

QR Algorithm

Contents

① Householder Transformation (reflection operator)



② QR Factorization Algorithm

③ Appendix: Gram-Schmidt Orthogonalization

(Review + perspective towards thin QR)

$$m \gg n$$

Recap Matrix w/ orthonormal columns

$$Q = [\vec{q}_1 | \vec{q}_2 | \dots | \vec{q}_n] \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$$

(tall rectangle)

- $\vec{q}_1, \dots, \vec{q}_n$ are orthonormal

$$\Leftrightarrow Q^T Q = I$$

- 2-norm preserving prop:

$$\|Q\vec{x}\|_2 = \|\vec{x}\|_2$$

- $\|Q\|_2 = 1$

$$QQ^T \neq I$$

Orthogonal matrix

$$Q = [\vec{q}_1 | \dots | \vec{q}_m] \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$$

(square matrix)

- $\vec{q}_1, \dots, \vec{q}_m$ are orthonormal

$$\Leftrightarrow Q^T Q = I$$

- $\|Q\vec{x}\|_2 = \|\vec{x}\|_2$

- $\|Q\|_2 = 1$

- $Q^{-1} = Q^T$

- $QQ^T = I$

Projection and Reflection Operators (cont')

Summary: for given $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^m$, a nonzero vector, let

$$P = \frac{\mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T}{\mathbf{v}^T\mathbf{v}} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}.$$

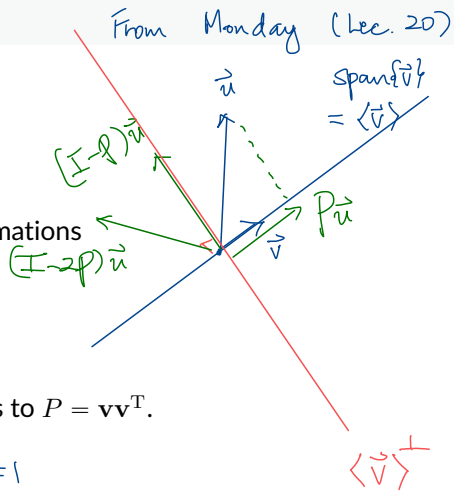
Then the following matrices carry out geometric transformations

- Projection onto $\langle \mathbf{v} \rangle$: P
- Projection onto $\langle \mathbf{v} \rangle^\perp$: $I - P$
- Reflection across $\langle \mathbf{v} \rangle^\perp$: $I - 2P$

Note. If \mathbf{v} were a unit vector, the definition of P simplifies to $P = \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T$.

$$\Downarrow \quad \|\vec{v}\|_2 = 1 \Rightarrow \|\vec{v}\|_2^2 = 1 \Rightarrow \vec{v}^T \vec{v} = 1$$

Householder transformation.



QR Factorization and Least Squares

$$A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}, \quad m > n$$

$$A = Q R$$

Thick QR

$$\begin{cases} Q \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m} \text{ orthogonal} \\ R \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \text{ upper-}\Delta \end{cases}$$

$$A = \hat{Q} \hat{R}$$

Thin QR

$$\begin{cases} \hat{Q} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \text{ not orthogonal} \\ \text{but has ONC.} \\ \hat{R} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \text{ upper-}\Delta \end{cases}$$

Normal Eqn

$$A^T A \vec{x} = A^T \vec{b}$$

Thin QR \rightarrow

Upper- Δ system

$$\hat{R} \vec{x} = \hat{Q}^T \vec{b}$$

Let $Q \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ be orthogonal.

Recall that $Q^{-1} = Q^T$.

Practical advantage

- Finding inverse is super easy.

Theoretical implication

- Orthogonal matrices are invertible

- A is invertible.

$\Leftrightarrow A$ is nonsingular.

$\Leftrightarrow \det(A) \neq 0$

$\Leftrightarrow A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ has a unique.

\Leftrightarrow Columns of A are linearly independent.

