

Solving equations with Iterative methods

Idea: instead of having a direct method that finds solution to $Ax = b$ in a finite number of steps, use an iterative method to find successive approx that converge to solution.

Here are two simple examples:

Consider system $\begin{bmatrix} 7 & -6 \\ -8 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}$

One strategy is to solve ith eq for j-th unknown

$$\begin{cases} x_1^{(k)} = \frac{3}{7} + \frac{6}{7} x_2^{(k-1)} \\ x_2^{(k)} = -\frac{4}{9} + \frac{8}{9} x_1^{(k-1)} \end{cases}$$

Jacobi method

We could improve this by using newest value:

$$\begin{cases} x_1^{(k)} = \frac{3}{7} + \frac{6}{7} x_2^{(k-1)} \\ x_2^{(k)} = -\frac{4}{9} + \frac{8}{9} x_1^{(k)} \end{cases}$$

Gauss-Seidel method

more up to date than Jacobi

actually converges faster!

Note: convergence depends on initial guess

Theory:

$$Ax = b$$

introduce so called Splitting matrix Q :

$$Qx = (Q - A)x + b$$

Use to define operation:

$$Qx^{(k)} = (Q - A)x^{(k-1)} + b \quad k \geq 1$$

$x^{(0)}$ given

Not any choice of Q would work, we need:

- ① $x^{(k)}$ converges to sol of $Ax = b$, and rapidly
- ② $x^{(k)}$ is cheap to compute.

We shall see that ① follows from $Q \approx A^{-1}$
 ② $Qx = y$ easy to solve.

Let's try to see what is going on:

If $x^{(k)} \rightarrow x_*$ the x_* must satisfy:

$$\begin{aligned} Qx_* &= (Q - A)x_* + b \\ \Rightarrow Ax_* &= b \end{aligned}$$

We assume: A is nonsingular
 Q

$$x^{(k)} = (I - Q^{-1}A)x^{(k-1)} + Q^{-1}b$$

$$\underline{x = (I - Q^{-1}A)x + Q^{-1}b}$$

$$(x^{(k)} - x) = (I - Q^{-1}A)(x^{(k-1)} - x)$$

$$\|x^{(k)} - x\| \leq \|I - Q^{-1}A\| \|x^{(k-1)} - x\| \quad \text{with appropriate matrix norm}$$

$$\|x^{(k)} - x\| \leq \|I - Q^{-1}A\|^k \|x^{(0)} - x\| \quad \text{induced norm}$$

Thus: if $\|I - Q^{-1}A\| < 1$ then $x^{(k)} \rightarrow x$, sol of $Ax = b$.

Theorem If $\|I - Q^{-1}A\| < 1$ for some induced matrix norm

then the seq. $Qx^{(k)} = (Q - A)x^{(k-1)} + b$ converges to sol of $Ax = b$
 for any starting vector $x^{(0)}$.

⚠ never written like this
 in practice! to find $x^{(k)}$ we
solve a system.

Let $\delta = \|I - Q^{-1}A\| < 1$, One can use as stopping criterion the difference between two consecutive iterates as:

$$\|x^{(k)} - x\| \leq \frac{\delta}{1-\delta} \|x^{(k)} - x^{(k-1)}\|$$

Note: can be bad if δ is close to 1.

Richardson method

$$Q = I$$

$$x^{(k)} = (I - A)x^{(k-1)} + b = x^{(k-1)} + \underbrace{b - Ax^{(k-1)}}_{r^{(k-1)}}$$

When does this work?

when $\|I - A\| < 1$ in same induced matrix norm

Jacobi method or iteration

$$Q = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & & \\ & a_{22} & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} = \text{diagonal matrix with same entries as diagonal in matrix } A.$$

In this case:

$$Q^{-1}A = \begin{bmatrix} 1/a_{11} & a_{12}/a_{11} & a_{13}/a_{11} & \dots \\ a_{21}/a_{22} & 1 & a_{23}/a_{22} & \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\|I - Q^{-1}A\|_\infty = \max_{\text{rows}} \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^n \frac{|a_{ij}|}{|a_{ii}|}$$

Theorem on convergence of Jacobi method

(138)

If A is diagonally dominant, then the sequence of iterates produced by Jacobi method converges to sol of $Ax=b$.

Proof :

$$\begin{aligned} A \text{ diag. dominant} \Rightarrow |a_{ii}| &\geq \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^m |a_{ij}|, \quad (1 \leq i \leq n) \\ \Rightarrow \|\Sigma - Q^{-1}A\|_\infty &< 1 \\ \Rightarrow \text{convergence} \end{aligned}$$

Algorithm :

for $k = 1, 2, \dots$

$$x = (b - Ax) / \text{diag}(A)$$

Note: we can avoid divisions if system is preprocessed:

$$D^{-1} A x = D^{-1} b$$

$$(D^{1/2} A D^{-1/2})(D^{1/2} x) = D^{-1/2} b \quad \text{symm}$$

Some preliminaries before we do analysis of general case.

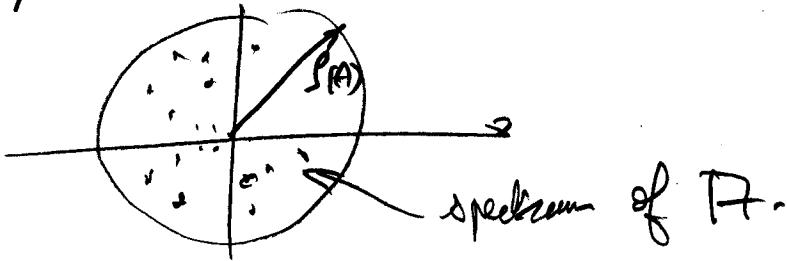
Eigenvalues of A = roots of characteristic poly:

$$\varphi(\lambda) = \det(\lambda I - A)$$

Spectral radius,

$$\rho(A) = \max \{ |\lambda| \mid \det(\lambda I - A) = 0 \}$$

$\rho(A)$ = radius of smallest circle in \mathbb{C} containing all eigenvalues of A .



Two matrices A, B are similar if there is an invertible matrix X s.t.

$$AX = XB$$

Theorem on simila upper triangular matrices

Every matrix is similar to an upper triangular matrix with arbitrarily small off-diagonal elements.

Use Schur factorization:

$$A = Q \tilde{T} Q^T \quad Q^T Q = I$$

↑ eigenvalues of A are on diag.

$$\text{Let } D = \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \varepsilon_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(D^{-1} \tilde{T} D)_{ij} = t_{ij} \varepsilon^{j-i}$$

But $T = (\nabla)$ thus:

(140)

$$t_{ij} = 0 \text{ if } j < i$$

now of $j > i$ (elements above diag):

$$|t_{ij} \in \mathbb{C}^{N-0}| \leq \varepsilon |t_{ii}|$$

thus:

$$A = \underbrace{Q D}_{X} \underbrace{D^T T D}_{B} \underbrace{D^{-1} Q^T}_{X^{-1}}$$

\downarrow
sought for

Theorem on spectral radius :

$$\rho(A) = \inf_{\|\cdot\|} \|A\| \text{ in which infimum is over all induced matrix norms.}$$

This shows $\rho(A) = \|A\|_2$ is "smallest" induced norm for A.

Proof:

$$\underline{\rho(A) \leq \inf_{\|\cdot\|} \|A\|} : \text{Let } \|\cdot\| \text{ be a vector norm and let } A, x \text{ be an eigenpair of } A.$$

Then:

$$\|A\| \|x\| \geq \|Ax\| = \|Ax\| = |\lambda| \|x\|$$

$$\Rightarrow \rho(A) \leq \|A\|$$

$$\Rightarrow \rho(A) \leq \inf_{\|\cdot\|} \|A\| \text{ (least upper bound)}$$

For reverse inequality:

$\forall \epsilon > 0$, there is a non-singular matrix S s.t.

$$S^{-1}AS = D + T, \text{ where } \|T\|_\infty \leq \epsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow \|S^{-1}AS\|_\infty = \|D + T\|_\infty \leq \underbrace{\|D\|_\infty}_{\rho(A)} + \underbrace{\|T\|_\infty}_{\epsilon} < \epsilon$$

(Why?)

$$< \rho(A) + \epsilon$$

this is a subordinate norm $\|A\|'_\infty$

$$\Rightarrow \inf_{\|\cdot\|} \|A\| \leq \|A\|'_\infty \leq \rho(A) + \epsilon$$

$\leq \rho(A)$ since ϵ is arbitrary.

Necessary and Sufficient conditions for convergence of an iterative method. (14)

$$x^{(k)} = Gx^{(k-1)} + c$$

converges to $(I-G)^{-1}c$ if and only if $\rho(G) < 1$

Proof: if $\rho(G) < 1$ then we have induced norm for which

$$\|G\| < 1$$

$$x^{(1)} = Gx^{(0)} + c$$

$$x^{(2)} = G^2x^{(0)} + Gc + c$$

$$x^{(3)} = G^3x^{(0)} + G^2c + Gc + c$$

$$\vdots \\ x^{(k)} = G^kx^{(0)} + \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} G^j c$$

$$\Rightarrow \|G^k x^{(0)}\| \leq \|G\|^k \|x^{(0)}\| \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } k \rightarrow \infty.$$

Moreover Neumann Series gives,

$$\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} G^j c = (I-G)^{-1}c$$

$$\text{Hence } x^{(k)} \rightarrow (I-G)^{-1}c \text{ as } k \rightarrow \infty.$$

Now we show converse. Suppose $\rho(G) \geq 1$ and take u s.t.

$$Gu = \lambda u \text{ and } |\lambda| \geq 1. (u \neq 0)$$

Taking $x^{(0)} = 0$ and $c = u$:

$$x^{(k)} = \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} G^j u = \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \lambda^j u \\ = \begin{cases} ku & \text{if } \lambda = 1 \\ \frac{1-\lambda^k}{1-\lambda} u & \text{if } \lambda \neq 1 \end{cases}$$

which doesn't converge as $k \rightarrow \infty$.

Corollary w/ splitting matrix

The iteration:

$$Qx^{(k)} = (Q - A)x^{(k-1)} + b \text{ converges to } Ax = b$$

for any starting point $x^{(0)}$ iff $\rho(I - Q^{-1}A) < 1$

Theorem Gauss Seidel convergence

If A is diag dominant then G.S. method converges for any starting $x^{(0)}$.

proof. Q in Gauss Seidel is lower-triangular part of A (including diag.)

$$A = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline & Q \\ \hline Q & \triangle \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Need to show $|\rho(I - Q^{-1}A)| < 1$

Let λ be an eigenvalue of $I - Q^{-1}A$ and x a corresponding eigenvector w/ $\|x\|=1$

$$(I - Q^{-1}A)x = \lambda x \Leftrightarrow (Q - A)x = A Q x$$

$$-\sum_{j=i+1}^n a_{ij}x_j = \lambda \sum_{j=1}^i a_{ij}x_j$$

$1 \leq i \leq n$

$$\Rightarrow a_{ii}x_i = -\lambda \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} a_{ij}x_j - \sum_{j=i+1}^n a_{ij}x_j \quad (1 \leq i \leq n)$$

Set ω s.t. $|\omega| = 1$:

$$|\lambda| |\omega_i| \leq |A| \left| \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} (a_{ij}) \right| + \sum_{j=i+1}^n |a_{ij}| \cdot \omega_j$$

$$|\omega| \leq \frac{\sum_{j=i+1}^n |a_{ij}|}{|a_{ii}| - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} |a_{ij}|} < 1 \quad (\text{by diag dom})$$

A note on parallelism:

Assume we can make operations in parallel w/o synchronization.

What method is more parallelizable?

Jacobi: each eq. can be solved independently

G-S: x_i requires comp of x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{i-1}

Hence a summary of different methods we have seen:

R. chandran

$$Q = I$$

$$G = I - A$$

$$x^{(k)} = (I - A)x^{(k-1)} + b$$

$$A = D - E - F$$

(1) Δ ∇
↓
strict.

Jacobi

$$Q = D$$

$$G = D^{-1} (E + F)$$

$$Dx^{(k)} = (E + F)x^{(k-1)} + b$$

Gauss Seidel

$$Q = D - E$$

$$G = (D - E)^{-1} F$$

$$(D - E)x^{(k)} = Fx^{(k-1)} + b$$

SOR Successive overrelaxation (lim comb of Jac & GS).

$$Q = \omega^{-1} (D - \omega E)$$

$$G = (D - \omega E)^{-1} (\omega U + (1-\omega)D)$$

$$(D - \omega E)x^{(k)} = \omega(Fx^{(k-1)} + b) + (1-\omega)Dx^{(k-1)}$$

One can choose param ω optimally

Extrapolation: (in general)

$$x^{(k)} = Gx^{(k-1)} + c$$

$$\begin{aligned} x^{(k)} &= \gamma (Gx^{(k-1)} + c) + (1-\gamma)x^{(k-1)} \\ &= G_\gamma x^{(k-1)} + \gamma c \end{aligned}$$

where $G_\gamma = \gamma G + (1-\gamma)I$

$\gamma = 1$ op. old i.e., $\gamma = 0$ get identity -

If iteration converges:

$$x = \gamma(Gx + c) + (1-\gamma)x$$

$$x = Gx + c \quad (\text{since } \gamma \neq 0)$$

If $G = I - Q^{-1}A$ and $c = Q^{-1}b$ \Rightarrow we solve $Ax = b$.

(148)

Fact from linear algebra: If λ is an eigenvalue of A

then $p(\lambda)$ is an eigenvalue of $p(A)$

Question: how do we choose parameter γ in $G_\gamma = \gamma G + (1-\gamma)I$?

If we know:

$$a < \lambda(\theta) < b$$

\uparrow
eigenvalues of G

then

$\lambda(G_\gamma)$ lies between $\gamma a + (1-\gamma)$ and $\gamma b + (1-\gamma)$

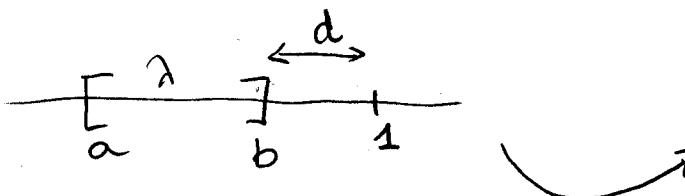
$$\Rightarrow S(G_\gamma) = \max |\lambda(G_\gamma)| = \max |\gamma \lambda(G) + 1 - \gamma| \\ \leq \max_{a \leq \lambda \leq b} |\gamma \lambda + 1 - \gamma|$$

Theorem: If all we know about G is that its eigenvalues lie in interval $[a, b]$, and if $1 \notin [a, b]$, then best choice for γ is:

$$\gamma_* = \frac{2}{2-a-b}$$

and $S(G_\gamma) \leq 1 - |\gamma|d$ where $d = \text{distance from } 1 \text{ to } [a, b]$.

Proof: Since $1 \notin [a, b]$ either $a > 1$ or $b < 1$, we do this case:



$$\phi(\lambda) = \gamma\lambda + 1 - \gamma$$

Note: $\gamma > 0$ otherwise

$$S(G_\gamma) > 1$$

$$\gamma b + 1 - \gamma = 1 + \gamma(b-1) = 1 - \gamma d$$

$$\gamma a + 1 - \gamma = \gamma(a+b-2) + 1 + \gamma(1-b) =$$

$$\gamma d + \gamma(a+b-2) + 1 \leq \phi(\gamma) \leq 1 - \gamma d$$

take $\gamma^* = \frac{2}{a+b-2}$ so that

$$\gamma d - 1 \leq \phi(\gamma) \leq 1 - \gamma d$$

$$|\phi(\gamma)| < 1 - \gamma d$$

$$|P(G_\gamma)| \leq 1 - \gamma d$$

Why is this best choice?

$$\gamma > \gamma^* \rightarrow \gamma a + 1 - \gamma \leq \gamma^* d - 1 \rightarrow P(G_\gamma) \text{ increases}$$

$$\gamma < \gamma^* \rightarrow 1 - \gamma d > 1 - \gamma^* d \rightarrow \text{---}$$

Notation:

$$\begin{aligned} m(G) &= \text{smallest eigenvalue of } G && \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{assuming } G \text{ has} \\ \text{only real eigenvalues} \end{array} \right\} \\ M(G) &= \text{largest } \text{---} && \end{aligned}$$

What is spectral radius of optimal extrapolated Richardson's?

$$m(A) = 1 - M(A)$$

$$M(A) = 1 - m(A)$$

acceleration possible when $M(A) < 0$ (all negative)

$m(A) > 0$ (all pos)

$$\text{and } \gamma^* = -\frac{2}{(-M(A) + 1 - m(A)) - 2} = \frac{2}{m(A) + M(A)}$$

The spectral radius is:

$$|P(G_\gamma)| \leq \left(-\frac{2}{m(A) + M(A)} \right) \left(1 - (1 - m(A)) \right) = \frac{M(A) - m(A)}{M(A) + m(A)}$$

(assuming $1 - m(A) < 1$ or $m(A) > 0$)

Jacobi

$$\gamma = \frac{2}{m(D^{-1}A) + M(D^{-1}A)}$$

$$P(G_8) = \frac{M(D^{-1}A) - m(D^{-1}A)}{M(D^{-1}A) + m(D^{-1}A)}$$

(CONJUGATE GRADIENT METHOD)

Objective: solve system $Ax = b$ when

$A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, symm pos def.

We shall use notation: $\langle x, y \rangle = x^T y = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i y_i$ for inner product.

Recall properties (positive, symmetric bilinear form)

$$\langle x, y \rangle = \langle y, x \rangle$$

$$\langle x, x \rangle \geq 0 \text{ and } \langle x, x \rangle = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = 0$$

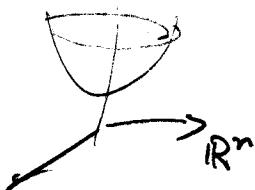
$$\langle \alpha x + \beta y, z \rangle = \alpha \langle x, z \rangle + \beta \langle y, z \rangle$$

$$\langle x, Ay \rangle = x^T (Ay) = (A^T x)^T y = \langle A^T x, y \rangle$$

First thing to notice is that:

$$\text{finding } x \text{ s.t. } Ax = b \Leftrightarrow \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \frac{1}{2} x^T A x - x^T b = q(x) \quad (*)$$

$q(x) = \text{quadratic function}$



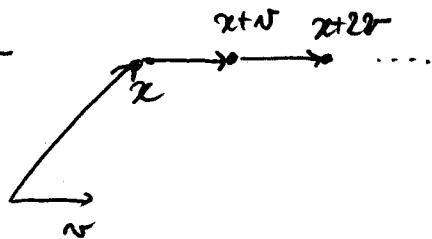
easy way of seeing equivalence: $\nabla q(x) = Ax - b$

(if you know 2nd order suff cond for existence of a minimizer)

$$\nabla^2 q(x) = A \text{ s.p.d.}$$

Proof of equivalence (*) :

Look at ray $x + t\omega$



$$q(x+t\omega) = \frac{1}{2} (x+t\omega)^T A (x+t\omega) - (x+t\omega)^T b$$

$$= q(x) + t \omega^T Ax - t \omega^T b + \frac{1}{2} t^2 \omega^T A \omega$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} q(x+t\omega) = \omega^T (Ax - b) + t \omega^T A \omega$$

$$q \text{ is min when } t = t_* = - \frac{\omega^T (Ax - b)}{\omega^T A \omega}$$

And:

$$q(x+t_*\omega) = q(x) + t_* (\omega^T (Ax - b) + \frac{1}{2} t_* \omega^T A \omega)$$

$$= q(x) + t_* \left(\omega^T (Ax - b) - \frac{1}{2} \omega^T (Ax - b) \right)$$

$$= q(x) - \frac{(\omega^T (Ax - b))^2}{\omega^T A \omega}$$

Interpretation:



we look from x at different directions.

