

Proof sketch.

$$\begin{aligned}
& (A + uv^\top) \left(A^{-1} - \frac{A^{-1}uv^\top A^{-1}}{1 + v^\top A^{-1}u} \right) \\
&= AA^{-1} + uv^\top A^{-1} - \frac{AA^{-1}uv^\top A^{-1} + uv^\top A^{-1}uv^\top A^{-1}}{1 + v^\top A^{-1}u} \\
&= I + uv^\top A^{-1} - \frac{uv^\top A^{-1} + uv^\top A^{-1}uv^\top A^{-1}}{1 + v^\top A^{-1}u} \\
&= I + uv^\top A^{-1} - \frac{u(1 + v^\top A^{-1}u)v^\top A^{-1}}{1 + v^\top A^{-1}u} \\
&= I + uv^\top A^{-1} - uv^\top A^{-1}
\end{aligned}$$

Another direction is similar. □

A general form of Sherman-Morrison is called Woodbury. In our Householder case, when $A = I$, we have,

$$(I + uv^\top)^{-1} = I - \frac{uv^\top}{1 + v^\top u} \quad (2)$$

therefore,

$$H_w^{-1} = (I + (-2w)w^\top)^{-1} \stackrel{(2)}{=} I - \frac{(-2w)w^\top}{1 + (-2w)^\top w} = I - 2ww^\top = H_w$$

Theorem 2. For $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, there exists some Givens matrices G_1, G_2, \dots, G_k such that $R = G_k \cdots G_2 G_1 A$ is upper triangular. In particular, when A is orthogonal matrix, $R = \text{diag}(1, \dots, 1, \det(A))$.

Proof sketch. $\forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}$, $\exists \theta$ such that $\begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$. □

Theorem 3. For $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, there exists some Householder matrices H_1, H_2, \dots, H_k such that $R = G_H \cdots H_2 H_1 A$ is upper triangular with nonnegative diagonal. In particular, when A is orthogonal matrix, $R = I$.

Proof sketch. $\forall \alpha \in \mathbb{R}^n$, if $\beta = (\|\alpha\|_2, 0, \dots, 0)^\top \neq \alpha$, then $v = \alpha - \beta$ satisfies $H_v \alpha = \beta$ (Note that here $\alpha - \beta$ may not be unit vector). □

Definition 3 (Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization). Given $A = [\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m] \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times m}$, $n \geq m$ with full column rank, define $r_{11} = \|\alpha_1\|_2$, $\mathbf{q}_1 = \alpha_1/r_{11}$. Then, for $j = 2, \dots, m$ set

$$\begin{aligned}
r_{ij} &= \langle \alpha_j, \mathbf{q}_i \rangle, \quad i = 1, \dots, j-1, \quad \hat{\mathbf{q}}_j = \alpha_j - \sum_{i=1}^{j-1} r_{ij} \mathbf{q}_i \\
r_{jj} &= \|\hat{\mathbf{q}}_j\|_2, \quad \mathbf{q}_j = \hat{\mathbf{q}}_j/r_{jj}
\end{aligned}$$

Note that Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization gives orthonormal $[\mathbf{q}_1, \dots, \mathbf{q}_m]$ such that

$$\alpha_j = \sum_{i=1}^j r_{ij} \mathbf{q}_i \quad \text{or} \quad A = QR$$

In particular, when $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ is invertible,

$$(\alpha_1 \ \alpha_2 \ \cdots \ \alpha_m) = (\mathbf{q}_1 \ \mathbf{q}_2 \ \cdots \ \mathbf{q}_m) \begin{pmatrix} \|\hat{\mathbf{q}}_1\|_2 & \mathbf{q}_1^T \alpha_2 & \cdots & \mathbf{q}_1^T \alpha_m \\ 0 & \|\hat{\mathbf{q}}_2\|_2 & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \ddots & \mathbf{q}_{n-1}^T \alpha_m \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \|\hat{\mathbf{q}}_m\|_2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Example 1 (QR decomposition). Calculate the QR decomposition of $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$.

Solution 1.[Givens]

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2\sqrt{2} & 2\sqrt{2} & \frac{3}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 & \sqrt{2} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{3} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2\sqrt{2} & 2\sqrt{2} & \frac{3}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 & \sqrt{2} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 3 & 3 \\ 0 & \sqrt{2} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{3}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} = R.$$

Thus, $A = QR$, where

$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{3} & 0 & -\frac{1}{3} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{3} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{3} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{1}{3\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{2}{3} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{1}{3\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{3} \end{pmatrix}$$

Solution 2.[Householder]

$$u = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad H_u = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{3} & \frac{2}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{2}{3} & -\frac{1}{3} & -\frac{2}{3} \\ \frac{1}{3} & -\frac{2}{3} & \frac{2}{3} \end{pmatrix}, \quad H_u \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 3 & 3 \\ 0 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$v = \begin{pmatrix} -1 - \sqrt{2} \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad H_v = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}, \quad H_v \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -2 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{2} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 & \frac{3}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}$$

