Postgraduate Modelling Research Group

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# A positive definite system of real-valued singularly perturbed problems 

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## Introduction

We are interested in the numerical solution of a singularly perturbed, fourth-order ordinary differential equations.

## Our model differential equation is

$$
\begin{equation*}
-\varepsilon u^{(4)}(x)+a u^{\prime \prime}(x)-b u(x)=f(x) \quad \text { on } \quad \Omega:=(0,1), \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

subject to the boundary conditions

$$
u(0)=u^{\prime \prime}(0)=0, \quad u(1)=u^{\prime \prime}(1)=0
$$

Here $\varepsilon$ is a positive, real-valued parameter: $0<\varepsilon \leq 1$, but typically $\varepsilon \ll 1$. And so the problem is singularly perturbed.
The coefficient functions $a, b$ and right-hand side function $f$ are real or complex-valued functions on the interval $\Omega$.

## Real-valued singularly perturbed problems

We consider the numerical solution of real-valued singularly perturbed, fourth-order ordinary differential equations, and in particular, problems of the following form.

## [Shanthi and Ramanujam, 2002]:

$$
\begin{equation*}
-\varepsilon u^{(4)}(x)+a u^{\prime \prime}(x)-b u(x)=f(x) \quad \text { on } \quad \Omega:=(0,1), \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

subject to the boundary conditions

$$
u(0)=u^{\prime \prime}(0)=u(1)=u^{\prime \prime}(1)=0 .
$$

The coefficient functions $a, b$ and right-hand side function $f$ are real-valued functions on the interval $\Omega$.

## A positive definite system

We now propose an simple approach that allows one to reformulate (2) as a system with a (non-symmetric) positive definite coefficient matrix. We set

$$
u^{\prime \prime}:=\alpha w+\beta u
$$

and, consequently,

$$
u^{(4)}=\alpha w^{\prime \prime}+\beta \alpha w+\beta^{2} u
$$

With this, (2) can be transformed as a system of two equations of the form

$$
\begin{align*}
-\varepsilon w^{\prime \prime}+(a \alpha-\varepsilon \alpha \beta) w+ & \left(a \beta-\varepsilon \beta^{2}-b\right) u \tag{3a}
\end{align*}=f,
$$

subject to the boundary conditions

$$
u(0)=w(0)=u(1)=w(1)=0 .
$$

## Positive definite matrix

Written in matrix form, this is

$$
-\left(\begin{array}{ll}
\varepsilon & 0 \\
0 & 1
\end{array}\right)\binom{w^{\prime \prime}}{u^{\prime \prime}}+B\binom{w}{u}=\binom{f}{0} .
$$

where

$$
B=\left(\begin{array}{cc}
a \alpha-\varepsilon \alpha \beta & a \beta-\varepsilon \beta^{2}-b \\
\alpha & \beta
\end{array}\right) .
$$

This $B$ satisfies $\mathbf{v}^{\top} B \mathbf{v} \geq \gamma \mathbf{v}^{\top} \mathbf{v}$, for all $v$, if and only if, $M=\left(B^{T}+B\right) / 2$ is symmetric positive definite. Here

$$
M=\left(\begin{array}{cc}
a \alpha-\varepsilon \alpha \beta & \frac{1}{2}\left(a \beta-\varepsilon \beta^{2}-b+\alpha\right) \\
\frac{1}{2}\left(a \beta-\varepsilon \beta^{2}-b+\alpha\right) & \beta
\end{array}\right) .
$$

Clearly, $M$ is symmetric.

## Tests for Positive definite matrix $M$

## What conditions on $\alpha$ and $\beta$ ensure that $M$ is a positive definite?

Each of the following tests is a necessary and sufficient condition for a symmetric matrix $M$ to be Positive definite:
(i) $\mathbf{v}^{\top} M \mathbf{v} \geq \gamma \mathbf{v}^{\top} \mathbf{v}$, for all $v$,
(ii) All eigenvalues of $M$ are positive,
(iii) Determinant test,
(iv) Pivot test.

