
Linear Systems

Math 214 Spring 2006
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Fowler 307 MWF 2:30pm - 3:25pm
<http://faculty.oxy.edu/ron/math/214/06/>

Class 28: Wednesday April 12

TITLE Gram-Schmidt Process and QR factorization

CURRENT READING Poole 5.3

Summary

There is a very cool algorithm for producing an orthogonal basis from “regular” basis for a given subspace. The process is known as Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization.

Homework Assignment

Poole, Section 5.3 : 1,2,3,4,6,11,13, 17. EXTRA CREDIT 18.

1. Gram-Schmidt Orthogonalization

Suppose we start off with three linearly independent vectors \vec{a} , \vec{b} and \vec{c} . First we will construct three orthogonal vectors \vec{A} , \vec{B} and \vec{C} and then normalize these to produce three orthonormal vectors \vec{q}_1 , \vec{q}_2 and \vec{q}_3 from our original linearly independent trio.

STEP 1. First choice, start with \vec{a} .

1. Let $\vec{A} = \vec{a}$.

STEP 2. Second choice, select in the direction of \vec{b} with the projection in the direction of \vec{a} **removed**. Then this vector should be orthogonal to \vec{a} .

2. Let $\vec{B} = \vec{b} - \frac{\vec{A}^T \vec{b}}{\vec{A}^T \vec{A}} \vec{A}$

STEP 3. Third choice, select in the direction of \vec{c} with the projections of \vec{c} in the direction of \vec{a} and in the direction of \vec{b} removed. So this third vector will be orthogonal to both of those!

3. Let $\vec{C} = \vec{c} - \frac{\vec{A}^T \vec{c}}{\vec{A}^T \vec{A}} \vec{A} - \frac{\vec{B}^T \vec{c}}{\vec{B}^T \vec{B}} \vec{B}$

STEP 4. Normalize A , B and C by dividing by their magnitudes to obtain $\vec{q}_1 = \frac{\vec{A}}{\|\vec{A}\|}$, $\vec{q}_2 = \frac{\vec{B}}{\|\vec{B}\|}$ and $\vec{q}_3 = \frac{\vec{C}}{\|\vec{C}\|}$.

The vectors \vec{q}_1 , \vec{q}_2 and \vec{q}_3 are **orthonormal!**

EXAMPLE

Let's use Gram-Schmidt to convert the linearly independent vectors $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ to three orthonormal vectors.

2. A=QR Factorization

Gram-Schmidt Orthogonalization is equivalent to factoring a matrix A into the product of an orthogonal matrix Q and an upper triangular matrix R .

$$\begin{bmatrix} \vec{a} & \vec{b} & \vec{c} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{q}_1 & \vec{q}_2 & \vec{q}_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \vec{q}_1^T \vec{a} & \vec{q}_1^T \vec{b} & \vec{q}_1^T \vec{c} \\ & \vec{q}_2^T \vec{b} & \vec{q}_2^T \vec{c} \\ & & \vec{q}_3^T \vec{c} \end{bmatrix}$$

Exercise

Strang, page 230, #23. Find \vec{q}_1 , \vec{q}_2 , and \vec{q}_3 as combinations of the independent columns of

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 3 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and write } A \text{ as } QR.$$