Numerical Matrix Analysis

Notes #7 — The QR-Factorization and Least Squares

Problems: Gram-Schmidt and Householder

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Spring 2020



Outline

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 - Feel the Need for Speed?
- Gram-Schmidt and Householder: Different Views of QR
 - Gram-Schmidt Triangular Orthogonalization
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Last Time (Projections; Classical Gram-Schmidt)

Orthogonal and non-orthogonal projectors

$$P = P^2, \qquad \left[P = P^*\right].$$

Projection with an orthonormal, and arbitrary, basis

$$P = \widehat{Q}\widehat{Q}^*, \qquad P = A(A^*A)^{-1}A^*.$$

Rank-one projections, rank-(m-1) complementary projections

$$P = \vec{q}\vec{q}^*, \qquad P_{\perp} = I - \vec{q}\vec{q}^*.$$

QR-Factorization, using classical Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization.





Algorithm (Classical Gram-Schmidt)

```
1: for j \in \{1, ..., n\} do
        \vec{v}_i \leftarrow \vec{a}_i
2:
          for i \in \{1, ..., j-1\} do
3:
                r_{ii} \leftarrow \vec{q}_i^* \vec{a}_i
4:
                                                                                 /* projection */
                 \vec{v}_i \leftarrow \vec{v}_i - r_{ii}\vec{q}_i
                                                                                 /* projection */
5:
     end for
6:
7: r_{ii} \leftarrow ||\vec{v}_i||_2
      \vec{q}_i \leftarrow \vec{v}_i/r_{ii}
8:
9: end for
```

Mathematically, we are done. Numerically, however, we can run into trouble due to roundoff errors.





Let $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$, $m \ge n$, be a full-rank matrix with columns $\vec{a_j}$. With orthogonal projectors P_j we can express the Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization using the formulas

$$\vec{q}_j = \frac{P_j \vec{a}_j}{\|P_j \vec{a}_j\|_2}, \quad j = 1, \dots, n$$





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$$ec{q}_j = rac{P_j \vec{a}_j}{\|P_j \vec{a}_j\|_2}, \quad j = 1, \dots, n$$

The projector P_i must be an $(m \times m)$ -matrix of rank (m - (j - 1))which projects the space \mathbb{C}^m orthogonally onto the space orthogonal to span $(\vec{q}_1, \ldots, \vec{q}_{i-1})$. $(P_1 = I)$.



-- (5/34)



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Note: $\vec{q_i} \in \text{span}(\vec{a_1}, \dots, \vec{a_i})$ and $\vec{q_i} \perp \text{span}(\vec{q_1}, \dots, \vec{q_{i-1}})$; therefore this description is equivalent to the algorithm on slide 4.



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We can represent the projector $P_j=I-\widehat{Q}_{j-1}\widehat{Q}_{j-1}^*$ where \widehat{Q}_{j-1} is the $(m\times (j-1))$ -matrix $[\vec{q}_1\ \vec{q}_2\ \dots\ \vec{q}_{j-1}]$.





Let U and V be two randomly selected 80×80 unitary matrices

$$[U,X] = qr(randn(80));$$
 $[V,X] = qr(randn(80));$





Matlab-centric Notation

Let U and V be two randomly selected 80×80 unitary matrices

Build a matrix A with singular values $2^{-1}, 2^{-2}, \dots, 2^{-80}$: (condition number — $\kappa(A) = 2^{79} \approx 10^{23}$)

$$S = diag(2.^(-1:-1:-80)); A = U * S * V';$$





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Finally we compute the QR-factorization using both classical and modified Gram-Schmidt

$$[QC,RC] = qr_cgs(A); HW#3$$
 $[QM,RM] = qr_mgs(A); HW#4$

Now, the diagonals of RM and RC contain the recovered singular values.





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Burning Question: What is the modified Gram-Schmidt method?!?





Classical Gram-Schmidt: The Bad News

Unfortunately, classical Gram-Schmidt is not numerically stable — in finite precision, the vectors \vec{q}_j may lose orthogonality...

