# 8. QR factorization

- Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization
- QR factorization
- solving linear equations
- modified Gram-Schmidt method
- Householder algorithm

#### Projection onto a vector

given two vectors  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , with  $a \neq 0$ , the vector multiple ta closest to b has



#### Proof

• squared distance between *ta* and *b* is

$$||ta - b||^2 = (ta - b)^T (ta - b) = t^2 a^T a - 2ta^T b + b^T b$$

derivative w.r.t. t is zero for

$$\hat{t} = \frac{a^T b}{a^T a} = \frac{a^T b}{\|a\|^2}$$

Geometric interpretation:  $b - \hat{t}a \perp a$ :

$$(b - \hat{t}a)^T a = 0 \Longrightarrow \hat{t} = \frac{a^T b}{\|a\|^2}$$

#### Gram-Schmidt procedure on two vectors

G-S procedure on two non-zero vectors  $a_1$  and  $a_2$ 

- normalize  $q_1 = a_1 / ||a_1||$
- remove  $q_1$  component from  $a_2$ :

$$\tilde{q}_2 = a_2 - (q_1^T a_2) q_1$$

- normalize  $q_2 = \tilde{q}_2 / \|\tilde{q}_2\|$ 



- if  $\tilde{q}_2 = 0$ , then the vectors  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  are linearly dependent
- if  $\tilde{q}_2 \neq 0$ , then  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  are orthonormal ( $q_1$  and  $\tilde{q}_2$  are orthogonal)

$$q_1^T \tilde{q}_2 = q_1^T (a_2 - (q_1^T a_2)q_1) = q_1^T a_2 - (q_1^T a_2)q_1^T q_1$$
$$= q_1^T a_2 - q_1^T a_2 = 0$$

thus,  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  are linearly independent

Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization

#### Gram-Schmidt (G-S) procedure

given vectors  $a_1, \ldots, a_n \in \mathbb{R}^m$ step 1a.  $\tilde{q}_1 := a_1$ step 1b.  $q_1 := \tilde{q}_1 / \|\tilde{q}_1\|$ (normalize) step 2a.  $\tilde{q}_2 := a_2 - (q_1^T a_2) q_1$ (remove  $q_1$  component from  $a_2$ ) step 2b.  $q_2 := \tilde{q}_2 / \|\tilde{q}_2\|$ (normalize) step 3a.  $\tilde{q}_3 := a_3 - (q_1^T a_3)q_1 - (q_2^T a_3)q_2$ (remove  $q_1, q_2$  components) step 3b.  $q_3 := \tilde{q}_3 / \|\tilde{q}_3\|$ (normalize) etc.

#### Gram-Schmidt (G-S) algorithm

given vectors  $a_1, \ldots, a_n \in \mathbb{R}^m$ set  $q_1 = a_1/||a_1||$ for  $k = 2, \ldots, n$ 1. orthogonalization:  $\tilde{q}_k = a_k - (q_1^T a_k)q_1 - \cdots - (q_{k-1}^T a_k)q_{k-1}$ 2. test for linear dependence: if  $\tilde{q}_k = 0$  quit 3. normalization:  $q_k = \tilde{q}_k/||\tilde{q}_k||$ 

- if  $\tilde{q}_k = 0$  then  $a_1, \ldots, a_k$  are linearly dependent
- if  $a_1, \ldots, a_n$  are linearly independent, then  $q_1, \ldots, q_n$  are orthonormal vectors
- $a_k$  is a linear combination of  $q_1, \ldots, q_k$
- $q_k$  is a linear combination of  $a_1, \ldots, a_k$

## Example

$$a_{1} = \begin{bmatrix} -1\\1\\-1\\1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad a_{2} = \begin{bmatrix} -1\\3\\-1\\3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad a_{3} = \begin{bmatrix} 1\\3\\5\\7 \end{bmatrix}$$

