

Lecture notes on Numerical Analysis

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Abstract

These are my notes for my lectures for the MDI210 Optimization and Numerical Analysis course. These notes are a work in progress, and will probably contain several small mistakes (let me know?). If you are following my lectures you may find them useful to recall what we covered in class. Otherwise, I recommend you read the excellent book by Golub and Van Loan [1]. All topics covered in these notes and the lectures are covered in [1]. Furthermore these notes are mostly based on [1].

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1 Introduction to Numerical Linear Algebra

Numerical linear algebra is a set of numerical problems at the heart of which lies a matrix

$$A = (a_{ij}) = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{d1} & a_{d2} & a_{d3} & \dots & a_{dn} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Numerical linear algebra problems are in turn at the heart of most optimization and engineering problems. Thus their importance. We will learn to *decompose* a matrix into simpler matrices (triangular or diagonal) to describe a matrix through a set of fundamental vectors and numbers (eigenvalues and eigenvectors), and to see how sensitive a problem involving a matrix is or if it is well posed (Conditioning).

There exist several classes of matrices, of particular interest in this course are

- Normal matrices $AA^T = A^T A$
- Symmetric matrices $(a_{ij}) = A = A^T = (a_{ji})$
- Orthogonal matrices $AA^T = A^T A = I$,

where $I = (\delta_{ij})$ denotes the identity matrix.

1.1 Eigenvalue and the similarity transform

One of the problems with writing a matrix down as a square of numbers is that we must choose a coordinate basis to do so. The choice of this coordinate basis is somewhat arbitrary, and the most important properties of the matrix are independent of this choice. The eigenvalues and eigenvectors of a matrix give us some insight into these intrinsic properties of the matrix that are independent of the coordinate basis we used to represent the matrix.

Definition 1 Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$. We say that x is an eigenvector and λ an eigenvalue of A if $x \neq 0$ and

$$Ax = \lambda x.$$

We also refer to (x, λ) as an eigenpair of A . We say $\lambda(A) \subset \mathbb{C}$ is the spectrum of A if $\lambda(A)$ contains all the eigenvalues of A , that is

$$\lambda(A) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\lambda \mid \exists x \in \mathbb{R}^n \text{ such that } x \neq 0, Ax = \lambda x\}.$$

We say that A is invertible if $0 \notin \lambda(A)$.

A matrix can be entirely described by its eigenvalues and eigenvectors. Accordingly, we say that two matrices are similar if they share the same spectrum. Or, said in another way:

Definition 2 We say that $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ is similar to $B \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ if there exists $P \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ invertible such that

$$A = P^{-1}BP.$$

We say that A is diagonalizable when A is similar to a diagonal matrix.

Similar matrices define the same linear operator upto coordinate changes defined by P . Consequently they also have the same spectrum.

Lemma 3 If $A, B \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ are similar matrices then

$$\lambda(A) = \lambda(B).$$

Proof: Consider $\lambda \in \lambda(A)$. Then there exists $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ such that $Ax = \lambda x$. By the similarity of A and B we have that

$$P^{-1}BPx = \lambda x.$$

Left multiplying by P shows that $\lambda \in \lambda(B)$ with associated eigenvector Px . ■

Lemma 4 If $O \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ is an orthogonal matrix then every $\lambda \in \lambda(O)$ is such that $|\lambda| = 1$.

Proof: Let (x, λ) be such that $Ox = \lambda x$. It follows that

$$\langle x, x \rangle = \langle x, O^T O x \rangle = \langle O x, O x \rangle = \|O x\|_2^2 = |\lambda|^2 \langle x, x \rangle.$$

Dividing by $\langle x, x \rangle$ on both sides gives the result.

Theorem 5 (Spectral Theorem for symmetric matrices) *Symmetric matrices are diagonalizable.*

Proof: See Theorem 8.1.1 and proof in [1].

1.2 The SVD decomposition

Symmetric matrices have a delightfully simple spectral theory. The same does not hold for unsymmetric matrices. Though we can borrow the spectral theory of symmetric matrices to give insight into any unsymmetric matrix through their singular values.

Definition 6 We refer to $\sigma(A) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \lambda(A^T A)$ as the set of singular values of A .

Exercise 7 Show that $A^T A$ is similar to AA^T .

