

PERTURBATION BOUNDS FOR THE POLAR FACTORS*¹⁾

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Abstract

Let $A, \tilde{A} \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$, $\text{rank}(A) = \text{rank}(\tilde{A}) = n$. Suppose that $A = QH$ and $\tilde{A} = \tilde{Q}\tilde{H}$ are the polar decompositions of A and \tilde{A} , respectively. It is proved that

$$\|\tilde{Q} - Q\|_F \leq 2\|A^\dagger\|_2 \|\tilde{A} - A\|_F$$

and

$$\|\tilde{H} - H\|_F \leq \sqrt{2} \|\tilde{A} - A\|_F$$

hold, where A^\dagger is the Moore-Penrose inverse of A , and $\|\cdot\|_2$ and $\|\cdot\|_F$ denote the spectral norm and the Frobenius norm, respectively.

§1. Introduction

In this paper, we use the following notation. The symbol $\mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ denotes the set of complex $m \times n$ matrices, and $\mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ the set of real $m \times n$ matrices. A^T and A^H stand for the transpose and the conjugate transpose of A , respectively. A^\dagger is the Moore-Penrose inverse of A . $I^{(n)}$ is the identity matrix of order n . $\|\cdot\|_2$ denotes the spectral norm and $\|\cdot\|_F$ the Frobenius norm.

The polar decomposition has found many important applications in factor analysis, aerospace computations and optimization. The following polar decomposition theorem is well known.

Theorem 1.1. *Let $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$, $m \geq n$. Then there exists a matrix $Q \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ and a unique Hermitian positive semi-definite matrix $H \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ such that*

$$A = QH, \quad Q^H Q = I^{(n)}. \quad (1.1)$$

If $\text{rank}(A) = n$, then H is positive definite and Q is uniquely determined.

Let $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$, $m \geq n$, have the singular value decomposition

$$A = U \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} V^H$$

where $U = (U_1, U_2) \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}$, $V \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ are unitary, and $\Sigma = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_n)$, $\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \dots \geq \sigma_n$. Then $A = QH$ is the polar decomposition of A , where

$$Q = U_1 V^H, \quad H = V \Sigma V^H. \quad (1.2)$$

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In the practical computation, because of the restriction of finite decision, the computed polar factors are those of a matrix \tilde{A} perturbed from A . So it is of interest both for theoretical and for practical purposes to determine the perturbation bounds for the polar factors of a matrix. Higham [1] and Mao [2] have studied that question, and the following results were given.

Theorem 1.2^[1]. Let $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ be nonsingular, with the polar decomposition $A = QH$. If $\epsilon = \frac{\|\Delta A\|_F}{\|A\|_F}$ satisfies $\kappa_F(A)\epsilon < 1$, then $A + \Delta A$ has the polar decomposition

$$A + \Delta A = (Q + \Delta Q)(H + \Delta H),$$

where

$$\frac{\|\Delta H\|_F}{\|H\|_F} \leq \sqrt{2}\epsilon + O(\epsilon^2), \tag{1.3}$$

$$\frac{\|\Delta Q\|_F}{\|Q\|_F} \leq (1 + \sqrt{2})\kappa_F(A)\epsilon + O(\epsilon^2), \tag{1.4}$$

$$\kappa_F(A) = \|A\|_F \|A^\dagger\|_F.$$

Theorem 1.3^[2]. Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ be nonsingular, which has singular value decomposition $A = U\Sigma V^T$, where A is perturbed to \tilde{A} , which has singular value decomposition $\tilde{A} = \tilde{U}\tilde{\Sigma}\tilde{V}^T$. Then

$$\|\tilde{U}\tilde{V}^T - UV^T\|_F \leq 2\|A^\dagger\|_2 \|\tilde{A} - A\|_F. \tag{1.5}$$

This paper will further study the perturbation bounds for polar factors.

