

COMPUTATIONAL PHYSICS

Shuai Dong

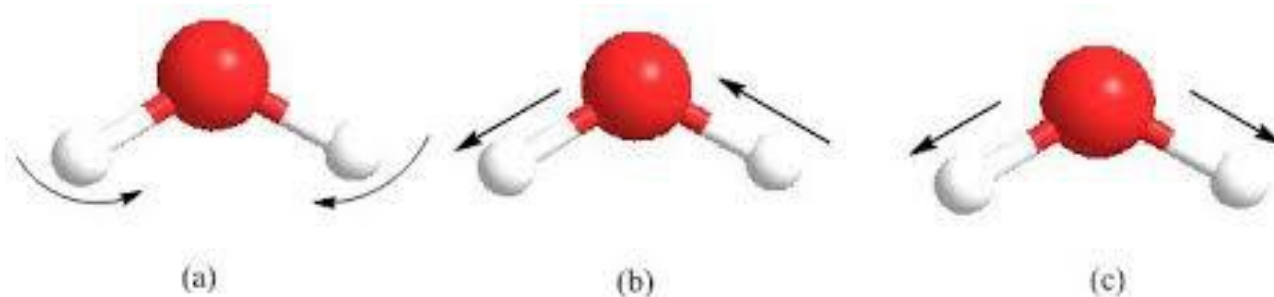
Numerical methods for matrices

- Matrices in physics
- Basic matrix operations
- Linear equation systems
- Eigenvalue problems

Many problems in physics can be formulated in a matrix form

- Q: Where is matrix?
- A: Matrices are everywhere in physics!
- An **eigenvalue problem** given in the form of a partial differential equation can be rewritten as a matrix problem.
- A **boundary-value problem** after discretization is essentially a **linear algebra** problem.
- The **vibrational spectrum** of a molecule with n vibrational degrees of freedom can be also solved using matrix methods.

Vibration of a Molecule



$$U(q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n) \approx \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n A_{ij} q_i q_j \quad \text{Elastic energy}$$

$$T(\dot{q}_1, \dot{q}_2, \dots, \dot{q}_n) \approx \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n M_{ij} \dot{q}_i \dot{q}_j \quad \text{Kinetic energy}$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial q_i} - \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_i} = 0 \quad \text{Lagrange equation}$$

$L=T-U$

$$\sum_{j=1}^n (A_{ij} q_j + M_{ij} \ddot{q}_j) = 0$$

Let: $q_j = x_j e^{-i\omega t} \longrightarrow \sum_{j=1}^n (A_{ij} - \omega^2 M_{ij}) x_j = 0$

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & \cdots & A_{1n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ A_{n1} & \cdots & A_{nn} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} = \lambda \begin{pmatrix} M_{11} & \cdots & M_{1n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ M_{n1} & \cdots & M_{nn} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}$$

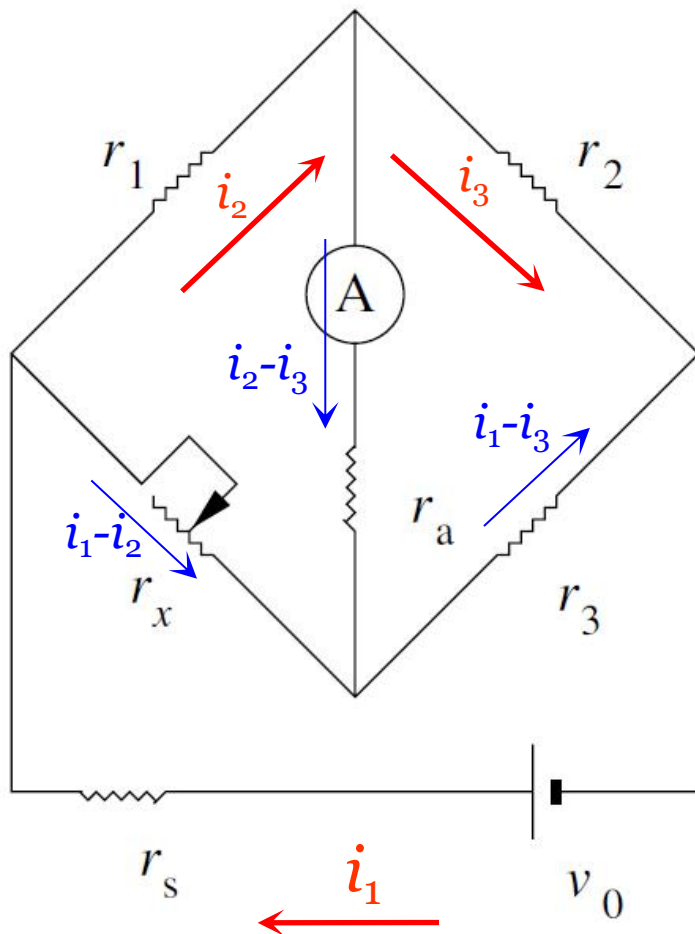
$$Ax = \lambda Mx \quad \lambda = \omega^2$$

