



NORTH-HOLLAND**On Perturbation Bounds for the QR Factorization**

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ABSTRACT

Certain new perturbation bounds of the orthogonal factor in the QR factorization of a real matrix are derived. The bounds of this note improve the known bounds in the literature.

1. INTRODUCTION

Let A be a real $m \times n$ matrix ($A \in \mathcal{R}^{m \times n}$) with $\text{rank } A = n$. The QR factorization of A is a decomposition of the form $A = QR$, in which $R \in \mathcal{R}^{n \times n}$ is an upper triangular matrix with positive diagonal elements, and the matrix $Q \in \mathcal{R}^{m \times n}$ satisfies $Q^T Q = I$, the identity matrix. Here Q^T is the transpose of Q . The matrix Q is referred to as the orthogonal factor, and R the triangular factor in the QR factorization of A . It is well known that the QR factorization of a full-column-rank matrix is unique, and the QR factorization is one of the most important decompositions of a matrix (see [3]).

Let $E \in \mathcal{R}^{m \times n}$ with $\text{rank}(A + E) = n$, and let $A + E = (Q + W)(R + F)$ be the QR factorization of $A + E$. A number of upper bounds on $\|F\|/\|R\|$ and $\|W\|$ in terms of $\|E\|$ for a certain norm $\|\cdot\|$ have been derived by Stewart [6] and Sun [8]. Recently, Stewart [7] gave asymptotic perturbation bounds on $\|F\|/\|R\|$ and $\|W\|$, and Bhatia and Mukherjea [2] presented a new bound on $\|W\|$. Besides, Sun [9] gives componentwise perturbation bounds of $|F|$ and $|W|$, where the matrix $|F|$ is defined by $|F| = (|f_{ij}|)$ for $F = (f_{ij})$. It is worthwhile to point out that the bounds of $\|W\|$ (or $|W|$) given by [6–9] are derived from certain known bounds of $\|F\|$

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(or $|F|$) and the relation

$$W = [E - (Q + W)F]R^{-1}.$$

In this note we derive several new bounds of $\|W\|$ directly. Roughly speaking, the new bounds of [2] and this note improve the results of [7] and [8] by a factor $1 + 1/\sqrt{2}$:

$$\begin{aligned} \|W\|_F &\lesssim (1 + \sqrt{2})\|A^\dagger\|_2\|E\|_F && \text{(by the results of [7, 8]),} \\ \|W\|_F &\lesssim \sqrt{2}\|A^\dagger\|_2\|E\|_F && \text{(by the new bounds),} \end{aligned}$$

where A^\dagger denotes the Moore-Penrose inverse of A , and $\|\cdot\|_2$ and $\|\cdot\|_F$ stand for the spectral norm and the Frobenius norm, respectively.

Note that the methods and results of this note are different from those of [2]. Bhatia and Mukherjea [2] apply calculus on manifold and matrix Lie groups to consider complex square matrices. The following inequality was proved in [2]:

$$\|\tilde{Q} - Q\|_F \leq \max_{0 \leq t \leq 1} \|A(t)^{-1}\|_2 \|E\|_F,$$

where $A(t) = A + tE$, $0 \leq t \leq 1$. Remark that the quantity $\max_{0 \leq t \leq 1} \|A(t)^{-1}\|_2$ is not convenient to calculate. In this note we apply fixed-point theory and elementary calculus to consider real rectangular matrices. The upper bounds of $\|\tilde{Q} - Q\|_F$ obtained in this note are computable.

We shall use $I^{(n)}$ to denote the identity matrix of order n , and 0 the null matrix. $P_A = AA^\dagger$ denotes the orthogonal projection onto the column space of A . The symbol $\lambda(\cdot)$ denotes the set of the eigenvalues of a matrix or an operator. $\mathcal{U}^{n \times n}$ is the set of real $n \times n$ upper triangular matrices, and $\mathcal{U}_s^{m \times n}$, $\mathcal{L}_s^{m \times n}$, $\mathcal{D}^{m \times n}$ are sets defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{U}_s^{m \times n} &= \{A = (\alpha_{ij}) \in \mathcal{R}^{m \times n} : \alpha_{ij} = 0 \forall i \geq j\}, \\ \mathcal{L}_s^{m \times n} &= \{A = (\alpha_{ij}) \in \mathcal{R}^{m \times n} : \alpha_{ij} = 0 \forall i \leq j\}, \\ \mathcal{D}^{m \times n} &= \{A = (\alpha_{ij}) \in \mathcal{R}^{m \times n} : \alpha_{ij} = 0 \forall i \neq j\}. \end{aligned}$$

Obviously, an $X \in \mathcal{R}^{m \times n}$ can be split uniquely as

$$X = X_L + X_D + X_U, \quad X_L \in \mathcal{L}_s^{m \times n}, \quad X_D \in \mathcal{D}^{m \times n}, \quad X_U \in \mathcal{U}_s^{m \times n}. \quad (1.1)$$

The matrices X_L , X_D , X_U of (1.1) will be denoted by

$$X_L = \text{low}(X), \quad X_D = \text{diag}(X), \quad X_U = \text{up}(X). \quad (1.2)$$

The relation (1.2) gives the definitions of the operators $\text{low}(\cdot)$, $\text{diag}(\cdot)$, and $\text{up}(\cdot)$ defined on $\mathcal{R}^{m \times n}$ (Reference [4]).

