

# 21-341 Final Report: SOR, SSOR, USSOR

Huayun Huang

May 12, 2019

## 1. Background

### 1.1. SOR

Given a problem  $Ax = b$ , the successive over-relaxation method (SOR) is an iterative method that uses a relaxation factor that takes the strictly lower part of  $A$  and factors it into part of the iteration matrix. Its formula is given by:

$$(D + \omega L)x^{(k+1)} = [(1 - \omega)D - \omega U]x^{(k)} + \omega b$$

where  $D$  is the diagonal of  $A$ ,  $L$  is the strictly lower triangle matrix of  $A$ , and  $U$  is the strictly upper triangle matrix of  $A$ . Here  $\omega$  denotes the relaxation factor. When  $\omega = 1$ , the SOR is the same as the Gauss-Seidel method. The problem is solved with triangular solver during each iteration (class notes).

### 1.2. Exploring beyond SOR

The author of this paper would like to examine further beyond the other iterative methods with a relaxation parameter besides SOR. Throughout the research, the author came across Symmetric Successive Over-relaxation (SSOR), which was briefly mentioned during the class, and Unsymmetric Successive Over-relaxation (USSOR). Throughout this report we will use the notation style from the class.

## 2. SSOR

The Symmetric Successive Over-relaxation, also known as SSOR, contains two "sweeps" during each iteration. It was first proposed by Sheldon in 1955. (Sheldon, 1955)

### 2.1. Iterations

For each iteration, the SSOR method first performs a forward SOR to optimize  $x^{(k)}$  to  $x^{(k+\frac{1}{2})}$ , and then performs a backward SOR to optimize  $x^{(k+\frac{1}{2})}$  to  $x^{(k+1)}$ .

Step 1 (forward SOR):

$$(D + \omega L)x^{(k+\frac{1}{2})} = (-\omega U + (1 - \omega)D)x^{(k)} + \omega b$$

Step 2 (backward SOR):

$$(D + \omega U)x^{(k+1)} = (-\omega L + (1 - \omega)D)x^{(k+\frac{1}{2})} + \omega b$$

During each step, we can use a triangular solver to solve for  $x^{(k+\frac{1}{2})}$  on step 1, and  $x^{(k+1)}$  on step 2. Its iteration matrix thus becomes:

$$M_{SSOR} = (D + \omega U)^{-1}[-\omega L + (1 - \omega)D](D + \omega L)^{-1}[-\omega U + (1 - \omega)D]$$

## 2.2. Performance

The author coded the method in Python using the Numpy package (see appendix for the source code). For the problem  $Ax = b$ , the author uses the guideline from homework 5, where the SPD matrix  $A$  is generated using  $n = 3, 4, \dots, 10$  (so  $A$  has dimensions of  $9, 16, \dots, 100$ , respectively). The real solution is set to be  $b = A[1 \ 1 \ \dots \ 1]^T$ , and the initial guess  $x^0 = [0 \ 0 \ 0 \ \dots \ 0]^T$ . The tolerance is  $10^{-8}$ , calculated by  $\frac{\|b - Ax\|_2}{\|b\|_2}$ , with a maximum allowed iteration of  $10^4$ .

Figure 1 shows a chart of  $\omega \in [0.1, 1.9]$  plotted against the number of iterations. The red curve in the plot denotes the optimal value of  $\omega$ . Similar to the result obtained in homework 5, the optimal  $\omega$  is rising as  $n$  increases. Note that, since SSOR does two sweeps of SOR, when comparing the two algorithms, we need to multiply the number of iterations from SSOR by 2.

We obtained a similar trending about the algorithm's run time (Figure 2): both  $\omega$  and the run time go up as  $n$  increases.

## 2.3. Converge

Similar to the SOR method, SSOR converges when  $A$  is SPD and  $\omega \in (0, 2)$ . When  $\omega$  is optimized such that  $\rho(M_{SSOR})$  is minimized, we obtain the fastest convergence rate (Evans & Forrington, 1963).

## 3. USSOR

The author moved on to explore the Unsymmetric Successive Over-relaxation method (USSOR), which is very similar to the SSOR method but with two different relaxation factor on each sweep.

