

## Homework #3

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### Abstract

In this report, the description of a Fortran90 program for executing matrix products is displayed. The code contains three different ways to perform the aforementioned computation. Other utility functions are also defined; moreover, documentation and debugging processes are also provided. These last features are fundamental for making the code more flexible and manageable also for different users and are the main focus of this exercise.

### Theory

Given two matrices  $A$  and  $B$ , respectively of dimension  $N \times M$  and  $P \times Q$ , the element  $c(ii, jj)$  of the product matrix  $C = A \times B$  is given by the following formula:

$$c(ii, jj) = \sum_{kk=1}^M a(ii, kk) \cdot b(kk, jj) \quad (1)$$

where  $a(ii, kk)$  and  $b(kk, jj)$  are the elements of the matrices  $A$  and  $B$ .  
The product matrix  $C$  is defined if and only if:

$$M = P \quad (2)$$

and its size will be  $N \times Q$ .

When manually computing the matrix-matrix product, the *error* is defined as:

$$E = \sum_{ii=1}^N \sum_{jj=1}^Q |C(ii, jj) - C_F(ii, jj)| \quad (3)$$

where  $C_F$  represent the product matrix computed via the intrinsic Fortran90 function.

### Code development

**Program structure.** In this program, the matrix-matrix product is computed in three different ways (see Listing 1):

- with the intrinsic Fortran90 function;
- with three nested cycles, with the indices in the following order:  $kk, jj, ii$ ;
- with three nested cycles, with the indices in the following order:  $ii, jj, kk$ .

For each method, execution time is computed via `cpu_time` function.

Listing 1: Computation of matrix-matrix product.

```

1  ! ##### Fortran intrinsic function #####
2  call cpu_time(start)
3  prodF = matmul(A, B)
4  call cpu_time(finish)
5
6  ! ##### kk-jj-ii manual method #####
7  call cpu_time(start)
8
9  !           matrix multiplication with "manual" method:
10 !           first cycling on kk, then jj, then ii
11 do ii = 1, rowa
12   do jj = 1, colb
13    do kk = 1, rowb
14     myprod1(ii, jj) = myprod1(ii, jj) + A(ii, kk)*B(kk, jj)
15    end do
16   end do
17 end do
18
19 call cpu_time(finish)
20
21 ! ##### ii-jj-kk manual method #####
22 call cpu_time(start)
23
24 !           matrix multiplication with "manual" method:
25 !           first cycling on ii, then jj, then kk
26 do kk = 1, rowb
27   do jj = 1, colb
28    do ii = 1, rowa
29     myprod2(ii, jj) = myprod2(ii, jj) + A(ii, kk)*B(kk, jj)
30    end do
31   end do
32 end do
33
34 call cpu_time(finish)

```

The matrices  $A$ ,  $B$  considered in the computation are randomly generated via the user-defined function `RandMat`, included in the `matrix_operations` module (see full code for reference). The user is required to insert both matrices sizes and to decide whether or not to implement the debugging procedure (function `debugging` in module `debugging_mod`). Matrices are printed on screen via the `printmatrix` function of the `matrix_operations` module.

Finally, error is computed with the `ComputeError` function so as to evaluate the precision of the manually defined products, following the formula 3.

**Documentation and Comments.** In this exercise, one of the main goals is to familiarise with writing proper documentation for each program, module, function or subroutine that is used. The documentation is reported at the beginning of each module and program; an example is provided in Listing 2.

In addition, the main passages of the code are commented thoroughly in order to make the functionalities of the program more clear.

Usually, the aim of variables and a brief description of conditions and loops is included, making the code better organised and understandable by different users.

Listing 2: Example of documentation: full documentation of matrix\_operation module.

```

1  ! -----
2  ! ----- DOCUMENTATION -----
3  ! -----
4  ! matrix_operations module:
5  !     contains utility functions for matrix handling
6  ! -----
7  ! RandMat:
8  !     function to initialize a N-by-M matrix (a) with random float
9  !     numbers in (0,10)
10 ! INPUT:
11 !     N = integer, number of matrix rows
12 !     M = integer, number of matrix columns
13 ! OUTPUT:
14 !     a = real*4, dimension(N,M), N-by-M matrix
15 ! -----
16 ! ComputeError:
17 !     function that compute the difference (element-wise) between two
18 !     matrices, then adds up the results in order to evaluate a certain
19 !     kind of error. Includes a check on matrix shapes.
20 ! INPUT:
21 !     mat1, mat2 = matrices of which we want to compute the "error"
22 ! OUTPUT:
23 !     e = real, defined as the sum of the element-wise differences
24 !     between @mat1 and @mat2
25 ! -----
26 ! printmatrix:
27 !     subroutine to print matrices in a clearer form
28 ! INPUT:
29 !     A = matrix to be printed
30 ! OUTPUT:
31 !     print on screen matrix A arranged in a "grid" form (elements
32 !     arranged in rows and columns)
33 ! -----
34 ! -----
35 ! -----