In Section 2 we derive perturbation equations. In Section 3 we discuss some basic properties of the operator L [defined below by (2.8)] and the function $l(R)$ [defined below by (3.8)], which are important for studying perturbation bounds for the orthogonal factor in the QR factorization. In Sections 4 and 5 we apply fixed-point theory and elementary calculus to derive perturbation bounds of the orthogonal factor, respectively, and in Section 6 we give a numerical example.

2. PERTURBATION EQUATIONS

Let $A \in \mathcal{R}^{m \times n}$ with $\text{rank } A = n$, and let $\tilde{A} = A + E$, where $E \in \mathcal{R}^{m \times n}$ satisfies

$$\epsilon_2 \equiv \|A^\dagger\|_2 \|E\|_2 < 1. \tag{2.1}$$

Then obviously $\text{rank } \tilde{A} = n$. Let $A = QR$, $\tilde{A} = \tilde{Q}\tilde{R}$ be the QR factorizations of A, \tilde{A} , respectively, and let

$$E = \tilde{A} - A, \quad W = \tilde{Q} - Q, \quad F = \tilde{R} - R. \tag{2.2}$$

Then it is easy to verify that the perturbation matrices W, F satisfy the equation

$$E = WR + \tilde{Q}F. \tag{2.3}$$

Take a matrix $\tilde{P} \in \mathcal{R}^{m \times (m-n)}$ such that $\tilde{U} = (\tilde{Q}, \tilde{P})$ is an orthogonal matrix, and let

$$\tilde{E} = \tilde{U}^T E, \quad X = \tilde{U}^T W = \begin{pmatrix} X^{(1)} \\ X^{(2)} \end{pmatrix}, \quad X^{(1)} \in \mathcal{R}^{n \times n}. \tag{2.4}$$

Then from (2.3)

$$XR + \begin{pmatrix} F \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \tilde{E}. \tag{2.5}$$

Moreover, from the relations $Q^T Q = I$ and

$$\begin{pmatrix} I \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} - X = \tilde{U}^T Q$$

we get

$$X^{(1)} + X^{(1)T} = X^T X. \tag{2.6}$$

Let X be a solution to the equations (2.5)–(2.6). Define the matrices X_L , X_D , X_U by (1.1)–(1.2). Then from (2.5) and $\text{low}(XR) = \text{low}(X_LR)$ it follows that

$$\text{low}(X_LR) = \text{low}(\tilde{E}). \quad (2.7)$$

Define the operator $\mathbf{L} : \mathcal{L}_s^{m \times n} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}_s^{m \times n}$ by

$$\mathbf{L}X_L = \text{low}(X_LR), \quad X_L \in \mathcal{L}_s^{m \times n}. \quad (2.8)$$

Then the equation (2.7) can be rewritten as

$$\mathbf{L}X_L = \text{low}(\tilde{E}). \quad (2.9)$$

Moreover, from (2.6)

$$X_D = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \text{diag}(X^T X) \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad X_U = \begin{pmatrix} \text{up}(X^T X) - X_L^{(1)T} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2.10)$$

where $X_L^{(1)} = \text{low}(X^{(1)})$.

In Section 4 we shall prove that there is a unique solution X to the equations (2.9)–(2.10) in the case of small $\|E\|_F$, and derive upper bounds of $\|X\|_F$ for the solution X .

3. THE OPERATOR \mathbf{L} AND FUNCTION $l(R)$

Before we go on to derive perturbation bounds of $\|X\|_F$ from the equations (2.9)–(2.10), it will be necessary to discuss the basic properties of the operator \mathbf{L} defined by (2.8).

We first consider the relation

$$Y = XR, \quad (3.1)$$

where $X, Y \in \mathcal{R}^{m \times n}$, $R = (r_{ij}) \in \mathcal{U}^{n \times n}$. Let

$$\begin{aligned} X &= (x_1, \dots, x_n) = (\xi_{ij}), & Y &= (y_1, \dots, y_n) = (\eta_{ij}), \\ x &= (x_1^T, \dots, x_n^T)^T, & y &= (y_1^T, \dots, y_n^T)^T. \end{aligned}$$

The relation (3.1) can be rewritten as

$$y = (R^T \otimes I^{(m)})x,$$

where $A \otimes B \equiv (\alpha_{ij}B)$ is a Kronecker product. Write

$$L \equiv R^T \otimes I^{(m)} = (L_{ij}), \quad L_{ij} \in \mathcal{R}^{m \times m}, \quad i, j = 1, \dots, n; \quad (3.2)$$

we have

$$L_{ij} = \begin{cases} 0, & i < j, \\ r_{ii}I^{(m)}, & i = j, \\ r_{ji}I^{(m)}, & i > j. \end{cases} \quad (3.3)$$

