

Shifted QR Algorithm for Eigenvalue Problems

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Outline

- Hessenberg QR algorithm
- Shifted QR algorithm
- Wilkinson shift
- Tridiagonal QR with Wilkinson shift

Hessenberg QR algorithm

A QR step applied to a singular Hessenberg matrix A may not preserve the Hessenberg structure. Consider

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_A = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_Q \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_R$$
$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{A_1} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{R_1} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{Q_1}.$$

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Note that A is singular and Hessenberg but A_1 is not Hessenberg. The QR factorization of a singular matrix is not unique. Among many QR factorization, some may not preserve the Hessenberg structure when they are used in a QR step. **However, one can choose a QR factorization that preserves the Hessenberg structure.**

Hessenberg QR algorithm

Theorem Let A be a Hessenberg matrix. If a QR factorization $A = QR$ is computed using **Givens rotations** then $A_1 := RQ$ is a Hessenberg matrix. Further, a QR step applied to A requires $8n^2$ flops.

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Proof: Since A is a Hessenberg matrix, it has only $n - 1$ nonzero subdiagonal entries at $(2, 1), (3, 2), \dots, (n, n - 1)$ positions. We can transform A to upper triangular form by using $n - 1$ Givens rotations to create zeros at $(2, 1), (3, 2), \dots, (n, n - 1)$ entries of A .

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Let Q_1 be a rotation in the x_1 - x_2 plane such that $Q_1^* A$ has a zero at the $(2, 1)$ entry. The transformation $A \mapsto Q_1^* A$ alters only the first and second rows of A and costs $8n$ flops.

Hessenberg QR algorithm

Next, let Q_2 be a rotation in the x_2 - x_3 plane such that $Q_2^* Q_1^* A$ has a zero at $(3, 2)$ entry. The transformation $Q_1^* A \mapsto Q_2^* Q_1^* A$ alters only the second and third rows of $Q_1^* A$ and does not affect the zero at $(2, 1)$ entry of $Q_1^* A$.

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Next, let Q_3 be a rotation in the x_3 - x_4 plane such that $Q_3^* Q_2^* Q_1^* A$ has a zero in the $(4, 3)$ position. Since Q_3 alters only the third and fourth rows, $Q_3^* Q_2^* Q_1^* A$ has zeros at $(2, 1)$, $(3, 2)$ and $(4, 3)$ entries.

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Continuing in this manner, we have an upper triangular matrix

$$R = Q_{n-1}^* Q_{n-2}^* \cdots Q_1^* A \implies A = \underbrace{Q_1 Q_2 \cdots Q_{n-1}}_Q R = QR.$$

The QR factorization requires $\sum_{k=1}^{n-1} 8(n-k) \sim 4n^2$ flops.

Hessenberg QR algorithm

Now, we compute $A_1 = RQ = RQ_1Q_2 \cdots Q_{n-1}$. The transformation $R \mapsto RQ_1$ alters only the first and second columns of R by their linear combinations and creates a nonzero entry at $(2, 1)$ entry of RQ_1 .

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Proper Hessenberg matrix

If A is symmetric and tridiagonal then a QR step using rotations applied to A **preserves the tridiagonal form and requires only $12n$ flops**. Indeed, $A = QR$ requires $6n$ flops and $A_1 = RQ$ requires $6n$ flops.

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Definition: A Hessenberg matrix A is said to be **proper Hessenberg** if $A(j+1, j) \neq 0$ for $j = 1 : n - 1$. In other words, all sub-diagonal entries of A are nonzero.

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If A is Hessenberg and if $A(j+1, j) = 0$ then A is block upper triangular and of the form

$$A = \left[\begin{array}{c|c} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ \hline 0 & A_{22} \end{array} \right]$$

where $A_{11} \in \mathbb{C}^{j \times j}$ and $A_{22} \in \mathbb{C}^{(n-j) \times (n-j)}$ are Hessenberg matrices.

