# Multigrid solvers 

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## Multigrid

## Geometrical multigrid

Introduction
Details of GMG
Summary

## Algebraic multigrid

Introduction
Grid coarsening and interpolation

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## Geometrical multigrid

- Simple iterative methods tend to damp high (spatial) frequency errors fast.
- After a few smoothing steps of a simple method, map the current error out to a coarser grid.
- Errors will have relatively higher spatial frequency there.
- Take a few more steps of a simple method on the coarser grid.
- Continue mapping to coarser grids until grid is coarse enough to solve.
- Interpolate back to the next finer grid and do few smoothing steps
- Continue to the finest grid
- Repeat until converged.


## Advantages of GMG

- Number of iterations should not depend on number of mesh points!
- Works very well as preconditioner for Krylov methods


## Gauss-Seidel iterations

To solve an $n \times n$ matrix system,

$$
A u=f
$$

given an initial guess $u^{(0)}$, for $k=1,2, \ldots$, set

$$
u_{i}^{(k+1)}=\left(f_{i}-\sum_{j=1}^{i-1} A_{i j} u_{j}^{(k+1)}-\sum_{j=i+1}^{n} A_{i j} u_{j}^{(k)}\right) / A_{i j}
$$

## Gauss-Seidel starts fast, slows down

Error for first 100 iterations


## Error gets smooth fast






## Error gets smooth fast







Multiple 1D grids


## Interpolation or prolongation

If a solution is known on a grid, how should it be transferred to the next finer grid?

- For fine grid points that agree with coarse points, copy.
- For fine grid points between two coarse points, average.


## Interpolation matrix 5 pts to 9 pts

$$
P_{9 \times 5}=\left(\begin{array}{ccccc}
1 & & & & \\
.5 & .5 & & & \\
& 1 & & & \\
& .5 & .5 & & \\
& & 1 & & \\
& & .5 & .5 & \\
& & & 1 & \\
& & & .5 & .5 \\
& & & & 1
\end{array}\right)
$$

## Restriction

If a solution is known on a fine grid, how should it be transferred to the next coarser grid?

$$
P_{5 \times 9}=\left(P_{9 \times 5}\right)^{T}
$$

- Maintain symmetry!
- Proofs fail without it!
- It works better this way.


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## The V-cycle



## The V-cycle: Python code

def vcycle (A, f) :
\# perform one $v$-cycle on the matrix $A$
sizeF = np.size(A,axis=0);

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def vcycle (A, f) :
\# perform one $v$-cycle on the matrix $A$
sizeF $=$ np.size(A, axis=0);
\# size for direct inversion < 15
if sizeF < 15:
v = la.solve (A, f)
return v

## The V-cycle: Python code

```
def vcycle(A,f):
    # perform one v-cycle on the matrix A
sizeF = np.size(A,axis=0);
# size for direct inversion < 15
if sizeF < 15:
        v = la.solve(A,f)
        return v
# N1=number of Gauss-Seidel iterations before coarsening
N1 = 5;
v = np.zeros(sizeF);
for numGS in range(N1):
    for k in range(sizeF):
            v[k] = (f[k] - np.dot(A[k,0:k], v[0:k]) \
                    -np.dot(A[k,k+1:], v[k+1:]) ) / A[k,k];
```


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                        -np.dot(A[k,k+1:], v[k+1:]) ) / A[k,k];
# construct interpolation operator from next coarser to this mesh
# next coarser has ((n-1)/2 + 1 ) points
assert(sizeF%2 ==1)
sizeC = (sizeF-1)/2 +1
P = np.zeros((sizeF,sizeC));
for k in range(sizeC):
    P[2*k,k] = 1; # copy these points
for k in range(sizeC-1):
    P[2*k+1,k] = .5; # average these points
    P[2*k+1,k+1] = . 5;
```


## The V-cycle: Python code cont'd

```
# compute residual
residual = f - np.dot(A,v)
```


## The V-cycle: Python code cont'd

```
# compute residual
residual = f - np.dot(A,v)
# project residual onto coarser mesh
residC = np.dot(P.transpose(),residual)
```


## The V-cycle: Python code cont'd

```
# compute residual
residual = f - np.dot(A,v)
# project residual onto coarser mesh
residC = np.dot(P.transpose(),residual)
# Find coarser matrix (sizeC X sizeC)
AC = np.dot(P.transpose(),np.dot(A,P))
```


## The V-cycle: Python code cont'd