Let

$$Y_L = \mathbf{L}X_L \equiv \text{low}(X_LR). \quad (3.4)$$

Define $x_j^{(L)}, y_j^{(L)}, x^{(L)}, y^{(L)}$ by

$$x_j^{(L)} = \begin{pmatrix} \xi_{j+1,j} \\ \vdots \\ \xi_{mj} \end{pmatrix}, \quad y_j^{(L)} = \begin{pmatrix} \eta_{j+1,j} \\ \vdots \\ \eta_{mj} \end{pmatrix}, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n_1, \\ x^{(L)} = (x_1^{(L)T}, \dots, x_{n_1}^{(L)T})^T, \quad y^{(L)} = (y_1^{(L)T}, \dots, y_{n_1}^{(L)T})^T,$$

where

$$n_1 = \begin{cases} n & \text{if } m > n, \\ n - 1 & \text{if } m = n. \end{cases} \quad (3.5)$$

The relation (3.4) can be rewritten as

$$y^{(L)} = L^{(L)}x^{(L)}, \quad (3.6)$$

where

$$L^{(L)} = (L_{ij}^{(L)}), \quad L_{ij}^{(L)} = L_{ij} \begin{pmatrix} i + 1, i + 2, \dots, m \\ j + 1, j + 2, \dots, m \end{pmatrix}, \quad (3.7) \\ i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n_1,$$

in which n_1 is defined by (3.5), and

$$L_{ij} \begin{pmatrix} i + 1, i + 2, \dots, m \\ j + 1, j + 2, \dots, m \end{pmatrix}$$

denotes the submatrix of L_{ij} consisting of rows $i + 1, i + 2, \dots, m$ and columns $j + 1, j + 2, \dots, m$. Combining (3.7) with (3.3), we see that

$$\lambda(L^{(L)}) = \bigcup_{j=1}^{n_1} \lambda(L_{jj}^{(L)}) = \bigcup_{j=1}^{n_1} \underbrace{\{r_{jj}, \dots, r_{jj}\}}_{m-j},$$

where n_1 is defined by (3.5). Since (3.6) is equivalent to (3.4), we have the following

THEOREM 3.1. *Let $R = (r_{ij}) \in \mathcal{U}^{n \times n}$, and let \mathbf{L} be the operator defined by (2.8). Then the eigenvalues of \mathbf{L} are*

$$\underbrace{r_{11}, \dots, r_{11}}_{m-1}, \underbrace{r_{22}, \dots, r_{22}}_{m-2}, \dots, \underbrace{r_{nn}, \dots, r_{nn}}_{m-n}.$$

Let \mathbf{L} be the operator defined by (2.8). Now we define the function $l(R)$ by

$$l(R) = \inf_{\substack{X_L \in \mathcal{L}_s^{m \times n} \\ \|X_L\|_F = 1}} \|\mathbf{L}X_L\|_F. \tag{3.8}$$

It is easy to verify that

$$l(R) = \begin{cases} \|\mathbf{L}^{-1}\|^{-1}, & 0 \notin \lambda(\mathbf{L}), \\ 0, & 0 \in \lambda(\mathbf{L}), \end{cases} \tag{3.9}$$

where $\|\mathbf{L}^{-1}\|$ is the subordinate operator norm defined by

$$\|\mathbf{L}^{-1}\| = \max_{\substack{Y_L \in \mathcal{L}_s^{m \times n} \\ \|Y_L\|_F = 1}} \|\mathbf{L}^{-1}Y_L\|_F. \tag{3.10}$$

Therefore, from Theorem 3.1 we get the following

COROLLARY 3.2. *Let $l(R)$ be the function defined by (3.8). If R is nonsingular, then*

$$0 < l(R) \leq \min_{1 \leq i \leq n_1} |r_{ii}|,$$

where n_1 is defined by (3.5).

The following result gives a relation between $l(R)$ and $1/\|A^\dagger\|_2$.

THEOREM 3.3. *Let $A \in \mathcal{R}^{m \times n}$ with $\text{rank } A = n$, $A = QR$ be the QR factorization of A , and let \mathbf{L} , $l(R)$ be defined by (2.8), (3.8), respectively. Then*

$$l(R) \geq \frac{1}{\|A^\dagger\|_2}. \tag{3.11}$$

PROOF. By (3.9) and $\|A^\dagger\|_2 = \|R^{-1}\|_2$, the inequality (3.11) is equivalent to

$$\|\mathbf{L}^{-1}\| \leq \|R^{-1}\|_2. \tag{3.12}$$

Now we are going to prove (3.12).

