



# Improved QR-factorization Generalized Inverse Methods for Computing Pseudoinverse Matrices

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## ABSTRACT

Through extensive numerical experiments, the results indicate that the improved qrginv algorithm not only yields a more precise pseudoinverse but also significantly reduces computation time compared to existing methods. This advancement has practical implications for various applications in applied mathematics and computational science, where efficient matrix computations are essential. In 2011 Katsikis et al. presented a computational method to calculate the Pseudoinverse of an arbitrary matrix. In this paper, an improved version of this method is presented for computing the Moore- Penrose of a  $m \times n$  real matrix  $A$  with rank  $r > 0$ . Numerical experiments show that the resulting Moore- Penrose matrix is reasonably accurate and its computation time is significantly less than that obtained by Katsikis et al.

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## 1. Introduction

In recent years, various approaches have been proposed to enhance the computational efficiency of obtaining the Moore-Penrose inverse. One notable advancement is the qrginv algorithm, which utilizes QR decomposition to compute the pseudo-inverse of matrices. While this method has shown promise in reducing computational time compared to traditional SVD methods, there remains significant room for improvement, particularly in terms of accuracy and execution speed [9].

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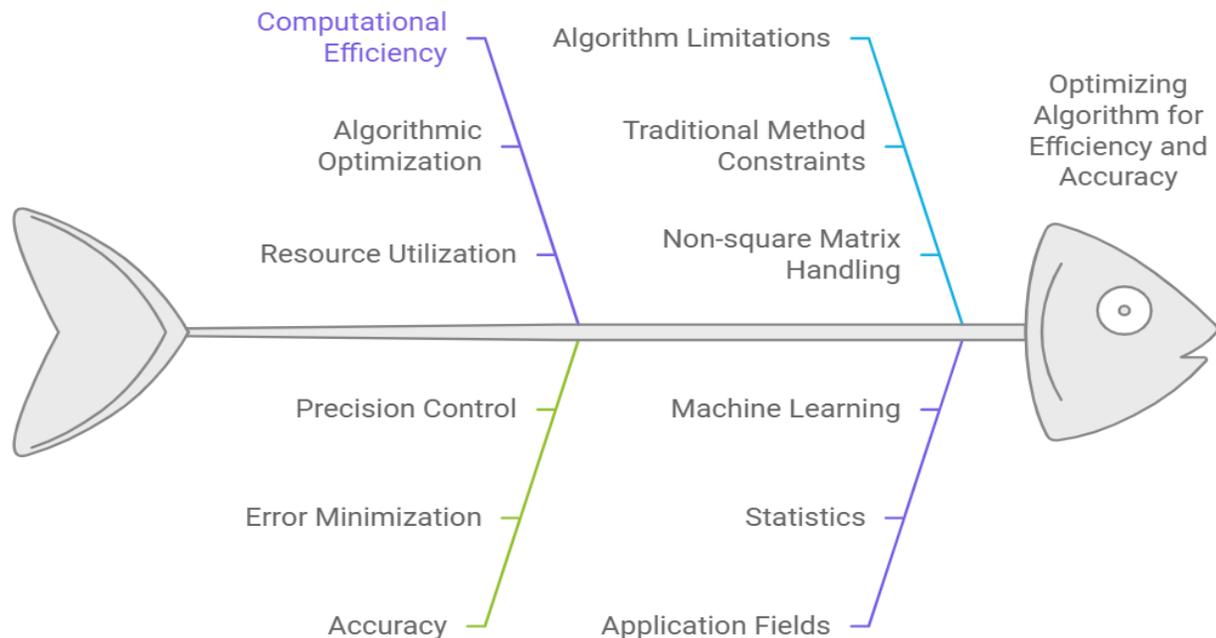
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Let  $\mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  denote the set of all  $m \times n$  matrices over the field of real numbers,  $\mathbb{R}$ . The symbols  $A^T$ ,  $\text{rank}(A^T)$  will stand for the transpose and rank of  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ , respectively. For a matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ , the Moore-Penrose inverse of  $A$ , denoted by  $A^+$ , is the unique matrix  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$  satisfying the following equations.

