

GSL C library mini guide

source

- [GNU Scientific Library — GSL 2.8 documentation](#)

The screenshot displays the GNU Scientific Library (GSL) 2.8 documentation website. The left sidebar features a dark blue header with the 'GSL 2.8' logo and a search bar labeled 'Search docs'. Below the header is a dark grey navigation menu listing various topics: Introduction, Using the Library, Error Handling, Mathematical Functions, Complex Numbers, Polynomials, Special Functions, Vectors and Matrices, Permutations, Combinations, Multisets, Sorting, and BLAS Support. The main content area has a light grey header with a breadcrumb trail '» GNU Scientific Library', a 'View page source' link, and a 'Next' button with a right arrow. The main heading is 'GNU Scientific Library'. Below this, there are two main sections: 'Introduction' and 'Using the Library', each with a list of sub-links. The 'Introduction' section includes links for 'Routines available in GSL', 'GSL is Free Software', 'Obtaining GSL', 'No Warranty', 'Reporting Bugs', 'Further Information', and 'Conventions used in this manual'. The 'Using the Library' section includes links for 'An Example Program' and 'Compiling and Linking'.

GNU Scientific Library

- [Introduction](#)
 - [Routines available in GSL](#)
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 - [Obtaining GSL](#)
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 - [Conventions used in this manual](#)
- [Using the Library](#)
 - [An Example Program](#)
 - [Compiling and Linking](#)

Installation

```
qbalieu@Noovera:~$ sudo apt install libgsl-dev
```

```
qbalieu@Noovera:~$ gsl-config --version  
2.7.1  
qbalieu@Noovera:~$ |
```

Installation

- after installation a gsl/ parent directory is created, its standard location is

```
qbalieu@Noovera:/usr/include$ pwd  
/usr/include  
qbalieu@Noovera:/usr/include$ |
```

Installation

- this parent directory includes all the header files for the specific mathematical functions available in the GSL library

```
qbalieu@Noovera:/usr/include$ cd gsl/  
qbalieu@Noovera:/usr/include/gsl$ pwd  
/usr/include/gsl  
qbalieu@Noovera:/usr/include/gsl$ ls -lh | head -n 5  
total 1.8M  
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 22K Dec 6 2021 gsl_blas.h  
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 1.6K Dec 6 2021 gsl_blas_types.h  
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 580 Dec 6 2021 gsl_block.h  
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 2.3K Dec 6 2021 gsl_block_char.h  
qbalieu@Noovera:/usr/include/gsl$ |
```

Running an example

- example programme which uses the GSL library
- note the header file, we must specify the specific header file, which is in the gsl/ directory
- the programme itself can be in any directory (the #include statement will by default search the /usr/include/ directory)

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <gsl/gsl_integration.h>

// Define the function to be integrated (e.g., sin(x))
double my_function(double x, void *params) {
    return sin(x);
}

int main() {
    // Declare the integration workspace
    gsl_integration_workspace *workspace = gsl_integration_workspace_alloc(1000);

    // Set up the integration function
    gsl_function F;
    F.function = &my_function;
    F.params = NULL;
```

Running an example


- during compilation, we need to link (-l) the following libraries: gsl, cBLAS (gslcblas), math (m)

```
qbalieu@Noovera:~$ gcc gsl_test.c -o gsl_integration_example -lgsl -lgslcblas -lm
```

```
qbalieu@Noovera:~$ ./gsl_integration_example
```

Basic statistics part I

- example function notice the input and output types

```
double gsl_stats_mean(const double data[], size_t stride, size_t n) 
```

This function returns the arithmetic mean of `data`, a dataset of length `n` with stride `stride`.

The arithmetic mean, or *sample mean*, is denoted by $\hat{\mu}$ and defined as,

$$\hat{\mu} = \frac{1}{N} \sum x_i$$

where x_i are the elements of the dataset `data`. For samples drawn from a gaussian distribution the variance of $\hat{\mu}$ is σ^2/N .

Basic statistics part I

```
#include<stdio.h>
#include<gsl/gsl_statistics.h> // load the 'gsl_statistics' header file