If x is a min of $q(x)$ then if we go along direction ω , we should not be able to reduce function value any more.

$$\Rightarrow \omega^T (Ax - b) = 0 \quad \forall \omega$$

$$\Rightarrow Ax = b.$$

If $Ax = b$ then: $q(x+t\omega) = q(x) + \frac{1}{2} t^2 \omega^T A \omega > q(x)$
if $\omega \neq 0$

This gives an idea on how to find sol to $Ax = b$:

$$x^{(k+1)} = x^{(k)} + t_k v^{(k)}$$

$\uparrow \quad \nwarrow$
"search direction"
step size.

We're that optimal step size we can take is:

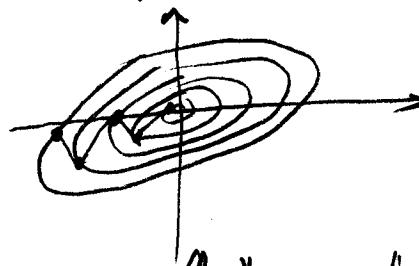
$$t_k = \frac{(v^{(k)}, b - Ax^{(k)})}{(v^{(k)}, Av^{(k)})}$$

One example: Steepest Descent where $v^{(k)} = r^{(k)} = b - Ax^{(k)}$
= residual.

for $k = 1, 2, \dots$

$$\begin{cases} v = b - Ax \\ t = \frac{(v, v)}{(v, Av)} \\ x = x + t v \end{cases}$$

~ not very efficient method.



typically "zig-zag" to solution

Conjugate gradient method

$x_{k+1} = x_k + \alpha_k p_k$ where α_k, p_k are determined s.t
 x_{k+1} solves

$$(1) \quad \min \frac{1}{2} x^T A x - b^T x$$

$$x \in x_0 + \text{span}\{p_0, \dots, p_{k-1}, r_k\}$$

where $r_k = -\nabla q(x_k) = b - Ax_k$

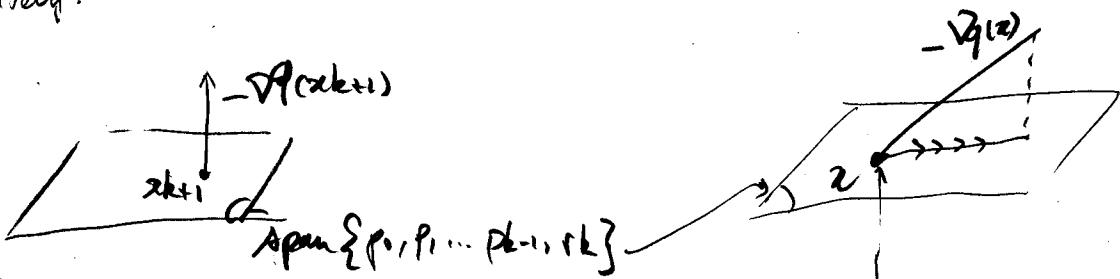
$$(1) \Leftrightarrow (2) \quad \min \frac{1}{2} \hat{x}^T A \hat{x} - \hat{x}^T r_0 \quad x = \hat{x} + x_0$$

$$\hat{x} \in \text{span}\{p_0, \dots, p_{k-1}, r_k\}$$

If can be shown that \hat{x}_{k+1} solves (2) iff

$$\underbrace{(\hat{A}\hat{x}_{k+1} - r_0)^T v = 0}_{-\nabla q(x_{k+1})} \quad \forall v \in \text{span} \{ p_0, p_1, \dots, p_{k-1}, r_k \}$$

