REPRESENTATION AND COMPUTATION OF THE PSEUDOINVERSE¹

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I. Introduction. The theory of pseudoinverses, or generalized inverses, has been extensively developed over the last few years. A recent and comprehensive bibliography occurs in [2] which gives a short history also, and a brief survey of known results and computational methods.

We consider here the case of a bounded operator with closed range between Hilbert spaces. Most of the information for this case, which is used in this paper can be found in [3], which is pithy and short.

II. Notation and basic information. A is a bounded linear transformation with closed range from S_1 to S_2 , where S_1 and S_2 are Hilbert spaces with inner product norms $|\cdot|_1$ and $|\cdot|_2$, respectively. A^* is the adjoint of A , $A^\dagger$ is the pseudoinverse of A (uniquely defined for this case [3]). I_1 and I_2 are the identity mappings on S_1 and S_2 , respectively. $\bar{S}_1 = A^*S_2 = A^*AS_1$ and $\bar{S}_2 = AS_1 = AA^*S_2$. We use a bar to denote the restriction of a mapping to $\bar{S}_1$ or $\bar{S}_2$, as appropriate, e.g., $\bar{A} = A|_{\bar{S}_1}$ the restriction of A to $\bar{S}_1$. We know that $(\bar{A})^{-1}$ exists and is bounded [3]; and it is readily deduced that $|A^\dagger| = |(\bar{A})^{-1}|$ (from [3, Theorem 3], noting that $\bar{S}_1 = \mathfrak{N}(A)^\perp$, and $A^\dagger - (\bar{A})^{-1} = 0$). Thus, we know a priori that $A^\dagger$ is a uniquely defined, bounded linear transformation from S_2 to S_1 . We use the conventional norms on linear transformations. We use the basic definition of the pseudoinverse given by Desoer and Whalen [3], for the case studied $B = A^\dagger$ if and only if B is a linear operator such that

$$(i) \quad B\bar{A} = \bar{I}_1,$$

$$(ii) \quad B\bar{S}_2^\perp = 0 \text{ (i.e., } By = 0 \text{ if } y \text{ is in the orthogonal complement of } \bar{S}_2).$$

From this definition it follows that $AA^\dagger A = A$ and $A^*AA^\dagger = A^*$ $= A^\dagger AA^*$, since $S_1 = \bar{S}_1 \oplus \bar{S}_1^\perp$ and $S_2 = \bar{S}_2 \oplus \bar{S}_2^\perp$.

III. THEOREM 1. *Define, for $t \geq 0$,*

$$(3.1) \quad A^\dagger(t) = \int_0^t \exp[-A^*A(t-s)] A^* ds.$$

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Then

$$(3.2) \quad |A^\dagger - A^\dagger(t)| \leq |A^\dagger| \exp[-t|A^\dagger|^{-2}], \quad \forall t.$$

PROOF. Since $A^* = A^*AA^\dagger$, (3.1) may be evaluated as: $A^\dagger(t) = [I_1 - \exp[-tA^*A]]A^\dagger$. Pick $y \in S_2$, and let $\alpha(t) = [A^\dagger - A^\dagger(t)]y = \exp[-tA^*A]A^\dagger y$. Clearly, $\alpha(t) \in \bar{S}_1$, $\forall t$. Thus $d|\alpha(t)|_1^2/dt = -2|A\alpha(t)|_1^2$ (see [5]) $\leq -2|A^\dagger|^{-2}|\alpha(t)|^2$, whence $|A^\dagger y - A^\dagger(t)y| \leq |A^\dagger y| \exp[-t|A^\dagger|^{-2}]$, and (3.2) follows since y is arbitrary.

The next theorem has been proved for the matrix case by den Broeder and Charnes (see [2]), and for the nonsingular case by Altman [1].

