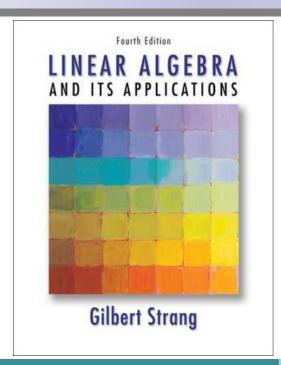
Linear Algebra



Instructor: Jing YAO

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Orthogonality (正交性)

3.4

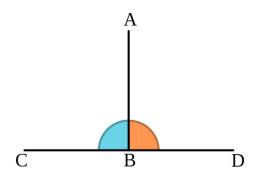
ORTHOGONAL BASES AND GRAM-SCHMIDT

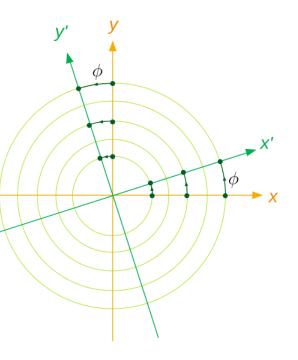
(正交基; Gram-Schmidt正交化)

Orthogonal Matrices

Gram-Schmidt Orthogonalization

QR factorization





Orthogonal Bases and Gram-Schmidt

For \mathbf{R}^n , the standard basis $\{\boldsymbol{e}_1, \, \boldsymbol{e}_2, \, ..., \, \boldsymbol{e}_n\}$ satisfies $\boldsymbol{e}_i^T \boldsymbol{e}_j = 1$ or 0 depending on i = j or $i \neq j$, respectively. They are called orthonormal.

In general, the vectors \mathbf{q}_1 , \mathbf{q}_2 , ..., \mathbf{q}_n are called **orthonormal** (标准正交, 单位正交) if

$$\mathbf{q}_{i}^{T}\mathbf{q}_{j} = \begin{cases}
0 & \text{whenever } i \neq j, \text{ giving the orthogonality; (两两正交)} \\
1 & \text{whenever } i = j. \text{ giving the normalization. (单位长度)}
\end{cases}$$

We will see:

- 1. What happens with a matrix with orthonormal columns square (*orthogonal matrix*, 正交矩阵) or rectangular;
- 2. A subspace always has an orthonormal basis, and it can be constructed in a simple way out of any basis whatsoever.

What method can *convert a skewed set of axes into a perpendicular set* — *Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization* (Gram-Schmidt 正交化).

I. Orthogonal Matrices (正交矩阵)

Definition 1 If Q (square or rectangular) has orthonormal columns, then $Q^{T}Q = I$:

$$\begin{bmatrix} - & q_1^{\mathrm{T}} & - \\ - & q_2^{\mathrm{T}} & - \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ - & q_n^{\mathrm{T}} & - \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} | & | & | & | \\ q_1 & q_2 & \cdots & q_n \\ | & | & | & | \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \cdot & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \cdot & 0 \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & \cdot & 1 \end{bmatrix} = I.$$

An orthogonal matrix is a square matrix with orthonormal columns.

(正交矩阵是方阵,它的列是标准正交的向量组)

Then Q^{T} is Q^{-1} .

(For orthogonal matrices, the transpose is the inverse.)

Notes:

An orthogonal matrix is square. (正交矩阵特指满足上述条件的方阵) $Q^TQ = I$ even if Q is rectangular. But then Q^T is only a left-inverse.

Example 1

$$\mathbf{Q} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos\theta & -\sin\theta \\ \sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{Q}^{\mathrm{T}} = \mathbf{Q}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos\theta & \sin\theta \\ -\sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{bmatrix}.$$

Rotation

Q is an orthogonal matrix.

The matrix Q^T is just as much an orthogonal matrix as Q.

