

## 7.4 Relaxation Techniques for Solving Linear Systems

**Definition** Suppose  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}} \in R^n$  is an approximation to the solution of the linear system defined by  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ . The **residual vector** for  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$  with respect to this system is  $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{b} - A\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$ .

*Objective of accelerating convergence:* Let residual vector converge to  $\mathbf{0}$  rapidly.

In Gauss-Seidel method, we first associate with each calculation of an approximate component

$$\mathbf{x}_i^{(k)} = (x_1^{(k)}, x_2^{(k)}, \dots, x_{i-1}^{(k)}, x_i^{(k-1)}, \dots, x_n^{(k-1)})^t$$

to the solution a residual vector

$$\mathbf{r}_i^{(k)} = (r_{1i}^{(k)}, r_{2i}^{(k)}, \dots, r_{ni}^{(k)})^t$$

The  $i$ th component of  $\mathbf{r}_i^{(k)}$  is

$$r_{ii}^{(k)} = b_i - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} (a_{ij}x_j^{(k)}) - \sum_{j=i+1}^n (a_{ij}x_j^{(k-1)}) - a_{ii}x_i^{(k-1)} \quad \text{Eq. (1)}$$

so

$$a_{ii}x_i^{(k-1)} + r_{ii}^{(k)} = b_i - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} (a_{ij}x_j^{(k)}) - \sum_{j=i+1}^n (a_{ij}x_j^{(k-1)}).$$

Also,  $x_i^{(k)}$  is computed by

$$x_i^{(k)} = \frac{1}{a_{ii}} \left[ - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} (a_{ij}x_j^{(k)}) - \sum_{j=i+1}^n (a_{ij}x_j^{(k-1)}) + b_i \right] \quad \text{Eq. (2)}$$

Therefore

$$a_{ii}x_i^{(k-1)} + r_{ii}^{(k)} = a_{ii}x_i^{(k)}$$

Gauss-Seidel method is characterized by

$$x_i^{(k)} = x_i^{(k-1)} + \frac{r_{ii}^{(k)}}{a_{ii}} \quad \text{Eq. (3)}$$

Now consider the residual vector  $\mathbf{r}_{i+1}^{(k)}$  associated with the vector  $\mathbf{x}_{i+1}^{(k)} = (x_1^{(k)}, x_2^{(k)}, \dots, x_i^{(k)}, x_{i+1}^{(k-1)}, \dots, x_n^{(k-1)})^t$

The  $i$ th component of  $\mathbf{r}_{i+1}^{(k)}$  is

$$r_{i,i+1}^{(k)} = b_i - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} (a_{ij}x_j^{(k)}) - \sum_{j=i+1}^n (a_{ij}x_j^{(k-1)}) - a_{ii}x_i^{(k)}$$

By Eq. (2),  $r_{i,i+1}^{(k)} = 0$ .

**Idea of Successive Over-Relaxation (SOR)** (technique to accelerate convergence)

Modify Eq. (3) to

$$x_i^{(k)} = x_i^{(k-1)} + \omega \frac{r_{ii}^{(k)}}{a_{ii}} \quad \text{Eq. (4)}$$

so that norm of residual vector  $\mathbf{r}_{i+1}^{(k)}$  converges to 0 rapidly. Here  $\omega > 0$ .

**Under-relaxation method** when  $0 < \omega < 1$

**Over-relaxation method** when  $\omega > 1$

Use Eq. (4) and Eq. (1),

$$x_i^{(k)} = (1 - \omega)x_i^{(k-1)} + \frac{\omega}{a_{ii}} \left[ b_i - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} (a_{ij}x_j^{(k)}) - \sum_{j=i+1}^n (a_{ij}x_j^{(k-1)}) \right] \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots, n \quad \text{Eq. (5)}$$

### Matrix form of SOR

Rewrite Eq. (5) as

$$a_{ii}x_i^{(k)} + \omega \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} (a_{ij}x_j^{(k)}) = (1 - \omega)a_{ii}x_i^{(k-1)} - \omega \sum_{j=i+1}^n (a_{ij}x_j^{(k-1)}) + \omega b_i$$

$$(D - \omega L)\mathbf{x}^{(k)} = [(1 - \omega)D + \omega U]\mathbf{x}^{(k-1)} + \omega \mathbf{b}$$

$$\mathbf{x}^{(k)} = (D - \omega L)^{-1}[(1 - \omega)D + \omega U]\mathbf{x}^{(k-1)} + \omega(D - \omega L)^{-1}\mathbf{b}$$

Define  $T_\omega = (D - \omega L)^{-1}[(1 - \omega)D + \omega U]$ ,  $\mathbf{c}_\omega = \omega(D - \omega L)^{-1}\mathbf{b}$

**SOR** can be written as  $\mathbf{x}^{(k)} = T_\omega \mathbf{x}^{(k-1)} + \mathbf{c}_\omega$ .

**Example** Use SOR with  $\omega = 1.25$  to solve

$$\begin{aligned}4x_1 + 3x_2 &= 24 \\3x_1 + 4x_2 - x_3 &= 30 \\-x_2 + 4x_3 &= -24\end{aligned}$$

with  $\mathbf{x}^{(0)} = (1, 1, 1)^t$ .

**Theorem 7.24(Kahan)** If  $a_{ii} \neq 0$ , for each  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , then  $\rho(T_\omega) \geq |\omega - 1|$ . This implies that the SOR method can converge only if  $0 < \omega < 2$ .

Recall: Theorem 7.19  $\rho(T) \leq 1$ .