#define SIZE 4

int main(){

    double data[SIZE] = {11.00, 12.3, -9.10, 4.00}; // define data array of type double
    double mean, mean_stride2, variance, min, max; // these variables will hold the output of the function, which return double

    int stride = 1; // stride parameter
    int bigger_stride = 2;

    mean = gsl_stats_mean(data, stride, SIZE);
    variance = gsl_stats_variance(data, stride, SIZE);
    max = gsl_stats_max(data, stride, SIZE);
    min = gsl_stats_min(data, stride, SIZE);

    mean_stride2 = gsl_stats_mean(data, bigger_stride, SIZE);

    printf("mean with stride 1: %g\n", mean);
    printf("mean with stride 2: %g\n", mean_stride2);
    printf("variance: %g\n", variance);
    printf("max: %g\n", max);
    printf("min: %g\n", min);

    return(0);
}
```

Basic statistics part I

```
gcc basic_stat_demo1.c -o basic_stats_demo1.exe -lgsl -lgslcblas -lm
```

```
qbalu@Noovera:/mnt/c/Users/Qba Liu/Documents/NAUKA_WLASNA/CODING_GENERAL/GSL_examples/BASIC_STATISTICS$ ./basic_stats_demo1.exe  
mean with stride 1: 4.55  
mean with stride 2: 0.475  
variance: 96.0967  
max: 12.3  
min: -9.1  
qbalu@Noovera:/mnt/c/Users/Qba Liu/Documents/NAUKA_WLASNA/CODING_GENERAL/GSL_examples/BASIC_STATISTICS$ |
```

Basic statistics part I

- further functions (usage is analog):
- [Statistics — GSL 2.8 documentation](#)

Basic statistics part II

Autocorrelation

```
double gsl_stats_lag1_autocorrelation(const double data[], const size_t stride, const size_t n)
```

This function computes the lag-1 autocorrelation of the dataset `data`.

$$a_1 = \frac{\sum_{i=2}^n (x_i - \hat{\mu})(x_{i-1} - \hat{\mu})}{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \hat{\mu})(x_i - \hat{\mu})}$$

Covariance

```
double gsl_stats_covariance(const double data1[], const size_t stride1, const double data2[], const size_t stride2, const size_t n)
```

This function computes the covariance of the datasets `data1` and `data2` which must both be of the same length `n`.

$$covar = \frac{1}{(n-1)} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \hat{x})(y_i - \hat{y})$$

Basic statistics part II

Correlation

```
double gsl_stats_correlation(const double data1[], const size_t stride1, const double data2[], const size_t stride2, const size_t n)
```

This function efficiently computes the Pearson correlation coefficient between the datasets `data1` and `data2` which must both be of the same length `n`.

$$r = \frac{\text{cov}(x, y)}{\hat{\sigma}_x \hat{\sigma}_y} = \frac{\frac{1}{n-1} \sum (x_i - \hat{x})(y_i - \hat{y})}{\sqrt{\frac{1}{n-1} \sum (x_i - \hat{x})^2} \sqrt{\frac{1}{n-1} \sum (y_i - \hat{y})^2}}$$

Basic statistics part II

```
#include<stdio.h>
#include<gsl/gsl_statistics.h>

#define SIZE 20

int main(){

    double sample1[SIZE] = {4.236, 7.895, 2.467, 9.032, 5.364, 1.907, 8.123, 6.548, 0.483, 3.792, 7.024, 4.691,
7.219, 0.837, 3.908, 6.255, 1.638};
    double sample2[SIZE] = {6.483, 2.917, 8.256, 4.732, 1.398, 7.031, 9.128, 0.573, 3.684, 5.439, 2.741, 8.395,
7.567, 1.274, 9.342, 3.018, 5.768};
    double lag1_autocorr, correlation, covariance;
    int stride = 1;

    lag1_autocorr = gsl_stats_lag1_autocorrelation(sample1, stride, SIZE); // calculate lag 1 autocorrelation
    correlation = gsl_stats_correlation(sample1, stride, sample2, stride, SIZE); // calculate correlation
    covariance = gsl_stats_covariance(sample1, stride, sample2, stride, SIZE); // calculate covariance

    printf("lag 1 autocorrelation %g\n", lag1_autocorr);
    printf("correlation: %g\n", correlation);
    printf("covariance: %g\n", covariance);