Intuitively:



optimal since there is no descent direction in $\text{span} \{ \dots \}$

more optimal one can find descent direc (and better pt)

Now in previous step \hat{x}_k solves

$$\min \frac{1}{2} \hat{x}^T A \hat{x} - \hat{x}^T r_0 \Rightarrow p_j^T (b - A \hat{x}_k) = 0 \quad j = 0, \dots, k-1$$

$$\hat{x} \in \text{span} \{ p_0, \dots, p_{k-1} \}$$

We also have:

$$x_{k+1} = x_k + \alpha_k p_k$$

$$0 = (\hat{A}x_{k+1} - b)^T p_j = (\hat{A}x_k - b)^T p_j + \alpha_k p_k^T \hat{A} p_j$$

$\rightarrow p_k$ is A-orthogonal to previous b direction.

Note: $\langle u, v \rangle_A = u^T A v$ is an inner product when A is s.p.d.

We can get p_k using Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization.

(153)

$$p_0 = 0$$
$$p_k = r_k - \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \frac{r_k^T A p_j}{p_j^T A p_j} p_j \quad (65)$$

Now that we know direction, we know step size too:

$$\alpha_k = \frac{p_k^T (b - Ax_k)}{p_k^T A p_k} = \frac{p_k^T r_k}{p_k^T A p_k}$$

→ preliminary version where ops grows linearly with iteration storage

Let us look again at subspace we used:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{span}\{p_0, p_1, \dots, p_{k-1}, r_k\} &= \text{span}\{p_0, \dots, p_{k-1}, p_k\} \\ &= \text{span}\{r_0, r_1, \dots, r_k\} \\ &= K_{k+1}(A, r_0) \\ &= \text{span}\{r_0, Ar_0, A^2r_0, \dots, A^kr_0\} \\ &\rightarrow \text{Krylov subspace} \end{aligned}$$

Why?

$$r_0 = b - Ax_0 \in K_1(A, r_0)$$

$$r_1 = b - Ax_1 = b - A(x_0 + \alpha(b - Ax_0)) \in K_2(A, r_0)$$

etc...

Why is this useful?

optimality conditions: $r_{k+1}^T v = 0 \quad \forall v \in K_{k+1}(A, r_0)$

$$r_k^T v = 0 \quad \forall v \in K_k(A, r_0)$$

take $p_i \in \mathbb{K}_{k+1}(A, r_0) \Rightarrow f p_i \in \mathbb{K}_k(A, r_0)$

$$\Rightarrow r_k^T A p_i = 0, i=0, \dots, k-2$$

(65) reduces to:

$$p_k = r_k - \boxed{\frac{r_k^T A p_{k-1}}{p_{k-1}^T A p_{k-1}}} p_{k-1}$$

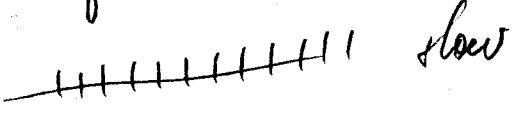
$$= \beta_k$$

Storage: $x_k, r_k, p_k, A p_k$
 \rightarrow requires only knowledge of matrix.

classical formulation of CG:

$$\alpha_k = \frac{\|r_k\|^2}{p_k^T A p_k} \quad \beta_k = \frac{\|r_{k+1}\|^2}{\|r_k\|^2}$$

Convergence results: convergence depends on how many "clusters" of eigenvectors of A .

(S1)  slow

(S2)  fast (~ 3 iter.)

preconditioning: $Ax = b \Leftrightarrow M^{-1} A x = M^{-1} b$

where $M = \text{invertible matrix}$
 \rightarrow preconditioner
 $= \text{cheap approx. wrt } A$
 that puts (S1) into (S2).

prac. example: incomplete LU (drop elements that are too small)
 Jacobi, Gauss-Seidel or a few of these iterations
 decoupling based (solve x -dir then y -dir)