

**Spectral theory of reducible  
nonnegative matrices in  
classical and max linear  
algebra:  
An exploration**

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$$a, b \in \mathbb{R}_+$$

$$a + b, ab$$

$$A, B \in \mathbb{R}_+^{m \times n}$$

$$A + B, AB,$$

$$a \oplus b = \max(a, b), a \otimes b = ab$$

$$A \oplus B = \max(A, B)$$

$$C = A \otimes B$$

$$c_{ij} = \max_k a_{ik} b_{kj}$$

## Homogeneity

$$A(\alpha x) = \alpha(Ax)$$

$$A \otimes (\alpha \otimes x) = \alpha \otimes (A \otimes x)$$

## Monotonicity

$$x \leq y \implies Ax \leq Ay$$

$$x \leq y \implies A \otimes x \leq A \otimes y$$

# Separation

$$A > 0, x \leq y \implies Ax < Ay$$

$$A > 0, x \leq y \not\implies A \otimes x < A \otimes y$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \otimes \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \otimes \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Homogenous monotonic ops

$$A : \mathbb{R}_+^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+^n$$

Irreducibility :

$$Ax \leq \lambda x, x \geq 0 \implies x > 0$$

Important def'n

$$\rho(A) := \min\{\lambda : \exists x \geq 0, Ax \leq \lambda x\}$$

$u \geq 0$  *extremal* :  $Au \leq \rho u$

Applies classical and max linear  
- and more

**Lemma 1 .**

$$A : \mathbb{R}_+^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+^n$$

*A homogeneous, monotonic, irreducible:*

$$Ax < \lambda x, \quad x \geq 0 \implies x > 0$$

*Then  $\rho(A)$  is the only possible e-value*

*Proof.* ( $\rho = 1$ )  $Ax \leq x$

$$x \geq Ax \geq \dots \geq A^p x$$

$$v := \lim_p A^p x > 0, \quad Av = \rho v$$

$$Au = \sigma u$$

$$\alpha = \min\{\lambda : u \leq \lambda v\}$$

$$(\alpha = 1)$$

$$\sigma u = Au \leq Av = \rho v$$

$$\sigma \leq \rho$$

$$\sigma = \rho$$

Applies to irred in max  
extremal does not imply eigenvector  
Several eigenvectors in general

# Max example

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} * \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Lemma 2 .

$$A : \mathbb{R}_+^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+^n$$

*A homogeneous, separating:*

1.

$$Au \leq \rho u \implies Au = \rho u$$

2. *eigenvector and eigenvalue unique*

*Proof.* 1.

$$Au \leq \rho u, u \geq 0 \implies A(Au) < \rho(Au)$$

$$\Rightarrow \Leftarrow$$

2.

$$Av = \rho v, Au = \sigma u, u \neq \lambda v$$

$$\alpha =: \min\{\lambda : u \leq \lambda v\}$$

$$(\alpha = 1)$$

$$u \underset{\not\rightarrow}{\leq} v$$

$$\sigma u = Au < Av = \rho v$$

$$\sigma < \rho$$

$$\Rightarrow \Leftarrow$$

$$u = \lambda v$$

□

Extend to irred in class lin

$$A^* = I + A + A^2 + \cdots + A^{n-1} > 0$$

$$A^* A = A A^*$$

$$Au = \lambda u \implies A^* u = \lambda^* u$$

$$Au \leq \rho u \implies A A^* u = A^* A u < \rho A^* u$$

Perron-Frobenius

Back to matrices

linear = homogeneous and additive

$$A(\alpha x) = \alpha(Ax)$$

$$A(x + y) = Ax + Ay$$

Ditto  $\oplus, \otimes$

Classical  $A$  irreducible

$$A^p \rightarrow 0 \iff \rho(A) < 1$$

$$I + A + A^2 \dots \text{ cvges} \iff \rho(A) < 1$$

Max  $A$  irreducible

$$A^{[p]} \rightarrow 0 \iff \dot{\rho}(A) < 1$$

$$I \oplus A \oplus A^2 \dots \text{ cvges} \iff \dot{\rho}(A) \leq 1 \quad !!!$$

$$A^* := I \oplus A \oplus A^2 \dots A^{[n-1]}$$

$$A^* = I \oplus A \oplus A^2 \dots$$

# Z-matrix equations

Classical AND max

$$Ax + b = \lambda x \geq 0$$

$$(Ax + b = x)$$

$$x = A(Ax+b)+b = (A^2x+(I+A)b$$

$$x = A^kx + (I + A + A^2 + \dots)b$$

Frobenius 1912, Ostrowski 1937

Lemma 3  $A \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n \times n}$  irreducible,  
 $\lambda \geq 0$ . Then

1.  $\lambda > \rho(A)$ ; unique soln

$x = 0$  if  $b = 0$ ,  $x > 0$  if  $b \neq 0$ .