There is the case if $M$ is strictly diagonally dominant, with positive diagonal entries, i.e., $M_{i i}>\sum_{j \neq i}\left|M_{i j}\right|$ for $i=1,2$ [Beezer, 2008]. So, thus, we require that
(i) $|a \alpha-\varepsilon \alpha \beta|>0$,
(ii) $|\beta|>0$,
(iii) $|\boldsymbol{a} \alpha-\varepsilon \alpha \beta|>\frac{1}{2}\left|a \beta-\varepsilon \beta^{2}-b+\alpha\right|$, (iv) $|\beta|>\frac{1}{2}\left|a \beta-\varepsilon \beta^{2}-b+\alpha\right|$.

## Eigenvalue test

By applying the eigenvalue test on the matrix $M$. We can see that
$-\varepsilon \beta^{2}+a \beta+b-2 \sqrt{a \beta b-\varepsilon \beta^{2} b} \leq \alpha \leq-\varepsilon \beta^{2}+a \beta+b+2 \sqrt{a \beta b-\varepsilon \beta^{2} b}$
Suppose $\beta=1$, then $\alpha=a+b-\varepsilon$. These are two conditions on $\alpha$ and $\beta$ to be ensure that $M$ is a positive definite. We can rewrite (2) as a system

$$
-\left(\begin{array}{ll}
\varepsilon & 0 \\
0 & 1
\end{array}\right)\binom{w^{\prime \prime}}{u^{\prime \prime}}+B\binom{w}{u}=\binom{f}{0} .
$$

where

$$
B=\left(\begin{array}{cc}
(a+b-\varepsilon)(a-\varepsilon) & a-\varepsilon-b \\
a+b-\varepsilon & 1
\end{array}\right),
$$

## Coercivity property of the matrix

## Lemma

When $\beta=1$ and $\alpha-a+b-\varepsilon$, the matrix $M$ is coercive (for sufficiently small $\varepsilon$ ). Further more there is a positive $\gamma$ such that $\gamma \in\left[\lambda_{\min }, \lambda_{\max }\right]$, where $\lambda_{\text {min }}$ and $\lambda_{\text {max }}$ are eigenvalues of matrix $M$, and

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\mathbf{v}^{\top} M \mathbf{v}}{\mathbf{v}^{\top} \mathbf{v}} \geq \gamma \text { for all } \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^{2} \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
$$

## Example

Now consider the real-valued problem:

$$
\begin{equation*}
-\varepsilon u^{(4)}(x)+2 u^{\prime \prime}(x)-4 u(x)=f(x) \quad \text { on } \quad \Omega:=(0,1), \tag{5}
\end{equation*}
$$

subject to the boundary conditions

$$
u(0)=u^{\prime \prime}(0)=0, \quad u(1)=u^{\prime \prime}(1)=0 .
$$

If we take $\alpha=6-\varepsilon$ and $\beta=1$, we have
$B=\left(\begin{array}{cc}12-8 \varepsilon+\varepsilon^{2} & -(\varepsilon+2) \\ 6-\varepsilon & 1\end{array}\right)$, and $M=\left(\begin{array}{cc}12-8 \varepsilon+\varepsilon^{2} & -\varepsilon+2 \\ -\varepsilon+2 & 1\end{array}\right)$.
where $M$ is a symmetric positive definite for $\varepsilon<1$.

## Conclusions and future work

- We also aim to extend the work to complex-valued case where the associated $4 \times 4$ coefficient matrix in the second order system is a positive definite.
- We are now working on the analysis of methods for fourth-order complex-valued problems in the case where the problem can be re-cast as a coupled system of second-order problems (see, e.g., [Xenophontos et al., 2013]).
- We also aim to extend the work to complex-valued fourth-order ones which cannot be written as a coupled system of second-order ones (e.g., [Constantinou et al., 2016]).


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Thank you

