

# QR Factorization

# Projectors

- A *projector* is a square matrix  $P$  that satisfies

$$P^2 = P$$

- Not necessarily an *orthogonal projector* (more later)

- If  $v \in \text{range}(P)$ , then  $Pv = v$

- Since with  $v = Px$ ,

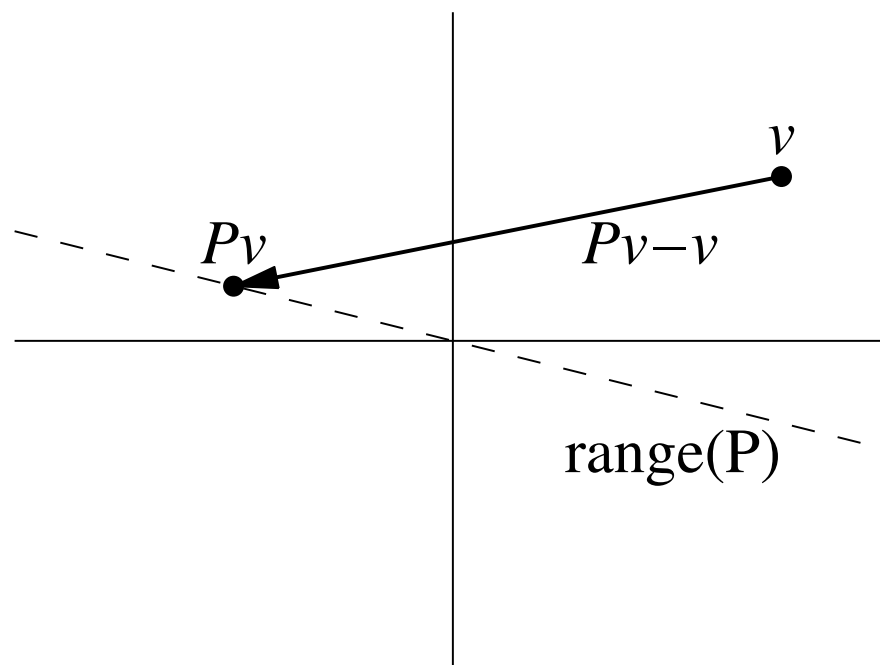
$$Pv = P^2x = Px = v$$

- Projection along the line

$$Pv - v \in \text{null}(P)$$

- Since  $P(Pv - v) =$

$$P^2v - Pv = 0$$



# Complementary Projectors

- The matrix  $I - P$  is the *complementary projector* to  $P$
- $I - P$  projects on the nullspace of  $P$ :
  - If  $Pv = 0$ , then  $(I - P)v = v$ , so  $\text{null}(P) \subseteq \text{range}(I - P)$
  - But for any  $v$ ,  $(I - P)v = v - Pv \in \text{null}(P)$ , so  $\text{range}(I - P) \subseteq \text{null}(P)$
  - Therefore

$$\text{range}(I - P) = \text{null}(P)$$

and

$$\text{null}(I - P) = \text{range}(P)$$

# Complementary Subspaces

- For a projector  $P$ ,

$$\text{null}(I - P) \cap \text{null}(P) = \{0\}$$

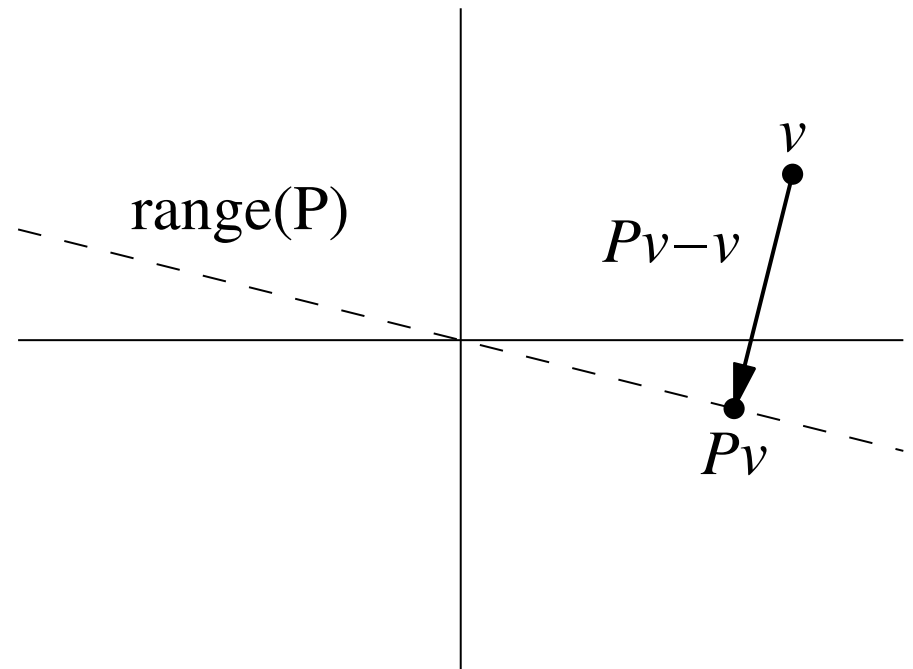
or

$$\text{range}(P) \cap \text{null}(P) = \{0\}$$

- A projector separates  $\mathbb{C}^m$  into two spaces  $S_1, S_2$ , with  $\text{range}(P) = S_1$  and  $\text{null}(P) = S_2$
- $P$  is the projector *onto*  $S_1$  *along*  $S_2$

