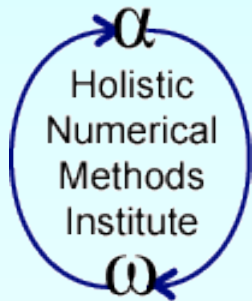


# Gauss-Siedel Method

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<http://numericalmethods.eng.usf.edu>

Transforming Numerical Methods Education for STEM Undergraduates

# Gauss-Seidel Method

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# Gauss-Seidel Method

An iterative method.

Basic Procedure:

- Algebraically solve each linear equation for  $x_i$
- Assume an initial guess solution array
- Solve for each  $x_i$  and repeat
- Use absolute relative approximate error after each iteration to check if error is within a pre-specified tolerance.

# Gauss-Seidel Method

## Why?

The Gauss-Seidel Method allows the user to control round-off error.

Elimination methods such as Gaussian Elimination and LU Decomposition are prone to round-off error.

Also: If the physics of the problem are understood, a close initial guess can be made, decreasing the number of iterations needed.

# Gauss-Seidel Method

## Algorithm

A set of  $n$  equations and  $n$  unknowns:

$$a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + a_{13}x_3 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n = b_1$$

$$a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + a_{23}x_3 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n = b_2$$

$$\vdots \quad \quad \quad \vdots$$

$$a_{n1}x_1 + a_{n2}x_2 + a_{n3}x_3 + \dots + a_{nn}x_n = b_n$$

If: the diagonal elements are non-zero

Rewrite each equation solving for the corresponding unknown

ex:

First equation, solve for  $x_1$

Second equation, solve for  $x_2$

# Gauss-Seidel Method

## Algorithm

Rewriting each equation

$$x_1 = \frac{c_1 - a_{12}x_2 - a_{13}x_3 \dots - a_{1n}x_n}{a_{11}} \longleftarrow \text{From Equation 1}$$

$$x_2 = \frac{c_2 - a_{21}x_1 - a_{23}x_3 \dots - a_{2n}x_n}{a_{22}} \longleftarrow \text{From equation 2}$$

$\vdots$        $\vdots$        $\vdots$

$$x_{n-1} = \frac{c_{n-1} - a_{n-1,1}x_1 - a_{n-1,2}x_2 \dots - a_{n-1,n-2}x_{n-2} - a_{n-1,n}x_n}{a_{n-1,n-1}} \longleftarrow \text{From equation n-1}$$

$$x_n = \frac{c_n - a_{n1}x_1 - a_{n2}x_2 - \dots - a_{n,n-1}x_{n-1}}{a_{nn}} \longleftarrow \text{From equation n}$$

# Gauss-Seidel Method

## Algorithm

General Form of each equation

$$x_1 = \frac{c_1 - \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq 1}}^n a_{1j} x_j}{a_{11}}$$

$$x_{n-1} = \frac{c_{n-1} - \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq n-1}}^n a_{n-1,j} x_j}{a_{n-1,n-1}}$$

$$x_2 = \frac{c_2 - \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq 2}}^n a_{2j} x_j}{a_{22}}$$

$$x_n = \frac{c_n - \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq n}}^n a_{nj} x_j}{a_{nn}}$$

# Gauss-Seidel Method

## Algorithm

General Form for any row 'i'

$$x_i = \frac{c_i - \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^n a_{ij} x_j}{a_{ii}}, i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

How or where can this equation be used?



# Gauss-Seidel Method

Solve for the unknowns

Assume an initial guess for  $[X]$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_{n-1} \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Use rewritten equations to solve for each value of  $x_i$ .

Important: Remember to use the most recent value of  $x_i$ . Which means to apply values calculated to the calculations remaining in the **current** iteration.

# Gauss-Seidel Method

Calculate the Absolute Relative Approximate Error

$$|\epsilon_a|_i = \left| \frac{x_i^{new} - x_i^{old}}{x_i^{new}} \right| \times 100$$

So when has the answer been found?

The iterations are stopped when the absolute relative approximate error is less than a prespecified tolerance for all unknowns.

# Example: Surface Shape Detection

To infer the surface shape of an object from images taken of a surface from three different directions, one needs to solve the following set of equations

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0.2425 & 0 & -0.9701 \\ 0 & 0.2425 & -0.9701 \\ -0.2357 & -0.2357 & -0.9428 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 247 \\ 248 \\ 239 \end{bmatrix}$$

The right hand side values are the light intensities from the middle of the images, while the coefficient matrix is dependent on the light source directions with respect to the camera. The unknowns are the incident intensities that will determine the shape of the object.

