

# The block LSMR algorithm for solving linear systems with multiple right-hand sides

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## Abstract

LSMR (Least Squares Minimal Residual) is an iterative method for the solution of the linear system of equations and least-squares problems. This paper presents a block version of the LSMR algorithm for solving linear systems with multiple right-hand sides. The new algorithm is based on the block bidiagonalization and derived by minimizing the Frobenius norm of the residual matrix of normal equations. In addition, the convergence of the proposed algorithm is discussed. In practice, it is also observed that the Frobenius norm of the residual matrix decreases monotonically. Finally, numerical experiments from real applications are employed to verify the effectiveness of the presented method.

**Keywords:** LSMR method; Bidiagonalization; Block methods; Iterative methods; Multiple right-hand sides.

## 1 Introduction

This paper is concerned with the solution of linear system of the form

$$AX = B, \quad A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}, \quad B \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times s}, \quad s \ll n. \quad (1)$$

If  $A$  is large and sparse or sometimes not readily available, then iterative solvers may become the only choice. These solvers are categorized to the following three classes:

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The first class is the global methods. The term global is due to Saad [34] and has been further expanded by Jbilou et al. [21] with the global FOM and GMRES algorithms for matrix equations. These methods are based on the use of a global projection process onto a matrix Krylov subspace. References on this class include [2, 7, 8, 12, 13, 13, 21–23, 25–27, 32, 33].

The second class is the seed methods. The main idea of this kind of methods is briefed below. We first select a single system as the seed system and generate the corresponding Krylov subspace. Then we project all the residuals of the other linear systems onto the same Krylov subspace to find new approximate solutions as initial approximations. See [3, 5, 7, 18, 20, 30, 35] for details.

The last class is the block methods which are more suitable for dense systems with preconditioner. The first block solvers are the block conjugate gradient (Bl-CG) algorithm and the block biconjugate gradient (Bl-BCG) algorithm proposed in [28]. Variable Bl-CG algorithms for symmetric positive definite problems are implemented on parallel computers [19, 29]. If the matrix is symmetric, an adaptive block Lanczos algorithm and a block version of Minres method are devised in [17]. For nonsymmetric problems, the Bl-BCG algorithm [6, 28], the block generalized minimal residual (Bl-GMRES) algorithm [1, 1, 4, 7, 9–11, 36, 37], the block quasi minimum residual (Bl-QMR) algorithm [14], the block BiCGStab (Bl-BICGSTAB) algorithm [31], the block Lanczos method [34] and the block least squares (Bl-LSQR) algorithm [15] have been developed.

In this paper, we present a block version of LSMR algorithm [4] for solving the problem (1). Our algorithm is based on the block bidiagonalization [9]. We construct a simple recurrence formula for generating the sequences of approximations  $\{X_k\}$  such that the Frobenius norm of  $A^T R_k$  decreases monotonically, where  $R_k = B - AX_k$ .

Throughout this paper, we use the following notations. For two  $n \times s$  matrices  $X$  and  $Y$ , we define the following inner product:  $\langle X, Y \rangle = \text{tr}(X^T Y)$ , where  $\text{tr}(Z)$  denoted the trace of the square matrix  $Z$ . The associated norm is the Frobenius norm denoted by  $\|\cdot\|_F$ . We will use the notation  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_2$  for the usual inner product in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and the associated norm denoted by  $\|\cdot\|_2$ . Finally,  $0_s$  and  $I_s$  will denote the zero and the identity matrices in  $\mathbb{R}^{s \times s}$ .

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we give a sketch of the LSMR method and its properties. In Section 3, we present the block version of the LSMR algorithm. In Section 4, the convergence of the presented algorithm is considered. In Section 5, some numerical experiments on test matrices from the University of Florida Sparse Matrix Collection (Davis [7]) are presented to show the efficiency of the method. Finally, we make some concluding remarks in Section 6.

## 2 The LSMR algorithm

In this section, we present a brief of the LSMR algorithm [4], which is an iterative method for solving real linear system of the form

$$Ax = b,$$

where  $A$  is a matrix of order  $n$  and  $x, b \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

LSMR algorithm uses an algorithm of Golub and Kahan [10], which is stated as procedure Bidiag 1 in [32] to reduce the augmented matrix  $[b \ A]$  to the upper-diagonal form  $[\beta_1 e_1 \ B_k]$ , where  $e_1$  denotes the first column of the identity matrix. The procedure Bidiag 1 can be described as follows.

**Bidiag 1** (Starting vector  $b$ ; reduction to lower bidiagonal form)

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \beta_1 u_1 &= b, & \alpha_1 v_1 &= A^T u_1, \\ \beta_{i+1} u_{i+1} &= Av_i - \alpha_i u_i, \\ \alpha_{i+1} v_{i+1} &= A^T u_{i+1} - \beta_{i+1} v_i, \end{aligned} \right\} \quad i = 1, 2, \dots \quad (2)$$

The scalars  $\alpha_i \geq 0$  and  $\beta_i \geq 0$  are chosen so that  $\|u_i\|_2 = \|v_i\|_2 = 1$ . With the definitions

$$U_k \equiv [u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k], \quad V_k \equiv [v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k], \quad B_k \equiv \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 & & & & \\ \beta_2 & \alpha_2 & & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & & \\ & & \beta_k & \alpha_k & \\ & & & & \beta_{k+1} \end{bmatrix},$$

$$L_{k+1} = [B_k \ \alpha_{k+1} e_{k+1}], \quad V_{k+1} = [V_k \ v_{k+1}],$$

the recurrence relations (2) may be rewritten as

$$\begin{aligned} U_{k+1}(\beta_1 e_1) &= b, \\ AV_k &= U_{k+1} B_k, \\ A^T U_{k+1} &= V_k B_k^T + \alpha_{k+1} v_{k+1} e_{k+1}^T = V_{k+1} L_{k+1}^T, \\ A^T AV_k &= A^T U_{k+1} B_k = V_{k+1} L_{k+1}^T B_k = V_{k+1} \begin{bmatrix} B_k^T \\ \alpha_{k+1} e_{k+1}^T \end{bmatrix} B_k, \\ &= V_{k+1} \begin{bmatrix} B_k^T B_k \\ \alpha_{k+1} \beta_{k+1} e_k^T \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

This is equivalent to what would be generated by the symmetric Lanczos process with matrix  $A^T A$  and starting vector  $A^T b$ . As we observe the procedure Bidiag1 will be stop if  $Av_i - \alpha_i u_i = 0$  or  $A^T u_{i+1} - \beta_{i+1} v_i = 0$ , for some  $i$ . In exact arithmetic, we have  $U_{k+1}^T U_{k+1} = I$  and  $V_k^T V_k = I$ , where  $I$  is the identity matrix.

Hence using procedure Bidiag 1 the LSMR method constructs an approximation solution of the form  $x_k = V_k y_k$  which solves the least-squares problem  $\min_{y_k} \|A^T r_k\|$ , where  $r_k = b - Ax_k$ . The main steps of the LSMR algorithm can be summarized as follows.

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**Algorithm 1** LSMR algorithm
 

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Set  $\beta_1 u_1 = b$ ,  $\alpha_1 v_1 = A^T u_1$ ,  $\bar{\alpha}_1 = \alpha_1$ ,  $\bar{\zeta}_1 = \alpha_1 \beta_1$ ,  $\rho_0 = 1$ ,  $\bar{\rho}_0 = 1$ ,  $\bar{c}_0 = 1$ ,  $\bar{s}_0 = 0$ ,  $h_1 = v_1$ ,  $\bar{h}_0 = 0$ ,  $x_0 = 0$ ,

For  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ , until convergence Do:

$$\beta_{k+1} u_{k+1} = Av_k - \alpha_k u_k,$$

$$\alpha_{k+1} v_{k+1} = A^T u_{k+1} - \beta_{k+1} v_k,$$

$$\rho_k = (\bar{\alpha}_k^2 + \beta_{k+1}^2)^{\frac{1}{2}},$$

$$c_k = \bar{\alpha}_k / \rho_k,$$

$$s_k = \beta_{k+1} / \rho_k,$$

$$\theta_{k+1} = s_k \alpha_{k+1},$$

$$\bar{\alpha}_{k+1} = c_k \alpha_{k+1},$$

$$\bar{\theta}_k = \bar{s}_{k-1} \rho_k,$$

$$\bar{\rho}_k = ((\bar{c}_{k-1} \rho_k)^2 + \theta_{k+1}^2)^{\frac{1}{2}},$$

$$\bar{c}_k = \bar{c}_{k-1} \rho_k / \bar{\rho}_k,$$

$$\bar{s}_k = \theta_{k+1} / \bar{\rho}_k,$$

$$\zeta_k = \bar{c}_k \bar{\zeta}_k,$$

$$\bar{\zeta}_{k+1} = -\bar{s}_k \bar{\zeta}_k,$$

$$\bar{h}_k = h_k - (\bar{\theta}_k \rho_k / (\rho_{k-1} \bar{\rho}_{k-1})) \bar{h}_{k-1},$$

$$x_k = x_{k-1} + (\zeta_k / (\rho_k \bar{\rho}_k)) \bar{h}_k,$$

$$h_{k+1} = v_{k+1} - (\theta_{k+1} / \rho_k) h_k,$$

If  $|\bar{\zeta}_{k+1}|$  is small enough then stop,

End Do.

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More details about the LSMR algorithm can be found in [4].

### 3 The block LSMR method

We first recall the block Bidiag 1 algorithm [9]. This algorithm is the basis for our block LSMR method.

The block Bidiag 1 procedure constructs the sets of the  $n \times s$  block vectors  $V_1, V_2, \dots$  and  $U_1, U_2, \dots$  such that  $V_i^T V_j = 0_s$ ,  $U_i^T U_j = 0_s$ , for  $i \neq j$ , and  $V_i^T V_i = I_s$ ,  $U_i^T U_i = I_s$ ; and they form the orthonormal basis of  $\mathbb{R}^{n \times ks}$ .

