

- Vectorization
- Kronecker products
- Sylvester equations

$$AX - XB = C$$

$$m \times m \quad m \times n \quad m \times n \quad n \times n \quad m \times n$$

$$K \in \mathbb{C}^{mn \times mn} \quad K = I \otimes A - B^T \otimes I$$

Bartels-Stewart algorithm:

$$1) \quad A = Q_A U_A Q_A^* \quad B^T = Q_B U_B Q_B^*$$

$U_A, U_B$  upper triag.,  $Q_A, Q_B$  unitary

$$2) \quad \text{Change of variables:} \quad U_A Y - Y U_B^T = E$$

3) back-substitution

• Complexity:  $O(m^3 + n^3)$  vs.  $O(m^3 n^3)$  for  $\text{lu}(K)$

• Same idea works for  $U_A Y - Y U_B = E$

• Same idea works for  $X - AXB = C$  (Stein's equation)

• Th: Stein's equation is uniquely solvable if and only if there are no  $\lambda \in \Lambda(A)$ ,  $\mu \in \Lambda(B)$  s.t.  $\lambda \mu = 1$

- $O(m^3+n^3)$  solution algorithm
- Also for  $AXB+CXD=E$ , but not for  
 $AXB+CXD+EXF=G$

Conditioning of Sylvester equations:  $X \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$   
 $\text{vec}(X) \in \mathbb{C}^{mn}$

$$AX - XB = C \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad K \text{vec}(X) = \text{vec}(C)$$

$\|X\|_F = \|\text{vec}(X)\|_2$ , clearly (same elements in different order)

If one perturbs  $A, B, C$  to  $\tilde{A}, \tilde{B}, \tilde{C}$

the solutions of  $AX - XB = C$  and  $\tilde{A}\tilde{X} - \tilde{X}\tilde{B} = \tilde{C}$   
 are related by

$$\frac{\|\text{vec}(\tilde{X}) - \text{vec}(X)\|_2}{\|\text{vec}(X)\|_2} \leq \text{cond}(K) \cdot \left( \frac{\|\text{vec}(\tilde{C}) - \text{vec}(C)\|_2}{\|\text{vec}(C)\|_2} + \frac{\|\tilde{K} - K\|_2}{\|K\|_2} \right) + O(\|\tilde{K} - K\|_2^2)$$

$$\frac{\|\tilde{X} - X\|_F}{\|X\|_F} \leq \boxed{\text{cond}(K)} \left( \frac{\|\tilde{C} - C\|_F}{\|C\|_F} + \frac{\|\tilde{A} - A\| + \|\tilde{B} - B\|}{\max(\|A\|, \|B\|)} \right)$$

$$\tilde{K} = I \otimes \tilde{A} - \tilde{B}^T \otimes I$$

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{K} - K\| &= \|I \otimes (\tilde{A} - A) - (\tilde{B} - B)^T \otimes I\| \leq \|I \otimes (\tilde{A} - A)\| + \|(\tilde{B} - B)^T \otimes I\| \\ &= \|\tilde{A} - A\| + \|\tilde{B} - B\| \end{aligned}$$

$\text{cond}(K) = \|K\| \cdot \|K^{-1}\|$  plays a role

$$\|K\| = \|I \otimes A - B^T \otimes I\| \leq \|I \otimes A\| + \|B^T \otimes I\| \leq \|A\| + \|B\|$$

$\|K^{-1}\|$  is more complicated

$$\frac{1}{\|K^{-1}\|} = \sigma_{\min}(K) = \min_{v \neq 0} \frac{\|Kv\|}{\|v\|} = \min_{\substack{z \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n} \\ z \neq 0}} \frac{\|Az - zB\|_F}{\|z\|_F}$$

does not have an easy estimate

We call it  $\text{sep}(A, B) := \min_{\substack{z \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n} \\ z \neq 0}} \frac{\|Az - zB\|_F}{\|z\|_F}$

