User Guide for SLIP LU, A Sparse Left-Looking Integer Preserving LU Factorization

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Christopher Lourenco, Jinhao Chen, Erick Moreno-Centeno, Timothy A. Davis Texas A&M University

Contact Information: Contact Chris Lourenco, chrisjlourenco@gmail.com, or Tim Davis, timdavis@aldenmath.com, davis@tamu.edu, DrTimothyAldenDavis@gmail.com

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1 Summary

SLIP LU is a software package designed to exactly solve unsymmetric sparse linear systems, Ax = b, where $A \in \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$, $b \in \mathbb{Q}^{n \times r}$, and $x \in \mathbb{Q}^{n \times r}$. This package performs a left-looking, roundoff-error-free (REF) LU factorization PAQ = LDU, where L and U are integer, D is diagonal, and P and Q are row and column permutations, respectively. It is important to note that the matrix D is never explicitly computed nor needed; thus the functional form of the factorization requires only the matrices L and U. The theory associated with this code is the Sparse Left-looking Integer-Preserving (SLIP) LU factorization [8]. Aside from solving sparse linear systems exactly, one of the key goals of this package is to provide a framework for other solvers to benchmark the reliability and stability of their linear solvers, as our final solution vector x is guaranteed to be exact. In addition, SLIP LU provides a wrapper class for the GNU Multiple Precision Arithmetic (GMP) [7] and GNU Multiple Precision Floating Point Reliable (MPFR) [6] libraries in order to prevent memory leaks and improve the overall stability of these external libraries. SLIP LU is written in ANSI C and is accompanied by a MATLAB interface.

For all primary computational routines in Section 6, the input argument A must be stored in a compressed sparse column (CSC) matrix with entries in mpz_t type (referred to as CSC mpz_t matrix henceforth), while b must be stored as a dense mpz_t matrix (i.e., a dense matrix with entries in mpz_t type). However, the original data type of entries in the user's input matrix A and right hand side (RHS) vectors b can be any one of: double, int64_t, mpq_t, mpz_t, or mpfr_t, and their format(s) could be CSC, sparse triplet or dense matrix. A discussion of converting/copying matrix A (and b) from user's available format and type to required matrix format and type is given in Section 9.1.3.

The matrices L and U are computed using internal, integer-preserving routines with the big integer (mpz_t) data types from the GMP Library [7]. The matrices L and U are computed one column at a time, where each column is computed via the sparse REF triangular solve detailed in [8]. All divisions performed in the algorithm are guaranteed to be exact (i.e., integer); therefore, no greatest common divisor algorithms are needed to reduce the size of entries.

The permutation matrices P and Q are either user specified or determined dynamically during the factorization. For the matrix P, the default option is to use a partial pivoting scheme in which the diagonal entry in column k is selected if it is the same magnitude as the smallest entry of k-th column, otherwise the smallest entry is selected as the k-th pivot. In addition to this approach, the code allows diagonal pivoting, partial pivoting which selects the largest pivot, or various toler-

ance based diagonal pivoting schemes. For the matrix Q, the default ordering is the Column Approximate Minimum Degree (COLAMD) algorithm [4, 5]. Other approaches include using the Approximate Minimum Degree (AMD) ordering [1, 2], a user specified column ordering (i.e., the default column ordering applied to the input matrix). A discussion of how to select these permutations prior to factorization is given in Section 6.

Once the factorization LDU = PAQ is computed, the vector x is computed via sparse REF forward and backward substitution. The forward substitution is a variant of the sparse REF triangular solve discussed above. The backward substitution is a typical column oriented sparse backward substitution. Both of these routines require b stored as a dense mpz_t matrix. At the conclusion of the forward and backward substitution routines, the final solution x are guaranteed to be exact and is stored as a dense mpq_t matrix.

The final phase of SLIP LU comprises output routines. The final solution x is defaulted to be a dense mpq_t matrix. Alternatively, the solution can be converted to any form of matrix in the set of (CSC, sparse triplet, dense) \times ($mpfr_t$, mpq_t , double). One key advantage of utilizing SLIP LU with floating-point output is that the solution is guaranteed to be exact until this final conversion; meaning that roundoff errors are only introduced in the final conversion from rational numbers. Thus, the solution x output in double precision are accurate to machine roundoff (approximately 10^{-16}) and SLIP LU utilizes higher precision for the MPFR output; thus it is also accurate to user specified precision.

As mentioned, all primary computational routines in Section 6 require the input argument A (left-hand side matrix) stored in a compressed sparse column (CSC) matrix. This data structure stores the matrix A as a sequence of three arrays:

- A->p: Column pointers; an array of size n+1. The row indices of column j are located in positions A->p[j] to A->p[j+1]-1 of the array A->i. Data type: int64_t.
- A->i: Row indices; an array of size equal to the number of entries in the matrix. The entry A->i[k] is the row index of the kth nonzero in the matrix. Data type: int64_t.
- A->x: Numeric entries. The entry A->x[k] is the numeric value of the kth nonzero in the matrix. Data type: mpz_t.

An example matrix A is stored as follows (notice that via C convention, the

indexing is zero based).

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 & 4 & 12 \\ 7 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

```
A \rightarrow p = [0, 3, 5, 8, 11]

A \rightarrow i = [0, 1, 2, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3, 0, 1, 2]

A \rightarrow x = [1, 2, 7, 1, 2, 4, 1, 3, 1, 12, 1]
```

For example, the last column appears in positions 8 to 10 of A->i and A->x, with row indices 0, 1, and 2, and values $a_{03} = 1$, $a_{13} = 12$, and $a_{23} = 1$.

2 Availability

Copyright: This software is copyright by Christopher Lourenco, Jinhao Chen, Erick Moreno-Centeno, and Timothy Davis.

Contact Info: Contact Chris Lourenco, chrisjlourenco@gmail.com, or Tim Davis, timdavis@aldenmath.com, davis@tamu.edu, or DrTimothyAldenDavis@gmail.com

Licence: This software package is dual licensed under the GNU General Public License version 2 or the GNU Lesser General Public License version 3. Details of this license can be seen in the directory SLIP_LU/License/license.txt. In short, SLIP LU is free to use for research purposes. For a commercial license, please contact the authors.

Location: https://github.com/clouren/SLIP_LU and www.suitesparse.com
Required Packages: SLIP LU requires the installation of AMD [1, 2], COLAMD [5, 4], SuiteSparse_config [3], the GNU GMP [7] and GNU MPFR [6] libraries. AMD and COLAMD are available under a BSD 3-clause license, and no license restrictions apply to SuiteSparse_config. Notice that AMD, COLAMD, and SuiteSparse_config are included in this distribution for users' convenience. The GNU GMP and GNU MPFR library can be acquired and installed from https://gmplib.org/ and http://www.mpfr.org/ respectively.

If a user is running Unix that is Debian/Ubuntu based, a compatible version of GMP and MPFR can be installed with the following terminal commands:

```
sudo apt-get install libmpfr-dev libmpfr-doc libmpfr4 libmpfr4-dbg
```

3 Installation

Installation of SLIP LU requires the make utility in Linux/MacOS, or Cygwin make in Windows. With the proper compiler, typing make under the main directory will compile AMD, COLAMD and SLIP LU to the respective SLIP_LU/Lib folder. To further install the libraries onto your computer, simply type make install. Thereafter, to use the code inside of your program, precede your code with #include "SLIP_LU.h".