The **determinant** $|A - \lambda M| = 0$

The roots of this **secular equation**, λ_k with $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$, give all the possible vibrational angular frequencies $\omega_k^2 = \lambda_k$ of the molecule.

Kirchhoff Equations for Circuits

- The unbalanced Wheatstone bridge



$$r_s i_1 + r_1 i_2 + r_2 i_3 = v_0,$$

$$-r_x i_1 + (r_1 + r_x + r_a) i_2 - r_a i_3 = 0,$$

$$-r_3 i_1 - r_a i_2 + (r_2 + r_3 + r_a) i_3 = 0,$$

Ohm's law $\mathbf{R}i = \mathbf{v}$

$$\mathbf{R} = \begin{pmatrix} r_s & r_1 & r_2 \\ -r_x & r_1 + r_x + r_a & -r_a \\ -r_3 & -r_a & r_2 + r_3 + r_a \end{pmatrix}$$

$$i = \mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{v}$$

Matrix Quantum Mechanics

Choosing a set of bases: **orthogonal, complete, unitary.**

Then the Hamiltonian can be written as a matrix with the elements as:

$$H_{ij} = \langle \phi_i | \hat{H} | \phi_j \rangle$$

The Schrodinger equation $\hat{H} | \Psi_k \rangle = \varepsilon_k | \Psi_k \rangle$

- In fact, **any operators** can be written as **matrices.**
- **For example:** The spin -1/2 electron. Bases: spin up: $|\uparrow\rangle$; spin down: $|\downarrow\rangle$

$$\sigma_1 = \sigma_x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \sigma_2 = \sigma_y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \sigma_3 = \sigma_z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Basic matrix operations

- An $n \times m$ **matrix A** is defined through its elements A_{ij} with the row index $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ and the column index $j = 1, 2, \dots, m$. It is called a **square matrix** if $n=m$.
- A **variable array x** with elements x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n arranged into a column is viewed as an $n \times 1$ matrix, or an n -element column matrix.
- A **typical set of linear algebraic equations** is given by

$$\sum_{j=1}^n A_{ij} x_j = b_i \quad \longrightarrow \quad \mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$$

for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, where x_j are the unknowns to be solved, A_{ij} are the given coefficients, and b_i are the given constants.

The standard **matrix multiplication**:

$$C_{ij} = \sum_k A_{ik} B_{kj} \quad C = AB$$

The summation over k requires the number of **columns of the first** matrix to be the **same as** the number of **rows of the second** matrix. **Otherwise**, the product does **not exist**.

The **inverse of a square matrix A** (written as A^{-1}) is defined by

$$A^{-1}A = AA^{-1} = I$$

where I is a unit matrix with the elements $I_{ij} = \delta_{ij}$.

Determinant

The determinant of an $n \times n$ matrix A is defined as:

$$|A| = \sum_{i=1}^n (-1)^{i+j} A_{ij} |R_{ij}|$$

- for any $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$, where $|R_{ij}|$ is the determinant of the **residual matrix R_{ij}** of A with its **i th row** and **j th column removed**.
- $C_{ij} = (-1)^{i+j} |R_{ij}|$ is called a **cofactor** of A_{ij} .

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{vmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{vmatrix} &= a \begin{vmatrix} e & f \\ h & i \end{vmatrix} - b \begin{vmatrix} d & f \\ g & i \end{vmatrix} + c \begin{vmatrix} d & e \\ g & h \end{vmatrix} \\ &= aei + bfg + cdh - ceg - bdi - afh. \end{aligned}$$

Inverse of A

- In principle, the **inverse of A** can be obtained through

$$A^{-1}_{ij} = \frac{C_{ji}}{|A|}$$

If a matrix has an inverse or nonzero determinant, it is called a **nonsingular matrix**. Otherwise, it is a **singular matrix**.