Example 2

Any permutation matrix is an orthogonal matrix.

$$P_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \qquad P_1^{-1} = P_1^{\mathrm{T}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$\boldsymbol{P}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ is also an orthogonal matrix and takes } \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \text{ to } \begin{bmatrix} z \\ y \\ x \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$P_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
 reflects $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$ into $\begin{bmatrix} y \\ x \end{bmatrix}$. Reflection

Example 3 Decide whether the following matrices are orthogonal matrices:

(1)
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1/2 & 1/3 \\ -1/2 & 1 & 1/2 \\ 1/3 & 1/2 & -1 \end{bmatrix};$$
(2)
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1/9 & -8/9 & -4/9 \\ -8/9 & 1/9 & -4/9 \\ -4/9 & -4/9 & 7/9 \end{bmatrix};$$

(3)
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} & 1/\sqrt{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 1/\sqrt{2} & -1/\sqrt{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/\sqrt{2} & 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 1/\sqrt{2} & -1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Theorem 1 (nice properties of orthogonal matrices)

Multiplication by any $n \times n$ orthogonal matrix Q preserves lengths:

$$||Qx|| = ||x||$$
 for every vector $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

It also preserves inner products and angles.

(向量的内积、长度及向量间的夹角都保持不变)

Proof ||Qx|| = ||x|| because $(Qx)^T(Qx) = x^TQ^TQx = x^Tx$.

And since $(Qx)^T(Qy) = x^TQ^TQy = x^Ty$, Q also preserves inner products and thus the angles.

Remark: This property is shared by *rotations* and *reflections*, and in fact by every orthogonal matrix. It is not shared by projections, which are not orthogonal (some projections are not even invertible).

Theorem 2 Let A, B be $n \times n$ orthogonal matrices, then

- (1) $A^{-1} = A^{T}$;
- (2) $AA^{T} = A^{T}A = I$;
- (3) A^{-1} (i.e., A^{T}) is also an orthogonal matrix;
- (4) AB is also an orthogonal matrix.

Proof

- (1) $A^{T}A = I$, then $A^{-1} = A^{T}$. (A is full rank)
- $(2) A^{-1} = A^{T} \Rightarrow AA^{T} = I.$
- (3) $(A^T)^T A^T = AA^T = I$, so $A^T = A^{-1}$ is also an orthogonal matrix.

That is: The rows of a square matrix are orthonormal whenever the columns are. (正交矩阵的行向量组也是 \mathbb{R}^n 的标准正交基.)

$$(4) (AB)^{T} (AB) = (B^{T}A^{T})(AB) = B^{T}B = B^{T}B = I,$$

so AB is also an orthogonal matrix.

If we have a basis, then any vector is a combination of the basis vectors. This is exceptionally simple for an *orthonormal basis*.

The problem is to find the coefficients of the basis vectors:

Problem: Write **b** as a combination: $\mathbf{b} = x_1 \mathbf{q}_1 + x_2 \mathbf{q}_2 + ... + x_n \mathbf{q}_n$. Try to find the coordinates $x_1, x_2, ..., x_n$.

Trick: Multiply both sides of the equation by q_i^{T} .

The only term *survives* is $x_i \mathbf{q}_i^T \mathbf{q}_i$. The other terms *die* of orthogonality. That is,

$$\boldsymbol{q}_i^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{b} = x_i \boldsymbol{q}_i^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{q}_i = x_i.$$

Therefore,

$$b = (q_1^T b)q_1 + (q_2^T b)q_2 + ... + (q_n^T b)q_n.$$

Geometrically, every vector \mathbf{b} is the sum of its one-dimensional projections onto the lines through the \mathbf{q} 's.

(b 在标准正交基 q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n 下的坐标的第 i 个分量是 $q_i^T b$, 即b 在 q_i 上的投影.)

II. Rectangular Matrices with Orthonormal Columns (列向量标准正交的长方形矩阵)

Problem:

Solve Qx = b, where Q is an m by n matrix (m > n), with n orthonormal vectors q_i as the columns of Q.

Then we cannot expect to solve Qx = b exactly.

We solve it by least squares.

Tip: Orthonormal columns should make the problem simple.

The key is to notice that we still have $Q^TQ = I$. (So Q^T is still the *left-inverse* of Q.)

The normal equations: $\mathbf{Q}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{Q}\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{Q}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{b}$

Therefore, $\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{Q}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{b}$.

Note: When Q is square, then \hat{x} is the exact solution; If Q is rectangular, then \hat{x} is the least squares solution.