    return(0);
}
```

lag 1 autocorrelation -0.369567
correlation: -0.0190039
covariance: -0.15041

Vector operations

- the GSL library has its own *struct* for vectors
- only the non-trivially implementable functions are shown
- all functions:
 - [Vectors and Matrices — GSL 2.8 documentation](#)

Vector operations

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <gsl/gsl_vector.h>

int main(){
    int i,a;
    a = 4;
    double max,min,argmax,argmin;

    // allocate space for vectors, these are structs and not standard C arrays
    gsl_vector *u = gsl_vector_alloc(5);

    for(i=0; i<5; i++){
        |   gsl_vector_set(u, i, i*10); // write the value i*10 to the i-th position of u
    }

    // calculate max,min,argmax,argmin, the return type of these functions is double
    max = gsl_vector_max(u);
    min = gsl_vector_min(u);
    argmax = gsl_vector_max_index(u);
    argmin = gsl_vector_min_index(u);

    printf("max: %g\n", max);
    printf("min: %g\n", min);
    printf("argmax: %g\n", argmax);
    printf("argmin: %g\n", argmin);

    return(0);
}
```

- space allocation
- writing to a vector
- min,max,argmin,argmax
- don't forget:

```
gsl_vector_free (v);
```


Vector operations

- BLAS library support for vector operations
- [BLAS Support — GSL 2.8 documentation](#)
- level1 → vector operations
- level2 → vector-matrix operations
- level3 → matrix operations

Level 1	Vector operations, e.g. $y = \alpha x + y$
Level 2	Matrix-vector operations, e.g. $y = \alpha Ax + \beta y$
Level 3	Matrix-matrix operations, e.g. $C = \alpha AB + C$

Vector operations

Function nomenclature
(not only for vectors)

DOT	scalar product, $x^T y$
AXPY	vector sum, $\alpha x + y$
MV	matrix-vector product, Ax
SV	matrix-vector solve, $inv(A)x$
MM	matrix-matrix product, AB
SM	matrix-matrix solve, $inv(A)B$

GE	general
GB	general band
SY	symmetric
SB	symmetric band
SP	symmetric packed
HE	hermitian
HB	hermitian band
HP	hermitian packed
TR	triangular
TB	triangular band
TP	triangular packed

S	single real
D	double real
C	single complex
Z	double complex

```
int gsl_blas_zdotu(const gsl_vector_complex *x, const gsl_vector_complex *y, gsl_complex *dotu)
```

Vector operations

VECTORS/vector_examples2.c/.exe

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <gsl/gsl_blas.h>
#define SIZE 4

int main(){

    /*
    int gsl_blas_dsdot(const gsl_vector_float *x, const gsl_vector_float *y, double *result)

    input:
    |   - two vectors of type gsl_vector_float (struct)
    |   - a scalar value of type float (the result will be stored there)
    output:
    |   - an integer: 0 --> success, 1 --> failure
    */

    gsl_vector_float *u , *v;          // new type!
    int i, exit_code;
    float j;
    double result;

    u = gsl_vector_float_alloc(SIZE); // designated allocation function for this type
    v = gsl_vector_float_alloc(SIZE);

    j = 0.0;
    for(i=0;i<SIZE;i++){
        gsl_vector_float_set(u, i, j*10); // designated value set function for this type
        gsl_vector_float_set(v, i, j*100);
        j = j + 1.0;
    }

    exit_code = gsl_blas_dsdot(u, v, &result); // t(u)*v, '&result' refers to the address of the variable 'result'

    printf("Exitcode: %d\n", exit_code);
    printf("t(u)*v = %g\n", result);

    return(0);
}
```

Matrices

- [Vectors and Matrices — GSL 2.8 documentation](#)
- matrices are stored in row-major order (as in all of C, Fortran
matrices are stored in column-major order)

Matrices

- basic matrix usage

MATRIX/matrix_example1.c/.exe

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <gsl/gsl_matrix.h>
#define N 10 // number of rows
#define P 5  // number of columns

int main(){
    int i,j;
    double val;
    gsl_matrix * M = gsl_matrix_alloc (N, P); // allocate space

    // 'populate' matrix (remember row-major ordering)
    for(i=0; i<N; i++){
        for(j=0; j<P; j++){
            gsl_matrix_set(M, i, j, (i+j));
            //gsl_matrix_set(matrix, row, col, value)
        }
    }

    // get elements of matrix
    for(i=0;i<N;i++){
        for(j=0;j<P;j++){
            val = gsl_matrix_get(M, i, j); // returns a double
            printf("%g\n", val);
        }
    }

    gsl_matrix_free(M); // free allocated space

    return(0);
}
```