```
# compute residual
residual =f - np.dot (A,v)
# project residual onto coarser mesh
residC = np.dot(P.transpose(),residual)
# Find coarser matrix (sizeC X sizeC)
AC = np.dot(P.transpose(),np.dot (A,P))
vC = vcycle(AC, residC);
```


## The V-cycle: Python code cont'd

```
# compute residual
residual =f - np.dot(A,v)
# project residual onto coarser mesh
residC = np.dot(P.transpose(),residual)
# Find coarser matrix (sizeC X sizeC)
AC = np.dot(P.transpose(),np.dot(A,P))
vC = vcycle(AC,residC);
# extend to this mesh
v = np.dot (P,vC)
```


## The V-cycle: Python code cont'd

```
# compute residual
residual = f - np.dot(A,v)
# project residual onto coarser mesh
residC = np.dot(P.transpose(),residual)
# Find coarser matrix (sizeC X sizeC)
AC = np.dot(P.transpose(),np.dot(A,P))
vC = vcycle(AC,residC);
# extend to this mesh
v = np.dot (P,vC)
# N2=number of Gauss-Seidel iterations after coarsening
N2 = 5;
for numGS in range(N2):
    for k in range(sizeF):
            v[k] = (f[k] - np.dot(A[k,0:k], v[0:k]) \
                    -np.dot(A[k,k+1:], v[k+1:]) ) / A[k,k];
```


## The V-cycle: Python code cont'd

```
# compute residual
residual = f - np.dot(A,v)
# project residual onto coarser mesh
residC = np.dot(P.transpose(),residual)
# Find coarser matrix (sizeC X sizeC)
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vC = vcycle(AC,residC);
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N2 = 5;
for numGS in range(N2):
    for k in range(sizeF):
            v[k] = (f[k] - np.dot(A[k,0:k], v[0:k]) \
                                -np.dot(A[k,k+1:], v[k+1:]) ) / A[k,k];
return v
```


## Solving with V-cycles gmgsolve.py

```
N = 2**9+1
x = np.linspace (0,1,N);
h = x[1]-x[0]
```


## Solving with V-cycles gmgsolve.py

```
N=2**9+1
x = np.linspace (0,1,N);
h = x[1]-x[0]
# tridiagonal matrix
A = np.diag(2.*np.ones(N)) - np.diag(np.ones(N-1), 1)
A = A/h**2
f = np.ones(N, dtype=float) #rhs
```


## Solving with V-cycles gmgsolve.py

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f = np.ones(N, dtype=float) #rhs
udirect = la.solve(A, f) # correct solution
```