- (i)  $AXA = A$
- (ii)  $XAX = X$
- (iii)  $(AX)^T = AX$
- (iv)  $(XA)^T = XA$

Many works concerning generalized inverses have been carried out in finite and infinite dimensions (e.g., [1–3]). Several methods are available for computing the Moore-Penrose inverse matrix [2,4–8].

In an article [9], an improved method for the computation of the Moore-Penrose inverse matrix is provided. In this paper, we aim to improve their method to be used for any kind of matrices, square or rectangular, full rank or not. The numerical examples show that our method is competitive in terms of accuracy is much faster than the commonly used methods and can also be used for large sparse matrices.



**Figure 1.** Enhancing qrpin algorithm for moore-penrose inverse

This paper is organized as follows. In Section 2 the improved version of this method is presented for computing the pseudoinverse of an  $m \times n$  real matrix  $A$  with rank  $r > 0$ . In Section 3, the

numerical results of some test matrices are given. Section 4 is devoted to the concluding remarks. Figure 1 shows the enhancing qrginv algorithm for moore-penrose inverse.

## 2. Improved Qrginv Method

A method (qrginv) for computing the Moore-Penrose inverse of an arbitrary matrix was presented in [9]. They made use of the QR-factorization, as well as an algorithm based on a known reverse order law for generalized inverse matrices, and also, they apply a method (ginv), presented in [4], based on a full rank Cholesky factorization of possibly singular symmetric positive matrices.

In the current paper, we improved qrginv algorithm using the QR-factorization by Gram-Schmidt orthonormalization (GSO) and Theorem 1 for faster computing Moore-Penrose inverse of arbitrary matrices (including singular and rectangular). We should note that we invoke ginv algorithm. To support and state our achievement we need to remind Gram-Schmidt orthonormalization (GSO) and the QR-factorization.

### 2.1. The Gram-Schmidt Procedure

Let us remember a generalization of the Gram-Schmidt orthonormalization process (shortly GSO) which is applied for singular matrices. Let  $A = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$  be a set of vectors spanning a subspace  $V$ , this process generates a set of mutually. orthonormal vectors such as  $Q = \{q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$  having the property that  $Q$  is an orthonormalization basis for  $V$ .  $Q$  is obtained using the Gram-Schmidt orthonormalization process (shortly GSO) as follows:

$$q_1 = \frac{a_{c_1}}{\|a_{c_1}\|}, \text{ if } a_{c_1} \neq 0 = a_j \quad \text{for } 1 \leq j < c_1, \quad (1)$$

$$\hat{q}_j = a_j - \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} (a_j, q_i) q_i, \quad j = c_{k-1} + 1, c_{k-2} + 2, \dots, c_k,$$

$$q_k = \frac{\hat{q}_j}{\|\hat{q}_j\|}$$

$$\text{if } \hat{q}_{c_k} \neq 0 = q_j, \quad \text{for } c_{k-1} + 1 \leq j < c_k, k = 2, \dots, r.$$

The integer  $r$  found by the GSO process is the dimension of the subspace  $V$ . The integers  $\{c_1, \dots, c_r\}$  are the indices of a maximal linearly independent subset  $\{a_{c_1}, \dots, a_{c_r}\}$  of  $A$ .

### 2.2 The QR-Factorization.

Let us remember the QR-factorization for arbitrary matrices (including singular and rectangular).

