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Subject: Re: How to solve a homogeneous system( $Ax=0$ ) with a gauss elimination method that  $x$  is not zero.

Posted by [marc schellens\[1\]](#) on Wed, 05 Nov 2003 13:19:56 GMT

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Look at the  
GS\_ITER  
function.

cheers,  
marc

jhkim wrote:

> I would like to solve a homogeneous system ( $Ax=0$ ) with non-trivial  
> solution ( $x$  is not zero) using a Gauss elimination.  
> Please, let me know how to make a program with IDL.  $A$  is a  $44 * 44$   
> matrix.

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Subject: Re: How to solve a homogeneous system( $Ax=0$ ) with a gauss elimination method that  $x$  is not zero.

Posted by [planets](#) on Thu, 06 Nov 2003 01:56:29 GMT

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Thank you for the advice. However, The function can't solve the problem.  
Please, let me know another solution or correct my program.

My sample program is below.

=====

pro test

a=dblarr(3,3)

b=dblarr(3)

result=dblarr(3)

a=[[1,3,1],[3,4,5],[4,2,1]]

b[\*]=1.0

result=gs\_iter(a,b)

print, result

end

=====

Marc Schellens <[m\\_schellens@hotmail.com](mailto:m_schellens@hotmail.com)> wrote in message

news:<3FA8F8FC.7040009@hotmail.com>...

> Look at the  
> GS\_ITER  
> function.  
>  
> cheers,  
> marc  
>  
> jhkim wrote:  
>> I would like to solve a homogeneous system ( $Ax=0$ ) with non-trivial  
>> solution ( $x$  is not zero) using a Gauss elimination.  
>> Please, let me know how to make a program with IDL.  $A$  is a  $44 * 44$   
>> matrix.

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Subject: Re: How to solve a homogeneous system( $Ax=0$ ) with a gauss elimination method that  $x$  is not zero.

Posted by [Mark Hadfield](#) on Thu, 06 Nov 2003 04:07:42 GMT

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jhkim wrote:

> Thank you for the advice. However, The function can't solve the problem.  
> Please, let me know another solution or correct my program.  
>  
> My sample program is below.  
> =====  
> pro test  
>  
> a=dblarr(3,3)  
> b=dblarr(3)  
> result=dblarr(3)  
>  
> a=[[1,3,1],[3,4,5],[4,2,1]]  
> b[\*]=1.0  
>  
> result=gs\_iter(a,b)  
>  
> print, result  
>  
> end

If you set the CHECK keyword, then GS\_ITER will report the useful information that:

Input matrix is not in Diagonally Dominant form.  
Algorithm may not converge.

This seems to be your problem.

I have forgotten what little I ever knew about solving matrix equations with IDL, but I recall that the more robust solution techniques involve a decomposition of A. For example LU decomposition (LU DC or LA\_LU DC, LUSOL or LA\_LUSOL), Cholesky decomposition (CHOLDC or LA\_CHOLDC, CHOLSOL or LA\_CHOLSOL, only for positive-definite A) and singular-value decomposition (SVDC or LA\_SVD, SVDSOL).

For what it's worth, here is an SVD example I wrote for myself some time ago. Note that A is not square: SVD can be used for over-determined or under-determined sets of equations. This makes it good for hack-it-and-see mathematicians like me, who like to get a solution even if it's wrong.

```
pro mgh_example_matrix_svd, TRANSPOSE=transpose
```

```
    compile_opt IDL2
```

```
    a = [[1.0, 2.0, -1.0, 2.5], $  
         [1.5, 3.3, -0.5, 2.0], $  
         [3.1, 0.7, 2.2, 0.0], $  
         [0.0, 0.3, -2.0, 5.3], $  
         [2.1, 1.0, 4.3, 2.2], $  
         [0.0, 5.5, 3.8, 0.2]]
```

```
    if keyword_set(transpose) then a = transpose(a)
```

```
    print, 'a:'  
    print, a
```

```
    la_svd, a, w, u, v
```

```
    print, 'u:'  
    print, u
```

```
    print, 'v:'  
    print, v
```

```
;; Zero small elements of w
```

```
small = where(w lt 1.E-6*max(w), n_small)  
if n_small gt 0 then w[small] = 0
```

```
print, 'w:'  
print, w
```

```
;; Recreate original matrix
```

```
aa = u ## diag_matrix(w) ## transpose(v)
```

```
print, 'max(abs(aa-a))'
```

```
print, max(abs(aa-a))
```

```
end
```

```
--
```

Mark Hadfield            "Ka puwaha te tai nei, Hoesa tatou"

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National Institute for Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA)

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