**Theorem 7.25(Ostrowski-Reich)** If  $A$  is a positive definite matrix and  $0 < \omega < 2$ , then the SOR method converges for any choice of initial approximate vector  $\mathbf{x}^{(0)}$ .

**Theorem 7.26** If  $A$  is a positive definite and tridiagonal, then  $\rho(T_g) = [\rho(T_j)]^2 < 1$ , and the optimal choice of  $\omega$  for the SOR method is

$$\omega = \frac{2}{1 + \sqrt{1 - [\rho(T_j)]^2}}$$

With this choice of  $\omega$ , we have  $\rho(T_\omega) = \omega - 1$ .

**Example** Find the optimal choice of  $\omega$  for the SOR method for the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 3 & 0 \\ 3 & 4 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

### 7.5 Error Bounds and Iterative Refinement

Motivation. Residual vector  $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{b} - A\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$  can fail to provide accurate measurement on convergence

**Example**  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  given by

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1.0001 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 3.0001 \end{bmatrix}$$

has the unique solution  $\mathbf{x} = (1,1)^t$  Determine the residual vector for approximation  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}} = (3, -0.0001)^t$

**Solution**  $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{b} - A\tilde{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 3.0001 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1.0001 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -0.0001 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.0002 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

**Theorem 7.27** Suppose that  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$  is an approximation to the solution of  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ ,  $A$  is a nonsingular matrix, and  $\mathbf{r}$  is the residual vector for  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$ . Then for any natural norm,

$$\|\mathbf{x} - \tilde{\mathbf{x}}\| \leq \|\mathbf{r}\| \cdot \|A^{-1}\|$$

and if  $\mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}$  and  $\mathbf{b} \neq \mathbf{0}$

$$\frac{\|\mathbf{x} - \tilde{\mathbf{x}}\|}{\|\mathbf{x}\|} \leq \|A\| \cdot \|A^{-1}\| \frac{\|\mathbf{r}\|}{\|\mathbf{b}\|}$$

### Condition Numbers

**Definition** The **condition number** of the nonsingular matrix  $A$  relative to the norm  $\|\cdot\|$  is

$$K(A) = \|A\| \cdot \|A^{-1}\|$$

Remark: Condition number of identity matrix  $K(I) = 1$  relative to  $\|\cdot\|_\infty$

A matrix  $A$  is **well-conditioned** if  $K(A)$  is close to 1, and is **ill-conditioned** if  $K(A)$  is significantly greater than 1.

**Example** Determine the condition number for  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1.0001 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ .

**Solution**  $A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} -10000 & 10000 \\ 5000.5 & -5000 \end{bmatrix}$ .

$$\|A^{-1}\|_\infty = 20000$$

$$K(A) = \|A\|_\infty \cdot \|A^{-1}\|_\infty = 3.0001 \cdot 20000 = 60002.$$

**Significance of condition number** Well-conditioned  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  implies a small residual error corresponds to accurate approximate solution.

### Estimate condition number

Assume that  $t$ -digit arithmetic and Gaussian elimination are used to solve  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ , the residual vector  $\mathbf{r}$  for the approximation  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$  has

$$\|\mathbf{r}\| \approx 10^{-t} \|A\| \cdot \|\tilde{\mathbf{x}}\|$$

Consider to solve  $A\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{r}$  with  $t$ -digit arithmetic. Let  $\tilde{\mathbf{y}}$  be approximation to  $A\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{r}$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{y}} \approx A^{-1}\mathbf{r} = A^{-1}(\mathbf{b} - A\tilde{\mathbf{x}}) = A^{-1}\mathbf{b} - A^{-1}A\tilde{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{x} - \tilde{\mathbf{x}}$$

This implies  $\mathbf{x} \approx \tilde{\mathbf{x}} + \tilde{\mathbf{y}}$ .

$$\|\tilde{\mathbf{y}}\| \approx \|A^{-1}\mathbf{r}\| \leq \|A^{-1}\| \cdot \|\mathbf{r}\| \approx \|A^{-1}\| (10^{-t} \|A\| \cdot \|\tilde{\mathbf{x}}\|) = 10^{-t} \|\tilde{\mathbf{x}}\| K(A)$$

Therefore

$$K(A) \approx \frac{\|\tilde{\mathbf{y}}\|}{\|\tilde{\mathbf{x}}\|} 10^t.$$

**Example** Estimate condition number for system  $\begin{bmatrix} 3.3330 & 15920 & -10.333 \\ 2.2220 & 16.710 & 9.6120 \\ 1.5611 & 5.1791 & 1.6852 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 15913 \\ 28.544 \\ 8.4254 \end{bmatrix}$  solved by 5-digit rounding arithmetic. The exact solution is  $\mathbf{x} = (1,1,1)^t$

**Solution** Use Gaussian elimination to solve with 5-digit rounding arithmetic gives

$$\tilde{\mathbf{x}} = (1.2001, 0.99991, 0.92538)^t$$

The corresponding residual vector  $\mathbf{r} = (-0.00518, 0.27412914, -0.186160367)^t$

Solving  $A\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{r}$  by Gaussian elimination gives  $\tilde{\mathbf{y}} = (-0.20008, 8.9987 \times 10^{-5}, 0.074607)^t$

$$K(A) \approx \frac{\|\tilde{\mathbf{y}}\|_{\infty}}{\|\tilde{\mathbf{x}}\|_{\infty}} 10^t = \frac{0.20008}{1.2001} 10^5 = 16672$$