

# 4.MatrixInversion

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## 1 STAT 207: Linear Regression and Matrix Inversion

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- NAS Chapter 7

### 1.1 Linear Regressions

- Linear regression is the most commonly applied procedure in statistics.
- Solving linear least squares problems quickly and reliably

**Four methods** for solving linear least squares problems:

- Sweeping, uses the symmetry of matrices and is conceptual simple
- Cholesky decomposition, a lower triangular square root of a positive definite matrix
- Modified Gram-Schmidt procedure, numerically more stable
- Orthogonalization by Householder reflections

#### 1.1.1 The Sweep Operator

The popular statistical software SAS uses sweep operator for linear regression and matrix inversion.

**Motivation:**

A random vector  $X \in \mathbb{R}^p$  with mean vector  $\mu$ , covariance matrix  $\Sigma$ , and density

$$(2\pi)^{-p/2} |\Sigma|^{-1/2} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x-\mu)^T \Sigma^{-1} (x-\mu)}$$

is said to follow a multivariate normal distribution.

The sweep operator permits straightforward calculation of the quadratic form  $(x - \mu)^T \Sigma^{-1} (x - \mu)$  and the determinant of  $\Sigma$ . If we partition  $X$  and its mean and covariance so that

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} Y \\ Z \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mu = \begin{bmatrix} \mu_Y \\ \mu_Z \end{bmatrix}, \quad \Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_Y & \Sigma_{YZ} \\ \Sigma_{ZY} & \Sigma_Z \end{bmatrix},$$

then conditional on the event  $Y = y$ , the subvector  $Z$  follows a multivariate normal density with conditional mean and variance

$$\begin{aligned} E(Z|Y = y) &= \mu_Z + \Sigma_{ZY} \Sigma_Y^{-1} (y - \mu_Y), \\ \text{Var}(Z|Y = y) &= \Sigma_Z - \Sigma_{ZY} \Sigma_Y^{-1} \Sigma_{YZ}. \end{aligned}$$

These quantities and the conditional density of  $Z$  given  $Y = y$  can all be easily evaluated via the sweep operator.

**Definition:**

Suppose  $A$  is an  $m \times m$  symmetric matrix.

**Sweep** on the  $k$ th diagonal entry  $a_{kk} \neq 0$  of  $A$  yields a new symmetric matrix  $\hat{A} = (\hat{a}_{ij})$  with entries

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{a}_{kk} &= -\frac{1}{a_{kk}} \\ \hat{a}_{ik} &= \frac{a_{ik}}{a_{kk}}, \quad i \neq k \\ \hat{a}_{kj} &= \frac{a_{kj}}{a_{kk}}, \quad j \neq k \\ \hat{a}_{ij} &= a_{ij} - \frac{a_{ik}a_{kj}}{a_{kk}}, \quad i \neq k, j \neq k.\end{aligned}$$

**Inverse sweep** sends  $A$  to  $\check{A} = (\check{a}_{ij})$  with entries

$$\begin{aligned}\check{a}_{kk} &= -\frac{1}{a_{kk}} \\ \check{a}_{ik} &= -\frac{a_{ik}}{a_{kk}}, \quad i \neq k \\ \check{a}_{kj} &= -\frac{a_{kj}}{a_{kk}}, \quad j \neq k \\ \check{a}_{ij} &= a_{ij} - \frac{a_{ik}a_{kj}}{a_{kk}}, \quad i \neq k, j \neq k.\end{aligned}$$

- $\check{\check{A}} = A$
- Successively sweeping all diagonal entries of  $A$  yields  $-A^{-1}$
- Exercise: Invert the  $2 \times 2$  matrix using the sweep operator:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

**Block form of sweep:**

Let the symmetric matrix  $A$  be partitioned as

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

If possible, sweeping on the diagonal entries of  $A_{11}$  yields

$$\hat{A} = \begin{pmatrix} -A_{11}^{-1} & A_{11}^{-1}A_{12} \\ A_{21}A_{11}^{-1} & A_{22} - A_{21}A_{11}^{-1}A_{12} \end{pmatrix}$$