To run the statement coverage tests, go to the Tcov folder and type make. The last line of output should read:

statments not yet tested: 0

If you want to use SLIP LU within MATLAB, from your installation of MATLAB, cd to the folder SLIP_LU/SLIP_LU/MATLAB then type SLIP_install. This should compile the necessary code so that you can use SLIP LU within MATLAB. Note that this file does not add the correct directory to your path; therefore, if you want SLIP LU as a default function, type pathtool and save your path for future MATLAB sessions. If you cannot save your path because of file permissions, edit your startup.m by adding addpath commands (type doc startup and doc addpath for more information).

4 SLIP LU Data Structures

There are three important data structures used throughout the SLIP LU package: SLIP_options, SLIP_matrix, and SLIP_LU_analysis. We describe them briefly below and more in detail in this section.

- SLIP_options: Contains numerous command parameters. Default values of these parameters are good for a general user; however, modifying this struct allows a user to control column orderings, pivoting schemes, and other components of the factorization.
- SLIP_matrix: A matrix structure for 15 matrices types used in SLIP LU. These matrices can be in CSC, sparse triplet or dense form with mpz_t, mpq_t, mpfr_t, int64_t or double entries.
- SLIP_LU_analysis: A symbolic analysis struct. Contains the column permutation and guesses for the number of nonzeros in L and U.

Furthermore, five enumerated types (enum) are defined and used: SLIP_info, SLIP_pivot, SLIP_col_order, SLIP_kind, and SLIP_type. Again we briefly describe them below and in more detail later in this section.

- SLIP_info: Status codes for SLIP LU. Most function return a status indicating success or, in the case of failure, what went wrong.
- SLIP_pivot: Types of pivoting scheme available for the user.
- SLIP_col_order: Type of column preordering available for the user.
- SLIP_kind: Formats of matrix available for the user.
- SLIP_type: Data types of entries in matrix available for the user.

Lastly, SLIP LU defines the following strings with #define. Refer to SLIP_LU.h file for details.

Macro	purpose
SLIP_LU_VERSION	current version of the code
SLIP_LU_VERSION_MAJOR	major version of the code
SLIP_LU_VERSION_MINOR	minor version of the code
SLIP_LU_VERSION_SUB	sub version of the code
SLIP_AUTHOR	authors of the code

The remainder of this section describes each of these data structures and enumerated types.

4.1 SLIP_info: status code returned by SLIP LU

Most of SLIP LU functions return its status to the caller as its return value, an enumerated type called SLIP_info. All possible values for SLIP_info are listed as follows:

0	SLIP_OK	The function was successfully executed.
-1	SLIP_OUT_OF_MEMORY	out of memory
-2	SLIP_SINGULAR	The input matrix A is exactly singular.
-3	SLIP_INCORRECT_INPUT	One or more input arguments are incorrect.
-4	SLIP_INCORRECT	The solution is incorrect.

4.2 SLIP_pivot: enum for pivoting schemes

There are six available pivoting schemes provided in SLIP LU. Users can set the pivoting method through the SLIP_options structure in Section 4.6. Note that the pivot is always nonzero, thus the smallest entry is the nonzero entry with the smallest magnitude. Also, the tolerance is specified by the tol component in SLIP_options. Please refer to Section 4.6 for details of this parameter. The pivoting schemes are described as follows:

0	SLIP_SMALLEST	The k -th pivot is selected as the smallest entry in the k -th
		column.
1	SLIP_DIAGONAL	The k -th pivot is selected as the diagonal entry. If the di-
		agonal entry is zero, this method instead selects the smallest
		pivot in the column.
2	SLIP_FIRST_NONZERO	The k -th pivot is selected as the first eligible nonzero in the
		column.
3	SLIP_TOL_SMALLEST	The k -th pivot is selected as the diagonal entry if the diagonal
		is within a specified tolerance of the smallest entry in the
		column. Otherwise, the smallest entry in the k -th column is
		selected. This is the default pivot selection strategy.
4	SLIP_TOL_LARGEST	The k-th pivot is selected as the diagonal entry if the diago-
		nal is within a specified tolerance of the largest entry in the
		column. Otherwise, the largest entry in the k -th column is
		selected.
5	SLIP_LARGEST	The k -th pivot is selected as the largest entry in the k -th
		column.

4.3 SLIP_col_order: enum for column ordering schemes

The SLIP LU library provides three column ordering schemes: no ordering, CO-LAMD, and AMD. Users can set the column ordering method through order component in the SLIP_options structure described in Section 4.6. In general, it is recommended that the user selects the COLAMD ordering, however, no preordering can be preferable if the user's matrix already has a good preordering.

0	SLIP_NO_ORDERING	No pre-ordering is performed on the matrix A , that is $Q = I$.
1	SLIP_COLAMD	The columns of A are permuted prior to factorization using
		the COLAMD [4] ordering. This is the default ordering.
2	SLIP_AMD	The nonzero pattern of $A + A^T$ is analyzed and the columns
		of A are permuted prior to factorization based on the AMD
		[2] ordering of $A + A^T$. This works well if A has a mostly
		symmetric pattern, but tends to be worse than COLAMD on
		matrices with unsymmetric pattern. [5].

4.4 SLIP_kind: enum for matrix formats

The SLIP LU library provides three available matrix formats: sparse CSC (compressed sparse column), sparse triplet and dense. Details for matrices in SLIP LU are discussed in Section 4.7.

0	SLIP_CSC	Matrix is in compressed sparse column format.
1	SLIP_TRIPLET	Matrix is in sparse triplet format.
$\overline{2}$	SLIP_DENSE	Matrix is in dense format.

4.5 SLIP_type: enum for data types of matrix entry

The SLIP LU library provides five data types for matrix entries: mpz_t, mpq_t, mpfr_t, int64_t and double. Details for matrices in SLIP LU are discussed in Section 4.7.

0	SLIP_MPZ	Matrix entries are in mpz_t type.
1	SLIP_MPQ	Matrix entries are in mpq_t type.
2	SLIP_MPFR	Matrix entries are in mpfr_t type.
3	SLIP_INT64	Matrix entries are in int64_t type.
4	SLIP_FP64	Matrix entries are in double type.

4.6 SLIP_options structure

The SLIP_options struct stores key command parameters for various functions used in the SLIP LU package. The SLIP_options* option struct contains the following components:

- option->pivot: An enum SLIP_pivot type (discussed in Section 4.2) which controls the type of pivoting used. Default value: SLIP_TOL_SMALLEST (3).
- option->order: An enum SLIP_col_order type (discussed in Section 4.3) which controls what column ordering is used. Default value: SLIP_COLAMD (1).

- option->tol: A double which tells the tolerance used if the user selects a tolerance based pivoting scheme, i.e., SLIP_TOL_SMALLEST or SLIP_TOL_LARGEST. option->tol must be in the range of (0, 1]. Default value: 1 meaning that the diagonal entry will be selected if it has the same magnitude as the smallest entry in the k the column.
- option->print_level: An int which controls the amount of output. 0: print nothing, 1: just errors, 2: terse, with basic stats from COLAMD/AMD and SLIP, 3: all, with matrices and results. Default value: 0.
- option->prec: An uint64_t which specifies the precision used if the user desires multiple precision floating point numbers, (i.e., MPFR). This can be any integer larger than MPFR_PREC_MIN (value of 1 in MPFR 4.0.2 and 2 in some legacy versions) and smaller than MPFR_PREC_MAX (usually the largest possible int available in your system). Default value: 128 (quad precision).
- option->round: A mpfr_rnd_t which determines the type of MPFR rounding to be used by SLIP LU. This is a parameter of the MPFR library. The options for this parameter are:
 - MPFR_RNDN: round to nearest (roundTiesToEven in IEEE 754-2008)
 - MPFR_RNDZ: round toward zero (roundTowardZero in IEEE 754-2008)
 - MPFR_RNDU: round toward plus infinity (roundTowardPositive in IEEE 754-2008)
 - MPFR_RNDD: round toward minus infinity (roundTowardNegative in IEEE 754-2008)
 - MPFR_RNDA: round away from zero
 - MPFR_RNDF: faithful rounding. This is not stable.