$\text{sep}(A, B)$  has a simpler expression if  $A, B$  are normal. A normal  $\Leftrightarrow U_A$  is diagonal in  $A = Q_A U_A Q_A^*$

$B$  normal  $\Leftrightarrow B^T$  normal  $\Leftrightarrow U_B$  diagonal in  $B^T = Q_B U_B Q_B^*$

Recall that a Schur decomposition of  $K$  is

$$K = I \otimes A - B^T \otimes I = (Q_B \otimes Q_A) \underbrace{(I \otimes U_A - U_B \otimes I)}_{\text{diagonal if } A, B \text{ normal}} (Q_B \otimes Q_A)^*$$

If  $U_A, U_B$  are diagonal, this is also an eigenvalue decomposition and an SVD (up to absolute values)

In particular, the singular values of  $K$  are

$$\{ |\lambda_i - \mu_j| \quad i=1, \dots, m, j=1, \dots, n \}$$

and  $\sigma_{\min}(K) = \min_{\substack{i=1, \dots, m \\ j=1, \dots, n}} |\lambda_i - \mu_j|$ .

$\Rightarrow \text{sep}(A, B) = \sigma_{\min}(K) = \min_{\substack{i=1, \dots, m \\ j=1, \dots, n}} |\lambda_i - \mu_j|$  for normal  $A, B$

For non-normal  $A, B$ , this is no longer true, but an inequality holds:

$$\sigma_{\min}(K) \leq \min_{\lambda \in N(K)} |\lambda| = \min_{\substack{i=1, \dots, m \\ j=1, \dots, n}} |\lambda_i - \mu_j|.$$

Example: decoupling eigenvalues

Given  $\begin{bmatrix} \lambda & c \\ 0 & \mu \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^{2 \times 2}$ , if  $\lambda \neq \mu$ , is similar to

$$\begin{bmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \mu \end{bmatrix}.$$

We can construct a similarity matrix explicitly:

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & c \\ 0 & \mu \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -x \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & c+x\mu \\ 0 & \mu \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -x \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & c+x\mu-\lambda x \\ 0 & \mu \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

You can always choose  $x$  s.t.  $c+x\mu-\lambda x=0$ , if  $\mu \neq \lambda$

With Sylvester equations, we can do something similar with blocks:

$$\begin{matrix} m & n \\ n \end{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} A & C \\ 0 & B \end{bmatrix} \quad A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}, \quad B \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}, \quad C \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$$

We would like to build a similarity transformation that transforms this matrix into  $\begin{bmatrix} A & 0 \\ 0 & B \end{bmatrix}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} I & -X \\ 0 & I \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A & C \\ 0 & B \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I & X \\ 0 & I \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A & C-XB \\ 0 & B \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I & X \\ 0 & I \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A & AX-XB+C \\ 0 & B \end{bmatrix}$$

$\leftarrow$  one the inverse of the other  $\rightarrow$

If  $X$  satisfies  $AX - XB + C = 0$  (Sylvester equation), then on the right we have

$$\begin{bmatrix} A & 0 \\ 0 & B \end{bmatrix}$$

We already know that the Sylv. equation is solvable if  $\Lambda(A) \cap \Lambda(B) = \emptyset$ .

## Backward stability of the Bartels-Stewart algorithm:

We say that an algorithm is backward stable if it delivers a solution to a slightly perturbed problem:

$\tilde{X}$  computed in machine arithmetic satisfies

$$\hat{A}\tilde{X} - \tilde{X}\hat{B} = \hat{C} \quad \text{for matrices } \hat{A}, \hat{B}, \hat{C} \text{ s.t.}$$

$$\frac{\|\hat{A} - A\|}{\|A\|}, \frac{\|\hat{B} - B\|}{\|B\|}, \frac{\|\hat{C} - C\|}{\|C\|} = O(mnu) \quad n \approx 10^{-16} \text{ machine precision}$$

Many algorithms used in lin. algebra are backward stable:

• The QR/Francis algorithm computes  $\tilde{Q}, \tilde{U}$  such that

$$\tilde{Q}\tilde{U}\tilde{Q}^* = \hat{A} \quad \frac{\|\hat{A} - A\|}{\|A\|} = O(n^2u)$$

• backward substitution on a triangular system  $Ux = b$  computes  $\tilde{x}$  s.t.  $\hat{U}\tilde{x} = \hat{b}$ ,  $\frac{\|\hat{U} - U\|}{\|U\|}, \frac{\|\hat{b} - b\|}{\|b\|} = O(n^2u)$

Since the Bartels-Stewart algorithm is essentially Schur form + backward substitution, we can prove something:

$$U = I \otimes U_A + U_B \otimes I$$

$U \text{vec}(Y) = \text{vec}(E)$  A B-S solves this system by backsubstitution

The computed  $\tilde{Y}$  satisfies

$$\hat{U} \text{vec}(\tilde{Y}) = \text{vec}(\hat{E}) \quad \text{with} \quad \frac{\|\hat{U} - U\|}{\|U\|}, \frac{\|\hat{E} - E\|}{\|E\|} = O(m^2 n^2 u)$$

With some triangle inequality arguments, one can obtain also  
orthogonality

the computed  $\tilde{X}$  solves

$$\hat{K} \text{vec}(\tilde{X}) = \text{vec}(\hat{C}) \quad \frac{\|\hat{K} - K\|}{\|K\|}, \frac{\|\hat{C} - C\|}{\|C\|} = O(m^2 n^2 u)$$

This relation can be used to prove that the residual  
of  $\tilde{X}$  is small: let  $\Delta_K = \hat{K} - K$ ,  $\Delta_C = \hat{C} - C$

$$(K + \Delta_K) \text{vec}(\tilde{X}) = \text{vec}(C) + \text{vec}(\Delta_C)$$

$$\|K \text{vec}(\tilde{X}) - \text{vec}(C)\| = \|\Delta_K \text{vec}(\tilde{X}) + \text{vec}(\Delta_C)\|$$

$$\leq O(m^2 n^2 u) (\|K\| \|\text{vec}(\tilde{X})\| + \|\text{vec}(C)\|)$$

$$\leq O(m^2 n^2 u) (\|A\| + \|B\|) \|\text{vec}(\tilde{X})\| + \|\text{vec}(C)\|$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{The LHS is } \|K \text{vec}(\tilde{X}) - \text{vec}(C)\| &= \|\text{vec}(A\tilde{X} - \tilde{X}B - C)\| \\ &= \|A\tilde{X} - \tilde{X}B - C\|_F \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow$  the relative residual

$$\frac{\|A\tilde{X} - \tilde{X}B - C\|_F}{(\|A\| + \|B\|) \|\tilde{X}\|_F + \|C\|_F}$$

is always of the order of machine precision for the  
Bartels-Stewart algorithm.



It is true that  $\tilde{X}$  satisfies  $\hat{K} \text{vec}(\tilde{X}) = \text{vec}(\hat{C})$

for  $\hat{K}, \hat{C}$  close to  $K, C$ , but in general this does not ensure that  $\hat{K} = I \otimes \hat{A} - \hat{B}^T \otimes I$  for suitable  $\hat{A}, \hat{B}$ .

The result  $\tilde{X}$  is backward stable as a solution of  $K \text{vec}(x) = \text{vec}(C)$ , but not as a matrix equation

in general; there are examples in which there are no  $\hat{A}, \hat{B}, \hat{C}$  s.t.  $\hat{A}\tilde{X} - \tilde{X}\hat{B} = \hat{C}$ , and  $\hat{A}, \hat{B}, \hat{C}$  are close to  $A, B, C$ .

B-S ensures that  $\tilde{X}$  solves  $\hat{K} \text{vec} \tilde{X} = \text{vec} \hat{C}$  exactly, with  $\hat{K}, \hat{C}$  close to  $K, C$

$$K \text{vec} x = \text{vec} C$$

! If the problem is ill-conditioned,  $\|\tilde{X} - x\|$  may be large!

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