Proof: First we show that $\lambda(A^T A) \subset \lambda(AA^T)$. Let $\lambda \in \lambda(A^T A)$ thus there exists $x \neq 0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ such that

$$A^T A x = \lambda x.$$

Left multiplying by A gives

$$AA^T(Ax) = \lambda(Ax).$$

If $Ax = 0$, then from the two preceding equalities we have that $0 \in \lambda(A^T A)$ and $0 \in \lambda(AA^T)$. If $Ax \neq 0$, then Ax is an eigenvector of AA^T with associated eigenvalue λ thus $\lambda \in \lambda(AA^T)$. The opposite inclusion $\lambda(AA^T) \subset \lambda(A^T A)$ can be derived verbatim by re-labelling $\bar{A} = A^T$ and $\bar{A}^T = A$.

Though AA^T and $A^T A$ have the same eigenvalues, they may have different eigenvectors. We will use their eigenvectors and common eigenvalues to construct a decomposition for A

Theorem 8 Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, $\Sigma = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n)$ be the singular values of A . Then there exists orthogonal matrices $V \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ and $U \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ such that

$$A = U\Sigma V^\top.$$

Proof: See Chapter 2.5 in [1].

Exe: Show that the columns of U and V are the eigenvectors of AA^\top and $A^\top A$, respectively.

1.3 Norms

First we generalize the notation of distance by defining a norm

Definition 9 Let E be a vector space defined over the reals \mathbb{R} . We say that the function $\|\cdot\| : x \in E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ is a norm if it is

Point separating: $\|x\| = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = 0, \forall x \in E$.

Subadditive: $\|x + y\| \leq \|x\| + \|y\|, \forall x, y \in E$

Homogeneous: $\|ax\| = |a|\|x\|, \forall x \in E, a \in \mathbb{R}$.

If a multiplication operator is defined between vectors (think matrices) then we say that the norm is submultiplicative if

Submultiplicative: $\|xy\| \leq \|x\|\|y\|, \forall x, y \in E$.

Exercise 10 Show that $\|Vy\|_2 = \|y\|_2$ for every $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and orthogonal matrix $V \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$.

We can quickly imbue the matrix space with norms induced by using vector norms. Let $\|\cdot\| : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ be a norm. Then we can extend the norm to operate over matrices by overloading its definition with

$$\|A\| \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n, x \neq 0} \frac{\|Ax\|}{\|x\|}.$$

Lemma 11 All induced norms satisfy

$$\|Ax\| \leq \|A\|\|x\|, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n,$$

and are submultiplicative. Furthermore the L_2 induced norm satisfies

$$\|A\|_2 = \sigma_{\max}(A).$$

Proof: Homework (For the last part use the SVD decomposition).

1.4 Condition number and sensitivity

Now that we have established a notion of distance through norms, we turn our attention to answering how far can an approximate solution of a linear system be from the true solution. That is, consider the problem of determining $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ such that

$$Ax = b,$$

where $b \in \mathbb{R}^n$. But imagine we have perturbed the vector b by adding on an error $\epsilon\delta b$ and end up solving

$$Ay = b + \epsilon\delta b. \tag{1}$$

How big can $\|y - x\|$ be? Let us first re-write $\delta x = y - x$. Assuming A is invertible and left multiplying A^{-1} on both sides of (1) we get

$$x + \delta x = A^{-1}(b + \epsilon\delta b).$$

Now using that $x = A^{-1}b$ we have that

$$\delta x = \epsilon A^{-1}\delta b.$$

Taking norms and using that $\|b\| = \|Ax\| \leq \|A\|\|x\|$ we have that

$$\frac{\|\delta x\|}{\|x\|} = \epsilon \|A^{-1}\| \|A\| \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \epsilon \kappa(A).$$

This last quantity is what we define as the condition number, and it governs how much the relative error in x gets amplified.

2 Linear Systems

The work horse of numerical linear algebra is the solution of linear systems

$$Ax = b,$$

where $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ and $b \in \mathbb{R}^n$ are given, and $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is the unknown.

2.1 Triangular systems

There are two efficient algorithms for solving triangular linear systems. Either the forward substitution or backward substitution. For instance, to deduce the backwards substitution method, consider the upper triangular system given by

$$\sum_{j=i}^n a_{ij}x_j = b_i. \tag{2}$$

Separating out the x_i term we have

$$\sum_{j=i}^n a_{ij}x_j + a_{ii}x_i = b_i. \quad (3)$$

Assuming $a_{ii} \neq 0$ and isolating x_i gives

$$x_i = \frac{b_i - \sum_{j=i+1}^n a_{ij}x_j}{a_{ii}}. \quad (4)$$

This suggests an algorithm, by calculating first $x_n = \frac{b_n}{a_{nn}}$ then progressing backwards.

Algorithm 1 Backward substitution

for $k = n, \dots, 1$ **do**

$$x_i = \frac{b_i - \sum_{j=i+1}^n a_{ij}x_j}{a_{ii}}.$$

Exercise 12 What can we do if we find $a_{ii} = 0$? What does it say about this triangular system if $a_{ii} = 0$?

