



Why

Well, least squares, for instance.¹

Definition

An *orthogonal triangular decomposition* (or *orthogonal triangular factorization*) of a $A \in \mathbf{C}^{m \times n}$ with $m \geq n$ is an ordered pair of matrices (Q, R) where Q is orthogonal and R is upper triangular and

$$A = QR.$$

This is universally known as a *QR factorization* or *QR decomposition*.

¹Future editions will expand this description.