We refer the reader to the MPFR user guide available at https://www.mpfr.org/mpfr-current/mpfr.pdf for details on the MPFR rounding style and any other utilized MPFR convention. Default value: MPFR_RNDN.

• option->check: A bool which inicates whether the solution to the system should be checked. Intended for debugging only; SLIP LU library is guaranteed to return the exact solution. Default value: false.

All SLIP LU routines except basic memory management routines in Sections 5.1-5.7 and SLIP_options allocation routine in 5.8 require option as an input argument. However, users can avoid creating one by passing NULL if the default settings are desired. Otherwise, users can use the following function/macro to create and destroy a SLIP_options object.

function/macro name	description	section
SLIP_create_default_options	create and return SLIP_options pointer with default parameters upon successful allocation	5.8
SLIP_FREE	destroy SLIP_options object	5.4

4.7 SLIP_matrix structure

All internal matrices are stored as SLIP_matrix structure, which can be CSC, triplet or dense matrix (as discussed in Section 4.4) with entries stored as mpz_t, mpq_t, mpfr_t, int64_t and double (as discussed in Section 4.5). This gives a total of 15 different matrix types. Not all functions accept all 15 matrices types, however.

A matrix SLIP_matrix *A has the following components:

- A->m: Number of rows in the matrix. Data Type: int64_t
- A->n: Number of columns in the matrix. Data Type: int64_t
- A->nz: The number of nonzeros in the matrix A, if A is a triplet matrix (ignored for matrices in CSC or dense formats). Data Type: int64_t
- A->nzmax: The allocated size of the vectors A->i, A->j and A->x. Note that
 A->nzmax ≥ nnz(A), where nnz(A) is the return value of SLIP_matrix_nnz(A,option).
 Data Type: int64_t
- A->kind: Indicating the kind of matrix A: CSC, triplet or dense. Data Type: SLIP_kind
- A->type: Indicating the type of entries in matrix A: mpz_t, mpq_t, mpfr_t, int64_t or double. Data Type: SLIP_type
- A->p: An array of size A->n+1 which contains column pointers of A, if A is a CSC matrix (NULL for matrices in triplet or dense formats). Data Type: int64_t*

- A->p_shallow: A boolean indicating whether A->p is shallow. Data Type: bool
- A->i: An array of size A->nzmax which contains the row indices of the nonzeros in A, if A is a CSC or triplet matrix (NULL for dense matrices). The matrix is zero based therefore indices are in the range of [0, A->n-1]. Data Type: int64_t*
- A->i_shallow: A boolean indicating whether A->i is shallow. Data Type: bool
- A->j: An array of size A->nzmax which contains the column indices of the nonzeros in A, if A is a triplet matrix (NULL for matrices in CSC or dense formats). The matrix is zero based therefore indices are in the range of [0, A->n-1]. Data Type: int64_t*
- A->j_shallow: A boolean indicating whether A->j is shallow. Data Type: bool
- A->x.TYPE: An array of size A->nzmax which contains the numeric values of the matrix. TYPE should be mpz, mpq, mpfr, int64 or fp64 corresponding to the entry type indicated by A->type. Data Type: union
- A->x_shallow: A boolean indicating whether A->x.TYPE is shallow. Data Type: bool
- A->scale: A scaling parameter for matrix of mpz_t type. For all matrices whose entries are stored in data type other than mpz_t, A->scale = 1. This is used to ensure integrality of each entry in mpz matrix if these entries are converted from non-integral type data (such as double, variable precision floating point, or rational). Data Type: mpq_t

Specifically, for different kinds of A of size A->m*A->n with nz nonzero entries, its components are defined as:

• (0) SLIP_CSC: A sparse matrix in CSC (compressed sparse column) format. A->p is an int64_t array of size A->n+1, A->i is an int64_t array of size A->nzmax (with $nz \leq A->nzmax$), and A->x. TYPE is an array of size A->nzmax of matrix entries ('TYPE' is one of mpz, mpq, mpfr, int64, or fp64). The row indices of column j appear in A->i [A->p [j] ... A->p [j+1]-1], and the values appear in the same locations in A->x. TYPE. The A->j array is NULL. A->nz is ignored; nz is A->p [A->n].

- (1) SLIP_TRIPLET: A sparse matrix in triplet format. A->i and A->j are both int64_t arrays of size A->nzmax, and A->x.TYPE is an array of values of the same size. The kth tuple has row index A->i [k], column index A->j [k], and value A->x.TYPE [k], with $0 \le k < A->nz = nz$. The A->p array is NULL.
- (2) SLIP_DENSE: A dense matrix. The integer arrays $A \rightarrow p$, $A \rightarrow i$, and $A \rightarrow j$ are all NULL. $A \rightarrow x$. TYPE is a pointer to an array of size $A \rightarrow m^*A \rightarrow n$, stored in column-oriented format. The value of A(i,j) is $A \rightarrow x$. TYPE [p] with $p = i + j * A \rightarrow m$. $A \rightarrow nz$ is ignored; nz is $A \rightarrow m * A \rightarrow n$.

A may contain 'shallow' components, A->p, A->i, A->j, and A->x. For example, if A->p_shallow is true, then a non-NULL A->p is a pointer to a read-only array, and the A->p array is not freed by SLIP_matrix_free. If A->p is NULL (for a triplet or dense matrix), then A->p_shallow has no effect.

To simplify the access the entries in A, SLIP LU package provides the following macros (Note that the TYPE parameter in the macros is one of: mpz, mpq, mpfr, int64 or fp64):

- SLIP_1D(A,k,TYPE): used to access the kth entry in SLIP_matrix *A using 1D linear addressing for any matrix kind (CSC, triplet or dense), in any type with TYPE specified corresponding
- SLIP_2D(A,i,j,TYPE): used to access the (i,j)th entry in a dense SLIP_matrix *A

The SLIP LU package has a set of functions to allocate, copy(convert), query and destroy a SLIP LU matrix, SLIP_matrix, as shown in the following table.

function name	description	section
SLIP_matrix_allocate	allocate a m-by-n SLIP_matrix	5.9
SLIP_matrix_copy	make a copy of a matrix, into another	7.1
	kind and/or type	
SLIP_matrix_nnz	get the number of entries in a matrix	7.2
SLIP_matrix_free	destroy a SLIP_matrix and free its al-	5.10
	located memory	

4.8 SLIP_LU_analysis structure

The $SLIP_LU_analysis$ data structure is used for storing the column permutation for LU and the guess on nonzeros for L and U. Users do not need to modify this struct, just pass it into the functions. A $SLIP_LU_analysis$ structure has the following components:

- S->q: The column permutation stored as a dense int64_t vector of size n + 1, where n is the number of columns of the analyzed matrix. Currently this vector is obtained via COLAMD, AMD, or is set to no ordering (i.e., [0, 1, ..., n 1]).
- S->lnz: An int64_t which is a guess for the number of nonzeros in L. S->lnz must be in the range of $[n, n^2]$. If S->lnz is too small, the program may waste time performing extra memory reallocations. This is set during the symbolic analysis.
- S->unz: An int64_t which is a guess for the number of nonzeros in U. S->unz must be in the range of $[n, n^2]$. If S->unz is too small, the program may waste time performing extra memory reallocations. This is set during the symbolic analysis.