# Orthogonal Projectors

- An *orthogonal projector* projects onto  $S_1$  along  $S_2$ , with  $S_1, S_2$  orthogonal
- A projector  $P$  is orthogonal  $\iff P = P^*$
- *Proof.* Textbook / Black board



# Projection with Orthonormal Basis

- Reduced SVD gives projector for orthonormal columns  $\hat{Q}$ :

$$P = \hat{Q}\hat{Q}^*$$

- Complement  $I - \hat{Q}\hat{Q}^*$  also orthogonal, projects onto space orthogonal to  $\text{range}(\hat{Q})$
- Special case 1: Rank-1 Orthogonal Projector (gives component in direction  $q$ )

$$P_q = qq^*$$

- Special case 2: Rank  $m - 1$  Orthogonal Projector (eliminates component in direction  $q$ )

$$P_{\perp q} = I - qq^*$$

# Projection with Arbitrary Basis

- Project  $v$  to  $y \in \text{range}(A)$ . Then

$$y - v \perp \text{range}(A), \text{ or } a_j^*(y - v) = 0, \forall j$$

- Set  $y = Ax$ :

$$a_j^*(Ax - v) = 0, \forall j \iff A^*(Ax - v) = 0 \iff A^*Ax = A^*v$$

- $A^*A$  is nonsingular, so

$$x = (A^*A)^{-1}A^*v$$

- Finally, we are interested in the projection  $y = Ax = A(A^*A)^{-1}A^*v$ , giving the orthogonal projector

$$P = A(A^*A)^{-1}A^*$$

# The QR Factorization - Main Idea

- Find orthonormal vectors that span the successive spaces spanned by the columns of  $A$ :

$$\langle a_1 \rangle \subseteq \langle a_1, a_2 \rangle \subseteq \langle a_1, a_2, a_3 \rangle \subseteq \dots$$

- This means that (for full rank  $A$ ),

$$\langle q_1, q_2, \dots, q_j \rangle = \langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle, \quad \text{for } j = 1, \dots, n$$



# The QR Factorization - Matrix Form

- In matrix form,  $\langle q_1, q_2, \dots, q_j \rangle = \langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$  becomes

$$\left[ \begin{array}{c|c|c|c} a_1 & a_2 & \cdots & a_n \end{array} \right] = \left[ \begin{array}{c|c|c|c} q_1 & q_2 & \cdots & q_n \end{array} \right] \begin{bmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} & \cdots & r_{1n} \\ & r_{22} & & \vdots \\ & & \ddots & \vdots \\ & & & r_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

or

$$A = \hat{Q}\hat{R}$$

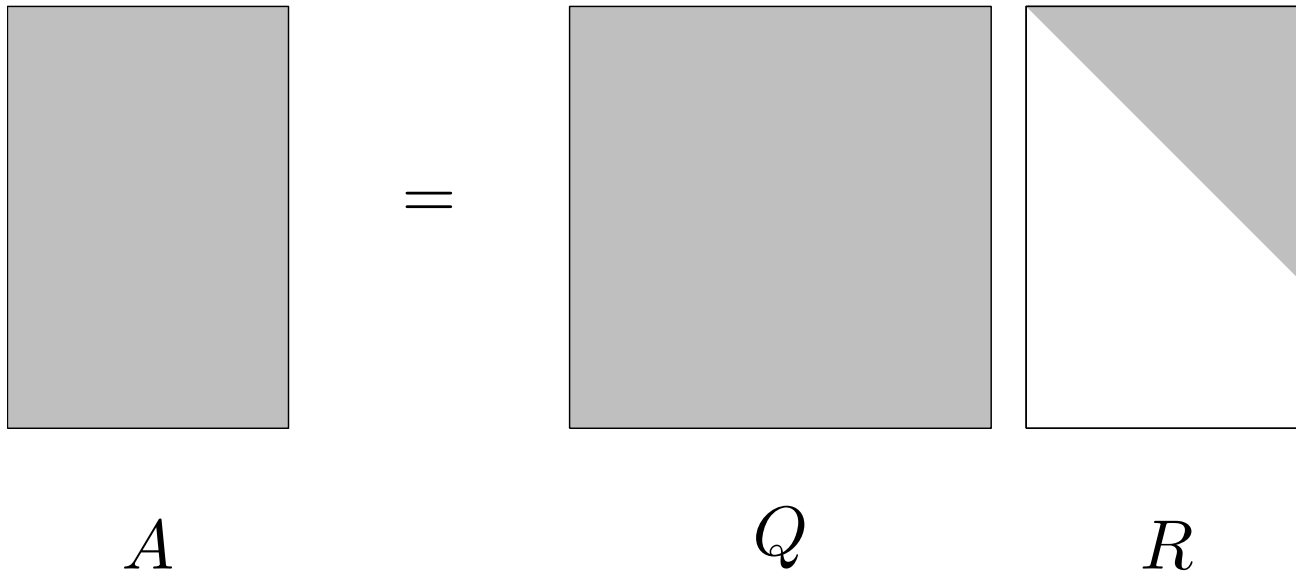
- This is the *reduced QR factorization*
- Add orthogonal extension to  $\hat{Q}$  and add rows to  $\hat{R}$  to obtain the *full QR factorization*

