

# Notes for Math 571 – Numerical Linear Algebra

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# Chapter 1

## 1.1 Rank of Matrices

## 1.2 Cauchy-Schwarz

## 1.3 Projection Matrices, Gram-Schmidt Process

Suppose we have a plane of dimension  $n - 1$  and a direction orthogonal to it. A unit vector  $q$  with  $q^T q = 1$ .

Through a  $q$  a dim is specified as well as the  $n - 1$  dimensional plane orthogonal to it.

Given  $x$  we want to decompose it as  $y + z$  with

1.  $y$  parallel to  $q$
2.  $z$  orthogonal to  $q$

We note  $q^T z = 0$ . So

$$\begin{aligned}x &= \alpha q + z \\q^T z &= \alpha q^T q = \alpha \\x &= q(q^T x) + z\end{aligned}$$

If  $x = y + z$  is the decomposition of  $x$  then

$$\begin{aligned}y &= q(q^T x) = (qq^T)x \\z &= x - (qq^T)x\end{aligned}$$

The matrix  $qq^T$  is a projection matrix. Applied to  $x$  it gives the component along  $q$ . If

$p = qq^T$  then  $P_x$  = component of  $x$  along  $q$ .  $(I - P)x$  = component of  $x$  along the plane orthogonal to  $q$ .

(All projection are orthogonal throughout the class.)

Let us try to understand  $P$ .

1. What is the rank of  $P$ ?  $\text{rank } P = 1$ . (all columns multiples of  $q$ )
2. Eigenvalues and eigenvectors of  $P$ ?  
 $Pq = q$ . Suppose  $x \perp q$  then  $Px = 0$ . And eigenvalue = 1, eigenvalue = 0 with multiplicity  $n - 1$ .
3.  $P^2 = P$ .  $(qq^T)(qq^T) = q(q^Tq)q^T = qq^T$ .  $P^2 = Px$  for all  $x \implies P^2 = P$ .
4.  $(I - P)^2 = I - P$ .
5.  $P(I - P) = 0$ .

Given  $x$  and unit vector  $q$ , how many operations to compute  $(I - P)x = x - q(q^Tx)$ ?

1.  $q^Tx$  takes  $n$  multiplications and  $n - 1$  additions
2.  $q(q^Tx)$  takes  $n$  multiplications
3.  $x - q(q^Tx)$  takes  $n$  subtractions

In total it takes  $4n - 1$  or  $4n$  arithmetic operations.

Suppose  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  are unit vectors with  $q_1 \perp q_2$ . Then which matrix projects to  $\langle q_1, q_2 \rangle$ , the plane spanned by  $q_1$  and  $q_2$ ?

$$P = P_1 + P_2 \text{ with } P_1 = q_1q_1^T, P_2 = q_2q_2^T.$$

**Definition 1.3.1.**  $q_1, \dots, q_k$  is called an orthonormal set of vectors if

1.  $q_iq_i^T = 1$  for all  $i$ ,
2.  $q_i^Tq_j = 0$  for all  $i \neq j$ .

$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} | & & | \\ q_1 & \cdots & q_k \\ | & & | \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{n,k} \text{ is a matrix with orthonormal columns.}$$

If  $q_1, \dots, q_k$  are orthonormal then

$$P = q_1q_1^T + q_2q_2^T + \dots + q_kq_k^T$$

projects to  $\langle q_1, \dots, q_k \rangle$ .

$P$  can be expressed as  $P = QQ^T$  where  $Q \in \mathbb{R}^{n,k}$  with  $q_j$  as its columns.

What is the interpretation of  $Q^T x$ ?  $Q^T x$  gives the coefficients when the projection of  $x$  to  $\langle q_1, \dots, q_k \rangle$  is written as a linear combination of  $q_j$ .

What is  $Q^T Q$ ? Identity matrix. Columns of  $Q$  forms as orthogonal set iff  $Q^T Q = I$ .

