

Condition number of a matrix

Some time we need the inversion of $(I-A)$, which is not always exist. However if the entries of A are small enough in magnitude ($\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A^n = 0$), then

$$(I-A)(I+A+\dots+A^{n-1}) = I - A^n \rightarrow I \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty$$

Neuman Series (geometric series)

If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A^n = 0$, then $I-A$ is nonsingular and

$$(I-A^{-1}) = I + A + A^2 + \dots = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} A^k$$

A first order approximation is $(I-A)^{-1} \approx I + A$.

There is no useful formula for $(A+B)^{-1}$ in general.

But if A^{-1} exist and the entries of B are small enough in magnitude to insure $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (A^{-1}B)^n = 0$, then

$$\begin{aligned} (A+B)^{-1} &= [A(I+A^{-1}B)]^{-1} = [I - (-A^{-1}B)]^{-1} A^{-1} \\ &= \left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} [-A^{-1}B]^k \right) A^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

using first order approximation

$$(A+B)^{-1} \approx A^{-1} - A^{-1}BA^{-1}.$$

the effect of small perturbation B is magnified by multiplication with A^{-1} , so if A^{-1} has large entries, small perturbation in A can produce large perturbations in the resulting inverse.

$$\text{Let } \|A\|_{\infty} = \max_i \sum_j |a_{ij}| \Rightarrow$$

$$\|A^{-1} - (A+B)^{-1}\| \approx \|A^{-1}BA^{-1}\| \leq \|A^{-1}\| \|B\| \|A^{-1}\|$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\|A' - (A+B)^{-1}\|}{\|A^{-1}\|} \leq \|A^{-1}\| \|B\| = \|A^{-1}\| \|A\| \left\{ \frac{\|B\|}{\|A\|} \right\}$$

the left term is the relative change in the inverse and $\|B\|/\|A\|$ is the relative change in A .

Def For a fixed matrix norm the value

$$k(A) = \|A\| \|A^{-1}\|$$

is called the condition number corresponding to the regular square matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$. For a singular square matrix we will define $k(A) = +\infty$.

If $k(A)$ is relatively small then the matrix A is well-conditioned matrix, but if $k(A)$ is great then an ill-conditioned matrix.

Note: $k_F(A)$: the condition number corresponding to the Frobenius norm and $k_p(A)$ the condition number corresponding to the p-norm.

Exc: Show that if $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, then

$$\frac{1}{n} k_2(A) \leq k_1(A) \leq n k_2(A).$$

$$\frac{1}{n} k_\infty(A) \leq k_2(A) \leq n k_\infty(A).$$

$$\frac{1}{n^2} k_1(A) \leq k_\infty(A) \leq n^2 k_1(A).$$

Remarks: Since $k_p(A) = \|A\|_p \|A^{-1}\|_p \geq \|A A^{-1}\|_p = \|I\|_p = 1$.

then always $k_p(A) \geq 1$.

Exc: Calculate $k_1(A)$, $k_\infty(A)$ and $k_2(A)$ if

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} -3/4 & -1/2 & -1/4 \\ -1/2 & -1 & -1/2 \\ -1/4 & -1/2 & -3/4 \end{bmatrix}$$

then $\|A\|_1 = \|A\|_\infty = 4$, $\|A\|_2 = 2 + \sqrt{2}$.

$$\|A^{-1}\|_1 = \|A^{-1}\|_\infty = 2 \quad \text{and} \quad \|A^{-1}\|_2 = 1 + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2}.$$

$$\Rightarrow k_1(A) = k_\infty(A) = 2 \quad \text{and}$$

$$k_2(A) = \frac{1}{2} (2 + \sqrt{2})^2 \quad \#$$

In linear system $Ax=b$, where A is non-singular matrix. If A is perturbed to produce $(A+B)\tilde{x}=b$

$$\Rightarrow x = A^{-1}b \quad \neq \quad \tilde{x} = (A+B)^{-1}b$$

$$\Rightarrow x - \tilde{x} = A^{-1}b - (A+B)^{-1}b$$

$$\simeq A^{-1}b - (A^{-1} - A^{-1}BA^{-1})b = A^{-1}Bx$$

$$\Rightarrow \|x - \tilde{x}\| \leq \|A^{-1}\| \|B\| \|x\|$$

So the relative change is

$$\frac{\|x - \tilde{x}\|}{\|x\|} \leq \|A^{-1}\| \|B\|.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \frac{\|x - \tilde{x}\|}{\|x\|} &\leq \|A^{-1}\| \|A\| \left\{ \frac{\|B\|}{\|A\|} \right\} \\ &= k(A) \left\{ \frac{\|B\|}{\|A\|} \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Example $\begin{pmatrix} 0.835 & 0.667 \\ 0.333 & 0.266 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.168 \\ 0.067 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\Rightarrow A = \begin{pmatrix} 0.835 & 0.667 \\ 0.333 & 0.266 \end{pmatrix} \quad \& A^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} -266000 & 667000 \\ 333000 & -835000 \end{pmatrix}$$

then the condition number for A is

$$\kappa(A) = \|A\| \|A^{-1}\| = (1.502)(116800) \approx 1.7 \times 10^6$$

Because $\kappa(A)$ is of order 10^6 the relative change in the solution can be about a million times larger than the relative change in A . Therefore we must consider A and the associated linear system to be ill conditioned.