Householder Transformation

Motivation

$$\vec{z} = \begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ \vdots \\ z_m \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow[\text{orthogonal}]{H} H\vec{z} = \begin{bmatrix} \star \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Problem

Given $\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^m$, find an orthogonal matrix $H \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ such that $H\mathbf{z}$ is nonzero only in the first element.

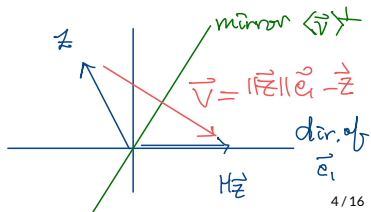
- Since orthogonal matrices preserve the 2-norm, H must satisfy

$$H\mathbf{z} = \begin{bmatrix} \pm \|\mathbf{z}\|_2 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \pm \|\mathbf{z}\|_2 \mathbf{e}_1. \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{aligned} \|H\vec{z}\|_2 &= |\pm \|\vec{z}\|_2| \|\vec{e}_1\|_2 \\ &= \|\vec{z}\|_2 \cdot 1 = \|\vec{z}\|_2. \end{aligned}$$

- The **Householder transformation matrix** H defined by

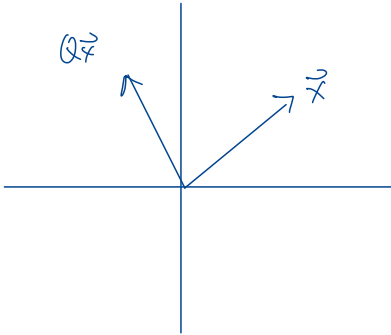
$$H = I - 2 \frac{\mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T}{\mathbf{v}^T\mathbf{v}}, \quad \text{where } \mathbf{v} = \pm \|\mathbf{z}\|_2 \mathbf{e}_1 - \mathbf{z},$$

solves the problem. See Theorem 1 on the next slide.



Orthogonal matrix as transformation

$$\|Q\vec{x}\|_2 = \|\vec{x}\|_2$$



- reflection \rightarrow Householder trans
- rotation \rightarrow Givens rotation

Properties of Householder Transformation

Theorem 1

Let $\mathbf{v} = \|\mathbf{z}\|_2 \mathbf{e}_1 - \mathbf{z}$ and let H be the Householder transformation defined by

$$H = I - 2 \frac{\mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T}{\mathbf{v}^T\mathbf{v}}.$$

Then

- 1 H is symmetric; ($H^T = H$)
- 2 H is orthogonal;
- 3 $H\mathbf{z} = \|\mathbf{z}\|_2 \mathbf{e}_1$.

- H is invariant under scaling of \mathbf{v} .
- If $\|\mathbf{v}\|_2 = 1$, then $H = I - 2\mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T$.

$$\vec{v} \rightarrow \alpha \vec{v}: \quad I - 2 \frac{(\alpha \vec{v})(\alpha \vec{v})^T}{(\alpha \vec{v})^T(\alpha \vec{v})} = I - 2 \frac{\cancel{\alpha} \vec{v} \vec{v}^T \cancel{\alpha}}{\cancel{\alpha} \vec{v}^T \vec{v} \cancel{\alpha}} = H$$

Proof of ② Since H is invariant under scaling of \vec{v} ,
we assume that \vec{v} is a unit vector so that

$$H = I - 2\vec{v}\vec{v}^T.$$

Now to prove that H is orthogonal, we need to show

$$H^T H = I.$$

$$\begin{aligned} H^T H &= (I - 2\vec{v}\vec{v}^T)^T (I - 2\vec{v}\vec{v}^T) \\ &= \left(\underbrace{I^T}_{I} - 2 \underbrace{(\vec{v}\vec{v}^T)^T}_{\vec{v}\vec{v}^T} \right) (I - 2\vec{v}\vec{v}^T) \\ &= (I - 2\vec{v}\vec{v}^T)(I - 2\vec{v}\vec{v}^T) \end{aligned}$$

$$= I^2 - 2\vec{v}\vec{v}^T - 2\vec{v}\vec{v}^T + 4\vec{v}\boxed{\vec{v}^T\vec{v}}\vec{v}^T$$

\parallel
1

$$= I - \cancel{4\vec{v}\vec{v}^T} + \cancel{4\vec{v}\vec{v}^T}$$

$$= I$$

□

Geometry Behind Householder Transformation

The Householder transformation matrix H is the reflector across $\langle \mathbf{v} \rangle^\perp$.

