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A Catalogue of Software for Matrix Functions. Version 3.0*

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Abstract

A catalogue of software for computing matrix functions and their Fréchet derivatives is presented. For a wide variety of languages and for both open source packages and commercial products we describe what matrix function codes are available and which algorithms they implement.

Contents

*Version 1.0 was dated February 12, 2014. Version 2.0 was dated January 25, 2016 and was updated March 16, 2016.

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1 Introduction

The earliest widely available software for computing functions of matrices is probably the function named `fun` in the original 1984 Fortran version of MATLAB:

```
      < M A T L A B >
    Version of 01/10/84

<>
help fun

FUN For matrix arguments  X , the  functions  SIN,  COS,  ATAN,
    SQRT,  LOG,  EXP and X**p are computed using eigenvalues  D
    and eigenvectors  V .  If  <V,D> =  EIG(X)   then   f(X)  =
    V*f(D)/V  .   This method may give inaccurate results if  V
    is badly conditioned.  Some idea of  the  accuracy  can  be
    obtained by comparing  X**1  with  X .
    For vector arguments,  the  function  is  applied  to  each
    component.
```

Since then, and especially since the early 2000s, the quantity of software for matrix functions has grown tremendously—to such an extent that it is hard to keep track of what is available. This document is an attempt to produce a catalogue of software for matrix functions available in different languages and packages.

The document lists what is available with a brief description of and reference to the algorithms that are used (where known). We make no attempt to judge the quality of the software. We also do not specify version numbers; for software still under development we are referring to the version current at the time of writing. This document is not intended to be exhaustive. For example, if a code or package has been superseded or is a translation of an existing code to another language we will usually omit it.

This catalogue is a revised and updated version of [63], [64]. We welcome notification of errors and omissions, which will be incorporated into future versions.

For background on functions of matrices see [56], [58], or [69].

2 Applications of Matrix Functions

Matrix functions have applications in a diverse and growing range of areas of science, engineering, and the social sciences. We list a selection of areas in which matrix function software is being used.

- Multizone models of pollutant transport in buildings take the form of linear systems of ordinary differential equations, which can be effectively solved using the matrix exponential [89].
- In Markov models in finance, statistics, healthcare, and social science [56, Sec. 2.3] transition probability matrices are related to the transition intensity matrix via the matrix exponential. Transition matrices for shorter time scales can be generated by taking matrix roots, but there are open questions about the existence and uniqueness of stochastic roots [66], [74].

- NMR spectroscopy involves evaluating the exponential of a symmetric diagonally dominant relaxation matrix [50], [85]. The package SIMPSON (`http://nmr.au.dk/software/simpson`) for numerical simulations of NMR experiments includes several methods for evaluating the matrix exponential.

- In control theory, linear dynamical systems can be expressed as continuous-time systems or as discrete-time state-space systems. The matrix exponential and logarithm can be used to convert between the two forms [56, Sec. 2.4]. In the Control System Toolbox for MATLAB, functions `c2d` and `d2c` carry out these conversions.

- In nuclear engineering the burnup equations are a first-order system of linear ordinary differential equations that are usually solved by time-stepping with the matrix exponential [91]. The Python Nuclear Engineering Toolkit (`https://pyne.io`) uses the SciPy function `linalg.expm` (see Section 21.1).

- In social and information networks the elements of either the exponential or the resolvent of the adjacency matrix of the network can be used to quantify the importance of nodes within the network [31], [32], [45]. Recent research and software development has focused on computing these elements, including in cases with special structure; see [16] and the references therein. In time-varying networks the matrix logarithm is required [46].

- A number of problems in imaging make use of the matrix logarithm, including image registration [13], patch modeling-based skin detection [72], and in-betweening in computer animations [92].

- In optics, the Mueller matrix M is a real 4×4 matrix associated with an element that alters the polarization of light. One method for determining the diattenutation, retardance, and depolarization properties of M involves computing a pth root with $p \approx 10^5$ [23], [87]. The logarithm of M also provides understanding of the underlying medium that M describes [88]. A related Jones matrix can be represented in terms of the matrix exponential [14].

3 Matrix Function Algorithms

There is now a large literature on matrix function algorithms, of which a survey as of 2010 is given in [62]. It may not be clear to users from different fields which algorithms represent the current state-of-the-art. We list the algorithms that we consider to be preferred for a few common matrix functions, for the case where a factorization of A can be explicitly computed and full precision is required.

- Exponential: scaling and squaring algorithm (Al-Mohy and Higham, 2009) [4].

- Logarithm: inverse scaling and squaring algorithm (Al-Mohy, Higham, and Relton, 2012, 2013) [7], [8].

- Square root: Schur algorithm (Björck and Hammarling, 1983) [20], or real version for real matrices (Higham, 1987) [53]. An algorithm with blocking provides performance improvements (Deadman, Higham, and Ralha, 2013) [27].

- Real matrix power A^t with $t \in \mathbb{R}$: Schur–Padé algorithm (Higham and Lin, 2013) [68].

- Cosine and sine (Al-Mohy, Higham, and Relton, 2015) [9].

- Inverse cosine, inverse sine, inverse hyperbolic cosine, and inverse hyperbolic sine ($\arccos A$, $\operatorname{acos} A$, $\operatorname{acosh} A$, $\operatorname{asinh} A$) (Aprahamian and Higham, 2016) [11].

- General matrix function with derivatives of the underlying scalar function available: Schur–Parlett algorithm (Davies and Higham, 2003) [24]. This uses the recurrence of Parlett (1976) [90].

