

Input

$$A = [b_1 | b_2 | \dots | b_p] \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times p}$$

columns are independent

$$W = \text{span}\{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_p\} = \text{col } A$$

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Output

$$Q = [q_1 | q_2 | \dots | q_p] \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times p}$$

$$W = \text{span}\{q_1, \dots, q_p\} = \text{col } Q$$

$$\text{col } A = \text{col } Q$$

Gram-Schmidt algorithm:

$$z_1 = b_1$$

$$b_1 = z_1 = \|z_1\| q_1$$

$$q_1 = \frac{z_1}{\|z_1\|}$$

$$z_2 = b_2 - (q_1 \cdot b_2) q_1 = b_2 - q_1 q_1^T b_2$$

$$b_2 = (q_1 \cdot b_2) q_1 + z_2 = (q_1 \cdot b_2) q_1 + \|z_2\| q_2$$

$$q_2 = \frac{z_2}{\|z_2\|}$$

$$z_3 = b_3 - (q_1 \cdot b_3) q_1 - (q_2 \cdot b_3) q_2$$

$$q_3 = \frac{z_3}{\|z_3\|}$$

$$= b_3 - \begin{bmatrix} q_1 & q_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} q_1^T \\ q_2^T \end{bmatrix} b_3$$

projection

$$\therefore b_3 = (q_1 \cdot b_3) q_1 + (q_2 \cdot b_3) q_2 + \|z_3\| q_3$$

Note since the columns of A came from a basis the columns are independent therefore none of the denominators were zero

$$z_p = b_p - (q_1 \cdot b_p) q_1 - \dots - (q_{p-1} \cdot b_p) q_{p-1}$$

$$q_p = \frac{z_p}{\|z_p\|}$$

$$b_p = (q_1 \cdot b_p) q_1 + \dots + (q_{p-1} \cdot b_p) q_{p-1} + \|z_p\| q_p$$

Solving back for b's in terms of q's gives...

$$b_1 = z_1 = \|z_1\| q_1$$

$$b_2 = (q_1 \cdot b_2) q_1 + z_2 = (q_1 \cdot b_2) q_1 + \|z_2\| q_2$$

$$b_3 = (q_1 \cdot b_3) q_1 + (q_2 \cdot b_3) q_2 + \|z_3\| q_3$$

;

$$b_p = (q_1 \cdot b_p) q_1 + \dots + (q_{p-1} \cdot b_p) q_{p-1} + \|z_p\| q_p$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} | & | & | & \dots & | \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 & \dots & b_p \\ | & | & | & \dots & | \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times p} = \begin{bmatrix} | & | & | & \dots & | \\ q_1 & q_2 & q_3 & \dots & q_p \\ | & | & | & \dots & | \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times p} \begin{bmatrix} \|z_1\| & q_1 \cdot b_2 & q_1 \cdot b_3 & \dots & q_1 \cdot b_p \\ 0 & \|z_2\| & q_2 \cdot b_3 & \dots & q_2 \cdot b_p \\ 0 & 0 & \|z_3\| & \dots & q_3 \cdot b_p \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & \|z_p\| \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times p}$$

R upper triangular matrix

Factorization $A = QR$

Since $\|z_i\|$ are all non-zero then R is invertible.

Idea: solve $Ax = b \dots$

How

$$QRx = b$$

$$Q^T QRx = Q^T b$$

$$Rx = Q^T b$$



upper triangular so solve for x using substitutions...

Know Q is a matrix with orthonormal columns... so

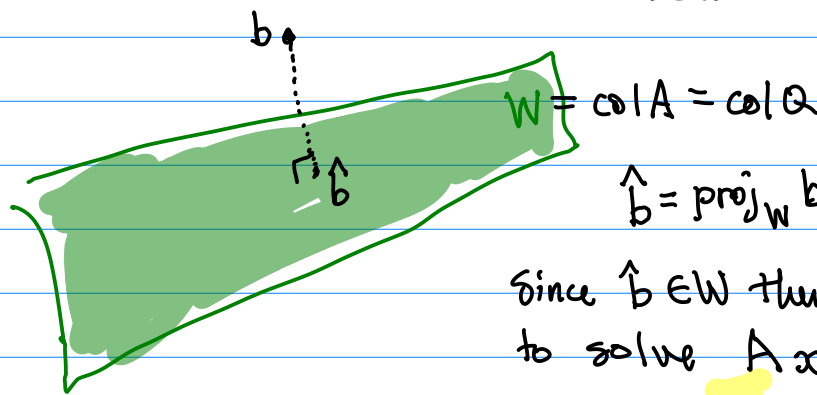
$$Q^T Q = I$$

Note: Even if $Ax = b$ didn't have a solution (but the columns of A are independent) then R is invertible and so $Rx = Q^T b$ always has a solution:

Interpret what that solution means when there isn't one...