•  $k = 1, ||a_1|| = 2$  and

$$q_1 = a_1/||a_1|| = (-1/2, 1/2, -1/2, 1/2)$$

• 
$$k = 2$$
, we have  $q_1^T a_2 = 4$ , and

$$\tilde{q}_2 = a_2 - (q_1^T a_2)q_1 = (1, 1, 1, 1)$$

normalizing, we get

$$q_2 = \tilde{q}_2 / \|\tilde{q}_2\| = (1/2, 1/2, 1/2, 1/2)$$

• 
$$k = 3$$
; we have  $q_1^T a_3 = 2$  and  $q_2^T a_3 = 8$ , so

$$\tilde{q}_3 = a_3 - (q_1^T a_3)q_1 - (q_2^T a_3)q_2 = (-2, -2, 2, 2)$$

normalizing, we get

$$q_3 = \tilde{q}_3 / \|\tilde{q}_3\| = (-1/2, -1/2, 1/2, 1/2)$$

• since no vector  $\tilde{q}_i$  is zero, the vectors  $a_1, a_2, a_3$  are linearly independent

#### Matrix form for Gram-Schmidt

let A be an  $m \times n$  matrix with linearly independent columns

- running Gram-Schmidt on A produces orthonormal vectors  $q_1, \ldots, q_n$
- we know from Gram-Schmidt algorithm that

$$a_{k} = (q_{1}^{T}a_{k})q_{1} + \dots + (q_{k-1}^{T}a_{k})q_{k-1} + \|\tilde{q}_{k}\|q_{k}$$
$$= R_{1k}q_{1} + \dots + R_{k-1,k}q_{k-1} + R_{kk}q_{k}$$

where 
$$R_{ij} = q_i^T a_j$$
 and  $R_{ii} = \|\tilde{q}_i\|$ 

• expressing this for each  $k = 1, \ldots, n$ ,

$$\begin{array}{c} a_1 = R_{11}q_1 \\ a_2 = R_{12}q_1 + R_{22}q_2 \\ \vdots \\ a_n = R_{1n}q_1 + \dots + R_{nn}q_n \end{array} A = \begin{bmatrix} q_1 & \dots & q_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} R_{11} & R_{12} & \dots & R_{1n} \\ 0 & R_{22} & \dots & R_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & R_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

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### **QR** factorization

if  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  has linearly independent columns, then it can be factored as

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} q_1 & \cdots & q_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} R_{11} & R_{12} & \cdots & R_{1n} \\ 0 & R_{22} & \cdots & R_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & R_{nn} \end{bmatrix} = QR$$

- $Q \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  has orthonormal columns ( $Q^T Q = I$ )
- if A is square (m = n), then Q is orthogonal  $(Q^T Q = Q Q^T = I)$
- $R \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is upper triangular with nonzero diagonal, hence invertible

#### **QR** factorization via Gram-Schmidt

given:  $m \times n$  matrix A with linearly independent columns  $a_1, \ldots, a_n$ set  $q_1 = a_1/||a_1||$  and  $R_{11} = ||a_1||$ for  $k = 2, \ldots, n$ 1.  $q_k = a_k$ 2. for  $j = 1, \ldots, k - 1$   $R_{jk} = q_j^T a_k$   $q_k = q_k - R_{jk}q_j$ 3. set  $R_{kk} = ||q_k||$  $q_k = q_k/R_{kk}$ 

- *R* is generated column by column
- complexity:  $\approx 2mn^2$  flops

## Example

from calculations in last example, we have

$$R_{11} = \|\tilde{q}_1\| = 2, \quad R_{12} = q_1^T a_2 = 4$$
$$R_{22} = \|\tilde{q}_2\| = 2, \quad R_{13} = q_1^T a_3 = 2$$
$$R_{23} = q_2^T a_3 = 8, \quad R_{33} = \|\tilde{q}_3\| = 4$$

therefore,

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 & 1\\ 1 & 3 & 3\\ -1 & -1 & 5\\ 1 & 3 & 7 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} q_1 & q_2 & q_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} R_{11} & R_{12} & R_{13}\\ 0 & R_{22} & R_{23}\\ 0 & 0 & R_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{bmatrix} -1/2 & 1/2 & -1/2\\ 1/2 & 1/2 & -1/2\\ -1/2 & 1/2 & 1/2\\ 1/2 & 1/2 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 2\\ 0 & 2 & 8\\ 0 & 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