- Function of a symmetric or Hermitian matrix: diagonalization (spectral decomposition).

An important distinction is between algorithms that use a Schur decomposition or spectral decomposition and those that rely only on matrix multiplication and other Basic Linear Algebra Subprogram (BLAS) kernels. The latter transformation-free algorithms may be preferable in some situations, such as when an optimized decomposition code is not available. Many of the algorithms mentioned above come in both transformation-based and transformation-free forms.

In many applications of matrix functions the matrix is not known exactly, due to data errors or errors in previous computations. Even with exact data the computation of a matrix function is subject to rounding errors. It is therefore important to understand the sensitivity of the matrix function to perturbations in the data, which is determined by the Fréchet derivative, denoted by L_f. The recommended algorithms for computing the Fréchet derivative are as follows.

- Exponential: scaling and squaring algorithm (Al-Mohy and Higham, 2009) [3].

- Logarithm: inverse scaling and squaring algorithm (Al-Mohy, Higham, and Relton, 2013) [8].

- Real matrix power A^t with $t \in \mathbb{R}$: Schur–Padé algorithm (Higham and Lin, 2013) [68].

- General matrix function: complex step algorithm (Al-Mohy and Higham, 2010) [5] or use of a block 2×2 matrix formula [62, Sec. 7.3].

Table 3.1 summarizes the availability of the above algorithms in several key sources of software. Details are provided in the following sections.

The worst-case sensitivity of a matrix function over all perturbations is measured by the condition number, $\mathrm{cond}(f, A)$ [56, Chap. 3]. The recommended way to estimate the condition number is by using one of the above algorithms for the Fréchet derivative in conjunction with [56, Alg. 3.22] and the block matrix 1-norm estimator of [71]; an implementation is the function `funm_condest1` in the Matrix Function Toolbox (see Section 7). We encourage users to compute a condition number estimate whenever possible.

A rather different problem is to compute $f(A)b$, where b is a vector—the action of $f(A)$ on a vector—without explicitly forming $f(A)$. Such problems can involve very large, sparse matrices, in which case matrix factorization may not be possible and methods that require only matrix–vector products with A are needed. The sensitivity of this problem is investigated by Deadman [25].

Codes for the $f(A)b$ problem are described in some of the following sections.

4 MATLAB Built-in Functions

MATLAB has a number of built-in commands for evaluating functions of matrices.

- `expm`: matrix exponential by scaling and squaring algorithm (Al-Mohy and Higham, 2009) [4]. MATLAB R2006a–R2015a used the earlier algorithm of (Higham, 2005, 2009) [55], [57], which could suffer from overscaling [61], [80].

  Also included for pedagogical and historical interest are three older algorithms.

Table 3.1: Availability of recommended algorithms.

	MATLAB built-in Sec. 4	MATLAB Third party Secs 7, 8	NAG Library Sec. 19	SciPy Sec. 21.1	Julia Sec. 16	R Sec. 22
e^A [4]	√	√	√	√	√	√
$\log A$ [7], [8]	√	√	√	√	√	×
$\cos A$, $\sin A$ [9]	×	√	×	×	√	×
$\mathrm{acos(h)}(A)$, $\mathrm{asin(h)}(A)$ [11]	×	√	×	×	√	×
$A^{1/2}$ [20], [27], [53]	√	√	√	√	√	√
A^t [68]	×	√	√	√	√	×
$f(A)$ [24]	√	–	√	×	×	×
Estimation of $\mathrm{cond}(f, A)$	×	√	√	×	×	×
$e^A b$ [6][a]	×	√	√	√	×	×
$L_{\exp}$ [3]	×	√	√	√	×	√
$L_{\log}$ [8]	×	√	√	×	×	×
L_{x^t} [68]	×	√	√	×	×	×

[a] Krylov methods are also available; see the following sections.

  - `expmdemo1`: matrix exponential by an older scaling and squaring algorithm [42, Alg. 9.3.1]. This is an M-file implementation of the algorithm that was used by `expm` in MATLAB 7 (R14SP3) and earlier versions.
  - `expmdemo2`: matrix exponential by Taylor series.
  - `expmdemo3`: matrix exponential by eigenvalue decomposition.

- `logm`: matrix logarithm by inverse scaling and squaring algorithm (Al-Mohy, Higham, and Relton, 2012, 2013) [7], [8]. MATLAB R2008a–R2015a used the Schur–Parlett algorithm combined with inverse scaling and squaring (Higham, 2008) [56, Alg. 11.11].

- `mpower`, `^`: arbitrary matrix power via eigendecomposition. Note that this approach can be numerically unstable for noninteger powers of highly nonnormal matrices.

- `sqrtm`: matrix square root by Schur method with recursive blocking (Björck and Hammarling, 1983) [20], (Deadman, Higham, and Ralha, 2013) [27] and with condition number estimate [60].

- `funm`: Schur–Parlett algorithm for general functions (Davies and Higham, 2003) [24]. It has built-in support for the matrix cosine, sine, hyperbolic cosine, and hyperbolic sine.

- `polyvalm`: evaluate polynomial with matrix argument.

5 Symbolic Math Toolbox

The Symbolic Math Toolbox [79] is a MATLAB toolbox that carries out computations with symbolic variables and also provides variable precision arithmetic. The toolbox overloads the following functions for both symbolic and variable precision matrix arguments. For variable precision arguments the function `digits` can be used to specify the number of digits of precision required.