1. What is  $I - QQ^T$ ? Projection to  $\langle q_1, \dots, q_k \rangle^\perp = (n - k)$  dim plane orthogonal to  $\langle q_1, \dots, q_k \rangle$ .
2.  $\text{rank}(QQ^T) = k$ .
3.  $\text{rank}(I - QQ^T) = n - k$ .

**Definition 1.3.2.** A matrix  $Q \in \mathbb{R}^{n,n}$  with orthonormal columns is called an orthogonal matrix. The columns of an orthogonal matrix  $Q$  form an orthogonal basis.

1.  $QQ^T = \text{id}$  since  $QQ^T x = x$  for all  $x$  (projection to the whole space.)
2. What is the interpretation of  $Q^T x$ ? The coefficients for  $x$  as linear combinations of columns of  $Q$ .
3.  $Q^T Q$  still equal to identity.
4. The rows of  $Q$  also form an orthonormal basis.
5.  $Q^{-1} = Q^T$ .

#### CLASSICAL GRAM-SCHMIDT PROCESS

Suppose  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n,k}$  with  $n \geq k$  and  $\text{rank } A = k$ . Let  $a_1, \dots, a_k$  be the columns of  $A$ . The Gram-Schmidt process generates an orthonormal set  $q_1$  through  $q_k$  such that

1.  $\langle q_1 \rangle = \langle a_1 \rangle$ ,
2.  $\langle q_1, q_2 \rangle = \langle a_1, a_2 \rangle$ ,
- $\vdots$
- k.  $\langle q_1, q_2, \dots, q_k \rangle = \langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k \rangle$ .

An algorithm for computing  $q_1, \dots, q_k$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 q_1 &= \frac{a_1}{\|a_1\|} = \frac{a_1}{(a_1^T a_1)^{1/2}} \\
 \tilde{q}_2 &= a_2 - P_1 a_2 = a_2 - q_1(q_1^T a_2), q_2 = \frac{\tilde{q}_2}{\|\tilde{q}_2\|} \\
 &\vdots \\
 \tilde{q}_k &= a_k - \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} P_i a_k = a_k - \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} q_i q_i^T a_k, q_k = \frac{\tilde{q}_k}{\|\tilde{q}_k\|}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Expression of Gram-Schmidt as  $A = QR$  with  $R$  upper triangles. Suppose  $q_1, \dots, q_k$  are computed by applying Gram-Schmidt to the columns of  $A$ .

Let  $Q$  be the matrix whose columns are  $q_1, \dots, q_k$ . Both  $A$  and  $Q$  are  $n \times k$ .

$$\begin{aligned} A &= Q(k \times k \text{ matrix}) \\ &= QR. \end{aligned}$$

Every column of  $A$  is expressed as a linear combination of  $q_1, \dots, q_k$ .

What are the entries of  $R$ ?

Note that  $a_j = q_1(q_1^T a_j) + \dots + a_j(a_j^T a_j)$  because  $a_j \in \langle q_1, \dots, q_j \rangle$ . Write  $a_j = q_1 r_{1j} + \dots + a_j r_{ij}$ . Thus

$$r_{ij} = \begin{cases} q_i^T a_j & i \leq j, \\ 0 & i > j. \end{cases}$$

During Gram-Schmidt process these coefficients are computed

$$\begin{aligned} r_{ij} &= q_i^T a_j, \quad i < j \\ r_{jj} &= \|\tilde{q}_j\| \end{aligned}$$

#### APPLICATION OF CLASSICAL GRAM-SCHMIDT

Think of  $a_1, \dots, a_k$  as defining a  $k$ -dim parallelepiped in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . What is the volume of the parallelepiped defined by  $a_1, \dots, a_k$ ?

$$\prod r_{ii}.$$

**NOTE** Classical Gram-Schmidt (CGS) is not numerically stable. More precisely, when  $A$  has near rank deficiency, then CGS does not behave well.

We can use modified Gram-Schmidt (MGS):

**Lemma 1.3.1.** If  $q_1, \dots, q_j$  are an orthonormal set and  $P_1, \dots, P_j$  are corresponding projections, then

$$I - P_1 - \dots - P_j = (I - P_j) \dots (I - P_2)(I - P_1)$$

(Projection one at a time (RHS) vs. project at once (LHS))

*Proof.*  $P_i P_j = 0$  if  $i \neq j$ . Expand RHS and we are done. ■

MGS has step  $j$  given by  $\tilde{q}_j = (I - P_{j-1}) \dots (I - P_1) a_j$ ,  $q_j = \frac{\tilde{q}_j}{\|\tilde{q}_j\|}$ .

In CGS,  $A = QR$  with  $a_j = q_i r_{ij} + \dots + q_j r_{jj}$ .  $r_{ij} = q_i^T a_j \neq 0$ ,  $\|\tilde{q}_j\|$ .

$q_i^T a_j$  are not available as intermediate quantities in MGS.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \tilde{q}_j &= (I - P_{j-1}) \dots (I - P_1) a_j \\
 a_{j,1} &= (I - P_1) a_j \quad (= a_j - P_1 a_j) \\
 a_{j,2} &= (I - P_2) a_{j,1} \quad (= a_j - P_2 a_j - P_1 a_j \text{ mathematically}) \\
 a_{j,3} &= (I - P_3) a_{j,2} \quad (= a_j - P_3 a_j - P_2 a_j - P_1 a_j \text{ mathematically}) \\
 &\vdots
 \end{aligned}$$

In practice the rounding error will accumulate differently, which makes MGS stable.

So

$$\begin{aligned}
 r_{i,j} &= q_i^T a_{j,i-1} \\
 &= q_i^T (I - P_1 - \dots - P_{i-1}) a_j \\
 &= q_i^T a_j
 \end{aligned}$$

Operations count for MGS (or CGS): In step  $j$  we have the following:

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_{j,1} &= (I - P_1) a_j \\
 a_{j,2} &= (I - P_2) a_{j,1} \\
 &\vdots \\
 a_{j,j-1} &= (I - P_{j-1}) a_{j,j-2} \\
 q_j &= \frac{a_{j,j-1}}{\|a_{j,j-1}\|}
 \end{aligned}$$

To count operations, recall that  $(I - P)x$  requires  $4n$  operations.

$$(I - P)x = x - q(q^T x)$$

$2n - 1$  for  $q^T x$ ,  $n$  for  $q(q^T x)$ ,  $n$  for  $x - q(q^T x)$ . Operation count for step  $i$  is  $(4n)(j - 1) + 3n$ .

The total count is

$$\sum_{j=1}^k (4n - 1)(j - 1) + 3n = (4n - 1) \frac{k(k - 1)}{2} + 3nk = 2nk^2 \text{ leading terms}$$

Also:

$$\sum_{j=1}^k 4nj = 4n \sum_{i=1}^k j = 4n \int_0^k x dx = 4nk^2.$$

## 1.4 Applications of MGS and QR Factorization

### 1.4.1 Solution of $Ax = b$ for $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m,n}$ , $\text{rank}(A) = n$

$$QRx = b \implies Rx = Q^T b$$

Now  $Rx = \tilde{b}$  can be solved by back substitution.

Operation count for solving  $Ax = b$  using QR.

1. calculating  $QR : 2n^3$
2.  $\tilde{b} = Q^T b, 2n^2 - n$
3. solving  $Rx = \tilde{b}$  using back substitution:  $n^2$ .

Linear system solved using Gaussian elimination with partial pivoting is  $n^3$ .

### 1.4.2 Connection with Volumes and QR

Let  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  be vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ . They will define a parallelogram as follows.

### 1.4.3 Determinants