

**Analysis of Computing Eigenvalues  
using a Modified Power Method and the QR Algorithm**

By Adam Headley 998017147

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Consider a real symmetric matrix  $A$ , having distinct eigenvalues  $|\lambda_1| > |\lambda_2| > \dots > |\lambda_n|$ . The inner product  $\langle \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z} \rangle$  of the vectors  $\mathbf{w} = [w_1, \dots, w_n]^t$  and  $\mathbf{z} = [z_1, \dots, z_n]^t$ , is defined by the dot product,

$$\langle \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{z} \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i z_i.$$

Using a modified power method **mpm.M**, iterations of  $\mathbf{v}^{(k)}$  are computed by the relation

$$\mathbf{v}^{(k)} = A\mathbf{v}^{(k-1)},$$

where  $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ , starting with an initial vector  $\mathbf{v}^{(0)} = [1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1]$ . For each  $k$  the quantity

$$l_k = \frac{\langle \mathbf{v}^{(k)}, \mathbf{v}^{(k)} \rangle}{\langle \mathbf{v}^{(k-1)}, \mathbf{v}^{(k)} \rangle}.$$

In the  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} l_k$ , it will be made clear that  $l_k \rightarrow \lambda_1$ , where  $\lambda_1$  is the dominant eigenvalue of the real symmetric matrix  $A$ .

Every function that appears in this program was coded or default in MATLAB.

**A** The following will show, theoretically, that  $\lambda_1$  is the dominant eigenvalue of the real symmetric matrix  $A$  and as well that  $\mathbf{v}^{(k)}$  is the corresponding eigenvector,  $\mathbf{x}_1$ , of the matrix  $A$ .

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Note: } \mathbf{v}^{(0)} &= \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j v_j \\ A\mathbf{v}^{(0)} &= \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j Av_j = \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j \lambda_j v_j \end{aligned}$$

$$A^m \mathbf{v}^{(0)} = \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j A^m v_j = \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j \lambda_j^m v_j = \alpha_1 \lambda_1^m v_1 + \lambda_1^m \sum_{j=2}^n \alpha_j \left(\frac{\lambda_j}{\lambda_1}\right)^m v_j$$

$$\mathbf{v}^{(k)} = \frac{A^m \mathbf{v}^{(0)}}{\|A^m \mathbf{v}^{(0)}\|} = \frac{\alpha_1 \lambda_1^m v_1 + \lambda_1^m \sum_{j=2}^n \alpha_j \left(\frac{\lambda_j}{\lambda_1}\right)^m v_j}{\|\alpha_1 \lambda_1^m v_1 + \lambda_1^m \sum_{j=2}^n \alpha_j \left(\frac{\lambda_j}{\lambda_1}\right)^m v_j\|} = \left(\frac{\lambda_1}{|\lambda_1|}\right)^k \frac{\alpha_1}{|\alpha_1|} v_1 + r_k$$

where  $r_k \rightarrow 0$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$

$$\begin{aligned} l_k &= \frac{\langle \mathbf{v}^{(k)}, \mathbf{v}^{(k)} \rangle}{\langle \mathbf{v}^{(k-1)}, \mathbf{v}^{(k)} \rangle} = \frac{\langle \mathbf{v}^{(k)}, \mathbf{v}^{(k-1)} \rangle}{\langle \mathbf{v}^{(k-1)}, \mathbf{v}^{(k-1)} \rangle} = \frac{\langle A \mathbf{v}^{(k-1)}, \mathbf{v}^{(k-1)} \rangle}{\langle \mathbf{v}^{(k-1)}, \mathbf{v}^{(k-1)} \rangle} \quad (\text{See mpm.M}) \\ &= \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n |\alpha_j|^2 \lambda_j^m v_j}{\sum_{j=1}^n |\alpha_j|^2 \lambda_j^{m-1} v_j} = \lambda_1 \end{aligned}$$

For *stability* of the following methods, consider the *spectral radius*  $\rho(A^{-1})$ , or *largest eigenvalue*  $\lambda_1$ , of the matrix. If  $\rho(A^{-1}) < 1$ , then the matrix is stable. If  $\rho(A) > 1$ , then the matrix is unstable. All accounts of stability will be checked using the algorithm built into **mpm.M**, line 36-41.