§2. Main Results

First, we introduce the following lemmas:

Lemma 2.1. Let $B \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}$, $C \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$, $m \geq n$, be normal matrices, and

$$\Gamma = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_1 & & & \\ & \gamma_2 & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & 0 & \gamma_n \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}, \gamma_1 \geq \gamma_2 \geq \dots \geq \gamma_n \geq 0.$$

Then

$$\|B\Gamma - \Gamma C\|_F \geq \gamma_n \left\| B \begin{pmatrix} I^{(n)} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} I^{(n)} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} C \right\|_F. \tag{2.1}$$

Proof. Let

$$\hat{\Gamma} = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_1 & & & & 0 \\ & \gamma_2 & & & \\ & & \ddots & & \\ & & & \gamma_n & \\ & 0 & & & \gamma_n I^{(m-n)} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \hat{C} = \begin{pmatrix} C & 0 \\ 0 & N \end{pmatrix},$$

where $N \in \mathbb{C}^{(m-n) \times (m-n)}$ is any normal matrix. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|B\hat{\Gamma} - \hat{\Gamma}\hat{C}\|_F^2 &= \left\| B \left(\Gamma, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \gamma_n I^{(m-n)} \end{pmatrix} \right) - \left(\Gamma, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \gamma_n I^{(m-n)} \end{pmatrix} \right) \begin{pmatrix} C & 0 \\ 0 & N \end{pmatrix} \right\|_F^2 \\ &= \left\| \left(B\Gamma - \Gamma C, B \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \gamma_n I^{(m-n)} \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \gamma_n I^{(m-n)} \end{pmatrix} N \right) \right\|_F^2 \\ &= \|B\Gamma - \Gamma C\|_F^2 + \gamma_n^2 \left\| B \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ I^{(m-n)} \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ N \end{pmatrix} \right\|_F^2 \end{aligned} \tag{2.2}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_n^2 \|B - \hat{C}\|_F^2 &= \gamma_n^2 \left\| B \begin{pmatrix} I^{(n)} & \\ & I^{(m-n)} \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{C} & \mathcal{N} \end{pmatrix} \right\|_F^2 \\ &= \gamma_n^2 \left\| B \begin{pmatrix} I^{(n)} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} I^{(n)} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} C \right\|_F^2 + \gamma_n^2 \left\| B \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ I^{(m-n)} \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ N \end{pmatrix} \right\|_F^2. \end{aligned} \tag{2.3}$$

Observe that B and \hat{C} are normal matrices, from Lemma 2 of [4] we know that

$$\|B\hat{\Gamma} - \hat{\Gamma}\hat{C}\|_F \geq \gamma_n \|B - \hat{C}\|_F. \tag{2.4}$$

Combining (2.2) with (2.4), we get (2.1) at once.

$D = (d_{ij}) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ is called a doubly substochastic matrix if $d_{ij} \geq 0$ and $\sum_{k=1}^n d_{ik} \geq 1,$

$$\sum_{k=1}^n d_{ki} \geq 1, i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

Lemma 2.2^[3]. Let $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)^T, y = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)^T \in \mathbb{R}^n, x_1 \geq x_2 \geq \dots \geq x_n \geq 0, y_1 \geq y_2 \geq \dots \geq y_n \geq 0,$ and suppose that $D \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ is a doubly substochastic matrix. Then

$$x^T D y \leq x^T y. \tag{2.5}$$

Lemma 2.3. Let $W \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ be unitary, $X \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ satisfy $\|X\|_2 \leq 1,$ and $\Sigma = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_n), \tilde{\Sigma} = \text{diag}(\tilde{\sigma}_1, \tilde{\sigma}_2, \dots, \tilde{\sigma}_n), \sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \dots \geq \sigma_n \geq 0, \tilde{\sigma}_1 \geq \tilde{\sigma}_2 \geq \dots \geq \tilde{\sigma}_n \geq 0.$ Then

$$|\text{tr}(\Sigma X^H \tilde{\Sigma} W)| \leq \frac{1}{2} \text{Retr}(\Sigma W^H \tilde{\Sigma} W) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i \tilde{\sigma}_i. \tag{2.6}$$

Proof. Since

$$\text{tr}(\Sigma W^H \tilde{\Sigma} W) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \sigma_i \tilde{\sigma}_j \bar{w}_{ji} w_{ji} = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \sigma_i \tilde{\sigma}_j |w_{ji}|^2 = \text{Retr}(\Sigma W^H \tilde{\Sigma} W),$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} |\text{tr}(\Sigma X^H \tilde{\Sigma} W)| &= \left| \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \sigma_i \tilde{\sigma}_j \bar{x}_{ji} w_{ji} \right| \leq \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \sigma_i \tilde{\sigma}_j |x_{ji}| |w_{ji}| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \sigma_i \tilde{\sigma}_j |x_{ji}|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \sigma_i \tilde{\sigma}_j |w_{ji}|^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \text{Retr}(\Sigma W^H \tilde{\Sigma} W) + \frac{1}{2} (\tilde{\sigma}_1, \tilde{\sigma}_2, \dots, \tilde{\sigma}_n) D (\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_n)^T, \end{aligned}$$

where $D = (|x_{ij}|^2) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}.$ Because $\|X\|_2 \leq 1,$ we can see that D is a doubly substochastic matrix. Utilizing Lemma 2.2, we get (2.6).

Theorem 2.1. Let $A, \tilde{A} \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}, m \geq n, \text{rank}(A) = \text{rank}(\tilde{A}) = n.$ Suppose that $A = QH$ and $\tilde{A} = \tilde{Q}\tilde{H}$ are the polar decompositions of A and $\tilde{A},$ respectively. Then

$$\|\tilde{Q} - Q\|_F \leq 2 \|A^\dagger\|_2 \|\tilde{A} - A\|_F, \tag{2.7}$$

$$\|\tilde{H} - H\|_F \leq \sqrt{2} \|\tilde{A} - A\|_F. \tag{2.8}$$

Proof. Applying the singular value decomposition theorem to A and \tilde{A} , we have

$$A = U \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} V^H, \quad \tilde{A} = \tilde{U} \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{\Sigma} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \tilde{V}^H,$$

where $U = \begin{pmatrix} U_1 & U_2 \\ n & m-n \end{pmatrix}$, $\tilde{U} = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{U}_1 & \tilde{U}_2 \\ n & m-n \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}$, $V, \tilde{V} \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ are unitary, and $\Sigma = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_n)$, $\tilde{\Sigma} = \text{diag}(\tilde{\sigma}_1, \tilde{\sigma}_2, \dots, \tilde{\sigma}_n)$, $\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \dots \geq \sigma_n$, $\tilde{\sigma}_1 \geq \tilde{\sigma}_2 \geq \dots \geq \tilde{\sigma}_n$.

Since

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{A} - A\|_F &= \|\tilde{U} \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{\Sigma} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \tilde{V}^H - U \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} V^H\|_F \\ &= \|\tilde{U} \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \tilde{V}^H - U \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} V^H + \tilde{U} \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{\Sigma} - \Sigma \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \tilde{V}^H\|_F \\ &\geq \|\tilde{U} \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \tilde{V}^H - U \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} V^H\|_F - \|\tilde{U} \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{\Sigma} - \Sigma \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \tilde{V}^H\|_F \\ &= \|U^H \tilde{U} \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} V^H \tilde{V}\|_F - \|\tilde{\Sigma} - \Sigma\|_F, \end{aligned}$$

utilizing Lemma 2.1 and the perturbation properties of singular values, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{A} - A\|_F &\geq \sigma_n \|U^H \tilde{U} \begin{pmatrix} I^{(n)} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} I^{(n)} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} V^H \tilde{V}\|_F - \|\tilde{A} - A\|_F \\ &= \sigma_n \|\tilde{U}_1 \tilde{V}^H - U_1 V\|_F - \|\tilde{A} - A\|_F \\ &= \|A^\dagger\|_2^{-1} \|\tilde{Q} - Q\|_F - \|\tilde{A} - A\|_F. \end{aligned}$$

So (2.7) is true.