Orthogonal Bases and Gram-Schmidt

If Q has orthonormal columns, the least-squares problem becomes easy:

Qx = b	rectangular system $(m>n)$ with no solution for most \boldsymbol{b} .
$\boldsymbol{Q}^{\mathrm{T}}\boldsymbol{Q}\widehat{\boldsymbol{x}} = \boldsymbol{Q}^{\mathrm{T}}\boldsymbol{b}$	normal equation for the best \hat{x} — in which $Q^TQ = I$.
$\widehat{\boldsymbol{x}} = \boldsymbol{Q}^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{b}$	$\widehat{\boldsymbol{x}}_i$ is $\boldsymbol{q}_i^{\mathrm{T}}\boldsymbol{b}$.
$p = Q\hat{x}$	the projection of \boldsymbol{b} is $(\boldsymbol{q}_1^T \boldsymbol{b}) \boldsymbol{q}_1 + (\boldsymbol{q}_2^T \boldsymbol{b}) \boldsymbol{q}_2 + + (\boldsymbol{q}_n^T \boldsymbol{b}) \boldsymbol{q}_n$.
$\boldsymbol{p} = \boldsymbol{Q} \boldsymbol{Q}^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{b}$	the projection matrix is $P = QQ^{T}$.

 $(\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{Q}(\mathbf{Q}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{Q})^{-1}\mathbf{Q}^{\mathrm{T}} = \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{Q}^{\mathrm{T}},$ is an $m \times m$ projection matrix; while $\mathbf{Q}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{Q}$ is an $n \times n$ identity matrix)

Example 4 The following case is simple but typical.

Suppose we project a point $b = (x, y, z)^T$ onto the x-y plane.

Its projection is $p = (x, y, 0)^T$,

and this is the sum of the separate projections onto the x- and y-axes:

$$\mathbf{q}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
, and $(\mathbf{q}_1^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{b}) \mathbf{q}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$; $\mathbf{q}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, and $(\mathbf{q}_2^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{b}) \mathbf{q}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ y \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$.

The overall projection matrix is

$$\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{q}_1 \mathbf{q}_1^{\mathrm{T}} + \mathbf{q}_2 \mathbf{q}_2^{\mathrm{T}} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ and } \mathbf{P} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Remark: Projection onto a plane = sum of projections onto orthonormal \mathbf{q}_1 and \mathbf{q}_2 .

III. Gram-Schmidt Orthogonalization (Gram-Schmidt正交化)

Convert independent vectors into orthonormal vectors

In \mathbb{R}^n , we try to make the independent vectors a, b, c orthonormal.

(由a, b, c出发, 构造出一组标准正交向量 q_1 , q_2 , q_3 .)

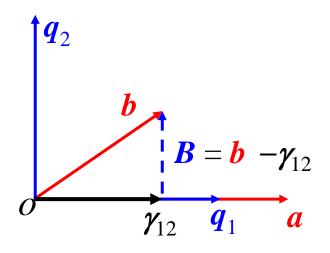
Let $q_1 = a/||a||$ to make it a unit vector.

Find the projection of b onto q_1 (which is the direction of a):

$$\boldsymbol{\gamma}_{12} = (\boldsymbol{q}_1^{\mathrm{T}}\boldsymbol{b})\boldsymbol{q}_1$$

That component has to be subtracted:

Take
$$\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{\gamma}_{12} = \mathbf{b} - (\mathbf{q}_1^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{b}) \mathbf{q}_1$$
, and $\mathbf{q}_2 = \mathbf{B} / \|\mathbf{B}\|$.



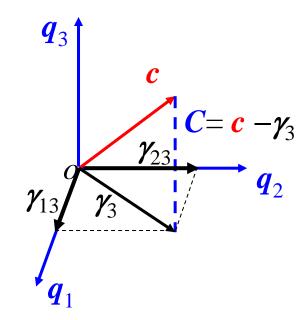
The vector c will not be in the plane of q_1 and q_2 , which is the plane of a and b.

However, it may have a component in that plane, and that has to be subtracted:

$$\boldsymbol{C} = \boldsymbol{c} - \boldsymbol{\gamma}_3 = \boldsymbol{c} - (\boldsymbol{q}_1^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{c}) \boldsymbol{q}_1 - (\boldsymbol{q}_2^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{c}) \boldsymbol{q}_2,$$

and $q_3 = C/||C||$.

When there is a fourth vector in \mathbb{R}^n ($n \ge 4$), we subtract away its components in the directions of \mathbf{q}_1 , \mathbf{q}_2 , \mathbf{q}_3 .



The idea of the Gram-Schmidt process:

to subtract from every new vector its components in the directions that are already settled.