- `expm`: matrix exponential.
- `logm`: matrix logarithm.
- `sqrtm`: matrix square root.
- `mpower`, `^`: arbitrary matrix power via eigendecomposition.
- `funm`: general matrix function.

The Symbolic Math Toolbox also contains the MuPAD computer algebra system, which provides some additional matrix function capabilities for matrices with numeric (not symbolic) entries.

- `numeric::expMatrix`: computes the matrix exponential or the action of the matrix exponential on another matrix or vector. The numerical precision used can be specified by the environment variable `DIGITS`. The exponential is evaluated using a choice of diagonalization, interpolation, a Taylor series (apparently without scaling and squaring), or (for $e^A b$ only) a Krylov subspace method.
- `numeric::fMatrix`: for a diagonalizable matrix, computes an arbitrary function of the matrix via a diagonalization.

6 The Advanpix Multiprecision Computing Toolbox

The Advanpix Multiprecision Toolbox [82] is an extension to MATLAB for computing with arbitrary precision. The toolbox provides arbitrary precision analogues to the built-in MATLAB matrix functions as well as some trigonometric matrix functions. It is specifically optimized for quadruple precision.

The following matrix function routines are available in the toolbox: `funm`, `expm`, `sqrtm`, `logm`, `sqrtm_tri`, `mpower`, `sinm`, `cosm`, `sinhm`, and `coshm`. The first four have the same calling sequences as their MATLAB counterparts.

7 The Matrix Function Toolbox

The Matrix Function Toolbox (Higham, 2008) [52] contains MATLAB implementations of many of the algorithms described in the book *Functions of Matrices: Theory and Computation* [56], including

- trigonometric matrix functions,
- condition number evaluation and estimation,
- Fréchet derivative evaluation,
- polar decomposition,
- iterative methods for computing matrix roots,
- $f(A)b$ via Arnoldi method.

The toolbox is documented in [56, App. D] and its contents are summarized in Table 7.1.

Table 7.1: Contents of Matrix Function Toolbox.

`arnoldi`	Arnoldi iteration
`ascent_seq`	Ascent sequence for square (singular) matrix.
`cosm`	Matrix cosine by double angle algorithm.
`cosm_pade`	Evaluate Padé approximation to the matrix cosine.
`cosmsinm`	Matrix cosine and sine by double angle algorithm.
`cosmsinm_pade`	Evaluate Padé approximations to matrix cosine and sine.
`expm_cond`	Relative condition number of matrix exponential.
`expm_frechet_pade`	Fréchet derivative of matrix exponential via Padé approximation.
`expm_frechet_quad`	Fréchet derivative of matrix exponential via quadrature.
`fab_arnoldi`	$f(A)b$ approximated by Arnoldi method.
`funm_condest1`	Estimate of 1-norm condition number of matrix function.
`funm_condest_fro`	Estimate of Frobenius norm condition number of matrix function.
`funm_ev`	Evaluate general matrix function via eigensystem.
`funm_simple`	Simplified Schur–Parlett method for function of a matrix.
`logm_cond`	Relative condition number of matrix logarithm.
`logm_frechet_pade`	Fréchet derivative of matrix logarithm via Padé approximation.
`logm_iss`	Matrix logarithm by inverse scaling and squaring method.
`logm_pade_pf`	Evaluate Padé approximant to matrix logarithm by partial fraction form.
`mft_test`	Test the Matrix Function Toolbox.
`mft_tolerance`	Convergence tolerance for matrix iterations.
`polar_newton`	Polar decomposition by scaled Newton iteration.
`polar_svd`	Canonical polar decomposition via singular value decomposition.
`polyvalm_ps`	Evaluate polynomial at matrix argument by Paterson–Stockmeyer algorithm.
`power_binary`	Power of matrix by binary powering (repeated squaring).
`quasitriang_struct`	Block structure of upper quasitriangular matrix.
`riccati_xaxb`	Solve Riccati equation $XAX = B$ in positive definite matrices.
`rootpm_newton`	Coupled Newton iteration for matrix pth root.
`rootpm_real`	pth root of real matrix via real Schur form.
`rootpm_schur_newton`	Matrix pth root by Schur–Newton method.
`rootpm_sign`	Matrix pth root via matrix sign function.
`signm`	Matrix sign decomposition.
`signm_newton`	Matrix sign function by Newton iteration.
`sqrtm_db`	Matrix square root by Denman–Beavers iteration.
`sqrtm_dbp`	Matrix square root by product form of Denman–Beavers iteration.
`sqrtm_newton`	Matrix square root by Newton iteration (unstable).
`sqrtm_newton_full`	Matrix square root by full Newton method.
`sqrtm_pd`	Square root of positive definite matrix via polar decomposition.
`sqrtm_pulay`	Matrix square root by Pulay iteration.
`sqrtm_real`	Square root of real matrix by real Schur method.
`sqrtm_triang_min_norm`	Estimated minimum norm square root of triangular matrix.
`sylvsol`	Solve Sylvester equation.

8 Other MATLAB Functions

Various other MATLAB functions implementing algorithms developed in research papers are freely available online. We organize them according to the problem that they treat: $f(A)$ or the action of $f(A)$ on a vector, $f(A)b$.

8.1 $f(A)$

- Al-Mohy, Higham, and Relton (2013) [8]: an algorithm for the matrix logarithm (a real version of the algorithm in [7]) together with Fréchet derivatives and condition number estimates. Available from http://www.mathworks.com/matlabcentral/fileexchange/38894-matrix-logarithm-with-frechet-derivatives-and-condition-number.