From any \mathbf{z} to the “mirror”:

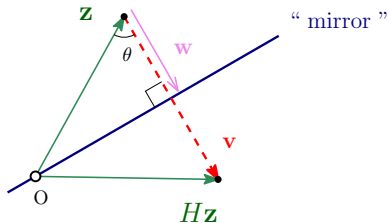
$$\mathbf{w} = -\frac{\mathbf{z}^T \mathbf{v}}{\sqrt{\mathbf{v}^T \mathbf{v}}} \cdot \frac{\mathbf{v}}{\sqrt{\mathbf{v}^T \mathbf{v}}} = -\mathbf{v} \frac{\mathbf{z}^T \mathbf{v}}{\mathbf{v}^T \mathbf{v}}.$$

From any \mathbf{z} to its reflection:

$$H\mathbf{z} - \mathbf{z} = -2\mathbf{v} \frac{\mathbf{z}^T \mathbf{v}}{\mathbf{v}^T \mathbf{v}}.$$

Thus, for any \mathbf{z} ,

$$H\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{z} - 2\mathbf{v} \frac{\mathbf{z}^T \mathbf{v}}{\mathbf{v}^T \mathbf{v}} = \left(I - 2 \frac{\mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T}{\mathbf{v}^T \mathbf{v}} \right) \mathbf{z} \quad \Rightarrow \quad H = I - 2 \frac{\mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T}{\mathbf{v}^T \mathbf{v}}.$$



QR Factorization Algorithm

QR Factorization Algorithm via Triangularization

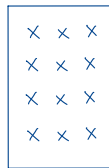
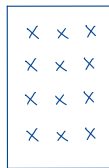
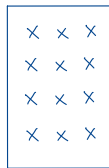
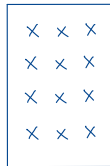
- The Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization (thin QR factorization) is unstable in floating-point calculations.
- **Stable alternative:** Find orthogonal matrices H_1, H_2, \dots, H_n so that

$$\underbrace{H_n H_{n-1} \cdots H_2 H_1}_{=: Q^T} A = R.$$

introducing zeros one column at a time below diagonal terms.
Householder matrices will do.

- As a product of orthogonal matrices, Q^T is also orthogonal and so $(Q^T)^{-1} = Q$. Therefore,

$$A = QR.$$



MATLAB Implementation: MYQR

```
function [Q, R] = myqr(A)
    [m, n] = size(A);
    A0 = A;
    Q = eye(m);
    for j = 1:min(m,n)
        Aj = A(j:m, j:n);
        z = Aj(:, 1);
        v = z + sign0(z(1))*norm(z)*eye(length(z), 1);
        Hj = eye(length(v)) - 2/(v'*v) * v*v';
        Aj = Hj*Aj;
        H = eye(m);
        H(j:m, j:m) = Hj;
        Q = Q*H;
        A(j:m, j:n) = Aj;
    end
    R = A;
end
```

MATLAB Implementation: MYQR (cont')

(continued from the previous page)

```
% local function
function sign0(x)
    y = ones(size(x));
    y(x < 0) = -1;
end
```

- The MATLAB command `qr` works similar to, but more efficiently than, this.
- The function finds the factorization in $\sim (2mn^2 - n^3/3)$ flops asymptotically.

Which Reflector Is Better?

