

# Degree in Mechanical Engineering - Lab exercises

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Padova, 22 May 2018

## 1 Solution of linear systems by gaussian elimination

- **Elimination**

Given the linear system  $Ax = b$ , the Matlab code for the **elimination step** of Gauss elimination method is as follows

```
for i=1:n-1,
    for j=i+1:n,
        m=A(j,i)/A(i,i); %multiplier
    %-----
        A(j,i:n)=A(j,i:n)-m*A(i,i:n); %row elimination
    %-----
        b(j)=b(j)-m*b(i);
    end
end
```

the result is an upper triangular matrix, stored again on matrix **A** and a new right hand side (r.h.s.) vector, again stored on **b**.

- **Back substitution**

The algorithm for back substitution of a linear system  $Ux = b$ , with  $U$  upper triangular matrix, can be written in Matlab as in Table 1. The lines

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```
function x = BS(U,b)
% x = BS(U,b)
n = length(b);
x = b;
x(n) = x(n)/U(n,n);
for i = n-1:-1:1
    for j = i+1:n
        x(i) = x(i)-U(i,j)*x(j);
    end
    x(i) = x(i)/U(i,i);
end
```

---

Table 1: Back substitution

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```

for j = i+1:n
    x(i) = x(i)-U(i,j)*x(j);
end
x(i) = x(i)/U(i,i);

```

using matrix operators, can be substituted by the following ones

```
x(i) = (x(i)-U(i,i+1:n)*x(i+1:n))/U(i,i);
```

where, in this case, the operator  $*$  is the scalar product of vectors.

### 1.1 Exercises

- Consider the linear system  $Ax = b$  with  $A = \text{toeplitz}([4 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0])$  and  $b$  chosen so that the exact solution is  $x = [2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2]^T$ . Solve it by the *gaussian elimination*. In the gaussian elimination, do you need to apply the pivoting?
- Solve by gaussian elimination, the system  $Ax = b$  with

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 8 & 1 & 2 & 0.5 & 2 \\ 1 & 0.5 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.5 & 0 & 0 & 7 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 16 \end{bmatrix}.$$

and  $b$  chosen so that  $x = [0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1]^T$ .

## 2 Solution of linear systems with iterative methods

Write the M-functions

- (i) `function [x, iter, err] = Jacobi(A,b,tol,maxit)`
- (ii) `function [x, iter, err] = GaussSeidel(A,b,tol,maxit)`

that implement the Jacobi and Gauss-Seidel iterative methods, respectively.

The output parameters are: `x` the solution vector, `iter` the number of iterations and `err` the vector of *relative errors* among iterations.

In the body of the functions define

- the initial solution `x0=zeros(length(b),1)` .
- the matrices `J` and `GS` of Jacobi and Gauss-Seidel.

## 2.1 Exercises

1. Consider the linear system  $Ax=b$  with  $A = \text{toeplitz}([4 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0])$  and  $b$  chosen so that the exact solution of the system is  $x=[2,2,2,2,2,2]'$ .

As initial vector, take  $x0=zeros(6,1)$ . Solve the system with Jacobi and plot the relative errors (using `semilogy`).

Do the same for the Gauss-Seidel iteration.

2. Take now  $n = 10$  and consider the tridiagonal matrix

$A=\text{diag}(\text{ones}(n,1)*10)+\text{diag}(\text{ones}(n-1,1)*3,+1)+\text{diag}(\text{ones}(n-1,1)*3,-1)$

and the vector  $b$  so that the solution is  $x=[\text{ones}(9,1); \ 0]$ .

