

# CS 450: Numerical Analysis<sup>1</sup>

## Linear Least Squares

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<sup>1</sup> *These slides have been drafted by Edgar Solomonik as lecture templates and supplementary material for the book “Scientific Computing: An Introductory Survey” by Michael T. Heath ([slides](#)).*

# Linear Least Squares

- ▶ Find  $\mathbf{x}^* = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}\|_2$  where  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ .
- ▶ Given the SVD  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{\Sigma}\mathbf{V}^T$  we have  $\mathbf{x}^* = \mathbf{V}\mathbf{\Sigma}^\dagger\mathbf{U}^T\mathbf{b}$ , where  $\mathbf{\Sigma}^\dagger$  contains the reciprocal of all nonzeros in  $\mathbf{\Sigma}$ :

## Conditioning of Linear Least Squares

- ▶ Consider fitting a line to a collection of points, then perturbing the points:
- ▶ LLS is ill-posed for any  $A$ , unless we consider solving for a particular  $b$

# Normal Equations

*Demo: Normal equations vs Pseudoinverse*

*Demo: Issues with the normal equations*

- ▶ *Normal equations* are given by solving  $A^T A x = A^T b$ :
- ▶ However, solving the normal equations is a more ill-conditioned problem than the original least squares algorithm

## Solving the Normal Equations

- ▶ If  $A$  is full-rank, then  $A^T A$  is symmetric positive definite (SPD):
- ▶ Since  $A^T A$  is SPD we can use Cholesky factorization, to factorize it and solve linear systems:

## QR Factorization

- ▶ If  $A$  is full-rank there exists an orthogonal matrix  $Q$  and a unique upper-triangular matrix  $R$  with a positive diagonal such that  $A = QR$
- ▶ A reduced QR factorization (unique part of general QR) is defined so that  $Q \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  has orthonormal columns and  $R$  is square and upper-triangular
- ▶ We can solve the normal equations (and consequently the linear least squares problem) via reduced QR as follows

# Gram-Schmidt Orthogonalization

*Demo: Gram-Schmidt–The Movie*  
*Demo: Gram-Schmidt and Modified Gram-Schmidt*

▶ **Classical Gram-Schmidt process for QR:**

▶ **Modified Gram-Schmidt process for QR:**

# Householder QR Factorization

- ▶ A Householder transformation  $Q = I - 2uu^T$  is an orthogonal matrix defined to annihilate entries of a given vector  $z$ , so  $\|z\|_2 Qe_1 = z$ :

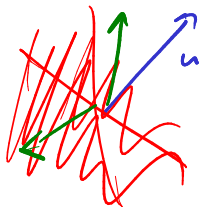
- ▶ Imposing this form on  $Q$  leaves exactly two choices for  $u$  given  $z$ ,

$$u = \frac{z \pm \|z\|_2 e_1}{\|z \pm \|z\|_2 e_1\|_2}$$



# Applying Householder Transformations

- ▶ The product  $x = Qw$  can be computed using  $O(n)$  operations if  $Q$  is a Householder transformation

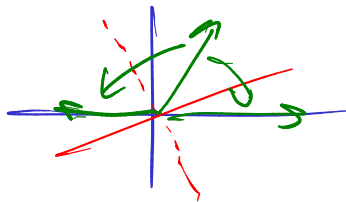


$$\overline{I - 2uu^T}$$

- ▶ Householder transformations are also called *reflectors* because their application reflects a vector along a hyperplane (changes sign of component of  $w$  that is parallel to  $u$ )

$$Qw = \pm e_1 \|w\|$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \pm \|w\| \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