THEOREM 2. Pick c so that $0 < c < 2$, $\forall n \geq 0$, define

$$(3.3) \quad B_{n,c} = \sum_{p=0}^n \left[I_1 - \frac{cA^*A}{|A|^2} \right]^p \frac{cA^*A}{|A|^2}.$$

Define:

$$\beta_c = \max\{|1 - c|, |1 - c/|A|^2|A^\dagger|^2|\} < 1.$$

Then

$$(3.4) \quad |A^\dagger - B_{n,c}| \leq (c\beta_c^{n+1}/(1 - \beta_c))|A|, \quad \forall n \geq 0.$$

PROOF OF THEOREM 2. Let $B_{\infty,c} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} B_{n,c}$, and define $E = cA^*A/|A|^2$. Then $|\bar{I}_1 - \bar{E}| \leq \beta_c$ (see [1, pp. 52-55]) so that $(\bar{E})^{-1} = \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} (\bar{I}_1 - \bar{E})^p$ (where $(\bar{E})^{-1}$ is defined on $\bar{S}_1$, the range of $\bar{E}$). Now $\bar{E}: \bar{S}_1 \rightarrow \bar{S}_1$ and $(I_1 - E): \bar{S}_1 \rightarrow \bar{S}_1$, so

$$\begin{aligned} B_{\infty,c}\bar{A} &= \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} (I_1 - E)^p \bar{E} \\ &= \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} (\bar{I}_1 - \bar{E})^p \bar{E} = \bar{I}_1. \end{aligned}$$

$B_{n,c}\bar{S}_2^\perp = 0$, $\forall n$, since $A^*\bar{S}_2^\perp = 0$, in view of (3.3). Linearity is obvious. Thus $A^\dagger = B_{\infty,c}$; and (3.4) follows immediately, since it is the rate of convergence on $\bar{S}_2$ (see [1, p. 52-55]). Optimal convergence occurs when

$$c = 2|A|^2|A^\dagger|^2/(|A|^2|A^\dagger|^2 + 1),$$

in which case

$$\beta_c = (|A|^2|A^\dagger|^2 - 1)/(|A|^2|A^\dagger|^2 + 1) \quad [1],$$

which yields the following

COROLLARY TO THEOREM 2. If $|A| = |A^\dagger| = 1$, then $A^\dagger = A^*$.

The rates of convergence in the previous theorems are often impracticably slow. The following theorem gives a rapidly convergent recursion sequence, analogous to a well-known technique for improving estimates of the inverse for a nonsingular matrix [4, p. 120].

THEOREM 3. Pick c and define β_c as in Theorem 2. Define the sequence:

$$(3.5) \quad D_{0,c} = cA^*/|A|^2; \quad D_{n+1,c} = 2D_{n,c} - D_{n,c}AD_{n,c}.$$

Then

$$(3.6) \quad |A^\dagger - D_{n,c}| \leq |A^\dagger| \cdot \beta_c^{2^n}.$$

PROOF OF THEOREM 3. Define $\Gamma_c = [A^\dagger A - D_{0,c}A]$. $\Gamma_c \bar{S}_1^\perp = 0$ and $\bar{\Gamma}_c = \bar{I}_1 - \bar{E}$ (see proof of Theorem 2) so $|\Gamma_c| \leq \beta_c$. By definition $\Gamma_c^{2^0} = [A^\dagger A - D_{0,c}A]$. Suppose that $\Gamma_c^{2^n} = [A^\dagger A - D_{n,c}A]$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_c^{2^{n+1}} &= (\Gamma_c^{2^n})^2 = A^\dagger A A^\dagger A - A^\dagger A D_{n,c} A \\ &\quad - D_{n,c} A A^\dagger A + D_{n,c} A D_{n,c} A \\ &= A^\dagger A - (2D_{n,c} - D_{n,c} A D_{n,c}) A \\ &= [A^\dagger A - D_{n+1,c} A], \end{aligned}$$

since $D_{n,c}A: S_1 \rightarrow \bar{S}_1$, $\forall n$, which is clear from (3.5), and since $AA^\dagger A = A$. Also from (3.5), $D_{n,c} \bar{S}_2^\perp = 0 = A^\dagger \bar{S}_2^\perp$, $\forall n$. Since $|\Gamma_c| \leq \beta_c$, and $A^\dagger - D_{n,c} = (A^\dagger - D_{n,c})AA^\dagger$, $\forall n$, (3.6.) follows.

IV. So long as $|A^\dagger| < \infty$, the hypothesis that $|A| < \infty$ may be relaxed in Theorem 1. We need only require that A^*A is a closed mapping with dense domain. The proof as given remains valid (see [5]).

If A fails to have closed range, but is bounded, then $A^\dagger(t)$, $B_{n,c}$, and $D_{n,c}$ converge monotonically to $A^\dagger$, but (3.2), (3.4), (3.6) are useless since $|A^\dagger| = \infty$ and $\beta_c = 1$. The associated proofs are more lengthy and will be published elsewhere.

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