## Solving with V-cycles gmgsolve.py

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h = x[1]-x[0]
# tridiagonal matrix
A = np.diag(2.*np.ones(N)) - np.diag(np.ones(N-1), 1)
A = A/h**2
f = np.ones(N, dtype=float) #rhs
udirect = la.solve(A, f) # correct solution
u = np.zeros(N) # initial guess
for iters in range(100):
    r = f - np.dot (A,u)
    if la.norm(r)/la.norm(f) < 1.e-10:
        break
    du = vcycle(A, r)
    u += du
    print "step %d, rel error=%e"% \
        (iters+1, la.norm(u-udirect)/la.norm(udirect) )
```


## Iterations and problem size

Number of iterations is independent of problem size!

| Grid size | Number of iterations |
| :---: | :---: |
| 33 | 20 |
| 65 | 21 |
| 129 | 22 |
| 257 | 22 |
| 513 | 22 |
| 1025 | 22 |
| 2049 | 22 |

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## What is needed for MG?

1. Sequence of grids
2. Intergrid transfer operators
3. Smoothing operator
4. Solver for coarsest grid

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## References

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- Briggs, W. L., Hensen, V. E., McCormick, S. F., A Multigrid Tutorial, Second Edition, SIAM, 2000.
- Trottenberg, U., Oosterlee, C. W., Schüller, A., Multigrid, Appendix A by Stüben, K., Academic Press, 2001.


## What is a "grid"?

- Every matrix has an assoicated graph

$$
\left(\begin{array}{lllll}
1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\
1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1
\end{array}\right)
$$



- Given a matrix, the finest grid is its associated graph.


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## What does "smooth" mean?

- In GMG, we have a notion of "smooth" error and notice that Gauss-Seidel iteration makes rough errors smoother.
- Gauss-Seidel makes very rough errors smooth rapidly, then stalls.


## What does "smooth" mean?

- In GMG, we have a notion of "smooth" error and notice that Gauss-Seidel iteration makes rough errors smoother.
- Gauss-Seidel makes very rough errors smooth rapidly, then stalls.
- In AMG, we define a "rough" error as one that Gauss-Seidel is effective in reducing and a "smooth" error as one on which Gauss-Seidel stalls.
- Loosely speaking, an error is "smooth" when $A e \approx 0$.
- $a_{i i} e_{i} \approx-\sum_{i \neq j} a_{i j} e_{j}$


## Simplifying assumption

From now on, assume that the matrix $\mathbf{A}$ is a symmetric M-matrix.

1. Diagonal elements are positive, off-diagonal are 0 or negative
2. Diagonal > -(sum of off-diagonals)

- Original work on AMG was done for M-matrices.
- Some proofs are possible.


## How to construct a coarse grid from a fine one.

- Define the notion of "strong dependence" ("influence", "coupling").
- Break the mesh up into regions in which each point is strongly dependent on a few distinguished points.
- The distinguished points will be the coarse mesh points.
- The coarse-to-fine mesh interpolation will be based on strong dependence.


## Strong dependence

Def. 1 Given a threshold $0<\theta \leq 1$, the variable $u_{i}$ "strongly depends" on the variable $u_{j}$ if

$$
-a_{i j} \geq \theta \max _{k \neq i}\left\{-a_{i k}\right\}
$$

Def. 2 If the variable $u_{i}$ strongly depends on the variable $u_{j}$, then the variable $u_{j}$ "strongly influences" $u_{i}$.

## Important feature of strong dependence

- Smooth error varies slowly in the direction of strong connection
- (See the discussion in Briggs, Henson, McCormick)


## Coarsening

- Suppose you have a given fine grid
- Divide into C-points and F-points
- C-points will be next coarser grid


## Coarsening

Requirements for C-points include

- Smooth error can be approximated accurately
- Smooth functions can be interpolated accurately
- Substantilly fewer points


## Definitions

- Neighborhood $N_{i}$ is the set of all points $j$ with $a_{i j} \neq 0$
- $S_{i}$ is the set of all points that strongly influence $i$
- $C_{i}$ is the set of C -points that strongly influence $i$


## Coarsening heuristics

H-1 For each F-point $i$, every point $j \in S_{i}$ that strongly influences $i$ either should be in $C_{i}$ or should strongly depend on at least one point in $C_{i}$
H-1a (Aggressive coarsening) For each F-point $i$, every point $j \in S_{i}$ that strongly influences $i$ either should be in $C$ or should strongly depend on at least one point in $C$
H-2 The set of all coarse points $C$ should be a maximal subset of all points with the property that no C-point strongly depends on another C-point.

## Example



Mesh with strong couplings

## Example



Values

## Example



C and F points

## Example



Increment remaining values

## Example



Pick another C point

## Example



Increment value

## Example



Two more C points
Hypothesis 1 failures in red
Aggressive coarsining finishes here.

## Example: final (standard) coarsening



## Aggressive Coarsening

- Results in a coarser mesh but slower convergence.
- Can be using on only some levels
- Requires a different interpolation formula, with longer-range couplings


## Interpolation from F to C

- Want

$$
\left(P_{C \times F} e\right)_{i}= \begin{cases}e_{i} & i \in C \\ \sum_{j \in C_{i}} w_{i j} e_{j} & i \in F\end{cases}
$$

- Error is smooth on $F \Longrightarrow$ residual is small

$$
a_{i i} \approx-\sum_{j \in N_{i}} a_{i j} e_{j}
$$

- $N_{i}^{S}$ is strongly-coupled F points, $N_{i}^{W}$ is weakly

$$
a_{i i} \approx-\sum_{j \in S_{i}} a_{i j} e_{j}-\sum_{j \in N_{i}^{S}} a_{i j} e_{j}-\sum_{j \in N_{i}^{w}} a_{i j} e_{j}
$$

- Put weakly-coupled F points into diagonal

$$
\left(a_{i i}+\sum_{j \in N_{i}^{W}} a_{i j}\right) e_{i} \approx-\sum_{j \in S_{i}} a_{i j} e_{j}-\sum_{j \in N_{i}^{S}} a_{i j} e_{j}
$$

## Strongly-coupled F points get distributed

- Distribute $N_{i}^{S}$ points to all of $S_{i}$. For $j \in N_{i}^{S}$,

$$
e_{j} \approx \frac{\sum_{k \in C_{i}} a_{j k} e_{k}}{\sum_{k \in C_{i}} a_{j k}}
$$

- Hence

$$
w_{i j}=-\frac{a_{i j}+\sum_{m \in N_{i}^{S}}\left(\frac{a_{i m} a_{m j}}{\sum_{k \in c_{i}} a_{m k}}\right)}{a_{i j}+\sum_{n \in N_{i}^{w}} a_{i n}}
$$