- Al-Mohy, Higham, and Relton (2015) [9]: algorithms for the matrix cosine, the matrix sine, and for simultaneous evaluation of the matrix cosine and sine. Available from https://github.com/sdrelton/cosm_sinm and http://uk.mathworks.com/matlabcentral/fileexchange/53130-matrix-cosine-and-sine-functions.

- Aprahamian and Higham (2014) [10], [59]: an algorithm for computing the matrix unwinding function. Available at http://eprints.ma.man.ac.uk/2094.

- Aprahamian and Higham (2016) [11]: algorithms for the matrix inverse cosine, inverse sine, inverse hyperbolic cosine, and inverse hyperbolic sine. Available at https://github.com/higham/matrix-inv-trig-hyp.

- Deadman and Higham (2016) [26]: a method for testing matrix function algorithms using identities. Available from https://github.com/edvindeadman/testing_matrix_functions.

- Fasi and Higham (2018) [33]: arbitrary precision algorithms for computing the matrix logarithm. Available from https://github.com/mfasi/mplogm, https://uk.mathworks.com/matlabcentral/fileexchange/63841-multiprecision-algorithms-for-computing-the-matrix-logarithm.

- Fasi and Higham (2019) [34]: arbitrary precision scaling and squaring algorithm for the matrix exponential. Available from https://github.com/mfasi/mpexpm.

- Fasi, Higham, and Iannazzo (2015) [35]: the Lambert W function of a matrix. Available from http://riccati.dm.unipi.it/software/lambertw.

- Greco and Iannazzo (2010) [44]: a binary powering Schur algorithm for matrix roots. Available from http://poisson.phc.dm.unipi.it/%7emaxreen/bruno/b_papers.php.

- Higham and Lin (2013) [68]: a Schur–Padé algorithm for fractional matrix powers together with Fréchet derivatives and condition estimates. Available from http://www.mathworks.com/matlabcentral/fileexchange/41621-fractional-matrix-powers-with-frechet-derivatives-and-condition-number-estimate.

- Higham and Noferini (2016) [70]: an algorithm for computing the polar decomposition of a 3×3 matrix. Available from https://github.com/higham/polar-decomp-3by3.

- Iannazzo and Manasse (2013) [73]: a Schur logarithmic algorithm for fractional powers of matrices. Available from http://poisson.phc.unipi.it/~maxreen/bruno/codes/pthrootlog.m.

- Nadukandi and Higham [83]: an algorithm for computing the wave-kernel matrix functions $\cosh\sqrt{A}$ and $\mathrm{sinhc}\sqrt{A}$ for an arbitrary square matrix A, where $\mathrm{sinhc}z = \sinh(z)/z$. Available from https://github.com/nadukandi/wkm.

8.2 $f(A)b$

- Al-Mohy (2018) [2]: a method for computing the action of the cosine, sine, sinc, hyperbolic cosine, hyperbolic sine and hyperbolic sinc of a matrix on a vector. Available from https://github.com/aalmohy/funmv.

- Al-Mohy and Higham (2011) [6]: a scaled Taylor series algorithm for the action of the matrix exponential on a vector. Available from https://github.com/higham/expmv.

- Caliari, Kandolf, Ostermann, and Rainer (2014) [21]: a method for computing the action of the matrix exponential (for a matrix with spectrum in the left half of the complex plane) based on interpolation at Leja points. Available from http://www.mathworks.com/matlabcentral/fileexchange/44039-matrix-exponential-times-a-vector.

- Caliari, Kandolf, Ostermann, and Rainer (2016) [22]: a newer version of the Leja algorithm with no restriction on the spectrum of A. Available from https://bitbucket.org/expleja/expleja/src/default/.

- Eiermann and Güttel (2008) [1], [29]: a restarted Krylov algorithm for computing $f(A)b$; it also implements deflated restarting [30] and harmonic Arnoldi approximation [36]. Available from http://www.guettel.com/funm_kryl.

- Frommer, Güttel, and Schweitzer (2014) [37]: a quadrature-based restarted Krylov method for $f(A)b$. It implements deflated restarting [30]. Available from http://www.guettel.com/funm_quad.

- Frommer, Lund, and Szyld (2017) [38], [39]: a package implementing restarted block full orthogonalization methods (FOM) for approximating the action of a matrix function on multiple vectors, $f(A)B$. Available from https://gitlab.com/katlund/bfomfom-main.

- Güttel (2010): a rational Chebyshev series method for computing $\mathrm{e}^A b$, where A is symmetric and has no positive eigenvalues. Available from http://www.mathworks.com/matlabcentral/fileexchange/28199-matrix-exponential.

- Güttel and Knizhnerman (2011) [47]: a black-box rational Arnoldi method for computing $f(A)b$, where f is a Markov matrix function. Available from http://guettel.com/markovfunmv. See also [48].

- Hale, Higham, and Trefethen (2008) [49]: algorithms for evaluating $f(A)$ and $f(A)b$ by contour integration. MATLAB code is embedded in the paper.

- Higham and Kandolf (2017) [65]: a method for computing the action of the cosine, sine, hyperbolic cosine, and hyperbolic sine of a matrix on a vector. Available from https://bitbucket.org/kandolfp/trigmv/src/master/.

- Kloster and Gleich (2013) [77]: an algorithm for computing a column of the exponential of a stochastic matrix. Code is available from https://www.cs.purdue.edu/homes/dgleich/codes/nexpokit.

