

Properties and Computations of Matrix Pseudospectra

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Abstract

Pseudospectra were introduced as early as 1975 and became popular tool during the 1990s. In this paper, we give a new definition of pseudospectra by using QR decomposition. Some properties of pseudospectra are explored and an algorithm for the computation of pseudospectra is given.

Key words and phrases: eigenvalues, pseudospectra, QR decomposition

1 Introduction

Let A be an $m \times n$ matrix with $m \geq n$. An eigenvalue of the matrix A might be defined by the condition

$$(A - \lambda \tilde{I})\nu = 0, \quad (1.1)$$

for some nonzero n -vector ν , where \tilde{I} denotes the $m \times n$ 'identity' with 1 on the main diagonal and 0 elsewhere. If (λ, ν) satisfies (1.1), then we have

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_1 - \lambda I_n \\ A_2 \end{pmatrix} \nu = 0,$$

where A_1 denotes the $n \times n$ upper part of A . Hence not only (λ, ν) must be an eigenpair of A_1 , but ν must also be in the nullspace of A_2 . Obviously, if A is a square matrix, then we get the canonical definition of eigenvalue.

Four equivalent definitions of pseudospectra of square matrix were introduced by [1, 7, 8, 9]. Pseudospectra of rectangular matrix has been considered by Toh, Wright and Trefethen [6, 11, 12], Higham and Tisseur [2]. Here we present these equivalent definitions of pseudospectra as follows [12],

Definition 1.1 Let $A \in \mathcal{C}^{m \times n}$ and $\epsilon \geq 0$ be arbitrary. The ϵ -pseudospectrum $\Lambda_\epsilon(A)$ of A is the set of $z \in \mathcal{C}$ such that

$$\|(z\tilde{I} - A)^\dagger\| \geq \epsilon^{-1}, \quad (1.2)$$

where † denotes the pseudoinverse and \tilde{I} denotes the $m \times n$ identity with 1 on the main diagonal and 0 elsewhere, \mathcal{C} denotes the complex plane.

Definition 1.2 $\Lambda_\epsilon(A)$ is the set of $z \in \mathcal{C}$ such that $z \in \Lambda(A + E)$ for some $E \in \mathcal{C}^{m \times n}$ with $\|E\| \leq \epsilon$.

Definition 1.3 $\Lambda_\epsilon(A)$ is the set of $z \in \mathcal{C}$ such that $\|(z\tilde{I} - A)\nu\| \leq \epsilon$ for some $\nu \in \mathcal{C}^n$ with $\|\nu\| = 1$.

Definition 1.4 (assuming that the norm is $\|\cdot\|_2$) $\Lambda_\epsilon(A)$ is the set of $z \in \mathcal{C}$ such that

$$\sigma_{\min}(z\tilde{I} - A) \leq \epsilon, \quad (1.3)$$

where σ_{\min} denotes the smallest singular value.

In section 2 we give a new definition of pseudospectra. In section 3 we consider some fundamental properties of this new definition. In section 4 we present some numerical examples to examine our conclusions. For simplicity, our norm $\|\cdot\|$ will always be the vector 2-norm.

2 A new definition of matrices pseudospectra

Let $B = z\tilde{I} - A = [b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n]$. It is shown that a system of vectors $\{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n\}$ is dependence if and only if $G[b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n] = 0$, where $G[b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n]$ is Gram determinant, i.e., $G[b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n] \equiv \det(B^*B)$. We can see that if $z \in \Lambda(A)$ is an eigenvalue of A then we must have $\det^{\frac{1}{2}}(B^*B) = 0$. Based on this consideration we give another definition of pseudospectra.