Let $X = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in \mathcal{R}^{m \times n}$, where

$$x_j = \begin{pmatrix} x_j^{(U)} \\ x_j^{(L)} \end{pmatrix}, \quad x_j^{(U)} = \begin{pmatrix} \xi_{1j} \\ \vdots \\ \xi_{mj} \end{pmatrix}, \quad x_j^{(L)} = \begin{pmatrix} \xi_{j+1,j} \\ \vdots \\ \xi_{mj} \end{pmatrix},$$

$$j = 1, \dots, n_1,$$

where n_1 is defined by (3.5), and $x_n^{(U)} = x_n$ if $m = n$. By (1.1)–(1.2) $X_L = (x_1^{(0)}, \dots, x_n^{(0)}) \in \mathcal{R}^{m \times n}$, where

$$x_j^{(0)} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ x_j^{(L)} \end{pmatrix}, \quad j = 1, \dots, n_1, \quad x_n^{(0)} = 0 \quad \text{if } m = n.$$

Let $x = (x_1^T, \dots, x_n^T)^T$, and let

$$x^{(L)} = (x_1^{(L)T}, \dots, x_n^{(L)T})^T, \quad x^{(U)} = (x_1^{(U)T}, \dots, x_n^{(U)T})^T.$$

Moreover, we use the vectors $y \in \mathcal{R}^{mn}$, $y^{(L)} \in \mathcal{R}^{mn_1 - n_1(n_1+1)/2}$, $y^{(U)} \in \mathcal{R}^{n(n+1)/2}$ to correspond to $Y \in \mathcal{R}^{m \times n}$. Then the relations

$$Y = XR, \quad Y_L = LX_L \equiv \text{low}(X_LR)$$

are equivalent to

$$y = Lx, \quad y^{(L)} = L^{(L)}x^{(L)}, \tag{3.13}$$

respectively, when L and $L^{(L)}$ are expressed by (3.2)–(3.3) and (3.7). From the first relation of (3.13)

$$\frac{\partial y_k}{\partial x_j} = \begin{cases} 0, & k < j, \\ \begin{pmatrix} r_{jj}I^{(j)} & 0 \\ 0 & r_{jj}I^{(m-j)} \end{pmatrix}, & k = j, \\ \begin{pmatrix} * & * \\ 0 & * \end{pmatrix}, & k > j. \end{cases}$$

Thus, we have $\partial y_k^{(L)} / \partial x_j^{(U)} = 0 \forall k, j$, and

$$\begin{pmatrix} y^{(L)} \\ y^{(U)} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} L^{(L)} & 0 \\ * & * \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x^{(L)} \\ x^{(U)} \end{pmatrix}.$$

This means that there is a permutation matrix P such that

$$P(R^T \otimes I^{(m)})P^T = \begin{pmatrix} L^{(L)} & 0 \\ * & * \end{pmatrix},$$

i.e.,

$$P \left(R^T \otimes I^{(m)} \right)^{-1} P^T = \begin{pmatrix} L^{(L)-1} & 0 \\ * & * \end{pmatrix}. \quad (3.14)$$

Observe that from the second relation of (3.13) $x^{(L)} = L^{(L)-1}y^{(L)}$; hence by the definition (3.10) and (3.14) we have

$$\|L^{-1}\| = \|L^{(L)-1}\|_2 \leq \|(R^T \otimes I^{(m)})^{-1}\|_2 = \|R^{-1}\|_2.$$

The inequality (3.12) is proved. ■

The following result shows that the function $l(R)$ is insensitive to perturbations of R .

THEOREM 3.4. *Let $R, M \in \mathcal{U}^{n \times n}$. Then*

$$l(R) - \|M\|_2 \leq l(R + M) \leq l(R) + \|M\|_2. \quad (3.15)$$

PROOF. By the definition (3.8), we have

$$\begin{aligned} l(R) &= \min \{ \|\text{low}(X_L R)\|_F : X_L \in \mathcal{L}_s^{m \times n}, \|X_L\|_F = 1 \} \\ &= \|\text{low}(X_L^* R)\|_F, \quad X_L^* \in \mathcal{L}_s^{m \times n}, \|X_L^*\|_F = 1, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} l(R + M) &= \min \{ \|\text{low}(X_L(R + M))\|_F : X_L \in \mathcal{L}_s^{m \times n}, \|X_L\|_F = 1 \} \\ &\leq \|\text{low}(X_L^*(R + M))\|_F \\ &\leq \|\text{low}(X_L^* R)\|_F + \|\text{low}(X_L^* M)\|_F \\ &\leq l(R) + \|M\|_2. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we can prove the first inequality of (3.15). ■

Let

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} X^{(1)} \\ X^{(2)} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathcal{R}^{m \times n} \quad \text{with} \quad \text{rank } X = n,$$

where $X^{(1)} \in \mathcal{R}^{n \times n}$. Define the operator $\mathbf{L}_1 : \mathcal{L}_s^{n \times n} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}_s^{n \times n}$ by

$$\mathbf{L}_1 X_L^{(1)} = \text{low} \left(X_L^{(1)} R \right), \quad X_L^{(1)} \in \mathcal{L}_s^{n \times n}, \tag{3.16}$$

and define the function $l_1(R)$ by

$$l_1(R) = \inf_{\substack{X_L^{(1)} \in \mathcal{L}_s^{n \times n} \\ \|X_L^{(1)}\|_F = 1}} \|\mathbf{L}_1 X_L^{(1)}\|_F. \tag{3.17}$$

Observe that \mathbf{L}_1 is just \mathbf{L} for the case $m = n$; hence the operator \mathbf{L}_1 and the function $l_1(R)$ have the same properties as \mathbf{L} and $l(R)$ stated by Theorem 3.1, Corollary 3.2, and Theorems 3.3–3.4.

