#### Medical Image Reconstruction Term II – 2012

# **Topic 1: Mathematical Basis Lecture 1**

Professor Yasser Mostafa Kadah

# **Topic Today**

#### Matrix Computations

- Computational complexity of common matrix operations
- Examples of matrix decompositions
- How to solve linear system of equation Ax=b on a computer
- Vector / Matrix norm definitions
- Conditioning of matrices
- Least squares problem
- Iterative linear system solution methods
- Vector calculus (differentiation with respect to a vector)

## **Matrix Vector Multiplication**

Consider an n×m matrix A and n×l vector x:



Matrix vector multiplication b=Ax is given as,

$$b_i = a_{i1}x_1 + a_{i2}x_2 + \dots + a_{im}x_m = \sum_{j=1}^m a_{ij}x_j$$

#### **Matrix Vector Multiplication**

 If b = Ax, then b is a linear combination of the columns of A.

$$\begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} \\ a_{21} \\ \vdots \\ a_{n1} \end{bmatrix} x_1 + \begin{bmatrix} a_{12} \\ a_{22} \\ \vdots \\ a_{n2} \end{bmatrix} x_2 + \dots + \begin{bmatrix} a_{1m} \\ a_{2m} \\ \vdots \\ a_{nm} \end{bmatrix} x_m$$

Computer pseudo-code:

$$b \leftarrow 0$$
  
for  $j = 1, \dots, m$   
$$\begin{bmatrix} \text{for } i = 1, \dots, n \\ [ b_i \leftarrow b_i + a_{ij} x_j \end{bmatrix}$$

#### **Computational Complexity: Flop Count and Order of Complexity**

- Real numbers are normally stored in computers in a floating-point format.
- Arithmetic operations that a computer performs on these numbers are called floating-point operations (flops)
- Example: Update  $b_i \leftarrow b_i + a_{ij}x_j$ 
  - I Multiplication + I Addition = 2 flops
  - Matrix-vector multiplication : 2 nm flops or O(nm)
  - For nxn matrix  $\times$  (n×1) vector: O(n<sup>2</sup>) operation
    - Doubling problem size quadruples effort to solve

## **Matrix-Matrix Multiplication**

If A is an n×m matrix, and X is m×p, we can form the product B = AX, which is n×p such that,

Pseudo-code:

2mnp flops

$$b_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^{m} a_{ik} x_{kj}$$

$$B \leftarrow 0$$
for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ 

$$\begin{bmatrix} \text{for } j = 1, \dots, p \\ & \begin{bmatrix} \text{for } k = 1, \dots, m \\ & \begin{bmatrix} b_{ij} \leftarrow b_{ij} + a_{ik} x_{kj} \end{bmatrix}$$

Square case: O(n<sup>3</sup>)

#### **Systems of Linear Equations**

Consider a system of n linear equations in n unknowns

$$a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n = b_1$$
  

$$a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n = b_2$$
  

$$\vdots$$
  

$$a_{n1}x_1 + a_{n2}x_2 + \dots + a_{nn}x_n = b_n$$

 $a_{n1}x_1 + a_{n2}x_2 + \cdots + a_{nn}x_n = o_n$ 

Can be expressed as Ax=b such that

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \qquad x = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} \qquad b = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_n \end{bmatrix}$$

#### **Systems of Linear Equations**

- Theorem: Let A be a square matrix. The following six conditions are equivalent
  - (a)  $A^{-1}$  exists.
  - (b) There is no nonzero y such that Ay = 0.
  - (c) The columns of A are linearly independent.
  - (d) The rows of A are linearly independent.

(e)  $\det(A) \neq 0$ .

(f) Given any vector b, there is exactly one vector x such that Ax = b.

#### **Methods to Solve Linear Equations**

Theoretical: compute A<sup>-1</sup> then premultiply by it:

$$A^{-1}A x = A^{-1}b \implies x = A^{-1}b$$

- Practical: A<sup>-1</sup> is never computed!
  - Unstable
  - Computationally very expensive
  - Numerical accuracy
- Gaussian elimination ??
  - Computational complexity?
  - Numerical accuracy?
- Explore ways to make this solution simpler

# **Elementary Operations**

- A linear system of equation Ax=b remains the same if we:
  - Add a multiple of one equation to another equation.
  - Interchange two equations.
  - Multiply an equation by a nonzero constant.
- Explore ways of solving the linear system using these elementary operations
- Gaussian elimination is an example of such method