The SLIP LU package provides the following functions to create and destroy a SLIP_LU_analysis object:

function/macro name	description	section
SLIP_LU_analyze	create SLIP_LU_analysis object	6.1
SLIP_LU_analysis_free	destroy SLIP_LU_analysis object	5.11

5 Memory Management Routines

The routines in this section are used to allocate and free memory for the data structures used in SLIP LU. Note that, SLIP LU relies on the SuiteSparse memory management functions, SuiteSparse_malloc, SuiteSparse_calloc, SuiteSparse_realloc, and SuiteSparse_free.

5.1 SLIP_calloc: allocate initialized memory

SLIP_calloc allocates a block of memory for an array of nitems elements, each of them size bytes long, and initializes all its bits to zero. If any input is less than 1, it is treated as if equal to 1. If the function failed to allocate the requested block of memory, then a NULL pointer is returned.

5.2 SLIP_malloc: allocate uninitialized memory

```
void *SLIP_malloc
(
    size_t size  // size of memory space to allocate
);
```

SLIP_malloc allocates a block of size bytes of memory, returning a pointer to the beginning of the block. The content of the newly allocated block of memory is not initialized, remaining with indeterminate values. If size is less than 1, it is treated as if equal to 1. If the function fails to allocate the requested block of memory, then a NULL pointer is returned.

5.3 SLIP_realloc: resize allocated memory

SLIP_realloc is a wrapper for realloc. If p is non-NULL on input, it points to a previously allocated object of size old_size * size_of_item. The object is reallocated to be of size new_size * size_of_item. If p is NULL on input, then a new object of that size is allocated. On success, a pointer to the new object is returned. If the reallocation fails, p is not modified, and a flag is returned to indicate that the reallocation failed. If the size decreases or remains the same, then the method always succeeds (ok is returned as true).

Typical usage: the following code fragment allocates an array of 10 int's, and then increases the size of the array to 20 int's. If the SLIP_malloc succeeds but the SLIP_realloc fails, then the array remains unmodified, of size 10.

```
int *p;
p = SLIP_malloc (10 * sizeof (int));
if (p == NULL) { error here ... }
printf ("p points to an array of size 10 * sizeof (int)\n");
bool ok;
p = SLIP_realloc (20, 10, sizeof (int), p, &ok);
```

```
if (ok) printf ("p has size 20 * sizeof (int)\n") ;
else printf ("realloc failed; p still has size 10 * sizeof (int)\n") ;
SLIP_free (p) ;
```

5.4 SLIP_free: free allocated memory

```
void SLIP_free
(
    void *p  // Pointer to memory space to free
);
```

SLIP_free deallocates the memory previously allocated by a call to SLIP_calloc, SLIP_malloc, or SLIP_realloc. Note that the default C free function can cause a segmentation fault if called multiple times on the same pointer or is called via other inappropriate behavior. To remedy this issue, this function frees the input pointer p only when it is not NULL. To further prevent the potential segmentation fault that could be caused by free, the following macro SLIP_FREE is provided, which sets the free'd pointer to NULL.

5.5 SLIP_initialize: initialize the working environment

```
void SLIP_initialize
(
    void
);
```

SLIP_initialize initializes the working environment for SLIP LU functions. SLIP LU utilizes a specialized memory management scheme in order to prevent potential memory failures caused by GMP and MPFR libraries. This function **must** be called prior to using the library.

5.6 SLIP_initialize_expert: initialize the working environment (expert version)

SLIP_initialize_expert is the same as SLIP_initialize. except that it allows for a redefinition of custom memory functions that are used for SLIP LU and GMP/MPFR.

The four inputs to this function are pointers to four functions with the same signatures as the ANSI C malloc, calloc, realloc, and free functions. That is:

```
#include <stdlib.h>
void *malloc (size_t size);
void *calloc (size_t nmemb, size_t size);
void *realloc (void *ptr, size_t size);
void free (void *ptr);
```

5.7 SLIP_finalize: free the working environment

```
void SLIP_finalize
(
     void
);
```

SLIP_finalize finalizes the working evironment for SLIP LU library, and frees any internal workspace created by SLIP LU. It must be called as the last SLIP_* function called.

5.8 SLIP_create_default_options: create default SLIP_options object

```
SLIP_options* SLIP_create_default_options
(
    void
);
```

SLIP_create_default_options creates and returns a pointer to a SLIP_options struct with default parameters upon successful allocation, which are discussed in Section 4.6. To safely free the SLIP_options* option structure, simply use SLIP_FREE(option).

Note that all functions that require SLIP_options *option as input can take NULL instead and use default setting. That is, if only default setting is desired and needs no change, then this function needs not to be called. User can only call this function to allocate a SLIP_option pointer that will be modified later for different setting in the code. Specially, user should use same setting for option->prec across the code for best practice.

5.9 SLIP_matrix_allocate: allocate a m-by-n SLIP_matrix

```
SLIP_info SLIP_matrix_allocate
    SLIP_matrix **A_handle, // matrix to allocate
    SLIP_kind kind,
                           // CSC, triplet, or dense
                            // mpz, mpq, mpfr, int64, or double
   SLIP_type type,
    int64_t m,
                           // # of rows
                           // # of columns
    int64_t n,
    int64_t nzmax,
                            // max # of entries
    bool shallow,
                            // if true, matrix is shallow. A->p, A->i,
                            // A->j, A->x are all returned as NULL and must
                            // be set by the caller. All A->*_shallow are
                            // returned as true.
   bool init,
                            // If true, and the data types are mpz, mpq, or
                            // mpfr, the entries are initialized (using the
                            // appropriate SLIP_mp*_init function). If
                            // false, the mpz, mpq, and mpfr arrays are
                            // allocated but not initialized.
    const SLIP_options *option
) ;
```

SLIP_matrix_allocate allocate memory space for a m-by-n SLIP_matrix whose kind (CSC, triplet or dense) and data type (mpz, mpq, mpfr, int64 or double) is specified. If 'shallow' is true, all components (p, i, j, x) are NULL, and their shallow flags are all true. The user can then set A->p, A->i, A->j, and/or A->x accordingly, from their own arrays. If 'shallow' is false, components are allocated correspondingly (see Section 4.7 for more infomation). For data type as mpz, mpq or mpfr, the entries are initialized (using the appropriate SLIP_mp*_init function) if 'init' is true. Otherwise ('init' is false), the mpz, mpq or mpfr arrays are allocated but not initialized (which means that accessing their entry without further initialization would cause undefined behavior). The boolean 'init' is ignored for data type of double or int64.

5.10 SLIP_matrix_free: free a SLIP_matrix

```
SLIP_info SLIP_matrix_free
(
     SLIP_matrix **A_handle, // matrix to free
     const SLIP_options *option
);
```

SLIP_matrix_free frees the SLIP_matrix *A. Note that the input of the function is the pointer to the pointer of a SLIP_matrix structure. This is because this function internally sets the pointer of a SLIP_matrix to be NULL to prevent potential segmentation fault that could be caused by double free. If default setting is desired, option can be input as NULL.