4. PERTURBATION THEOREMS (I)

Now we are going to discuss the solution X to the equations (2.9)–(2.10) under the assumption that all the diagonal elements of R are positive.

By the assumption and Theorem 3.1, the operators \mathbf{L} and \mathbf{L}_1 defined by (2.8) and (3.16) are nonsingular. Moreover, from (2.4)–(2.5)

$$X_L^{(1)} = \mathbf{L}_1^{-1} [\text{low}(\tilde{Q}^T E)].$$

Thus, the equations (2.9)–(2.10) can be rewritten as a continuous mapping $\Phi : \mathcal{R}^{m \times n} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}^{m \times n}$ expressed by

$$\begin{aligned} X_L &= \mathbf{L}^{-1} [\text{low}(\tilde{E})], \\ X_D &= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \text{diag}(X^T X) \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \\ X_U &= \begin{pmatrix} \text{up}(X^T X) - \mathbf{L}_1^{-1} [\text{low}(\tilde{Q}^T E)] \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

or simply

$$X = \phi(X) + G, \tag{4.1}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(X) &= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \text{diag}(X^T X) + \text{up}(X^T X) \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \\ G &= \mathbf{L}^{-1} [\text{low}(\tilde{E})] - \begin{pmatrix} (\mathbf{L}_1^{-1} [\text{low}(\tilde{Q}^T E)])^T \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned} \tag{4.2}$$

Let

$$\eta = \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}, \quad \gamma = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\|E\|_F}{l(R)}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\|P_{\tilde{A}}E\|_F}{l_1(R)}\right)^2}, \tag{4.3}$$

where $l(R)$ and $l_1(R)$ are the functions defined by (3.8) and (3.17), respectively. One can verify the following inequalities:

- (1) $\|\phi(X)\|_F \leq \eta \|X\|_F^2,$
- (2) $\|\phi(X) - \phi(Y)\|_F \leq 2\eta \max\{\|X\|_F, \|Y\|_F\} \|X - Y\|_F,$
- (3) $\|G\|_F \leq \gamma.$

Hence, by Stewart [5, Theorem 3.1], if $4\gamma\eta < 1$, then the mapping Φ expressed by (4.1)–(4.2) has a unique fixed point X in the neighborhood

$$S(0; 2\gamma) \equiv \{X \in \mathcal{R}^{m \times n} : \|X\|_F < 2\gamma\}$$

of the origin $\mathcal{R}^{m \times n}$, and

$$\|X\|_F \leq \frac{2\gamma}{1 + \sqrt{1 - 4\gamma\eta}}.$$

Let

$$\epsilon_{l, l_1} \equiv \frac{\gamma}{\sqrt{2}} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} \left[\left(\frac{\|E\|_F}{l(R)}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\|P_{\tilde{A}}E\|_F}{l_1(R)}\right)^2 \right]}. \tag{4.4}$$

Then the condition $4\gamma\eta < 1$ can be rewritten as

$$2\sqrt{10}\epsilon_{l, l_1} < 1. \tag{4.5}$$

Observe that from (2.4) and (2.2)

$$\|X\|_F = \|W\|_F = \|\tilde{Q} - Q\|_F.$$

Hence, we get the following perturbation theorem.

THEOREM 4.1. *Let $A \in \mathcal{R}^{m \times n}$ with $\text{rank } A = n$, $A = QR$ be the QR factorization of A , and $\tilde{A} = A + E$, and let ϵ_2 and ϵ_{l, l_1} be defined by (2.1) and (4.4), respectively. If $\epsilon_2 < 1$ and ϵ_{l, l_1} satisfies the condition (4.5), then $\text{rank } \tilde{A} = n$ and the QR factorization $\tilde{A} = \tilde{Q}R$ satisfies*

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{Q} - Q\|_F &\leq \frac{2\sqrt{2}\epsilon_{l, l_1}}{1 + \sqrt{1 - 2\sqrt{10}\epsilon_{l, l_1}}} \equiv b(\epsilon_{l, l_1}) \\ &= \sqrt{2}\epsilon_{l, l_1} + \sqrt{5}\epsilon_{l, l_1}^3 + 5\sqrt{2}\epsilon_{l, l_1}^3 + O(\epsilon_{l, l_1}^4). \end{aligned} \tag{4.6}$$

By Theorem 3.3

$$\epsilon_{l, l_1} \leq \|A^\dagger\|_2 \sqrt{\frac{\|E\|_F^2 + \|P_{\tilde{A}} E\|_F^2}{2}} \equiv \tilde{\epsilon}. \tag{4.7}$$

Moreover, we have

$$2\sqrt{10}\tilde{\epsilon} \geq 2\sqrt{5}\|A^\dagger\|_2\|E\|_F \geq \|A^\dagger\|_2\|E\|_2 = \epsilon_2.$$

