# Computational homework 2 Linear systems

Exercises 1 and 2 (marked \*) to be submitted. A subset of these will be assessed.

Deadline: 10pm Sunday 29th November.

Please submit your solutions using the link on the course Moodle page. You should submit a single pdf file, created using the Matlab publish command, formatted as per the template provided on the Moodle page.

**EXERCISE 1(\*)** Consider the linear system  $A_{\epsilon}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}_{\epsilon}$ , where, for  $\epsilon \in [0, 1]$  and  $n \geq 5$ , the pentadiagonal  $n \times n$  matrix  $A_{\epsilon}$  and the *n*-vector  $\mathbf{b}_{\epsilon}$  are defined by

$$A_{\epsilon} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \epsilon & \epsilon^{2} & 0 \\ \epsilon & 1 & \epsilon & \ddots \\ \epsilon^{2} & \epsilon & \ddots & \ddots & \epsilon^{2} \\ & \ddots & \ddots & 1 & \epsilon \\ 0 & & \epsilon^{2} & \epsilon & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{b}_{\epsilon} = A_{\epsilon} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

For a given size n and a given value epsi of  $\epsilon$ , you can construct the matrix  $A_{\epsilon}$  and the vector  $\mathbf{b}_{\epsilon}$  using the command [A,b] = matrix(n,epsi) (code available on the Moodle page).

- (a) We know from lectures that if  $A_{\epsilon}$  is strictly diagonal dominant then the Jacobi and Gauss-Seidel methods both converge. For which  $\epsilon$  does this hold? (Assume that  $n \geq 5$ .)
- (b) Compute the solution of the system in the case n=5 with  $\epsilon = 0.3$ , using both the Jacobi and Gauss-Seidel methods. To do this, use the command itermeth (code available on the Moodle page) and choose first 'J' and then 'G' as the method. Use the tolerance tol =  $10^{-10}$ , maximum number of iterations  $10^3$ , and initial guess  $\mathbf{x}^{(0)} = (0,0,0,0,0)^T$ . Report the number of iterations necessary for convergence in both cases.
- (c) Still using n=5, use the built-in Matlab command eig to compute the spectral radius of the iteration matrices of the Jacobi method  $B_J(\epsilon)$  and the Gauss-Seidel method  $B_{GS}(\epsilon)$  for  $\epsilon = 0, 0.01, 0.02, \ldots, 1$ . Recall that

$$B_J(\epsilon) = D_{\epsilon}^{-1}(E_{\epsilon} + F_{\epsilon}), \qquad B_{GS}(\epsilon) = (D_{\epsilon} - E_{\epsilon})^{-1}F_{\epsilon},$$

where  $D_{\epsilon}$  is the diagonal part of  $A_{\epsilon}$ ,  $E_{\epsilon}$  if the lower triangular part of  $-A_{\epsilon}$  (excluding the diagonal) and  $F_{\epsilon}$  is the upper triangular part of  $-A_{\epsilon}$  (excluding the diagonal). Plot the results on the same axes using the hold command.

For which (approximate) range of  $\epsilon$  do you expect the two methods to converge? How does your answer compare to the answer you obtained in part (a)?

When both methods converge, which do you expect to be faster?

Which method would you recommend using if n=5 and  $\epsilon = 0.5$ ? Run both methods for this case and check that the outcomes are consistent with your recommendation.

**EXERCISE 2(\*)** Consider the boundary value problem: find  $y:[0,1] \mapsto \mathbb{R}$  such that

$$-\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \sin(\pi x) \quad \text{in } I := [0, 1], \qquad y(0) = y(1) = 0, \tag{1}$$

the exact solution of which is  $y(x) = \pi^{-2} \sin(\pi x)$ .

In lectures we are soon going to discuss how the solution y can be approximated using a finite difference method on a set of nodes  $\{x_i\}_{i=0}^N$  defined by  $x_n = nh$ , n = 0, ..., N, where h = 1/N is the step size. We seek a set of N+1 numbers  $\{u_i\}_{i=0}^N$  approximating the values of the solution y at the nodes  $\{x_i\}_{i=0}^N$ . To impose the boundary conditions we set  $u_0 = u_N = 0$ . To approximate the ODE we replace the second derivative operator by the finite difference operator

$$D^2 u_n := \frac{u_{n+1} - 2u_n + u_{n-1}}{h^2}.$$

We find that the numerical approximation  $\mathbf{u} = (u_1, \dots, u_{N-1})^T$  to the interior values satisfies the linear equation  $A\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{b}$ , for a certain matrix A and vector  $\mathbf{b}$ . For a given  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  these may be constructed in Matlab using the script

```
>> h=1/N;
>> A= (2/h^2)*diag(ones(N-1,1)) - (1/h^2)*diag(ones(N-2,1),1)...
- (1/h^2)*diag(ones(N-2,1),-1);
>> b = sin(pi*h*(1:N-1)');
```

(If you are interested in knowing more about the background theory, then the section of the notes where this material is discussed is  $\S 5.9$ . But you don't need to look at  $\S 5.9$  to answer this question - everything you need is given to you here.)