## **Full QR factorization**

suppose  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  has linearly independent columns  $(m \ge n)$ 

the full QR factorization or QR decomposition of A is

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} Q & \tilde{Q} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} R \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- A = QR is the (reduced) QR factorization as defined earlier
- $[Q \quad \tilde{Q}]$  is  $m \times m$  and orthogonal;  $\tilde{Q}$  has size  $m \times (m n)$
- the zero block has size  $(m n) \times n$  (size of right matrix is  $m \times n$ )
- given A = QR, we can find  $\tilde{Q}$  as follows:
  - find any matrix  $\tilde{A}$  such that  $[A \ \tilde{A}]$  has linearly independent columns (e.g.,  $\tilde{A} = I$ )
  - apply Gram-Schmidt to  $[A \ \tilde{A}]$  to find  $\tilde{Q}$
- in MATLAB's: [Q,R]=qr(A)

## Computing Cholesky factorization of Gram matrix

- suppose A is an  $m \times n$  matrix with linearly independent columns
- the Gram matrix  $C = A^T A$  is positive definite

two methods for computing the Cholesky factor of C, given A

1. compute  $C = A^T A$ , then Cholesky factorization of C

$$C = R^T R$$

2. compute QR factorization A = QR; since

$$C = A^T A = R^T Q^T Q R = R^T R$$

the matrix R is the Cholesky factor of C

## Example

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -6 \\ 4 & -8 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad C = A^{T}A = \begin{bmatrix} 25 & -50 \\ -50 & 101 \end{bmatrix}$$

1. Cholesky factorization:

$$C = \left[ \begin{array}{cc} 5 & 0 \\ -10 & 1 \end{array} \right] \left[ \begin{array}{cc} 5 & -10 \\ 0 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

2. QR factorization

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -6\\ 4 & -8\\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3/5 & 0\\ 4/5 & 0\\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -10\\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

#### Pseudo-inverse via QR factorization

pseudo-inverse of A with linearly independent columns with A = QR is

$$A^{\dagger} = (A^{T}A)^{-1}A^{T}$$
  
=  $((QR)^{T}(QR))^{-1}(QR)^{T}$   
=  $(R^{T}Q^{T}QR)^{-1}R^{T}Q^{T}$   
=  $(R^{T}R)^{-1}R^{T}Q^{T}$   $(Q^{T}Q = I)$   
=  $R^{-1}R^{-T}R^{T}Q^{T}$  (*R* is nonsingular)  
=  $R^{-1}Q^{T}$ 

- for square nonsingular A this is the inverse:  $A^{-1} = (QR)^{-1} = R^{-1}Q^T$
- pseudo-inverse of A with linearly independent rows with  $A^T = \tilde{Q}\tilde{R}$  is

$$A^{\dagger} = A^T (AA^T)^{-1} = \tilde{Q}\tilde{R}^{-T}$$

### Range of a matrix

• the span of a collection of vectors is the set of all their linear combinations:

$$span(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) = \{x_1a_1 + x_2a_2 + \dots + x_na_n \mid x \in \mathbb{R}^n\}$$

• the *range* (column space) of a matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  is the span of its column vectors:

$$range(A) = \{Ax \mid x \in \mathbb{R}^n\}$$

#### Example

$$\mathsf{range} \left( \left[ \begin{array}{cc} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 \end{array} \right] \right) = \left\{ \left[ \begin{array}{c} x_1 \\ x_1 + 2x_2 \\ -x_2 \end{array} \right] \mid x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