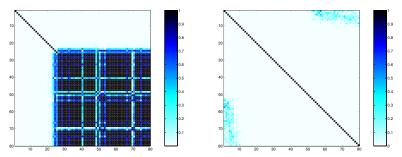


Figure: Comparing Q^*Q (which should be the identity matrix) for classical (left) and modified (right) Gram-Schmidt on a particularly hard problem where $\sigma_1=2^{-1}$ and $\sigma_{80}=2^{-80}$. We see that C-GS completely loses orthogonality after 20-some steps; whereas $\mathrm{GS}_{\mathrm{mod}}$ does not suffer this catastrophic breakdown.

Classical Gram-Schmidt: The Bad News

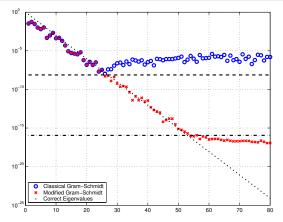


Figure: The performance of classical (blue 'o's) and modified (red 'x's) Gram-Schmidt on a particularly hard problem where $\sigma_1=\frac{1}{2}$ and $\sigma_{80}=\frac{1}{2^{80}}$. C-GS identifies the first ~ 26 singular values (down to the size $\sim \sqrt{\epsilon_{\text{mach}}}$), whereas M-CG identifies ~ 54 singular values (down to the size $\sim \epsilon_{\text{mach}}$).

For each *i* in classical Gram-Schmidt, we compute one orthogonal projection of rank (m-(i-1)):

$$\vec{v}_j = P_j \vec{a}_j$$
.

Modified Gram-Schmidt computes the same — mathematically **equivalent** quantity — by a sequence of (j-1) projections of rank (m-1):

$$P_1 = I, \qquad P_j = P_{\perp \vec{q}_{j-1}} \dots P_{\perp \vec{q}_1}, \quad j > 1,$$

where

$$P_{\perp \vec{q}_j} = I - \vec{q}_j \vec{q}_j^*, \quad j > 1,$$

thus

$$\tilde{\textbf{v}}_j = \textbf{P}_{\perp \tilde{\textbf{q}}_{j-1}} \, \ldots \, \textbf{P}_{\perp \tilde{\textbf{q}}_1} \tilde{\textbf{a}}_j.$$





Algorithm: Modified Gram-Schmidt

Algorithm (Modified Gram-Schmidt)

1: **for**
$$j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$$
 do 2: $\vec{v_i} \leftarrow \vec{a_i}$

3: end for

4: **for** $i \in \{1, ..., n\}$ **do**

5: $r_{ii} \leftarrow ||\vec{v}_i||_2$

6: $\vec{q}_i \leftarrow \vec{v}_i/r_{ii}$

7: **for** $j \in \{(i+1), \dots, n\}$ **do**

8: $r_{ij} \leftarrow \vec{q}_i^* \vec{v}_j$

9: $\vec{v}_j \leftarrow \vec{v}_j - r_{ij}\vec{q}_i$

10: end for

11: end for

The ordering of the computation is the key... in step #i, we make all the remaining columns orthogonal to column #i.

In practice, usually we let $\vec{v_i}$ overwrite $\vec{a_i}$, in order to save storage.

We can also let $\vec{q_i}$ overwrite $\vec{v_i}$ to save additional storage.



Algorithm (Modified vs. Classical Gram-Schmidt)

1: for
$$j \in \{1, ..., n\}$$
 do
2: $\vec{v_j} \leftarrow \vec{a_j}$
3: end for
4: for $i \in \{1, ..., n\}$ do
5: $r_{ii} \leftarrow ||\vec{v_i}||_2$
6: $\vec{q_i} \leftarrow \vec{v_i}/r_{ii}$
7: for $j \in \{(i+1), ..., n\}$ do
8: $r_{ij} \leftarrow \vec{q_i}^* \vec{v_j}$
9: $\vec{v_j} \leftarrow \vec{v_j} - r_{ij} \vec{q_i}$
10: end for
11: end for

1: **for**
$$j \in \{1, ..., n\}$$
 do
2: $\vec{v}_j \leftarrow \vec{a}_j$
3: **for** $i \in \{1, ..., j-1\}$ **do**
4: $r_{ij} \leftarrow \vec{q}_i^* \vec{a}_j$
5: $\vec{v}_j \leftarrow \vec{v}_j - r_{ij} \vec{q}_i$
6: **end for**
7: $r_{jj} \leftarrow ||\vec{v}_j||_2$
8: $\vec{q}_j \leftarrow \vec{v}_j / r_{jj}$
9: **end for**

Clearly, unexpected subtle differences can have a huge impact on the result.





