
Subject: matrix log and exp
Posted by [G Karas](#) on Wed, 17 Apr 2002 19:01:56 GMT
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Hi group,
one quickie and possibly difficult:

IDL does not have a matrix logarithm logm and matrix exponent expm function. I was thinking of calling lapack routines which do it, but have no experience with lapack or FORTRAN. Anyone with any tips on this one?

cheers!

Giorgos Karas, M.D.

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(replace the _at_)

Subject: Re: matrix log and exp
Posted by [jeyadev](#) on Thu, 18 Apr 2002 19:39:38 GMT
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In article <a9kgr4\$ur8\$1@scavenger.euro.net>,
G Karas <jacobianat@gmx.net> wrote:

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It depends on the matrix. Can you diagonalise it? If so,
you are done. You will need a support package to do the
linear algebra, though.

If A is the matrix and you need exp(A), you proceed as
follows:

1. Find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of A

such that $A u_i = \lambda_i u_i$

where u_i is the i -th eigenvector and λ_i is the corresponding eigenvalue

2. Form the 'rotation' matrix $R = [u_1 \ u_2 \ \dots]$ where each e.vector becomes a column. The R' be the transpose of A .

Now, the product $R A R'$ is a diagonal matrix with the eigenvalues λ_i as its diagonal elements. Its exponential is just the diagonal matrix with elements that are $\exp(\lambda_i)$.

What you have done is find the exponential of the matrix in the representation in which the original A is diagonal. Call this diagonal matrix B .

$$B_{ij} = \exp(\lambda_i) \delta_{ij}$$

where δ_{ij} is the Kronecker delta symbol.

3. Then, $\exp(A) = R' B R$

The trick is to do the basic operation in the diagonal representation and then transform back. If you can write the operation as a power series, then can see why this works.

The same should work for the logarithm, if the e.values are all greater than zero.

--

Surendar Jeyadev jeyadev@wrc.xerox.bounceback.com

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Subject: Re: matrix log and exp
Posted by [jeyadev](#) on Fri, 19 Apr 2002 17:21:03 GMT
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In article <a9n7dq\$4hu\$1@news.wrc.xerox.com>,
Surendar Jeyadev <jeyadev@wrc.xerox.bounceback.com> wrote:
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I forgot to mention that this kind of thing is routine
in quantum mechanical calculations. You will find
information on things like $\exp(A)$ in any decent text:
try Schiff or Merzbacher or Gottfried or
What I described is routinely used in such calculations.

Hope this helps, but it does assume use of a linear
algebra package for determining the the eigenvalues
and eigenvectors.

Repeated matrix multiplications are tricky! I would
watch out

--

Surendar Jeyadev jeyadev@wrc.xerox.bounceback.com

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