

## Section 5.5. Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization

Take two vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$   $x_1, x_2$

$$(e.g. \quad x_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad x_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix})$$

they span a plane in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  (dim 2)

Goal find an orthonormal basis  $\{u_1, u_2\}$  of the same plane so that

$$\text{span}\{u_1\} = \text{span}\{x_1\}$$

$$\text{span}\{u_1, u_2\} = \text{span}\{x_1, x_2\}$$

First take  $u_1 = \frac{x_1}{\|x_1\|}$  since  $\|u_1\| = \frac{1}{\|x_1\|} \|x_1\| = 1$   
 i.e. normalize  $x_1$ .

then take

$$w_2 = x_2 - \langle x_2, u_1 \rangle u_1 \quad (\text{and then normalize } w_2)$$

$$\text{Since } \langle w_2, u_1 \rangle = \langle x_2, u_1 \rangle - \langle x_2, u_1 \rangle \underbrace{\langle u_1, u_1 \rangle}_{=1} = 0$$

$$\langle u_1, u_1 \rangle = \|u_1\|^2$$

$$u_2 = \frac{w_2}{\|w_2\|}$$

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For the example  $\|x_1\| = \sqrt{1^2 + 1^2} = \sqrt{2}$

$$u_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\langle x_2, u_1 \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (1+1+0) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$w_2 = x_2 - \langle x_2, u_1 \rangle u_1$$

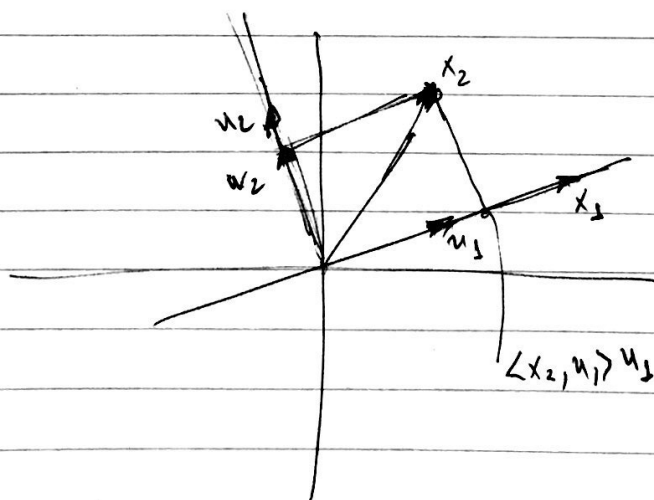
$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} - \frac{2}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

check.  $\langle w_2, u_1 \rangle = 0$

$$\|w_2\| = \sqrt{0^2 + 0^2 + 2^2} = 2$$

$$u_2 = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\} = \text{span} \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$



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More generally,

let  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$  be a basis of an  $n$ -dimensional subspace  $S$  of  $V$  (with an inner product)

then, we can obtain an orthonormal basis  $\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n\}$  of  $S$

such that  $\text{span}\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n\} = \text{span}\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$   
 $k=0, \dots, n$

with the Gram-Schmidt process:

$$u_1 = \frac{x_1}{\|x_1\|}$$

For  $k=1, \dots, n-1$

$$w_{k+1} = x_{k+1} - \sum_{i=1}^k \langle x_{k+1}, u_i \rangle u_i$$

$$u_{k+1} = \frac{w_{k+1}}{\|w_{k+1}\|}$$

Clearly  $\|u_i\| = 1 \quad i=1, \dots, n$

Clearly  $\text{span}\{u_1, \dots, u_n\} = \text{span}\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$

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What about orthogonality.

By induction.

~~We saw~~

We saw  $\langle w_2, u_1 \rangle = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \langle u_2, u_1 \rangle = 0$$

Assume  $\langle u_j, u_i \rangle = 0 \quad j \neq i, j=1, \dots, k$

We want to show  $\langle w_{k+1}, u_j \rangle = 0 \quad j=1, \dots, k$

It suffices to show  $\langle w_{k+1}, u_j \rangle = 0$

Compute

$$\langle w_{k+1}, u_j \rangle = \langle x_{k+1}, u_j \rangle - \sum_{i=1}^k \langle x_{k+1}, u_i \rangle \langle u_i, u_j \rangle$$

since  $\langle u_i, u_j \rangle = 0 \quad j \neq i$

we are left with

$$\langle w_{k+1}, u_j \rangle = \langle x_{k+1}, u_j \rangle - \langle x_{k+1}, u_j \rangle \langle u_j, u_j \rangle$$

again  $\langle u_j, u_j \rangle = \|u_j\|^2 = 1$

so  $\langle w_{k+1}, u_j \rangle = 0 \quad \text{i.e.} \quad w_{k+1} \perp u_j \quad j=1, \dots, k$

q.e.d

Example  $x_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$   $x_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$   $x_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