**B** The modified power method, **mpm.M**, was used to compute the dominant eigenvalue,  $\lambda_1 = l_k$ , and the corresponding normalized eigenvector,  $\mathbf{v} = v_k$ , for the matrices  $A$  and  $B$  given in problem #23 (Burden-Faires, 592),

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1+\alpha & -\frac{\alpha}{2} & 0 & \cdots & \cdots & 0 \\ -\frac{\alpha}{2} & 1+\alpha & -\frac{\alpha}{2} & & & 0 \\ 0 & & 1+\alpha & -\frac{\alpha}{2} & & \vdots \\ \vdots & & & \ddots & & 0 \\ 0 & & & & \ddots & -\frac{\alpha}{2} \\ 0 & & & & & 1+\alpha \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 1+\alpha & \frac{\alpha}{2} & 0 & \cdots & \cdots & 0 \\ \frac{\alpha}{2} & 1+\alpha & \frac{\alpha}{2} & & & 0 \\ 0 & & 1+\alpha & -\frac{\alpha}{2} & & \vdots \\ \vdots & & & \ddots & & 0 \\ 0 & & & & \ddots & \frac{\alpha}{2} \\ 0 & & & & & 1+\alpha \end{bmatrix}$$

with the stopping criteria,  $|l_k - l_{k-1}| \leq 5E-6$ . The matrices,  $A$  and  $B$ , used in this section are involved in the Crank-Nicolson method to solve the heat equation. The functions used to create them in the Appendix are labeled canonically **dluA.M** and **dluB.M**. The following table shows values for  $\lambda_k$  and  $\mathbf{v}_k$  for corresponding values of  $\alpha$  in matrices  $A$  and  $B$ :

The method was stable for all given values of  $\alpha$  in the matrices  $A$  and  $B$ , however it was not stable for any given values of  $\alpha$  in the matrix  $A^{-1}B$ .

Table 1: **MPM** Eigenvalues & Eigenvectors  
corresponding to changing  $\alpha$  in  $A, B, A^{-1}B$

$\alpha$	$A$		$B$		$A^{-1}B$	
	$\lambda_1$	$\boldsymbol{v}$	$\lambda_1$	$\boldsymbol{v}$	$\lambda_1$	$\boldsymbol{v}$
0.25	1.4603	$10^{12} \times$		$10^8 \times$		$10^4 \times$
		-2.6815		2.9056		1.4471
		4.5720		5.4693		2.7553
		-5.0610		7.4524		3.8121
		3.9245		8.7589		4.5449
		-1.4764	1.4898	9.3958	1.4749	4.9175
		-1.4764		9.3958		4.9175
		3.9245		8.7589		4.5449
		-5.0610		7.4524		3.8121
		4.5720		5.4693		2.7553
0.5	1.9206	$10^{15} \times$	-	$10^{12} \times$		$10^5 \times$
		2.2031		0.7167		1.3712
		3.7343		1.3609		2.6225
		-4.1028		1.8760		3.6497
		3.1602		2.2288		4.3749
		-1.1842	1.9797	2.4065	1.9404	4.7491
		-1.1842		2.4065		4.7491
		3.1602		2.2288		4.3749
		-4.1028		1.8760		3.6497
		3.7343		1.3609		2.6225
0.75	2.3809	$10^{18} \times$	-	$10^{14} \times$		$10^6 \times$
		0.6858		2.5676		0.3493
		1.1596		4.8901		0.6689
		-1.2699		6.7679		0.9325
		0.9752		8.0711		1.1194
		-0.3648	2.4696	8.7343	2.3968	1.2162
		-0.3648		8.7343		1.2162
		0.9752		8.0711		1.1194
		-1.2699		6.7679		0.9325
		1.1596		4.8901		0.6689
		-0.6858		2.5676		0.3493