# The Full QR Factorization

- Let  $A$  be an  $m \times n$  matrix. The full QR factorization of  $A$  is the factorization  $A = QR$ , where

$Q$  is  $m \times m$  unitary

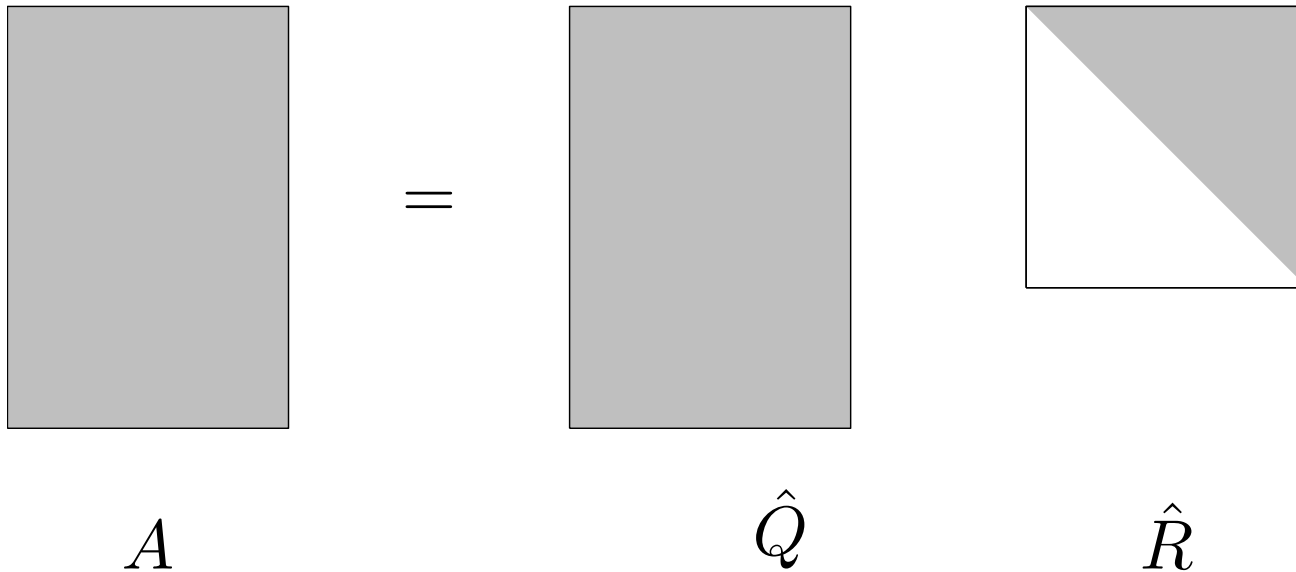
$R$  is  $m \times n$  upper-triangular



# The Reduced QR Factorization

- A more compact representation is the *Reduced QR Factorization*  
 $A = \hat{Q}\hat{R}$ , where (for  $m \geq n$ )

$\hat{Q}$  is  $m \times n$  and  $\hat{R}$  is  $m \times n$



# Gram-Schmidt Orthogonalization

- Find new  $q_j$  orthogonal to  $q_1, \dots, q_{j-1}$  by subtracting components along previous vectors

$$v_j = a_j - (q_1^* a_j)q_1 - (q_2^* a_j)q_2 - \dots - (q_{j-1}^* a_j)q_{j-1}$$

- Normalize to get  $q_j = v_j / \|v_j\|$
- We then obtain a reduced QR factorization  $A = \hat{Q}\hat{R}$ , with

$$r_{ij} = q_i^* a_j, \quad (i \neq j)$$

and

$$|r_{jj}| = \|a_j - \sum_{i=1}^{j-1} r_{ij}q_i\|_2$$

# Classical Gram-Schmidt

- Straight-forward application of Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization
- Numerically unstable

## Algorithm: Classical Gram-Schmidt

**for**  $j = 1$  **to**  $n$

$$v_j = a_j$$

**for**  $i = 1$  **to**  $j - 1$

$$r_{ij} = q_i^* a_j$$

$$v_j = v_j - r_{ij} q_i$$

$$r_{jj} = \|v_j\|_2$$

$$q_j = v_j / r_{jj}$$

# Existence and Uniqueness

- Every  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$  ( $m \geq n$ ) has a full QR factorization and a reduced QR factorization
- *Proof.* For full rank  $A$ , Gram-Schmidt proves existence of  $A = \hat{Q}\hat{R}$ .  
Otherwise, when  $v_j = 0$  choose arbitrary vector orthogonal to previous  $q_i$ .  
For full QR, add orthogonal extension to  $Q$  and zero rows to  $R$ .
- Each  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$  ( $m \geq n$ ) of full rank has unique  $A = \hat{Q}\hat{R}$  with  $r_{jj} > 0$
- *Proof.* Again Gram-Schmidt,  $r_{jj} > 0$  determines the sign

