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## Math221: Matrix Computations

### Solutions to Homework #6

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- **Problem 3.8:**  $P$  and  $Q$  can never be equal. The determinant of a Householder reflection matrix is always  $-1$ . On the other hand, since the determinant of a Givens rotation matrix is always  $1$ , the determinant of  $Q$ , the product of  $n - 1$  Givens rotations is, still  $1$ .
- **Problems 3.12:** Let

$$A = U_A \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma_A & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} V_A^T \quad \text{and} \quad B = U_B \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma_B & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} V_B^T$$

be the full SVDs of  $A$  and  $B$ , respectively, meaning  $U_A, V_A, U_B, V_B$  are all square orthogonal matrices of the right dimensions. Here we have also partitioned the singular values so that  $\Sigma_A > 0$  and  $\Sigma_B > 0$ . Define and partition

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{X} &= V_A^T X U_B = \begin{pmatrix} \widehat{X}_{1,1} & \widehat{X}_{1,2} \\ \widehat{X}_{2,1} & \widehat{X}_{2,2} \end{pmatrix}, \\ \widehat{C} &= U_A^T C V_B = \begin{pmatrix} \widehat{C}_{1,1} & \widehat{C}_{1,2} \\ \widehat{C}_{2,1} & \widehat{C}_{2,2} \end{pmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

where the partitions are done according to the dimensions of  $\Sigma_A$  and  $\Sigma_B$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \|AXB - C\|_F &= \left\| \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma_A & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \widehat{X} \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma_B & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} - \widehat{C} \right\|_F \\ &= \left\| \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma_A \widehat{X}_{1,1} \Sigma_B - \widehat{C}_{1,1} & -\widehat{C}_{1,2} \\ -\widehat{C}_{2,1} & -\widehat{C}_{2,2} \end{pmatrix} \right\|_2. \end{aligned}$$

So to minimize  $\|AXB - C\|_F$  is to solve  $\Sigma_A \widehat{X}_{1,1} \Sigma_B - \widehat{C}_{1,1} = 0$ . This implies that every minimizer satisfies

$$\widehat{X}_{1,1} = \Sigma_A^{-1} \widehat{C}_{1,1} \Sigma_B^{-1}.$$

The minimum norm one is the one with all other parts to be zero. Hence

$$X_0 = V_A \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma_A^{-1} \widehat{C}_{1,1} \Sigma_B^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U_B^T = A^\dagger C B^\dagger.$$

- **Problem 3.15:** We will only do QR factorization in this solution. Let

$$A^T = (Q_1 \quad Q_2) \begin{pmatrix} R \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

be the full QR factorization of  $A^T$ , and let

$$\hat{x} = (Q_1 \quad Q_2)^T x = \begin{pmatrix} \hat{x}_1 \\ \hat{x}_2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

With this notation, we have

$$Ax - b = R^T \hat{x}_1 - b.$$

To solve the LS problem is to solve  $R^T \hat{x}_1 - b = 0$ . The minimum norm solution is

$$x = (Q_1 \quad Q_2) \begin{pmatrix} \hat{x}_1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- **Problem 3.18:** Let

$$C^T = (Q_1 \quad Q_2) \begin{pmatrix} R \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

be the QR factorization of  $C^T$ , and let

$$\hat{x} = (Q_1 \quad Q_2)^T x = \begin{pmatrix} \hat{x}_1 \\ \hat{x}_2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The constraint now becomes  $R^T \hat{x}_1 = d$  and hence  $\hat{x}_1 = R^{-T} d$ .

Define

$$A(Q_1 \quad Q_2) = (A_1 \quad A_2).$$

We rewrite

$$Ax - b = (A_1 \quad A_2) \begin{pmatrix} \hat{x}_1 \\ \hat{x}_2 \end{pmatrix} - b = A_2 \hat{x}_2 - (b - A_1 \hat{x}_1).$$

This reduces the constrained LS problem into an unconstrained problem with coefficient matrix  $A_2$ . Now let  $\hat{Q}\hat{R} = A_2$  be the QR factorization of  $A_2$  and solve  $\hat{x}_2 = \hat{R}^{-1}\hat{Q}^T(b - A_1\hat{x}_1)$ . To recover  $x$  we compute

$$x = (Q_1 \quad Q_2) \begin{pmatrix} \hat{x}_1 \\ \hat{x}_2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- For any non-zero vector  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)^T$ , the standard way to compute the Householder transformation is to compute  $\tilde{u} = (x_1 - c, x_2, \dots, x_n)^T$  with  $c = -\mathbf{sign}(x_1)\|x\|_2$  and  $u = \tilde{u}/\|\tilde{u}\|_2$  so that

$$(I - 2uu^T)x = (c, 0, \dots, 0)^T.$$

The special sign of  $c$  ensures that  $\tilde{u}$  and  $u$  are computed to full relative accuracy.