Matrices

- reading a matrix from a file

MATRIX/matrix_example2.c/.exe

```
int main(){
    FILE *input_file;
    gsl_matrix *mat;
    int dim, status_read, i, j;
    dim = 3;
    input_file = fopen("input_file.txt", "r");
    mat = gsl_matrix_alloc(dim,dim);
    status_read = gsl_matrix_fscanf(input_file, mat); // read from an ASCII file, THE FILE DIMENSIONS MUST MATCH EXACTLY
    printf("reading exitcode: %d\n", status_read);

    printf("File contents: \n");
    for(i=0;i<dim;i++){
        for(j=0;j<dim;j++){
            printf("%g ", gsl_matrix_get(mat, i, j));
        }
        printf("\n");
    }
    return(0);
}
```

Matrices

- writing matrices to a file

MATRIX/matrix_example3.c/.exe

```
int main(){
    /*
    To ensure that the dimensions of the output file match the dimensions
    of the matrix we must loop through the matrix, and write each element
    manually to the file.
    */
    int dim,i,j,value;
    double element;
    FILE *output_file;
    gsl_matrix *mat;
    dim = 3;

    mat = gsl_matrix_alloc(dim,dim);
    value = 1;
    for(i=0;i<dim;i++){
        for(j=0;j<dim;j++){
            gsl_matrix_set(mat,i,j,value);
            value = value + 1;
        }
    }
    output_file = fopen("output_file.txt", "w");

    // loop through the matrix and write each single element
    for(i=0;i<dim;i++){
        for(j=0;j<dim;j++){
            element = gsl_matrix_get(mat,i,j);
            fprintf(output_file, "%g ", element);
        }
        fprintf(output_file, "\n"); // add a newline after the line has ended
    }
    return(0);
}
```

Matrices (matrix views)

- create matrices from standard C arrays
- this is another struct (*gsl_matrix_view*)
- [Vectors and Matrices — GSL 2.8 documentation](#)

Matrices (matrix views)

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <gsl/gsl_matrix.h>
#include <gsl/gsl_blas.h> // BLAS support is needed
#define NROW 2
#define NCOL 3


int main(){
    int i,j;
    double val;
    double arr[6] = {1.0,2.0,3.0,4.0,5.0,6.0}; // our array
    gsl_matrix_view MAT_view; // define the matrix VIEW
    gsl_matrix *MAT; // define the MATRIX
    MAT_view = gsl_matrix_view_array(arr, NROW, NCOL); // create the view from the array
    MAT = &MAT_view.matrix; // convert the view to a standard gsl matrix

    // do something with the matrix
    for(i=0;i<NROW;i++){
        for(j=0;j<NCOL;j++){
            val = gsl_matrix_get(MAT,i,j);
            printf("%g ", val);
        }
        printf("\n");
    }
    return(0);
}
```

Matrix vector operations

- level 2 in BLAS
- [BLAS Support — GSL 2.8 documentation](#)

Matrix vector operations

```
int gsl_blas_dgemv(CBLAS_TRANSPOSE_t TransA, double alpha, const gsl_matrix *A, const gsl_vector *x, double beta, gsl_vector *y) 
```

These functions compute the matrix-vector product and sum $y = \alpha op(A)x + \beta y$, where $op(A) = A, A^T, A^H$ for `TransA` = `CblasNoTrans`, `CblasTrans`, `CblasConjTrans`.

- for me the notation is weird
- **y**: result vector, **x**: vector, **A**: matrix, **alpha&beta**: constants
- **TransA**: specify if the matrix is transposed or not (`TransA` = `CblasNoTrans`, `CblasTrans`, `CblasConjTrans`), these are GSL constants
- to get a 'classic' $y = A*x$ multiplication, set $\alpha = 1$ and $\beta = 0$

Matrix vector operations

MATRIX_VECTOR/matrix_vector_example1.c/.exe

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <gsl/gsl_blas.h>
#include <gsl/gsl_vector.h>
#include <gsl/gsl_matrix.h>
#define N 2
#define P 3
```

```
int main(){
    int i,j,status;
    gsl_vector *u = gsl_vector_alloc(P); // vector
    gsl_vector *res = gsl_vector_alloc(N); // result vector
    gsl_matrix *M = gsl_matrix_alloc(N,P); // matrix
    double alpha_param = 1.0;
    double beta_param = 0.0;

    for(i=0;i<P;i++){
        |    gsl_vector_set(u,i,i);
    }

    for(i=0;i<N;i++){
        |    for(j=0;j<P;j++){
        |        |    gsl_matrix_set(M,i,j,i);
        |    }
    }


    // perform matrix vector multiplication
    status = gsl_blas_dgemv(CblasNoTrans, alpha_param, M, u, beta_param, res);
    printf("Exitcode: %d\n", status);

    printf("Result: \n");
    for(i=0;i<N;i++){
        |    printf("%g ", gsl_vector_get(res,i));
    }
    printf("\n");

    return(0);
}
```

