18.335 Problem Set 2

Due Fri. Feb 28, 2020, at 3pm via Stellar.

Problem 1: Stability

- (a) Trefethen, exercise 15.1. You will need to review the definition of "stability," of which backwards stability is a (common) special case, in that chapter. [In parts (e) and (f), assume that $\frac{1}{k!}$ can be computed to $O(\epsilon_{\text{machine}})$ and concentrate on the accumulation of errors in the summations.]
- (b) Trefethen, exercise 16.1.
- (c) Consider the function $f(x,y) = x^*y = \sum_{i=1}^n \overline{x_i}y_i$ for $x,y \in \mathbb{C}^n$, computed by naive (left-to-right) summation of the floating-point products $\overline{x_i} \otimes y_i$. Show that this algorithm is backwards stable (very similar to the proof of backwards stablity of summation from class). Here, the inputs (x,y) live in the *Cartesian product* space $\mathbb{C}^n \times \mathbb{C}^n$, which is a vector space using the obvious operations (x,y) + (z,w) = (x+z,y+w) and $\alpha(x,y) = (\alpha x, \alpha y)$. You will need to choose a convenient norm of $\mathbb{C}^n \times \mathbb{C}^n$ to apply the backwards-stability definition.

(Food for thought: Your solution could easily be adapted to establish backwards stability of matrix products f(A, B) = AB computed by the familiar "row · column" algorithm. Not required here, though.)

Problem 2: Norms

- (a) Derive Trefethen eq. (3.10) (for which Trefethen only writes "by much the same argument"). Find the code that computes the induced $||A||_{\infty}$ norm in Julia, the opnorm(A, Inf) function, on github.com/JuliaLang/julia in stdlib/LinearAlgebra/src/generic.jl and satisfy yourself that it is equivalent to (3.10).
- (b) Trefethen, problem 3.4. Check your result for a random 10×7 matrix A in Julia, constructed by A=randn(10,7) with the induced p=2 norm as computed by opnorm(A) in Julia.

Problem 3: SVD and low-rank approximations

- (a) Trefethen, probem 4.5.
- (b) Trefethen, problem 5.2.
- (c) Trefethen, problem 5.4.

Problem 4: Least squares

Trefethen, problem 11.2. Note that the $\Gamma(x)$ function is provided as gamma(x) by the SpecialFunctions package in Julia (execute] add SpecialFunctions to install this package).