System of linear equations

Numerical methods used to solve such problem allow to introduce and experiment on Time_complexity, considering cubic time behavior of standard algorithms and *i.e.* quadratic time solutions using LU decomposition.

Theory

- System_of_linear_equations
- Gaussian_elimination, Gauss and Gauss-Jordan eliminations (diagonalization, triangularization)
- Pivot_element, pivoting
- **LU_decomposition**
 - Triangular_matrix#Forward_and_back_substitution
- Chapter 2 in the book "Numerical Recipes" :
 - \circ 2.0 Introduction
 - 2.1 Gauss-Jordan Elimination
 - 2.2 Gaussian Elimination with Backsubstitution
 - 2.3 LU Decomposition and Its Application
- Python NumPy library : NumPy Reference
 - Linear algebra (numpy.linalg) : numpy.linalg.solve
- Time complexity analysis
 - $\circ\,$ Hint : in Python, use the timeit module

Exercices and applications

- Exercices :
 - $\circ\,$ write a python function for diagonalisation with partial pivoting
 - \circ random numbers → linear systems
 - comparison with numpy standard library
 - $\circ\,$ measurements of execution time to check cubic complexity

1D problems with neigbours

- Thermal diffusion and chemical diffusion (transient or stationary) on a regular 1D space with equidistant steps. ODE equations can be writen such a given evolution equation for node # i only imlies nodes i+1 and i-1
- Using **I**tridiagonal Thomas algorithm allows to save computational time thanks to n complexity
- ? Python library with Thomas algorithm

What you must have learned in this chapter

- Except ill-conditionned, linear systems can be solved "exactly" using linear algebra algorithms in a finite and known number of arithmetic operations.
- The accuracy is determined by the number of numerical figures which are encoded in floating point description
- For a general system of n equations, diagonalisation requires of the order of n³ operations. Also for solving a system using these method.
- If the coefficient matrix is the same for different systems (only the independent coefficients are different), it is possible to solve systems with the order of n² operations, if the matrix of coeeficients is decomposed in the product of two triangular matrix (Lower-Upper decomposition). This n³ step is realised only once.

References :

- Numerical recipes, The Art of Scientific Computing 3rd Edition, William H. Press, Saul A. Teukolsky, William T. Vetterling, Brian P. Flannery, 2007, isbn: 9780521880688
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