On the other hand, let A be an $m \times n$ matrix with $m \geq n$, we write A as follows,

$$A = [a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n]. \quad (2.1)$$

A system of vectors $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k\}$, $1 \leq k \leq n$ is ϵ -linear dependence, if $G^{\frac{1}{2}}[a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k] \leq \epsilon$ for any given $\epsilon \geq 0$ [3]. Obviously, if a system of vectors $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k\}$ is ϵ -linear dependence then a system of vectors $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_r\}$ with $r > k$ is also ϵ -linear dependence. And we can have the following result[4].

Suppose $\{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_k\}$ is an orthogonal system and $\|b_i\| = \|a_i\|$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ then

$$G[a_1, a_2, \dots, a_r] \leq G[b_1, b_2, \dots, b_k] \quad (2.2)$$

. The equality is satisfied if and only if $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k\}$ is also an orthogonal system.

Based on this consideration we give a new definition of pseudospectra.

Definition 2.1 Let $A \in \mathcal{C}^{m \times n}$ and $\epsilon \geq 0$ be arbitrary. The ϵ -pseudospectrum $\overline{\Lambda}_\epsilon(A)$ of A is the set of $z \in \mathcal{C}$ such that

$$\overline{\Lambda}_\epsilon(A) = \{z \in \mathcal{C} : G^{\frac{1}{2}}(z\tilde{I} - A) = G^{\frac{1}{2}}[b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n] \leq \epsilon\} \quad (2.3)$$

As we will show, $\overline{\Lambda}_\epsilon(A)$ depends continuously on A (for $\epsilon > 0$) and is nonempty for sufficiently large ϵ .

3 Basic properties

Theorem 3.1 Let A be an $m \times n$ matrix, $B = z\tilde{I} - A = QR$. Then

(i) $\Lambda(A) \subseteq \overline{\Lambda}_\epsilon(A)$, where $\Lambda(A)$ denotes the set of eigenvalues of A .

(ii) $\overline{\Lambda}_{\epsilon\alpha^{-1}}(A) = \alpha\overline{\Lambda}_\epsilon(A)$ for any $\alpha > 0$.

(iii) $\overline{\Lambda}_\epsilon(A(:, 1:k)) \subseteq \overline{\Lambda}_{\epsilon|\rho_{k+1,k+1}|}(A(:, 1:k+1))$, $1 \leq k < n$,

where the monotonicity result is expressed in 'MATLAB notation', QR denotes QR decomposition and ρ_{kk} is the main diagonal elements of matrix R .

Proof. (i) For any $z \in \Lambda(A)$, we obtain that a system of vectors $\{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$ is linear dependence, i.e., $G[b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n] = 0$. which yields, $z \in \overline{\Lambda}_\epsilon(A)$.

(ii) This result follows immediately from the definition of $\overline{\Lambda}_\epsilon(A)$.

(iii) The idea is to factor the matrix B as $B = z\tilde{I} - A = QR$, where

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{R} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \tilde{R} = \begin{pmatrix} \rho_{11} & & & \\ & \rho_{22} & * & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & \rho_{nn} \end{pmatrix},$$

with $|\rho_{11}| \geq |\rho_{22}| \geq \dots \geq |\rho_{nn}|$ and Q is an $m \times n$ unitary matrix.

This is trivial for $z \in \Lambda(A)$, since $z\tilde{I} - A$ is singular. If $z \notin \Lambda(A)$, i.e., $\text{rank}(B) = n$ then $|\rho_{nn}| \neq 0$. Consider that $G[b_1, b_2, \dots, b_k] = \det(B_k^* B_k) = \det(\tilde{R}_k^* \tilde{R}_k) = \rho_{11}^2 \rho_{22}^2 \dots \rho_{kk}^2$, where \tilde{R}_k is a $k \times k$ upper triangular matrix of \tilde{R} , $B_k = [b_1, b_2, \dots, b_k]$.