Hence, Theorem 4.1 gives the following

COROLLARY 4.2. *Let A, Q, \tilde{A}, E be as in Theorem 4.1, and let $\tilde{\epsilon}$ be defined by (4.7). If*

$$2\sqrt{10}\tilde{\epsilon} < 1,$$

then $\text{rank } \tilde{A} = n$, and the QR factorization $\tilde{A} = \tilde{Q}\tilde{R}$ satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{Q} - Q\|_F &\leq \frac{2\sqrt{2}\tilde{\epsilon}}{1 + \sqrt{1 - 2\sqrt{10}\tilde{\epsilon}}} \equiv b(\tilde{\epsilon}) \\ &= \sqrt{2}\tilde{\epsilon} + \sqrt{5}\tilde{\epsilon}^2 + 5\sqrt{2}\tilde{\epsilon}^3 + O(\tilde{\epsilon}^4). \end{aligned} \tag{4.8}$$

5. PERTURBATION THEOREMS (II)

Let $A \in \mathcal{R}^{m \times n}$ with $\text{rank}(A) = n$, $A = QR$ be the QR factorization of A , $A(t) = A + tE$, $0 \leq t \leq 1$, $\tilde{A} = A(1)$, and let ϵ_2 be defined by (2.1). It is known that if $\epsilon_2 < 1$, then $\text{rank } A(t) = n$, and $A(t)$ has the unique QR factorization

$$A(t) = Q(t)R(t) \tag{5.1}$$

for each $t \in [0, 1]$, where $R(t) \in \mathcal{R}^{n \times n}$ is an upper triangular matrix with positive diagonal elements, and $Q(t) \in \mathcal{R}^{m \times n}$ satisfy

$$Q(t)^T Q(t) = I. \tag{5.2}$$

In this section we shall apply elementary calculus [1, 8] to derive perturbation bounds of the orthogonal factor in the QR factorization of A . Differentiating (5.1) and (5.2), we get

$$E dt = dQ(t) R(t) + Q(t) dR(t) \tag{5.3}$$

and

$$dQ(t)^T Q(t) + Q(t)^T dQ(t) = 0. \tag{5.4}$$

Take $P(t) \in \mathcal{R}^{m \times (m-n)}$ so that $U(t) = (Q(t), P(t))$ is orthogonal, and let

$$\begin{aligned} \delta A(t) &= U(t)^T E dt, & \delta X(t) &= U(t)^T dQ(t) = \begin{pmatrix} \delta X^{(1)}(t) \\ \delta X^{(2)}(t) \end{pmatrix}, \\ & & & \delta X^{(1)}(t) \in \mathcal{R}^{n \times n}. \end{aligned} \quad (5.5)$$

Then (5.3) and (5.4) can be rewritten as

$$\delta X(t) = \delta A(t) R(t)^{-1} - \begin{pmatrix} dR(t) R(t)^{-1} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (5.6)$$

and

$$\delta X^{(1)}(t)^T + \delta X^{(1)}(t) = 0. \quad (5.7)$$

By (1.1)–(1.2), the matrix $\delta X(t)$ can be split uniquely as

$$\delta X(t) = \delta X(t)_L + \delta X(t)_D + \delta X(t)_U.$$

Thus, the relation (5.7) implies $\delta X(t)_D = 0$. Moreover, from (5.5)–(5.7) we get

$$\delta X(t)_L = \text{low}(\delta A(t) R(t)^{-1})$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \delta X(t)_U &= \begin{pmatrix} \delta X^{(1)}(t)_U \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -[\delta X^{(1)}(t)_L]^T \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} -[\text{low}(Q(t)^T E R(t)^{-1})]^T dt \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned} \quad (5.8)$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \|dQ(t)\|_F &= \|\delta X(t)\|_F = \sqrt{\|\delta X(t)_L\|_F^2 + \|\delta X(t)_U\|_F^2} \\ &\leq \sqrt{2} \|E\|_F \|R(t)^{-1}\|_2 dt = \sqrt{2} \|E\|_F \|A(t)^\dagger\|_2 dt. \end{aligned} \quad (5.9)$$

Consequently,

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{Q} - Q\|_F &= \left\| \int_0^1 dQ(t) \right\|_F \leq \int_0^1 \|dQ(t)\|_F \\ &\leq \sqrt{2} \|E\|_F \int_0^1 \|A(t)^\dagger\|_2 dt = \sqrt{2} \|E\|_F \int_0^1 \frac{dt}{\sigma_n(t)}, \end{aligned} \quad (5.10)$$

where $\sigma_n(t)$ is the smallest singular value of the matrix $A(t)$. Let σ_n be the smallest singular value of A . Combining (5.10) with the well-known relation $\sigma_n(t) \geq \sigma_n - \|E\|_2 t$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{Q} - Q\|_F &\leq \sqrt{2}\|E\|_F \int_0^1 \frac{dt}{\sigma_n - \|E\|_2 t} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{2}\|E\|_F}{\|E\|_2} \ln \frac{1}{1 - \|A^\dagger\|_2 \|E\|_2} \\ &= \sqrt{2}\omega(\epsilon_2)\epsilon_f, \end{aligned}$$

where ϵ_2 is defined by (2.1), and

$$\epsilon_f = \|A^\dagger\|_2 \|E\|_F, \quad \omega(\epsilon) = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \ln \frac{1}{1 - \epsilon}, \quad 0 < \epsilon < 1. \quad (5.11)$$

Hence, we have proved the following result.