```

**Error handling and Checkpoints.** The debugging function is defined in order to properly provide an easy way to check for errors and to simplify the debug process. The function checks if the condition (logical type, the only mandatory argument) is true: if that is the case, it means there is no issue detected. As a consequence, it produces an output on screen according to the other optional inputs, allowing the user to control the debugging process. The optional inputs are:

- `msg` = string, it is a text provided by the user for labelling the condition. It can be printed on screen;
- `verbose` = logical. If True, a very "long" version of the output is printed on screen, reporting the messages written by the user and the value of content, if present;
- `stopprg` = logical, if True the program is stopped at the first error detected;
- `content` = general variable on which the condition is verified, it can be printed with the `select` type construct (only a few cases are reported in 3). Of course, it is printed only if present and if we are selecting the `verbose` mode.

Three support variables are used in the subroutine in order to define the various options for the user (verbose mode, program stopping on errors, label message printing).

Listing 3: Code extract of the debugging function.

```

1  subroutine debugging(condition, msg, verbose, stopprg, content)
2  ! support variables
3  full_text = (present(verbose).AND.verbose).OR.(.NOT.present(verbose))
4  stp = present(stopprg).AND.stopprg
5  msg_yes = present(msg)
6
7  if (msg_yes .AND. full_text) then
8  ! "full" output mode
9      if (condition .EQV. .TRUE.) then
10         if (present(content)) then
11 ! if variable is present, print it on screen
12             select type(content)
13                 type is (integer(8))
14                 print*, msg, " => [OK], Variable = ", content
15                 type is (real(4))
16                 print*, msg, " => [OK], Variable = ", content
17             end select
18         else
19             print*, msg, " => [OK]"
20         end if
21     elseif (stp) then
22 ! exit program if stop condition is True
23         print*, msg, " => [ERROR], Abort execution"
24         stop
25     else
26 ! just print ERROR string if an error is detected but stp is False
27         print*, msg, " => [ERROR]"
28     end if
29 elseif (msg_yes) then
30 ! less verbose output, just with msg print
31     if (condition .EQV. .TRUE.) then
32         print*, msg, " => [OK]"
33     elseif (stp) then
34         print*, msg, " => [ERROR], Abort execution"
35         stop
36     else
37         print*, msg, " => [ERROR]"
38     end if
39 else
40 ! short output
41     if (condition .EQV. .TRUE.) then
42         print*, "[OK]"
43     elseif (stp) then
44         stop
45     else
46         print*, "[ERROR]"
47     end if
48 end if
49 end subroutine

```

**Pre-conditions.** The pre-conditions that needs to be verified for this exercise are:

- a check on user-inserted values, i.e. matrix sizes must be positive and the condition 2 must be satisfied;
- all matrices must be properly allocated;

The first point is automatically checked via the debug process described before, while the allocation of matrices is manual in this case. It can be further automatised using the same debugging function, but it was chosen not to do so in order to make the program more comprehensible.

**Post-conditions.** The post-conditions checked is the correctness of the manual computation of matrix product: this is done via the `ComputeError` function and gives proper result. Another post-condition is the checking of proper deallocation of matrices at the end of the program. However, since the allocation is done manually, also this passage is implemented in the same way. Thanks to the flexibility of the debugging function, also this condition can be checked automatically, but this is not implemented in this version of the code.

## Results

The code compiles and works properly. It has been tested with randomly generated matrices (initialised with the `RandMat` function) of different sizes and shapes, although not very big. The various combination of input parameters in the debugging function have been tested, obtaining the expected output.

## Self evaluation

The code can be improved in different ways, e.g.:

- Despite the proper error handling introduced via the debugging function, the program still crashes if an incorrect type of input is inserted by the user.
- The program could be further automatised and less user-dependent.
- A check on allocation of variables could be also implemented.
- Testing on bigger matrices and with different optimization flags can also be performed.

To conclude, this exercise allows to learn about debugging and error handling, which are skills broadly useful to programmers. Furthermore, writing proper documentation and comments makes the code generally more readable and understandable for different users, to have complete insight about its functionalities.