Thus, $A = QR$, where

$$Q = H_u \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & H_v \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{3} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{1}{3\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{2}{3} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{1}{3\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{3} \end{pmatrix}, \quad R = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 3 & 3 \\ 0 & \sqrt{2} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{3}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}$$

Solution 3.[Gram-Schmidt]

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_1 &= (2, 2, 1), & \beta_1 &= \alpha_1, & \gamma_1 &= \frac{1}{3}\beta_1 = \left(\frac{2}{3}, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{1}{3}\right) \\ \alpha_2 &= (1, 3, 1), & \beta_2 &= \alpha_2 - 3\gamma_1 = (-1, 1, 0), & \gamma_2 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\beta_2 = \left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0\right) \\ \alpha_3 &= (1, 2, 3), & \beta_3 &= \alpha_3 - 3\gamma_1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\gamma_2 = \left(-\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}, 2\right), & \gamma_3 &= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{3}\beta_3 = \left(-\frac{1}{3\sqrt{2}}, -\frac{1}{3\sqrt{2}}, \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{3}\right). \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $A = QR$, where

$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_1 & \gamma_2 & \gamma_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{3} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{1}{3\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{2}{3} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{1}{3\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{3} \end{pmatrix},$$

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{3}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 3 & 3 \\ 0 & \sqrt{2} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{3}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Theorem 4 (Hadamard inequality). *Given $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathbb{C}^n \setminus \{0\}$, then*

$$|\det(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)| \leq \prod_{k=1}^n \|\alpha_k\|_2.$$

The equality is achieved if and only if the vectors are orthogonal.

Proof. Let $A = (\alpha_1 \ \alpha_2 \ \dots \ \alpha_n)$. When $\det(A) = 0$, the equality holds. When $\det(A) \neq 0$, $A = QR$, where Q is unitary matrix, $R = (r_{ij}) = (\beta_1 \ \beta_2 \ \dots \ \beta_n)$ is upper triangular matrix, then

$$|\det(A)| = \prod_{k=1}^n |r_{kk}| \leq \prod_{k=1}^n \|\beta_k\|_2 = \prod_{k=1}^n \|Q\beta_k\|_2 = \prod_{k=1}^n \|\alpha_k\|_2$$

the equality is achieved $\iff R$ is diagonal matrix, i.e. $\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_n$ are orthogonal $\iff \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n$ are orthogonal. \square

Example 2 (Least Squares). *Given dataset $\{(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), (\mathbf{x}_2, y_2), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_m, y_m)\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$, find $\theta = (\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_n)^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$ such that minimizes $f(\theta) = \sum_{i=1}^m \|\mathbf{x}_i^T \theta - y_i\|_2^2$.*

Solution. In section week 7 we have seen that we can consider this from a smooth convex optimization perspective, let $X = (\mathbf{x}_1 \ \mathbf{x}_2 \ \dots \ \mathbf{x}_m)^T$, $\mathbf{y} = (y_1 \ y_2 \ \dots \ y_m)$,

$$\nabla^2 f(\theta) = \nabla (\nabla \|X\theta - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2) = \nabla (2X^T(X\theta - \mathbf{y})) = 2A^T A \succeq 0$$

then any solution of $\nabla f(\theta) = 0$ attains the minimum, i.e.,

$$\nabla f(\theta^*) = 0 \iff 2X^T(X\theta^* - \mathbf{y}) = 0 \iff X^T X\theta^* = X^T \mathbf{y}.$$

Now we can consider this problem in another way. Consider the space generated by column vectors of A , let $U = \text{Span}(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$, by homework 7 we have $\mathbb{R}^n = U \oplus U^\perp$, then $\mathbf{y} = \beta + \gamma$, where $\beta \in U$, $\gamma \in U^\perp$. Therefore, $f(\theta) = \|\beta - \sum_{i=1}^m \theta_i \alpha_i\|_2^2 + \|\gamma\|_2^2$. The minimum is attained if and only if $\beta = \sum_{i=1}^m \theta_i \alpha_i$, which is equivalent to $\mathbf{y} - \sum_{i=1}^m \theta_i \alpha_i \in U^\perp$, i.e., $\langle \alpha_i, \mathbf{y} - \sum_{i=1}^m \theta_i \alpha_i \rangle = 0$, $\forall i$, which in matrix form is $X^T X\theta = X^T \mathbf{y}$. The second method can be generalized to general inner product space with the linear system

$$\begin{pmatrix} \langle \alpha_1, \alpha_1 \rangle & \langle \alpha_1, \alpha_2 \rangle & \dots & \langle \alpha_1, \alpha_n \rangle \\ \langle \alpha_2, \alpha_1 \rangle & \langle \alpha_2, \alpha_2 \rangle & \dots & \langle \alpha_2, \alpha_n \rangle \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ \langle \alpha_n, \alpha_1 \rangle & \langle \alpha_n, \alpha_2 \rangle & \dots & \langle \alpha_n, \alpha_n \rangle \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \theta_1 \\ \theta_2 \\ \vdots \\ \theta_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \langle \alpha_1, \mathbf{y} \rangle \\ \langle \alpha_2, \mathbf{y} \rangle \\ \vdots \\ \langle \alpha_n, \mathbf{y} \rangle \end{pmatrix}.$$