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We obtained already  $u_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$   $u_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$\langle x_3, u_1 \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$   $\langle x_3, u_2 \rangle = 1$

$w_3 = x_3 - \langle x_3, u_1 \rangle u_1 - \langle x_3, u_2 \rangle u_2$

$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} - 1 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 \\ -1/2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

$\|w_3\| = \sqrt{\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4}} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}$

$u_3 = \sqrt{2} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 \\ -1/2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \sqrt{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$

$u_3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

check.  $\langle u_3, u_1 \rangle = 0$

$\langle u_3, u_2 \rangle = 0$

Let us rephrase the question: Given an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$ , find  $Q$   $n \times n$  such that its columns are orthonormal (ie.  $Q^T Q = I$ , ie.  $Q$  orthogonal matrix) such that  $\text{span}\{q_1, q_2, \dots, q_k\} = \text{span}\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k\}$  where  $Q = [q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n]$ ,  $A = [a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n]$

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Same answer: Gram-Schmidt.

But now observe that

$$A = Q \cdot R, \text{ where } R \text{ is upper triangular.}$$

with positive diagonals

$$A = Q \cdot R$$

$$a_1 = q_1 \cdot \|a_1\|$$

$$(q_1 = a_1 / \|a_1\|)$$

$$a_2 = \langle a_2, q_1 \rangle q_1 + \|w_2\| q_2$$

$$w_2 = \|w_2\| q_2 = a_2 - \langle a_2, q_1 \rangle q_1$$

$$R_{ij} = \langle a_j, q_i \rangle \quad i < j$$

$$R_{ii} = \|w_i\|$$

In example  $R_{11} = \|x_1\| = \sqrt{2}$

$$R_{12} = \langle x_2, u_1 \rangle = \frac{2}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$R_{22} = \|w_2\| = 2$$

$$R_{13} = \langle x_3, u_1 \rangle = 1/\sqrt{2}$$

$$R_{23} = \langle x_3, u_2 \rangle = 1$$

$$R_{33} = \|w_3\| = 1/\sqrt{2}$$

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{2} & 2/\sqrt{2} & 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

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check  $A = Q \cdot R$ 

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} & 0 & 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} & 0 & -1/\sqrt{2} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{2} & 2/\sqrt{2} & 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

A

Q

R

lemma  $A \text{ } n \times n, \quad A = QR$  $Q^T Q = I$ .  $R$   $\nabla$  upper triag with positive diagonals.QR Factorization is unique.Proof. let  $A = Q_1 R_1 = Q_2 R_2$ 

$$Q_1^{-1} = Q_1^T \quad R_1 = Q_1^T Q_2 R_2$$

$$R_1 R_2^{-1} = Q_1^T Q_2$$

Note first. product of orthogonal matrix is orthogonal.  $U^T U = I \quad V^T V = I$ 

$$(UV)^T UV = V^T U^T UV = V^T I V = I.$$

so. left hand side  $\nabla$ , r.h.s. orthonormal columns

$$\Rightarrow \nabla = I. \Rightarrow Q_1 = Q_2 \quad R_1 = R_2$$

(triangular, orthonormal  $\Rightarrow I$ )

qed

Example

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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$$q_1 = a_1 / \|a_1\| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{since } \|a_1\| = \sqrt{1+2^2} = \sqrt{5}$$

$$\langle a_2, q_1 \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} (1+2) = \frac{3}{\sqrt{5}}$$

$$w_2 = a_2 - \langle a_2, q_1 \rangle q_1$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} - \frac{3}{\sqrt{5}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} - \frac{3}{5} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{5} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

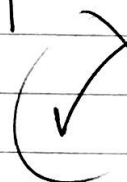
$$\|w_2\| = \frac{1}{5} \cdot \sqrt{4+1} = \frac{\sqrt{5}}{5} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}$$

$$q_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A = QR = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{5} & 3/\sqrt{5} \\ 0 & 1/\sqrt{5} \end{pmatrix}$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{1.5cm}}_Q$

$R$



$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \cdot \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \right) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{1cm}}_{\substack{\uparrow \\ = \frac{1}{5}}} Q$



We have now two factorizations

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$$A = LU \quad (\text{assuming no pivoting})$$

$$A = QR$$

Can use the latter also to solve  $AX = b$

Indeed  $QRX = b$

$$RX = Q^T b$$

$$\nabla I = I \quad \text{back substitution}$$

$$RX = Q^T b \quad \text{same cost as} \quad UX = y$$

but computationally more stable.

$$\text{Solve } \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$A X = b$$

$$Q^T b = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & -1 \end{vmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \end{vmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{vmatrix} -1 \\ -2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$UX = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{vmatrix} 5 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{vmatrix} -1 \\ -2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$x_2 = -2$$

$$x_1 = (-1 - 3(-2))/5 = (1+6)/5 = 1$$

$$x = \begin{vmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{vmatrix} \quad \text{check } \checkmark$$