Let the orthonormal set  $\{q_1, q_2, \dots, q_r\}$  be obtained from the set of vectors  $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$  by the GSO process described in Section 2.1, and let

$$\tilde{Q} = [q_1, q_2, \dots, q_r] \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times r}, A = [a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n] \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}, \quad (2)$$

with  $\text{rank}(A) = r > 0$ , be the corresponding matrices. Then there exist matrices  $\tilde{A}$ ,  $Q$ , and  $R$  such that

$$\tilde{A} = AP = QR \quad (3)$$

where

(i)  $P$  is a permutation matrix (therefore orthonormal);

(ii)  $Q = [\tilde{Q} \ Z] \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ , where  $\tilde{Q}$  and  $Z$  denote matrices, whose columns are an orthonormal basis of  $R(A)$  and  $N(A^T)$ , respectively;

(iii)  $R = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{R} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ , where  $\tilde{R} \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times n}$  is upper triangular matrix with  $\text{rank}(\tilde{R}) = r$ .

One obtains from (3)

$$\tilde{A} = [\tilde{Q} \ Z] \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{R} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \tilde{Q}\tilde{R}. \quad (4)$$

It follows that  $\tilde{A}$  has a  $\tilde{Q}\tilde{R}$ -factorization. A nonzero matrix can be expressed as the product of a matrix of full column rank and a matrix of full row rank. In fact, for given  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  ( $\text{rank}(A) = r > 0$ ) there exist matrices  $F \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times r}$  and  $G \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times n}$  such that  $A = FG$  [2]. Such factorization, which is the so-called a full rank factorization, turns out to be a powerful tool in the study of generalized inverses.

The following theorem is due to C. C MacDuffe [10] who was the first one to point out that a full rank factorization of a matrix  $A$  leads to an explicit formula for its Moore-Penrose inverse,  $A^\dagger$ .

**Theorem 1.** If  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  matrix, with  $\text{rank}(A) = r > 0$ , has a full rank factorization  $A = FG$ , then

$$A^\dagger = G^T(F^T A G^T)^{-1} F^T. \quad (5)$$

As a direct consequence of Theorem 1, we have the following.

**Corollary 2.** Let  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $\text{rank}(A) = r > 0$ , and  $\tilde{A} = \tilde{Q}\tilde{R}$  be the  $\tilde{Q}\tilde{R}$ -factorization of  $\tilde{A}$ . Then

$$A^T = P^T(\tilde{R}^T)(\tilde{R}\tilde{R}^T)^{-1}\tilde{Q}^T \quad (6)$$

*Proof.* With  $A = \tilde{A}$ ,  $F = \tilde{Q}$ , and  $G = \tilde{R}$  in Theorem 1 one obtains

$$(\tilde{A})^T = (AP)^T = \tilde{R}^T(\tilde{R}\tilde{R}^T)^{-1}\tilde{Q}^T, \quad (7)$$

and consequently

$$A^T = P\tilde{R}^T(\tilde{R}\tilde{R}^T)^{-1}\tilde{Q}^T \quad (8)$$

The function `IMqrginv` 4 provided all implementation details of the above solution, in MATLAB code. To calculate the rank of  $\tilde{R}$ , one needs only the number of its columns having at least one value above a tolerance level in absolute terms. This tolerance is set to be equal to  $10^{-5}$ , which is also used by Katsikis et al. [9], and turns out to provide accurate results.

### 3. Numerical Examples

In this section, we compare the performance of the proposed method (`IMqrginv` function) to that of Katsikis et al. [9] for the computation of Moore-Penrose inverse matrices. Testing `qrginv` and `IMqrginv` was performed separately for random singular and singular matrices with “large” condition numbers from the Matrix Computation Toolbox (see [11]). We also tested the proposed method for some sparse matrices and obtained very fast and accurate results. Specifically, the MATLAB7.11 (R2010b) Service Pack 3 version of the software was used on an Intel Core 2 (Duo) 8400 Processor running a professional 32-bit operating system.

