

UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX  
Scientific Computing  
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**Problem Sheet 2 (Problem 2 will be assessed)**

**Deadline: 12pm on Monday, October 31st, 2016.**

Penalties will be imposed for submissions beyond this date.

**Final submission date: Tuesday, November 1st, 2016.**

**No submissions will be accepted beyond this date.**

1. Consider the  $n$  simultaneous equations  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$ , where

$$A_{ij} = (i + j)^2, \quad b_i = \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} A_{ij}, \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, n-1, \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$$

Clearly, the solution is  $\mathbf{x} = (1, 1, \dots, 1)^T$ . Write a program that solves these equations for any given  $n$  using both the provided code `GaussPivot` and the internal `solve` routine. Run your program with  $n = 2, 3$ , and 4 and comment on the results.

2. **(Assessed) Ill-conditioned matrices:** Consider the system  $Hx = b$  where  $H$  is the Hilbert matrix of size  $n$ , defined by

$$H[i, j] = \frac{1}{i + j + 1}$$

and  $b_i = \sum_j H_{ij}$  (so that the vector  $x = [1, 1, \dots, 1]$  solves the system). You can use the provided function `hilb(n)` to generate the Hilbert matrix of size  $n \times n$ . For  $n = 2 : 20$ , use the in-build NumPy linear solver `solve(A, b)` to find  $x$  and plot the maximal error in  $x$  as a function of  $n$  (use a logarithmic scale in the error). Notice how the error grows quickly, and becomes of the same order as the solution for  $n > 12$ , at which point your solutions of  $Hx = b$  become meaningless, although of course the computer will cheerfully continue to give you results for larger  $n$  unless you stop it from doing so.

Try to do the same as above using the provided code for Gauss elimination with partial pivoting (`gaussPivot.py`). Compare the results with the in-build code above. What do you conclude?

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