5.11 SLIP_LU_analysis_free: free SLIP_LU_analysis structure

```
void SLIP_LU_analysis_free
(
        SLIP_LU_analysis **S, // Structure to be deleted
        const SLIP_options *option
);
```

SLIP_LU_analysis_free frees a SLIP_LU_analysis structure. Note that the input of the function is the pointer to the pointer of a SLIP_LU_analysis structure. This is because this function internally sets the pointer of a SLIP_LU_analysis to be NULL to prevent potential segmentation fault that could be caused by double free. If default setting is desired, option can be input as NULL.

6 Primary Computational Routines

These routines perform symbolic analysis, compute the LU factorization of the matrix A, and solve Ax = b using the LU factorization of A.

6.1 SLIP_LU_analyze: perform symbolic analysis

```
SLIP_info SLIP_LU_analyze
(

SLIP_LU_analysis **S, // symbolic analysis (column permutation

// and nnz L,U)

const SLIP_matrix *A, // Input matrix

const SLIP_options *option // Control parameters
```

) ;

SLIP_LU_analyze performs the symbolic ordering for SLIP LU. Currently, there are three options: no ordering, COLAMD, or AMD, which are passed in by SLIP_options *option. For more details, users can refer to Section 4.6.

The SLIP_LU_analysis *S is created by calling SLIP_LU_analyze(&S, A, option) with SLIP_matrix *A properly initialized as CSC matrix and option be NULL if default ordering (COLAMD) is desired. The value of S is ignored on input. On output, S is a pointer to the newly created symbolic analysis object and SLIP_OK is returned upon successful completion, or S = NULL with error status returned if a failure occurred.

The analysis S is freed by SLIP_LU_analysis_free.

6.2 SLIP_LU_factorize: perform LU factorization

```
SLIP_info SLIP_LU_factorize
    // output:
    SLIP_matrix **L_handle,
                                // lower triangular matrix
   SLIP_matrix **U_handle,
                                // upper triangular matrix
    SLIP_matrix **rhos_handle,
                                // sequence of pivots
    int64_t **pinv_handle,
                                // inverse row permutation
    // input:
    const SLIP_matrix *A,
                                 // matrix to be factored
    const SLIP_LU_analysis *S,
                                 // stores guess on nnz
                                 // and column permutation
    const SLIP_options* option
);
```

SLIP_LU_factorize performs the SLIP LU factorization. This factorization is done via n (number of rows or columns of the square matrix A) iterations of the sparse REF triangular solve function. The overall factorization is PAQ = LDU. This routine allows the user to separate factorization and solve. For example codes, please refer to either SLIP_LU/Demos/SLIPLU.c or Section 9.3.

On input, L, U, rhos, and pinv are undefined and ignored. A must be a CSC mpz_t matrix. Default setting will be used if option is input as NULL.

Upon successful completion, the function returns SLIP_OK, and L and U are the lower and upper triangular matrices, rhos contains the sequence of pivots. The determinant of A can be obtained as rhos[n-1]. pinv contains the inverse row permutation (that is, the row index in the permuted matrix PA. For the ith row in A, pinv[i] gives the row index in PA).

If an error occurs, L, U, rhos, and pinv are all returned as NULL, and an error code will be returned correspondingly.

6.3 SLIP_LU_solve: solve the linear system Ax = b

```
SLIP_info SLIP_LU_solve
                                // solves the linear system LD^{(-1)}U x = b
    // Output
   SLIP_matrix **X_handle,
                                // rational solution to the system
    // input:
    const SLIP_matrix *b,
                                // right hand side vector
    const SLIP_matrix *A,
                                // Input matrix
    const SLIP_matrix *L,
                                // lower triangular matrix
    const SLIP_matrix *U,
                                // upper triangular matrix
    const SLIP_matrix *rhos,
                                // sequence of pivots
    const SLIP_LU_analysis *S, // symbolic analysis struct
    const int64_t *pinv,
                                // inverse row permutation
    const SLIP_options* option
```

SLIP_LU_solve obtains the solution of mpq_t type to the linear system Ax = b upon a successful factorization. This function may be called after a successful return from SLIP_LU_factorize, which computes L, U, rhos, and pinv.

On input, SLIP_matrix *x are undefined. A, L and U should be CSC mpz matrices while b and rhos should be dense mpz matrices. All matrices should have matched dimensions. (Since L, U and rhos are computed from SLIP_LU_factorize, they will have matched dimension with A. Yet, b should be guaranteed to have same number of rows as that of A.) Default setting will be used if option is input as NULL.

Upon successful completion, the function returns SLIP_OK, and x contains the solution of mpq_t type to the linear system Ax = b. If desired, option->check can be set to true to enable solution checking process in this function. However, this is intended for debugging only; SLIP LU library is guaranteed to return the exact solution. Otherwise (in case of error occurred), the function returns corresponding error code.

Like some other routines discussed in this section, this function is primarily for advanced users who might want intermediate calculation results; thus for usage information please refer to either SLIP_LU/Demos/SLIPLU.c or Section 9.3.

6.4 SLIP_backslash: solve Ax = b and return x in user desired type

SLIP_backslash solves the linear system Ax = b and returns the solution as a matrix of mpq_t, mpfr_t or double numbers. This function performs symbolic analysis, factorization, and solving. It can be thought of as an exact version of MATLAB sparse backslash.

On input, SLIP_matrix *x are undefined. type must be one of: SLIP_MPQ, SLIP_MPFR or SLIP_FP64 to specify the data type of the solution entries. A should be a square CSC mpz_t matrix while b should be a dense mpz_t matrix. In addition, A->m should be equal to b->m. Default setting will be used if option is input as NULL.

Upon successful completion, the function returns SLIP_OK, and x contains the solution of data type specified by type to the linear system Ax = b. If desired, option->check can be set to true to enable solution checking process in this function. However, this is intended for debugging only; SLIP LU library is guaranteed to return the exact solution. Otherwise (in case of error occured), the function returns corresponding error code.

For a complete example, users can refer to SLIP_LU/Demos/example2.c or Section 9.2.

7 Additional Routines for SLIP_matrix (TODO rename this)

This section contains additional routines to copy, query and check a SLIP_matrix structure.

7.1 SLIP_matrix_copy: make a copy of a SLIP_matrix

SLIP_matrix_copy create a SLIP_matrix *C which is a modified copy of a SLIP_matrix *A. The new matrix C can have a different kind and type than A. If default setting is desired, option can be input as NULL.

The input matrix is assumed to be valid. It can be checked first with SLIP_matrix_check (Section 7.3), if desired. Results are undefined for invalid input matrix A.

7.2 SLIP_matrix_nnz: get the number of entries in a SLIP_matrix

SLIP_matrix_nnz returns the number of entries in a SLIP_matrix *A. For details regarding how the number of entries is obtained for different kinds of matrices, users can refer to Section 4.7. For any matrix with invalid dimension(s), this funtion returns -1. If default setting is desired, option can be input as NULL.

This function can be used to perform basic/quick check on the input matrix A. For rigorous check on the validity of the input matrix A, user should instead use SLIP_matrix_check (Section 7.3), which is more time-consuming.