Find the values of  $x_1$ ,  $x_2$ , and  $x_3$  use the Gauss-Seidel method.

# Example: Surface Shape Detection

The system of equations is:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0.2425 & 0 & -0.9701 \\ 0 & 0.2425 & -0.9701 \\ -0.2357 & -0.2357 & -0.9428 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 247 \\ 248 \\ 239 \end{bmatrix}$$

Initial Guess:

Assume an initial guess of

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 10 \\ 10 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Example: Surface Shape Detection

Rewriting each equation

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0.2425 & 0 & -0.9701 \\ 0 & 0.2425 & -0.9701 \\ -0.2357 & -0.2357 & -0.9428 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 247 \\ 248 \\ 239 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_1 = \frac{247 - 0x_2 - (-0.9701)x_3}{0.2425}$$

$$x_2 = \frac{248 - 0x_1 - (-0.9701)x_3}{0.2425}$$

$$x_3 = \frac{239 - (-0.2357)x_1 - (-0.2357)x_2}{-0.9428}$$

# Example: Surface Shape Detection

## Iteration 1

Substituting initial guesses into the equations

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 10 \\ 10 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_1 = \frac{247 - 0 \times 10 - (-0.9701) \times 10}{0.2425} = 1058.6$$

$$x_2 = \frac{248 - 0 \times 1058.6 - (-0.9701) \times 10}{0.2425} = 1062.7$$

$$x_3 = \frac{239 - (-0.2357) \times 1058.6 - (-0.2357) \times 1062.7}{-0.9428} = -783.81$$

# Example: Surface Shape Detection

Finding the absolute relative approximate error

$$|\epsilon_a|_i = \left| \frac{x_i^{new} - x_i^{old}}{x_i^{new}} \right| \times 100$$

$$|\epsilon_a|_1 = \left| \frac{1058.6 - 10}{1058.6} \right| \times 100 = 99.055\%$$

$$|\epsilon_a|_2 = \left| \frac{1062.7 - 10}{1062.7} \right| \times 100 = 99.059\%$$

$$|\epsilon_a|_3 = \left| \frac{(-783.81) - 10}{-783.81} \right| \times 100 = 101.28\%$$

At the end of the first iteration

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1058.56 \\ 1062.7 \\ -783.81 \end{bmatrix}$$

The maximum absolute relative approximate error is  
101.28%

# Example: Surface Shape Detection

## Iteration 2

$$\text{Using } \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1058.6 \\ 1062.7 \\ -783.81 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_1 = \frac{247 - 0 \times 1062.7 - (-0.9701) \times (-783.81)}{0.2425} = -2117.0$$

$$x_2 = \frac{248 - 0 \times (-2117.0) - (-0.9701) \times (-783.81)}{0.2425} = -2112.9$$

$$x_3 = \frac{239 - (-0.2357) \times (-2117.0) - (-0.2357) \times (-2112.9)}{-0.9428} = 803.98$$



# Example: Surface Shape Detection

Finding the absolute relative approximate error for the second iteration

$$|\epsilon_a|_1 = \left| \frac{(-2117.0) - 1058.6}{-2117.0} \right| \times 100 = 150.00\%$$

At the end of the first iteration

$$|\epsilon_a|_2 = \left| \frac{(-2112.9) - 1062.7}{-2112.9} \right| \times 100 = 150.30\%$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2117.0 \\ -2112.9 \\ 803.98 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$|\epsilon_a|_3 = \left| \frac{803.98 - (-783.81)}{803.98} \right| \times 100 = 197.49\%$$

The maximum absolute relative approximate error is 197.49%

# Example: Surface Shape Detection

Repeating more iterations, the following values are obtained

Iteration	$x_1$	$ \epsilon_a _1\%$	$x_2$	$ \epsilon_a _2\%$	$x_3$	$ \epsilon_a _3\%$
1	1058.6	99.055	1062.7	99.059	-783.81	101.28
2	-2117.0	150.00	-2112.9	150.30	803.98	197.49
3	4234.8	149.99	4238.9	149.85	-2371.9	133.90
4	-8470.1	150.00	-8466.0	150.07	3980.5	159.59
5	16942	149.99	16946	149.96	-8725.7	145.62
6	-33888	150.00	-33884	150.01	16689	152.28

Notice: The absolute relative approximate errors are not decreasing.

# Gauss-Seidel Method: Pitfall

## What went wrong?

Even though done correctly, the answer is not converging to the correct answer

This example illustrates a pitfall of the Gauss-Seidel method: not all systems of equations will converge.

## Is there a fix?

One class of system of equations always converges: One with a *diagonally dominant* coefficient matrix.

