 = 1$ for all i .

Holds iff $U U^T = I$, because left-inverse = right-inverse
for square matrices.

Key property of orthogonal matrices:

$$\forall x \quad \|Ux\|_2 = \|x\|_2$$

$$\text{because } \|Ux\|_2^2 = x^T U^T U x = x^T x = \|x\|_2^2$$

Formulas from the SVD:

$$A = USV^T \Rightarrow U^T A V = U^T U S V^T V = S$$

$$A^T = V S^T U^T = V S U^T$$

$$\text{if } \sigma_n > 0, \quad A^{-1} = (USV^T)^{-1} = V^T S^{-1} U^{-1} \\ = V S^{-1} U^T$$

and S^{-1} is diagonal with entries $1/\sigma_i$

Let u_1, \dots, u_n be columns of U
and v_1, \dots, v_n be columns of V .

$$A = \sum_i \sigma_i u_i v_i^T, \text{ a sum of rank-1 matrices}$$

$$\text{As } v_i^T v_j = 0 \text{ for } i \neq j, \quad A v_j = \sum_i \sigma_i u_i v_i^T v_j = \sigma_j u_j$$

lem $\|A\|_2 = \sigma_1$

proof $\|A\|_2 \geq \sigma_1$ because $\|A v_1\|_2 = \sigma_1 \|v_1\|_2 = \sigma_1$
(and $\|v_1\|_2 = 1 = \|v_1\|_2$)

For every x , $\|Sx\|_2 \leq \sigma_1 \|x\|_2$,

$$\text{because } \|Sx\|_2^2 = \sum_i \sigma_i^2 x(i)^2 \leq \sum_i \sigma_1^2 x(i)^2 = \sigma_1^2 \|x\|_2^2$$

$$\text{So } \|A\|_2 = \|USV^T\|_2 = \|SV^T\|_2 \leq \sigma_1 \|V^T\|_2 = \sigma_1 \|x\|_2$$

Cor. $\|A\|_2 = \|A^T\|_2$.

Cor. $\|A^{-1}\|_2 = 1/\sigma_n$. So $\kappa(A) = \frac{\sigma_1}{\sigma_n}$

Similarly, $\min_{x \neq 0} \frac{\|Ax\|}{\|x\|} = \sigma_n = \frac{1}{\|A^{-1}\|}$

Let \mathcal{P} be the set of singular matrices.

Thm $\min_{A_0 \in \mathcal{P}} \|A - A_0\|_2 = \sigma_n(A)$

proof 1. If $\|\Delta\|_2 < \sigma_n(A)$, then $A - \Delta \notin \mathcal{P}$
because for all $\|x\|=1$, $\|Ax - \Delta x\|_2 \geq \|Ax\|_2 - \|\Delta x\|_2$
 $\geq \sigma_n(A) - \|\Delta\|_2 > 0$

So is no x s.t. $(A - \Delta)x = 0$.

2. Let $\Delta = \sigma_n u_n u_n^T$

Then $A - \Delta = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sigma_i u_i u_i^T$ has rank $\leq n-1$.

In particular, $(A - \Delta)u_n = 0$

And, $\|\Delta\|_2 = \sigma_n$.

The normalized distance, $\frac{\text{dist}(A, \mathcal{P})}{\|A\|_2} = \frac{\sigma_n(A)}{\sigma_1(A)} = \frac{1}{\kappa(A)}$

Also holds if measure distance in $\|A\|_F$

$$\left(\text{recall } \|A\|_F = \left(\sum A_{(i,j)}^2 \right)^{1/2} \right)$$

lem $\|A\|_F = \left(\sum_i \sigma_i^2 \right)^{1/2}$

proof First observe $\|A\|_F = \|U^T A\|_F$,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{because } \|A\|_F^2 &= \sum_i \|A(:,i)\|_2^2 = \sum_i \|U^T A(:,i)\|_2^2 \\ &= \|U^T A\|_F^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Similarly, } \|A\|_F = \|U^T A V\|_F = \|S\|_F = \left(\sum_i \sigma_i^2 \right)^{1/2}$$

Now, $\min_{A_0 \in P} \|A - A_0\|_F = \sigma_n$,

because $\|\Delta\|_2 \leq \|\Delta\|_F$, so part 1 holds.

And for rank-1 matrices like $\sigma_n u_n v_n^T$,

$$\|\sigma_n u_n v_n^T\|_2 = \|\sigma_n u_n v_n^T\|_F = \sigma_n$$