**C** The modified power method, **mpm.M**, was used to compute the dominant eigenvalue,  $\lambda_1 = l_k$ , and the corresponding normalized eigenvector,  $\mathbf{v} = v_k$ , for the new matrix  $A$  given in problem #14 (Burden-Faires, 613),

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - 2\alpha & \alpha & 0 & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & 0 \\ \alpha & 1 - 2\alpha & \alpha & & & & \vdots \\ 0 & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & & & 0 \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & & \vdots \\ \vdots & & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \alpha \\ 0 & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & 0 & \alpha & 1 - 2\alpha \end{bmatrix}$$

with the stopping criteria,  $|l_k - l_{k-1}| \leq 5E - 6$ . This new matrix,  $A$ , created from the function **dluA14.M**, is involved in the Forward Difference method to solve the heat equation.

Table 2: MPM Eigenvalues & Eigenvectors corresponding to changes  $\alpha$  in  $A$

$\alpha$		0.25	0.5	0.75
$A$	$\lambda_1$	0.9797	0.9595	-1.7619
	$\mathbf{v}$	0.0779	0.0323	$10^3 \times$
		0.1485	0.0626	-3.3506
		0.2057	0.0869	3.6531
		0.2455	0.1052	-2.7938
		0.2658	0.1141	1.0428
		0.2658	0.1141	1.0428
		0.2455	0.1052	-2.7938
		0.2057	0.0869	3.6531
		0.1485	0.0626	-3.3506
		0.0779	0.0323	1.9886

The method was not stable for any given values of  $\alpha$  in the new matrix  $A$ .

**D** This new matrix  $A$ , given in problem #14 (Burden-Faires, 613), is already symmetric and tri-diagonal. Using the QR algorithm, **QRa.M**, the computed eigenvalues of  $A$ , in problem #14 were obtained and then compared to the actual eigenvalues given in an equation in problem #15 (Burden-Faires, 613). These actual eigenvalues were computed using the function **eigA14.M**. The following table shows the differences between every actual eigenvalue and its corresponding computed eigenvalue (within the tolerance) in vector,  $d$ :

Table 2: **QRa** Difference between Actual Eigenvalues & Computed Eigenvalues corresponding to changes  $\alpha$  in  $A$

$\alpha$	0.25	0.5	0.75
$A$	$d$	$10^{-9} \times$	$10^{-11} \times$
		0.380291909074515	4.712907841764036
		-0.380292686230632	-4.132205688733848
		-0.000000999200722	-0.000299760216648
		0.000001998401444	-0.000099920072216
		-0.000003441691376	0
		-0.000000222044605	0
		0.000000333066907	-0.000099920072216
		-0.000000055511151	-0.000299760216648
		0.000000069388939	-4.132205688733848
		0.000000006938894	4.712907841764036

The differences were easy to compute for the first value of  $\alpha$ , however the eigenvalues corresponding with the second value of  $\alpha$  had zeros along the diagonal. After careful speculation I noticed the eigenvalues were strewn down the sub-diagonal and up the super-diagonal. After manually taking the difference, they ended up being the most accurate. For the third value of  $\alpha$  something strange seems to be happening with the difference, almost exactly off by a whole number... very strange.

The method is unstable for all given values of  $\alpha$ .

