



F2-1

Definition 2.2.2 A complex (real) matrix \underline{A} is called unitary (orthogonal) iff

$$\underline{A}\underline{A}^{*T} = \underline{I}$$

Some facts about Hermitian symmetric matrices can be found in a textbook by R. Bellman, "Introduction to matrix analysis" Mc Graw Hill, 1970.

Theorem 2.2.1 If \underline{K} is Hermitian symmetric then there exists a unitary matrix \underline{E} such that

$$\underline{K} = \underline{E}\underline{\Lambda}\underline{E}^{*T}$$

where

$$\underline{\Lambda} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}$$

with λ_i the eigenvalues of \underline{K} , not necessarily distinct.

In other words, Hermitian symmetric matrices are always diagonalizable

Theorem 2.2.2 A necessary and sufficient condition for such a \underline{K} to be nonnegative definite is that $\lambda_i \geq 0 \quad \forall i = 1, \dots, n$

Theorem 2.2.3 Let \underline{K} be Hermitian symmetric. Then for each distinct (simple) eigenvalue there corresponds an eigenvector which is orthogonal to all others. To each eigenvalue of multiplicity k there correspond k linearly independent eigenvectors, which are orthogonal to all eigenvectors of other eigenvalues.

However we can always perform a Gram-Schmit orthogonalization procedure and end up with k orthogonal eigenvectors. In summary, every Hermitian ($n \times n$) matrix has n associated orthogonal eigenvalues $\{e_i\}_{i=1}^n$. In fact the matrix \underline{E} of theorem 1 consists of these e_i 's as its columns. Returning to the factorization problem we want to find an $\underline{H} \ni \underline{R}_X = \underline{H}\underline{H}^{*T}$. We know that

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{R}_X &= \underline{E}\underline{\Lambda}\underline{E}^{*T} \\ &= \underline{E}\underline{\Lambda}^{1/2}\underline{\Lambda}^{1/2}\underline{E}^{*T} \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\underline{\Lambda}^{1/2} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{\lambda_1} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{\lambda_2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \sqrt{\lambda_n} \end{bmatrix} = (\underline{\Lambda}^{1/2})^{*T}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Rightarrow \underline{R}_X &= \underline{E}\underline{\Lambda}^{1/2}\underline{\Lambda}^{1/2*T}\underline{E}^{*T} \\ &= (\underline{E}\underline{\Lambda}^{1/2})(\underline{E}\underline{\Lambda}^{1/2})^{*T}\end{aligned}$$

i.e. we arrived at a solution where

$$\underline{H} = \underline{E}\underline{\Lambda}^{1/2}$$

There exists the question of whether this solution is unique or not. The answer is no. To see this take any unitary matrix $\underline{U} \ni \underline{U}\underline{U}^{*T} = \underline{I}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}\underline{R}_X &= (\underline{E}\underline{\Lambda}^{1/2})\underline{I}(\underline{E}\underline{\Lambda}^{1/2})^{*T} \\ &= \underbrace{(\underline{E}\underline{\Lambda}^{1/2}\underline{U})}_{\text{another } \underline{H}}(\underline{E}\underline{\Lambda}^{1/2}\underline{U})^{*T} \\ &= \text{another } \underline{H}\end{aligned}$$

Sometimes we take $\underline{U} = \underline{E}^{*T}$ and the resulting

$$\underline{H} = \underline{E}\underline{\Lambda}^{*T}\underline{E}^{*T}$$

is called the "square root" of \underline{R}_X since then \underline{H} is Hermitian symmetric. From an applications viewpoint this is useful in simulation, i.e. creating a random vector with desired correlation properties, starting from a "random number generator".

Note :

If $\underline{m}_X \neq \underline{0}$, then the appropriate linear transformation is

$$\underline{X} = \underline{H}\underline{W} + \underline{m}_X$$

where the factorization is done on \underline{K}_X , not \underline{R}_X .

Example :

Given the covariance matrix

$$\underline{K}_X = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1/2 & -1/2 \\ -1/2 & 1 & -1/2 \\ -1/2 & -1/2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

we find the eigenvalues by solving

$$\det(\underline{K}_X - \lambda_i \underline{I}) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda_1 = 0, \lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = 3/2$$

Solving for the eigenvectors we get

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda_1 = 0 &\Rightarrow \underline{e}_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \lambda_2 = 3/2 &\Rightarrow \underline{e}_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ \underline{e}_3 &= \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 \\ 1/2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

So we could choose a linear transformation

$$\begin{aligned}\underline{H} = \underline{E}\underline{\Lambda}^{1/2} &= [\underline{e}_1 | \underline{e}_2 | \underline{e}_3] \begin{bmatrix} 0 & & 0 \\ & \sqrt{3/2} & \\ 0 & & \sqrt{3/2} \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \sqrt{3/2} & 1/2 \\ 0 & -\sqrt{3/2} & 1/2 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \Rightarrow \underline{X} = \underline{H}\underline{W} &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \sqrt{3/2} & 1/2 \\ 0 & -\sqrt{3/2} & 1/2 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} W(u,1) \\ W(u,2) \\ W(u,3) \end{bmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

Notice that \underline{X} does not depend on $W(u,1)$. In the above we solved the problem of spectral shaping which is equivalent to a covariance matrix factorization. The solution was unconstrained i.e. we imposed no restrictions on the nature of the linear transformation \underline{H} . We can pose an associated question : Can we find a *causal* matrix \underline{H} for the same factorization job ?

