

**THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG**  
**Department of Mathematics**  
**MATH3310 2022-2023**  
**Homework Assignment 5 Suggested Solution**

1. Consider the linear system  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{k}$ , where

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -\frac{1}{4} & -\frac{1}{4} \\ 0 & 1 & -\frac{1}{4} & -\frac{1}{4} \\ -\frac{1}{4} & -\frac{1}{4} & 1 & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{4} & -\frac{1}{4} & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \mathbf{k} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let  $\mathbf{x}^* = (1, 1, 1, 1)^T$  be the solution of the linear system. Suppose  $\{\mathbf{x}^{(m)}\}_{m=1}^{\infty}$  and  $\{\mathbf{y}^{(m)}\}_{m=1}^{\infty}$  are the sequences of vectors obtained by the Jacobi method and Gauss-Seidel method respectively to solve the linear system with initialization  $\mathbf{x}^{(0)} = \mathbf{y}^{(0)} = (0, 0, 0, 0)^T$ . Let  $\mathbf{e}_J^{(m)} := \mathbf{x}^{(m)} - \mathbf{x}^*$  and  $\mathbf{e}_{GS}^{(m)} := \mathbf{y}^{(m)} - \mathbf{x}^*$  be the error vectors at the  $m$ -th iteration for the Jacobi and Gauss-Seidel method respectively.

- (a) Show that:  $\mathbf{e}_J^{(m)} = -2^{-m}(1, 1, 1, 1)^T$  for  $m \geq 1$ .
- (b) Show that:  $\mathbf{e}_{GS}^{(m)} = -4^{-m}(2, 2, 1, 1)^T$  for  $m \geq 1$ .
- (c) Show that  $\|\mathbf{e}_{GS}^{(m)}\|_2 < \|\mathbf{e}_J^{(m)}\|_2$  for  $m \geq 1$ . Hence, the Gauss-Seidel method converges faster than the Jacobi method.

**Solution:**

(a) For Jacobi method, we have

$$N = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}; P = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1/4 & 1/4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/4 & 1/4 \\ 1/4 & 1/4 & 0 & 0 \\ 1/4 & 1/4 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

so

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{e}_J^{(m)} &= \mathbf{x}^{(m)} - \mathbf{x}^* \\ &= (N^{-1}P)^m \mathbf{e}_J^{(0)} \\ &= P^m \mathbf{e}_J^{(0)} \\ &= -\frac{1}{2^m} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

(b) For Gauss Seidel method, we have

$$N = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1/4 & -1/4 & 1 & 0 \\ -1/4 & -1/4 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}; P = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1/4 & 1/4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/4 & 1/4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

so

$$\begin{aligned}
e_{GS}^{(m)} &= x^{(m)} - x^* \\
&= (N^{-1}P)^m e_{GS}^{(0)} \\
&= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1/4 & 1/4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/4 & 1/4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/8 & 1/8 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/8 & 1/8 \end{pmatrix}^m e_{GS}^{(0)} \\
&= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1/4^m & 1/4^m \\ 0 & 0 & 1/4^m & 1/4^m \\ 0 & 0 & 1/(2 \cdot 4^m) & 1/(2 \cdot 4^m) \\ 0 & 0 & 1/(2 \cdot 4^m) & 1/(2 \cdot 4^m) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \\
&= -\frac{1}{4^m} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}
\end{aligned}$$

(c) From the definition, we have  $\|e_{GS}^{(m)}\|_2^2 = \frac{4+4+1+1}{4^{2m}} = \frac{10}{4^{2m}}$ ;

$$\|e_J^{(m)}\|_2^2 = \frac{1+1+1+1}{2^{2m}} = \frac{4 \cdot 4^{2m}}{4^{2m}}$$

Clearly, we have  $10 < 4 \cdot 4^{2m}$  for  $m > 1$ , hence  $\|e_{GS}^{(m)}\|_2 < \|e_J^{(m)}\|_2$  for  $m > 1$ .

2. Consider the linear system  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ , where  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is symmetric positive definite. Consider:

$$f(\boldsymbol{\eta}) = \frac{1}{2} \boldsymbol{\eta}^T A \boldsymbol{\eta} - \mathbf{b}^T \boldsymbol{\eta}$$