Matrix operations

- **transposition**
- could be written by hand, but not easily on the GSL structs
- [Vectors and Matrices — GSL 2.8 documentation](#)

```
int gsl_matrix_transpose_memcpy(gsl_matrix *dest, const gsl_matrix *src) 
```

This function makes the matrix `dest` the transpose of the matrix `src` by copying the elements of `src` into `dest`. This function works for all matrices provided that the dimensions of the matrix `dest` match the transposed dimensions of the matrix `src`.

```
int gsl_matrix_transpose(gsl_matrix *m)
```

This function replaces the matrix `m` by its transpose by copying the elements of the matrix `in-place`. The matrix must be square for this operation to be possible.

Matrix operations

MATRIX_MATRIX/matrix_matrix_example1.c/.
exe

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <gsl/gsl_matrix.h>
#define N 10 // rows
#define P 4 // columns

int main(){
    int i,j,status;
    double val;
    gsl_matrix * M = gsl_matrix_alloc(N, P);
    gsl_matrix * M_T = gsl_matrix_alloc(P,N); // t(M)

    for(i=0;i<N;i++){
        for(j=0;j<P;j++){
            gsl_matrix_set(M,i,j,i+j);
        }
    }

    //transpose
    status = gsl_matrix_transpose_memcpy(M_T, M);
    printf("Exitcode: %d\n", status);
    printf("_____ \n");

    printf("Transposed matrix:\n");
    for(i=0;i<P;i++){
        for(j=0;j<N;j++){
            val = gsl_matrix_get(M_T, i, j);
            printf("%g ", val);
        }
        printf("\n");
    }
    return(0);
}
```

Matrix operations

- **matrix inversion**
- this function performs matrix transposition based on its LU decomposition
- **LU**: the LU decomposition of our original matrix, **p**: permutation vector, **inverse**: the inverse of our matrix

```
int gsl_linalg_LU_invert(const gsl_matrix *LU, const gsl_permutation *p, gsl_matrix *inverse)
```

Matrix operations

MATRIX_MATRIX/matrix_matrix_example2.c/.exe

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <gsl/gsl_linalg.h>
#include <gsl/gsl_matrix.h>
#include <gsl/gsl_blas.h>
#define DIM 3

int main(){
    double arr[DIM*DIM] = {4.0,7.0,2.0,3.0,5.0,1.0,1.0,2.0,3.0};
    double val;
    int i,j;
    gsl_matrix_view MAT_view;
    gsl_matrix *MAT;
    MAT_view = gsl_matrix_view_array(arr, DIM, DIM);
    MAT = &MAT_view.matrix;

    // LU decomposition specific
    gsl_matrix *LU_decomp_MAT = gsl_matrix_alloc(DIM,DIM); // matrix to hold the LU decomposition
    gsl_matrix_memcpy(LU_decomp_MAT, MAT); // copy the contents of MAT to LU_decomp_MAT
    int sign;
    gsl_permutation * perm_vec = gsl_permutation_alloc(DIM);
    gsl_linalg_LU_decomp(LU_decomp_MAT, perm_vec, &sign); // this function works inplace

    gsl_matrix *MAT_inv = gsl_matrix_alloc(DIM, DIM);
    gsl_linalg_LU_invert(LU_decomp_MAT, perm_vec, MAT_inv); // matrix inversion

    for(i=0;i<DIM;i++){
        for(j=0;j<DIM;j++){
            val = gsl_matrix_get(MAT_inv, i, j);
            printf("%g ", val);
        }
        printf("\n");
    }

    return(0);
}
```