Because of the ease in which we can solve triangular linear systems, it is convenient to decompose all linear systems into triangles. For instance, suppose we can find a decomposition of $A = LU$ where $L \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ is lower triangular and $U \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ is upper triangular. We can then solve the linear system $Ax = b$ using two triangular solves. First we solve a lower triangular system

$$Ly = b \quad \Leftrightarrow L \underbrace{Ux}_y = b.$$

Then we solve the upper triangular system

$$Ux = y.$$

The resulting x is our desired solution to $Ax = b$.

2.2 Gaussian elimination and LU decomposition

Gaussian elimination performs various row transformations on A until we reach an upper triangular matrix. The idea behind row transformations is that we apply invertible transformations to both sides of the equation until the resulting system matrix is triangular. That is, let $P \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ be invertible then

$$\{x \mid PAx = Pb\} = \{x \mid Ax = b\}.$$

If we can construct P so that PA is triangular, then our work is done. We will do this iteratively. Let $A^0 = A$ and A^k denote the matrix after all elements $a_{ij}^k = 0$ for $1 \leq j \leq k$ and $i \geq j + 1$. To generate A^{k+1} from A^k we need to perform a *row operation*.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \vdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & & 1 & 0 & 0 & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & -a_{k+1k}^k/a_{kk}^k & 1 & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & -a_{nk}^k/a_{kk}^k & \dots & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_{11}^k & a_{12}^k & a_{13}^k & \dots & a_{1n}^k \\ 0 & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & a_{2n}^k \\ \vdots & 0 & a_{kk}^k & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & a_{nk}^k & \dots & a_{nn}^k \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11}^k & a_{12}^k & a_{13}^k & \dots & a_{1n}^k \\ 0 & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & a_{2n}^k \\ \vdots & 0 & a_{kk}^k & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & a_{nn}^k \end{bmatrix} = A^{k+1} \quad (5)$$

This operation can be represented in a much more compact way using algebra. Let

$$E_k = I - \beta_k e_k^\top, \quad (6)$$

where $e_k = (0, \dots, \underset{kth}{1}, 0, \dots, 0) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is the k th unit coordinate vector and $\beta_k = (0, \dots, 0, \underset{(k+1)th}{\frac{a_{k+1k}^k}{a_{kk}^k}}, \dots, \frac{a_{nk}^k}{a_{kk}^k})$.

We refer to (6) as the k th row operation. With this notation we can write (5) as

$$E_k A^k = A^{k+1}.$$

Before moving on we need the following lemma.

Lemma 13 *Let E_k be the k th row operation. It follows*

1. $E_k^{-1} = I + \beta_k e_k^\top$.
2. $E_{k-1}^{-1} E_k^{-1} = I + \beta_k e_k^\top + \beta_{k-1} e_{k-1}^\top$

Proof:

1. By direct computation we have

$$(I + \beta_k e_k^\top)(I - \beta_k e_k^\top) = I + \beta_k e_k^\top - \beta_k e_k^\top - \beta_k e_k^\top \beta_k e_k^\top = I - \beta_k e_k^\top \beta_k e_k^\top.$$

Since the support of β_k does not intersect with the support of e_k we have that $e_k^\top \beta_k = 0$.

2. Again by computation

$$E_{k-1}^{-1} E_k = (I + \beta_{k-1} e_{k-1}^\top)(I + \beta_k e_k^\top) = I + \beta_{k-1} e_{k-1}^\top + \beta_k e_k^\top + \beta_{k-1} e_{k-1}^\top \beta_k e_k^\top.$$

Once again we have an inner product $e_{k-1}^\top \beta_k$ between two vector with disjoint support, thus $e_{k-1}^\top \beta_k = 0$ and the result follows. \blacksquare

Gaussian elimination applies n row operations until the matrix is upper triangular

$$E_n E_{n-1} \cdots E_1 A = U. \quad (7)$$

The cost of applying E_k is $(n - k - 1)n$ consequently the cost of performing (7) is

$$\sum_{k=1}^n (n - k - 1)n = O(n^3).$$

Since by Lemma (13) E_k is invertible for every k we have that the product of row operations in (7) is also invertible with

$$(E_n E_{n-1} \cdots E_1)^{-1} = E_1^{-1} \cdots E_{n-1}^{-1} E_n^{-1} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} L. \quad (8)$$