However, the sign choice in  $c$  is actually not necessary. Let  $c = \|x\|_2$ . Show that  $\tilde{u}$ , and hence  $u$ , can still be computed to full relative accuracy with a computationally different

but mathematically equivalent formula. Perform an error analysis to support your claim. You can assume the square root function is always accurate to full relative accuracy. Write a matlab code to demonstrate that the straightforward formula for computing  $\tilde{u}$  can be unstable and yours is always stable. The matlab code `housetest.m` on the class website generates vectors that fail the straightforward formula.

**Solution:** If  $x_1$  is non-positive, then the formula for computing  $\tilde{u}$  is completely stable. In fact, both  $c$  and  $x_1 - c$  can be computed to high relative accuracy, and so can  $u$ .

When  $x_1$  is positive, the picture changes. The rounding errors in computing  $c$  could cause very large relative errors in the computed  $x_1 - c$ . The trick to avoid this problem is to note that  $c = \sqrt{x_1^2 + \cdots + x_n^2}$  so that

$$x_1 - c = \frac{x_1^2 - c^2}{x_1 + c} = -\frac{\sum_{k=2}^n x_k^2}{x_1 + c}.$$

Since  $x_1$  is positive, every operation in computing  $x_1 - c$  is now accurate to small relative error.

Since we can compute  $\tilde{u}$  to component-wise full relative accuracy in both cases, we can do the same on  $u$ . By Lemma 3.1 and Theorem 3.5, the procedure here is backward stable.

- – Let  $c^2 + s^2 = 1$  and let  $q \in \mathbf{R}^{n-1}$  be a unit vector. Find vectors  $r, u, v \in \mathbf{R}^{n-1}$  so that the matrix

$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} c & r^T \\ sq & I - uv^T \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbf{R}^{n \times n}$$

is an orthogonal matrix.

**Solution:** We want

$$\begin{pmatrix} c & r^T \\ sq & I - uv^T \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c & r^T \\ sq & I - uv^T \end{pmatrix}^T = I. \quad (1)$$

In particular, we have

$$s^2 qq^T + (I - uv^T)(I - uv^T)^T = I,$$

which leads to

$$uv^T + vu^T - v^T v u u^T = s^2 qq^T. \quad (2)$$

Hence the expression on the left hand side must have rank 1. We claim that  $u$  and  $v$  must be linearly dependent of each other. Otherwise, let  $[uv] = QR$  be the QR factorization of  $[u, v]$ . Then  $R$  is non-singular, and

$$uv^T + vu^T - v^T v u u^T = QR \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & -v^T v \end{pmatrix} R^T Q^T$$

is a rank-2 matrix, a contradiction.

Hence  $u$  and  $v$  are linearly dependent, and thus must be multiples of  $q$  as well. Since we are only concerned with the product  $uv^T$ , we choose  $uv^T = \alpha qq^T$  for some constant  $\alpha$ . Equation (2) leads to the equation

$$2\alpha - \alpha^2 = s^2 = 1 - c^2,$$

and  $\alpha = 1 \pm c$ .

From equation (1), we also have

$$csq^T + r^T (I - \alpha qq^T) = 0,$$

which means  $r$  must be a multiple of  $q$ . Let  $r = \beta q$ , we obtain

$$csq^T + \beta q^T (I - \alpha qq^T) = 0,$$

which simplifies to

$$csq^T + \beta q^T (1 - \alpha) = 0,$$

Since  $\alpha = 1 \pm c$ , this relation leads to  $\beta = \pm s$ , where  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  should choose the same  $+$  or  $-$  sign. For simplicity, we choose  $\alpha = 1 + c$  and  $\beta = s$ .

- For any non-zero vector  $x$ , find a  $Q$  matrix of the form above such that  $Qx = (\|x\|_2, 0, \dots, 0)^T$ .
- Develop a QR factorization algorithm that is based on the  $Q$  matrices, and show that it is stable. Compare the cost of your algorithm with that based on Householder transformations.

**Solution:** Let  $Qx = (\|x\|_2, 0, \dots, 0)^T$ . This implies  $x = Q^T(\|x\|_2, 0, \dots, 0)^T$ . Hence all we have to do is to choose  $c$ ,  $s$ , and  $q$  so that the first column of  $Q^T$  is in the same direction as  $x$ . This is similar to the Householder reflections in elimination. The cost of multiplying  $Q$  or  $Q^T$  to a matrix is also similar to that of Householder reflections. With these remarks, we do QR factorization using the existing QR procedure, replacing only Householder reflections with our new orthogonal matrices.

- Correctly implement your algorithm in matlab.