## Appendix (7 functions)

```

function [ x ] = DP( w,z )
%DP Computes Dot Product
% GIVEN: A: real symmetric matrix
%          Y = |y1| > |y2| > ... > |yn|: distinct eigenvalues of A
% INPUT: w = [w1,...,wn]' vector
%          z = [z1,...,zn]' vector
% OUTPUT: x = < w,z >: inner-product of vectors w,z

% dimension checks
while (size(w) ~= size(z))
    display('Vector dimensions must match')
    break;
end
% dimension assignment
if (size(w) == size(z))
    n = length(w);
end

% initialize sum
x = 0;

% dot product
for i = 1:n
    x = x + w(i)*z(i);
end

```

```

function [ D,L,U ] = dluA( n,a )
%dluA creates a sparse matrix and separates it into 3 parts
% 1. diagonal
% 2. lower triangular - diagonal
% 3. upper triangular - diagonal

```

```

tic
% diagonal
D = sparse(1:n,1:n,(1+a)*ones(1,n),n,n);

% S: subdiagonal;      S': superdiagonal
S = sparse(2:n,1:n-1,-(a/2)*ones(1,n-1),n,n);

% AD: lower antidiagonal;      AD': upper antidiagonal
% AD = sparse(n:-1:(n/2)+2,1:(n/2)-1,.5*ones(1,(n/2)-1),n,n);

% entries below the diagonal
L = S;

% entries above the diagonal
U = S';

M = D+L+U;

% Matrix Check
%M1 = D+S+S'+AD+AD';
%M1 = zeros(10)+M1;

toc
end

```

```

function [ D,L,U ] = dluB( n,a )
%dluB creates a sparse matrix and separates it into 3 parts
% 1. diagonal
% 2. lower triangular - diagonal
% 3. upper triangular - diagonal

```

```

tic
% diagonal
D = sparse(1:n,1:n,(1+a)*ones(1,n),n,n);

% S: subdiagonal;      S': superdiagonal
S = sparse(2:n,1:n-1,(a/2)*ones(1,n-1),n,n);

```

```
% AD: lower antidiagonal;          AD': upper antidiagonal
% AD = sparse(n:-1:(n/2)+2,1:(n/2)-1,.5*ones(1,(n/2)-1),n,n);

% entries below the diagonal
L = S;

% entries above the diagonal
U = S';

M = D+L+U;

% Matrix Check
%M1 = D+S+S'+AD+AD';
%M1 = zeros(10)+M1;

toc
end
```

```
function [ lk,yk,vk,k ] = mpm( n,a,v1,k,M )
%mpm Computes largest eigenvalue of matrix M iteratively
%   with left multiplication of v by powers of M
%   INPUT: n: size of matrix A
%           a: values in matrix A
%           v1: initial vector
%           k: maximum # of iterations
%           M: Matrix A or B
%   OUTPUT: lk: computed eignevalue of M
%           yk: eigenvalue of M check (eig(M))
%           vk: corresponding eigenvector of yk
%           k: number of iterations
```

```
format long;
```

```
% creating nxn matrix
% Create matrix A
[DA,LA,UA] = dluA(n,a);
```

```

A = DA+LA+UA;

% Create matrix B
[DB,LB,UB] = dluB(n,a);
B = DB+LB+UB+zeros(n);

% Create matrix A14
[DA14,LA14,UA14] = dluA14(n,a);
A14 = DA14+LA14+UA14+zeros(n);

% Create matrix M
% M = A;
% M = B;
% M = A^(-1) * B;
M = A14;

% Stability of matrix M
if (max(abs(eig(M^-1))) <= 1)
    display('Method is stable \n');
elseif (max(abs(eig(M^-1))) > 1)
    display('Method is unstable \n');
end

% initialize first vector
vprev = v1;

% initialize quotients
l = zeros(k,1);
lrr = zeros(k,1); % Rayleigh-Ritz Quotient

% initialize first iteration
i = 1;

%MPM
while (i <= k)

    % next value of v
    vnext = M*vprev;