#### 3.1. Random Singular Matrices

We are computing the performance of the proposed method `IMqrginv` to that of [9] (`qrginv` function). In the same way of [4] we tested on a series of random singular matrices of size  $m \times n$ , with  $n = 2^k$ ,  $k = 7, \dots, 11$ , and  $m = 2n$ , which are rank deficient, with rank  $r = 7n/8$ . In addition, the accuracy of the results is examined with the matrix 2-norm in error matrices corresponding to the four properties characterizing the Moore-Penrose inverses shown in Table 1. The computation

error is less than  $10^{-12}$  per coefficient in the error matrices, in all cases. The computation time (in seconds) is reported in Table 1. We observe that the computation time of IMqrginv method is substantially less than that of the qrginv method.

**Table 1:** Error and Computational Time Results for Random Singular Matrices

n	Method	Time	$\ AA^\dagger A - A\ _2$	$\ A^\dagger AA^\dagger - A^\dagger\ _2$	$\ (AA^\dagger)^\top - (AA^\dagger)\ _2$	$\ (A^\dagger A)^\top - (A^\dagger A)\ _2$
$2^7$	qrginv	0.0317	3.4169e-014	0.2638e-016	5.7671e-015	3.2645e-015
	IMqrginv	0.0137	1.6175e-014	3.7297e-016	3.0344e-015	2.5228e-015
$2^8$	qrginv	0.1176	1.0052e-013	9.9243e-016	8.0286e-015	4.0476e-015
	IMqrginv	0.0786	2.9804e-014	3.4041e-016	3.8500e-015	3.1148e-015
$2^9$	qrginv	1.0584	1.3649e-013	1.0186e-015	1.1006e-014	4.9494e-015
	IMqrginv	0.8236	5.3456e-014	5.0122e-015	5.0122e-015	3.8394e-015

### 3.2. Singular Matrices

In this section we use a set of singular test matrices that includes singular matrices of size  $200 \times 200$ , obtained from the function matrix in the Matrix Computation Toolbox [11] (which includes test matrices from Matlab itself). The condition number of test matrices ranges from order  $10^{16}$  to  $10^{135}$ . Since the matrices are of relatively small size and to measure the time needed for each algorithm to compute the Moore-Penrose inverse accurately, each algorithm runs 100 distinct times. The reported time is the mean time over these 100 replications. For each case, the time responses together with the error results are presented in Tables 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9. We observe that the computation time of IMqrginv method is shorter than the qrginv method for all matrices and is proved to be more efficient.

**Table 2.** Error and Computational Time Results for Chow (Rank = 199, Cond = 5.9407e+135)

Method	Time	$\ AA^\dagger A - A\ _2$	$\ A^\dagger AA^\dagger - A^\dagger\ _2$	$\ (AA^\dagger)^\top - (AA^\dagger)\ _2$	$\ (A^\dagger A)^\top - (A^\dagger A)\ _2$
qrginv	0.0376	3.6711e-013	1.7331e-013	4.4765e-013	2.4702e-013
IMqrginv	0.0187	4.0038e-013	1.7331e-013	2.4448e-013	2.4741e-013

**Table 3.** Error and Computational Time Results for Cicol (Rank = 50, Cond = 3.7045e+048)

Method	Time	$\ AA^\dagger A - A\ _2$	$\ A^\dagger AA^\dagger - A^\dagger\ _2$	$\ (AA^\dagger)^\top - (AA^\dagger)\ _2$	$\ (A^\dagger A)^\top - (A^\dagger A)\ _2$
qrginv	0.2816	1.5114e-013	2.3446e-017	1.1512e-015	8.8889e-016
IMqrginv	0.2334	8.1308e-014	1.4034e-017	1.0225e-015	8.2643e-016

**Table 4.** Error and Computational Time Results for Gearmat (Rank = 199, Cond = 1.8074e+016)

Method	Time	$\ AA^\dagger A - A\ _2$	$\ A^\dagger AA^\dagger - A^\dagger\ _2$	$\ (AA^\dagger)^\top - (AA^\dagger)\ _2$	$\ (A^\dagger A)^\top - (A^\dagger A)\ _2$
qrginv	0.0377	4.6584e-015	3.0532e-013	1.1996e-013	2.1253e-014
IMqrginv	0.0165	2.8959e-015	3.3357e-013	7.7888e-014	2.1380e-014