This formula yields

$$G[b_1, b_2, \dots, b_{k+1}] = G[b_1, b_2, \dots, b_k] \rho_{k+1,k+1}^2, \quad (3.1)$$

which implies

$$\overline{\Lambda}_\epsilon(A(:, 1:k)) \subseteq \overline{\Lambda}_{\epsilon\rho_{k+1,k+1}}(A(:, 1:k+1)), \quad (3.2)$$

If $|\rho_{k+1,k+1}| \leq 1$ then we get $\overline{\Lambda}_\epsilon(A(:, 1:k)) \subseteq \overline{\Lambda}_\epsilon(A(:, 1:k+1))$. \square

Theorem 3.2 (Pseudospectra of Similarity Transformation) Let $m = n$, S is an nonsingular matrix and $C = S^{-1}AS$. Then

$$\overline{\Lambda}_\epsilon(A) = \overline{\Lambda}_\epsilon(C). \quad (3.3)$$

Proof. Let $C = S^{-1}AS = [c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n]$ then we have $G[c_1, \dots, c_n] = \det(C^T C) = \det(A^T A)$.

which implies

$$G[b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n] = G[c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n], \quad (3.4)$$

i.e.,

$$\overline{\Lambda}_\epsilon(A) = \overline{\Lambda}_\epsilon(C) \quad \square$$

The result demonstrates that pseudospectra are invariant under similarity transformation. Consider Definition 2.1, we know that $\Lambda_\epsilon(A) \subseteq \Lambda_{\kappa(S)\epsilon}(C)$. ($\kappa(S) = \|S\| \|S^{-1}\|$) The results follows from the inequality $\epsilon^{-1} \leq \|(z\tilde{I} - A)^{-1}\| \leq \|S\| \|S^{-1}\| \|(z\tilde{I} - C)^{-1}\|$. This means an ill-conditioned similarity transformation can alter pseudospectra.

Theorem 3.3 Suppose A is a normal matrix then

(i) $\bar{\Lambda}_\epsilon(A) = \bar{\Lambda}_\epsilon(\Lambda)$, where Λ is a diagonal matrix with eigenvalues of A on the main diagonal.

(ii) for any $z \in \bar{\Lambda}_\epsilon(A)$, there exists $\lambda_s \in \lambda(A)$ such that $|z - \lambda_s| \leq \epsilon^{\frac{1}{n}}$ where λ_s is an eigenvalue of A that minimum $|z - \lambda_k|$ for $1 \leq k \leq n$.

Proof. (i) This result follows from Theorem 3.2.

(ii) Let

$$B = z\tilde{I} - \Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} z - \lambda_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & z - \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}, \quad (3.5)$$

then

$$\det(B^T B) = |z - \lambda_1|^2 |z - \lambda_2|^2 \dots |z - \lambda_n|^2.$$

Hence we get

$$G^{\frac{1}{2}}[b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n] = |z - \lambda_1| |z - \lambda_2| \dots |z - \lambda_n| \geq |z - \lambda_s|^n. \quad (3.6)$$

If $z \in \bar{\Lambda}_\epsilon(A)$ then we have $|z - \lambda_s| \leq \epsilon^{\frac{1}{n}}$. □

Theorem 3.4 Let A, B are square matrices then $\bar{\Lambda}_\epsilon(AB) = \bar{\Lambda}_\epsilon(BA)$.

Proof. Notice that $\Lambda(AB) = \Lambda(BA)$. Then we have

$$\det(\lambda I - BA) = \det(\lambda I - AB).$$

Let $C_1 = \lambda I - BA = [c_1, \dots, c_n]$, $C_2 = \lambda I - AB = [c'_1, \dots, c'_n]$ then

$$G[c_1, \dots, c_n] = \det(C_1^T C_1) = \det(C_2^T C_2) = G[c'_1, \dots, c'_n], \quad (3.7)$$

which yields

$$\bar{\Lambda}_\epsilon(AB) = \bar{\Lambda}_\epsilon(BA). \quad \square$$

The same proof shows that if A is an $m \times n$ matrix and B is an $n \times m$ matrix, then AB and BA have the same pseudoeigenvalues except that the product which is of higher order has $|m - n|$ extra zero eigenvalues.