9 Armadillo

The Armadillo linear algebra library for C++ [12], [94] contains functions

- `expmat`: matrix exponential, based on a version of [81, Method 3], using scaling and squaring with a 6th degree Padé approximant,
- `expmat_sym`: matrix exponential of symmetric matrix via diagonalization,
- `logmat`: matrix logarithm, using inverse scaling and squaring [56, Alg. 11.9],
- `logmat_sympd`: symmetric matrix logarithm via diagonalization,
- `sqrtmat`: square root of matrix, using real Schur decomposition [54],
- `sqrtmat_sympd`: square root of symmetric matrix via diagonalization.

10 C++: Eigen

Niesen has written a matrix functions module for the Eigen C++ template library for linear algebra [86].

- `MatrixBase::exp()`: matrix exponential by scaling and squaring algorithm (Higham, 2005) [55], [57].
- `MatrixBase::sin()`, `MatrixBase::sinh()`, `MatrixBase::cos()`, `MatrixBase::cosh()` and `MatrixBase::matrixFunction()` are all based on the Schur–Parlett algorithm (Davies and Higham, 2003) [24].
- `MatrixBase::log()`: matrix logarithm by the Schur–Parlett algorithm with inverse scaling and squaring [56, Alg. 11.11].
- `MatrixBase::pow()`: real matrix powers A^t ($t \in \mathbb{R}$) using the Schur–Padé algorithm (Higham and Lin, 2011) [67].
- `MatrixBase::sqrt()`: matrix square root by Schur method (Björck and Hammarling, 1983) [20] and the real Schur method (Higham, 1987) [53].

11 Expokit

Expokit (Sidje, 1998) [97], [98] is a package of Fortran and MATLAB codes to compute e^A (using scaling and squaring) and $e^A b$ (using Krylov subspace methods). An R interface to Expokit is available at http://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/expoRkit.

12 EXPINT

EXPINT (Berland, Skaflestad and Wright, 2007) [17], [18] is a MATLAB package providing exponential integrators for ordinary differential equations. A large range of Runge–Kutta, multistep, and general linear integrators is available. The functions $\varphi_k(z) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} z^j/(j+k)!$ underlying the methods are evaluated at matrix arguments using Padé approximants with a scaling and squaring scheme.

13 GNU Octave

GNU Octave [40] is an open source problem-solving environment (PSE)[1] with a high-level programming language similar to (and mostly compatible with) MATLAB. It contains several matrix function routines.

- `expm`: matrix exponential by Ward's version of the scaling and squaring algorithm (1977) [103].
- `logm`: matrix logarithm by an inverse scaling and squaring algorithm (Higham, 2008) [56].
- `sqrtm`: matrix square root by the Schur method (Björck and Hammarling, 1983) [20].

An extra package `linear-algebra` is available (`http://octave.sourceforge.net/linear-algebra`), which contains some additional matrix function routines.

- `thfm`: trigonometric and hyperbolic functions and their inverses. It implements textbook definitions, in terms of `expm`, `logm`, and `sqrtm`.
- `funm`: general matrix function via diagonalization.

14 GNU Scientific Library

The GNU Scientific Library (GSL) is an open-source numerical library written in C (although wrappers exist for many other programming languages) [41]. GSL includes an undocumented function `gsl_linalg_exponential_ss` to compute the matrix exponential. This routine uses scaling and squaring and a truncated Taylor series. The scaling and truncation parameters are chosen as in Moler and Van Loan (2003) [81, Method 3].

15 Java

A Java implementation by Bilge of the algorithm of Al-Mohy and Higham (2011) [6] for the action of the matrix exponential on a vector is available from `https://github.com/armanbilge/AMH11`.

16 Julia

Julia [19], [76] is an open-source, high-level, dynamic programming language designed specifically for high-performance numerical and scientific computing. Its extensive mathematical function library is largely written in Julia itself, but also includes calls to other libraries such as LAPACK and OpenBLAS.

Julia includes an extensive set of matrix function routines in its `LinearAlgebra` library, which is a standard library in Julia that is loaded with `using LinearAlgebra`.

Documentation for the following functions is available at `https://docs.julialang.org/en/v1/stdlib/LinearAlgebra/` by searching for `Base.<name>`, where `name` is the name below.

- `exp`: matrix exponential using the scaling and squaring algorithm of Higham (2005) [55], [57].

[1] A PSE provides a programming language, an interactive command window with the display of graphics, and the ability to export graphics and more generally publish documents to HTML, PDF, TEX, and so on.

- `log`: matrix logarithm by the inverse scaling and squaring algorithm of Al-Mohy, Higham, and Relton (2012, 2013) [7], [8].
- `sqrt`: matrix square root using the Schur method of Björck and Hammarling (1983) [20].
- `cos`, `sin`, `sincos` (which computes both the sine and the cosine), `tan`, `sec`, `csc`, `cot`, `cosh`, `sinh`, `tanh`, `sech`, `csch`, `coth`: these use an eigendecomposition if A is Hermitian or call `exp`.
- `acos`, `asin`, `atan`, `asec`, `acsc`, `acot`, `acosh`, `acosh`, `atanh`, `asech`, `acsch`, `acoth`: these use an eigendecomposition if A is Hermitian or use formulas from [11].
- Matrix power A^p, $p \in \mathbb{R}$: uses the Schur algorithm of [68].

17 Maple

Maple contains some matrix function routines in its `LinearAlgebra` package. The matrix functions are computed symbolically using polynomial interpolation at the matrix eigenvalues.