Diagonally dominant:  $[A]$  in  $[A][X] = [C]$  is diagonally dominant if:

$$\left|a_{ii}\right| \geq \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^n \left|a_{ij}\right| \quad \text{for all 'i'} \quad \text{and} \quad \left|a_{ii}\right| > \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^n \left|a_{ij}\right| \quad \text{for at least one 'i'}$$

# Gauss-Seidel Method: Pitfall

Diagonally Dominant: In other words....

For every row: the element on the diagonal needs to be equal than or greater than the sum of the other elements of the coefficient matrix

For at least one row: The element on the diagonal needs to be greater than the sum of the elements.

What can be done? If the coefficient matrix is not originally diagonally dominant, the rows can be rearranged to make it diagonally dominant.

# Example: Surface Shape Detection

Examination of the coefficient matrix reveals that it is not diagonally dominant and cannot be rearranged to become diagonally dominant

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0.2425 & 0 & -0.9701 \\ 0 & 0.2425 & -0.9701 \\ -0.2357 & -0.2357 & -0.9428 \end{bmatrix}$$

This particular problem is an example of a system of linear equations that cannot be solved using the Gauss-Seidel method.

Other methods that would work:

1. Gaussian elimination

2. LU Decomposition

# Gauss-Seidel Method: Example 2

Given the system of equations

$$12x_1 + 3x_2 - 5x_3 = 1$$

$$x_1 + 5x_2 + 3x_3 = 28$$

$$3x_1 + 7x_2 + 13x_3 = 76$$

The coefficient matrix is:

$$[A] = \begin{bmatrix} 12 & 3 & -5 \\ 1 & 5 & 3 \\ 3 & 7 & 13 \end{bmatrix}$$

With an initial guess of

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Will the solution converge using the Gauss-Seidel method?

# Gauss-Seidel Method: Example 2

Checking if the coefficient matrix is diagonally dominant

$$[A] = \begin{bmatrix} 12 & 3 & -5 \\ 1 & 5 & 3 \\ 3 & 7 & 13 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$|a_{11}| = |12| = 12 \geq |a_{12}| + |a_{13}| = |3| + |-5| = 8$$

$$|a_{22}| = |5| = 5 \geq |a_{21}| + |a_{23}| = |1| + |3| = 4$$

$$|a_{33}| = |13| = 13 \geq |a_{31}| + |a_{32}| = |3| + |7| = 10$$

The inequalities are all true and at least one row is *strictly* greater than:

Therefore: The solution should converge using the Gauss-Seidel Method

# Gauss-Seidel Method: Example 2

Rewriting each equation

$$\begin{bmatrix} 12 & 3 & -5 \\ 1 & 5 & 3 \\ 3 & 7 & 13 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 28 \\ 76 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_1 = \frac{1 - 3x_2 + 5x_3}{12}$$

$$x_2 = \frac{28 - x_1 - 3x_3}{5}$$

$$x_3 = \frac{76 - 3x_1 - 7x_2}{13}$$

With an initial guess of

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_1 = \frac{1 - 3(0) + 5(1)}{12} = 0.50000$$

$$x_2 = \frac{28 - (0.5) - 3(1)}{5} = 4.9000$$

$$x_3 = \frac{76 - 3(0.50000) - 7(4.9000)}{13} = 3.0923$$



# Gauss-Seidel Method: Example 2

The absolute relative approximate error

$$|\epsilon_a|_1 = \left| \frac{0.50000 - 1.00000}{0.50000} \right| \times 100 = 100.00\%$$

$$|\epsilon_a|_2 = \left| \frac{4.9000 - 0}{4.9000} \right| \times 100 = 100.00\%$$

$$|\epsilon_a|_3 = \left| \frac{3.0923 - 1.0000}{3.0923} \right| \times 100 = 67.662\%$$

The maximum absolute relative error after the first iteration is 100%

# Gauss-Seidel Method: Example 2

After Iteration #1

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5000 \\ 4.9000 \\ 3.0923 \end{bmatrix}$$

Substituting the x values into the equations

$$x_1 = \frac{1 - 3(4.9000) + 5(3.0923)}{12} = 0.14679$$

$$x_2 = \frac{28 - (0.14679) - 3(3.0923)}{5} = 3.7153$$

$$x_3 = \frac{76 - 3(0.14679) - 7(4.9000)}{13} = 3.8118$$

After Iteration #2

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.14679 \\ 3.7153 \\ 3.8118 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Gauss-Seidel Method: Example 2

Iteration 2 absolute relative approximate error

$$|\epsilon_a|_1 = \left| \frac{0.14679 - 0.50000}{0.14679} \right| \times 100 = 240.61\%$$

$$|\epsilon_a|_2 = \left| \frac{3.7153 - 4.9000}{3.7153} \right| \times 100 = 31.889\%$$

$$|\epsilon_a|_3 = \left| \frac{3.8118 - 3.0923}{3.8118} \right| \times 100 = 18.874\%$$

The maximum absolute relative error after the first iteration is 240.61%

This is much larger than the maximum absolute relative error obtained in iteration #1. Is this a problem?