Γ	$a_{11}$	$a_{12}$	• • •	$a_{1n}$	$b_1$	Γ	$a_{11}$	$a_{12}$	$a_{13}$	• • • •	$a_{1n}$	$b_1$
	0	$a^{(1)}$		a <sup>(1)</sup>	$b^{(1)}$		0	$a_{22}^{(1)}$	$a_{23}^{(1)}$	• • •	$a_{2n}^{(1)}$	$b_2^{(1)}$
		<sup>u</sup> 22		$u_{2n}$			0	0	$a_{33}^{(2)}$	• • •	$a_{3n}^{(2)}$	$b_{3}^{(2)}$
				•			:	•			:	:
L	0	$ a_{n2}^{(2)} $	• • •	$a_{nn}^{(1)}$	$b_n^{(1)}$		· 0	· 0	$a_{n2}^{(2)}$	• • •	$a_{nn}^{(2)}$	$b_n^{(2)}$

# **Triangular systems of equations**

Lower triangular systems

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} g_{11} & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ g_{21} & g_{22} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ g_{31} & g_{32} & g_{33} & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & 0 \\ g_{n1} & g_{n2} & g_{n3} & \cdots & g_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

Consider linear system Gy=b: Forward Substitution

$$y_1 = b_1/g_{11}$$
  
 $y_2 = (b_2 - g_{21}y_1)/g_{22}$ 

- Upper triangular system: Backward Substitution
- Efficient computation for such special matrices

# **Cholesky Decomposition**

Cholesky Decomposition Theorem: Let A be a symmetric positive definite matrix. Then A can be decomposed in exactly one way into a product A = R<sup>T</sup>R

$a_{11}$	$a_{12}$	$a_{13}$	• • •	$a_{1n}$										
$a_{21}$	$a_{22}$	$a_{23}$	•••	$a_{2n}$										
$a_{31}$	$a_{32}$	$a_{33}$	• • •	$a_{3n}$										
	•	•	·	•										
$a_{n1}$	$a_{n2}$	$a_{n3}$	•••	$a_{nn}$	J									
		ſ	$r_{11}$	0	0	• • •	0	] [	$r_{11}$	$r_{12}$	$r_{13}$	•••	$r_{1n}$	ĺ
			$r_{12}$	$r_{22}$	0	•••	0		0	$r_{22}$	$r_{23}$	• • •	$r_{2n}$	
		=	$r_{13}$	$r_{23}$	$r_{33}$		0		0	0	$r_{33}$	• • •	$r_{3n}$	
			•	•	•	••.			• •	•		·.	•	
		L	$r_{1n}$	$r_{2n}$	$r_{3n}$	• • •	$r_{nn}$		0	0	0		$r_{nn}$	

#### **Solution Using Cholesky Decomposition**

- Consider problem Ax=b
- Then, use Choleskly decomposition to put  $A = R^T R$
- Then,  $Ax = b \implies R^T Rx = b$
- Let Rx = y then solve  $R^Ty = b$ 
  - triangular system of equations that is easy to solve
- Then, solve Rx=y
  - Another triangular system of equations that is easy to solve

## **LU Decomposition**

 LU Decomposition Theorem: Let A be an n×n matrix whose leading principal submatrices are all nonsingular. Then A can be decomposed in exactly one way into a product A=LU as:

Ł	ωΠ	$\boldsymbol{u}_{12}$	<b>u</b> 13		$u_{1n}$										
ŀ	$a_{21}$	$a_{22}$	$a_{23}$	• • •	$a_{2n}$										
	$a_{31}$	$a_{32}$	$a_{33}$	• • •	$a_{3n}$										
	÷	•	•		•										
L	$a_{n1}$	$a_{n2}$	$a_{n3}$	• • •	$a_{nn}$										
				<b>[</b> 1	0	0	•••	0 ]	Г	$u_{11}$	$u_{12}$	$u_{13}$	•••	$u_{1n}$ -	]
				$l_{21}$	1	0	• • •	0		0	$u_{22}$	$u_{23}$	•••	$u_{2n}$	
			=	l <sub>31</sub>	$l_{32}$	1	• • •	0		0	0	$u_{33}$	•••	$u_{3n}$	
				-	:	÷		:		÷		:		:	
				$l_{n1}$	$l_{n2}$	$l_{n3}$	•••	1		0	0	0		$u_{nn}$	

#### **Vector Norm**

#### Measure of distance

Definition:

