

Minimization of quadratic functions

↓ ok if we are minimizing!

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(x) &= \|Ax - b\|^2 \\
 &= \langle Ax - b, Ax - b \rangle \\
 &= \langle Ax, Ax \rangle - 2\langle Ax, b \rangle + \langle b, b \rangle \\
 &= \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^n x_i v_i, \sum_{i=1}^n x_i v_i \right\rangle - 2 \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^n x_i v_i, b \right\rangle + \|b\|^2 \\
 &= \sum_{i,j=1}^n x_i x_j k_{ij} - 2 \sum_{i=1}^n f_i x_i + C
 \end{aligned}$$

where $k_{ij} = \langle v_i, v_j \rangle$, $K = (k_{ij})$, $f_i = \langle v_i, b \rangle$, $f = (f_i)$,
 $C = \|b\|^2$.

How can we minimize p ? One way is to use calculus. The other way is to complete the square:

$$p(x) = x^T K x - 2x^T f + C$$

Let x^* be the unique sol'n of $Kx = f$, call it x^* - why is it unique? Then $Kx^* = f$ or $x^* = K^{-1}f$.

Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(x^*) &= p(K^{-1}f) = C + f^T K^{-1} K K^{-1} f - 2f^T K^{-1} f \\
 &= C - f^T K^{-1} f \\
 &= C - (Kx^*)^T K^{-1} Kx^* \\
 &= C - x^{*T} K^T K^{-1} Kx^* \\
 &= C - x^{*T} Kx^*.
 \end{aligned}$$

Note that $p(x) = x^T K x - 2x^T Kx^* + C$
 $= (x - x^*)^T K (x - x^*) + (C - x^{*T} Kx^*)$

Since K is +ve definite we see that x^* is the minimum of $p(x)$.

Example Minimize

$$p(x, y, z) = x^2 + 2xy + xz + 2y^2 + yz + 2z^2 + 6y - 7z + 5.$$

Write as $p(x, y, z) = \vec{x}^T K \vec{x} - 2 \vec{x} \cdot \vec{f} + c$

where $\vec{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}$, $K = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 & 2 & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 2 \end{pmatrix}$, $c = 5$, $\vec{f} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \\ \frac{7}{2} \end{pmatrix}$

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{7}{4} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}^T}_{LDL^T \text{ factorization of } K.}$$

D has only positive entries, so K is +ve definite

Reminder set $\vec{y} = L^T \vec{x} = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \end{pmatrix}$. Then

$$\vec{y}^T D \vec{y} = (L^T \vec{x})^T D L^T \vec{x} = \vec{x}^T L D L^T \vec{x} = \vec{x}^T K \vec{x}$$

$y_1^2 + y_2^2 + \frac{7}{4} y_3^2$. So $\vec{x}^T K \vec{x} \geq 0$. And $\vec{x}^T K \vec{x} = 0 \Rightarrow$

$\vec{y}^T D \vec{y} = 0 \Rightarrow y_1 = y_2 = y_3 = 0 \Rightarrow \vec{y} = 0 \Rightarrow \vec{x} = L^{-T} \vec{y} = 0$, so
+ve definite

Thus by our thm, p is minimized by the soln \vec{x}^* of $Kx = f$
 Use forward + back substitution on

$$U \vec{x}^* = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{7}{4} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \vec{c}$$

$$L \vec{c} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \end{pmatrix} = f = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -3 \\ \frac{7}{2} \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{x}^* = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \min = p(\vec{x}^*) = p(2, -3, 2) = -11$$

Theorem: If K is +ve definite, then $p(x) = x^T K x - 2x^T f + c$ has a unique global minimum at x^* satisfying $Kx^* = f$.
 If K is only +ve semi-definite, then every solution of $Kx^* = f$ gives a global min of p , but it is not unique since $p(x^* + z) = p(x^*)$ for any $z \in \ker K$.
 In all other cases $p(x)$ has no global minimum.

$$\begin{aligned} p(x^* + z) &= \langle x^* + z, x^* + z \rangle - 2(x^* + z)^T f + c \\ &= \langle x^*, x^* \rangle + 2\langle x^*, z \rangle + \langle z, z \rangle - 2(x^* + z)^T K x^* + c \\ &= x^{*T} K x^* + 2 \underbrace{x^{*T} K z}_0 + \underbrace{z^T K z}_0 - 2 x^{*T} (\underbrace{K x^*}_f + \underbrace{K z}_0) + c \\ &= x^{*T} K x^* - 2 x^{*T} f + c = p(x^*). \end{aligned}$$

Rest of proof?