2.  $\lambda < \rho(A)$ : no soln

Ditto  $\oplus, \otimes$

# THE DIFFERENCE: $\lambda = \rho(A)$ classical

$$Ax + b = \rho x$$

Lemma 4 *A irreducible Then  
Exists soln iff  $b = 0$ .*

$b = 0$  implies  $x = \lambda u$   
 $u > 0$  unique evector

Hint: extremal  $\iff$  evec  
max

$$A \otimes x \oplus b = \dot{\rho}$$

Lemma 5 *A irreducible,  
Then soln is*

$$x = A^* \otimes b \oplus z, \quad A \otimes z = \dot{\rho}z$$

$$x \geq A^* \otimes b > 0$$

Hint

$$A^* = I \oplus A \oplus \cdots \oplus A^{[p]}, \quad p \geq n-1$$

$$A^* = I \oplus AA^*$$

!!!

$$FNF = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ A_{p1} & A_{p2} & \dots & A_{pp} \end{bmatrix} \quad (1)$$

$A_{ii}$  irreducible  
 $R(A)$  marked reduced graph  
 $V = \{1, \dots, p\}$

$i \rightarrow j$  arc :  $A_{ij} \geq 0$  or  $i = j$

$i \geq j$  :  $i \rightarrow k \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow j$

access  $\geq$  is partial order on  $V$   
mark  $i$  with  $\rho_i = \rho(A_{ii})$

# Frobenius trace down - classical and max

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & 0 \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \lambda \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A_{11}x_1 = \lambda x_1, \quad (2)$$

$$b + A_{22}x_2 = \lambda x_2 \quad (3)$$

$$b = A_{21}x_1 \quad (4)$$

$$x_1 = 0, x_2 \geq 0 \implies \lambda = \rho_2, x_2 > 0$$

$$x_1 \geq 0$$

$$\lambda = \rho_1, x_1 > 0$$

$$A_{21} \neq 0 \implies b \geq 0$$

classical:

$$A_{21} \neq 0 \implies \rho_2 < \rho_1, x_2 > 0$$

max:

$$A_{21} \neq 0 \implies \rho_2 \leq \rho_1, x_2 > 0$$

yields thms on  $Ax = \lambda x$

# SIMPLE EXAMPLES

\* Classical \* max

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} * \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} * \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} * \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} * \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} * \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} * \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

**REDUCIBLE** in CLASSICAL  
 $i$  distinguished vertex  $R(A)$ :

$$j \geq i \implies \rho_j < \rho_i$$

$$Ax = \lambda x, \quad x \geq 0 \quad (5)$$

(Frobenius 1912, Victory 1985):