A norm (or vector norm) on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is a function that assigns to each  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  a non-negative real number ||x||, called the norm of x, such that the following three properties are satisfied for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and all  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ :

$$||x|| > 0 \text{ if } x \neq 0, \text{ and } ||0|| = 0 \quad (\text{positive definite property}) \quad (2.1.1)$$
$$||\alpha x|| = |\alpha| ||x|| \quad (\text{absolute homogeneity}) \quad (2.1.2)$$
$$||x + y|| \le ||x|| + ||y|| \quad (\text{triangle inequality}) \quad (2.1.3)$$

Example: Euclidean norm

$$\|x\|_{2} = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} |x_{i}|^{2}\right)^{1/2}$$

#### **Vector Norm**

General definition of p-norm:

$$||x||_{p} = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} |x_{i}|^{p}\right)^{1/p}$$

- Examples:
  - 2-norm: Euclidean distance
  - I-norm: (taxicab norm or Manhattan norm)

$$||x||_1 = \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|$$

▶ ∞-norm:

$$\|x\|_{\infty} = \max_{1 \le i \le n} |x_i|$$

### **Vector Norm**

• Example:

• draw the circles defined by the following equations:  $||x||_1 = 1$ ,  $||x||_2 = 1$ ,  $||x||_{\infty} = 1$ 



# Matrix Norm

- A matrix norm is a function that assigns to each A∈ℜ<sup>nxn</sup> a real number ||A|| such that:
  - $||A|| > 0 \text{ if } A \neq 0$  (2.1.18)
  - $\|\alpha A\| = |\alpha| \|A\|$  (2.1.19)
- $||A + B|| \leq ||A|| + ||B||$ (2.1.20)
  - $||AB|| \leq ||A|| ||B||$  (submultiplicativity) (2.1.21)
- Example: Frobenius norm (commonly used)

$$\|A\|_{F} = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} |a_{ij}|^{2}\right)^{1/2}$$

# Matrix Norm

- Induced (operator) norm  $||A|| = \max_{x \neq 0} \frac{||Ax||}{||x||}$
- Special case: induced p-norm or Matrix p-norm  $\|A\|_{p} = \max_{x \neq 0} \frac{\|Ax\|_{p}}{\|x\|_{r}}$ 
  - Theoretically important
  - Expensive to compute
  - Frobenius norm is NOT the matrix 2-norm (=max eigenvalue)
- Theorem:  $||Ax|| \le ||A|| ||x||$
- Examples:

(a) 
$$||A||_1 = \max_{1 \le j \le n} \sum_{i=1}^n |a_{ij}|.$$
 (b)  $||A||_{\infty} = \max_{1 \le i \le n} \sum_{j=1}^n |a_{ij}|.$ 

# **Condition Number**

Consider a linear system equation and its perturbation: Ax = b and A(x + δx) = b + δb
Then, Aδx = δb or δx = A<sup>-1</sup>δb
Hence, ||δx|| ≤ ||A<sup>-1</sup>|| ||δb||
Also, ||b|| ≤ ||A|| ||x||
Combining equations:

$$\frac{\|\delta x\|}{\|x\|} \le \|A\| \|A^{-1}\| \frac{\|\delta b\|}{\|b\|}$$

Define the condition number as:

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

# **Condition Number**

- Using induced matrix norm,  $\kappa(A) \ge I$
- Matrices with  $\kappa(A) \ge 1000$  are considered ill-Conditioned
  - Numerical errors in solving Ax=b are amplified in the solution by the condition number
- Estimation of condition number: from eigenvalues: divide maximum eigenvalue by the minimum eigenvalue or

 $\kappa(A) = \lambda_{\max} / \lambda_{\min}$ 

- For singular matrices,  $\kappa(A) = \infty$
- Condition number improvement by scaling equations possible

Example: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \epsilon \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \epsilon \end{bmatrix}$$

# **Roundoff Errors**

- Floating point number presentation  $.123456 \times 10^7$ 
  - Mantissa .123456
  - Exponent 7
- Problems occur when adding numbers of very different scales
- If a computation results in a number that is too big to be represented, an overflow is said to have occurred.
- If a number that is nonzero but too small to be represented is computed, an underflow results.
- Machine epsilon: smallest positive floating point number s such that fl(1+s)>1 (Homework to compute)

# **Sensitivity Analysis**

- Using perturbation analysis, show how stable the solution is for a particular matrix A and machine precision s.
  - Condition number describes the matrix only
  - Be careful with choice of single vs. double precision since time gain may end up causing major errors in result !