(a) Use the built-in Matlab command eig to compute the spectral radii of the iteration matrices  $B_{\rm J}$  and  $B_{\rm GS}$  of the Jacobi and Gauss-Seidel methods applied to the system above, for  $N \in \{5, 10, 20, 40, 80\}$ . Report the results and store them in two vectors rhoBJ and rhoBGS.

Hint: the matrices D, E, F needed to construct the iteration matrices for the two methods can be constructed using the commands

```
>> D = diag(diag(A));
>> E = D-tril(A);
>> F = D-triu(A);
```

Do you predict that the two iterative methods should be convergent for these values of N? If so, which should converge faster?

What seems to be happening to  $\rho(B_{\rm J})$  and  $\rho(B_{\rm GS})$  as the system size N increases? As a result, what do you expect to happen to the performance of the Jacobi and Gauss-Seidel methods?

To investigate this behaviour further, present the plots produced by the commands

```
>> loglog(Nvec,1-rhoBJ)
>> hold
```

>> loglog(Nvec,1-rhoBG)

where Nvec=[5,10,20,40,80] is the vector of matrix sizes.

Use your results to propose an approximate relationship between the spectral radii and the size of the matrix N that you conjecture to hold in the limit as  $N \to \infty$ . Give estimated values for any constants that appear in your relationships. (I.e. if you conjecture that  $\rho \approx 1 - C\alpha^N$  or  $\rho \approx 1 - CN^{\alpha}$  then give numerical estimates for C and  $\alpha$ .)

Assuming that the error in both methods is approximately proportional to  $\rho^k$ , and using the relationship you derive above, and can you predict (at least roughly) how the number of iterations  $k_{tol}$  required to achieve a fixed solution accuracy tol will grow as  $N \to \infty$ , for both methods? Comment on the implications for the practicality (or otherwise) of using the Jacobi and Gauss-Seidel methods (compared to e.g. direct methods) for this problem when N is large.

(b) Solve the system for N = 5, 10, 20, 40, 80 using the Gauss-Seidel method (use the command itermeth as in Exercise 1, with a tolerance  $10^{-10}$  and an increased maximum iteration number  $10^5$ ), starting from an appropriate initial guess. Plot the resulting solutions on the same axes (don't forget  $u_0$  and  $u_N$ ), along with a plot of the exact solution y(x) (formula stated at the start of this exercise), evaluated on the finest mesh (N = 80). Do the solutions converge as N increases?

For each N compute the error

$$e(N) = \max_{n=0,\dots,N} |u_n - y(x_n)|,$$
(2)

and store your results in a vector error\_vect.

In lectures we will show that  $e(N) \leq CN^{-2}$  as  $N \to \infty$  (equivalently,  $e(N) \leq Ch^2$  as  $h = 1/N \to 0$ ), where the constant C is proportional to  $\max_{x \in [0,1]} |y''''(x)|$ . (This comes from the error in replacing  $d^2/dx^2$  by  $D^2$ —recall theoretical exercise sheet 1.) Do your numerical results support or contradict this theoretical estimate?

Hint: you may find it useful to plot your results using the command

## >> loglog(hvect, error\_vect)

where hvect=1./Nvec is a vector of step sizes. Recall that if  $E(h) = Ch^p$  then a loglog plot of E against h will produce a straight line with slope p and offset  $\log C$ . Once you have determined appropriate values of p and C you can check them by adding an extra plot to your figure using hold and the command

### >> loglog(hvect, C\*hvect.^p)

(c) Now consider the equation (1), but with the right hand side  $\sin(\pi x)$  replaced by 1. The exact solution in this case is y(x) = (1/2)x(1-x). Once again, solve the system for N = 5, 10, 20, 40, 80 (you will need to modify the vector **b** in your code) and compute the corresponding errors (2). Something surprising now happens when you plot

#### >> loglog(hvect, error\_vect)

Can you explain what is going on here?

### **EXERCISE 3** Consider the linear system

$$A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$$
,

where A is the Hilbert matrix of size 5 (command hilb(5)), and b is a vector such that the solution of the system is  $\mathbf{x} = (1, 1, 1, 1, 1)^T$  (command ones(5,1)).

- (a) Verify whether or not it is theoretically possible to apply the gradient method and the conjugate gradient method to solve the system. *Hint: use the built-in command* eig(A) to compute the eigenvalues of the matrix A.
- (b) Try to solve the system with the gradient method without preconditioner. Use the command gradient (code available to download from the moodle page) with the preconditioner  $I_5$  (identity matrix of size 5, command eye(5)), a tolerance of  $10^{-10}$ , initial vector  $\mathbf{x}^{(0)} = (0,0,0,0,0)^T$  and a maximum number of iterations equal to  $10^5$ . Does the method converge?
- (c) Now use the preconditioner P defined by the lower triangular part of A (command tril(A)). Is the preconditioned gradient method convergent? How many iterations are needed?
- (d) Solve the system using the conjugate gradient method (built-in command pcg). How many iterations are necessary? Compare with a) and b).