Let $W = \tilde{V}^H V$, $X = \tilde{V}^H \tilde{Q}^H Q V$. Then W is unitary and $\|X\|_2 \leq 1$, and we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{H} - H\|_F^2 &= \text{tr}(\tilde{H} - H)(\tilde{H} - H) = \text{tr}(\tilde{H}^2) + \text{tr}(H^2) - 2\text{Re tr}(H\tilde{H}) \\ &= \text{tr}(\tilde{H}^2) + \text{tr}(H^2) - 2\text{Re tr}(V\Sigma V^H \tilde{V}\tilde{\Sigma}\tilde{V}^H) \\ &= \text{tr}(\tilde{H}^2) + \text{tr}(H^2) - 2\text{Re tr}(\Sigma W^H \tilde{\Sigma} W) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{A} - A\|_F^2 &= \text{tr}(\tilde{H}\tilde{Q}^H - \tilde{H}Q^H)(\tilde{Q}\tilde{H} - QH) = \text{tr}(\tilde{H}^2) + \text{tr}(H^2) - 2\text{Re tr}(H\tilde{H}) \\ &= \text{tr}(\tilde{H}^2) + \text{tr}(H^2) - 2\text{Re tr}(V\Sigma V^H Q^H \tilde{Q}\tilde{V}\tilde{\Sigma}\tilde{V}^H) \\ &= \text{tr}(\tilde{H}^2) + \text{tr}(H^2) - 2\text{Re tr}(\Sigma X^H \tilde{\Sigma} W). \end{aligned}$$

By Lemma 2.3, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{A} - A\|_F^2 &\geq \text{tr}(\tilde{H}^2) + \text{tr}(H^2) - 2|\text{tr}(\Sigma X^H \tilde{\Sigma} W)| \\ &\geq \text{tr}(\tilde{H}^2) + \text{tr}(H^2) - \text{Re tr}(\Sigma W^H \tilde{\Sigma} W) - \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i \tilde{\sigma}_i \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \|\tilde{H} - H\|_F^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|\tilde{\Sigma} - \Sigma\|_F^2 \geq \frac{1}{2} \|\tilde{H} - H\|_F^2. \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to see that (2.8) is true.

§3. Final Remarks

The perturbation bounds for the polar factors of column full-rank matrices are given by (2.7) and (2.8). We can see that (2.7) is a generalization of (1.5), and (2.7) and (2.8) are the generalizations and improvements of (1.4) and (1.3), respectively.

The polar decomposition is a generalization to matrices of the complex number representation $z = re^{i\theta}$, $r \geq 0$. For complex numbers $z = re^{i\theta}$ and $\tilde{z} = \tilde{r}e^{i\tilde{\theta}}$, we have

$$|e^{i\tilde{\theta}} - e^{i\theta}| \leq \frac{2}{r} |\tilde{z} - z|, \quad (3.1)$$

$$|\tilde{r} - r| \leq |\tilde{z} - z|. \quad (3.2)$$

It is easy to see that (2.7) is a generalization of (3.1). Now we give an example to show that $\|\tilde{H} - H\|_F \leq \|\tilde{A} - A\|_F$, as a generalization of (3.2), is not always true.

Example.

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \tilde{A} = \frac{1}{25} \begin{pmatrix} 48 & -39 \\ -11 & 48 \end{pmatrix}.$$

It is easy to know that

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \tilde{H} = \frac{1}{25} \begin{pmatrix} 43 & -24 \\ -24 & 57 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\|\tilde{H} - H\|_F = \left\| \frac{1}{25} \begin{pmatrix} -32 & -24 \\ -24 & 32 \end{pmatrix} \right\|_F = \frac{8\sqrt{2}}{5}$$

and

$$\|\tilde{A} - A\|_F = \left\| \frac{1}{25} \begin{pmatrix} -27 & -39 \\ -11 & 23 \end{pmatrix} \right\|_F = \frac{2\sqrt{29}}{5}.$$

Obviously, $\|\tilde{H} - H\|_F > \|\tilde{A} - A\|_F$.

References

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