$$Q = \text{House}(v)$$

$$Qv = \pm e, \|v\|$$

$$Q = I - 2uu^T$$

$$Qw = \underbrace{w - 2u \langle u, w \rangle}_{O(n)} \quad \swarrow O(n)$$

$$[Q, R] = QR(A) \quad A \in n \times n$$

$$Q = I$$

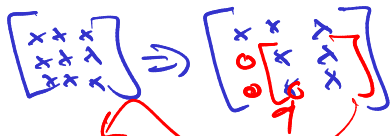
For  $j=1$  to  $\#cols(A)$

$$Q_j = \text{House}(A[j:, j])$$

$$A[j:, j:] \leftarrow Q_j^T A[j:, j:]$$

$$Q \leftarrow Q [^T Q_j]$$

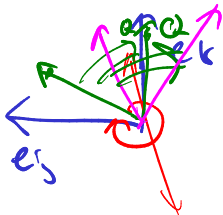
$$R = A$$



$O(n)$   
 $\Downarrow$  overall  
 (ac all  $j$ )  
 $O(mn^2)$

# Givens Rotations

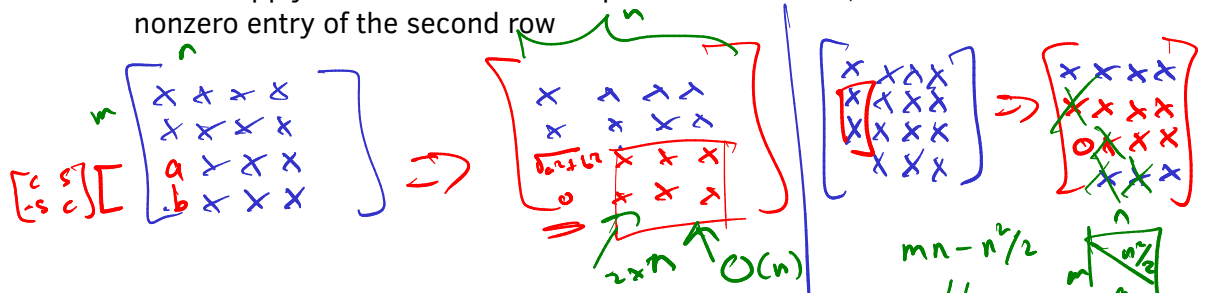
- ▶ Householder reflectors reflect vectors, Givens rotations rotate them



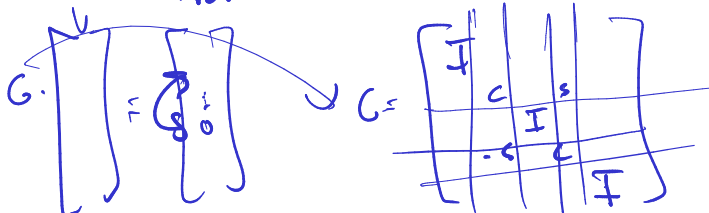
- ▶ Givens rotations are defined by orthogonal matrices of the form  $G = \begin{bmatrix} c & s \\ -s & c \end{bmatrix}$   $G^{-1} = G^T$   
 $ca + sb = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$   
 $-sa + cb = 0 \Rightarrow c = \frac{sa}{b} = \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}}$   $G \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$   
 $\frac{sa^2}{b} + sb = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \Rightarrow \underbrace{sa^2 + sb^2}_{s(a^2 + b^2)} = b\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \Rightarrow s = \frac{b}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}}$

# QR via Givens Rotations

- We can apply a Givens rotation to a pair of matrix rows, to eliminate the first nonzero entry of the second row



- Thus,  $n(n-1)/2$  Givens rotations are needed for QR of a square matrix
- for non matrix



$$mn - n^2/2$$

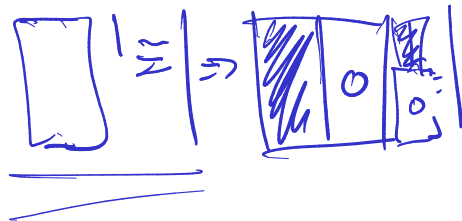


$$mn \cdot O(n) \Rightarrow O(mn^2)$$

# Rank-Deficient Least Squares

- Suppose we want to solve a linear system or least squares problem with a (nearly) rank deficient matrix  $A$

$$\frac{Ax=b}{Ax \approx b}$$



- Rank-deficient least squares problems seek a minimizer  $x$  of  $\|Ax - b\|_2$  of minimal norm  $\|x\|_2$

$$\underline{x^*} = \underset{x}{\operatorname{argmin}} \|x\|_2 \quad \text{s.t. } Ax - b \perp \operatorname{span}(A)$$

i.e.,  $\|Ax^* - b\|_2 \leq \|Ax - b\|_2 \quad \forall x$

## Truncated SVD

- After floating-point rounding, rank-deficient matrices typically regain full-rank but have nonzero singular values on the order of  $\epsilon_{\text{mach}} \sigma_{\text{max}}$