# Gram-Schmidt Orthogonalization

# Gram-Schmidt Projections

- The orthogonal vectors produced by Gram-Schmidt can be written in terms of projectors

$$q_1 = \frac{P_1 a_1}{\|P_1 a_1\|}, \quad q_2 = \frac{P_2 a_2}{\|P_2 a_2\|}, \quad \dots, \quad q_n = \frac{P_n a_n}{\|P_n a_n\|}$$

where

$$P_j = I - \hat{Q}_{j-1} \hat{Q}_{j-1}^* \text{ with } \hat{Q}_{j-1} = \begin{bmatrix} q_1 & | & q_2 & | & \dots & | & q_{j-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

- $P_j$  projects orthogonally onto the space orthogonal to  $\langle q_1, \dots, q_{j-1} \rangle$ , and  $\text{rank}(P_j) = m - (j - 1)$



# The Modified Gram-Schmidt Algorithm

- The projection  $P_j$  can equivalently be written as

$$P_j = P_{\perp q_{j-1}} \cdots P_{\perp q_2} P_{\perp q_1}$$

where (last lecture)

$$P_{\perp q} = I - qq^*$$

- $P_{\perp q}$  projects orthogonally onto the space orthogonal to  $q$ , and  $\text{rank}(P_{\perp q}) = m - 1$
- The *Classical Gram-Schmidt* algorithm computes an orthogonal vector by

$$v_j = P_j a_j$$

while the *Modified Gram-Schmidt* algorithm uses

$$v_j = P_{\perp q_{j-1}} \cdots P_{\perp q_2} P_{\perp q_1} a_j$$

# Classical vs. Modified Gram-Schmidt

- Small modification of classical G-S gives modified G-S (but see next slide)
- Modified G-S is numerically stable (less sensitive to rounding errors)

## Classical/Modified Gram-Schmidt

**for**  $j = 1$  **to**  $n$

$$v_j = a_j$$

**for**  $i = 1$  **to**  $j - 1$

$$\begin{cases} r_{ij} = q_i^* a_j & \text{(CGS)} \\ r_{ij} = q_i^* v_j & \text{(MGS)} \end{cases}$$

$$v_j = v_j - r_{ij} q_i$$

$$r_{jj} = \|v_j\|_2$$

$$q_j = v_j / r_{jj}$$

# Implementation of Modified Gram-Schmidt

- In modified G-S,  $P_{\perp q_i}$  can be applied to all  $v_j$  as soon as  $q_i$  is known
- Makes the inner loop iterations independent (like in classical G-S)

## Classical Gram-Schmidt

**for**  $j = 1$  **to**  $n$

$$v_j = a_j$$

**for**  $i = 1$  **to**  $j - 1$

$$r_{ij} = q_i^* a_j$$

$$v_j = v_j - r_{ij} q_i$$

$$r_{jj} = \|v_j\|_2$$

$$q_j = v_j / r_{jj}$$

## Modified Gram-Schmidt

**for**  $i = 1$  **to**  $n$

$$v_i = a_i$$

**for**  $i = 1$  **to**  $n$

$$r_{ii} = \|v_i\|$$

$$q_i = v_i / r_{ii}$$

**for**  $j = i + 1$  **to**  $n$

$$r_{ij} = q_i^* v_j$$

$$v_j = v_j - r_{ij} q_i$$

# Example: Classical vs. Modified Gram-Schmidt

- Compare classical and modified G-S for the vectors

$$a_1 = (1, \epsilon, 0, 0)^T, \quad a_2 = (1, 0, \epsilon, 0)^T, \quad a_3 = (1, 0, 0, \epsilon)^T$$

making the approximation  $1 + \epsilon^2 \approx 1$

- Classical:

$$v_1 \leftarrow (1, \epsilon, 0, 0)^T, \quad r_{11} = \sqrt{1 + \epsilon^2} \approx 1, \quad q_1 = v_1 / r_{11} = (1, \epsilon, 0, 0)^T$$

$$v_2 \leftarrow (1, 0, \epsilon, 0)^T, \quad r_{12} = q_1^T a_2 = 1, \quad v_2 \leftarrow v_2 - r_{12} q_1 = (0, -\epsilon, \epsilon, 0)^T$$

$$r_{22} = \sqrt{2}\epsilon, \quad q_2 = v_2 / r_{22} = (0, -1, 1, 0)^T / \sqrt{2}$$

$$v_3 \leftarrow (1, 0, 0, \epsilon)^T, \quad r_{13} = q_1^T a_3 = 1, \quad v_3 \leftarrow v_3 - r_{13} q_1 = (0, -\epsilon, 0, \epsilon)^T$$

$$r_{23} = q_2^T a_3 = 0, \quad v_3 \leftarrow v_3 - r_{23} q_2 = (0, -\epsilon, 0, \epsilon)^T$$

$$r_{33} = \sqrt{2}\epsilon, \quad q_3 = v_3 / r_{33} = (0, -1, 0, 1)^T / \sqrt{2}$$