Again by Lemma (13) and straight forward induction we have that the matrix L in (8) is lower triangular. Left multiplying (7) by L we have

$$A = LU. \quad (9)$$

This is known as the LU decomposition

2.3 Cholesky Decomposition

When A is a positive definite matrix, we can efficiently compute a triangular decomposition. That is, when $A \succ 0$ then there exists a lower triangular matrix $B \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ such that

$$A = BB^\top = \begin{bmatrix} b_{11} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ b_{21} & b_{22} & 0 & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ b_{n1} & b_{n2} & \cdots & b_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b_{11} & b_{21} & \cdots & b_{n1} \\ 0 & b_{22} & \cdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & b_{nn} \end{bmatrix}.$$

We can use the above equation to directly calculate the elements of B . For example, the first column on either side of the above equation is given by

$$a_{:1} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} \\ a_{21} \\ \vdots \\ a_{n1} \end{bmatrix} = b_{11} \begin{bmatrix} b_{11} \\ b_{21} \\ \vdots \\ b_{n1} \end{bmatrix} = b_{11} b_{:1}.$$

The first line of the above says that $b_{11}^2 = a_{11}$ thus $b_{11} = \sqrt{a_{11}}$. We can continue in a similar fashion to calculate the remaining elements of B , that is, by observing

$$a_{:j} = \sum_{i=1}^n \langle b_{j\cdot}, b_{i\cdot} \rangle e_i = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^j b_{jk} b_{ik} e_i = \sum_{k=1}^j b_{jk} b_{:k}.$$

We can build a recurrence in k from the above by first separating out the j th term in the summation to give

$$b_{jj} b_{:j} = a_{:j} - \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} b_{jk} b_{:k} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} v. \quad (10)$$

Now suppose we have already calculated the columns from the 1st to $(j - 1)$ th column of B . Using (10) we can then calculate the j th column by first noting that $b_{jj} = \sqrt{a_{:j} - \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} b_{jk}b_{:k}} = \sqrt{v(j)}$ then setting

$$b_{:j} = \frac{v}{\sqrt{v(j)}} = \frac{a_{:j} - \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} b_{jk}b_{:k}}{\sqrt{b_{jj}}}.$$

This provides the following algorithm

Algorithm 2 $(B) = \text{Cholesky Decomposition}(A)$

- 1: **for** $j = 1, \dots, n$ **do**
 - 2: Calculate $v = a_{:j} - \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} b_{jk}b_{:k}$
 - 3: Set $b_{:j} = v / \sqrt{v(j)}$
-

Exe: Show that the number of flops of the Cholesky algorithm is proportional to $O(n^3)$. **Sol:** The summation is where most of the effort goes, thus $\sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} 1 = \sum_{j=1}^n (j-1) = \frac{(1+n)n}{2} - n = O(n^3)$.

With the Cholesky matrix in hand, we can uncover many properties of the matrix A .

Lemma 14 *Let A be a positive definite matrix. It follows that*

1. *The Cholesky decomposition $B^T B = A$ always exists. We can prove this by construction. That is, using induction we can show that Algorithm 2. This boils down to showing that $v(j) \neq 0$ does not occur.*
2. *$\det(A) = (b_1 \cdots b_n)^2$. Indeed, using properties of the determinant we have that*

$$\det(A) = \det(B^T B) = \det(B^T) \det(B) = \det(B)^2 = (b_1 \cdots b_n)^2.$$

3 Eigenvalues

Eigenvalues are important. To get a feel for this importance, watch the video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XggxeuFDaDU> on the collapse of Tacoma Narrows Bridge as it resonates in the wind. This resonance is related to the smallest eigenvalue of the structural equations.

We can calculate the eigenvalues of a matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ by finding the roots of its *characteristic polynomial*. That is, let (λ, x) be an eigenpair of A thus

$$Ax = \lambda x \Leftrightarrow (A - \lambda I)x = 0.$$

Since $x \neq 0$ this shows that $A - \lambda I$ is not invertible and consequently

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = 0. \tag{11}$$

If we can find all the solutions of (11) in λ , then we will have all the eigenvalues. But solving (11) requires finding all the roots of the polynomial (11), and this is difficult. Indeed, according to the AbelRuffini theorem there is no general, explicit and exact algebraic formula for the roots of a polynomial with degree 5 or more. Thus we turn to approximate methods for finding eigenvalues.