"  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  is low rank if  $\text{rank}(A) < \min(m, n)$  "  $\Rightarrow A = \begin{bmatrix} \text{ } \\ \text{ } \\ \text{ } \end{bmatrix}_m \begin{bmatrix} \text{ } \\ \text{ } \\ \text{ } \end{bmatrix}_n^T$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \text{ } \\ \text{ } \\ \text{ } \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \text{ } \\ \text{ } \\ \text{ } \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \text{ } \\ \text{ } \\ \text{ } \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \text{ } \\ \text{ } \\ \text{ } \end{bmatrix}^T = \sum_{i=1}^r \sigma_i u_i v_i^T$$

- By the *Eckart-Young-Mirsky theorem*, truncated SVD also provides the best low-rank approximation of a matrix (in 2-norm and Frobenius norm)

min  
 $\text{rank}(\tilde{A}) = r$   
minimized

$$\|A - \tilde{A}\|_{2 \text{ or } F}$$

$$\tilde{A} = \sum_{i=1}^r \sigma_i u_i v_i^T$$

$$\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \dots \geq \sigma_r \geq \dots \geq \sigma_n$$

singular values of A

$$A^T = \sum_{i=1}^r \frac{1}{\sigma_i} v_i u_i^T$$

$$m \times n \quad \|Ax - b\|, \|x\|$$

$$x^* = A^+ b$$

$$A^T \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} s \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

$$Ax = b$$

$$Ax = b \quad \text{with } A = \begin{bmatrix} u_1^T \\ u_2^T \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and } b = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

# QR with Column Pivoting

- QR with column pivoting provides a way to approximately solve rank-deficient least squares problems and compute the truncated SVD

$$\begin{matrix} n \\ \sim \end{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} A \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{matrix} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} Q_1 \\ Q \end{bmatrix}}_r \begin{bmatrix} R_1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$AP = Q_1 R_1$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} I \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A = Q_1 R_1$$

$$R_1 x \approx Q_1^T b$$

$n \times m$

- A pivoted QR factorization can be used to compute a rank- $r$  approximation  $n \times m$

$$\begin{bmatrix} I \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} R_1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

rank  $n$  or  $m$



$$[Q, R, P] = Q R C P(A) \Rightarrow AP = QR$$

$$\mu_0 = \|A \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}\|_2^2$$

rank(A)

for  $j = 1$  to  $\# \text{cols}(A)$

$$u_{AC} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$U^* = \arg \min_{K \geq 0} \mu_K^Z$$

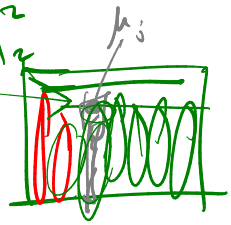
$$P[j, j] = 1$$

$$A[i, j] \leftrightarrow A[i, j']$$

$$Q = \text{House}(A[j:n, j])$$

$$A[j:n, j:n] \leftarrow Q^T A[j:n, j:n]$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu[j+1:n] \leftarrow \mu[j+1:n] - \frac{A[j, j+1:n]^2}{n-j}$$



# Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

$$Av = \lambda v$$

$\uparrow$   
 $\mathbb{C}$ , e.g.  $0, 2.3, 1-i, 1+i$

$$A = XDX^{-1}$$

$\uparrow$  eigenvectors       $\xrightarrow{\text{eigenvalues}}$        $\xrightarrow{\text{similarity transformation}}$

$B = \underbrace{ZAZ^{-1}}$

$$A = USU^T$$

$$A^T A = U S^T U^T U S U^T$$

$$AX = XD \Rightarrow \boxed{A} \boxed{X} = \boxed{D}$$

$$\underline{A^T A} = \underbrace{(V)}_{\text{eigenvectors}} S^2 \underbrace{U^T}_{\text{eigenvalues}} \Rightarrow U^T = U^T$$