



ALGORITHM 24

SOLUTION OF TRI-DIAGONAL LINEAR EQUATIONS

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procedure TRIDAG (n, A, B, C, D) ; integer n ;
array A, B, C, D ;
comment: This procedure1 finds the solution of an  $n \times n$  system
of linear equations whose matrix is in tridiagonal form, that
is,  $a_{ij} = 0$  for  $|i - j| \geq 2$ . Parameters are: the main diagonal
 $B_n$ , the diagonal just below  $A_n$ , the diagonal just above  $C_n$ ,
the right-hand side  $D$ : (where  $p = 1, \dots, n$  and  $r = 1, \dots,$ 
 $n - 1$ ) and the matrix order  $n$ . The solution vector replaces
the input vector  $D$  and the vector  $B$  is also destroyed in the
process ;
begin
  real w ; integer j ;
  D[1] := D[1]/B[1] ; w := B[1] ;
  for j := 2 step 1 until n do
    begin B[j - 1] := C[j - 1]/w ; w := B[j] - A[j - 1]
       $\times$  B[j - 1] ;
    D[j] := (D[j] - A[j - 1]  $\times$  D[j - 1])/w end ;
  for j := 1 step 1 until n - 1 do
    D[n - j] := D[n - j] - B[n - j]  $\times$  D[n - j + 1]
end TRIDAG

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¹ D. W. PEACEMAN AND H. H. RACHFORD, JR., The Numerical Solution of Parabolic and Elliptic Differential Equations, Journal of the Soc. for Ind. and Applied Math. Vol. 3 March 1955.

ALGORITHM 25

REAL ZEROS OF AN ARBITRARY FUNCTION

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procedure ZEROS(n, C, FUNCTION, m, ep1, ep2, ep3, eta) ;
integer n, m ; real ep1, ep2, ep3, eta ; array C ;
procedure FUNCTION ;
comment: This procedure finds the real zeros of an arbitrary
function using Muller's method1, 2 and is adapted from a
FORTRAN code by Frank.3 Each iteration determines a zero
of the quadratic passing through the last three function
values. Parameters include the number of roots desired  $n$ .
If  $C_i = \beta$  then the starting values are  $-\beta, 1, \beta$  respectively. If
 $C_i = \beta$  then the starting values are  $.9\beta, 1.1\beta, \beta$ . The procedure
FUNCTION(rt, frt) must be supplied to evaluate the function
value frt, given the argument rt.  $m$  is the maximum
number of iterations permitted.  $ep1$  is the relative conver-
gence criterion on successive iterates.  $ep2$  is the absolute
convergence criterion on the function value.  $eta$  is the spread
for multiple roots, that is, if  $|rt - C_i| < ep3$  where  $C_i$  is a
previously found root, then  $rt$  is replaced by  $rt + eta$  ;
begin integer L, jk, i, mm ; real p, p1, p2, x0, x1, x2, rt,
frt, frpt, d, dd, di, h, bi, den, dn, dm, tem ;
switch S : S1, S2, S3, S4 ;
for L := 1 step 1 until m do
begin jk := 0 ; if C[L] = 0 then go to initial else
  go to assign ;
initial: p := -1 ; p1 := 1 ; p2 := 0 ; go to start ;
assign: p := .9  $\times$  C[L] ; p1 := 1.1  $\times$  C[L] ; p2 := C[L] ;

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start: rt := p ; go to fn ;
enter: go to S;if jk < 4 then jk else 4) ;
S1: rt := p1 ; x0 := frpt ; go to fn ;
S2: rt := p2 ; x1 := frpt ; go to fn ;
S3: x2 := frpt ; h := if C[L] = 0 then -1
  else -.1  $\times$  C[L] ; d := -.5 ;
loop: dd := 1 + d ; bi := x0  $\times$  d  $\uparrow$  2 - x1  $\times$  dd  $\uparrow$  2  $\times$  x2 ;
  (dd + d) ;
den := bi  $\uparrow$  2 - 4  $\times$  x2  $\times$  d  $\times$  dd  $\times$  (x0  $\times$  d - (x1  $\times$  dd) + x2)
if den  $\leq 0$  then den := 0 else den := sqrt(den) ;
dn := bi + den ; dm := bi - den ;
if abs(dn)  $\leq$  abs(dm) then den := dm else den := dn ;
if den = 0 then den := 1 ;
di := -2  $\times$  x2  $\times$  dd/den ; h := di  $\times$  h ; rt := rt + h
go to if abs(h/rt)  $<$  ep1 then call else fn ;
S4: if abs(frpt)  $<$  abs(x2  $\times$  10) then
  begin x0 := x1 ; x1 := x2 ; x2 := frpt ; d := di
  go to loop end else begin di := di  $\times$  .5 ; h := h  $\times$  .5
  rt := rt - h ; go to fn end ;
fn: jk := jk + 1 ; if jk  $\leq$  m then mm := 1 else mm := 0
call: FUNCTION(rt, frt) ; if mm = 1 then go to compute
  else go to root ;
compute: frpt := frt ;
for i := 2 step 1 until L do
begin tem := rt - C[i - 1] ; if abs(tem)  $<$  ep3 then go
  change else frpt := frpt/tem end
test: if abs(frt)  $<$  ep2  $\wedge$  abs(frpt)  $<$  ep2 then go to root
  else go to enter ;
change: rt := rt + eta ; jk := jk - 1 ; go to fn ;
root: C[L] := rt end L
end ZEROS

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¹ D. E. MULLER, A Method for Solving Algebraic Equations Using an Automatic Computer, *MTAC* 10 (1956).

² W. L. FRANK, Finding Zeros of Arbitrary Functions, *J. ACM* 5 (1958).

³ W. L. FRANK, RWGRT, General Root Finder 704 FORTR Source Language Subroutine SHARE Distribution # 635. Parameters used by Frank are: ep1 = 10^{-6} , ep2 = 10^{-20} , ep3 = 10^{-6} , eta = 10^{-3} .

REMARK ON ALGORITHM 15

ROOTFINDER II (Henry C. Thacher, Jr., *Comm ACM*, August 1960)

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As pointed out by Lieberstein (*Comm. ACM*, January 1960, p. 5), this algorithm is precisely the Newton method of chord: the secant method applied to $g(x) = f(x) - x = 0$. Thus convergence is not of second order but rather (for simple roots) of order $\frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{5} - 1) = 1.618$, as shown by Jeeves (*Comm. ACM*, Aug 1958, pp. 9-10). In the first portion of the algorithm b, c, d, s should be set equal to $g - a$ instead of $a - g$ in order to be consistent with the iteration portion. Doing this will usually cut down the number of iterations. Not only is a preliminary test for a zero root desirable but the possibility that g may be zero at any stage of iteration should be considered in writing the return criterion. The possibility that $h = 1$ should also be checked and appropriate action taken. Algorithm 26 takes care of these matters and corrects some minor errors in Algorithm 15. This method is certainly not the best rootfinder that could be written.