**Table 5.** Error and Computational Time Results for Kahan (Rank = 199, Cond = 1.9055e+024)

Method	Time	$\ AA^\dagger A - A\ _2$	$\ A^\dagger AA^\dagger - A^\dagger\ _2$	$\ (AA^\dagger)^\top - (AA^\dagger)\ _2$	$\ (A^\dagger A)^\top - (A^\dagger A)\ _2$
qrginv	0.0279	1.9877e-005	4.1177e-009	8.8330e-001	5.4162e-014
IMqrginv	0.0099	1.9877e-005	3.8389e-009	8.8330e-001	1.0398e-014

**Table 6.** Error and Computational Time Results for Lotkin (Rank = 19, Cond = 3.8210e+021)

Method	Time	$\ AA^\dagger A - A\ _2$	$\ A^\dagger AA^\dagger - A^\dagger\ _2$	$\ (AA^\dagger)^\top - (AA^\dagger)\ _2$	$\ (A^\dagger A)^\top - (A^\dagger A)\ _2$
qrginv	0.0244	8.2512e-006	1.2717e-011	4.4898e-002	3.9689e-009
IMqrginv	0.0102	8.2512e-006	3.2435e-009	4.4898e-002	1.2636e-011

**Table 7.** Error and Computational Time Results for Prolate (Rank = 117, Cond = 4.7489e+017)

Method	Time	$\ AA^\dagger A - A\ _2$	$\ A^\dagger AA^\dagger - A^\dagger\ _2$	$\ (AA^\dagger)^\top - (AA^\dagger)\ _2$	$\ (A^\dagger A)^\top - (A^\dagger A)\ _2$
qrginv	0.0276	1.3837e-006	1.2998e-007	4.7715e-002	4.7317e-011
IMqrginv	0.0138	1.3837e-006	1.1842e-007	4.7715e-002	4.7401e-011

**Table 8.** Error and Computational Time Results for Hilb (Rank = 20, Cond = 4.4158e+021)

Method	Time	$\ AA^\dagger A - A\ _2$	$\ A^\dagger AA^\dagger - A^\dagger\ _2$	$\ (AA^\dagger)^\top - (AA^\dagger)\ _2$	$\ (A^\dagger A)^\top - (A^\dagger A)\ _2$
qrginv	0.0247	7.7880e-006	1.1444e-008	1.0053e-001	5.5974e-012
IMqrginv	0.0117	7.7880e-006	1.1184e-008	1.0053e-001	5.5636e-012

**Table 9.** Error and Computational Time Results for Magic (Rank = 3, Cond = 5.3481e+019)

Method	Time	$\ AA^\dagger A - A\ _2$	$\ A^\dagger AA^\dagger - A^\dagger\ _2$	$\ (AA^\dagger)^\top - (AA^\dagger)\ _2$	$\ (A^\dagger A)^\top - (A^\dagger A)\ _2$
qrginv	0.0154	1.5837e-009	4.4922e-009	9.4641e-014	6.3953e-015
IMqrginv	0.0035	1.4929e-009	4.8349e-009	4.7537e-014	6.0546e-015

### 3.3. Matrix-Market Sparse Matrices

For sparse matrices, we have chosen some matrices from Matrix-Market collection [11]. We follow the same method as in [8], and we have the rank deficient matrices as

$$A - Z = [A \quad Z], \quad (9)$$

where  $A$  is one of the chosen matrices and  $Z$  is a zero matrix of order  $m \times 100$ . The chosen matrices with their properties are shown in Table 10. The results of the methods are presented in Table 11. We observe that the Moore-Penrose inverses obtained by IMqrginv are reasonably accurate in all cases; the computation time required by the IMqrginv method is significantly less than the time required by the Qrginv methods. On the other hand, we can see that the accuracy computation of the IMqrginv method is less than the Qrginv method; however, in some cases, the accuracy of the results of both methods is low. We can conclude that IMqrginv method is a robust and efficient tool for obtaining the Moore-Penrose inverse of large sparse and rank deficient matrices.