Why is $\vec{q}_i^* \vec{v}_j \neq \vec{q}_i^* \vec{a}_j$???

In infinite precision, they are the same:

 $ec{v}_{j}$ contains only the part of $ec{a}_{j} \perp \mathrm{span}\left(ec{q}_{1},\ldots,ec{q}_{i-1}
ight)$, i.e

$$ec{a_j} = ec{v_j} + ec{a_j}^{\ddagger}, \quad ext{where } ec{a}_j^{\ddagger} \in ext{span}\left(ec{q}_1, \dots, ec{q}_{i-1}
ight)$$

in the sense that:

$$ec{q}_{i}^{*}ec{a}_{j} = ec{q}_{i}^{*}(ec{v}_{j} + ec{a}_{j}^{\dagger}) = ec{q}_{i}^{*}ec{v}_{j} + ec{q}_{j}^{*}ec{a}_{j}^{\dagger} = ec{q}_{i}^{*}ec{v}_{j}$$

However, numerically, throwing out the (infinite-precision) 0 is better than "mixing in" the numerical errors from the computation of $\vec{q}_i^* \vec{a}_i^{\dagger}$.





Counting Work: Ancient, Old, and Somewhat Recent Measures

We need some measure of how fast, or slow, an algorithm is...

In ancient times multiplications (an divisions) where a lot slower than additions (and subtractions) $T_{*,/} \gg T_{+,-}$; so one would count the number of multiplications.

Then the chip designers figured out how to make multiplications faster, so $T_{*,/} \approx T_{+,-}$, so in the **old days** one would count all operations.

Last week, processors where so fast that **memory accesses** dominated the processing time; in particular **cache-misses**, so we end up with a completely different model... (see next slide)

Yesterday, processors suddenly had multiple cores, and hence multiple memory pathways...

This morning we have to deal with GPUs with thousands of cores, FPGAs...





Counting Work: The (Single-Threaded) Memory Access Latency Model

If we have three cache-levels (L1, L2, and L3), some average hit-rate (and hence miss-rate) for each level and the time it takes to access that cache-level (the hit-cycle-time), then we end up with a measure for the average memory access latency per memory access

```
(L1_hit_rate * L1_hit_cycle_time)
+ (L1_miss_L2_hit_rate * L2_hit_cycle_time)
+ (L2_miss_L3_hit_rate * L3_hit_cycle_time)
+ (L3_miss_rate * [S]DRAM_latency)
```

If this does not scare you, please get a Ph.D. in algorithm design! Meanwhile, the rest of us will count "flops", i.e. floating-point operations (multiplications and additions)!





Counting Work: Gram-Schmidt Orthogonalization

Theorem (Computational Complexity of Modified Gram-Schmidt)

The modified Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization algorithm requires

$$\sim 2 mn^2$$
 flops

to compute the QR-factorization of an $m \times n$ matrix.

Here we have assumed that complex arithmetic is just as fast as real arithmetic. This is not true in general.

$$c_1 \cdot c_2 = [r_1 \cdot r_2 - i_1 \cdot i_2] + i [r_1 \cdot i_2 + r_2 \cdot i_1]$$

$$c_1 + c_2 = [r_1 + r_2] + i [i_1 + i_2]$$

Hence, the complex multiplication consists of 4 real multiplications and 2 real additions; and the complex addition consists of 2 real additions. Also, we need *at least* double the amount of memory accesses.