**NAS Proposition 7.5.3**

- A symmetric matrix  $A$  is positive definite if and only if each diagonal entry can be swept in succession and is positive until it is swept.
- When a diagonal entry of a positive definite matrix  $A$  is swept, it becomes negative and remains negative thereafter.
- Furthermore, taking the product of the diagonal entries just before each is swept yields the determinant of  $A$ .

$$\det A = \det(A_{11}) \det(A_{22} - A_{21}A_{11}^{-1}A_{12})$$

**Applications of Sweeping** In **linear regression**, start with the matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} X^T X & X^T y \\ y^T X & y^T y \end{bmatrix}$$

and sweep on the diagonal entries of  $X^T X$ . Then the basic theoretical ingredients

$$\begin{aligned} & \begin{bmatrix} -(X^T X)^{-1} & (X^T X)^{-1} X^T y \\ y^T X (X^T X)^{-1} & y^T y - y^T X (X^T X)^{-1} X^T y \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{\sigma^2} \text{Var}(\hat{\beta}) & \hat{\beta} \\ \hat{\beta}^T & \|y - \hat{y}\|_2^2 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

magically emerge.

**Multivariate normal:** perform sweeping on the diagonal entries of  $\Sigma$  for the matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} \Sigma & x - \mu \\ x^T - \mu^T & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

we get the quadratic form  $-(x - \mu)^T \Sigma^{-1} (x - \mu)$  in the lower-right block of the swept matrix.

- In the process we can also accumulate  $\det \Sigma$ .
- To avoid underflows and overflows, it is better to compute  $\ln \det \Sigma$  by summing the logarithms of the diagonal entries as we sweep on them.

**Conditional mean and variance:** assume  $X = (Y^T, Z^T)^T$ , and sweep on the upper-left block of

$$\begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_Y & \Sigma_{YZ} & \mu_Y - y \\ \Sigma_{ZY} & \Sigma_Z & \mu_Z \\ (\mu_Y - y)^T & \mu_Z^T & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

we get

$$\begin{aligned} E(Z|Y = y) &= \mu_Z + \Sigma_{ZY} \Sigma_Y^{-1} (y - \mu_Y), \\ \text{Var}(Z|Y = y) &= \Sigma_Z - \Sigma_{ZY} \Sigma_Y^{-1} \Sigma_{YZ}. \end{aligned}$$

**Exercise:** implement the sweep operator, in python, it should start with:

```
[1]: def sweep(A, k):  
  
    return A_hat
```

### 1.1.2 Cholesky Decompositions

André-Louis Cholesky was a French military officer, geodesist, and mathematician.



From a colleague:

The structure should be exploited whenever solving a problem.

Common structures include: symmetry, positive (semi)definiteness, sparsity, low rank, ...

Let  $A$  be an  $m \times m$  positive definite matrix. The Cholesky decomposition  $L$  of  $A$  is a lower-triangular matrix with positive diagonal entries that serves as an asymmetric square root of  $A$ .

How to show such  $L$  **exists and is unique**? By induction.

For  $m > 1$ , the square root condition  $A = LL^T$  can be written as

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a^T \\ a & A_{22} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \ell_{11} & 0^T \\ \ell & L_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \ell_{11} & \ell^T \\ 0 & L_{22}^T \end{pmatrix},$$

which should satisfy

$$\begin{aligned} a_{11} &= \ell_{11}^2 \\ a &= \ell_{11} \ell \\ A_{22} &= \ell \ell^T + L_{22} L_{22}^T. \end{aligned}$$

Solving these equations gives

$$\begin{aligned} \ell_{11} &= \sqrt{a_{11}} \\ \ell &= \ell_{11}^{-1} a \\ L_{22} L_{22}^T &= A_{22} - \ell \ell^T. \end{aligned}$$

- This proof is constructive and can be easily implemented in computer code.
- Can compute  $\det A$ .
- Positive semidefinite matrices also possess Cholesky decompositions.