Recall $W = \text{col } A = \text{col } Q$

If $Ax = b$ doesn't have a solution, then $b \notin \text{col } A$



$$\hat{b} = \text{proj}_W b = QQ^T b$$

Since $\hat{b} \in W$ then it's possible to solve $Ax = \hat{b}$

We know $A = QR$ and $\hat{b} = QQ^T b$. Then

$$QRx = QQ^T b$$

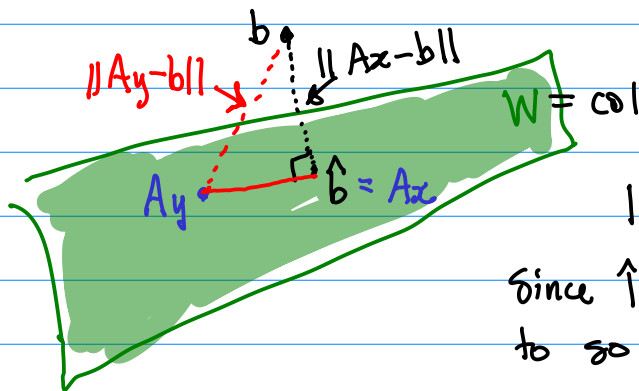
$$Q^T QRx = Q^T QQ^T b$$

$$Rx = Q^T b$$

so actually we are solving
not $Ax = b$ but
instead $Ax = \hat{b}$

↑ projection of
 b onto $\text{col } A$.

Interpretation



Since the hypotenuse of
a right triangle is
bigger than the leg...

It follows that

$$\|Ax - b\| \leq \|Ay - b\|$$

for all $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

Since ↑
to so

So we have that the solution to $Rx = Q^T b$ has
the geometric interpretation of minimizing $\|Ax - b\|^2$.

This is called the least squares solution to $Ax = b$

Algebraic interpretation:

Interpret $Rx = Q^T b$ in terms of the
original matrix A .

$$Ax = \hat{b}$$

$$Ax = QQ^T b$$

$$A^T A x = A^T Q Q^T b$$

$$A^T A x = R^T Q^T Q Q^T b = R^T Q^T b = A^T b$$

$$A = QR$$

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

Therefore $A^T A x = A^T b$ ← Normal equations...

If x is the minimizer for $\|Ax - b\|$ then $A^T Ax = A^T b$.

To show the other way around, it is enough to check whether $A^T A$ is invertible..

$$A^T A = (R^T Q^T)(QR) = R^T \cancel{Q^T Q} R = R^T R$$

since R is invertible, so is R^T and consequently $R^T R$ is also invertible.

Therefore $A^T A$ is invertible...

Note: Finding the minimizer of $\|Ax - b\|$ using the normal equations $A^T Ax = A^T b$ is not practical for very big problems and can cause rounding errors on a computer solution..

If A has 2 columns then $A^T A \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$ and maybe the normal equations are okay..

Applications to statistics for making a regression...

Applications to computers, since $Ax = b$ never has an exact solution on a computer due to rounding errors... and so minimizing $\|Ax - b\|$ is better...

The Gram-Schmidt Process

Given a basis $\{x_1, \dots, x_p\}$ for a nonzero subspace W of \mathbb{R}^n , define

$$\begin{aligned} v_1 &= x_1 \\ v_2 &= x_2 - \frac{x_2 \cdot v_1}{v_1 \cdot v_1} v_1 \\ v_3 &= x_3 - \frac{x_3 \cdot v_1}{v_1 \cdot v_1} v_1 - \frac{x_3 \cdot v_2}{v_2 \cdot v_2} v_2 \\ &\vdots \\ v_p &= x_p - \frac{x_p \cdot v_1}{v_1 \cdot v_1} v_1 - \frac{x_p \cdot v_2}{v_2 \cdot v_2} v_2 - \dots - \frac{x_p \cdot v_{p-1}}{v_{p-1} \cdot v_{p-1}} v_{p-1} \end{aligned}$$

Then $\{v_1, \dots, v_p\}$ is an orthogonal basis for W . In addition

$$\text{Span}\{v_1, \dots, v_k\} = \text{Span}\{x_1, \dots, x_k\} \quad \text{for } 1 \leq k \leq p \quad (1)$$

note the Gram-Schmidt in the book looks different because they don't introduce the unit vectors... it turns out to be the same... the only reason it's done this way is to avoid the square roots... we used the unit vectors because it is easier to figure out what R is in that case...