### 3.1. Iterations

The iterations in USSOR is very similar to the one described in section 2.1, except that for the forward sweep, we replace  $\omega$  with a different relaxation factor,  $\sigma$ . (Young, 1964; D'Sylva & Miles, 1964)

Step 1 (forward SOR):

$$(D + \sigma L)x^{(k+\frac{1}{2})} = (-\sigma U + (1 - \sigma)D)x^{(k)} + \sigma b$$

Step 2 (backward SOR):

$$(D + \omega U)x^{(k+1)} = (-\omega L + (1 - \omega)D)x^{(k+\frac{1}{2})} + \omega b$$

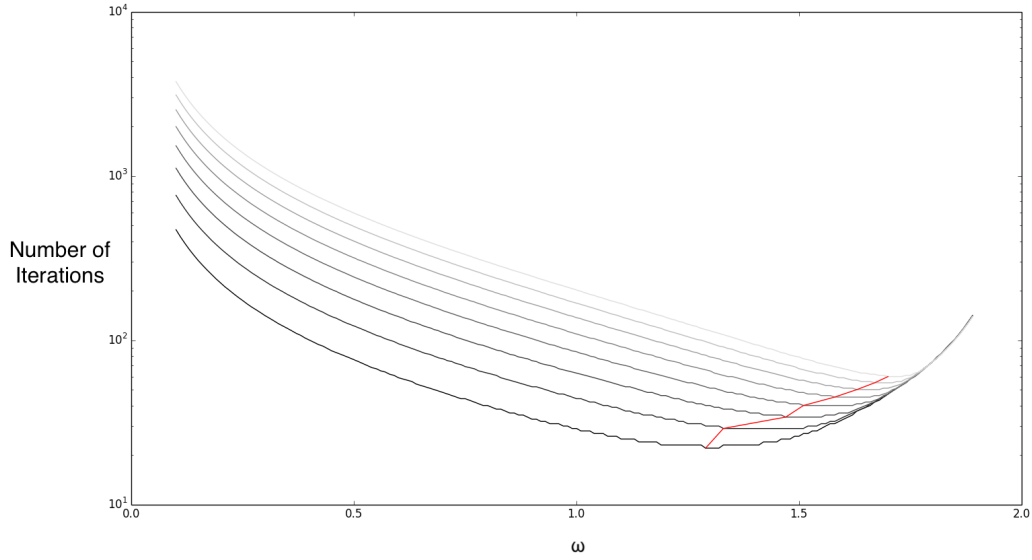
Like SSOR, we also apply the triangular solver in each step. Its iteration matrix is:

$$M_{USSOR} = (D + \omega U)^{-1}[-\omega L + (1 - \omega)D](D + \sigma L)^{-1}[-\sigma U + (1 - \sigma)D]$$

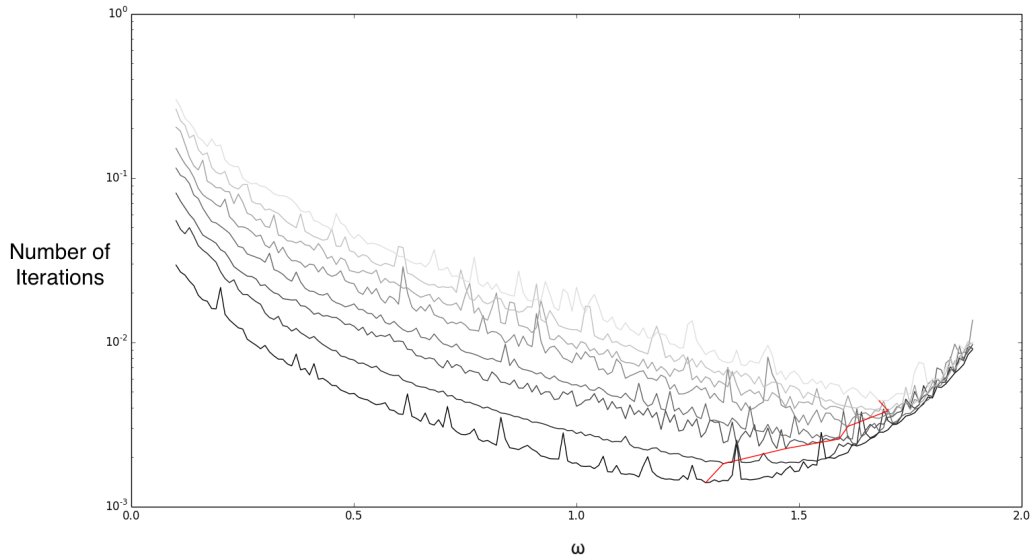
When  $\sigma = \omega$ , USSOR is equivalent to SSOR.