# Gauss-Seidel Method: Example 2

Repeating more iterations, the following values are obtained

Iteration	$a_1$	$ \epsilon_{a_1}  \%$	$a_2$	$ \epsilon_{a_2}  \%$	$a_3$	$ \epsilon_{a_3}  \%$
1	0.50000	100.00	4.9000	100.00	3.0923	67.662
2	0.14679	240.61	3.7153	31.889	3.8118	18.876
3	0.74275	80.236	3.1644	17.408	3.9708	4.0042
4	0.94675	21.546	3.0281	4.4996	3.9971	0.65772
5	0.99177	4.5391	3.0034	0.82499	4.0001	0.074383
6	0.99919	0.74307	3.0001	0.10856	4.0001	0.00101

The solution obtained  $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.99919 \\ 3.0001 \\ 4.0001 \end{bmatrix}$  is close to the exact solution of  $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$ .

# Gauss-Seidel Method: Example 3

Given the system of equations

$$3x_1 + 7x_2 + 13x_3 = 76$$

$$x_1 + 5x_2 + 3x_3 = 28$$

$$12x_1 + 3x_2 - 5x_3 = 1$$

With an initial guess of

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Rewriting the equations

$$x_1 = \frac{76 - 7x_2 - 13x_3}{3}$$

$$x_2 = \frac{28 - x_1 - 3x_3}{5}$$

$$x_3 = \frac{1 - 12x_1 - 3x_2}{-5}$$

# Gauss-Seidel Method: Example 3

Conducting six iterations, the following values are obtained

Iteration	$a_1$	$ \epsilon_{a_1}  \%$	$A_2$	$ \epsilon_{a_2}  \%$	$a_3$	$ \epsilon_{a_3}  \%$
1	21.000	95.238	0.80000	100.00	50.680	98.027
2	-196.15	110.71	14.421	94.453	-462.30	110.96
3	-1995.0	109.83	-116.02	112.43	4718.1	109.80
4	-20149	109.90	1204.6	109.63	-47636	109.90
5	$2.0364 \cdot 10^5$	109.89	-12140	109.92	$4.8144 \cdot 10^5$	109.89
6	$-2.0579 \cdot 10^5$	109.89	$1.2272 \cdot 10^5$	109.89	$-4.8653 \cdot 10^6$	109.89

The values are not converging.

Does this mean that the Gauss-Seidel method cannot be used?

# Gauss-Seidel Method

The Gauss-Seidel Method can still be used

The coefficient matrix is not diagonally dominant

$$[A] = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 7 & 13 \\ 1 & 5 & 3 \\ 12 & 3 & -5 \end{bmatrix}$$

But this is the same set of equations used in example #2, which did converge.

$$[A] = \begin{bmatrix} 12 & 3 & -5 \\ 1 & 5 & 3 \\ 3 & 7 & 13 \end{bmatrix}$$

If a system of linear equations is not diagonally dominant, check to see if rearranging the equations can form a diagonally dominant matrix.

# Gauss-Seidel Method

Not every system of equations can be rearranged to have a diagonally dominant coefficient matrix.

Observe the set of equations

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 3$$

$$2x_1 + 3x_2 + 4x_3 = 9$$

$$x_1 + 7x_2 + x_3 = 9$$

Which equation(s) prevents this set of equation from having a diagonally dominant coefficient matrix?



# Gauss-Seidel Method

## Summary

- Advantages of the Gauss-Seidel Method
- Algorithm for the Gauss-Seidel Method
- Pitfalls of the Gauss-Seidel Method

# Gauss-Seidel Method

Questions?

# Additional Resources

For all resources on this topic such as digital audiovisual lectures, primers, textbook chapters, multiple-choice tests, worksheets in MATLAB, MATHEMATICA, MathCad and MAPLE, blogs, related physical problems, please visit

[http://numericalmethods.eng.usf.edu/topics/gauss\\_seidel.html](http://numericalmethods.eng.usf.edu/topics/gauss_seidel.html)

**THE END**

<http://numericalmethods.eng.usf.edu>