## **Least-Squares Problem**

 To find an optimal solution to linear system of equations Ax=b that does not have to be square and it is desired to minimize the 2-norm of the residual

$$\begin{bmatrix} \phi_1(t_1) & \phi_2(t_1) & \cdots & \phi_m(t_1) \\ \phi_1(t_2) & \phi_2(t_2) & \cdots & \phi_m(t_2) \\ \phi_1(t_3) & \phi_2(t_3) & \cdots & \phi_m(t_3) \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \phi_1(t_n) & \phi_2(t_n) & \cdots & \phi_m(t_n) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_m \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix}$$

n>m : overdetermined system
n<m: underdetermined system</li>

(least-squares solution)
(minimum-norm solution)

# **Orthogonal Matrices**

An orthogonal matrix has its inverse the same as its transpose

$$QQ^T = I \qquad Q^TQ = I \qquad Q^T = Q^{-1}$$

- Determinant = I
- Condition number = I (ideal)
- Orthogonal transformations preserve length
- Orthogonal transformations preserve angle
- Example: rotators and reflectors

# **QR Decomposition**

- Any nxn matrix A can be decomposed as a product QR where Q is an orthogonal matrix and R is an upper triangular matrix
- Solution of Ax=b is again straightforward:
  - QRx=b
  - Let Rx = y and solve Qy = b (solution is simply  $y = Q^T b$ )
  - Then solve triangular system Rx=y as before
- Advantage of QR solution: excellent numerical stability
- Overdetermined case (A is nxm with n>m): QR decomposition is still possible with :

$$R = \left[ \begin{array}{c} \hat{R} \\ 0 \end{array} \right]$$

# **Singular Value Decomposition (SVD)**

Let A be an nxm nonzero matrix with rank r. Then A can be expressed as a product:

$$A = U\Sigma V^T$$

Where:

- U is an nxn orthogonal matrix
- V is an mxm orthogonal matrix
- >  $\Sigma$  is an nxm diagonal matrix of singular values in the form:



# **Solution of Least Squares Using SVD**

Condition number can be shown to be equal to:

$$\kappa_2(A) = \frac{\sigma_1}{\sigma_n}$$

- In order to improve condition number, we can solve the equation after replacing the smallest singular values by zero until the condition number is low enough
  - Regularization of the ill-conditioned provlem
  - "Pseudo-inverse" or "Moore-Penrose generalized inverse"

$$A^{\dagger} = V \Sigma^{\dagger} U^T$$

Highest numerical stability of all methods but O(n<sup>3</sup>)

# **Computational Complexity**

- Cholesky's algorithm applied to an n×n matrix performs about n<sup>3</sup>/3 flops.
- LU based decomposition applied to an n×n matrix performs about 2n<sup>3</sup>/3 flops.
- Gaussian elimination applied to an n×n matrix performs about 2n<sup>3</sup>/3 flops.
- QR decomposition: 2nm<sup>2</sup>-2m<sup>3</sup>/3 flops
- SVD has O(n<sup>3</sup>) flops
- All are still too high for some problems
  - Need to find other methods with lower complexity

# **Iterative Solution Methods**

- Much less computations of O(n<sup>2</sup>)
- Steepest descent based methods
- Conjugate gradient based methods

#### **Steepest Descent Methods**

Looks for the error b-Ax and tries to remove this error in its direction



$$r \leftarrow r - Ax$$
  

$$p \leftarrow ?$$
  

$$k \leftarrow 0$$
  
do until satisfied or  $k = l$   

$$\begin{cases} q \leftarrow Ap \\ \alpha \leftarrow p^T r / p^T q \\ x \leftarrow x + \alpha p \\ r \leftarrow r - \alpha q \\ p \leftarrow ? \\ k \leftarrow k + 1 \end{cases}$$
  
if not satisfied, set flag



Set  $p \leftarrow r$  to get steepest descent.

# **Conjugate Gradient (CG) Method**

- Suppose we want to solve the following system of linear equations Ax = b where the *n*-by-*n* matrix A is symmetric (i.e., A<sup>T</sup> = A), positive definite (i.e., x<sup>T</sup>Ax > 0 for all non-zero vectors x in R<sup>n</sup>), and real.
- We say that two non-zero vectors u and v are conjugate (with respect to A) or mutually orthogonal if: u<sup>T</sup>Av=0

not related to the notion of complex conjugate.