(从每一个新的向量中扣除其在已经确定了的方向上的投影分量)

The Gram-Schmidt process:

starts with *independent* vectors $a_1, a_2, ..., a_n$ and ends with *orthonormal* vectors $q_1, q_2, ..., q_n$.

At step j it subtracts from a_j its components in the directions $q_1, q_2, ..., q_{j-1}$ that are already settled:

$$A_j = a_j - (q_1^{\mathrm{T}}a_j)q_1 - \cdots - (q_{j-1}^{\mathrm{T}}a_j)q_{j-1}.$$

Then q_j is the unit vector $A_j / ||A_j||$.

Example 5 Suppose the independent vectors are a, b, c:

$$a = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \qquad b = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \qquad c = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Then

$$q_1 = \frac{a}{\sqrt{2}};$$

$$\boldsymbol{B} = \boldsymbol{b} - (\boldsymbol{q}_1^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{b}) \boldsymbol{q}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 0 \\ 1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \boldsymbol{q}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 0 \\ -1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix};$$

$$\boldsymbol{C} = \boldsymbol{c} - (\boldsymbol{q}_1^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{c}) \boldsymbol{q}_1 - (\boldsymbol{q}_2^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{c}) \boldsymbol{q}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} - \sqrt{2} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix} - \sqrt{2} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \boldsymbol{q}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Remark:

1.
$$Q = [q_1 \quad q_2 \quad q_3] = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} & 1/\sqrt{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1/\sqrt{2} & -1/\sqrt{2} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
 is an orthogonal matrix.

Example 5 Suppose the independent vectors are a, b, c:

$$a = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \qquad b = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \qquad c = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Remark:

2. It is easier to compute the orthogonal vectors without forcing their lengths to equal one. They can be normalized to unit vector at the end by dividing by their lengths. (先正交化, 再单位化)

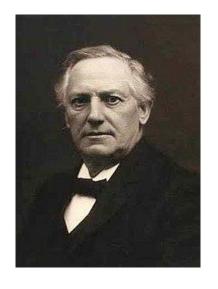
$$A=a$$
;

$$\boldsymbol{B} = \boldsymbol{b} - \left(\frac{\boldsymbol{A}^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{b}}{\boldsymbol{A}^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{A}}\right) \boldsymbol{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} - \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix};$$

$$\boldsymbol{C} = \boldsymbol{c} - \left(\frac{\boldsymbol{A}^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{c}}{\boldsymbol{A}^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{A}}\right) \boldsymbol{A} - \left(\frac{\boldsymbol{B}^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{c}}{\boldsymbol{B}^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{B}}\right) \boldsymbol{B} = \begin{bmatrix} 2\\1\\0 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 1\\0\\1 \end{bmatrix} - 2 \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2}\\0\\-\frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0\\1\\0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Then we have $q_1 = A/\|A\|$, $q_2 = B/\|B\|$, $q_3 = C/\|C\|$.

Orthogonal Bases and Gram-Schmidt



v₁ **v**₂ **v**₃



Jørgen Pedersen Gram

Erhard Schmidt

The modified Gram-Schmidt process being executed on three linearly independent, non-orthogonal vectors of a basis for **R**³

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gram%E2%80%93Schmidt_process

IV. QR Factorization (QR分解)

The Gram-Schmidt process:

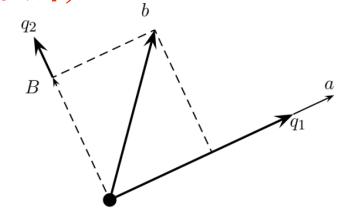
starts with *independent* vectors $a_1, a_2, ..., a_n$ and ends with *orthonormal* vectors $q_1, q_2, ..., q_n$.

Let
$$A = [a_1, a_2, ..., a_n],$$

$$Q = [q_1, q_2, ..., q_n].$$

The matrices A and Q are m by n when the n vectors are in m-dimensional space,

and there has to be a third matrix that connects them: *R*.