**Regression analysis:** with

$$(X, y)^T (X, y) = \begin{bmatrix} X^T X & X^T y \\ y^T X & y^T y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} L & 0 \\ \ell^T & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} L^T & \ell \\ 0^T & d \end{bmatrix}$$

then

$$L\ell = X^T y, \quad L^T \beta = \ell$$

and

$$d^2 =$$

- **Forward substitution** to solve  $Lf = v$ :

$$f_1 = \ell_{11}^{-1} v_1$$

$$f_2 =$$

...

- **Backward substitution** to solve  $Ub = w$ :

$$b_m = u_{mm}^{-1} w_m$$

$$b_{m-1} =$$

...

### 1.1.3 Gram-Schmidt Orthogonalization

- QR decomposition of a  $p \times q$  matrix  $X$ , where  $Q$  is  $p \times q$  with orthonormal columns and  $R$  is a  $q \times q$  invertible upper-triangular matrix.
- How to determine  $Q$  and  $R$ :

Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization takes a collection of vectors such as the columns  $x_1, \dots, x_q$  of the design matrix  $X$  into an orthonormal collection of vectors  $u_1, \dots, u_q$  spanning the same column space.

$$u_1 = \frac{1}{\|x_1\|_2} x_1.$$

Given  $u_1, \dots, u_{k-1}$ , the next unit vector  $u_k$  in the sequence is defined by dividing the column vector

$$v_k = x_k - \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} (u_j^T x_k) u_j$$

by its norm,

$$u_k = \frac{v_k}{\|v_k\|_2}.$$

The upper-triangular entries of the matrix  $R$  are given by the formulas

$$r_{jk} = u_j^T x_k \quad \text{for } 1 \leq j < k,$$

and

$$r_{kk} = \|v_k\|_2,$$

where  $v_k = x_k - \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} r_{jk} u_j$ .

### 1.1.4 Householder Orthogonalization

Another way to construct the QR decomposition

$$H_{q-1} \dots H_2 H_1 X = \begin{pmatrix} R \\ 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $R$  is  $q \times q$  upper triangular with positive diagonal entries. Let  $O = H_{q-1} \dots H_2 H_1$  the orthogonal matrix, we can derive

$$\hat{\beta} = R^{-1}r_1, X = O_q^T R.$$

### 1.1.5 Comparison of the Different Algorithms

The various methods are listed in order of their numerical accuracy as rated by Seber and Lee.

Method	Flop Count
Sweeping	$pq^2 + q^3$
Cholesky Decomposition	$pq^2 + \frac{1}{3}q^3$
Householder Orthogonalization	$2pq^2 - \frac{2}{3}q^3$
Modified Gram-Schmidt	$2pq^2$

## 1.2 Python Implementations

```
[2]: import numpy as np

# generate a random matrix
A = np.random.randint(1, 10, size=(3, 2))
A
```

```
[2]: array([[9, 2],
           [8, 1],
           [9, 2]])
```

```
[3]: # compute the QR decomposition of A
Q, R = np.linalg.qr(A)

# check that Q and R satisfy the QR decomposition property
print(np.allclose(A, np.dot(Q, R)))
print(np.allclose(np.eye(2), np.dot(Q.T, Q)))
print(Q)
print(R)
```

True

True

```
[[ -0.59867109  0.37628835]
 [ -0.53215208 -0.84664878]]
```

```
[-0.59867109  0.37628835]]  
[[-15.03329638 -2.92683646]  
 [  0.          0.65850461]]
```

```
[4]: B = A.T@A  
      # Compute the Cholesky decomposition  
      L = np.linalg.cholesky(B)  
  
      L
```

```
[4]: array([[15.03329638,  0.          ],  
            [ 2.92683646,  0.65850461]])
```

```
[ ]:
```