THEOREM 5.1. *Let A, Q, \tilde{A}, E be as in Theorem 4.1, and let ϵ_2, ϵ_f , and $\omega(\epsilon)$ be defined by (2.1) and (5.11), respectively. If $\epsilon_2 < 1$, then $\text{rank } A = n$, and the QR factorization $\tilde{A} = \tilde{Q}\tilde{R}$ satisfies*

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{Q} - Q\|_F &\leq \sqrt{2}\omega(\epsilon_2)\epsilon_f \equiv b_1(\epsilon_2, \epsilon_f) \\ &= \sqrt{2}\epsilon_f + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\epsilon_2\epsilon_f + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{3}\epsilon_2^2\epsilon_f + O(\epsilon_f^4). \\ &\leq \frac{\sqrt{2}\epsilon_f}{\sqrt{1 - \epsilon_2}} \equiv b_2(\epsilon, \epsilon_f) \\ &= \sqrt{2}\epsilon_f + \sqrt{2}\epsilon_2\epsilon_f + \sqrt{2}\epsilon_2^2\epsilon_f + O(\epsilon_f^4). \end{aligned} \quad (5.12)$$

We note that the perturbation bound (5.12) can be improved by observing that from (5.8)

$$\begin{aligned} \|\delta X(t)_U\|_F &\leq \|Q(t)^T E R(t)^{-1} dt\|_F \leq \|R(t)^{-1}\|_2 \|Q(t)^T E\|_F dt \\ &= \|A(t)^\dagger\|_2 \left\| \left(\int_0^t dQ(\tau) + Q \right)^T E \right\|_F dt \\ &\leq \|A(t)^\dagger\|_2 \left(\|E\|_2 \int_0^t \|dQ(\tau)\|_F + \|P_A E\|_F \right) dt. \end{aligned}$$

Combining it with

$$\int_0^t \|\mathrm{d}Q(\tau)\|_{\mathbb{F}} \leq \int_0^1 \|\mathrm{d}Q(\tau)\|_{\mathbb{F}} \leq \sqrt{2}\omega(\epsilon_2)\epsilon_f \quad [\text{see (5.10)–(5.12)}],$$

we get

$$\|\delta X(t)_{\mathcal{U}}\|_{\mathbb{F}} \leq \|A(t)^\dagger\|_2 [\sqrt{2}\|E\|_2\omega(\epsilon_2)\epsilon_f + \|P_A E\|_{\mathbb{F}}] \mathrm{d}t.$$

Substituting it into (5.9), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathrm{d}Q(t)\|_{\mathbb{F}} &\leq \|A(t)^\dagger\|_2 \sqrt{\|E\|_{\mathbb{F}}^2 + (\sqrt{2}\|E\|_2\omega(\epsilon_2)\epsilon_f + \|P_A E\|_{\mathbb{F}})^2} \mathrm{d}t \\ &\leq \|A(t)^\dagger\|_2 \left(\sqrt{\|E\|_{\mathbb{F}}^2 + \|P_A E\|_{\mathbb{F}}^2} + \sqrt{2}\|E\|_2\omega(\epsilon_2)\epsilon_f \right) \mathrm{d}t \\ &= \sqrt{2}\|A(t)^\dagger\|_2 [\|A^\dagger\|_2^{-1}\epsilon + \|E\|_2\omega(\epsilon_2)\epsilon_f] \mathrm{d}t, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\epsilon \equiv \|A^\dagger\|_2 \frac{\sqrt{\|E\|_{\mathbb{F}}^2 + \|P_A E\|_{\mathbb{F}}^2}}{2} \quad (5.13)$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{Q} - Q\|_{\mathbb{F}} &\leq \int_0^1 \|\mathrm{d}Q(t)\|_{\mathbb{F}} \\ &\leq \sqrt{2} [\|A^\dagger\|_2^{-1}\epsilon + \|E\|_2\omega(\epsilon_2)\epsilon_f] \int_0^1 \|A(t)^\dagger\|_2 \mathrm{d}t \\ &\leq \sqrt{2}\omega(\epsilon_2) [\epsilon + \omega(\epsilon_2)\epsilon_2\epsilon_f]. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we have proved the following

THEOREM 5.2. *Let A, Q, \tilde{A}, E be as in Theorem 4.1, and let $\epsilon_2, \epsilon_f, \omega(\epsilon), \epsilon$ be defined by (2.1), (5.11), (5.13). If $\epsilon_2 < 1$, then $\text{rank } \tilde{A} = n$, and the QR factorization $\tilde{A} = \tilde{Q}\tilde{R}$ satisfies*