The following theorem gives relationship between two definitions of pseudospectra.

Theorem 3.5 For any given $\epsilon \geq 0$, $\Lambda(A) \subseteq \bar{\Lambda}_\epsilon(A) \subseteq \Lambda_{\frac{1}{\epsilon^n}}(A)$.

Proof. From Theorem 3.1 we have that

$$G^{\frac{1}{2}}[b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n] = |\rho_{11}| |\rho_{22}| \dots |\rho_{nn}|,$$

where ρ_{nn} is the element of matrix \tilde{R} , with $|\rho_{11}| \geq |\rho_{22}| \geq \dots \geq |\rho_{nn}|$. From the definition of the minimum singular value of a matrix B ,

$$\sigma_{\min}(z\tilde{I} - A) = \sigma_{\min}(B) = \min_{\|x\|_2=1} \|Bx\|_2.$$

Since $B = QR$ and the unitary invariance of the 2-norm, let $x = e_n$ we have that

$$\sigma_{\min}(z\tilde{I} - A) \leq |\rho_{nn}|.$$

This formula implies

$$\sigma_{min}^n(B) \leq |\rho_{11}||\rho_{22}|\dots|\rho_{nn}|,$$

i.e.,

$$\bar{\Lambda}_\epsilon(A) \subseteq \Lambda_{\frac{\epsilon}{n}}(A). \quad \square$$

Remark. Since the singular values and ρ_{nn} are continuous functions of the matrix entries, hence if $\rho_{nn} \rightarrow 0$ then $\sigma_{min}(B) \rightarrow 0$. The converse is also true. It also can be seen that $\bar{\Lambda}_\epsilon(A)$ and $\Lambda_\epsilon(A)$ change continuously with $\epsilon > 0$.

4 Numerical experiments

Now let us calculate pseudospectra properly. The place to begin is with the column pivoting QR decomposition. In numerical experiments, we observe that, if $|\rho_{kk}| \gg 1, k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ then $G^{\frac{1}{2}}[b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n] \gg 1$. In order to avoid this situation, we modify our formula $G^{\frac{1}{2}}[b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n] \leq \epsilon$ as $G^{\frac{1}{2}}[b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n]/|\rho_{11}| \leq \epsilon/|\rho_{11}|$. Hence, the algorithm is to compute column pivoting QR decomposition of $z\tilde{I} - A$ for values of z on a grid in the plane and then generate a contour plot from this data. At last, we also notice that if $G^{\frac{1}{2}}[b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n] \leq \epsilon^n$ then we get $\sigma_{min}(B) \leq \epsilon$, but the converse may not be true (see Lawson and Hanson[5]p31).

Algorithm5.1

- (1) For each $z \in grid$ computing $B = z\tilde{I} - A = [b_1, \dots, b_n]$;
- (2) Computing the column pivoting QR decomposition of B ;
- (3) If $G^{\frac{1}{2}}[b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n]/|\rho_{11}| \leq \epsilon/|\rho_{11}|$ then $z \in \bar{\Lambda}_\epsilon(A)$
 else goto step (1).

Now we present some numerical examples to examine our conclusions.

Example1 We denote the matrix $A = \text{rand}(5,5)$,

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0.1934 & 0.6979 & 0.4966 & 0.6602 & 0.7271 \\ 0.6822 & 0.3784 & 0.8998 & 0.3420 & 0.3093 \\ 0.3028 & 0.8600 & 0.8216 & 0.2897 & 0.8385 \\ 0.5417 & 0.8537 & 0.6449 & 0.3412 & 0.5681 \\ 0.1509 & 0.5936 & 0.8180 & 0.5341 & 0.3704 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Figure 1 shows the pseudospectra of A , which the eigenvalue drawn as dots. Note that the sets are nested as indicated in Theorem3.1. In figure2, we see the 5×4 matrix of $A(:,1:4)$. The inclusion properties of Theorem3.1(iii) can be clearly seen that the pseudospectra of the square matrix A are bigger than those of $A(:,1:4)$.