7.3 SLIP_matrix_check: check and print a SLIP_matrix

SLIP_matrix_check checks the validity of a SLIP_matrix *A in any of the 15 different matrix types (CSC, triplet, dense) × (mpz, mpq, mpfr, int64, double).

Users can adjust the print level by changing option->print_level (refer to Section 4.6 for more details). If default setting is desired, option can be input as NULL.

8 SLIP LU Wrapper Functions for GMP and MPFR

SLIP LU provides a wrapper class for all GMP and MPFR functions used by SLIP LU. The wrapper class provides error-handling for out-of-memory conditions that are not handled by the GMP and MPFR libraries. These wrapper functions are used inside all SLIP LU functions, wherever any GMP or MPFR functions are used. These functions may also be called by the end-user application.

Each wrapped function has the same name as its corresponding GMP/MPFR function with the added prefix SLIP_. For example, the default GMP function mpz_mul is changed to SLIP_mpz_mul. Each SLIP GMP/MPFR function returns SLIP_OK if successful or the correct error code if not. The following table gives a brief list of each currently covered SLIP GMP/MPFR function. For a detailed description of each function, please refer to SLIP_LU/Source/SLIP_gmp.c.

If additional GMP and MPFR functions are needed in the end-user application, this wrapper mechanism can be extended to those functions. Below, we give instructions on how to do this.

Given a GMP function void gmpfunc(TYPEa a, TYPEb b, ...), where TYPEa and TYPEb can be GMP type data (mpz_t, mpq_t and mpfr_t, for example) or non-GMP type data (int, double, for example), and they need not to be the same. In order to apply our wrapper to a new function, one can create it as follows:

```
SLIP_info SLIP_gmpfunc
(
    TYPEa a,
    TYPEb b,
    ...
)
{
    // Start the GMP Wrappter
    // uncomment one of the followings that meets the needs
    // If this function is not modifying any GMP/MPFR type variable, then use
    //SLIP_GMP_WRAPPER_START;
    // If this function is modifying mpz_t type (say TYPEa = mpz_t), then use
    //SLIP_GMPZ_WRAPPER_START(a) ;
    // If this function is modifying mpq_t type (say TYPEa = mpq_t), then use
    //SLIP_GMPQ_WRAPPER_START(a) ;
    // If this function is modifying mpfr_t type (say TYPEa = mpfr_t), then use
```

```
//SLIP_GMPFR_WRAPPER_START(a) ;

// Call the GMP function
gmpfunc(a,b,...) ;

//Finish the wrapper and return ok if successful.
SLIP_GMP_WRAPPER_FINISH;
return SLIP_OK;
}
```

Note that, other than SLIP_mpfr_fprintf, SLIP_gmp_fprintf, SLIP_gmp_printf and SLIP_gmp_fscanf, all of the wrapped GMP/MPFR functions always return SLIP_info to the caller. Therefore, for some GMP/MPFR functions that have their own return value. For example, for int mpq_cmp(const mpq_t a, const mpq_t b), the return value becomes a parameter of the wrapped function. In general, a GM-P/MPFR function in the form of TYPEr gmpfunc(TYPEa a, TYPEb b, ...), users can create the wrapped function as follows:

MPFR Function	SLIP_MPFR Function	Description
	n = SLIP_mpfr_fprintf(fp, format,)	Print format to file fp
<pre>n = mpfr_fprintf(fp, format,) mpfr_init2(x, size)</pre>	SLIP_mpfr_init2(x, size)	Initialize x with size bits
mpfr_set(x, y, rnd)	SLIP_mpfr_set(x, y, rnd)	x = y
mpfr_set_d(x, y, rnd)	SLIP_mpfr_set_d(x, y, rnd)	x = y (double)
mpfr_set_q(x, y, rnd)	SLIP_mpfr_set_q(x, y, rnd)	x = y (mpq)
mpfr_set_z(x, y, rnd)	SLIP_mpfr_set_z(x, y, rnd)	x = y (mpz)
<pre>mpfr_get_z(x, y, rnd)</pre>	SLIP_mpfr_get_z(x, y, rnd)	(mpz) x = y
<pre>x = mpfr_get_d(y, rnd)</pre>	SLIP_mpfr_get_d(x, y, rnd)	(double) $x = y$
<pre>mpfr_mul(x, y, z, rnd)</pre>	SLIP_mpfr_mul(x, y, z, rnd)	x = y * z
<pre>mpfr_mul_d(x, y, z, rnd)</pre>	SLIP_mpfr_mul_d(x, y, z, rnd)	x = y * z
<pre>mpfr_div_d(x, y, z, rnd)</pre>	SLIP_mpfr_div_d(x, y, z, rnd)	x = y/z
mpfr_ui_pow_ui(x, y, z, rnd)	SLIP_mpfr_ui_pow_ui(x, y, z, rnd)	$x = y^z$
mpfr_log2(x, y, rnd)	SLIP_mpfr_log2(x, y, rnd)	$x = \log_2(y)$
mpfr_free_cache()	SLIP_mpfr_free_cache()	Free cache after log2
GMP Function	SLIP_GMP Function	Description
		-
<pre>n = gmp_fprintf(fp, format,)</pre>	<pre>n = SLIP_gmp_fprintf(fp, format,)</pre>	Print format to file fp
<pre>n = gmp_printf(format,)</pre>	n = SLIP_gmp_printf(format,)	Print to screen
n = gmp_fscanf(fp, format,)	n = SLIP_gmp_fscanf(fp, format,)	Read from file fp
mpz_init(x)	SLIP_mpz_init(x)	Initialize x
mpz_init2(x, size)	SLIP_mpz_init2(x, size)	Initialize x to size bits
mpz_set(x, y)	SLIP_mpz_set(x, y)	x = y (mpz)
mpz_set_ui(x, y)	SLIP_mpz_set_ui(x, y)	x = y (signed int)
mpz_set_si(x, y)	SLIP_mpz_set_si(x, y)	x = y (unsigned int)
mpz_set_d(x, y)	SLIP_mpz_set_d(x, y)	x = y (double)
x = mpz_get_d(y)	SLIP_mpz_get_d(x, y)	x = y (double out)
mpz_set_q(x, y)	SLIP_mpz_set_q(x, y)	x = y (double out) x = y (mpq)
		x = y (mpq) x = y * z
mpz_mul(x, y, z)	SLIP_mpz_mul(x, y, z)	
mpz_add(x, y, z)	SLIP_mpz_add(x, y, z)	x = y + z
mpz_addmul(x, y, z)	SLIP_mpz_addmul(x, y, z)	x = x + y * z
mpz_submul(x, y, z)	SLIP_mpz_submul(x, y, z)	x = x - y * z
<pre>mpz_divexact(x, y, z)</pre>	SLIP_mpz_divexact(x, y, z)	x = y/z
gcd = mpz_gcd(x, y)	SLIP_mpz_gcd(gcd, x, y)	gcd = gcd(x, y)
$lcm = mpz_lcm(x, y)$	SLIP_mpz_lcm(lcm, x, y)	lcm = lcm(x, y)
<pre>mpz_abs(x, y)</pre>	SLIP_mpz_abs(x, y)	x = y
$r = mpz_cmp(x, y)$	SLIP_mpz_cmp(r, x, y)	r = 0 if x = y
		$r \neq 0 \text{ if } x \neq y$
r = mpz_cmpabs(x, y)	SLIP_mpz_cmpabs(r, x, y)	r = 0 if $ x = y $
		$r \neq 0 \text{ if } x \neq y $
r = mpz_cmp_ui(x, y)	SLIP_mpz_cmp_ui(r, x, y)	r = 0 if x = y
		$r \neq 0 \text{ if } x \neq y$
sgn = mpz_sgn(x)	SLIP_mpz_sgn(sgn, x)	sqn = 0 if x = 0
size = mpz_sizeinbase(x, base)	SLIP_mpz_sizeinbase(size, x, base)	size of x in base
mpq_init(x)	SLIP_mpq_init(x)	Initialize x
mpq_init(x) mpq_set(x, y)	SLIP_mpq_Init(x) SLIP_mpq_set(x, y)	x = y
mpq_set(x, y) mpq_set_z(x, y)	SLIP_mpq_set(x, y) SLIP_mpq_set_z(x, y)	$x \equiv y$ x = y (mpz)
	1	
mpq_set_d(x, y)	SLIP_mpq_set_d(x, y)	x = y (double)
mpq_set_ui(x, y, z)	SLIP_mpq_set_ui(x, y, z)	x = y/z (unsigned int)
mpq_set_num(x, y)	SLIP_mpq_set_num(x, y)	num(x) = y
mpq_set_den(x, y)	SLIP_mpq_set_den(x, y)	den(x) = y
mpq_get_den(x, y)	SLIP_mpq_get_den(x, y)	x = den(y)
$x = mpq_get_d(y)$	SLIP_mpq_get_d(x, y)	(double) $x = y$
mpq_abs(x, y)	SLIP_mpq_abs(x, y)	x = y
mpq_add(x, y, z)	SLIP_mpq_add(x, y, z)	x = y + z
mpq_mul(x, y, z)	SLIP_mpq_mul(x, y, z)	x = y * z
mpq_div(x, y, z)	SLIP_mpq_div(x, y, z)	x = y/z
$r = mpq_cmp(x, y)$	SLIP_mpq_cmp(r, x, y)	r = 0 if x = y
		$r \neq 0 \text{ if } x \neq y$
r = mpq_cmp_ui(x, n, d)	SLIP_mpq_cmp_ui(r, x, n, d)	r = 0 if $x = n/d$
		$r \neq 0 \text{ if } x \neq n/d$
$r = mpq_equal(x, y)$	<pre>SLIP_mpq_equal(r, x, y)</pre>	r = 0 if x = y
r - mpq_equar(x, y)	_ 1 1 1 1 7 7 7 7	$r \neq 0 \text{ if } x \neq y$