The **trace** of a matrix A is the **sum of all its diagonal elements**, written as

$$\text{Tr } A = \sum_{i=1}^n A_{ii}$$

The **transpose** of a matrix A (written as A^T) has elements with the **row and column** indices of A **interchanged**, that is, $A_{ij}^T = A_{ji}$

We call A an **orthogonal matrix** if $A^T = A^{-1}$. The complex conjugate of A^T is called the **Hermitian operation** of A (written as A^\dagger) with $A_{ij}^\dagger = A_{ji}^*$.

We call A a **Hermitian matrix** if $A^\dagger = A$ and a **unitary matrix** if $A^\dagger = A^{-1}$.

code example

- To calculate the determinant, trace, transpose, and inverse of a square matrix.
- [5.1.Matrix.cpp](#)

Triangular matrix

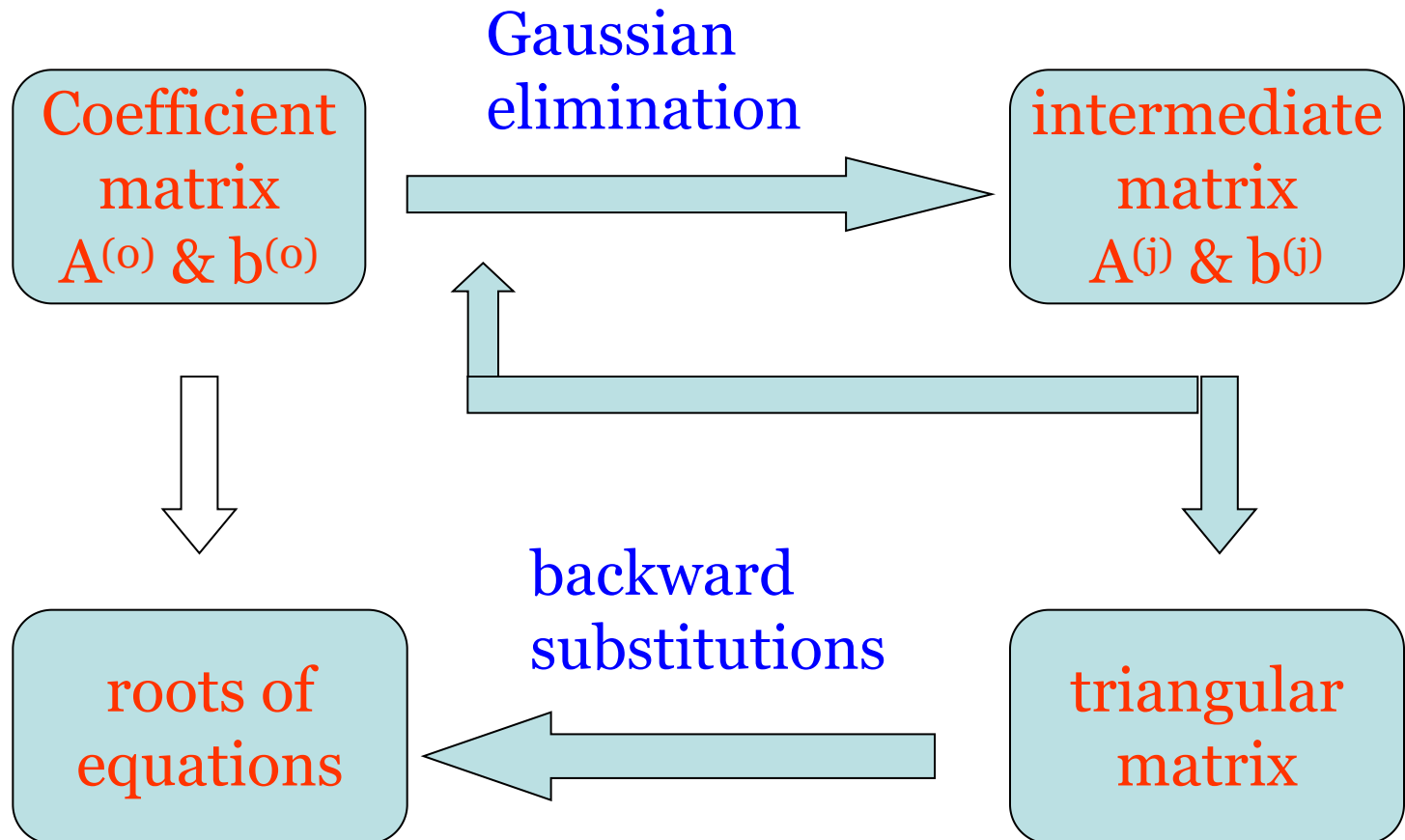
A matrix is called an **upper-triangular** (lower-triangular) matrix if the elements **below** (above) the **diagonal** are all **zero**.