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Note that $\Lambda(A) = \Lambda(A_{11}) \cup \Lambda(A_{22})$. Hence eigenvalues of A_{11} and A_{22} can be computed independently. Therefore, we assume that A is proper Hessenberg. The fact is that proper Hessenberg form is also important for convergence of QR algorithm.

Proper Hessenberg QR Algorithm

Theorem Let A be proper Hessenberg and singular. Consider a QR step $A = QR$ and $A_1 := RQ$. Then

$$A_1 = \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} & & & * \\ & \hat{A} & & \vdots \\ & & & * \\ \hline 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right],$$

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Observation: If A is proper Hessenberg and singular then QR algorithm takes just one QR step to compute the zero eigenvalue.

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Observation: If A is proper Hessenberg and singular then QR algorithm takes just one QR step to compute the zero eigenvalue. This suggests a shifting strategy: If $A - \mu I$ is nearly singular then QR algorithm applied to $A - \mu I$ can result in faster convergence.

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Let $\mu_{m-1} \in \mathbb{C}$. Compute a QR factorization $A_{m-1} - \mu_{m-1}I = Q_m R_m$. Then

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This yields the **shifted QR algorithm**

Choose shift $\mu_{m-1} \in \mathbb{C}$,

Compute QR factorization $A_{m-1} - \mu_{m-1}I = Q_m R_m$,

Perform similarity transformation $A_m := R_m Q_m + \mu_{m-1}I$.

The shifted QR algorithm has potential to achieve a fast convergence.

Deflation

Theorem Let A_{m-1} be proper Hessenberg. Let λ be an eigenvalue of A . Consider a QR step $A_{m-1} - \lambda I = Q_m R_m$ and $A_m := R_m Q_m + \lambda I$. Then

$$A_m = \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} & & & * \\ & \hat{A}_m & & \vdots \\ & & & * \\ \hline 0 & \cdots & 0 & \lambda \end{array} \right],$$

where \hat{A}_m is Hessenberg. Set $U_m := Q_1 Q_2 \cdots Q_m$ and $u := U_m e_n$. Then $A_m = U_m^* A U_m$ and (λ, u) is a left eigenpair of A , that is, $u^* A = \lambda u^*$.

Deflation

Theorem Let A_{m-1} be proper Hessenberg. Let λ be an eigenvalue of A . Consider a QR step $A_{m-1} - \lambda I = Q_m R_m$ and $A_m := R_m Q_m + \lambda I$. Then

$$A_m = \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} & & & * \\ & \hat{A}_m & & \vdots \\ & & & * \\ \hline 0 & \cdots & 0 & \lambda \end{array} \right],$$

where \hat{A}_m is Hessenberg. Set $U_m := Q_1 Q_2 \cdots Q_m$ and $u := U_m e_n$. Then $A_m = U_m^* A U_m$ and (λ, u) is a left eigenpair of A , that is, $u^* A = \lambda u^*$.

???? HOW? \Rightarrow As A_{m-1} will also have λ as eigenvalue, bcoz of similarity transformation.

Proof. Note that $\text{rank}(A_{m-1} - \lambda I) < n$. Since $A_{m-1} - \lambda I$ is proper Hessenberg, the first $n-1$ columns of $A_{m-1} - \lambda I$ are linearly independent. Consequently, $\text{rank}(A_{m-1} - \lambda I) = n-1$. Now $A_{m-1} - \lambda I = Q_m R_m \implies \text{rank}(R_m) = n-1$.