### 3.2. Performance

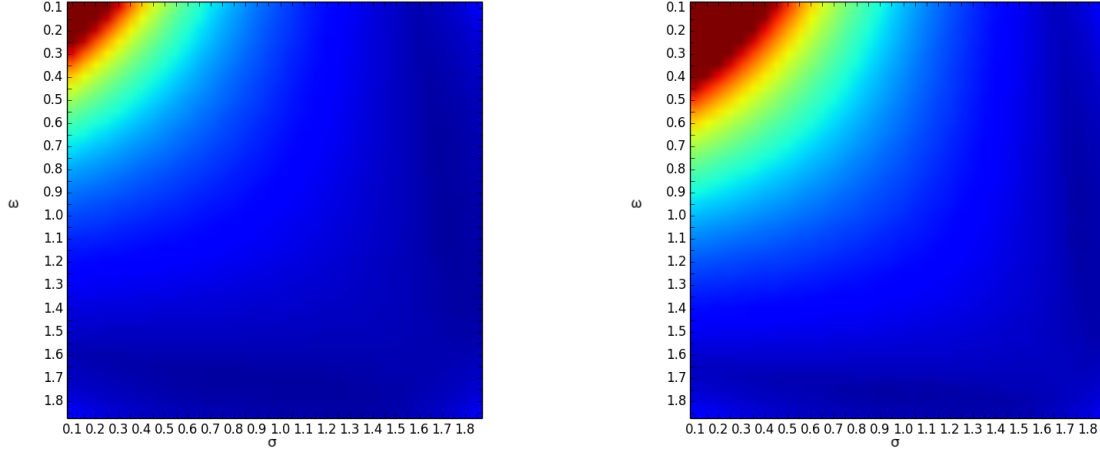
The author coded the USSOR method with similar parameters as stated in section 2.2. However, since we have two relaxation parameters, we need to visualize their performance in a different way than what was presented in Figure 1 and Figure 2.



**Fig. 1:** Number of Iterations using the matrices from Homework 5. The darkest curve represents  $n = 3$ , while the lightest curve represents  $n = 10$ . The red curve denotes the optimal  $\omega$ , meaning that there are least number of iterations under that  $\omega$ .



**Fig. 2:** Time elapsed using the matrices from Homework 5. The darkest curve represents  $n = 3$ , while the lightest curve represents  $n = 10$ . The red curve denotes the optimal  $\omega$ , meaning that the algorithm runs the fastest under that  $\omega$ .



**Fig. 3:** Number of Iterations using the matrices from Homework 5. Left:  $n = 7$ . Right:  $n = 9$ . x-axis:  $\sigma$ ; y-axis:  $\omega$ . Dark red suggests a higher number in iteration (up to 1000), and dark blue suggests a lower number in iteration. As we can see, both plots have two "stripes" of dark blue, suggesting an optimal pair of  $\sigma, \omega$ . As  $n$  increases,  $A$  gets larger and larger, so are the dark red region at the top left expanding further and further.

Figure 3 is a sample of two heat maps generated for  $n = 7$  and  $n = 9$ . As  $n$  increases, the red region, which suggests a large iteration number, is expanding. The two dark blue stripes are also "squeezed" to the edge of the graph, indicating that a larger value of  $\omega$  and  $\sigma$  is preferred when  $n$  is large.