### Range and QR factorization

suppose A has linearly independent columns with QR factorization A = QR

• *Q* has the same range as *A*:

$$y \in \operatorname{range}(A) \iff y = Ax \text{ for some } x$$
$$\iff y = QRx \text{ for some } x$$
$$\iff y = Qz \text{ for some } z$$
$$\iff y \in \operatorname{range}(Q)$$

columns of Q are an orthonormal basis for range(A):
 they are linearly independent and span(q<sub>1</sub>,...,q<sub>n</sub>) = range(A)

#### Projection on range of matrix with orthonormal columns

if  $Q \in \mathbb{R}^{m imes n}$  has orthonormal columns  $q_1, \ldots, q_n$ , then the vector

 $QQ^T b$ 

is the *orthogonal projection* of an *m*-vector b on range(Q)



 $\hat{x} = Q^T b$  satisfies  $||Q\hat{x} - b|| < ||Qx - b||$  for all  $x \neq \hat{x}$  (proof shown next on page)

**Proof:** the squared distance of b to an arbitrary point Qx in range(Q) is

$$\begin{aligned} \|Qx - b\|^2 &= \|Q(x - \hat{x}) + Q\hat{x} - b\|^2 \quad (\text{where } \hat{x} = Q^T b) \\ &= \|Q(x - \hat{x})\|^2 + \|Q\hat{x} - b\|^2 + 2(x - \hat{x})^T Q^T (Q\hat{x} - b) \\ &= \|Q(x - \hat{x})\|^2 + \|Q\hat{x} - b\|^2 \\ &= \|x - \hat{x}\|^2 + \|Q\hat{x} - b\|^2 \\ &\ge \|Q\hat{x} - b\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

with equality only if  $x = \hat{x}$ 

- line 3 follows because  $Q^T(Q\hat{x} b) = \hat{x} Q^T b = 0$
- line 4 follows from  $Q^T Q = I$

#### **Orthogonal decomposition**



• decomposition exists and unique for every b:

$$b = Qx + y, \quad Q^T y = 0 \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad x = Q^T b, \quad y = b - QQ^T b$$

• *y* is orthogonal projection on range $(Q)^{\perp} = \{u \mid Q^{T}u = 0\}$ 

#### QR factorization

#### Pseudo-inverse and projection on range

• using 
$$A = QR$$
 and  $A^{\dagger} = R^{-1}Q^{T}$  gives

$$AA^{\dagger} = QRR^{-1}Q^T = QQ^T$$

note that  $AA^{\dagger}$  and is different from  $A^{\dagger}A = I$ 

• hence  $AA^{\dagger}x = QQ^{T}x$  is the projection of x onto range(Q) = range(A)



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## Solving linear equations

- assuming *A* is nonsingular, then  $x = A^{-1}b$  solves Ax = b
- with QR factorization A = QR, we have  $A^{-1} = (QR)^{-1} = R^{-1}Q^{T}$
- compute  $x = R^{-1}(Q^T b)$  by back substitution

**QR factorization method:** to solve Ax = b with nonsingular  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ 

- 1. factor A as A = QR
- 2. compute  $Q^T b$
- 3. solve Rx = y by back substitution

#### Complexity: $2n^3 + 3n^2 \approx 2n^3$

- QR factorization  $2n^3$  flops
- matrix-vector product  $2n^2$
- back substitution  $n^2$

#### **Multiple right-hand sides**

consider k sets of linear equations with the same coefficient matrix A:

$$Ax_1 = b_1, \quad Ax_2 = b_2, \quad \dots, \quad Ax_k = b_k$$

- let  $X = [x_1 \cdots x_k]$  and  $B = [b_1 \cdots b_k]$ , each is an  $n \times k$  matrix
- express equations as AX = B
- can be solved in  $2n^3 + 3kn^2$  flops if we reuse the factorization A = QR
- for  $k \ll n$ , cost is roughly equal to cost of solving one equation  $(2n^3)$