Recall:

$$H = I - 2 \frac{\mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T}{\mathbf{v}^T\mathbf{v}}, \quad \text{where } \mathbf{v} = \pm \|\mathbf{z}\|_2 \mathbf{e}_1 - \mathbf{z},$$

In `myqr.m`, the statement

```
v = z + sign0(z(1))*norm(z)*eye(length(z), 1);
```

defines \mathbf{v} slightly differently, namely,

$$\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{z} \pm \|\mathbf{z}\|_2 \mathbf{e}_1.$$

This does not cause any difference since H is invariant under scaling of \mathbf{v} ; see p. 5.

Which Reflector Is Better? (cont')

The sign of $\pm \|z\|_2$ is chosen so as to avoid possible catastrophic cancellation in forming v :

$$v = \begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \\ \vdots \\ z_m \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \pm \|z\|_2 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} z_1 \pm \|z\|_2 \\ z_2 \\ \vdots \\ z_m \end{bmatrix}$$

Subtractive cancellation may arise when $z_1 \approx \pm \|z\|_2$.

- if $z_1 > 0$, use $z_1 + \|z\|_2$;
- if $z_1 < 0$, use $z_1 - \|z\|_2$;
- if $z_1 = 0$, either works.

For numerical stability, it is desirable to reflect z to the vector $s \|z\|_2 e_1$ that is not too close to z itself. (Trefethen & Bau)

Appendix: Gram-Schmidt Orthogonalization

The Gram–Schmidt Procedure

Problem: Orthogonalization

Given $\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n \in \mathbb{R}^m$, construct orthonormal vectors $\mathbf{q}_1, \dots, \mathbf{q}_n \in \mathbb{R}^m$ such that

$$\text{span}\{\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_k\} = \text{span}\{\mathbf{q}_1, \dots, \mathbf{q}_k\}, \quad \text{for any } k \in \mathbb{N}[1, n].$$

- **Strategy.** At the j th step, find a unit vector $\mathbf{q}_j \in \text{span}\{\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_j\}$ that is orthogonal to $\mathbf{q}_1, \dots, \mathbf{q}_{j-1}$.
- **Key Observation.** The vector \mathbf{v}_j defined by

$$\mathbf{v}_j = \mathbf{a}_j - \left(\mathbf{q}_1^T \mathbf{a}_j\right) \mathbf{q}_1 - \left(\mathbf{q}_2^T \mathbf{a}_j\right) \mathbf{q}_2 - \dots - \left(\mathbf{q}_{j-1}^T \mathbf{a}_j\right) \mathbf{q}_{j-1}$$

satisfies the required properties.

GS Algorithm

The Gram-Schmidt iteration is outlined below:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{q}_1 &= \frac{\mathbf{a}_1}{r_{11}}, \\ \mathbf{q}_2 &= \frac{\mathbf{a}_2 - r_{12}\mathbf{q}_1}{r_{22}}, \\ \mathbf{q}_3 &= \frac{\mathbf{a}_3 - r_{13}\mathbf{q}_1 - r_{23}\mathbf{q}_2}{r_{33}}, \\ &\vdots \\ \mathbf{q}_n &= \frac{\mathbf{a}_n - \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} r_{in}\mathbf{q}_i}{r_{nn}},\end{aligned}$$

where

$$r_{ij} = \begin{cases} \mathbf{q}_i^T \mathbf{a}_j, & \text{if } i \neq j \\ \pm \left\| \mathbf{a}_j - \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} r_{kj}\mathbf{q}_k \right\|_2, & \text{if } i = j \end{cases}.$$

GS Procedure and Thin QR Factorization

- The GS algorithm, written as a matrix equation, yields a **thin QR factorization**:

$$A = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} | & & | \\ \mathbf{a}_1 & \cdots & \mathbf{a}_n \\ | & & | \end{bmatrix}}_A = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} | & & | \\ \mathbf{q}_1 & \cdots & \mathbf{q}_n \\ | & & | \end{bmatrix}}_{\hat{Q}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} & \cdots & r_{1n} \\ 0 & r_{22} & \cdots & r_{2n} \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & r_{nn} \end{bmatrix}}_{\hat{R}} = \hat{Q}\hat{R}$$

- While it is an important tool for theoretical work, the GS algorithm is numerically unstable.