
Subject: Re: problem inverting matrix

Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Mon, 06 Jan 2003 17:20:10 GMT

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Lars Schmidt wrote:

>
> Hello,
>
> I desperately hope someone of you has got an idea.
> I try to invert a matrix using "invert" of course with floating-point
> values.
> I get like explosion of values although the status variable I used with
> "invert" did not return any error and I also used the "/double" keyword.
> Has anybody an idea or experience with that. Are these numerical problems of
> the gaussian elimination??

Matrix inversion can be tricky depending on what your data looks like. I attached a piece of code I wrote a while back to use the IDL Numerical Recipes SVD functionality to do the inversion. I never used it too much since the SVD stuff always gave me slightly different answers than some fortran test code - I think that was tracked down to an implementation problem of the NR SVD stuff in an earlier version of IDL that has since been corrected. But I'm not sure. At any rate, test the attached code until you're blue in the face before using it for anything important. Most of it is simply checking inputs and whatnot, but still.....

paulv

p.s. Let me, uh, reiterate my suggestion to test this code if you use it for anything.....
:o)

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```
;----- cut here
;+
; NAME:
;   svd_matrix_invert
;
; PURPOSE:
;   To compute the pseudoinverse of a matrix
;
; CATEGORY:
;   Linear Algebra
;
```

```

; CALLING SEQUENCE:
;   result = svd_matrix_invert( A, check_inv = check_inv, $
;                               double = double )
;
; INPUTS:
;   A: MxN matrix to be inverted.
;
; KEYWORD PARAMETERS:
;   check_inv: Set this keyword to plot out the surface of the
;               result matrix multiplied with the input. The plot
;               should be the identity matrix.
;   double:    Set this keyword to use double precision arithmetic.
;               This is recommended.
;
; OUTPUTS:
;   The function returns the matrix inversion result.
;
; SIDE EFFECTS:
;   None known.
;
; RESTRICTIONS:
;   None known.
;
; PROCEDURE:
;   The MxN input matrix is factorised into the form,
;
;       
$$A = U \cdot W \cdot \text{transpose}(V)$$

;
;   where U = MxM column-orthogonal matrix; the left singular vectors,
;         W = NxN diagonal matrix of the singular values, and
;         V = NxN orthogonal matrix; the right singular vectors.
;
;   The pseudoinverse of A, Ainv(+), can then be found from,
;
;       
$$\text{Ainv}(+) = V \cdot \text{Winv}(+) \cdot \text{transpose}(U)$$

;
;   If A is square and non-singular, then Ainv(+) = Ainv where Ainv is
;   the inverse of A.
;
;   The matrix Winv(+) is calculated by simply taking the reciprocal of
;   the singular values, EXCEPT where the singular values are less than
;   machine precision. Where singular values are less than machine
;   precision, their reciprocal is simply set to zero.
;
; EXAMPLE:
;   To calculate the inverse of a matrix A and plot the product Ainv ## A
;   type:

```



```

; Check the keywords
; -----

IF ( NOT KEYWORD_SET( check_inv ) ) THEN check_inv = 0

IF ( NOT KEYWORD_SET( DOUBLE ) ) THEN BEGIN
  DOUBLE = 0
  winv  = FLTARR( n, n )
  zero  = 0.0
  one   = 1.0
ENDIF ELSE BEGIN
  DOUBLE = 1
  winv  = DBLARR( n, n )
  zero  = 0.0d
  one   = 1.0d
ENDELSE

; -----
; Decompose the matrix
; -----

SVDC, a, w, u, v, DOUBLE = DOUBLE

; -----
; Determine which singular values are too small and
; which ones are ok.
; -----

loc_invalid = WHERE( w LE ( MACHAR( DOUBLE = DOUBLE ) ).EPS, count_invalid )
loc_valid   = WHERE( w GT ( MACHAR( DOUBLE = DOUBLE ) ).EPS, count_valid )

; -----
; Invert the singular values, setting the too-small
; ones to zero
; -----

IF ( count_valid GT 0 ) THEN w[ loc_valid ] = one / w[ loc_valid ]
IF ( count_invalid GT 0 ) THEN BEGIN
  w[ loc_invalid ] = zero
  MESSAGE, STRCOMPRESS( STRING( count_invalid ), /REMOVE_ALL ) + ' zero singular
values', /INFO
ENDIF

; -----

```

```

; Check that the inverse of the singular values are valid
; -----

loc_invalid = WHERE( w LE ( MACHAR( DOUBLE = DOUBLE ) ).EPS, count_invalid )
IF ( count_invalid GT 0 ) THEN BEGIN
    MESSAGE, STRCOMPRESS( STRING( count_invalid ), /REMOVE_ALL ) + $
        ' inverse singular values < machine precision', /INFO
ENDIF

; -----
; Fill the singular value matrix
; -----

i = INDGEN( n )
winv[ i, i ] = w

; -----
; Calculate the matrix inverse
; -----

ainv = v ## winv ## TRANSPOSE( u )

; -----
; Plot the result of Ainv ## A
; -----

IF ( check_inv NE 0 ) THEN BEGIN

    IF ( !D.NAME EQ 'X' ) THEN BEGIN

        WINDOW, /FREE, TITLE = 'SVD_MATRIX_INVERT check'
        SURFACE, ainv ## a, /LEGO, $
            TITLE = 'Check of SVD matrix inversion', $
            XTITLE = 'Column index', YTITLE = 'Row index', $
            CHARSIZE = 1.5

    ENDIF

ENDIF

ENDIF

; -----
; Return the result
; -----

```

RETURN, ainv

END