#### Computing the inverse

solving the matrix equation AX = I gives  $A^{-1}$ 

• equivalent to *n* equations:

$$Rx_1 = Q^T e_1, \quad Rx_2 = Q^T e_2, \quad \dots, \quad Rx_n = Q^T e_n$$

- $x_i$  is *i*th column of X and  $Q^T e_i$  is the *i*th column of  $Q^T$
- complexity is  $2n^3 + n^3 = 3n^3$

#### Solving linear equations by computing the inverse

- compute inverse  $A^{-1}$  costs  $3n^3$ , then compute  $A^{-1}b$  costs  $2n^2$
- total complexity:  $3n^3 + 2n^2 \approx 3n^3$
- more expensive than QR factorization method, which costs  $2n^3$
- while inverse appears in many formulas, it is computed far less often

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## Numerical instability of G-S

consider the following MATLAB implementation of the G-S algorithm

```
[m, n] = size(A);
Q = zeros(m,n);
R = zeros(n,n);
for k = 1:n
R(1:k-1,k) = Q(:,1:k-1)' * A(:,k);
qtilde = A(:,k) - Q(:,1:k-1) * R(1:k-1,k);
R(k,k) = norm(qtilde);
Q(:,k) = qtilde / R(k,k);
end;
```

- we apply this to a square matrix A of size m = n = 50
- A is constructed as A = USV with U, V orthogonal, S diagonal with

$$S_{ii} = 10^{-10(i-1)/(n-1)}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

## Numerical instability of G-S

plot shows deviation from orthogonality between  $q_k$  and previous columns



loss of orthogonality is due to rounding error

#### **Modified Gram-Schmidt**

- G-S is numerically unstable if columns of A are almost linearly dependent
- this shortcoming can be alleviated by using  $q_k$  instead of  $a_k$  in the inner loop

given:  $m \times n$  matrix A with linearly independent columns  $a_1, \ldots, a_n$ set  $q_1 = a_1/||a_1||$  and  $R_{11} = ||a_1||$ for  $k = 2, \ldots, n$ 1.  $q_k = a_k$ 2. for  $j = 1, \ldots, k - 1$   $R_{jk} = q_j^T q_k$  (reuse  $q_k$  instead of  $a_k$ )  $q_k = q_k - R_{jk}q_j$ 3. set  $R_{kk} = ||q_k||$  $q_k = q_k/R_{kk}$ 

#### **Modified Gram-Schmidt implementation**

- rearrangement of the computation will provide an additional numerical advantage
- compute q<sub>k</sub> then orthogonalize each of the remaining vectors against it
- generating *R* by rows rather than by columns

```
given: m \times n matrix A with linearly independent columns a_1, \ldots, a_n

set Q = A

for k = 1, 2, \ldots, n

1. set

R_{kk} = ||q_k||

q_k = q_k/R_{kk}

2. for j = k + 1, \ldots, n

R_{kj} = q_k^T q_j

q_j = q_j - R_{kj} q_k
```

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#### Householder algorithm

- the most widely used algorithm for QR factorization (qr in MATLAB and Julia)
- · less sensitive to rounding error than (modified) Gram-Schmidt algorithm
- computes a "full" QR factorization (QR decomposition)

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} Q & \tilde{Q} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} R \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} Q & \tilde{Q} \end{bmatrix} \text{ orthogonal}$$