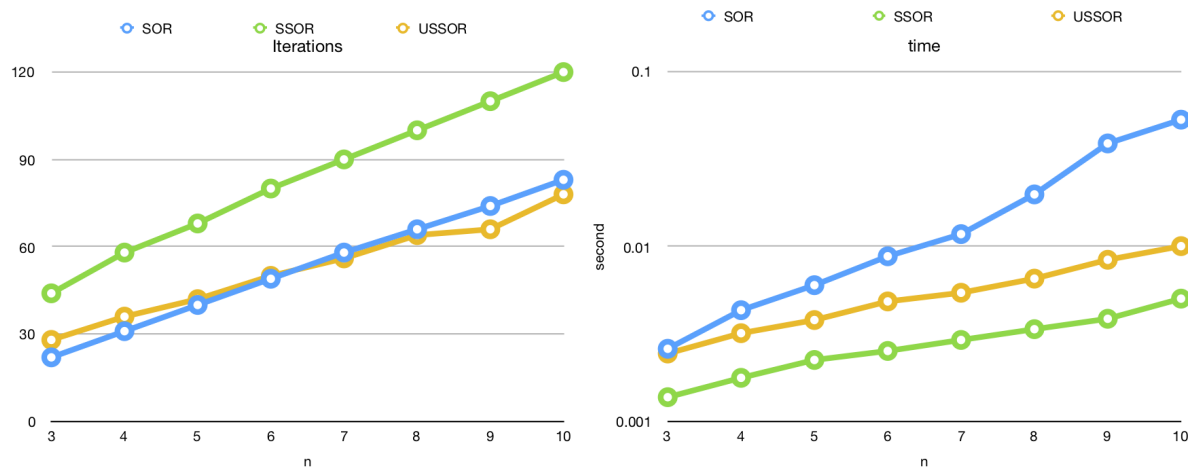
### 3.3. Convergence

The USSOR method would converge if  $\sigma, \omega \in (0, 2)$  and  $A$  is an SPD. More generally, if  $A$  is a non-singular H-matrix, then for all  $\sigma, \omega \in \mathbf{O}$ , USSOR would converge. Here,  $\mathbf{O}$  is defined as: (Dragoslav & Nataa, 1993)

$$\begin{aligned} \rho &= \rho(|L| + |U|) \\ \sigma &\in \left( -\frac{1-\rho}{2\rho}, \frac{1+\rho}{2\rho} \right) \\ \omega &\in \left( \max \left[ \frac{|1-\sigma| + |\sigma|\rho - 1}{|1-\rho| + \rho(|\sigma| + 1)}, \frac{|1-\sigma| + |\sigma|\rho - 1}{|1-\sigma|(1-\rho)} \right], \right. \\ &\quad \left. \min \left[ \frac{1 + |1-\sigma| + |\sigma|\rho}{(1+|\sigma|)\rho + |1-\sigma|}, \frac{1 + |1-\sigma| + |\sigma|\rho}{|1-\sigma|(1+\rho)} \right] \right) \end{aligned}$$

## 4. Comparing SOR, SSOR and USSOR

The author then compare the iterations and time concumed between the three methods, using the same guideline we applied in section 2.2 and 3.2. Figure 4 is a plot of the performance of each method using optimal relaxation factor(s). The iteration curves have been normalized: since SSOR and USSOR require two sweeps of SOR, the author has multiplied the resulting iterations by 2 to reflect the real amount of iterations.



**Fig. 4:** SOR, SSOR, USSOR's performance with the optimal relaxation factor. Left: number of iterations. Right: time elapsed before converge. The iteration has been normalized, meaning that the iteration counts of SSOR and USSOR have been multiplied by 2, given that SSOR and USSOR perform 2 SOR iterations per iteration.

As we can see, the SOR method requires roughly same amount of iterations as USSOR, but USSOR iterates faster time-wise. SSOR has a higher iteration count, but is the fastest method amongst the three.

In an experiment solving Dirichlet problem on a unique grid, Dragoslav and Nataa obtained a similar result (Dragoslav & Nataa, 1993).

## References

- Sheldon, John W. (July 1955). "On the Numerical Solution of Elliptic Difference Equations". *Mathematical Tables and Other Aids to Computation*. 9 (51): 101. doi:10.2307/2002066
- Evans, D. J.; Forrington, C. V. D. (1 November 1963). "An Iterative Process for Optimizing Symmetric Successive Over-Relaxation". *The Computer Journal*. 6 (3): 271273. doi:10.1093/comjnl/6.3.271
- D'Sylva, E.; Miles, G. A. (1 January 1964). "The S.S.O.R. Iteration Scheme for Equations with -1 Ordering". *The Computer Journal*. 6 (4): 366367. doi:10.1093/comjnl/6.4.366
- Young, David M. (1 January 1964). "Convergence properties of the symmetric and unsymmetric successive overrelaxation methods and related methods". *Mathematics of Computation*. 24 (112): 793793. doi:10.1090/S0025-5718-1970-0281331-4
- Herceg, Dragoslav; Kreji, Nataa (May 1993). "On the convergence of the unsymmetric successive overrelaxation (USSOR) method". *Linear Algebra and its Applications*. 185: 4960. doi:10.1016/0024-3795(93)90205-3