This in turn shows that

$$b_{pq} = cs(a_{pp} - a_{qq}) + (c^2 - s^2)a_{pq}.$$

Now we choose θ so that $b_{pq} = 0$. Setting the above to zero and dividing through by $c^2 a_{pq}$ we have

$$-t^2 + 2Kt + 1 = 0, \tag{15}$$

where $t = \tan(\theta) = c/s$ and $K = \frac{a_{pp} - a_{qq}}{2a_{pq}}$. The solutions to (15) are given by

$$t = K \pm \sqrt{K^2 + 1}.$$

In the standard Jacobi method we choose the smallest of the two above roots

$$t = \min\{C + \sqrt{C^2 + 1}, C - \sqrt{C^2 + 1}\}.$$

This in turn guarantees that $|\theta| \leq \frac{\pi}{4}$. We can then recover c and s using that

$$c = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+t^2}}, \quad s = ct.$$

This gives us the following method for calculating c and s in Algorithm 3.

Algorithm 3 $(c, s) = \text{Calculate Jacobi Transform}(p, q, A)$

- 1: $K = \frac{a_{pp} - a_{qq}}{2a_{pq}}$
 - 2: $t = \min\{K + \sqrt{K^2 + 1}, K - \sqrt{K^2 + 1}\}.$
 - 3: $c = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+t^2}}$
 - 4: $s = ct$
-

With the means to calculate a single Jacobi transform, we can now iteratively apply many transforms to try to minimize the off diagonal elements of A , see Algorithm 4. Next we prove that Algorithm 4 converges and does what we intended it to do.

Algorithm 4 $(c, s) = \text{Calculate Jacobi Transform}((p, q, A))$

- 1: **Initialize:** $k = 0$ and $A^0 = A$.
 - 2: **while** $\text{off}(A^{k+1}) < \epsilon$ **do**
 - 3: Choose (p, q) so that $a_{pq} = \max_{i \neq j} |a_{pq}|$
 - 4: $(c, s) = \text{Calculate Jacobi Transform}((p, q, A^k))$
 - 5: $A^{k+1} = J(p, q, \theta)^\top A^k J(p, q, \theta).$
-

3.2 Convergence of Jacobi

We now need the following lemma, which will be given as an exercise in class

Lemma 15 1. *Let*

$$J = \begin{bmatrix} c & s \\ -s & c \end{bmatrix}.$$

Show that $J^\top J = J J^\top = I$, that is, J is an orthogonal matrix.

2. Prove that $\text{Tr}(AB) = \text{Tr}(BA)$ for compatible matrices.

3. Let $\|A\|_F^2 = \text{Tr}(A^\top A)$ and let J be an orthogonal matrix. Prove that $\|J^\top AJ\|_F^2 = \|A\|_F^2$.

Proof:

1. Direct computation.

2. We have that

$$\text{Tr}(AB) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} b_{ji} = \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^n b_{ji} a_{ij} = \text{Tr}(BA).$$

3. From the previous property it follows that

$$\|J^\top AJ\|_F^2 = \text{Tr}(J^\top A^\top J J^\top A J) = \text{Tr}(J^\top A^\top A J) = \text{Tr}(A^\top A J J^\top) = \text{Tr}(A^\top A) = \|A\|_F^2.$$

Using the previous lemma, given that $J(p, q, \theta)$ is an orthogonal matrix, we have from (14) that

$$\|A\|_F^2 = \|B\|_F^2.$$

What is more, the Frobenius norm of both sides of (14) are also the same thus

$$a_{pp}^2 + a_{qq}^2 + 2a_{pq}^2 = b_{pp}^2 + b_{qq}^2 + 2b_{pq}^2 = b_{pp}^2 + b_{qq}^2. \quad (16)$$

Consequently since $b_{pq} = 0$ we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{off}(B) &= \|B\|_F^2 - \sum_{i=1}^n b_{ii}^2 \\ &= \|A\|_F^2 - \sum_{i=1, i \neq p, q}^n b_{ii}^2 - b_{pp}^2 - b_{qq}^2 \\ &= \|A\|_F^2 - \sum_{i=1, i \neq p, q}^n a_{ii}^2 - b_{pp}^2 - b_{qq}^2 \\ &= \|A\|_F^2 - \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ii}^2 + a_{pp}^2 + a_{qq}^2 - b_{pp}^2 - b_{qq}^2 \\ &\stackrel{(16)}{=} \text{off}(A) - 2a_{pq}^2. \end{aligned}$$

This shows that the off diagonal terms are decreasing. Furthermore, since a_{pq} is chosen as the largest off diagonal term in absolute value, we have that

$$a_{pq}^2 \geq \frac{\text{off}(A)}{n(n-1)}.$$

Thus finally

$$\text{off}(B) \leq \text{off}(A) - \frac{2}{n(n-1)} \text{off}(A) = \left(1 - \frac{2}{n(n-1)}\right) \text{off}(A).$$

That is, applying k steps of Algorithm 4 we have that

$$\text{off}(A^k) \leq \left(1 - \frac{2}{n(n-1)}\right)^k \text{off}(A).$$