9 Using SLIP LU in C

Using SLIP LU in C has four steps:

- 1. initialize and populate data structures,
- 2. perform symbolic analysis, factorize the matrix A and solve the linear system for each b vector, and
- 3. free all used memory and finalize.

Steps 1 is discussed in Subsections 9.1. Perform symbolic analysis and factorizing A and solving the linear Ax = b can be done in one of two ways. If the user is only interested in obtaining the solution vector x, SLIP LU provides a simple interface for this purpose which is discussed in Section 9.2. Alternatively, if the user wants the actual L and U factors, please refer to Section 9.3. Finally, step 3 is discussed in Section 9.4. For the remainder of this section, n will indicate the dimension of A (that is, $A \in \mathbb{Z}^{n \times n}$) and numRHS will indicate the number of right hand side vectors being solved (that is, if numRHS = r, then $b \in \mathbb{Z}^{n \times r}$).

9.1 SLIP LU Initialization and Population of Data Structures

This section discusses how to initialize and populate the global data structures required for SLIP LU.

9.1.1 Initializing the Environment

SLIP LU is built upon the GNU Multiple Precision Arithmetic (GMP) [7] and GNU Multiple Precision Floating Point Reliable (MPFR) [6] libraries and provides wrappers to all GMP/MPFR functions it uses. This allows SLIP LU to properly handle memory management failures, which GMP/MPFR does not handle. It may also allow the user to not need any direct access to the GMP/MPFR libraries. To enable this mechanism, SLIP LU requires initialization. The following must be done before using any other SLIP LU function:

```
SLIP_initialize ( ) ;
// or SLIP_initialize_expert (...); if custom memory functions are desired
```

9.1.2 Initializing Data Structures

SLIP LU assumes three specific input options for all functions. These are:

- SLIP_matrix* A and SLIP_matrix *b: A contains the user's input matrix, while b contains the user's right hand side vector(s). If the input matrix was already an integer matrix, A is the user's input and A->scale=1. Otherwise, the input matrix is not integer and A contains the user's scaled input matrix. b is handled in the same way.
- SLIP_LU_analysis* S: S contains the column permutation used for A as well as guesses for the number of nonzeros in L and U.
- SLIP_options* option: option contains various control options for the factorization including column ordering used, pivot selection scheme, and others. For a full list of the contents of the SLIP_options structure, please refer to Section 4.6. If default setting is desired, NULL can be given instead.

9.1.3 Populating Data Structures

Of the three data structures discussed in Section 9.1.2, S is constructed during symbolic analysis (Section 6.1), option can be provided as NULL unless user desires setting different from default. (please refer to Section 4.6 for the contents of option.)

SLIP LU allows the input numerical data for A and b to come in one of 5 typess: int64_t, double, mpfr_t, mpq_t, and mpz_t. Moreover, both A and b can be stored in CSC form, sparse triplet form or dense form. CSC form is discussed in Section 1. Conversely, triplet form stores the contents of the matrix A in three arrays i, j, and x where the kth nonzero entry is stored as A(i[k], j[k]) = x[k]. SLIP LU assumes that dense form stores entries in column-oriented format, that is, the (i, j)th entry in A is A->x. TYPE[p] with p = i + j*A->m.

If the data for matrices are in file format to be read, user can refer to SLIP_LU/Demo/example2.c on how to read in data and construct A and b. If the data for matrices are readily stored in vectors corresponding to CSC form, sparse triplet form or dense form, user can allocate a shallow SLIP_matrix and assign vectors accordingly, then use SLIP_matrix_copy to get a SLIP_matrix in the desired kind and type. For more details, user can refer to SLIP_LU/Demo/example.c. In a case when A is available in the format other than CSC mpz, and/or b is available in the format other than dense mpz, the following code snippet shows how to get A and b in a required format.

```
/* Get the matrix A. Assume that A1 is stored in CSC form
  with mpfr_t entries, while b1 is stored in triplet form
  with mpq_t entries. (for A1 and b1 in any other form,
    the exact same code will work) */

SLIP_matrix *A, *b;
// A is a copy of the A1. A is a CSC matrix with mpz_t entries
SLIP_matrix_copy(&A, SLIP_CSC, SLIP_MPZ, A1, option);
// b is a copy of the b1. b is a dense matrix with mpz_t entries.
SLIP_matrix_copy(&b, SLIP_DENSE, SLIP_MPZ, b1, option);
```

9.2 Simple SLIP LU Routines for Solving Linear Systems

After initializing the necessary data structures, SLIP LU obtains the solution to Ax = b using the "simple" interface of SLIP LU, which requires only that user decides what data type that he/she wants for the entries of SLIP_matrix *x. SLIP LU allows entries of x to be double, mpq_t, or mpfr_t with an associated precision. This is done by using SLIP_backslash (Section 6.4).

The following code snippet shows how to get solution as a dense mpq_t matrix. User can modify accordingly to meet one's need.

```
SLIP_matrix *x;
SLIP_type my_type = SLIP_MPQ; // SLIP_MPQ, SLIP_MPFR, SLIP_FP64
SLIP_backslash(&x, my_type, A, b, option);
```

On successful return, this function returns SLIP_OK (see Section 4.1).