**Theorem 6**  $A \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n \times n}$ ,  $\lambda \geq 0$ .

(a)  $\lambda$  evaluate  $(\exists x \text{ sat } (5)) \iff$

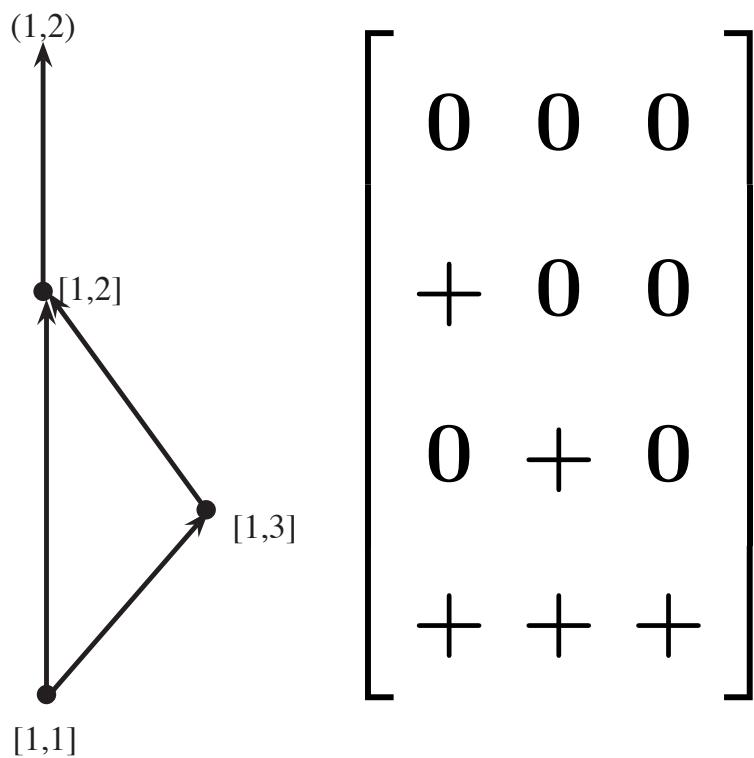
$$\exists \text{ dist } i, \quad \rho_i = \lambda \quad (6)$$

(b) if  $i$  dist then  $\exists!x$ ,  $Ax = \rho_i x$   
such that

$$\begin{aligned} x_j > 0 &\quad \text{if} \quad j \geq i, \\ x_j = 0 &\quad \text{if} \quad j \neq i. \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

(c)  $x$  satisfies  $Ax = \rho_i x \iff$   
 $x$  nonneg comb of vecs sat (7).

$$\begin{bmatrix} (12) & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ * & (12) & \cdot & \cdot \\ * & 0 & (13) & \cdot \\ ? & * & * & (11) \end{bmatrix}$$



$*$  – semi-pos

$+$  – pos

$?$  – zero or semi-pos

$$\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}_+^n$$

$$\text{supp}(\mathbf{b}) =: \{i : b_i \geq 0\}$$

$$A\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b} = \lambda\mathbf{x}, \quad \mathbf{x} \geq 0. \quad (8)$$

Carlson(1963), Hershkowitz-S(1988)

**Theorem 7.**

$$A \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n \times n}, \mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}_+^n, \lambda \geq 0.$$

(a)  $\exists \mathbf{x}$  sat (8)  $\iff$

$$j \geq \text{supp}(\mathbf{b}) \implies \rho_j < \lambda. \quad (9)$$

(b) If (9), then  $\exists! \mathbf{x}^0$  sat (8) and

$$j \neq \text{supp}(\mathbf{b}) \implies x_j^0 = 0.$$

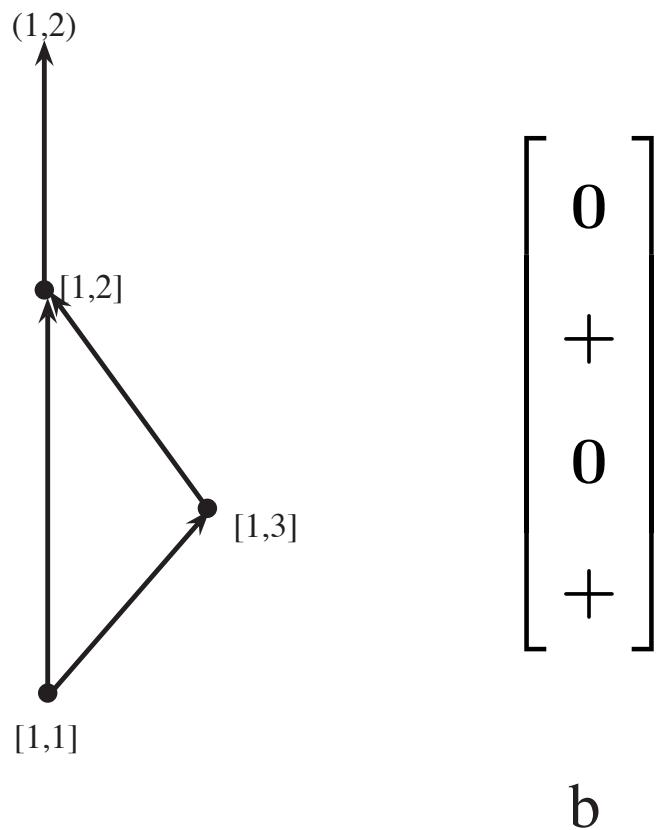
Further,

$$j \geq \text{supp}(\mathbf{b}) \implies x_j^0 > 0.$$

(c) If  $\mathbf{x}$  sat (8) then

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}^0 + \mathbf{z}, \quad A\mathbf{z} = \lambda\mathbf{z}. \quad (10)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} (12) & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ * & (12) & \cdot & \cdot \\ * & 0 & (13) & \cdot \\ ? & * & * & (11) \end{bmatrix}$$



$$Ax + b = \lambda x$$

Soln exists iff  $\lambda > 12$

# INTERLUDE on IRRED MAX

Cunningham-Green (1962, 1979),  
Gondrian-Minoux (1977)

Theorem 8 . *A irreducible.*

- (a) *The unique evalue  $\dot{\rho}$  is the max cycle mean of the graph of  $A$ .*
- (b) *For each crit cpt of this graph there is an ess unique pos evector for  $\dot{\rho}$ .*
- (c) *These evecs are the max extremals of the max cone of evecs, viz. every evec  $x$  is a max comb of such evecs:*

$$x = \alpha_1 x^1 \oplus \cdots \oplus \alpha_k x^k$$

END INTERLUDE

**REDUCIBLE** in MAX  
 $i$  semi-distinguished vertex  $R(A)$ :

$$j \geq i \implies \dot{\rho}_j \leq \dot{\rho}_i$$

$$A \otimes x = \lambda x, \quad x \geq 0 \quad (11)$$

Gaubert 1992

Theorem 9  $A \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n \times n}$ ,  $\lambda \geq 0$ .

(a)  $\lambda$  is evalue ( $\exists x$  sat (11))  $\iff$   
 $\exists$  semidist  $i$ ,  $\dot{\rho}_i = \lambda$  (12)

(b) if  $i$  semidist then  $\exists x$ , such  
 that  $A \otimes x = \dot{\rho}_i x$  and

$$\begin{aligned} x_j > 0 &\quad \text{if } j \geq i, \\ x_j = 0 &\quad \text{if } j \neq i. \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

(c)  $x$  satisfies  $A \otimes x = \dot{\rho}_i \iff$   
 $x$  max comb of vecs sat (13).

$$(A \otimes x) \oplus b = \lambda x \geq 0 \quad (14)$$

**Theorem 10 .**

$$A \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n \times n}, b \in \mathbb{R}_+^n, \lambda \geq 0.$$

(a)  $\exists x$  sat (14)  $\iff$

$$j \geq \text{supp}(b) \implies \dot{\rho}_j \leq \lambda. \quad (15)$$

(b) If (9), then  $\exists x^0$  sat (14) and

$$j > \neq \text{supp}(b) \implies x_j^0 = 0.$$

Further,

$$j \geq \text{supp}(b) \implies x_j^0 > 0.$$

(c) If  $x$  sat (14) then

$$x = x^0 \oplus z, \quad A \otimes z = \lambda z. \quad (16)$$

# Matrix and evecs

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

classic

\*

max

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad * \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\rho_1 = 4, \rho_2 = \rho_3 = 3$$

$$\dot{\rho}_1 = \dot{\rho}_2 = \dot{\rho}_3 = 3$$

$$Ax + b = 2x$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = 2 \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\alpha + 2 = 2\alpha$$

$$\alpha + 2\beta = 2\beta$$

classic:  $\Rightarrow \Leftarrow$

max:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \beta \end{bmatrix} \quad \beta \geq 1/2$$

Back to classical  $x$  a gen  
evector of  $A$  for  $\lambda$

$$(A - \lambda I)^r x = 0, \quad r > 0$$

$$E_\lambda(A) := \{x : (A - \lambda I)^r x = 0, \quad r \geq n\}$$

Apologies

Rothblum(1975), Richman-S(1978),  
Hershkowitz-S(1988) Preferred ba-  
sis Theorem

Theorem 11  $A \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n \times n}, \lambda \geq 0$

1. *Exists (gen) evec  $x$  for  $\lambda$  iff there is a (semi)dist  $i$   $\lambda = \rho_i$*
2. *If  $i$  is semi dist then exists a gen evector  $x$  for  $\rho_i$  such that*

$$\begin{aligned} x_j &> 0 & \text{if } j \geq i, \\ x_j &= 0 & \text{if } j < i. \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

3. *The gen evecs so obtained form a basis for  $E_{\rho_i}$*