Our class notes

```
#####
##### SOR #####
#####

import numpy as np
from numpy import linalg as LA
from scipy.linalg import *
import copy
import math
import time
from matplotlib import pyplot

maxIteration = 1e4
n = 0
n_dims = np.arange(3,11,1)
w_set = np.arange(0.1, 1.9, 0.01)

data = []

for k in xrange(len(n_dims)):

    n = n_dims[k]
    data += [[]]

    # generate A
    n2 = n ** 2
    A = np.diag( 4 * np.ones(n2), 0) - np.diag(np.ones(n2-1), -1) - np.diag(np.ones(n2-1), 1) \
        - np.diag(np.ones(n2-n), -n) - np.diag(np.ones(n2-n), n)

    # np.linalg.eig(A)
    print A

    # compute U, D, L
    diagA = np.diag(A)
    D = np.diag(diagA)
    U = np.triu(A) - D
    L = np.tril(A) - D

    # generate x, b
    realSolution = np.ones((n2, 1))
    b = np.dot(A, realSolution)
    x = np.zeros((n2, 1))

    for w in w_set:

        # set up parameters for GS iterations
        iterationCount = 0
        DwL = D + w * L

        old_x = np.copy(x)
        x = solve_triangular(DwL, ((1-w) * D - w * U) * old_x + w * b, lower = True)

        startTime = time.time()

        # iterate
        while (iterationCount <= maxIteration):
            old_x = np.copy(x)
            x = solve_triangular(DwL, np.dot(((1-w) * D - w * U), old_x) + w * b, lower = True)
            iterationCount += 1
            diff = np.linalg.norm(b - np.dot(A, x), np.inf) / np.linalg.norm(b, np.inf)
            if (diff < 1e-8):
                break
```

```

        data[k] += [time.time() - startTime] #count time
        # data[k] += [iterationCount] # count iterations

    print data[k]

# record the optimal w of each dimension
optimalW = []
optimalIteration = []
for d in data:
    sdkfj = np.argmin(d)
    optimalW += [w_set[sdkfj]]
    optimalIteration += [d[sdkfj]]

print
print optimalW
print optimalIteration

# plot
pyplot.yscale('log')
for j in xrange(len(data)):
    pyplot.plot(w_set, data[j], color = str(float(j)/len(data)), ls = '-')
pyplot.plot(optimalW, optimalIteration, 'r-')
pyplot.show()

#####
##### SSOR #####
#####

import numpy as np
from numpy import linalg as LA
from scipy.linalg import *
import copy
import math
import time
from matplotlib import pyplot

n_dims = np.arange(3,11,1)
w_set = np.arange(0.1, 1.9, 0.01)
data = []

def NORM(vector):
    return float(np.linalg.norm(vector, 2))

# tolerance and max iteration
tolerance = 1e-8
maxIteration = 1e4

for k in xrange(len(n_dims)):

    # initialization
    n = n_dims[k]
    n2 = n ** 2
    data += [[]]

    A = np.diag( 4 * np.ones(n2), 0) - np.diag(np.ones(n2-1), -1) - np.diag(np.ones(n2-1), 1)\
        - np.diag(np.ones(n2-n), -n) - np.diag(np.ones(n2-n), n)
    realSolution = np.ones((n2,1))
    b = np.dot(A, realSolution)

    # compute U, D, L
    diagA = np.diag(A)
    D = np.diag(diagA)
    U = np.triu(A) - D
    L = np.tril(A) - D