```

```

% find l1 & move on
if i == 1

    % Calculating l1
    % l(i) = dot(vnext,vnext)/dot(vprev,vnext);
    l(i) = DP(vnext,vnext)/DP(vprev,vnext);
    lrr(i) = DP(vnext,vprev)/DP(vprev,vprev); % Rayleigh-Ritz Quotient

    % prepare for next
    i = i+1;

    % pushing value
    vprev = vnext;

    % next value of v
    vnext = M*vprev;
end

% Calculating l
% l(i) = dot(vnext,vnext)/dot(vprev,vnext);
l(i) = DP(vnext,vnext)/DP(vprev,vnext);
lrr(i) = DP(vnext,vprev)/DP(vprev,vprev); % =

if norm(l(i) - l(i-1)) <= 5*10^-6;
    fprintf('The largest eigenvalue of A %s was found after %d iterations. \n',
double(l(i)),i);
    break;
end

% pushing value
vprev = vnext;

% next iteration
i = i+1;
end

% computed eigenvalue

```

```

lk = l(i);
lrrk = lrr(i);

if (norm(lk - lrrk) <= 5*10^-6)
    display('Eigenvalue matches Rayleigh-Ritz Eigenvalue. \n');
end

%largest eigenvalue of l
yk = max(eig(M));

vk = vnext;

end

function [ D,L,U ] = dluA14( n,a )
%dluA14 creates a sparse matrix and separates it into 3 parts
% 1. diagonal
% 2. lower triangular - diagonal
% 3. upper triangular - diagonal

tic
% diagonal
D = sparse(1:n,1:n,(1-2*a)*ones(1,n),n,n);

% S: subdiagonal;      S': superdiagonal
S = sparse(2:n,1:n-1,a*ones(1,n-1),n,n);

% AD: lower antidiagonal;      AD': upper antidiagonal
% AD = sparse(n:-1:(n/2)+2,1:(n/2)-1,.5*ones(1,(n/2)-1),n,n);

% entries below the diagonal
L = S;

% entries above the diagonal
U = S';

M = D+L+U;

```

```
% Matrix Check
%M1 = D+S+S'+AD+AD';
%M1 = zeros(10)+M1;
```

```
toc
end
```

```
function [ Ak,y,d ] = QRa ( n,a,TOL )
%QRa uses function qr.M iteratively
% INPUT: n: dimension length of A
%         a: values that determine the tridiagonal matrix A
%         TOL: tolerance (stopping criteria)
% OUTPUT: Ak: Diagonal eigenvalue matrix
%         y: actual eigenvalues from eigA14.M
%         d: difference between the computed and actual eigenvalues
```

```
format short;
```

```
% Create matrix from problem #14
[D,L,U] = dluA14(n,a);
A1 = D+L+U;
```

```
% Stability of matrix A1
if (max(abs(eigs(A1^-1))) <= 1)
    display('Method is stable. \n');
elseif (max(abs(eigs(A1^-1))) > 1)
    display('Method is unstable. \n');
end
```

```
% Eigenvalue checker
y = eigA14(11,a);
```

```
% Initialized Q,R
[Q,R] = qr(A1);
```

```

Ak = R*Q;

% Error
error = norm(norm(y,inf) - norm(Ak,inf));

% QR loop
while error > TOL
    [Q,R] = qr(Ak);
    Ak = R*Q;
    error = norm(norm(y,inf) - norm(Ak,inf));
    if error < TOL
        Ak = diag(Ak+zeros(n));
        % difference
        d = y + Ak;
        return;
    end
end

end

```

```

function [ y ] = eigA14( m,a )
%eigA14 Computes the eigenvalues of matrix A
%      Described in problem #15 (Burden-Faires, 613)
% INPUT: m: dimension+1
%         a: values that determine the tridiagonal matrix A
% OUTPUT: y: vector of actual eigenvalues of A in Problem #14
% The eigenvalues of the matrix A in Problem #14 are

```

```

y = zeros(m-1,1);
for i = 1:m-1
    y(i) = 1 - 4*a*(sin((pi*i)/(2*m)))^2;
end

end

```