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{Q} - Q\|_{\mathbb{F}} &\leq \sqrt{2}\omega(\epsilon_2) [\epsilon + \omega(\epsilon_2)\epsilon_2\epsilon_f] \equiv b_0(\epsilon, \epsilon_2, \epsilon_f) \\ &= \sqrt{2}\epsilon + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\epsilon_2(\epsilon + 2\epsilon_f) + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{3}\epsilon_2^2(\epsilon + 3\epsilon_f) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon_f^4). \quad (5.14) \end{aligned}$$

6. AN EXAMPLE

The following result has been proved in [8]: *Let A, Q, R, \tilde{A}, E be as in Theorem 4.1, and let ϵ_2, ϵ_f be defined by (2.1), (5.11). If $\epsilon_2 < 1$, then there is a unique QR*

factorization $\tilde{A} = \tilde{Q}\tilde{R}$, and

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{Q} - Q\|_F &\leq (1 + \sqrt{2})\omega(\epsilon_2)\epsilon_f \equiv \beta_1(\epsilon_2, \epsilon_f) \\ &\leq \frac{(1 + \sqrt{2})\epsilon_f}{1 - \epsilon_2} \equiv \beta_2(\epsilon_2, \epsilon_f). \end{aligned} \tag{6.1}$$

It is easy to verify that there are the following relations between the upper bounds $b(\epsilon_{l,l_1})$, $b(\tilde{\epsilon})$, $b_1(\epsilon_2, \epsilon_f)$, and $\beta_1(\epsilon_2, \epsilon_f)$:

$$b(\epsilon_{l,l_1}) \leq b(\tilde{\epsilon}), \quad b_1(\epsilon_2, \epsilon_f) \leq \beta_1(\epsilon_2, \epsilon_f).$$

Moreover, the bound $b_0(\epsilon, \epsilon_2, \epsilon_f)$ expressed by (5.14) is better than $b_1(\epsilon_2, \epsilon_f)$ for very small perturbations of A , and by the author’s numerical tests the bound $b(\epsilon_{l,l_1})$ is better than all the others.

Now we give a numerical example.

EXAMPLE 6.1. Let

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} R \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad R = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 & 1 & -5 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 4 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix},$$

and let $\tilde{A} = A + E$, $E = \tau E_0$ with $\tau > 0$, and

$$E_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 0.2 & -0.5 & 0.3 & 0.1 & 0.4 \\ -0.1 & 0.4 & 0.1 & -0.3 & 0.2 \\ 0.5 & 0.7 & -0.2 & 0.1 & 0.6 \\ 0.3 & -0.6 & 0.1 & -0.1 & 0.2 \\ 0.2 & 0.1 & 0.7 & 0.3 & -0.4 \\ 0.4 & 0.8 & -0.2 & 0.1 & 0.3 \\ 0.6 & -0.1 & -0.5 & 0.1 & -0.2 \\ 0.1 & -0.3 & 0.2 & 0.6 & 0.7 \end{pmatrix}.$$

TABLE 1.

τ	1.000000e-01	1.000000e-02	1.000000e-05	1.000000e-08
$\ E\ _F$	2.431049e-01	2.431049e-02	2.431049e-05	2.431049e-08
$\ \tilde{Q} - Q\ _F$	3.355805e-01	3.162668e-02	3.138194e-05	3.138170e-08
$b(\epsilon_{l,l_1})$		9.834899e-02	8.765590e-05	8.764743e-08
$b(\tilde{\epsilon})$		1.037806e-01	9.189167e-05	9.188238e-08
$b_0(\epsilon, \epsilon_2, \epsilon_f)$	2.104630e+00	9.913509e-02	9.188933e-05	9.188238e-08
$b_1(\epsilon_2, \epsilon_f)$	1.397628e+00	1.065221e-01	1.040365e-04	1.040340e-07
$b_2(\epsilon_2, \epsilon_f)$	1.939075e+00	1.090902e-01	1.040389e-04	1.040341e-07
$\beta_1(\epsilon_2, \epsilon_f)$	2.385901e+00	1.818447e-01	1.776013e-04	1.775972e-07
$\beta_2(\epsilon_2, \epsilon_f)$	3.310208e+00	1.862287e-01	1.776055e-04	1.775972e-07

Obviously, A has the QR factorization $A = QR$ with

$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} I \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathcal{R}^{8 \times 5}.$$

By MATLAB we get the QR factorization $\tilde{A} = \tilde{Q}\tilde{R}$ of \tilde{A} for small τ . Some numerical results by using MATLAB are listed in Table 1, where the scalars $\epsilon_2, \epsilon_{l,l_1}, \tilde{\epsilon}, \epsilon_f, \epsilon$ are defined by (2.1), (4.4), (4.7), (5.11), (5.13), and the bounds $b(\epsilon_{l,l_1}), b(\tilde{\epsilon}), b_i(\epsilon_2, \epsilon_f)$ ($i = 1, 2$), $b_0(\epsilon, \epsilon_2, \epsilon_f), \beta_i(\epsilon_2, \epsilon_f)$ ($i = 1, 2$) are defined by (4.6), (4.8), (5.12), (5.14), (6.1), respectively.

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