Counting Flops

```
The Outer Loop: for i \in \{1, \ldots, n\}
The Inner Loop: for j \in \{(i+1), \ldots, n\}
r_{ij} is formed by an m-inner product -- requiring m multiplications and (m-1) additions
v_j requires m multiplications and m subtractions
End Inner Loop
End Outer Loop
```

Work
$$\sim \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=i+1}^{n} 4m \sim \sum_{i=1}^{n} 4m(n-i)$$

 $\sim 4mn^{2} - 4mn^{2}/2 \sim 2mn^{2}$

Note that to *leading order* summation is "just like" integration:

$$\sum_{i=0}^{n} i^{p} \sim \frac{n^{p+1}}{p+1}$$





Exact Summation Formula

$$\sum_{i=0}^{n} i^{p} = \frac{(n+1)^{p+1}}{p+1} + \sum_{k=1}^{p} \frac{B_{k}}{p-k+1} \binom{p}{k} (n+1)^{p-k+1},$$

where B_k are Bernoulli numbers:

$$B_k(n) = \sum_{\ell=0}^k \sum_{\nu=0}^\ell (-1)^{\nu} {\ell \choose \nu} \frac{(n+\nu)^k}{\ell+1}.$$





Gram-Schmidt as Triangular Orthogonalization

Each outer loop in the modified Gram-Schmidt algorithm can be seen as a right-multiplication by a square upper triangular matrix.

E.g. Iteration#1

$$\begin{bmatrix} & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ \vec{v}_1 & \vec{v}_2 & \dots & \vec{v}_n \\ & & & & & & \\ \end{bmatrix} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{r_{11}} & -\frac{r_{12}}{r_{11}} & -\frac{r_{13}}{r_{11}} & \dots \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ \end{bmatrix}}_{R_1} = \begin{bmatrix} & & & & & \\ & & & & \\ \vec{q}_1 & \vec{v}_2^{(2)} & \dots & \vec{v}_n^{(2)} \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ \end{bmatrix}$$



Gram-Schmidt as Triangular Orthogonalization

E.g. Iteration#2

When we are done we have

$$A\underbrace{R_1R_2\dots R_n}_{\widehat{R}^{-1}}=\widehat{Q} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad A=\widehat{Q}\widehat{R}$$





This formulation of the QR-factorization shows that we can **think** of the modified Gram-Schmidt algorithm as a method of **triangular orthogonalization**.

We apply a sequence of triangular operations from the right of the matrix A in order to reduce it to a matrix \widehat{Q} with orthonormal columns.

In practice we **do not** explicitly form the matrices R_i and multiply them together.

However, this view tells us something about the structure of modified Gram-Schmidt.

Note: From now on when we say "Gram-Schmidt" we mean the modified version.





Final Comment: Gram-Schmidt Orthogonalization

Comment (Advantages and Disadvantages)

"The Gram-Schmidt process is inherently numerically unstable." While the application of the projections has an appealing geometric analogy to orthogonalization, the orthogonalization itself is prone to numerical error. A significant advantage however is the ease of implementation, which makes this a useful algorithm to use for prototyping if a pre-built linear algebra library is unavailable."

- Wikipedia, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/QR_decomposition#Advantages_and_disadvantages





Householder Triangularization

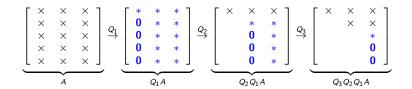
Householder triangularization is another way of computing the QR-factorization:

Gram-Schmidt	Householder
Numerically stable Useful for iterative methods	Even better stability Not as useful for iterative methods
"Triangular Orthogonalization" $AR_1R_2 \dots R_n = \widehat{Q}$	"Orthogonal Triangularization" $Q_n \dots Q_2 Q_1 A = R$





Householder Triangularization



- represents a new zero.
- represents a modified entry.
- represents an unchanged entry.

The Big Question: How do we find the unitary matrices Q_i ?!?





Householder Reflections

The matrices Q_k are of the form

$$Q_k = \left[\begin{array}{cc} I & 0 \\ 0 & F \end{array} \right],$$

where I is the $(k-1) \times (k-1)$ identity, and F is an $(m-k+1) \times (m-k+1)$ unitary matrix.

The matrix F is responsible for introducing zeros into the kth column.