• the full Q-factor is constructed as a product of orthogonal matrices

$$[Q \ \tilde{Q}] = H_1 H_2 \cdots H_n$$

each  $H_i$  is an  $m \times m$  symmetric and orthogonal

## Reflector

Reflector: an elementary reflector is a matrix of the form

$$H = I - 2vv^T$$
 with v a unit-norm vector  $||v|| = 1$ 

#### Properties

- a reflector matrix is symmetric
- a reflector matrix is orthogonal

$$H^{T}H = (I - 2vv^{T})(I - 2vv^{T}) = I - 4vv^{T} + 4vv^{T}vv^{T} = I$$

- reflection of v: Hv = -v
- matrix-vector product Hx can be computed efficiently as

$$Hx = x - 2(v^T x)v$$

complexity is 4p flops if v and x have length p

Householder algorithm

#### Geometrical interpretation of reflector



- $S = \{u \mid v^T u = 0\}$  is the (hyper-)plane of vectors orthogonal to v
- if ||v|| = 1, the projection of x on S is given by (see page 8.20)

$$y = (I - vv^T)x$$

• reflection of *x* through the hyperplane is given by product with reflector:

$$z = y + (y - x) = (I - 2vv^{T})x$$

#### Householder algorithm

#### Reflection to multiple of first unit vector

given nonzero *p*-vector  $y = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_p)$ , define

$$w = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 + \text{sign}(y_1) \|y\| \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_p \end{bmatrix}, \quad v = \frac{1}{\|w\|} w$$

- we define sign(0) = 1
- vector w satisfies

$$||w||^{2} = 2(w^{T}y) = 2||y||(||y|| + |y_{1}|)$$

• reflector  $H = I - 2vv^T$  maps y to multiple of  $e_1 = (1, 0, \dots, 0)$ :

$$Hy = y - \frac{2(w^T y)}{\|w\|^2} w = y - w = -\operatorname{sign}(y_1) \|y\| e_1$$



the reflection through the hyperplane  $\{x \mid w^T x = 0\}$  with normal vector

```
w = y + \operatorname{sign}(y_1) \|y\| e_1
```

maps y to the vector  $-\operatorname{sign}(y_1) \|y\| e_1$ 

Householder algorithm

#### Householder triangularization

• computes reflectors  $H_1, \ldots, H_n$  that reduce A to triangular form:

$$H_n H_{n-1} \cdots H_1 A = \begin{bmatrix} R \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

• after step k, the matrix  $H_k H_{k-1} \cdots H_1 A$  has the following structure:



(elements in positions i, j for i > j and  $j \le k$  are zero)

#### Householder algorithm

given:  $m \times n$  matrix A with linearly independent columns  $a_1, \ldots, a_n$ for  $k = 1, 2, \ldots, n$ 

1. define  $y = A_{k:m,k}$  and compute (m - k + 1)-vector  $v_k$ :

$$w = y + \operatorname{sign}(y_1) ||y|| e_1, \quad v_k = \frac{1}{||w||} w$$

2. multiply  $A_{k:m,k:n}$  with reflector  $I - 2v_k v_k^T$ :

$$A_{k:m,k:n} := A_{k:m,k:n} - 2v_k(v_k^T A_{k:m,k:n})$$

- algorithm overwrites A with  $\begin{bmatrix} R \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$
- **complexity:**  $2mn^2 \frac{2}{3}n^3$  flops (we take  $2mn^2$  for the complexity of QR factorization)

#### Remarks

• step 2 is equivalent to multiplying A with  $m \times m$  reflector

$$H_k = \begin{bmatrix} I & 0 \\ 0 & I - 2v_k v_k^T \end{bmatrix} = I - 2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ v_k \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ v_k \end{bmatrix}^T$$

• algorithm returns the vectors  $v_1, \ldots, v_n$ , with  $v_k$  of length m - k + 1

#### Q-factor

$$\begin{bmatrix} Q & \tilde{Q} \end{bmatrix} = H_1 H_2 \cdots H_n$$

- usually there is no need to compute the matrix  $[Q \ \tilde{Q}]$  explicitly
- the vectors  $v_1, \ldots, v_n$  are an economical representation of  $[Q \ \tilde{Q}]$
- products with  $[Q \ \ { ilde Q}]$  or its transpose can be computed as

$$\begin{bmatrix} Q & \tilde{Q} \end{bmatrix} x = H_1 H_2 \cdots H_n x$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} Q & \tilde{Q} \end{bmatrix}^T y = H_n H_{n-1} \cdots H_1 y$$

