

faer-rs, a Linear Algebra Library For The Rust Programming Language

Sarah El Kazdadi

February 20, 2024

Why Rust?

- Memory safety
- Extremely competitive performance
- Generic SIMD support with runtime dispatch
- Robust error handling
- Excellent compiler errors and runtime diagnostic capabilities

Why Rust?

- Memory safety
- Extremely competitive performance
- Generic SIMD support with runtime dispatch
- Robust error handling
- Excellent compiler errors and runtime diagnostic capabilities
- 🧡 Cargo my beloved 🧡

faer's top features currently

- Vectorized and optimized for x86 (AVX2/AVX512) and ARM64
- Fine control over multithreading
- Matrix arithmetic
- Matrix decompositions (Cholesky, QR, LU), with optional pivoting
- Simplicial and supernodal sparse decompositions
- Solving linear systems
- Computing the SVD/EVD (dense implemented, sparse solver is on the way)

Example (dense)

```
fn main() {  
    let a = Mat::from_fn(4, 4, |i, j| i as f64 + j as f64);  
    let b = mat![[1.0], [2.0], [3.0], [4.0]];  
  
    // solving a linear system (selfadjoint)  
    let lblt = a.lblt(faer::Side::Lower);  
    let x = lblt.solve(&b);  
  
    // [src/main.rs:65:5] (&a * &x - &b).norm_l2() = 0.0  
    dbg!((&a * &x - &b).norm_l2());  
}
```

Example (dense)

```
fn main() {  
    let a = Mat::from_fn(4, 4, |i, j| i as f64 + j as f64);  
    // computing eigenvalues  
    let complex_eigenvalues = a.eigenvalues::<c64>();  
    let real_eigenvalues = a.selfadjoint_eigenvalues(Lower);  
  
    dbg!(&complex_eigenvalues);  
    dbg!(&real_eigenvalues);  
}
```

Example (sparse)

```
fn main() {  
    let a = SparseColMat::<usize, f64>::try_new_from_triplets(  
        4, 4,  
        &[  
            (0, 0, 10.0), (1, 1, 20.0), (2, 2, 30.0), (3, 3, 40.0),  
            (0, 1, 3.0), (1, 0, 2.0), (3, 2, 1.0),  
        ],  
    ).unwrap();  
  
    let b = mat![[1.0], [2.0], [3.0], [4.0]];  
  
    // solving a linear system  
    let lu = a.as_ref().sp_lu().unwrap();  
    let x = lu.solve(&b);  
  
    dbg!((&a * &x - &b).norm_l2());  
}
```

Example (sparse)

```
fn main() {  
    let a = SparseColMat::<usize, f64>::try_new_from_triplets(  
        4, 4,  
        &[  
            (0, 0, 10.0), (1, 1, 20.0), (2, 2, 30.0), (3, 3, 40.0),  
            (0, 1, 3.0), (1, 0, 2.0), (3, 2, 1.0),  
        ],  
    ).unwrap();  
  
    let b = mat![[1.0], [2.0], [3.0], [4.0]];  
  
    // splitting up the solve into symbolic and numeric parts  
    // the symbolic part is cheap to copy.  
    let lu_symbolic = solvers::SymbolicLu::try_new(a.as_ref().symbolic()).unwrap();  
  
    let lu_numeric = solvers::Lu::try_new_with_symbolic(lu_symbolic.clone(), a.as_ref()).unwrap();  
    let x = lu_numeric.solve(&b);  
    dbg!((&a * &x - &b).norm_l2());  
}
```


Error diagnostic examples

Adding a matrix to a column

```
error[E0277]: the trait bound `Dense: MatAdd<DenseCol>` is not satisfied
  --> src/main.rs:17:9
    |
17  |     lhs + rhs
    |         ^ the trait `MatAdd<DenseCol>` is not implemented for `Dense`
    |
= help: the trait `MatAdd<Dense>` is implemented for `Dense`
= help: for that trait implementation, expected `Dense`, found `DenseCol`
= note: required for `Matrix<DenseRef<'_, f64>>` to implement
`std::ops::Add<Matrix<DenseColRef<'_, f64>>>`
```

Error diagnostic examples

Returning a dangling reference to a local variable

```
fn returning_dangling_reference<'a>(lhs: MatRef<'a, f64>, rhs: MatRef<'a, f64>) -> MatRef<'a, f64> {  
    let mut m = lhs + rhs;  
    m.as_ref()  
}
```

```
error[E0515]: cannot return value referencing local variable `m`  
--> src/main.rs:31:5
```

```
31 | |  
   | | m.as_ref()  
   | | _^^^^^^^^^^  
   | |  
   | | returns a value referencing data owned by the current function  
   | | `m` is borrowed here
```

Error diagnostic examples

Trying to read and mutate a matrix at the same time.

```
fn breaking_no_alias_guarantees(mut dst: MatMut<'_, c64>) {  
    let a = dst.as_ref();  
    faer_core::mul::matmul(  
        dst.as_mut(), a, a.adjoint(), None, c64::new(1.0, 0.0), faer::Parallelism::None  
    );  
}
```

```
error[E0502]: cannot borrow `dst` as mutable because it is also borrowed as immutable  
--> src/main.rs:47:9
```

```
|  
45 |     let a = dst.as_ref();  
|         --- immutable borrow occurs here  
46 |     faer_core::mul::matmul(  
47 |         dst.as_mut(),  
|         ^^^^^^^^^^^^^ mutable borrow occurs here  
48 |         a,  
|         - immutable borrow later used here
```