- (a) Why do the Jacobi and Gauss-Seidel iterations converge for the solution of  $Ax = b$ .  
 (b) Consider the Jacobi matrix  $J$  (which has for any natural norm  $\|J\| < 1$ ) and the tolerance  $\epsilon = 1.e - 9$ . By using the inequality

$$\frac{\|P\|^k}{1 - \|P\|} \|x^1 - x^0\| < \epsilon \quad (1)$$

where  $P$  is the iteration matrix, compute a priori the minimum number  $k_{min}$  of iterations necessary to solve the linear system  $Ax = b$  with the Jacobi method,  $\epsilon = 1.e - 9$ ,  $x0=zeros(n,1)$ ,  $\text{maxit}=50$  and  $\|\cdot\|_2$ .

- (c) Do the same for the Gauss-Seidel iteration.
3. Construct the matrix  $A=\text{pentadiag}(\alpha, -1, -1)$  for  $n = 10$ ,  $\alpha \in [0.5, 1.5]$ , i.e. by using  $A=\text{toeplitz}([\alpha, -1, -1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0])$ . Decompose it as  $A = M + D + N$  with  $D=\text{diag}([\alpha - 1, \dots, \alpha - 1])$ ,  $M=\text{tril}(A)-D$  and  $N = A - D - M$ .
- (a) For which  $\alpha^*$  the iterative method  $(M + N)x^{(k+1)} = -Dx^{(k)} + q$  results converging faster?  
 (b) Letting  $b=(1:n)'$ , compute by the previous iterative method, the solution of  $Ax=b$  with  $x0=[\text{ones}(m,1); \ \text{zeros}(n-m,1)]$ , with  $m < n$ . Use  $\text{tol}=1.e-6$ ,  $\text{maxit}=50$ .

Time: **2 hours**.

## 2.2 Home works

1. Take the Hilbert matrix of order  $n$ , in Matlab is  $H=\text{hilb}(n)$ , with  $n$  chosen by the user, and the linear system  $Hx = b$ . The vector  $b$  is taken so that the solution is  $x = (1, \dots, 1)^T$
- Find the diagonal vector  $d$ , the upper triangular  $U$  and lower triangular  $L$  matrices of  $H$ . What do you see?
  - Using the vector  $d$ , do the command  $D=\text{diag}(d)$ : what do you see?

- Solve the system  $H x = b$  by using Matlab elementary functions.
- Perturb the vector  $b$  by the vector  $\delta b = (0, \dots, 0, 1.e - 4)^T$ . Solve the new system  $H \hat{x} = b + \delta b$  whose solution is  $(\hat{x})$ .  
Estimate the **2-norm condition number**,  $\kappa_2(H)$  of  $H$  by means of the relation

$$\frac{\|x - \hat{x}\|}{\|x\|} \leq \kappa_2(H) \frac{\|\delta b\|}{\|b\|}.$$

Compare  $\kappa_2$  with `cond(H)`.

**Notice:** given a vector  $v$ ,  $\|v\|$  is computed by the command `norm(v)` which gives by default the 2-norm of  $v$ .

2. Consider the matrix  $A=\text{diag}(1:n)$ , for some chosen  $n$ .

Study the iteration

$$x^{(k+1)} = (I - \theta A)x^{(k)} + \theta b, \quad k \geq 0.$$

- (a) For which  $\theta \in [0, 2/3]$  does the method converge? (*Hint: plot  $\rho(\theta) = \rho(I - \theta A)$* ).
  - (b) Let  $\theta_0 = \min_{0 \leq \theta \leq 2/3} \rho(\theta)$  and let  $b$  be such that `x=ones(n,1)`. Solve the linear system with the iteration above for  $\theta_0$ , `x0=zeros(n,1)`, `tol=1.e-6`, `maxit=100`.
3. Consider the random values `x=rand(20,1)` and stretch them to  $[0, 5]$ . Call this vector again  $x$ . The corresponding values along  $y$  are defined as follows

$$y_i = x_i^2, \quad \text{for } i \text{ odd} \tag{2}$$

$$y_i = x_i^2 + 0.5, \quad \text{for } i \text{ even.} \tag{3}$$

Find the polynomial of degree 2 that approximates the couples  $(x_i, y_i)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, 20$  in the least-squares sense. Try then with a polynomial of degree 3