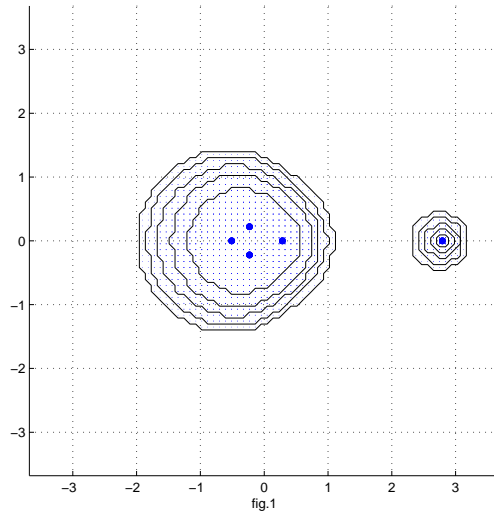


Figure 1: ϵ -pseudospectra ($\epsilon = 0.5, 0.4, 0.3, 0.2, 0.1$) for the matrix A . The grid points are selected with $v=80$.

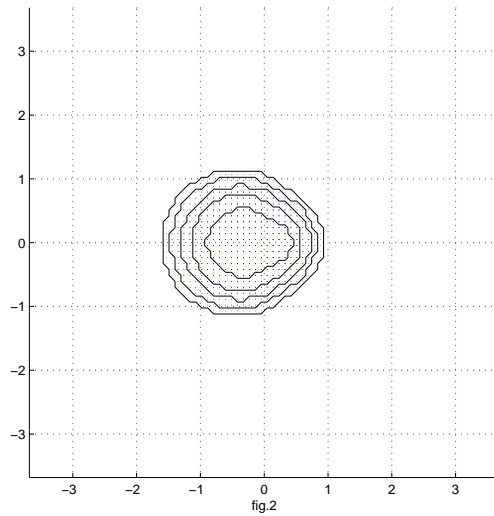


Figure 2: ϵ -pseudospectra ($\epsilon = 0.5, 0.4, 0.3, 0.2, 0.1$) for the matrix $A(:,1:4)$. The grid points are selected with $v=80$.

Example 2 This test matrix is constructed by L.N.Trefethen (see[10]p255). Let $A = A_{N=20}$ and grid points are selected with $v=80$, the numerical result is shown in Figure 3.

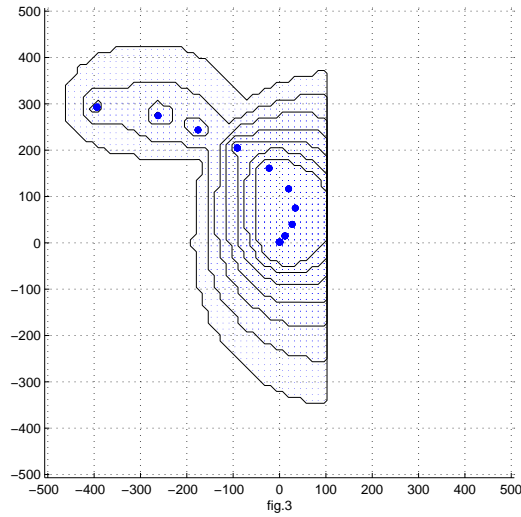


Figure 3 : ϵ -pseudospectra ($\epsilon = 10^{-1}, 10^{-2}, 10^{-3}, 10^{-4}, 10^{-5}, 10^{-6}, 10^{-7}$) for the matrix A. The grid points are selected with $v=80$.

5 Summary

We present a new definition of pseudospectra of matrices by using QR decomposition. Based on this definition we get some basic properties. An algorithm for the computation of pseudospectra is given.

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