

Math 415 Lecture 23

Chapter 5.3 Orthogonal Matrices

Def'n A square matrix Q is called an orthogonal matrix if

$$Q^T Q = I$$

ie the inverse of Q is its transpose.

Prop'n A matrix is orthogonal iff its columns form an orthonormal basis relative to the Euclidean (dot) product.

Pf $Q = (u_1 \dots u_n) \Rightarrow$

$$Q^T Q = \begin{pmatrix} u_1^T \\ \vdots \\ u_n^T \end{pmatrix} (u_1 \dots u_n) = (u_i^T u_j)$$

So $u_i^T u_j = 0$ if $i \neq j$, $u_i^T u_i = \|u_i\|^2 = 1$. Done

Example Find all 2×2 orthog matrices

$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow a^2 + c^2 = 1, b^2 + d^2 = 1, ab + cd = 0$$

$$\text{Take } a = \cos \theta, b = \cos \psi \\ c = \sin \theta, d = \sin \psi$$

$$\cos \theta \sin \psi + \sin \theta \cos \psi = 0$$

$$\cos(\theta - \psi) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta - \psi = \pm \frac{\pi}{2}$$

Thus either $b = -\sin \theta, d = \cos \theta$ or $b = \sin \theta, d = -\cos \theta$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \text{ or } \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & -\cos \theta \end{pmatrix}, 0 \leq \theta < 2\pi.$$

Note: If we think of $u = Qx$ as a transformation taking one vector x and producing another vector u , then we can think of Q as a transfm. Let

$$u = Qx, \quad v = Qy.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } \|u\|^2 &= \|Qx\|^2 = Qx \cdot Qx = (Qx)^T Qx \\ &= x^T \underbrace{Q^T Q}_I x \\ &= x \cdot x = \|x\|^2, \text{ i.e. } \|u\| = \|x\| \end{aligned}$$

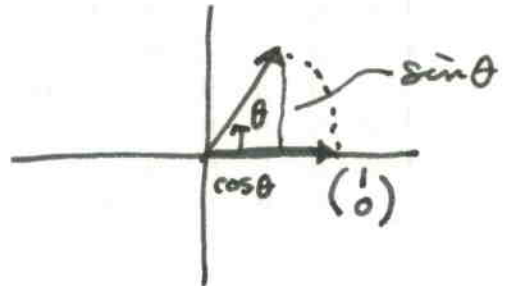
Similarly $\|v\| = \|y\|$.

So Q does not change lengths. Also $u \cdot v = Qx \cdot Qy = (Qx)^T Qy = x^T Q^T Qy = x^T y = x \cdot y$

$$\text{So } \frac{u \cdot v}{\|u\| \cdot \|v\|} = \frac{x \cdot y}{\|x\| \|y\|}$$

i.e. angle between u and v = angle between x and y .

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}}_Q \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta \\ \sin \theta \end{pmatrix}$$



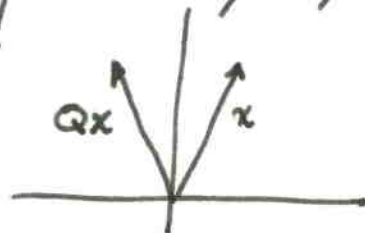
Properties of Orthog Matrices

Prop 1 If Q is orthog, then $\det Q = \pm 1$. Why?

We say Q is "proper" orthogonal if $\det Q = 1$.

~~Improper~~ Improper Q 's represent pure rot'ns & improper ones generally involve a reflection!

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_Q \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \det Q = -1.$$



Prop 2: If Q_1, Q_2 are orthog, so is $Q_1 Q_2$.

Talk about the QR factorization if time:

$$w_1 = r_{11} u_1, \quad r_{11} = \cancel{\|w_1\|} \|w_1\|, \text{ etc}$$

$$w_2 = r_{21} u_1 + r_{22} u_2$$

$$w_3 = r_{31} u_1 + r_{32} u_2 + r_{33} u_3, \text{ etc}$$

$$\Rightarrow A = (w_1 w_2 \dots w_n) = (r_{11} u_1, r_{21} u_1 + r_{22} u_2, \dots)$$

$$= (u_1 u_2 \dots u_n) \begin{pmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} & \dots & r_{1n} \\ 0 & r_{22} & & r_{2n} \\ \vdots & 0 & & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & & r_{nn} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= Q R$$

↑ ↑
orthog upper triangular.