# Example: Classical vs. Modified Gram-Schmidt

- Modified:

$$v_1 \leftarrow (1, \epsilon, 0, 0)^T, \quad r_{11} = \sqrt{1 + \epsilon^2} \approx 1, \quad q_1 = v_1/r_{11} = (1, \epsilon, 0, 0)^T$$

$$v_2 \leftarrow (1, 0, \epsilon, 0)^T, \quad r_{12} = q_1^T v_2 = 1, \quad v_2 \leftarrow v_2 - 1q_1 = (0, -\epsilon, \epsilon, 0)^T$$

$$r_{22} = \sqrt{2}\epsilon, \quad q_2 = v_2/r_{22} = (0, -1, 1, 0)^T / \sqrt{2}$$

$$v_3 \leftarrow (1, 0, 0, \epsilon)^T, \quad r_{13} = q_1^T v_3 = 1, \quad v_3 \leftarrow v_3 - 1q_1 = (0, -\epsilon, 0, \epsilon)^T$$

$$r_{23} = q_2^T v_3 = \epsilon/\sqrt{2}, \quad v_3 \leftarrow v_3 - r_{23}q_2 = (0, -\epsilon/2, -\epsilon/2, \epsilon)^T$$

$$r_{33} = \sqrt{6}\epsilon/2, \quad q_3 = v_3/r_{33} = (0, -1, -1, 2)^T / \sqrt{6}$$

- Check Orthogonality:

- Classical:  $q_2^T q_3 = (0, -1, 1, 0)(0, -1, 0, 1)^T / 2 = 1/2$

- Modified:  $q_2^T q_3 = (0, -1, 1, 0)(0, -1, -1, 2)^T / \sqrt{12} = 0$

# Operation Count

- Count number of floating points operations – “flops” – in an algorithm
- Each  $+$ ,  $-$ ,  $*$ ,  $/$ , or  $\sqrt{\quad}$  counts as one flop
- No distinction between real and complex
- No consideration of memory accesses or other performance aspects

# Operation Count - Modified G-S

- Example: Count all  $+$ ,  $-$ ,  $*$ ,  $/$  in the Modified Gram-Schmidt algorithm (not just the leading term)

(1) **for**  $i = 1$  **to**  $n$

(2)  $v_i = a_i$

(3) **for**  $i = 1$  **to**  $n$

(4)  $r_{ii} = \|v_i\|$

$m$  multiplications,  $m - 1$  additions

(5)  $q_i = v_i / r_{ii}$

$m$  divisions

(6) **for**  $j = i + 1$  **to**  $n$

(7)  $r_{ij} = q_i^* v_j$

$m$  multiplications,  $m - 1$  additions

(8)  $v_j = v_j - r_{ij} q_i$

$m$  multiplications,  $m$  subtractions

# Operation Count - Modified G-S

- The total for each operation is

$$\begin{aligned}\#A &= \sum_{i=1}^n \left( m - 1 + \sum_{j=i+1}^n m - 1 \right) = n(m - 1) + \sum_{i=1}^n (m - 1)(n - i) = \\ &= n(m - 1) + \frac{n(n - 1)(m - 1)}{2} = \frac{1}{2}n(n + 1)(m - 1)\end{aligned}$$

$$\#S = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=i+1}^n m = \sum_{i=1}^n m(n - i) = \frac{1}{2}mn(n - 1)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\#M &= \sum_{i=1}^n \left( m + \sum_{j=i+1}^n 2m \right) = mn + \sum_{i=1}^n 2m(n - i) = \\ &= mn + \frac{2mn(n - 1)}{2} = mn^2\end{aligned}$$

$$\#D = \sum_{i=1}^n m = mn$$



# Operation Count - Modified G-S

and the total flop count is

$$\frac{1}{2}n(n+1)(m-1) + \frac{1}{2}mn(n-1) + mn^2 + mn =$$
$$2mn^2 + mn - \frac{1}{2}n^2 - \frac{1}{2}n \sim 2mn^2$$

- The symbol  $\sim$  indicates asymptotic value as  $m, n \rightarrow \infty$  (leading term)
- Easier to find just the leading term:
  - Most work done in lines (7) and (8), with  $4m$  flops per iteration
  - Including the loops, the total becomes

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=i+1}^n 4m = 4m \sum_{i=1}^n (n-i) \sim 4m \sum_{i=1}^n i = 2mn^2$$

# Householder Reflectors

# Gram-Schmidt as Triangular Orthogonalization

- Gram-Schmidt multiplies with triangular matrices to make columns orthogonal, for example at the first step:

$$\left[ \begin{array}{c|c|c|c} v_1 & v_2 & \cdots & v_n \end{array} \right] \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{r_{11}} & \frac{-r_{12}}{r_{11}} & \frac{-r_{13}}{r_{11}} & \cdots \\ & 1 & & \\ & & 1 & \\ & & & \ddots \end{bmatrix} = \left[ \begin{array}{c|c|c|c} q_1 & v_2^{(2)} & \cdots & v_n^{(2)} \end{array} \right]$$