Let $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{C}^{m-k+1}$ be the last (m-k+1) entries in the kth column.

$$ec{x} = \left[egin{array}{c} imes \ imes \$$





Householder Reflections: A Geometrical View

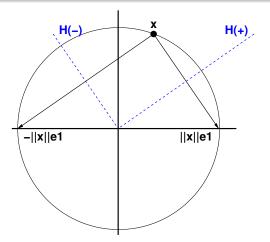


Figure: We can view the two points $\pm ||\vec{x}||_2 \vec{e_1}$ as reflections across the hyperplanes, H_{\pm} , orthogonal to $\vec{v}_{\pm} = \pm ||\vec{x}||_2 \vec{e}_1 - \vec{x}$.





Householder Reflections: As Projectors

We now use our knowledge of projectors and note that for any $\vec{y} \in \mathbb{C}^m$, the vector $P\vec{y}$ defined by

$$P\vec{y} = \left[I - \frac{\vec{v}\vec{v}^*}{\vec{v}^*\vec{v}}\right]\vec{y} = \vec{y} - \vec{v}\left[\frac{\vec{v}^*\vec{y}}{\vec{v}^*\vec{v}}\right],$$

is the orthogonal projection of \vec{y} onto the space H.

However, in order to **reflect across** the space H we must move the point twice as far, i.e.

$$F\vec{y} = \left[I - \frac{2\vec{v}\vec{v}^*}{\vec{v}^*\vec{v}}\right]\vec{y} = \vec{y} - 2\vec{v}\left[\frac{\vec{v}^*\vec{y}}{\vec{v}^*\vec{v}}\right].$$





Householder Reflections: Which One?!?

In the real case we have two possibilities, i.e.

$$\vec{v}_{\pm} = \pm \|\vec{x}\|_2 \vec{e}_1 - \vec{x}, \quad \Rightarrow \quad F_{\pm} = I - 2 \frac{\vec{v}_{\pm} \vec{v}_{\pm}^*}{\vec{v}_{+}^* \vec{v}_{\pm}}.$$

Mathematically, both choices give us an algorithm which produces a triangularization of A. However, from a numerical point of view, the choice which **moves** \vec{x} **the farthest** is optimal.





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If \vec{x} and $||\vec{x}||_2 \vec{e_1}$ are too close, then the vector $\vec{v} = ||\vec{x}||_2 \vec{e_1} - \vec{x}$ used in the reflection operation is the difference between two quantities that are almost the same — catastrophic cancellation may occur.

Therefore, we select

$$\tilde{\mathbf{v}} = -\text{sign}(\mathbf{x}_1) \|\tilde{\mathbf{x}}\|\tilde{\mathbf{e}}_1 - \tilde{\mathbf{x}} \stackrel{*}{\equiv} \text{sign}(\mathbf{x}_1) \|\tilde{\mathbf{x}}\|\tilde{\mathbf{e}}_1 + \tilde{\mathbf{x}}.$$

(*) We can take out the minus sign since \vec{v} always appears "squared" in the reflector.



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Algorithm: Householder QR-Factorization

Algorithm (Householder QR-Factorization)

- 1: **for** $k \in \{1, ..., n\}$ **do**
- $\vec{x} \leftarrow A(k:m,k)$ 2:
- $\vec{v}_k \leftarrow \operatorname{sign}(x_1) \|\vec{x}\|_2 \vec{e}_1 + \vec{x}$ 3:
- 4: $\vec{\mathbf{v}}_k \leftarrow \vec{\mathbf{v}}_k / ||\vec{\mathbf{v}}_k||_2$
- $A(\mathtt{k}:\mathtt{m},\mathtt{k}:\mathtt{n}) \leftarrow A(\mathtt{k}:\mathtt{m},\mathtt{k}:\mathtt{n}) 2\vec{v}_k(\vec{v}_k^*A(\mathtt{k}:\mathtt{m},\mathtt{k}:\mathtt{n}))$ 5:
- 6: end for
- A(k:m,k)Denotes the kth thru mth rows, in the kth column of A — a vector quantity.
- A(k:m,k:n) Denotes the kth thru mth rows, in the kth thru nth columns of A — a matrix quantity.



At the completion of the Householder QR-factorization, the modified matrix A contains R (of the full QR-factorization), but Q is nowhere to be found.