Deflation

Since R_m is upper triangular and the first $n - 1$ columns of R_m are linearly independent, the last row of R_m must be a zero row, that is,

$$R_m = \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} & & & * \\ & \hat{R}_m & & \vdots \\ & & & * \\ \hline 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right].$$

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Note that $A_m = Q_m^* A_{m-1} Q_m = Q_m^* Q_{m-1}^* A_{m-2} Q_{m-1} Q_m = U_m^* A U_m$ and that $e_n^* A_m = \lambda e_n^* \implies u^* A = \lambda u^*$. ■

Observation

- Shifted QR algorithm applied to a proper Hessenberg matrix takes just one iteration to converge when an eigenvalue of the matrix is chosen as the shift. This indicates that a good shifting strategy can accelerate convergence of the QR algorithm.

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- In practice, we set $a_{nn-1}^{(m)} = 0$ when $|a_{nn-1}^{(m)}| \leq \mathbf{u}(|a_{nn}^{(m)}| + |a_{n-1,n-1}^{(m)}|)$, where \mathbf{u} is the unit roundoff. Hence we can delete the last row and last column of A_m and continue shifted QR algorithm with $(n-1) \times (n-1)$ matrix \hat{A}_m . This process is called **deflation**.

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- Deflation progressively leads to smaller and smaller problem until all the eigenvalues of A are computed.

Shifted Hessenberg QR algorithm

Shifted QR algorithm converges locally quadratically for Hessenberg matrices and the convergence is cubic for Hermitian tridiagonal matrices.

Algorithm. (Shifted QR algorithm)

Input: An $n \times n$ Hessenberg matrix A

Output: Upper triangular matrix $T = Q^* A Q$

$A_0 := A$

for $m = 1, 2, \dots$

 Choose a shift μ_{m-1}

$A_{m-1} - \mu_{m-1} I = Q_m R_m$ % QR factorization

$A_m := R_m Q_m + \mu_{m-1} I$ % similarity transform $Q_m^* A_{m-1} Q_m$

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The aim of the shifted QR algorithm is to choose the shift parameters that speed up convergence. [How to choose a good shift?](#)

Rayleigh quotient shift

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The Rayleigh quotient shift is $\mu = 2$, which is the mid point between the eigenvalues. Then

$$A - 2I = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{Q_1} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{R_1}$$

shows that $Q_1 := A - 2I$ and $R_1 := I$. Thus $A_1 = R_1 Q_1 + 2I = A$. This shows that the QR step leaves the matrix A unchanged.

Wilkinson shift

Rayleigh quotient shift fails occasionally. By contrast, Wilkinson shift fails rarely. The **Wilkinson shift** is that eigenvalue of the submatrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{n-1,n-1}^{(m-1)} & a_{n-1,n}^{(m-1)} \\ a_{n,n-1}^{(m-1)} & a_{nn}^{(m-1)} \end{bmatrix}$$

of A_{m-1} which is closest to $a_{nn}^{(m-1)}$. In the case of complex conjugate eigenvalues, use both the eigenvalues as shifts one after another.

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For real symmetric tridiagonal matrices, the shifted QR algorithm with Wilkinson shift always converges and the rate of convergence is usually cubic or better. However, for general matrices there still remain some very special cases for which the Wilkinson shift fails.

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Wilkinson shift strategy works very well for the vast majority of matrices. On an average, the eigenvalues start to emerge after a few QR steps. For Hermitian matrices the situation is even better - about two to three QR steps are needed per eigenvalue.

Wilkinson shift

For real symmetric tridiagonal matrices the Wilkinson shift has a very elegant formula. Suppose that A is real symmetric and tridiagonal

$$A := \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & & \\ b_1 & a_2 & \ddots & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & b_{n-1} \\ & & b_{n-1} & a_n \end{bmatrix}.$$

For Wilkinson shift we choose the eigenvalues of $\begin{bmatrix} a_{n-1} & b_{n-1} \\ b_{n-1} & a_n \end{bmatrix}$ that is closest to a_n .

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For Wilkinson shift we choose the eigenvalues of $\begin{bmatrix} a_{n-1} & b_{n-1} \\ b_{n-1} & a_n \end{bmatrix}$ that is closest to a_n . The Wilkinson shift is given by

$$\mu := a_n + \delta - \text{sign}(\delta) \sqrt{\delta^2 + b_{n-1}^2}, \text{ where } \delta := \frac{a_{n-1} - a_n}{2}.$$

This formula is a numerically stable method for computing the Wilkinson shift.