- After all the steps we get a product of triangular matrices

$$A \underbrace{R_1 R_2 \cdots R_n}_{\hat{R}^{-1}} = \hat{Q}$$

- “Triangular orthogonalization”

# Householder Triangularization

- The Householder method multiplies by unitary matrices to make columns triangular, for example at the first step:

$$Q_1 A = \begin{bmatrix} r_{11} & \mathbf{x} & \cdots & \mathbf{x} \\ 0 & \mathbf{x} & \cdots & \mathbf{x} \\ 0 & \mathbf{x} & \cdots & \mathbf{x} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \mathbf{x} & \cdots & \mathbf{x} \end{bmatrix}$$

- After all the steps we get a product of orthogonal matrices

$$\underbrace{Q_n \cdots Q_2 Q_1}_{Q^*} A = R$$

- “Orthogonal triangularization”

# Introducing Zeros

- $Q_k$  introduces zeros below the diagonal in column  $k$
- Preserves all the zeros previously introduced

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \left[ \begin{array}{ccc} \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{Q_1} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{\times} & \mathbf{\times} & \mathbf{\times} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{\times} & \mathbf{\times} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{\times} & \mathbf{\times} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{\times} & \mathbf{\times} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{\times} & \mathbf{\times} \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{Q_2} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc} \times & \times & \times \\ & \mathbf{\times} & \mathbf{\times} \\ & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{\times} \\ & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{\times} \\ & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{\times} \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{Q_3} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc} \times & \times & \times \\ & \times & \times \\ & & \mathbf{\times} \\ & & \mathbf{0} \\ & & \mathbf{0} \end{array} \right] \\
 A \qquad \qquad \qquad Q_1 A \qquad \qquad \qquad Q_2 Q_1 A \qquad \qquad \qquad Q_3 Q_2 Q_1 A
 \end{array}$$

# Householder Reflectors

- Let  $Q_k$  be of the form

$$Q_k = \begin{bmatrix} I & 0 \\ 0 & F \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $I$  is  $(k - 1) \times (k - 1)$  and  $F$  is  $(m - k + 1) \times (m - k + 1)$

- Create *Householder reflector*  $F$  that introduces zeros:

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} \times \\ \times \\ \vdots \\ \times \end{bmatrix} \quad Fx = \begin{bmatrix} \|x\| \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \|x\|e_1$$

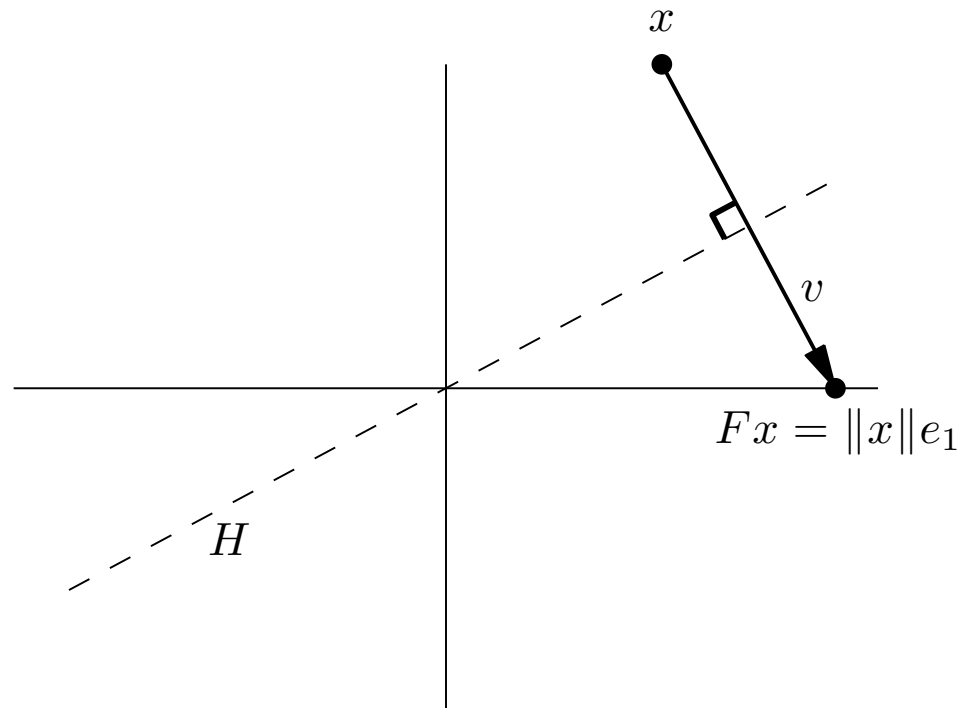
# Householder Reflectors

- Idea: Reflect across hyperplane  $H$  orthogonal to  $v = \|x\|e_1 - x$ , by the unitary matrix

$$F = I - 2 \frac{vv^*}{v^*v}$$

- Compare with projector

$$P_{\perp v} = I - \frac{vv^*}{v^*v}$$







# The Householder Algorithm

- Compute the factor  $R$  of a  $QR$  factorization of  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$  ( $m \geq n$ )
- Leave result in place of  $A$ , store reflection vectors  $v_k$  for later use

