

**Solutions**

1. (24 points total)

(a) (6 points) What matrix  $P$  projects every vector in  $\mathbf{R}^3$  onto the line that passes through origin and  $a = (3, 4, 5)$ ?

(b) (6 points) What is the nullspace of that matrix  $P$ ?

(c) (6 points) What is the row space of  $P^2$ ?

(d) (6 points) What is the determinant of  $P$ ?

**Solution.**

(a) The projection of the vector  $(1, 0, 0)$  onto the line  $a = (3, 4, 5)$  is  $(9/50, 12/50, 15/50)$ . Similarly, the projections of vectors  $(0, 1, 0)$  and  $(0, 0, 1)$  are  $(12/50, 16/50, 20/50)$  and  $(15/50, 20/50, 25/50)$  correspondingly. These are the columns of the projection matrix:

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 9/50 & 12/50 & 15/50 \\ 12/50 & 16/50 & 20/50 \\ 15/50 & 20/50 & 25/50 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 9/50 & 6/25 & 3/10 \\ 6/25 & 8/25 & 2/5 \\ 3/10 & 2/5 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

(b) The nullspace of  $P$  is 2-dimensional. It can be generated by the following two vectors orthogonal to  $a = (3, 4, 5)$ :  $(-5/3, 0, 1)$  and  $(-4/3, 1, 0)$ .

(c) Row space of  $P^2$  is the same as row space of  $P$ , since  $P^2 = P$ . Row space of  $P$  is generated by  $a = (3, 4, 5)$ .

(d) The projection is onto 1-dimensional space, therefore, the rank of matrix  $P$  must equal to 1. Therefore, the determinant of  $P$  is 0.

2. (25 points total)

(a) (11 points) Suppose  $\hat{x}$  is the best least squares solution to  $Ax = b$  and  $\hat{y}$  is the best least squares solution to  $Ay = c$ .

Does this tell you the best least squares solution  $\hat{z}$  to  $Az = b + c$ ? If so, what is the best  $\hat{z}$  and *why*?

(b) (7 points) If  $Q$  is an  $m$  by  $n$  matrix with orthonormal columns, find the best least squares solution  $\hat{x}$  to  $Qx = b$ .

(c) (7 points) If  $A = QR$ , where  $R$  is square invertible and  $Q$  is the same as in (b), find the least squares solution to  $Ax = b$ .

**Solution.**

(a) Denote by  $P$  the projection onto the column space of  $A$ . We have  $A\hat{x} = Pb$  and  $A\hat{y} = Pc$ . That means  $A\hat{x} + A\hat{y} = Pb + Pc = P(b + c)$ . It follows that  $\hat{x} + \hat{y}$  is the least squares solution for  $A\hat{z} = b + c$ .

(b) The least squares solution can be written as  $\hat{x} = (Q^T Q)^{-1} Q^T b$ . As  $Q$  is orthonormal,  $Q^T Q = I$ . Therefore,  $\hat{x} = Q^T b$ . Alternatively, solving least squares means finding a solution to  $Q^T Q \hat{x} = Q^T b$ . As  $Q^T Q = I$ , we see that  $\hat{x} = Q^T b$ .

(c) The least squares solution can be written as  $\hat{x} = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T b = (R^T Q^T Q R)^{-1} R^T Q^T b$ . As  $Q$  is orthonormal,  $Q^T Q = I$ . Therefore,  $\hat{x} = (R^T R)^{-1} R^T Q^T b$ . As  $R$  is invertible, we get  $\hat{x} = (R^T R)^{-1} R^T Q^T b = R^{-1} (R^T)^{-1} R^T Q^T b = R^{-1} Q^T b$ .

**3.** (25 points total)

**(a)** (17 points) Find the determinant of this matrix  $A$  (with an unknown  $x$  in 4 entries).

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} x & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & x & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & x & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & x \end{bmatrix} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} x & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 2 & x & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & x & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & x \end{bmatrix}$$

You could use the big formula or the cofactor formula or possibly the pivot formula.

**(b)** (5 points) Find the determinant for matrix  $B$  which has an additional 1 in the corner. What new contribution to the determinant does this 1 make?

**(c)** (3 points) If  $M$  is any 3 by 3 matrix, let  $f(x) = \det(xM)$ . Find the derivative of  $f$  at  $x = 1$ .

**Solution.**

**(a)** Using the cofactor method we can expand the determinant of  $A$  as:

$$= x \det \left( \begin{bmatrix} x & 2 & 0 \\ 3 & x & 3 \\ 0 & 4 & x \end{bmatrix} \right) - 1 \det \left( \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & x & 3 \\ 0 & 4 & x \end{bmatrix} \right).$$

We can calculate the 3 by 3 determinants by using any formula. The first one has determinant  $x^3 - 18x$ , and the second one  $2x^2 - 24$ . The determinant of  $A$  is  $x^4 - 20x^2 + 24$ .

**(b)**

By the cofactor formula one more term is added, which is equal

$$-1 \det \left( \begin{bmatrix} 2 & x & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & x \\ 0 & 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \right).$$

The 3 by 3 matrix is triangular, so its determinant is the product of the diagonal elements and is equal to 24. So  $\det(B) = \det(A) - 24 = x^4 - 20x^2$ .

**(c)**

For a 3 by 3 matrix  $f(x) = \det(xM) = x^3 \det(M)$ . The derivative  $f'(x) = 3x^2 \det(M)$ .

4. (26 points total)

(a) (6 points) Find the projection  $p$  of the vector  $b$  onto the column space of  $A$ .

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad b = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

(b) (7 points) Use Gram-Schmidt to find an orthogonal basis  $q_1, q_2$  for the column space of  $A$ .

(c) (6 points) Find the projection  $p$  of the same vector  $b$  onto the column space of the new matrix  $Q$  with columns  $q_1$  and  $q_2$ .

(d) (7 points) True or False: The best least squares solution  $\hat{x}$  to  $Ax = b$  is the same as the best least squares solution  $\hat{y}$  to  $Qy = b$ . Explain why.

**Solution.**

(a) By the formula, the projection is  $A(A^T A)^{-1} A^T b$ :

$$\begin{aligned} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 9 & 9 \\ 9 & 14 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 11 \\ 12 \end{bmatrix} = \\ & = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 14/45 & -0.2 \\ -0.2 & 0.2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -13/45 & 0.4 \\ 2/9 & 0 \\ 19/45 & -0.2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 11 \\ 12 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 73/45 \\ 22/9 \\ 101/45 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

(b)  $q_1 = (1, 2, 2)$ —the first column of  $A$ . The projection of  $(3, 2, 1)$  onto  $(1, 2, 2)$  is  $(1, 2, 2)$ , with an error vector  $e = (2, 0, -1)$ . Thus  $q_2 = (2, 0, -1)$ .

(c) Columns  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  span the same space as columns of  $A$ . Thus the projection must be the same as before.

(d) Matrices  $A$  and  $Q$  span the same column space. Denote the projection of  $b$  onto that space as  $p$ . The solution  $\hat{x}$  satisfies the equation:  $A\hat{x} = p$ , the solution  $\hat{y}$  satisfies the equation  $Q\hat{y} = p$ . Now  $A = QR$ , which means  $\hat{y} = R\hat{x}$ .