**Table 10.** Test Problem Information

Matrix\property	M	N	NNZ	Cond
WELL1033	1033	320	4732	Not available
WELL1850	1850	712	8758	Not available
ILCC1033	1033	320	4732	Not available
ILCC1850	10850	712	8758	Not available
WATT1	1856	1856	11360	5.4e+009
GR-30-30	900	900	4322	3.8e+002
ADD20	2395	2395	17319	1.76e+004
NOSE3	960	960	8402	7.3e+004
SHERMAN1	1000	1000	3750	2.3e+004

**Table 11.** Error and Computational Time Results for Matrix-Market Sparse Matrices

Matrix	Method	Time	$\ AA^\dagger A - A\ _2$	$\ A^\dagger AA^\dagger - A^\dagger\ _2$	$\ (AA^\dagger)^\top - (AA^\dagger)\ _2$	$\ (A^\dagger A)^\top - (A^\dagger A)\ _2$
WELL1033-Z	qrginv	0.6277	2.1186e-013	3.6375e-011	1.4406e-011	1.8819e-013
	IMqrginv	0.3300	3.1283e-014	2.5635e-011	2.4875e-012	9.1501e-014
WELL1850-Z	qrginv	3.8271	1.0218e-012	5.2163e-011	5.6680e-011	3.5487e-013
	IMqrginv	1.7559	4.0066e-014	6.3726e-012	1.9053e-012	7.7633e-014
ILCC1033-Z	qrginv	0.6119	1.4956e-010	1.1845e-005	1.1674e-006	6.9918e-011
	IMqrginv	0.3786	2.3305e-011	8.1774e-006	1.5766e-008	5.6012e-010
ILCC1850-Z	qrginv	3.9197	1.9075e-011	1.9254e-008	9.4935e-009	1.1185e-011
	IMqrginv	1.6791	2.2511e-013	9.5637e-009	1.2945e-010	6.6275e-012
WATT1-Z	qrginv	10.5110	7.1357e-007	1.8762e-005	6.1068	7.4875e-009
	IMqrginv	3.1018	7.1357e-007	6.4114e-006	6.1068	7.4875e-009
GR-30-30-Z	qrginv	3.1095	2.3077e-011	5.3574e-011	3.5492e-010	3.7356e-013
	IMqrginv	1.6834	3.2708e-013	1.2685e-011	4.9654e-012	2.3249e-013
ADD20-Z	qrginv	60.9176	2.1032e-008	4.9866e-004	2.7022e-004	1.4014e-008
	IMqrginv	59.0933	9.3835e-011	2.0676e-005	8.6123e-007	1.0353e-009
NOSE3-Z	qrginv	4.3836	1.6638e-009	2.6309e-009	5.4663e-008	2.1929e-011
	IMqrginv	3.0214	8.6964e-011	8.4269e-011	9.9464e-010	2.1778e-011
SHERMAN1-Z	qrginv	4.3150	1.0363e-009	4.5703e-007	7.4492e-007	3.0278e-010
	IMqrginv	1.3069	1.6398e-012	3.2617e-007	1.4722e-009	5.6796e-012

#### 4. Conclusion

In this paper we have presented a new method, called IMqrginv, for the fast computation of Moore-Penrose inverse of singular square, rectangular, full, or sparse matrices. This method is based on the GSO method and Theorem 1. Invoking the ginv function we improved qrginv methods presented by Katsikis et al. [9]. We have compared the performance of the proposed method *IMqrginv* to the qrginv method. Numerical examples (see Tables 1–9 and 11) show that the Proposed method is reasonably accurate, and its computation time is less than that of pseudoinverses obtained by the qrginv. Hence, we conclude that the IMqrginv algorithm is a robust and efficient tool for computing the Moore-Penrose inverse of arbitrary matrices (including singular and rectangular).

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