## Algorithm: Householder QR Factorization

**for**  $k = 1$  **to**  $n$

$$x = A_{k:m,k}$$

$$v_k = \text{sign}(x_1) \|x\|_2 e_1 + x$$

$$v_k = v_k / \|v_k\|_2$$

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

# Applying or Forming $Q$

- Compute  $Q^*b = Q_n \cdots Q_2Q_1b$  and  $Qx = Q_1Q_2 \cdots Q_nx$  implicitly
- To create  $Q$  explicitly, apply to  $x = I$

## Algorithm: Implicit Calculation of $Q^*b$

**for**  $k = 1$  **to**  $n$

$$b_{k:m} = b_{k:m} - 2v_k(v_k^*b_{k:m})$$

## Algorithm: Implicit Calculation of $Qx$

**for**  $k = n$  **downto**  $1$

$$x_{k:m} = x_{k:m} - 2v_k(v_k^*x_{k:m})$$

# Operation Count - Householder QR

- Most work done by

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

- Operations per iteration:

- $2(m - k)(n - k)$  for the dot products  $v_k^* A_{k:m,k:n}$
- $(m - k)(n - k)$  for the outer product  $2v_k(\dots)$
- $(m - k)(n - k)$  for the subtraction  $A_{k:m,k:n} - \dots$
- $4(m - k)(n - k)$  total

- Including the outer loop, the total becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^n 4(m - k)(n - k) &= 4 \sum_{k=1}^n (mn - k(m + n) + k^2) \\ &\sim 4mn^2 - 4(m + n)n^2/2 + 4n^3/3 = 2mn^2 - 2n^3/3 \end{aligned}$$

# Givens Rotations

- Alternative to Householder reflectors

- A Givens rotation  $R = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$  rotates  $x \in \mathbb{R}^2$  by  $\theta$

- To set an element to zero, choose  $\cos \theta$  and  $\sin \theta$  so that

$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_i \\ x_j \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{x_i^2 + x_j^2} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

or

$$\cos \theta = \frac{x_i}{\sqrt{x_i^2 + x_j^2}}, \quad \sin \theta = \frac{-x_j}{\sqrt{x_i^2 + x_j^2}}$$

# Givens QR

- Introduce zeros in column from bottom and up

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \begin{bmatrix} \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times \end{bmatrix} & \xrightarrow{(3,4)} & \begin{bmatrix} \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times \\ \mathbf{\times} & \mathbf{\times} & \mathbf{\times} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{\times} & \mathbf{\times} \end{bmatrix} & \xrightarrow{(2,3)} & \begin{bmatrix} \times & \times & \times \\ \mathbf{\times} & \mathbf{\times} & \mathbf{\times} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{\times} & \mathbf{\times} \\ & \times & \times \end{bmatrix} & \xrightarrow{(1,2)} & \begin{bmatrix} \times & \times & \times \\ & \times & \times \\ & \times & \times \\ & \times & \times \end{bmatrix} \\
 \\
 \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{\times} & \mathbf{\times} & \mathbf{\times} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{\times} & \mathbf{\times} \\ & \times & \times \\ & \times & \times \end{bmatrix} & \xrightarrow{(3,4)} & \begin{bmatrix} \times & \times & \times \\ & \times & \times \\ & \mathbf{\times} & \mathbf{\times} \\ & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{\times} \end{bmatrix} & \xrightarrow{(2,3)} & \begin{bmatrix} \times & \times & \times \\ & \times & \times \\ & \mathbf{\times} & \mathbf{\times} \\ & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{\times} \\ & & \times \end{bmatrix} & \xrightarrow{(3,4)} & R
 \end{array}$$

- Flop count  $3mn^2 - n^3$  (or 50% more than Householder QR)

# Least Square Problems

# The Linear Least Squares Problem

- In general,  $Ax = b$  with  $m > n$  has no solution
- Instead, try to minimize the *residual*  $r = b - Ax$
- With the 2-norm we obtain the linear *least squares problem* (LSP):

Given  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ ,  $m \geq n$ ,  $b \in \mathbb{C}^m$ ,  
find  $x \in \mathbb{C}^n$  such that  $\|b - Ax\|_2$  is minimized