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} u_{1,1} & u_{1,2} & u_{1,3} & \dots & u_{1,n} \\ & u_{2,2} & u_{2,3} & \dots & u_{2,n} \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ & & & \ddots & u_{n-1,n} \\ 0 & & & & u_{n,n} \end{bmatrix} L = \begin{bmatrix} l_{1,1} & & & & 0 \\ l_{2,1} & l_{2,2} & & & \\ l_{3,1} & l_{3,2} & \ddots & & \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ l_{n,1} & l_{n,2} & \dots & l_{n,n-1} & l_{n,n} \end{bmatrix}$$

Linear equation

- $Ax = b$.
- $|A| \neq 0$ and $b \neq 0$ \rightarrow a unique solution.
- Method: Gaussian elimination --- to transform the original matrix A to a triangular matrix
- The original matrix $A = A^{(0)}$
- $A^{(j)}$: the resultant matrix after j matrix operations.
- Similar notation is used for the transformed b :
 $b^{(j)}$

Gaussian elimination for linear equation systems



The inverse and the determinant of a matrix can also be obtained in such a manner.

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_{11}^{(0)} & A_{12}^{(0)} & \dots & A_{1n}^{(0)} \\ A_{21}^{(0)} & A_{22}^{(0)} & \dots & A_{2n}^{(0)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ A_{n1}^{(0)} & \dots & \dots & A_{nn}^{(0)} \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{multiply the first equation by } -A_{i1}^{(0)} / A_{11}^{(0)}} \begin{pmatrix} -A_{i1}^{(0)} & \frac{A_{12}^{(0)} \times A_{i1}^{(0)}}{A_{11}^{(0)}} & \dots & \frac{A_{1n}^{(0)} \times A_{i1}^{(0)}}{A_{11}^{(0)}} \\ A_{21}^{(0)} & A_{22}^{(0)} & \dots & A_{2n}^{(0)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ A_{n1}^{(0)} & \dots & \dots & A_{nn}^{(0)} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\xrightarrow{\text{add it to the } i\text{th equation for } i > 1} \begin{pmatrix} A_{11}^{(1)} & A_{12}^{(1)} & \dots & A_{1n}^{(1)} \\ 0 & A_{22}^{(1)} & \dots & A_{2n}^{(1)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & \dots & A_{nn}^{(1)} \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{multiply the second equation by } -A_{i2}^{(1)} / A_{22}^{(1)}}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_{11}^{(1)} & A_{12}^{(1)} & \dots & A_{1n}^{(1)} \\ 0 & -A_{i2}^{(1)} & \dots & -\frac{A_{2n}^{(1)} \times A_{i2}^{(1)}}{A_{22}^{(1)}} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & \dots & A_{nn}^{(1)} \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{add it to the } i\text{th equation for } i > 2}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_{11}^{(2)} & A_{12}^{(2)} & \dots & A_{1n}^{(2)} \\ 0 & A_{22}^{(2)} & \dots & A_{2n}^{(2)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & A_{nn}^{(2)} \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{continued with the third, fourth, } \dots, \text{ and (n-1)th equations}} \begin{pmatrix} A_{11}^{(n-1)} & A_{12}^{(n-1)} & \dots & A_{1n}^{(n-1)} \\ 0 & A_{22}^{(n-1)} & \dots & A_{2n}^{(n-1)} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & A_{nn}^{(n-1)} \end{pmatrix}$$

Then the coefficient matrix becomes an **upper-triangular** matrix $A^{(n-1)}$.

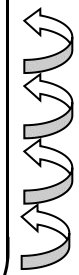
A linear equation set with an upper-triangular coefficient matrix can easily be **solved with backward substitutions**.

- Because all the **diagonal elements** are used in the **denominators**, the scheme would **fail** if **any** of them happened to be **zero or a very small quantity**.
- This problem can be **circumvented** in most cases by **interchanging** the **rows** to have the **elements used for divisions** being the ones with **largest magnitudes** possible.
- This is the so-called **pivoting procedure**.
- This procedure will **not change the solutions** of the linear equation set.

- The **partial-pivoting scheme**, which searches for the **pivoting element** only from the **remaining** elements of the given column.
- We first search for the element with the **largest magnitude** from $|A_{i1}^{(0)}|$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$.
- Assuming that the element obtained is $A_{k_1 1}^{(0)}$, we then **interchange** the **first** row and the **k_1 th row** and **eliminate** the first element of each row except the first row.
- Similarly, we can search for the **second pivoting element** with the largest magnitude from $|A_{i2}^{(1)}|$ for $i = 2, 3, \dots, n$.

Solution of a linear equation set

- After the **Gaussian elimination**, the solution of a linear equation set is then obtained through **backward substitutions** with

$$x_i = \frac{1}{A_{k_i i}^{(n-1)}} \left(b_{k_i}^{(n-1)} - \sum_{j=i+1}^n A_{k_i j}^{(n-1)} x_j \right)$$
$$\begin{pmatrix} A_{11}^{(n-1)} & A_{12}^{(n-1)} & \dots & A_{1n}^{(n-1)} \\ 0 & A_{22}^{(n-1)} & \dots & A_{2n}^{(n-1)} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & A_{nn}^{(n-1)} \end{pmatrix}$$


for $i = n-1, n-2, \dots, 1$, starting with $x_n = b_{k_n}^{(n-1)} / A_{k_n n}^{(n-1)}$

Determinant of a matrix

- The determinant of the original matrix can easily be obtained after we have transformed it into a triangular matrix through Gaussian elimination.
- The partial-pivoting Gaussian elimination **does not change the value of the determinant only its sign**, which can be fixed with the knowledge of the order of pivoting elements.
- For a triangular matrix, the determinant is given by the product of all its **diagonal elements**.

Inverse of a matrix

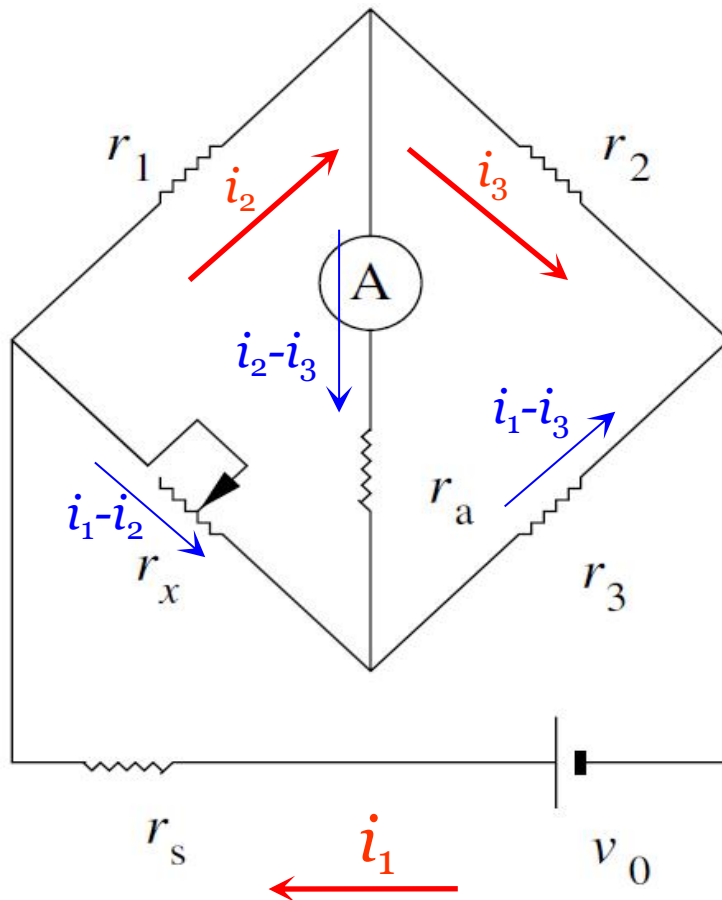
- The **inverse** of a matrix A can be obtained by solving the linear equation set.
- $AA^{-1}=I$. I : a unit matrix
- Let $A^{-1}_{ij} = x_{ij}$, for $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n$, then x_{ij} is the solution of the equation $Ax_j = b_j$, with $b_{ij} = \delta_{ij}$.
- The solution of above equation corresponds to **each column** of the unit matrix **forms** the corresponding column of A^{-1} .

Code example

[5.2.GaussianElimination.cpp](#)

Homework

- Solve the unbalanced Wheatstone bridge.



Requirements:

Input the values of resistors.

Output the effective resistance of the circuit.

Matrix Eigenvalue

$$A\mathbf{x} = \lambda\mathbf{x}$$

where \mathbf{x} and λ are an **eigenvector** and its corresponding **eigenvalue** of the matrix, respectively.

Determined from the secular equation:

$$|A - \lambda I| = 0$$

An $n \times n$ matrix has a total of n eigenvalues.

- The **eigenvalue problem** is quite **general** in physics, which can come from many different problems.
- For example, the **Lagrange equation** for the **vibrational modes** of a large molecule, or the **quantum mechanics Hamiltonian**.
- In many problems in physics and related fields, the matrix in question is **Hermitian with $A^\dagger=A$** .

Eigenvalues of a Hermitian matrix

The simplicity of the Hermitian eigenvalue problem is due to **three important properties**:

- 1.the **eigenvalues** are all **real**;
- 2.the **eigenvectors** can be **orthonormal**;
- 3.can be **transformed** into a **diagonal matrix** with the same set of eigenvalues under a **similarity transformation** of a **unitary matrix**.

Similarity transformation: $B=P^{-1}AP$.

Unitary matrix: $P^\dagger P=I$, $P^\dagger=P^{-1}$; † means the conjugate transpose

- The eigenvalue problem of an $n \times n$ complex Hermitian matrix is equivalent to that of a $2n \times 2n$ real symmetric matrix.
- Separate its real part from its imaginary part with $A = B + iC$.
- B is a real symmetric matrix: $B_{ij} = B_{ji}$
- C is a real skew symmetric matrix: $C_{ij} = -C_{ji}$.
- Decompose the eigenvector z in a similar fashion: $z = x + iy$.

The original eigenvalue problem becomes $(\mathbf{B}+i\mathbf{C})(\mathbf{x}+i\mathbf{y})=\lambda(\mathbf{x}+i\mathbf{y})$, which is equivalent to

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{B} & -\mathbf{C} \\ \mathbf{C} & \mathbf{B} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{y} \end{pmatrix} = \lambda \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{y} \end{pmatrix}$$

it becomes a real symmetric eigenvalue problem with the same set of eigenvalues that have an overall double degeneracy. Therefore we need to solve only the real symmetric eigenvalue problem if the matrix is Hermitian.

Diagonalization

- For a diagonal matrix, the eigenvalues are the diagonal elements.

$$\mathbf{D} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & 0 & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda_3 & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}$$

To obtain the eigenvalues of a Hermitian matrix = to transform it to a diagonal matrix by similarity transformations

Diagonalize a matrix -----> Diagonalization

Linear Algebra PACKage

- **LAPACK** (Linear Algebra Package) is a **software library** for **numerical linear algebra**, provided by Univ. of Tennessee; Univ. of California, Berkeley; Univ. of Colorado, Denver; and NAG Ltd..
- It provides **routines** for solving systems of linear equations and linear least squares, eigenvalue problems, and singular value decomposition.
- The routines handle both real and complex matrices in both single and double precision.

- LAPACK was originally written in **FORTRAN 77**, but moved to **Fortran 90** in version 3.2 (2008). The latest version is 3.8.0 (Nov. 2017).
- LAPACK is **licensed under a three-clause BSD style license**, a permissive free software license with few restrictions.
- Website www.netlib.org/lapack

$$\begin{bmatrix}
 \mathbf{L} & \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{P} & \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{C} & \mathbf{K} \\
 \mathbf{L} & \mathbf{-A} & \mathbf{P} & \mathbf{-A} & \mathbf{C} & \mathbf{-K} \\
 \mathbf{L} & \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{P} & \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{-C} & \mathbf{-K} \\
 \mathbf{L} & \mathbf{-A} & \mathbf{P} & \mathbf{-A} & \mathbf{-C} & \mathbf{K} \\
 \mathbf{L} & \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{-P} & \mathbf{-A} & \mathbf{C} & \mathbf{K} \\
 \mathbf{L} & \mathbf{-A} & \mathbf{-P} & \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{C} & \mathbf{-K}
 \end{bmatrix}
 \cdot \frac{1}{4}
 \begin{bmatrix}
 & & & & \mathbf{l} & \mathbf{l} & \mathbf{l} & \mathbf{l} \\
 & & & & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{-a} & \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{-a} \\
 \mathbf{p} & \mathbf{p} & & & & & \mathbf{-p} & \mathbf{-p} \\
 \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{-a} & & & & & \mathbf{-a} & \mathbf{a} \\
 \mathbf{c} & \mathbf{c} & \mathbf{-c} & \mathbf{-c} & & & & \\
 \mathbf{k} & \mathbf{-k} & \mathbf{-k} & \mathbf{k} & & & &
 \end{bmatrix}$$

More implements

- Lapack is also included (and may be optimized for specialized platforms) in MKL@Intel, ACML@AMD, Matlab, Mathematica,
- It can be included in commercial software packages (and has been). Netlib only ask that **proper credit** be given to the authors.