- (a) For an iterative scheme  $\mathbf{x}^{(k+1)} = \mathbf{x}^{(k)} + \alpha_k \mathbf{p}_k$ , where  $\mathbf{p}_k$  is a fixed direction, find  $\alpha_k$  such that  $f(\mathbf{x}^{(k+1)})$  is minimized.
- (b) The conjugate gradient method is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{x}^{(k+1)} &= \mathbf{x}^{(k)} + \alpha_k \mathbf{p}_k, \\
\mathbf{p}_{k+1} &= -\mathbf{r}_{k+1} - \beta_k \mathbf{p}_k, \\
\beta_k &= -\frac{\langle \mathbf{r}_{k+1}, \mathbf{p}_k \rangle_A}{\langle \mathbf{p}_k, \mathbf{p}_k \rangle_A}
\end{aligned}$$

where  $\alpha_k$  is in the form given by (a),  $\mathbf{r}_k = A\mathbf{x}^{(k)} - \mathbf{b}$ ,  $\mathbf{p}_0 = -\mathbf{r}_0$ ,  $\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle_A = \mathbf{x} \cdot A\mathbf{y}$ ,  $\mathbf{x}^{(0)} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is an arbitrary initial guess. Provided that  $\mathbf{r}_i \cdot \mathbf{r}_j = 0$  and  $\langle \mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{p}_j \rangle_A = 0$  for all  $i \neq j$ , show that  $\beta_k = -\frac{\mathbf{r}_{k+1} \cdot \mathbf{r}_{k+1}}{\mathbf{r}_k \cdot \mathbf{r}_k}$ .

**Solution:**

- (a) Refer to Lecture 22.
- (b) Note

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{r}_{k+1} &= A\mathbf{x}_{k+1} - \mathbf{b} \\
&= A(\mathbf{x}_k + \alpha_k \mathbf{p}_k) - \mathbf{b} \\
&= A\mathbf{x}_k - \mathbf{b} + \alpha_k A\mathbf{p}_k \\
&= \mathbf{r}_k + \alpha_k A\mathbf{p}_k
\end{aligned}$$

So,

$$\begin{aligned}
\beta_{k+1} &= -\frac{\langle \mathbf{r}_{k+1}, \mathbf{p}_k \rangle_A}{\langle \mathbf{p}_k, \mathbf{p}_k \rangle_A} \\
&= -\frac{\mathbf{r}_{k+1}^T A \mathbf{p}_k}{-(\mathbf{r}_k + \beta_{k-1} \mathbf{p}_{k-1})^T A \mathbf{p}_k} \\
&= \frac{\mathbf{r}_{k+1}^T (\mathbf{r}_{k+1} - \mathbf{r}_k) / \alpha_k}{\mathbf{r}_k^T A \mathbf{p}_k + \beta_{k-1} (\mathbf{p}_{k-1}^T A \mathbf{p}_k)} \\
&= \frac{\mathbf{r}_{k+1}^T \mathbf{r}_{k+1} / \alpha_k}{\mathbf{r}_k^T (\mathbf{r}_{k+1} - \mathbf{r}_k) / \alpha_k} \\
&= -\frac{\mathbf{r}_{k+1}^T \mathbf{r}_{k+1}}{\mathbf{r}_k^T \mathbf{r}_k}
\end{aligned}$$

3. Consider the gradient descent method for solving  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  with some  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $A$  to be a symmetric positive definite matrix:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{x}^{k+1} &= \mathbf{x}^k + \alpha \mathbf{d}^k \\
\mathbf{d}^k &= -(A\mathbf{x}^k - \mathbf{b})
\end{aligned}$$

Prove that the method converges if and only if  $\alpha < \frac{2}{\lambda_j}$  for all  $j$  where  $\lambda_j$  are the eigenvalues of  $A$ .

Hint: suppose  $\boldsymbol{\eta}$  is the solution to  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ , then  $\boldsymbol{\eta}$  satisfies

$$\boldsymbol{\eta} = \boldsymbol{\eta} + \alpha(A\boldsymbol{\eta} - \mathbf{b}).$$

Using this equation, start with the error vector  $\mathbf{e}^k = \mathbf{x}^k - \boldsymbol{\eta}$  to make some observation.

**Solution:**

Suppose  $\boldsymbol{\eta}$  is a solution to  $Ax = b$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{e}^k &= \mathbf{x}^k - \boldsymbol{\eta} \\
&= \mathbf{x}^{k-1} - \alpha(A\mathbf{x}^{k-1} - \mathbf{b}) - \boldsymbol{\eta} + \alpha(A\boldsymbol{\eta} - \mathbf{b}) \\
&= (I - \alpha A)\mathbf{x}^{k-1} - (I - \alpha A)\boldsymbol{\eta} \\
&= (I - \alpha A)\mathbf{e}^{k-1}
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, like what we learnt in iterative methods, the method converges if and only if  $\rho(I - \alpha A) < 1$ . Suppose  $A$  has eigenvalues  $0 < \lambda_1 < \lambda_2 < \dots < \lambda_{max}$ . The the eigenvalues of the matrix  $I - \alpha A$  are

$$1 - \alpha\lambda_1 > 1 - \alpha\lambda_2 > \dots > 1 - \alpha\lambda_{max}$$

To make sure  $\rho(I - \alpha A) < 1$ , we have to make sure

$$\begin{aligned}
|1 - \alpha\lambda_j| &< 1 \text{ for all } j \\
1 - \alpha\lambda_j &< 1 \text{ and } 1 - \alpha\lambda_j > -1
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, it means that  $\alpha\lambda_j < 2$  for all  $j$ . Thus,  $\alpha < \frac{2}{\lambda_{max}}$ .