Tridiagonal shifted QR algorithm

The final algorithm for calculating eigenvalues of a real symmetric tridiagonal matrix is given below.

Algorithm. (Tridiagonal shifted QR algorithm)

Input: An $n \times n$ real symmetric tridiagonal matrix A

Output: A diagonal matrix $D = Q^* A Q$

```
u: = eps/2
for k = n:-1:1
    while |A(k, k-1)| > u(|A(k-1, k-1) + A(k, k)|)
         $\delta := (A(k-1, k-1) - A(k, k))/2$ 
         $\mu := A(k, k) + \delta - \text{sign}(\delta) \sqrt{\delta^2 + |A(k, k-1)|^2}$ 
         $A(1:k, 1:k) - \mu I = QR$ 
         $A(1:k, 1:k) := RQ + \mu I$ 
    end
    A(k, k-1): = 0      % accept A(k, k) as eigenvalue
    A(k-1, k): = 0      % accept A(k, k) as eigenvalue
end
```

Cubic convergence of tridiagonal QR algorithm

Let A_m be the result of m steps of QR iteration with Wilkinson shift applied to A . The cubic rate of convergence \Rightarrow the subdiagonal entry $b_{n-1}^{(m)}$ of A_m converges to zero cubically, that is, $|b_{n-1}^{(m)}| = \mathcal{O}|b_{n-1}^{(m-1)}|^3$.

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Example: Let $A := \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$. The eigenvalues are given by

$\Lambda(A) := \{-3.4142, -2.0000, -0.58579\}$. The QR algorithm with Wilkinson shift takes 5 iterations to compute the eigenvalue $\lambda := -0.58579$.

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The cubic rate of convergence of $b_{n-1}^{(m)}$ to zero and the convergence of $a_n^{(m)}$ to λ as the iteration progresses is evident from Table 1.

Example

$A(n, n-1)$	$A(n, n)$	$ A(n, n) - \lambda_{\max} $
1.0000e+00	-2.0000e+00	-1.4142e+00
7.0711e-01	-1.0000e+00	-4.1421e-01
3.0397e-02	-5.8642e-01	-6.2863e-04
4.4798e-07	-5.8579e-01	-1.4044e-13
4.4225e-22	-5.8579e-01	0

Table 1: Convergence rate

Example

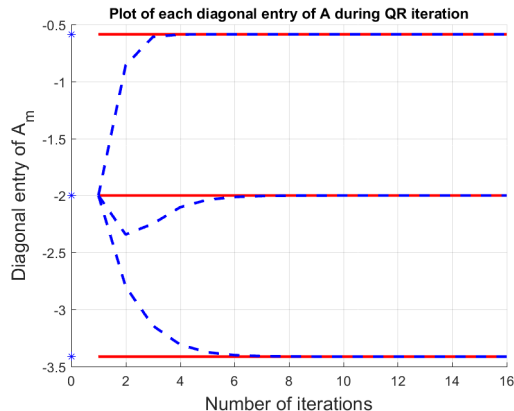
$A(n,n-1)$	$A(n,n)$	$ A(n,n)-\lambda_{\text{am}} $
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4.4225e-22	-5.8579e-01	0

Table 1: Convergence rate

After 5 steps of QR iteration, the matrix A_5 is given by

$$A_5 := \begin{bmatrix} -3.4142 & 1.59 \times 10^{-3} & 0 \\ 1.59 \times 10^{-3} & -2.0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -0.58579 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Example



The blue stars are the eigenvalues of A and the red lines are the plots of the eigenvalues of A against the iteration numbers. The dotted curves are the plots of the diagonal entries of A_m (QR algorithm without shift).