```

```

for w in w_set:

    x = np.zeros((n2,1))

    # compute iteration matrix
    B1 = np.linalg.inv(D + w * U)
    A1 = np.dot(B1, -w * L + (1-w) * D)
    B2 = np.linalg.inv(D + w * L)
    A2 = np.dot(B2, -w * U + (1-w) * D)
    B = w * (2 - w) * np.dot(B1, np.dot(D, np.dot(B2, b))) #  $w(2-w) * B1 * D * B2 * b$ 
    M = np.dot(A1, A2)

    # variables
    iterationCount = 0
    solutionDifference = 1e8

    startTime = time.time()

    while (iterationCount < maxIteration and solutionDifference > tolerance):

        iterationCount += 1

        oldX = np.copy(x)
        x = np.dot(M, oldX) + B

        # print x

        solutionDifference = NORM(b - np.dot(A, x)) / NORM(b)

        data[k] += [time.time() - startTime] #count time
        # data[k] += [iterationCount] # count iterations
    print data[k]

# record the optimal w of each dimension
optimalW = []
optimalIteration = []
for d in data:
    sdkfj = np.argmin(d)
    optimalW += [w_set[sdkfj]]
    optimalIteration += [d[sdkfj]]

# print
print optimalW
print optimalIteration

# plot
pyplot.yscale('log')
for j in xrange(len(data)):
    pyplot.plot(w_set, data[j], color = str(float(j)/len(data)), ls = '-')
pyplot.plot(optimalW, optimalIteration, 'r-')
pyplot.show()

#####
##### USSOR #####
#####

import numpy as np
from numpy import linalg as LA
from scipy.linalg import *
import copy
import math
import time
from matplotlib import pyplot as plt

```



```

n_dims = np.arange(3,11,1)
w_set = np.arange(0.1, 1.9, 0.05)
s_set = np.arange(0.1, 1.9, 0.05)

data = []

def NORM(vector):
    return float(np.linalg.norm(vector, 2))

# tolerance and max iteration
tolerance = 1e-8
maxIteration = 1e3

for k in xrange(len(n_dims)):

    # initialization
    n = n_dims[k]
    n2 = n ** 2
    data += [[]]

    A = np.diag( 4 * np.ones(n2), 0) - np.diag(np.ones(n2-1), -1) - np.diag(np.ones(n2-1), 1) \
        - np.diag(np.ones(n2-n), -n) - np.diag(np.ones(n2-n), n)
    realSolution = np.ones((n2,1))
    b = np.dot(A, realSolution)

    # compute U, D, L
    diagA = np.diag(A)
    D = np.diag(diagA)
    U = np.triu(A) - D
    L = np.tril(A) - D

    # identity matrix
    E = np.identity(n2)

    for i in xrange(len(w_set)):

        w = w_set[i]
        data[k] += [[]]

        for j in xrange(len(s_set)):

            s = w_set[j]
            data[k][i] += [[]]

            x = np.zeros((n2,1))

            # compute iteration matrix
            s_LHS = D + s * L
            s_B = s * b
            s_RHS = (1 - s) * D - s * U
            w_LHS = D + w * U
            w_B = w * b
            w_RHS = (1 - w) * D - w * L

            # variables
            iterationCount = 0
            solutionDifference = 1e8

            startTime = time.time()

            while (iterationCount < maxIteration and solutionDifference > tolerance):

```

```

        iterationCount += 1

        oldX = np.copy(x)
        x1 = solve_triangular(s_LHS, np.dot(s_RHS, oldX) + s_B, lower=True)
        x = solve_triangular(w_LHS, np.dot(w_RHS, x1) + w_B, lower=False)

        solutionDifference = NORM(b - np.dot(A, x)) / NORM(b)

        # data[k] += [time.time() - startTime] #count time
        data[k][i][j] = iterationCount # count iterations

fig, ax = plt.subplots()
im = ax.imshow(data[k], vmin=0, vmax=maxIteration)

# We want to show all ticks...
ax.set_xticks(np.arange(len(s_set)))
ax.set_yticks(np.arange(len(w_set)))
# ... and label them with the respective list entries
ax.set_xticklabels(s_set)
ax.set_yticklabels(w_set)

# make some ticks invisible or it will become unreadable otherwise
for label in ax.xaxis.get_ticklabels()[1::2]:
    label.set_visible(False)

for label in ax.yaxis.get_ticklabels()[1::2]:
    label.set_visible(False)

fig.tight_layout()
plt.savefig('USSOR_iterations_' + str(n) + '.png')
# plt.show()

print data

```