## Example

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 & 1\\ 1 & 3 & 3\\ -1 & -1 & 5\\ 1 & 3 & 7 \end{bmatrix} = H_1 H_2 H_3 \begin{bmatrix} R\\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

we compute reflectors  $H_1, H_2, H_3$  that triangularize A:

$$H_3H_2H_1A = \begin{bmatrix} R_{11} & R_{12} & R_{13} \\ 0 & R_{22} & R_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & R_{33} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

## First column of R

• compute reflector that maps first column of A to multiple of  $e_1$ :

$$y = \begin{bmatrix} -1\\1\\-1\\1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad w = y - \|y\|e_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -3\\1\\-1\\1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad v_1 = \frac{1}{\|w\|}w = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}}\begin{bmatrix} -3\\1\\-1\\1 \end{bmatrix}$$

• overwrite A with product of  $I - 2v_1v_1^T$  and A

$$A := (I - 2v_1v_1^T)A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 2 \\ 0 & 4/3 & 8/3 \\ 0 & 2/3 & 16/3 \\ 0 & 4/3 & 20/3 \end{bmatrix}$$

### Second column of R

• compute reflector that maps A<sub>2:4,2</sub> to multiple of e<sub>1</sub>:

$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 4/3\\2/3\\4/3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad w = y + \|y\|e_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 10/3\\2/3\\4/3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad v_2 = \frac{1}{\|w\|}w = \frac{1}{\sqrt{30}} \begin{bmatrix} 5\\1\\2 \end{bmatrix}$$

• overwrite  $A_{2:4,2:3}$  with product of  $I - 2v_2v_2^T$  and  $A_{2:4,2:3}$ :

$$A := \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & I - 2v_2v_2^T \end{bmatrix} A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 2 \\ 0 & -2 & -8 \\ 0 & 0 & 16/5 \\ 0 & 0 & 12/5 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Third column of R

• compute reflector that maps  $A_{3:4,3}$  to multiple of  $e_1$ :

$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 16/5\\12/5 \end{bmatrix}, \quad w = y + ||y||e_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 36/5\\12/5 \end{bmatrix}, \quad v_3 = \frac{1}{||w||}w = \frac{1}{\sqrt{10}} \begin{bmatrix} 3\\1 \end{bmatrix}$$

• overwrite  $A_{3:4,3}$  with product of  $I - 2v_3v_3^T$  and  $A_{3:4,3}$ :

$$A := \begin{bmatrix} I & 0 \\ 0 & I - 2v_3v_3^T \end{bmatrix} A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 2 \\ 0 & -2 & -8 \\ 0 & 0 & -4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

# **Final result**

$$H_{3}H_{2}H_{1}A = \begin{bmatrix} I & 0 \\ 0 & I - 2v_{3}v_{3}^{T} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & I - 2v_{2}v_{2}^{T} \end{bmatrix} (I - 2v_{1}v_{1}^{T})A$$
$$= \begin{bmatrix} I & 0 \\ 0 & I - 2v_{3}v_{3}^{T} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & I - 2v_{2}v_{2}^{T} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 2 \\ 0 & 4/3 & 8/3 \\ 0 & 2/3 & 16/3 \\ 0 & 4/3 & 20/3 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{bmatrix} I & 0 \\ 0 & I - 2v_{3}v_{3}^{T} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 2 \\ 0 & -2 & -8 \\ 0 & 0 & 16/5 \\ 0 & 0 & 12/5 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 2 \\ 0 & -2 & -8 \\ 0 & 0 & -4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

#### **References and further readings**

- S. Boyd and L. Vandenberghe. Introduction to Applied Linear Algebra: Vectors, Matrices, and Least Squares, Cambridge University Press, 2018.
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- U. M. Ascher. A First Course on Numerical Methods. Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics, 2011.