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Subject: Re: help to resolve a intricate equation  
Posted by [James Kuyper](#) on Sun, 09 Sep 2007 13:48:48 GMT  
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Sven Geier wrote:

> highstone wrote:

>

>> hello all

>> there is a equation like

>>  $X^2 + A * X = C + A$

>> where X is a matrix to resolve, A is a known matrix, C is a constant

>> (actually X,A is a grid image)

>>

>> is there any method can resolve this type equation such as least-

>> squares method or others? can be based on IDL ?

>>

>> I am not well up in maths, please as particular as possible, thank

>> you.

>

>

> I am probably completely misunderstanding what you're trying to do, but...

>

>  $X^2 + A * X = C + A$

>

>  $\Rightarrow X^2 - C = A (1 - X)$

>

>  $\Rightarrow A = (X^2 - C) / (1 - X)$

Please note that X and A are matrices; C might be as well - he wasn't clear on that point. If  $X^2$  and  $A * X$  are to be interpreted as element-by-element multiplication of two matrices, then your approach works. However, if they refer to true matrix multiplications, then you have to do something different. If X is a square matrix, and I is the identity matrix of the same size, and if  $(I - X)$  is invertible, then what you can do is:

$A = (X^2 - C) * \text{inverse}(I - X)$

> but you probably meant something entirely different...

I believe so. He indicated that the value of 'A' is known; it is 'X' that he describes as "a matrix to resolve". For scalars, the quadratic equation could be used to solve such an equation; but that doesn't work with matrices. I seem to remember learning an approach that can be used, but I don't remember what it was.

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