

so the spectral radius of $J = B$ is

$$\rho(J) = \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{5}\right) = 0.8090 < 1.$$

By Theorem 10.3, Jacobi's method converges for the matrix of this example.

Observe that we can try to “speed up” the method by using the new value u_1^{k+1} instead of u_1^k in solving for u_2^{k+2} using the second equations, and more generally, use $u_1^{k+1}, \dots, u_{i-1}^{k+1}$ instead of u_1^k, \dots, u_{i-1}^k in solving for u_i^{k+1} in the i th equation. This observation leads to the system

$$\begin{array}{rcllclcl} a_{11}u_1^{k+1} & = & & -a_{12}u_2^k & -a_{13}u_3^k & \cdots & -a_{1n}u_n^k & + b_1 \\ a_{22}u_2^{k+1} & = & -a_{21}u_1^{k+1} & & -a_{23}u_3^k & \cdots & -a_{2n}u_n^k & + b_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & & & & \\ a_{n-1\ n-1}u_{n-1}^{k+1} & = & -a_{n-1\ 1}u_1^{k+1} & \cdots & -a_{n-1\ n-2}u_{n-2}^{k+1} & & -a_{n-1\ n}u_n^k & + b_{n-1} \\ a_{nn}u_n^{k+1} & = & -a_{n\ 1}u_1^{k+1} & -a_{n\ 2}u_2^{k+1} & \cdots & -a_{n\ n-1}u_{n-1}^{k+1} & & + b_n, \end{array}$$

which, in matrix form, is written

$$Du_{k+1} = Eu_{k+1} + Fu_k + b.$$

Because D is invertible and E is lower triangular, the matrix $D - E$ is invertible, so the above equation is equivalent to

$$u_{k+1} = (D - E)^{-1}Fu_k + (D - E)^{-1}b, \quad k \geq 0.$$

The above corresponds to choosing M and N to be

$$\begin{aligned} M &= D - E \\ N &= F, \end{aligned}$$

and the matrix B is given by

$$B = M^{-1}N = (D - E)^{-1}F.$$

Since $M = D - E$ is invertible, we know that $I - B = M^{-1}A$ is also invertible.

The method that we just described is the *iterative method of Gauss–Seidel*, and the matrix B is called the *matrix of Gauss–Seidel* and denoted by \mathcal{L}_1 , with

$$\mathcal{L}_1 = (D - E)^{-1}F.$$

One of the advantages of the method of Gauss–Seidel is that it requires only half of the memory used by Jacobi's method, since we only need

$$u_1^{k+1}, \dots, u_{i-1}^{k+1}, u_{i+1}^k, \dots, u_n^k$$

to compute u_i^{k+1} . We also show that in certain important cases (for example, if A is a tridiagonal matrix), the method of Gauss–Seidel converges faster than Jacobi's method (in this case, they both converge or diverge simultaneously).

In **Matlab** one step of Gauss–Seidel iteration is achieved by the following function: