



# A note on the preconditioner $P_m = (I + S_m)$

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## ABSTRACT

Kotakemori et al. [H. Kotakemori, K. Harada, M. Morimoto, H. Niki, A comparison theorem for the iterative method with the preconditioner  $(I + S_{\max})$ , Journal of Computational and Applied Mathematics 145 (2002) 373–378] have reported that the convergence rate of the iterative method with a preconditioner  $P_m = (I + S_m)$  was superior to one of the modified Gauss–Seidel method under the condition. These authors derived a theorem comparing the Gauss–Seidel method with the proposed method. However, through application of a counter example, Wen Li [Wen Li, A note on the preconditioned GaussSeidel (GS) method for linear systems, Journal of Computational and Applied Mathematics 182 (2005) 81–91] pointed out that there exists a special matrix that does not satisfy this comparison theorem. In this note, we analyze the reason why such a counter example may be produced, and propose a preconditioner to overcome this problem.

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## 1. Introduction

We herein consider the following preconditioned linear system:

$$PA\mathbf{x} = P\mathbf{b}, \quad (1.1)$$

where  $A = (a_{ij}) \in R^{n \times n}$  is a nonsingular  $M$ -matrix,  $P \in R^{n \times n}$  is a preconditioner, and  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{b} \in R^n$  are vectors. Without loss of generality, we assume that  $A$  has a splitting of the form  $A = I - L - U$ , where  $I$  denotes the  $n \times n$  identity, and  $-L$  and  $-U$  are the strictly lower, and upper triangular parts of  $A$ , respectively.

In 1991, Gunawardena et al. [1] proposed the modified Gauss–Seidel method in which  $P = (I + S)$ , with

$$S = (s_{ij}) = \begin{cases} -a_{ii+1} & \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots, n-1, j = i+1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

These authors proved that if  $0 < a_{ii+1}a_{i+1i} < 1$  then the inequality:

$$\rho(T_S) \leq \rho(T) < 1,$$

is satisfied, where  $\rho(T_S)$  and  $\rho(T)$  denote the spectral radius of the GaussSeidel iterative matrices  $T_S$  and  $T$  associated with  $A_S = (I + S)A$  and  $A$ , respectively.

In 2002, Kotakemori et al. [2] proposed to use  $P_m = (I + S_m)$ , where  $S_m$  is defined by

$$S_m = (s_{ij}^{(m)}) = \begin{cases} -a_{ik_i} & \text{for } 1 \leq i < n, i+1 < j \leq n, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where  $k_i = \min I_i$ ,  $I_i = \{j : |a_{ij}| \text{ is maximal for } i+1 \leq j \leq n\}$ , for  $1 \leq i < n$ .

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Then  $A_m = (I + S_m)A$  can be written as follows:

$$A_m = I - L - U + S_m - S_m L - S_m U = M_m - N_m,$$

where  $M_m = (I - D_m) - (L + E_m)$  and  $N_m = U - S_m + F_m + S_m U$  and  $D_m, E_m$  and  $F_m$  are the diagonal and strictly lower and strictly upper triangular parts of  $S_m L$ , respectively. Under the condition  $0 < a_{ik_i} a_{k_i i} < 1$ , Kotakemori et al. derived the following result.

**Lemma 1** (Kotakemori et al. [2], Lemma 3.4). Let  $A$  be an  $\mathbf{M}$ -matrix. Suppose that

$$a_{ii+1} a_{i+1j} \leq a_{ik_i} a_{k_i j}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n-2, j \leq i. \quad (1.2)$$

Then the following inequality holds:

$$M_m^{-1} \geq M_s^{-1}.$$

**Theorem 2** (Kotakemori et al. [2], Theorem 3.5). Let  $A$  be an  $\mathbf{M}$ -matrix. Then the Gauss–Seidel splittings  $A = M - N$  and  $A_s = M_s - N_s$  are convergent and the following inequality holds:

$$\rho(T_s) \leq \rho(T) < 1. \quad (1.3)$$

**Proof.** It easily follows from the assumption of the present theorem together with Theorem of [4] that  $\rho(M^{-1}N) < 1$ . Since  $A_s$  is also an  $\mathbf{M}$ -matrix,  $A_s$  admits the convergent splitting  $A_s = M_s - N_s$ . By putting  $A = P_s^{-1}(M_s - N_s)$ , we have  $A = M - N = P_s^{-1}(M_s - N_s)$ . Since  $A = M - N$  is the Gauss–Seidel convergent splitting, there exists a positive vector  $\mathbf{x}$  satisfying  $\rho(M^{-1}N)\mathbf{x} = M^{-1}N\mathbf{x}$ . We then have the following relation:

$$A\mathbf{x} = (M - N)\mathbf{x} = M(I - M^{-1}N)\mathbf{x} = \frac{1 - \rho(M^{-1}N)}{\rho(M^{-1}N)} N\mathbf{x} \geq 0.$$

Since  $M_s^{-1} \geq 0$  and  $P_s \geq 0$ , then we further have that  $M_s^{-1}P_s \geq M_s^{-1} \geq M^{-1}$ . It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} (M_s^{-1}P_s - M^{-1})A\mathbf{x} &= M_s^{-1}P_s\{P_s^{-1}(M_s - N_s)\}\mathbf{x} - (I - M^{-1}N)\mathbf{x} \\ &= (I - M_s^{-1}N_s)\mathbf{x} - (I - M^{-1}N)\mathbf{x} \\ &= M^{-1}N\mathbf{x} - M_s^{-1}N_s\mathbf{x} = \rho(M^{-1}N)\mathbf{x} - M_s^{-1}N_s\mathbf{x} \geq 0, \end{aligned}$$

which by Theorem (2.2) of [1] implies (1.3). ■

**Theorem 3.** Let  $A$  be an  $\mathbf{M}$ -matrix. Let  $A_s = M_s - N_s$  and  $A_m = M_m - N_m$  be Gauss–Seidel convergent splittings of  $A_s$  and  $A_m$ , respectively. Assume that only one of the inequalities  $A_m\mathbf{x} \geq A_s\mathbf{x}$  or  $A_m\mathbf{y} \geq A_s\mathbf{y}$ , where  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$  are positive eigenvectors associated with  $T_s$  and  $T_m$ , respectively. Under the assumptions in Lemma 1, the following inequality holds:

$$\rho(T_m) \leq \rho(T_s).$$

**Proof.** By putting  $A = A_s$  and  $A_s = A_m$ , the proof follows in a similar manner to that of Theorem 2. ■

## 2. The case $\rho(T_s) \leq \rho(T_m)$ for $M_m^{-1} \geq M_s^{-1}$

In 2005, Wen Li showed the following counter example [5]:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1.0 & -0.1 & -0.1 & -0.1 & -0.2 \\ -0.1 & 1 & -0.1 & -0.1 & -0.2 \\ -0.1 & -0.1 & 1 & -0.1 & -0.2 \\ -0.1 & -0.1 & -0.1 & 1 & -0.2 \\ -0.1 & -0.1 & -0.1 & -0.1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

For this matrix, we have the following results:

$$\begin{aligned} A_s &= \begin{pmatrix} 0.99 & 0 & -0.11 & -0.11 & -0.22 \\ -0.11 & 0.99 & 0 & -0.11 & -0.22 \\ -0.11 & -0.11 & 0.99 & 0 & -0.22 \\ -0.12 & -0.12 & -0.12 & 0.98 & 0 \\ -0.1 & -0.1 & -0.1 & -0.1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \\ M_s^{-1} &= \begin{pmatrix} 1.010 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.112 & 1.010 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.125 & 0.112 & 1.010 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.153 & 0.137 & 0.124 & 1.020 & 0 \\ 0.140 & 0.126 & 0.113 & 0.102 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad T_s = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0.111 & 0.111 & 0.111 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.012 & 0.123 & 0.247 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.014 & 0.026 & 0.274 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.017 & 0.032 & 0.091 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.015 & 0.029 & 0.083 \end{pmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

and  $\rho(T_S) = 0.1497$ . On the other hand, for  $P_m$  we have:

$$A_m = \begin{pmatrix} 0.98 & -0.12 & -0.12 & -0.12 & 0 \\ -0.12 & 0.98 & -0.12 & -0.12 & 0 \\ -0.12 & -0.12 & 0.98 & -0.12 & 0 \\ -0.12 & -0.12 & -0.12 & 0.98 & 0 \\ -0.1 & -0.1 & -0.1 & -0.1 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$M_m^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1.020 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.125 & 1.020 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.140 & 0.125 & 1.020 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.157 & 0.140 & 0.125 & 1.020 & 0 \\ 0.144 & 0.129 & 0.115 & 0.102 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad T_m = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0.122 & 0.122 & 0.122 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.015 & 0.137 & 0.137 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.017 & 0.032 & 0.154 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.019 & 0.036 & 0.051 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.017 & 0.033 & 0.046 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

and  $\rho(T_m) = 0.1555$ . While this matrix satisfies condition equation (1.2), the inequality  $\rho(T_m) \leq \rho(T_S)$  does not hold. We test the following matrix:

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} 1.0 & -0.1 & -0.1 & -0.1 & -0.3 \\ -0.1 & 1 & -0.1 & -0.1 & -0.3 \\ -0.1 & -0.1 & 1 & -0.1 & -0.3 \\ -0.1 & -0.1 & -0.1 & 1 & -0.1 \\ -0.1 & -0.1 & -0.1 & -0.1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

For this matrix, we have the following results:

$$M_S^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1.010 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.112 & 1.010 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.125 & 0.112 & 1.010 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.139 & 0.125 & 0.112 & 1.010 & 0 \\ 0.139 & 0.125 & 0.112 & 0.101 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad T_S = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0.111 & 0.111 & 0.333 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.012 & 0.123 & 0.370 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.014 & 0.026 & 0.391 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.015 & 0.029 & 0.122 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.015 & 0.029 & 0.122 \end{pmatrix},$$

and  $\rho(T_S) = 0.1873$ . On the other hand, for  $P_m$  we have:

$$M_m^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1.031 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.138 & 1.031 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.157 & 0.138 & 1.031 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.147 & 0.130 & 0.115 & 1.010 & 0 \\ 0.147 & 0.130 & 0.115 & 0.101 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad T_m = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0.134 & 0.134 & 0.134 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.018 & 0.152 & 0.152 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.020 & 0.038 & 0.172 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.019 & 0.036 & 0.051 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.019 & 0.036 & 0.051 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then  $\rho(T_m) = 0.1682$ . Thus for this case the inequality  $\rho(T_m) \leq \rho(T_S)$  holds. From the results above, we know that there exist  $|a_{in}|$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n-2$ ) such that  $\rho(T_S) \geq \rho(T_m)$ . It is, however, in general difficult to determine  $|a_{in}|$  such that the relation  $\rho(T_S) \geq \rho(T_m)$  holds a priori. Motivated by this problem, in next section we propose a preconditioner that satisfies  $\rho(T_S) \geq \rho(T_m)$  unconditionally.

### 3. A preconditioner satisfying $\rho(T_S) \geq \rho(T_m)$

**Method 1.** We propose the preconditioner  $P_{m1} = (I + S_{m1})$ , where  $S_{m1}$  is defined by

$$S_{m1} = (s_{ij}^{(m1)}) = \begin{cases} -a_{12} & \text{for } 2 \leq i < n, i < j \leq n, \\ -a_{ik_i} & \text{otherwise,} \\ 0 & \end{cases}$$

where  $k_i = \min I_i$ ,  $I_i = \{j : |a_{ij}| \text{ is maximal for } i \leq j \leq n\}$ , for  $2 \leq i < n$ .

By using this preconditioner  $P_{m1}$  for  $A$ , we obtain

$$A_{m1} = \begin{pmatrix} .97 & 0 & -0.11 & -0.11 & -0.22 \\ -0.12 & .98 & -0.12 & -0.12 & 0 \\ -0.12 & -0.12 & .98 & -0.12 & 0 \\ -0.12 & -0.12 & -0.12 & .98 & 0 \\ -0.1 & -0.1 & -0.1 & -0.1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then  $\rho(T_{m1}) = 0.1376 < \rho(T_S)$ .

**Method 2.** We propose the preconditioner  $P_{m2} = (I + S_{m2})$ , where  $S_{m2}$  is defined by

$$S_{m2} = (s_{ij}^{(m2)}) = \begin{cases} -a_{12} & \text{for } 1 < j \leq n, \\ -a_{1k_i} & \text{for } 2 \leq i < n, i < j \leq n, \\ -a_{ik_i} & \text{otherwise,} \\ 0 & \end{cases}$$

where  $k_i = \min I_i$ ,  $I_i = \{j : |a_{ij}| \text{ is maximal for } i+1 \leq j \leq n\}$ , for  $1 \leq i < n$ .

By using this preconditioner  $P_{m2}$  for  $A$ , we obtain

$$A_{m2} = \begin{pmatrix} .97 & -0.02 & -0.13 & -0.13 & -0.02 \\ -0.12 & .98 & -0.12 & -0.12 & 0 \\ -0.12 & -0.12 & .98 & -0.12 & 0 \\ -0.12 & -0.12 & -0.12 & .98 & 0 \\ -0.1 & -0.1 & -0.1 & -0.1 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

and  $\rho(T_{m2}) = 0.1235$ . As described in the next section, since  $|a_{21}^{(m2)}| < 0.073$ ,  $\rho(T_{m2}) < \rho(T_{m1})$  holds

**Remark 4.** For the preconditioner  $P_{m1} = (I + S_{m1})$ , Eq. (1.2) is weakened as follows:

$$a_{ii+1}a_{i+1j} \leq a_{ik_i}a_{k_ij}, \quad 2 \leq i \leq n-2, j \leq i.$$

**Method 3.** To ensure the inequality  $\rho(T_S) \geq \rho(T_m)$  is satisfied, condition Eq. (1.2) must be satisfied. In order to overcome with this drawback, Morimoto et al. [3] proposed the preconditioner  $P_{sm} = (I + S + S_m)$ . For this preconditioner,  $S_m$  is

$$S_m = (s_{ij}^{(m)}) = \begin{cases} -a_{il_i} & \text{for } 1 \leq i < n, j > n-1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where  $l_i = \min I_i$ ,  $I_i = \{j : |a_{ij}| \text{ is maximal for } i+2 \leq j \leq n\}$ , for  $1 \leq i < n-1$ .

By using this preconditioner to  $A$ , we have the following results:

$$A_{sm} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.979 & -0.02 & -0.13 & -0.13 & -0.021 \\ -0.13 & 0.97 & -0.02 & -0.13 & -0.02 \\ -0.13 & -0.13 & 0.97 & -0.02 & -0.02 \\ -0.12 & -0.12 & -0.12 & 0.98 & 0 \\ -0.1 & -0.1 & -0.1 & -0.1 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$T_{sm} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0.021 & 0.134 & 0.134 & 0.021 \\ 0 & 0.003 & 0.039 & 0.152 & 0.023 \\ 0 & 0.003 & 0.023 & 0.059 & 0.027 \\ 0 & 0.003 & 0.024 & 0.042 & 0.009 \\ 0 & 0.003 & 0.022 & 0.039 & 0.008 \end{pmatrix},$$

and so  $\rho(T_{sm}) = 0.0908 < \rho(T_{m2})$ .

#### 4. Concluding remarks

1. For matrix  $A$ , if  $|a_{12}| < 0.073$ , the preconditioning effect of  $P_S$  is insufficient, and so  $\rho(T_S) < \rho(T_m)$ . In contrast, for  $|a_{15}| > 0.296$ , the preconditioning effect of  $P_m$  is sufficient, hence  $\rho(T_S) > \rho(T_m)$  holds. If  $|a_{51}| \geq 0.2$ , then a sufficiently large value of  $M_m^{-1}$  is obtained such that  $\rho(T_S) > \rho(T_m)$  holds.
2. Assume that  $L^T \geq U$  and in particular that  $|a_{ik_i}| < |a_{k_i i}|$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n-2$ ), then  $\rho(T_S) > \rho(T_m)$  holds.
3. For a matrix with structure of example  $A$ , either of the inequalities  $\rho(T_S) \geq \rho(T_m)$  or  $\rho(T_S) \leq \rho(T_m)$  may be satisfied. To ensure that  $\rho(T_S) \geq \rho(T_m)$  holds,  $A$  must satisfy an appropriate condition. However, the form of this condition remains an open question.
4. We have shown that the preconditioner  $P_{sm}$  is an effective preconditioner.

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