

## ECE 5340/6340 SOR: Successive Over-Relaxation Method

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### ITERATIVE METHODS OF SOLVING MATRIX EQUATIONS:

Particularly good for solving sparse matrix equations  
(Finite Element method and Finite Difference Method)

Solve  $A x = b$

Back Substitution Algorithm:

$$x_i = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} x_j + b_i}{a_{ii}} \quad \text{For } i=1,2,3,\dots,n$$

In regular back substitution, we know  $x_j$ . But what if we didn't? We could guess! These iterative methods are based on how to choose and improve that guess.

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#### Jacobi's method

Initial guess:  $x^{(0)} = 0$

Then at each ( $k^{\text{th}}$ ) iteration find the next ( $k+1^{\text{th}}$ ) values of  $x$ :

$$x_i^{(k+1)} = \frac{-\sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} x_j^{(k)} + b_i}{a_{ii}} \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

For a banded matrix, this summation can be limited to the bands

For the Jacobi method, new ( $k+1$ ) values are not used until the next iteration.

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## Gauss-Seidel

This method improves on the Jacobi method by using new values that have been obtained prior to each step in the iteration. This gives faster convergence.

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

New values are used as soon as they are generated.

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## **SOR: Successive Over-Relaxation**

Relaxation moves towards solution faster:

$$x_i^{(k+1)} = x_i^{(k)} + \omega R_i$$

From Gauss-Seidel:

$$\begin{aligned} x_i^{(k+1)} &= \frac{-\sum_{j=1}^{i-1} a_{ij}x_j^{(k+1)} - \sum_{j=i+1}^n a_{ij}x_j^{(k)} + b_i - \sum_{j=i}^i a_{ij}x_j^{(k)} + \sum_{j=i}^i a_{ij}x_j^{(k)}}{a_{ii}} \\ &= x_i^{(k)} - \frac{\sum_{j=1}^{i-1} a_{ij}x_j^{(k+1)} + \sum_{j=i}^n a_{ij}x_j^{(k)} + b_i}{a_{ii}} \end{aligned}$$

This can be written:  $x_i^{k+1} = x_i^k + R_i$

Where  $R_i$  is the "Residual" (error or change)

Now, use relaxation ( $\omega$ ) to speed convergence:

$$x_i^{(k+1)} = x_i^{(k)} + \omega R_i$$

How to choose  $\omega$  :

1. For  $\omega = 1$ , this reduces to Gauss-Seidel
2. Method converges when  $0 < \omega < 2$  for a positive-definite matrix.  
(When matrix is reduced to diagonal, all elements are positive.)
3.  $0 < \omega < 1$  Under-relaxation slows convergence
4.  $1 < \omega < 2$  Over-relaxation speeds convergence
5.  $\omega$  optimal is based on spectral radius, which is difficult  
(expensive) to calculate.
6. For square matrices,  $\omega$  optimal can be approximated:

$$\omega = 4 / (2 + \sqrt{4 + C * C})$$

$$C = \cos(\pi / p) + \cos(\pi / q)$$

$p, q = \#$  of mesh divisions on x,y sides

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EXAMPLE:

See web