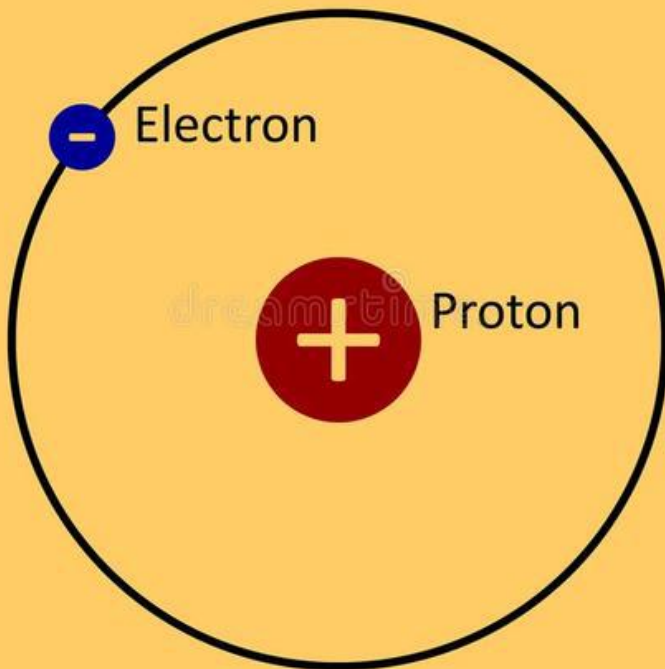
Code example

- 5.3.Diagonalization.cpp
- 9.6.Diagonalization.cpp

<http://www.netlib.org/lapack/lapacke.html>

Hydrogen molecule

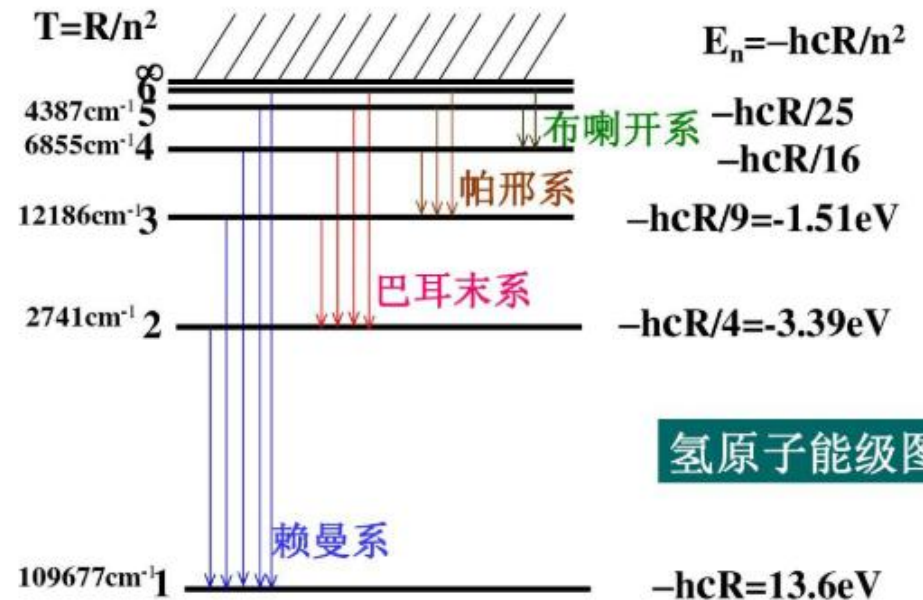
Hydrogen atom



$$R=0.53 \text{ \AA}$$

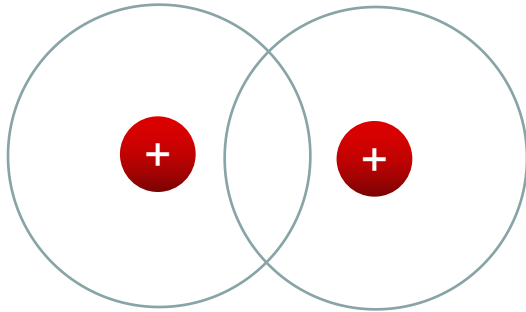
- $H=K+U$

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu}\nabla^2\Psi + U\Psi = E\Psi$$



氢原子能级图

Hydrogen molecule



- $H = K + U$
- $= K_1 + U_1 + K_2 + U_2 + K_{12}$
- $= H_0 + K_{12}$

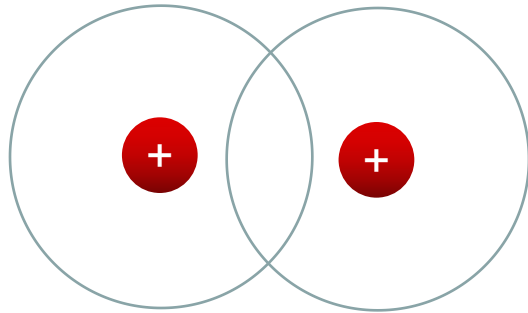
$$r = 0.74 \text{ \AA}$$

$$H_0 = V(n_1 + n_2) = V(c_1^\dagger c_1 + c_2^\dagger c_2)$$

$$K_{12} = -t(c_1^\dagger c_2 + c_2^\dagger c_1)$$

$$H = (c_1^\dagger, c_2^\dagger) \begin{pmatrix} V & -t \\ -t & V \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Hydrogen molecule



$r=0.74 \text{ \AA}$

$$H = (c_1^\dagger, c_2^\dagger) \begin{pmatrix} V & -t \\ -t & V \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$E=V+t$$

Reaction energy: 4.73 eV

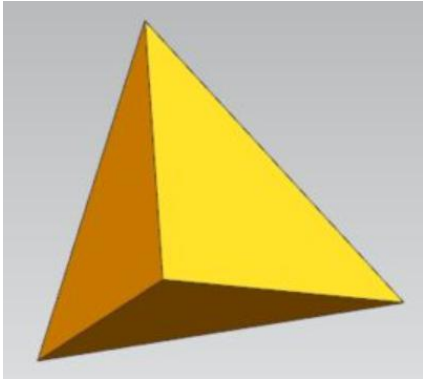
$$E=V-t$$

$t=2.365 \text{ eV}$

antibonding state: $(|1\rangle - |2\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$

bonding state: $(|1\rangle + |2\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$

Hydrogen pyramid



$$H_0 = V \sum_i c_i^\dagger c_i$$

$$K = -t \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} (c_i^\dagger c_j + c_j^\dagger c_i)$$

$$H = (c_1^\dagger, c_2^\dagger, c_3^\dagger, c_4^\dagger) \begin{pmatrix} V & -t & -t & -t \\ -t & V & -t & -t \\ -t & -t & V & -t \\ -t & -t & -t & V \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \\ c_4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$V - t \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

[5.3.H4.cpp](#)

Home work

- One dimensional hydrogen chain
- Eigen-energies?
- Surface (terminal) energy?