Definition 2.2.3 In this context, *causal* means lower triangular i.e.

$$\begin{bmatrix} X(u,1) \\ \vdots \\ X(u,2) \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} h_{11} & 0 & & 0 \\ h_{21} & h_{22} & & \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \\ h_{n1} & & \dots & H_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} W(u,1) \\ \vdots \\ W(u,n) \end{bmatrix} + \underline{m}_X$$

or

$$X(u, i) = \sum_{j=1}^i h_{ij} W(u, j)$$

This is called the *Cholesky Decomposition of positive definite matrices*. We restate the problem as follows: Find a lower-triangular matrix \underline{H} such that

$$\underline{K}_X = \underline{H}\underline{H}^{*T}$$

Example :

For the real case

$$\begin{bmatrix} k_{11} & k_{12} & \cdots & k_{1n} \\ k_{12} & . & & \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \\ k_{1n} & \cdots & k_{nn} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} h_{11} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ h_{21} & h_{22} & & \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \\ h_{n1} & \cdots & h_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} h_{11} & h_{21} & \cdots & h_{n1} \\ 0 & h_{22} & & \\ 0 & & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & & & h_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{From } h_{11}^2 = k_{11} \Rightarrow h_{11} = \pm\sqrt{k_{11}}$$

$$\Rightarrow k_{12} = h_{21}h_{11} \Rightarrow h_{21} = \frac{k_{12}}{h_{11}}$$

In the same manner we can find the rest of the h_{ij} .

Using the concept of covariance factorization we can derive a set of insightful properties:

i. Spectral resolution

Assume a real covariance matrix \underline{K}_X . From the theory we know that \underline{K}_X can be decomposed as

$$\underline{K}_X = \underline{E}\underline{\Lambda}\underline{E}^T$$

where

$$\underline{E} = [\underline{e}_1 \mid \underline{e}_2 \mid \cdots \mid \underline{e}_n]$$

is the matrix of *orthonormal* eigenvectors of \underline{K}_X and

$$\underline{\Lambda} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}$$

is the diagonal matrix of nonnegative eigenvalues. We can rewrite this as

$$\underline{K}_X = [\lambda_1 \underline{e}_1 \mid \lambda_2 \underline{e}_2 \mid \cdots \mid \lambda_n \underline{e}_n] \begin{bmatrix} \underline{e}_1^T \\ \hline \underline{e}_2^T \\ \vdots \\ \hline \underline{e}_n^T \end{bmatrix}$$

or

$$\underline{K}_X = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \underline{e}_i \underline{e}_i^T$$

This shows that \underline{K}_X can be decomposed (resolved) into a sum of n matrices, each of the form $\underline{e}_i \underline{e}_i^T$, with weight λ_i . The set of n eigenvectors $\{\underline{e}_i\}_{i=1}^n$ constitutes a basis for the n -dimensional vector space and each deterministic vector \underline{A} can be expanded into a series

$$\underline{A} = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \underline{e}_i$$

where

$$a_i = (\underline{A}, \underline{e}_i) = \underline{A}^T \underline{e}_i$$

So far we have determined that given *some* covariance matrix \underline{K}_X , we can find its n orthonormal eigenvectors \underline{e}_i and use them as a basis of an n -dimensional vector space. Each deterministic vector \underline{A} can be described in terms of its "projections" a_j along the \underline{e}_j coordinate. It is also clear that we can create random vectors by choosing these projections to be random variables $A_i(u)$, i.e.

$$\underline{A} = \sum_{i=1}^n A_i(u) \underline{e}_i$$

Note : If the eigenvectors have the form $\underline{e}_i = [0 \cdots 1 \cdots 0]^T$ with 1 in the i^{th} position then

$$\underline{A} = \begin{bmatrix} A_1(u) \\ \vdots \\ A_n(u) \end{bmatrix}$$

The question arises whether these random coefficients $A_i(u)$ can be chosen in such a way that the resulting \underline{A} is actually $\underline{X}(u)$ i.e. the vector whose covariance is the given one \underline{K}_X . We will answer that later (whitening). Note that whitening is the reverse problem to "coloring" or "spectral shaping".