For example,

$$A = [a, b, c], Q = [q_1, q_2, q_3].$$

The idea is to write the a, b, c as combinations of the q's:

$$\boldsymbol{a} = (\boldsymbol{q}_1^{\mathrm{T}}\boldsymbol{a})\boldsymbol{q}_1,$$

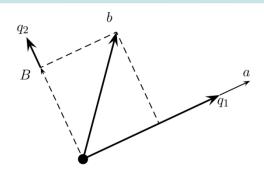
$$\boldsymbol{b} = (\boldsymbol{q}_1^{\mathrm{T}}\boldsymbol{b})\boldsymbol{q}_1 + (\boldsymbol{q}_2^{\mathrm{T}}\boldsymbol{b})\boldsymbol{q}_2,$$

$$\boldsymbol{c} = (\boldsymbol{q}_1^{\mathrm{T}}\boldsymbol{c})\boldsymbol{q}_1 + (\boldsymbol{q}_2^{\mathrm{T}}\boldsymbol{c})\boldsymbol{q}_2 + (\boldsymbol{q}_3^{\mathrm{T}}\boldsymbol{c})\boldsymbol{q}_3.$$

$$a = (\mathbf{q}_1^{\mathrm{T}} a) \mathbf{q}_1,$$

$$b = (\mathbf{q}_1^{\mathrm{T}} b) \mathbf{q}_1 + (\mathbf{q}_2^{\mathrm{T}} b) \mathbf{q}_2,$$

$$c = (\mathbf{q}_1^{\mathrm{T}} c) \mathbf{q}_1 + (\mathbf{q}_2^{\mathrm{T}} c) \mathbf{q}_2 + (\mathbf{q}_3^{\mathrm{T}} c) \mathbf{q}_3.$$



If we express that in matrix form we have the new factorization

$$A = QR$$
:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{q}_1 & \mathbf{q}_2 & \mathbf{q}_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{q}_1^T a & \mathbf{q}_1^T b & \mathbf{q}_1^T c \\ \mathbf{q}_2^T b & \mathbf{q}_2^T c \\ \mathbf{q}_3^T c \end{bmatrix} = QR.$$

- R is upper triangular because of the way Gram-Schmidt was done. (The first vectors \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{q}_1 fell on the same line. Then \mathbf{q}_1 , \mathbf{q}_2 were in the same plane as \mathbf{a} , \mathbf{b} . The third vectors \mathbf{c} and \mathbf{q}_3 were not involved until step 3.)
- You see the lengths of a, B, C on the diagonal of R.
- Q has orthonormal columns.

Example 5 (Continued) Suppose the independent vectors are a, b, c:

$$a = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \qquad b = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \qquad c = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

And we have
$$\mathbf{Q} = [\mathbf{q}_1 \ \mathbf{q}_2 \ \mathbf{q}_3] = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} & 1/\sqrt{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1/\sqrt{2} & -1/\sqrt{2} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
.

The whole factorization is

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} & 1/\sqrt{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1/\sqrt{2} & -1/\sqrt{2} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{2} & 1/\sqrt{2} & \sqrt{2} \\ & 1/\sqrt{2} & \sqrt{2} \\ & & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{R}.$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{a} & \boldsymbol{b} & \boldsymbol{c} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{q}_1 & \boldsymbol{q}_2 & \boldsymbol{q}_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{q}_1^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{a} & \boldsymbol{q}_1^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{b} & \boldsymbol{q}_1^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{c} \\ & \boldsymbol{q}_2^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{b} & \boldsymbol{q}_2^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{c} \\ & & \boldsymbol{q}_3^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{c} \end{bmatrix}$$

Note: Another way to find R? $R = Q^T A$.

Theorem 3 Every m by n matrix with independent columns can be factored into A = QR. The columns of Q are orthonormal, and R is upper triangular and invertible.

When m = n and all matrices are square, Q becomes an orthogonal matrix. (Any invertible matrix can be factorized as a product of an orthogonal matrix and an upper triangular matrix.)

For least-squares problem: Ax = b

 $A^{T}A$ becomes easier: $A^{T}A = R^{T}Q^{T}QR = R^{T}R$.

The normal equation $A^{T}A\hat{x} = A^{T}b$ simplifies to a triangular

system: $\mathbf{R}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{R}\widehat{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{R}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{Q}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{b}$

$$\Rightarrow R\hat{x} = Q^{\mathrm{T}}b$$

This is just back-substitution because R is triangular.

Key words:

Orthogonal matrices
Rectangular Matrices with Orthonormal Columns
Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization
QR factorization

Homework

See Blackboard