- `MatrixExponential`: exponential of a matrix.
- `MatrixPower`: general (non-integer) power of a matrix.
- `MatrixFunction`: general function of a matrix. The function is supplied in the form of an analytic expression by the user.

18 Mathematica

Mathematica evaluates the functions listed below for numeric or symbolic matrices.

- `MatrixFunction`: evaluates a general matrix function. The Schur–Parlett algorithm (Davies and Higham, 2003) [24] is used for numeric matrices (derivatives are computed symbolically), and the Jordan form is used for symbolic matrices.
- `MatrixExp`: the matrix exponential is computed by scaling and squaring (Higham, 2005) [55], [57]. This function can also compute the action of the matrix exponential on a vector, using Krylov methods.
- `MatrixLog`: the matrix logarithm is evaluated via a Schur decomposition for numeric matrices or the Jordan form for symbolic matrices.

19 NAG Library

The NAG Library [84] has a large set of matrix function routines in its Chapter F01, covering computation of matrix functions and their Fréchet derivatives and estimation of the condition numbers of matrix functions.

- NAG Fortran Library Mark 23 and NAG Toolbox for MATLAB Mark 23 (released 2011):
  - Matrix exponential using scaling and squaring algorithm (Higham, 2005) [55], [57].
  - Function of real symmetric or Hermitian matrix via eigendecomposition.
- NAG C Library Mark 23, released 2012, also contains:

  - Schur–Parlett algorithm for general functions and for cos, sin, cosh, sinh, exp (Davies and Higham, 2003) [24].
  - Matrix logarithm by Schur–Parlett algorithm with inverse scaling and squaring algorithm (Higham, 2008) [56].

- NAG Fortran Library Mark 24 and the NAG Toolbox for MATLAB Mark 24 (released 2013) also contain:
  - Action of the matrix exponential by scaled Taylor series algorithm (Al-Mohy and Higham, 2011) [6].
  - Condition number estimation in the 1-norm for general matrix functions and for cos, sin, cosh, sinh, exp.

- The NAG C Library Mark 24 (2014), NAG Fortran Library Mark 25 (2015), and NAG Toolbox for MATLAB Mark 25 (2015) also contain:
  - Improved scaling and squaring algorithms for matrix exponential and logarithm (Al-Mohy and Higham, 2009, 2012) [4], [7], with computation of the logarithm of a real matrix in real arithmetic (Al-Mohy, Higham, and Relton, 2013) [8].
  - Matrix square root using Schur method with blocking (including real arithmetic algorithm of Higham [53]) [20], [27].
  - Matrix power $A^p, p \in \mathbb{R}$, via Schur–Padé algorithm (Higham and Lin, 2011, 2013) [67], [68].
  - Latest Fréchet derivative and condition number algorithms for the matrix exponential, logarithm, and real powers [3], [8], [68].

The routines above are all also available in the NAG Library for Python. Documentation can be found at: `https://www.nag.co.uk/content/software-documentation`. A complete list of all of the NAG matrix function routines, together with their Mark of introduction and the algorithms used, is given in Table 21.1.

20 φ Functions in Fortran 95

Koikari (2009) [78] has written Fortran 95 software for computing the functions $\varphi_\ell(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} z^k/(k+\ell)!$ by scaling and squaring and by a block Schur–Parlett algorithm. The code is available as a supplement to the paper on the ACM website.

21 Python

21.1 SciPy

SciPy [75] is a Python package for scientific computing. It has a number of matrix function codes.

- `sparse.linalg.expm`: matrix exponential by scaling and squaring algorithm (Al-Mohy and Higham, 2009) [4].
- `linalg.expm3`, `linalg.expm2`, `linalg.expm`: matrix exponential using Taylor series, eigenvalue decomposition, and scaling and squaring (Higham, 2005) [55], respectively.
- `linalg.logm`: matrix logarithm via inverse scaling and squaring algorithm (Al-Mohy and Higham, 2012) [7].

Table 21.1: Matrix Function Routines in the NAG Library.