Often, we only need Q implicitly, as in the action of Q on something. *I.e.* if we need $Q^*\vec{b}$, we can add the line

$$\vec{b}(\mathtt{k}:\mathtt{m}) \leftarrow \vec{b}(\mathtt{k}:\mathtt{m}) - 2\vec{v}_k(\vec{v}_k^*\vec{b}(\mathtt{k}:\mathtt{m}))$$

to the loop; or store the generated vectors \vec{v}_k , and a posteriori compute

for
$$k \in \{1, ..., n\}$$
 do $\vec{b}(\mathbf{k}:\mathbf{m}) \leftarrow \vec{b}(\mathbf{k}:\mathbf{m}) - 2\vec{v}_k(\vec{v}_k^*\vec{b}(\mathbf{k}:\mathbf{m}))$ end for





Householder-Qiv. Where is the Q !!!

If we need $Q\vec{x}$, then we must store the generated vectors \vec{v}_k , and compute

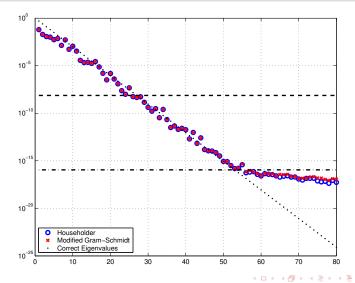
for
$$k \in \{n, ..., 1\}$$
 do $\vec{x}(\mathtt{k}:\mathtt{m}) \leftarrow \vec{x}(\mathtt{k}:\mathtt{m}) - 2\vec{v}_k(\vec{v}_k^*\vec{x}(\mathtt{k}:\mathtt{m}))$ end for

We can also use this algorithm to explicitly generate Q

$$\begin{array}{l} Q \leftarrow I_{n\times n} \\ \text{for } k \in \{n,\dots,1\} \text{ do} \\ Q(\mathtt{k}:\mathtt{m},\mathtt{k}:\mathtt{n}) \leftarrow Q(\mathtt{k}:\mathtt{m},\mathtt{k}:\mathtt{n}) - 2\vec{v}_k(\vec{v}_k^*Q(\mathtt{k}:\mathtt{m},\mathtt{k}:\mathtt{n})) \\ \text{end for} \end{array}$$



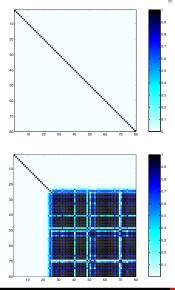








Q-Orthogonality: Householder, Modified-GS, and Classical-GS



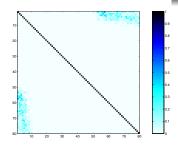


Figure: Entries of Q^*Q for Householder (top-left), $\mathsf{GS}_{\mathsf{mod}}$ (top-right) and classical (left) Gram-Schmidt.





The dominating work is done in the operation

$$A(\mathtt{k}:\mathtt{m},\mathtt{k}:\mathtt{n}) \leftarrow A(\mathtt{k}:\mathtt{m},\mathtt{k}:\mathtt{n}) - 2\vec{v}_k(\vec{v}_k^*A(\mathtt{k}:\mathtt{m},\mathtt{k}:\mathtt{n}))$$

Each entry in A(k:m,k:n) is "touched" by 4 flops per iteration (2 from the inner product, 1 scalar multiplication, and 1 subtraction).

The size of the sub-matrix A(k:m,k:n) is $(m-k+1)\times(n-k+1)$, so we get

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n} (m-k+1)(n-k+1) \sim \sum_{k=1}^{n} (m-k)(n-k) \sim \sum_{k=1}^{n} (mn+k^2-k(m+n))$$

$$\sim mn^2 + \frac{n^3}{3} - \frac{n^2}{2}(m+n) \sim \frac{mn^2}{2} - \frac{n^3}{6}$$

Hence, the work of Householder-QR is $\sim 2mn^2 - \frac{2n^3}{2}$ flops.





Final Comment: Householder Reflections

Comment (Advantages and Disadvantages)

"The use of Householder transformations is inherently the most simple of the numerically stable QR decomposition algorithms due to the use of reflections as the mechanism for producing zeroes in the R matrix. However, the Householder reflection algorithm is bandwidth heavy and not parallelizable, as every reflection that produces a new zero element changes the entirety of both Q and R matrices."

— Wikipedia. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/QR_decomposition#Advantages_and_disadvantages_2