- The minimizer  $x$  is the solution to the *normal equations*

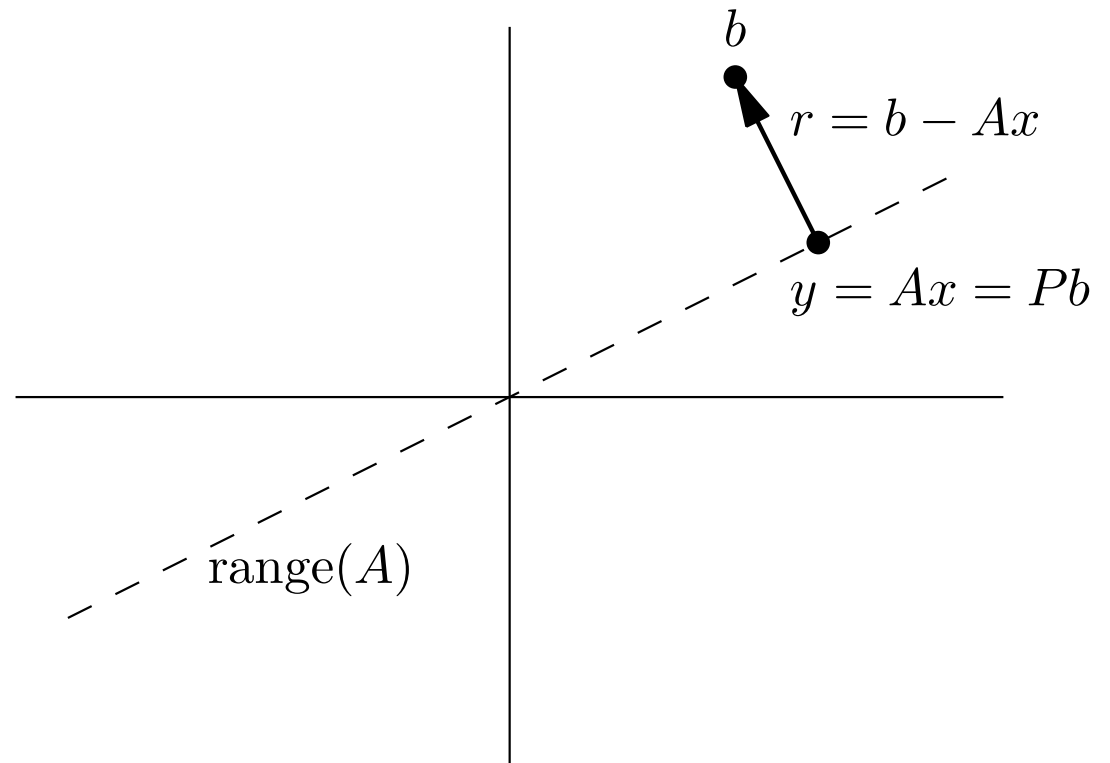
$$A^*Ax = A^*b$$

or, in terms of the *pseudoinverse*  $A^+$ :

$$x = A^+b, \quad \text{where } A^+ = (A^*A)^{-1}A^* \in \mathbb{C}^{n,m}$$

# Geometric Interpretation

- Find the point  $Ax$  in  $\text{range}(A)$  closest to  $b$
- This  $x$  will minimize the 2-norm of  $r = b - Ax$
- $Ax = Pb$  where  $P$  is an orthogonal projector onto  $\text{range}(A)$ , so the residual must be orthogonal to  $\text{range}(A)$





# Solving the LSP – 1. Normal Equations

- If  $A$  has full rank,  $A^*A$  is square, hermitian positive definite system
- Solve by *Cholesky factorization* (Gaussian elimination)

## Algorithm: Least Squares via Normal Equations

1. Form the matrix  $A^*A$  and the vector  $A^*b$
2. Compute the Cholesky factorization  $A^*A = R^*R$
3. Solve the lower-triangular system  $R^*w = A^*b$  for  $w$
4. Solve the upper-triangular system  $Rx = w$  for  $x$

- Work  $\sim$  Forming  $A^*A$  + Cholesky  $\sim mn^2 + n^3/3$  flops
- Fast, but sensitive to rounding errors

## Solving the LSP – 2. QR Factorization

- Using  $A = \hat{Q}\hat{R}$ ,  $b$  can be projected onto  $\text{range}(A)$  by  $P = \hat{Q}\hat{Q}^*$
- Insert into  $Ax = b$  to get  $\hat{Q}\hat{R}x = \hat{Q}\hat{Q}^*b$ , or  $\hat{R}x = \hat{Q}^*b$

### Algorithm: Least Squares via QR Factorization

1. Compute the reduced QR factorization  $A = \hat{Q}\hat{R}$
  2. Compute the vector  $\hat{Q}^*b$
  3. Solve the upper-triangular system  $\hat{R}x = \hat{Q}^*b$  for  $x$
- Work  $\sim$  QR Factorization  $\sim 2mn^2 - 2n^3/3$  flops
  - Good stability, relatively fast, used in MATLAB's "backslash" \

## Solving the LSP – 3. SVD

- Using  $A = \hat{U}\hat{\Sigma}V^*$ ,  $b$  can be projected onto  $\text{range}(A)$  by  $P = \hat{U}\hat{U}^*$
- Insert into  $Ax = b$  to get  $\hat{U}\hat{\Sigma}V^*x = \hat{U}\hat{U}^*b$ , or  $\hat{\Sigma}V^*x = \hat{U}^*b$

### Algorithm: Least Squares via SVD

1. Compute the reduced SVD  $A = \hat{U}\hat{\Sigma}V^*$
  2. Compute the vector  $\hat{U}^*b$
  3. Solve the diagonal system  $\hat{\Sigma}w = \hat{U}^*b$  for  $w$
  4. Set  $x = Vw$
- Work  $\sim$  SVD  $\sim 2mn^2 + 11n^3$  flops
  - Very good stability properties, use if  $A$  is close to rank-deficient