Suppose that {p<sub>k</sub>} is a sequence of n mutually conjugate directions. Then the p<sub>k</sub> form a basis of R<sup>n</sup>, so we can expand the solution x<sub>\*</sub> of Ax = b in this basis:

$$\mathbf{x}_* = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \mathbf{p}_i$$

# **Conjugate Gradient (CG) Method**

• To compute the coefficients:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}_{*} &= \sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha_{i} \mathbf{p}_{i} \\ \mathbf{b} &= \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}_{*} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha_{i} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{p}_{i}. \\ \mathbf{p}_{k}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{b} &= \mathbf{p}_{k}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}_{*} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha_{i} \mathbf{p}_{k}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{p}_{i} = \alpha_{k} \mathbf{p}_{k}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{p}_{k}. \\ & \text{(since } \mathbf{p}_{i} \text{ and } \mathbf{p}_{k}^{\mathrm{H}} \text{ are mutually conjugate for } i \neq k) \end{aligned}$$

$$\alpha_k = \frac{\mathbf{p}_k^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{b}}{\mathbf{p}_k^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{p}_k} = \frac{\langle \mathbf{p}_k, \mathbf{b} \rangle}{\langle \mathbf{p}_k, \mathbf{p}_k \rangle_{\mathbf{A}}} = \frac{\langle \mathbf{p}_k, \mathbf{b} \rangle}{\|\mathbf{p}_k\|_{\mathbf{A}}^2}.$$

Can compute the solution in maximum n iterations!

- Removes the error in "mutually-orthogonal" directions
- Better performance compared to steepest descent

# **Iterative Conjugate Gradient Method**

- Need to solve systems where n is so large
  - Direct method take too much time
- Careful choice of directions
  - Start with Ax-b as p<sub>0</sub>
  - Takes a few iterations to reach reasonable accuracy



$$r \leftarrow r - Ax$$

$$p \leftarrow r$$

$$\nu \leftarrow r^{T}r$$

$$k \leftarrow 0$$
do until converged or  $k = l$ 

$$\begin{bmatrix} q \leftarrow Ap \\ \mu \leftarrow p^{T}q \\ \alpha \leftarrow \nu/\mu \\ x \leftarrow x + \alpha p \\ r \leftarrow r - \alpha q \\ \nu_{+} \leftarrow r^{T}r \\ \beta \leftarrow \nu_{+}/\nu \\ p \leftarrow r + \beta p \\ \nu \leftarrow \nu_{+} \\ k \leftarrow k + 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
if not converged, set flag

Octave/Matlab code available at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conjugate\_gradient\_method

#### **Vector Calculus**

Let x and y be general vectors of orders n and m respective

x<sub>1</sub>
y<sub>1</sub>

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}, \qquad \mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_m \end{bmatrix}$$

Define  

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{y}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial x_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial y_m}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x_2} & \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial y_m}{\partial x_2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x_n} & \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial x_n} & \cdots & \frac{\partial y_m}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix}$$

#### **Vector Calculus**

Special cases: when x or y are scalars

$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_2} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix} \qquad \frac{\partial \mathbf{y}}{\partial x} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial x} & \dots & \frac{\partial y_m}{\partial x} \end{bmatrix}$$

• Other important derivatives:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbf{y} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{y}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \\
 \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} & \mathbf{A}^T \\
 \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{A} \\
 \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x} & 2\mathbf{x} \\
 \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} & \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{x}
 \end{array}$$

#### Exercise

- Write a program to compute Machine Epsilon and report your results.
- Look for Octave/Matlab functions that implement the topics discussed in this lecture and provide a list of them.
- Modify the conjugate gradient method described in this lecture to allow using a general real matrix A that is not symmetric or positive definite.
- Implement code for Gaussian elimination, steepest descent and conjugate gradient methods and compare results (time and accuracy) to SVD based solution (pseudo-inverse). Use only a few iterations for iterative methods.
- Use vector calculus to show that the solution of Ax=b for symmetric A minimizes the objective function:

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{x}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{b}, \quad \mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{R}^{n}.$$

- In all above problems involving linear system solution, use the Hilbert matrix as your A matrix, use a random x vector, compute b=Ax and use A and b to compute as estimate of the x vector then compare it to what you have to test your system
- > You can use available Octave/Matlab functions and write your own code for parts that are not available.