Short Name	Long Name	Purpose	Arithmetic	Algorithms Used	Marks of Introduction
F01EC	nag_real_gen_matrix_exp	Exponential	Real	Scaling & squaring [4]	FL22 & CL9
F01ED	nag_real_symm_matrix_exp	Exponential, symmetric matrix	Real	Diagonalization	FL23 & CL9
F01EF	nag_matop_real_symm_matrix_fun	Symmetric matrix function	Real	Diagonalization	FL23 & CL23
F01EJ	nag_matop_real_gen_matrix_log	Logarithm	Real	Scaling & squaring [7]	FL24 & CL23
F01EK	nag_matop_real_gen_matrix_fun_std	sin, cos, sinh, cosh or exp	Real	Schur–Parlett [24]	FL24 & CL23
F01EL	nag_matop_real_gen_matrix_fun_num	General user-provided function	Real	Schur–Parlett [24]	FL24 & CL24
F01EM	nag_matop_real_gen_matrix_fun_usd	General user-provided function	Real	Schur–Parlett [24]	FL24 & CL23
F01EN	nag_matop_real_gen_matrix_sqrt	Square root	Real	[20], [53], [27]	FL25 & CL24
F01EP	nag_matop_real_tri_matrix_sqrt	Upper triangular square root	Real	[20], [53], [27]	FL25 & CL24
F01EQ	nag_matop_real_gen_matrix_pow	General real power	Real	[67], [68]	FL25 & CL24
F01FC	nag_complex_gen_matrix_exp	Exponential	Complex	Scaling & squaring [4]	FL23 & CL23
F01FD	nag_complex_gen_matrix_exp	Exponential, Hermitian matrix	Complex	Diagonalization	FL23 & CL23
F01FF	nag_matop_complex_symm_matrix_fun	Hermitian matrix function	Complex	Diagonalization	FL23 & CL23
F01FJ	nag_matop_real_gen_matrix_log	Logarithm	Complex	Scaling & squaring [7]	FL24 & CL23
F01FK	nag_matop_real_gen_matrix_fun_std	sin, cos, sinh, cosh or exp	Complex	Schur–Parlett [24]	FL24 & CL23
F01FL	nag_matop_real_gen_matrix_fun_num	General user-provided function	Complex	Schur–Parlett [24]	FL24 & CL24
F01FM	nag_matop_real_gen_matrix_fun_usd	General user-provided function	Complex	Schur–Parlett [24]	FL24 & CL23
F01FN	nag_matop_real_gen_matrix_sqrt	Square root	Complex	[20], [27]	FL25 & CL24
F01FP	nag_matop_real_tri_matrix_sqrt	Upper triangular square root	Complex	[20], [27]	FL25 & CL24
F01FQ	nag_matop_real_gen_matrix_pow	General real power	Complex	[67], [68]	FL25 & CL24
F01GA	nag_matop_real_gen_matrix_actexp	Action of matrix exponential	Real	[6]	FL24 & CL24
F01GB	nag_matop_real_gen_matrix_actexp_rcomm	Action of matrix exponential	Real	[6] rev comm[1]	FL24 & CL24
F01HA	nag_matop_complex_gen_matrix_actexp	Action of matrix exponential	Complex	[6]	FL24 & CL24
F01HB	nag_matop_complex_gen_matrix_actexp_rcomm	Action of matrix exponential	Complex	[6] rev comm[1]	FL24 & CL24
F01JA	nag_matop_real_gen_matrix_cond_std	sin, cos, sinh, cosh, exp cond	Real	Schur–Parlett [24]	FL24 & CL24
F01JB	nag_matop_real_gen_matrix_cond_num	User function, condition	Real	Schur–Parlett [24]	FL24 & CL24
F01JC	nag_matop_real_gen_matrix_cond_usd	User function, condition	Real	Schur–Parlett [24]	FL24 & CL24
F01JD	nag_matop_real_gen_matrix_cond_sqrt	Square root, condition	Real	[20], [53], [27]	FL25 & CL24

[1] "Rev comm" denotes a reverse communication interface.

F01JE	nag_matop_real_gen_matrix_cond_pow	General real power, condition	Real	[68]	FL25 & CL24
F01JF	nag_matop_real_gen_matrix_frcht_pow	Real power, Fréchet derivative	Real	[68]	FL25 & CL24
F01JG	nag_matop_real_gen_matrix_cond_exp	Exponential, condition number	Real	[3]	FL25 & CL24
F01JH	nag_matop_real_gen_matrix_frcht_exp	Exponential, Fréchet derivative	Real	[3]	FL25 & CL24
F01JJ	nag_matop_real_gen_matrix_cond_log	Logarithm, condition number	Real	[7], [8]	FL25 & CL24
F01JK	nag_matop_real_gen_matrix_frcht_log	Logarithm, Fréchet derivative	Real	[7], [8]	FL25 & CL24
F01KA	nag_matop_complex_gen_matrix_cond_std	sin, cos, sinh, cosh, exp cond	Complex	Schur–Parlett [24]	FL24 & CL24
F01KB	nag_matop_complex_gen_matrix_cond_num	User function, condition	Complex	Schur–Parlett [24]	FL24 & CL24
F01KC	nag_matop_complex_gen_matrix_cond_usd	User function, condition	Complex	Schur–Parlett [24]	FL24 & CL24
F01KD	nag_matop_complex_gen_matrix_cond_sqrt	Square root, condition	Complex	[20], [27]	FL25 & CL24
F01KE	nag_matop_complex_gen_matrix_cond_pow	General real power, condition	Complex	[68]	FL25 & CL24
F01KF	nag_matop_complex_gen_matrix_frcht_pow	Real power, Fréchet derivative	Complex	[68]	FL25 & CL24
F01KG	nag_matop_complex_gen_matrix_cond_exp	Exponential, condition number	Complex	[3]	FL25 & CL24
F01KH	nag_matop_complex_gen_matrix_frcht_exp	Exponential, Fréchet derivative	Complex	[3]	FL25 & CL24
F01KJ	nag_matop_complex_gen_matrix_cond_log	Logarithm, condition number	Complex	[7], [8]	FL25 & CL24
F01KK	nag_matop_complex_gen_matrix_frcht_log	Logarithm, Fréchet derivative	Complex	[7], [8]	FL25 & CL24

- `linalg.sinm`, `linalg.cosm`, `linalg.tanm`, `linalg.sinhm`, `linalg.coshm`, `linalg.tanhm`: implemented in terms of `linalg.expm`.
- `linalg.funm`: unblocked Schur–Parlett algorithm [42, Alg. 9.1.1], [56, Alg. 4.1.3].
- `linalg.fractional_matrix_power`: arbitrary real power of matrix by Schur–Padé algorithm (Higham and Lin, 2011, 2013) [67], [68].
- `linalg.signm`: matrix sign function via Newton iteration [56, Sec. 5.3].
- `linalg.expm_frechet`: Fréchet derivative of matrix exponential by scaling and squaring algorithm (Al-Mohy and Higham, 2009) [3].
- `linalg.expm_cond`: Frobenius norm condition number of matrix exponential.
- `linalg.sqrtm`: matrix square root by blocked version of Schur method of Björck and Hammarling (1983) [20], [27].
- `linalg.expm_multiply`: action of matrix exponential on a vector or matrix via scaled Taylor series algorithm (Al-Mohy and Higham, 2011) [6].
- `linalg.polar`: polar decomposition via the singular value decomposition [56, Chap. 8].