9.3 Expert SLIP LU Routines

If a user wishes to perform the SLIP LU factorization of the matrix A while capturing information about the factorization itself and solving the linear system, extra steps must be performed that are all done internally in the method described in the previous subsection. Particularly, the following steps must be performed: 1) declare L, U, the solution matrix \mathbf{x} , and others, 2) perform symbolic analysis 3) compute the factorization PAQ = LDU, 4) solve the linear system Ax = b, and 5) convert the final solution into the user's desired form. Below, we discuss each of these steps followed by an example of putting it all together.

9.3.1 Declare Workspace

Using SLIP LU in this form requires the intermediate variables be declared, such as L, U, etc. The following code snippet shows the detailed list.

```
// A and b are in required type and ready to use
SLIP_matrix *L = NULL;
SLIP_matrix *U = NULL;
SLIP_matrix *x = NULL;
SLIP_matrix *rhos = NULL;
int64_t* pinv = NULL;
SLIP_LU_analysis* S = NULL;

// option needs no declaration if default setting is desired
// only declare option for further modification on default setting
SLIP_options *option = SLIP_create_default_options();
```

9.3.2 SLIP LU Symbolic Analysis

The symbolic analysis phase of SLIP LU computes the column permutation and guesses for the number of nonzeros in L and U. This function is called as:

```
SLIP_LU_analyze (&S, A, option) ;
```

9.3.3 Computing the Factorization

The matrices L and U, the pivot sequence rhos, and the row permutation pinv are computed via the SLIP_LU_factorize function (Section 6.2). Upon successful completion, this function returns SLIP_OK.

9.3.4 Solving the Linear System

After factorization, the next step is to solve the linear system and store the solution as a dense matrix **x** with entries of rational number mpq_t. This solution is done via the SLIP_LU_solve function (Section 6.3). Upon successful completion, this function returns SLIP_OK.

In this step, user can set option->check to true to enable the solution check process as discussed in Section 6.3. The process can verify that the solution vector x satisfies Ax = b in perfect precision intended for debugging. Note that this is entirely optional and not necessary. The solution returned is guaranteed to be exact.

It appears here just as a verification that SLIP LU is computing its expected result. This test can fail only if it runs out of memory, or if there is a bug in the code. Also, note that this process can be quite time consuming; thus it is not recommended to be used in general.

9.3.5 Converting the Solution Vector to the User's Desired Form

Upon completion of the above routines, the solution to the linear system is in a dense mpq_t matrix. SLIP LU allows this to be converted into any form of matrix in the set of (CSC, sparse triplet, dense) × (mpfr_t, mpq_t, double) using SLIP_matrix_copy. The following code snippet shows how to get solution as a dense double matrix.

```
SLIP_kind my_kind = SLIP_DENSE; // SLIP_CSC, SLIP_TRIPLET or SLIP_DENSE
SLIP_type my_type = SLIP_FP64; // SLIP_MPQ, SLIP_MPFR, or SLIP_FP64

SLIP_matrix* my_x = NULL; // New output
Create copy which is stored as my_kind and my_type:
SLIP_matrix_copy( &my_x, my_kind, my_type, x, option);
```

9.4 SLIP LU Freeing Memory

As described in Section 5, SLIP LU provides a number of functions/macros to handle this for the user. Below, we briefly summarize which memory freeing routine should be used for specific data types:

- SLIP_matrix*: A SLIP_matrix* A data structure can be freed with a call to SLIP_matrix_free(&A, NULL);
- SLIP_LU_analysis*: A SLIP_LU_analysis* S data structure can be freed with a call to SLIP_LU_analysis_free(&S, NULL);
- All others including SLIP_options*: These data structures can be freed with a call to the macro SLIP_FREE(), for example, SLIP_FREE(option) for SLIP_options* option.

After all usage of the SLIP LU routines is finished, one must call SLIP_finalize() (Section 5.7) to finalize usage of the library.

9.5 Examples of Using SLIP LU in a C Program

The SLIP_LU/Demo folder contains three sample C codes which utilize SLIP LU. These files demonstrate the usage of SLIP LU as follows:

- example.c: This example generates a random dense 50×50 matrix and a random dense 50×1 right hand side vector b and solves the linear system. In this function, the SLIP_backslash function is used; and the output is given as a double matrix.
- example2.c: This example reads in a matrix stored in triplet format from the ExampleMats folder. Additionally, it reads in a right hand side vector from this folder and solves the associated linear system via the SLIP_backslash function, and, the solution is given as a matrix of rational numbers.
- SLIPLU.c: This example reads in a matrix and right hand side vector from a file and solves the linear system Ax = b using the techniques discussed in Section 9.3. This file also allows command line arguments (discussed in README.txt) and can be used to replicate the results from [8].

10 Using SLIP LU in MATLAB

After following the installation steps discussed in Section 3, using the SLIP LU factorization within MATLAB can be done via the SLIP_LU.m and the SLIP_get_options functions. First, this section will describe the SLIP_get_options struct in Section 10.1 then we describe how to use the factorization in Section 10.2. Again, recall that by default the SLIP LU MATLAB routines are not natively installed into your MATLAB installation; thus if you want to use them in a different directory please add the SLIP_LU/MATLAB folder to your path.

10.1 SLIP_get_options.m

Much like the C routines described throughout, the SLIP LU MATLAB interface has various parameters that the user can modify to control the factorization. In MATLAB, these are stored in a struct (hereafter referred to as the "options" struct). Notice that this struct is optional for the user to use and can be avoided if one wishes to use only default options. The options struct can be accessed by typing the following into the MATLAB command window:

option = SLIP_get_options;

The elements of the options struct are as follows:

- option.pivot: This parameter controls the pivoting scheme used. The factorization selects a pivot element in each column as follows:
 - 0: smallest pivot,
 - 1: diagonal pivot if possible, otherwise smallest pivot,
 - 2: first nonzero pivot in each column,
 - 3: (default) diagonal pivot with a tolerance (option.tol) for the smallest pivot,
 - 4: diagonal pivot with a tolerance (option.tol) for the largest pivot,
 - 5: largest pivot.

It is recommended that the user always selects either 3 or 1 for this parameter UNLESS they are trying to extract the Doolittle factors, then 5 may be appropriate (due to the size of numbers in Doolittle).

- option.order: This parameter controls the column ordering used. 0: none, 1: COLAMD, 2: AMD. It is usually recommended that the user keep this at COLAMD unless they already have a good column permutation.
- option.tol: This parameter determines the tolerance used if one of the threshold pivoting schemes is chosen. The default value is 0.1 and this parameter can take any value in the range (0,1).

10.2 SLIP_LU.m

The SLIP_LU.m function solves the linear system Ax = b where $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, $x \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ and $b \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$. The final solution vector(s) obtained via this function are exact prior to their conversion to double precision.

The SLIP LU function expects as input a sparse matrix A and dense set of right hand side vectors b. Optionally, the user can also pass in the options struct. Currently, there are 2 ways to use this function outlined below:

- $x = SLIP_LU(A,b)$ returns the solution to Ax = b using default settings. The solution vectors are more accurate than the solution obtained via $x = A \setminus b$.
- $x = SLIP_LU(A,b,option)$ returns the solution to Ax = b using user specified settings from the options struct.

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