Error diagnostic examples

Mismatching dimensions at runtime.

```
let a = Mat::<f64>::zeros(5, 4);  
let b = Mat::<f64>::zeros(4, 5);  
let _ = &a + &b;
```

thread 'main' panicked at src/main.rs:127:17:

Assertion failed at /home/sarah/.cargo/git/checkouts/faer-rs-40fd231bb00bdbde/fa5e486/faer-libs/
faer-core/src/matrix_ops.rs:1522:9

Assertion failed: lhs.nrows() == rhs.nrows()

- lhs.nrows() = 5

- rhs.nrows() = 4

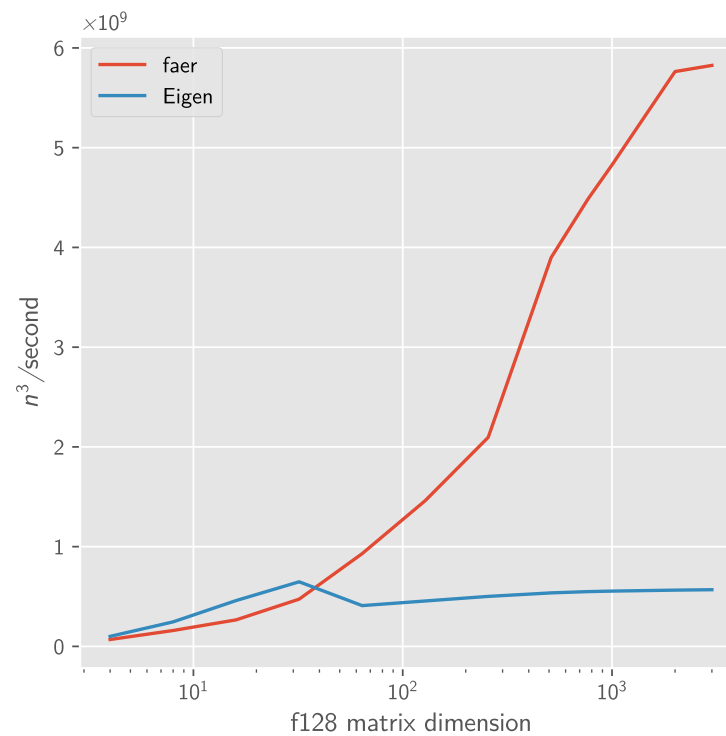
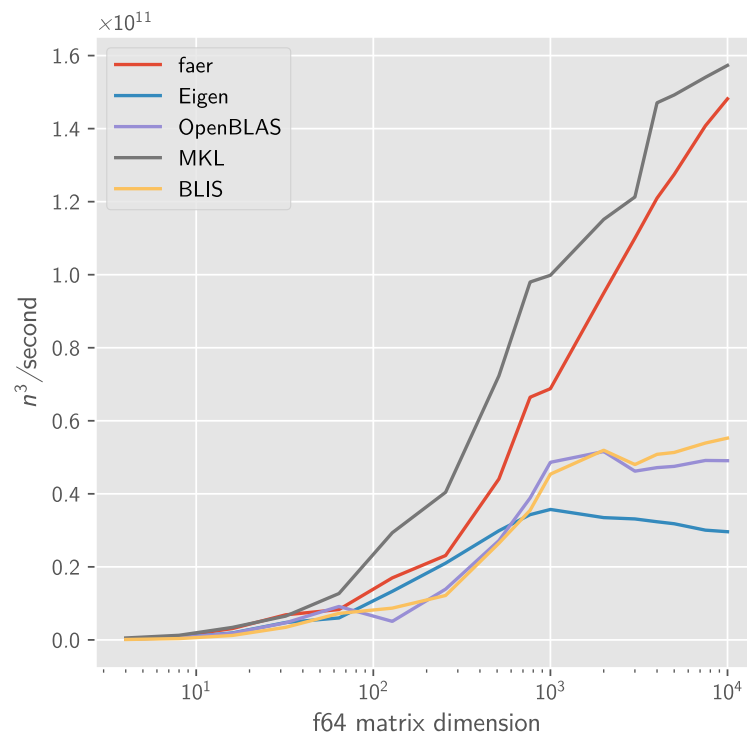
Assertion failed: lhs.ncols() == rhs.ncols()

- lhs.ncols() = 4

- rhs.ncols() = 5

note: run with `RUST_BACKTRACE=1` environment variable to display a backtrace

Benchmarks (dense QR)



Benchmarks (sparse Cholesky)

SSLSQ / NYPA_Maragal_6_lasso:

Clarabel / QDLDL : 23.5s

Clarabel / faer : 4.13s

MOSEK : 4.73s

SSLSQ / ANSYS_Delor295K_huber:

Clarabel / QDLDL : 8.47s

Clarabel / faer : 8.04s

MOSEK : 12.5s

NETLIB / nug15:

Clarabel / QDLDL : 133s

Clarabel / faer : 16.5s

MOSEK : 9.44s

MAROS / EXDATA:

Clarabel / QDLDL : 9.66s

Clarabel / faer : 2.58s

MOSEK : 2.34s (failed)

MAROS / CONT-300:

Clarabel / QDLDL : 24.3s

Clarabel / faer : 11.8s

MOSEK : 5.96s

SUITESPARSE MATRIX COLLECTION / ND3K:

SuiteSparse / CHOLMOD : 2.2s

faer : 1.0s

Eigen : ∞ (timeout)

Thank you!



github.com/sarah-ek/faer-rs

github.com/sarah-ek/inria-slides-2024-02-20