21.2 Python: SymPy

SymPy [101] is a Python library for symbolic mathematics. It contains some numerical matrix function capabilities in its `mpmath` module and variable precision arithmetic is supported. The precision is set using either `mp.prec` (to set the binary precision, measured in bits) or `mp.dps` (to set the decimal precision).

- `mpmath.expm`: matrix exponential by scaling and squaring with Taylor series or Padé approximant.
- `mpmath.logm`: matrix logarithm evaluated via inverse scaling and squaring and a Taylor series.
- `mpmath.sinm`, `mpmath.cosm`: matrix sine and cosine implemented via the matrix exponential.
- `mpmath.sqrtm`: matrix square root evaluated using the Denman–Beavers (1976) iteration [28].
- `mpmath.powm`: A^p for $p \in \mathbb{C}$, implemented as $\mathrm{e}^{p \log A}$.

Note that both SymPy and SciPy are available in SageMath [93], an open source Python-based mathematical software package.

21.3 Other Python Functions

Python implementations of the algorithms in Deadman (2015) [25], for computing the condition number of $f(A)b$, are available at `https://github.com/edvindeadman/fAbcond`.

22 R

Three packages from CRAN (the Comprehensive R Archive Network) include codes for matrix functions.

22.1 Expm

Goulet, Dutang, Maechler, Firth, Shapira, and Stadelmann have written the R package expm [43]. It contains codes not only for the matrix exponential but also for the logarithm and square root.

- `expm`: the default method corresponds to option `Higham08.b`, which uses the algorithm of (Higham, 2005) [55], [57] with balancing. The option `AlMohy-Hi09` implements the algorithm of Al-Mohy and Higham [4]. Also available are options for using an eigende-composition and other Padé and Taylor-based methods.
- `expAtv` uses a Krylov method of Sidje (1998) [98] to compute the action of the matrix exponential on a vector.
- `expmCond`: computes or approximates the 1-norm or Frobenius norm condition number of the matrix exponential using the algorithm of Al-Mohy and Higham (2009) [3] or methods from [56, Sec. 3.4].
- `expmFrechet`: Fréchet derivative of matrix exponential (Al-Mohy and Higham, 2009) [3].
- `logm`: matrix logarithm by inverse scaling and squaring (Higham, 2008) [56, Alg. 11.9].
- `sqrtm`: matrix square root by the Schur method (Björck and Hammarling, 1983) [20].
- `matpow`: positive integer powers via binary powering.

22.2 pbdDMAT

The pbdDMAT (Programming with Big Data—Distributed Matrix Methods) R package [95] includes a code `expm` that implements the scaling and squaring algorithm of Al-Mohy and Higham (2009) [4] for the matrix exponential.

22.3 Matrix

The Matrix R package [15] contains a code `expm` that is "a translation of the implementation of the corresponding Octave function contributed to the Octave project by A. Scottedward Hodel". The `expm` code in the Expm package (see Section 22.1) is to be preferred.

23 Rust

A package `expm` for the Rust programming language implementing the scaling and squaring algorithm of Al-Mohy and Higham (2009) [4] for the matrix exponential is available from `https://crates.io/crates/expm`.

24 Scilab

Scilab [96] is another open source PSE. Scilab syntax is similar to that of MATLAB and a code translator is available to convert code from MATLAB to Scilab. Scilab contains several matrix function routines.

- `expm`: matrix exponential using block diagonalization with a Padé approximant applied to each block.
- `logm`: matrix logarithm via diagonalization.

- `sqrtm`: matrix square root via diagonalization.
- Trigonometric and hyperbolic functions, which are implemented via their definitions in terms of the matrix exponential.
- `power`: matrix power using diagonalization for non-integer powers.

25 SLICOT

SLICOT (Subroutine Library in Systems and Control Theory) [100] includes Fortran 77 codes for three matrix functions.

- `MB05MD` computes the exponential of a real matrix by diagonalization, optionally with balancing.
- `MB05ND` computes the matrix exponential and an integral involving the matrix exponential for a real matrix
- `MB05OD` computes the exponential of a real matrix by Ward's version of the scaling and squaring algorithm (1977) [103] and returns an accuracy estimate.

26 Tensorflow

The Tensorflow machine learning framework [102] includes these functions:

- `tf.linalg.expm` for the matrix exponential implementing the algorithm of Higham (2005) [55], [57].
- `tf.linalg.logm` implementing the Schur-Parlett-based algorithm of Higham (2008) [56].
- `tf.linalg.sqrtm` implementing the Schur algorithm of Higham (1987) [53].

27 SLEPc

SLEPc is a software library for the solution of large scale sparse eigenvalue problems on parallel computers [51], [99]. It includes a function MFNSolve for computing the action of a matrix function on a vector, $f(A)b$. See `https://slepc.upv.es/documentation/current/docs/manualpages/MFN/index.html`.

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