

**Problem 3-12: Polar Decomposition of Matrices**

In class we have seen various product decompositions/factorizations of matrices like the LU-decomposition [Lecture → Section 2.3.2], the QR-decomposition [Lecture → Section 3.3.3], and the singular-value decomposition (SVD) [Lecture → Section 3.4]. In this problems we study another factorization, which is sometimes used in numerical methods, though it is not as important as the decompositions listed before.

This problem is related to [Lecture → Section 3.3.3.2] and [Lecture → Section 3.4.2] and requires familiarity with the EIGEN-based C++ implementation discussed in those sections.

**Theorem 3.12.1. Polar decomposition**

For every matrix  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{m,n}$ ,  $m \geq n$ , there is a matrix  $\mathbf{Q} \in \mathbb{R}^{m,n}$  with *orthonormal* columns,  $\mathbf{Q}^\top \mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{I}_n$ , and a *symmetric positive semi-definite* [Lecture → Def. 1.1.2.6] matrix  $\mathbf{M} \in \mathbb{R}^{n,n}$  such that  $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{M}$ .

The matrix factorization postulated in Thm. 3.12.1 is called **polar decomposition** of  $\mathbf{X}$ .

**(3-12.a)** 🧩 (30 min.) Give a proof of Thm. 3.12.1.

HIDDEN HINT 1 for (3-12.a) → [3-12-1-0:h1p.pdf](#)

SOLUTION for (3-12.a) → [3-12-1-1:s1.pdf](#) ▲

Based on the data types of EIGEN, the polar decomposition of a “tall/slim” real matrix is to be implemented as the following C++ class.

```
class PolarDecomposition {
public:
    explicit PolarDecomposition(const Eigen::MatrixXd &X) { initialize(X); }
    PolarDecomposition(const Eigen::MatrixXd &A, const Eigen::MatrixXd &B);
    PolarDecomposition(const PolarDecomposition &) = default;
    ~PolarDecomposition() = default;

    // Left multiplication of M with the Q-factor of the polar decomposition
    void applyQ(Eigen::MatrixXd &Y) const { Y.applyOnTheLeft(Q_); }
    // Left multiplication of M with the M-factor of the polar decomposition
    void applyM(Eigen::MatrixXd &Y) const { Y.applyOnTheLeft(M_); }

private:
    void initialize(const Eigen::MatrixXd &X);
    Eigen::MatrixXd Q_; // factor Q
    Eigen::MatrixXd M_; // factor M
};
```

The following specification of the class is given:

- The constructor

```
PolarDecomposition(const Eigen::MatrixXd &X);
```

should compute the polar decomposition factors  $\mathbf{Q}$  and  $\mathbf{M}$  according to Thm. 3.12.1 of the matrix passed in  $\mathbf{X}$  and store them in the data members  $\mathbf{Q}_$  and  $\mathbf{M}_$ .

- The constructor

```
PolarDecomposition(const Eigen::MatrixXd &A, const
    Eigen::Matrix &B);
```

is supposed to initialize the data members  $\mathbf{Q\_}$  and  $\mathbf{M\_}$  with the polar decomposition factors  $\mathbf{Q} \in \mathbb{R}^{m,n}$  and  $\mathbf{M} \in \mathbb{R}^{n,n}$  of the matrix  $\mathbf{AB}^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{m,n}$ , where the matrices  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m,k}$  and  $\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{n,k}$  are passed through the arguments A and B.

- The methods `applyQ()` and `applyM()` realize the operations

$$\mathbf{Y} \leftarrow \mathbf{QY} \quad , \quad \mathbf{Y} \leftarrow \mathbf{MY} \quad ,$$

where  $\mathbf{Q}$  and  $\mathbf{M}$  are the factors of the polar decomposition stored in the **PolarDecomposition** object.

(3-12.b) 🕒 (15 min.)      Regardless of the implementation, what is the *minimal* asymptotic computational cost, that is, a *sharp lower bound* of the asymptotic computational effort, for a call of the second constructor

```
PolarDecomposition(const Eigen::MatrixXd &A, const Eigen::Matrix
    &B);
```

of a **PolarDecomposition** object for a  $m \times n$ -matrix,  $m \geq n$ , for  $m, n \rightarrow \infty$ , and small fixed  $k$ ?

Minimal asymptotic cost =  $O\left(\boxed{\phantom{m^2 + mn + n^2}}\right)$  for  $m, n \rightarrow \infty$ .

SOLUTION for (3-12.b) → [3-12-2-0:.pdf](#) ▲

(3-12.c) 🕒 (30 min.)    [ depends on Sub-problem (3-12.a) ]

In the file `polardecomposition.hpp` implement the method

```
void PolarDecomposition::initialize(const Eigen::MatrixXd &X);
```

that sets the data members  $\mathbf{Q\_}$  and  $\mathbf{M\_}$  of the class **PolarDecomposition**. These data members store the factors  $\mathbf{Q}$  and  $\mathbf{M}$  of the polar decomposition of the argument matrix  $\mathbf{X}$  according to Thm. 3.12.1.

HIDDEN HINT 1 for (3-12.c) → [3-12-3-0:pds2h.pdf](#)

SOLUTION for (3-12.c) → [3-12-3-1:s2.pdf](#) ▲

(3-12.d) 🕒 (120 min.)    [ depends on Sub-problem (3-12.b) ]

Write a code for the constructor

```
PolarDecomposition(const Eigen::MatrixXd &A,
    const Eigen::Matrix &B);
```

which is supposed to initialize the data members  $\mathbf{Q\_}$  and  $\mathbf{M\_}$  with the polar decomposition factors  $\mathbf{Q} \in \mathbb{R}^{m,n}$  and  $\mathbf{M} \in \mathbb{R}^{n,n}$  of the matrix  $\mathbf{X} := \mathbf{AB}^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{m,n}$ , where the matrices  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m,k}$  and  $\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{n,k}$  are passed through the arguments A and B. We assume that  $k$  is small and fixed and  $k \leq n < m$ . Your code should have *optimal complexity* with respect to  $m, n \rightarrow \infty$ .

HIDDEN HINT 1 for (3-12.d) → [3-12-4-0:pcs3h1.pdf](#)

SOLUTION for (3-12.d) → [3-12-4-1:s2.pdf](#) ▲

**End Problem 3-12** , 195 min.