**Block Bidiag 1** (Starting matrix B; reduction to block lower bidiagonal form)

$$\left. \begin{aligned} U_1 B_1 &= B, & V_1 A_1 &= A^T U_1, \\ U_{i+1} B_{i+1} &= AV_i - U_i A_i^T, \\ V_{i+1} A_{i+1} &= A^T U_{i+1} - V_i B_{i+1}^T, \end{aligned} \right\} \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, k, \quad (3)$$

where  $U_i, V_i \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times s}$ ;  $B_i, A_i \in \mathbb{R}^{s \times s}$ , and  $U_1 B_1, V_1 A_1, U_{i+1} B_{i+1}, V_{i+1} A_{i+1}$  are thin QR decompositions of the matrices  $B, A^T U_1, AV_i - U_i A_i^T, A^T U_{i+1} - V_i B_{i+1}^T$ , respectively. With the definitions

$$\bar{U}_k \equiv [U_1, U_2, \dots, U_k], \bar{V}_k \equiv [V_1, V_2, \dots, V_k], T_k \equiv \begin{bmatrix} A_1^T & & & & \\ B_2 & A_2^T & & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & & B_k & A_k^T \\ & & & & B_{k+1} \end{bmatrix},$$

the recurrence relations (3) may be rewritten as:

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{U}_{k+1} E_1 B_1 &= B, \\ A \bar{V}_k &= \bar{U}_{k+1} T_k, \\ A^T \bar{U}_{k+1} &= \bar{V}_k T_k^T + V_{k+1} A_{k+1} E_{k+1}^T, \end{aligned}$$

where  $E_i$  is the  $(k+1)s \times s$  matrix which is zero except for the rows  $i$  to  $i+s$ , which are the  $s \times s$  identity matrix. We have also  $\bar{V}_k^T \bar{V}_k = I_{ks}$  and  $\bar{U}_{k+1}^T \bar{U}_{k+1} = I_{(k+1)s}$ , where  $I_l$  is the  $l \times l$  identity matrix. We define

$$\bar{L}_{k+1} \equiv [T_k \ E_{k+1} A_{k+1}^T],$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} A^T \bar{U}_{k+1} &= \bar{V}_{k+1} \bar{L}_{k+1}^T, \\ A^T A \bar{V}_k &= A^T \bar{U}_{k+1} T_k = \bar{V}_{k+1} \bar{L}_{k+1}^T T_k = \bar{V}_{k+1} \begin{bmatrix} T_k^T \\ A_{k+1} E_{k+1}^T \end{bmatrix} T_k \\ &= \bar{V}_{k+1} \begin{bmatrix} T_k^T T_k \\ A_{k+1} E_{k+1}^T T_k \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

At iteration  $k$  we seek an approximate solution  $X_k$  of the form

$$X_k = \bar{V}_k Y_k, \quad (5)$$

where  $Y_k$  is an  $ks \times s$  matrix. Let  $\bar{B}_k \equiv A_k B_k$  for all  $k$ . Since

$$\begin{aligned} A^T R_k &= A^T B - A^T A X_k \\ &= V_1 A_1 B_1 - A^T A \bar{V}_k Y_k, \end{aligned}$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} A^T R_k &= V_1 \bar{B}_1 - \bar{V}_{k+1} \begin{bmatrix} T_k^T T_k \\ A_{k+1} E_{k+1}^T T_k \end{bmatrix} Y_k \\ &= \bar{V}_{k+1} (E_1 \bar{B}_1 - \begin{bmatrix} T_k^T T_k \\ \bar{B}_{k+1} \bar{E}_k^T \end{bmatrix} Y_k), \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

where  $\bar{E}_k$  is the  $ks \times s$  matrix, which is zero except for  $k$ th  $s$  rows, which are the  $s \times s$  identity matrix.

In the block LSMR algorithm, we would like to choose  $Y_k \in \mathbb{R}^{ks \times s}$  which minimizes the Frobenius norm of  $A^T R_k$ . From (6),  $A^T R_k$  can be written as

$$A^T R_k = \bar{V}_{k+1} \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{E}_1 \bar{B}_1 - T_k^T T_k Y_k \\ -\bar{B}_{k+1} \bar{E}_k^T Y_k \end{bmatrix}, \quad (7)$$

where  $\tilde{E}_1$  is the matrix obtained from  $E_1$  by deleting its last block row. But since the columns of the matrix  $\bar{V}_{k+1}$  are orthonormal, it follows that:

$$\|A^T R_k\|_F^2 = \left\| \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{E}_1 \bar{B}_1 - T_k^T T_k Y_k \\ -\bar{B}_{k+1} \bar{E}_k^T Y_k \end{bmatrix} \right\|_F^2 = \|\tilde{E}_1 \bar{B}_1 - T_k^T T_k Y_k\|_F^2 + \|\bar{B}_{k+1} \bar{E}_k^T Y_k\|_F^2. \quad (8)$$

We now define the linear operators  $\chi_k$  and  $\psi_k$  as follows.

For  $Y \in \mathbb{R}^{ks \times s}$

$$\chi_k(Y) = T_k^T T_k Y,$$

and

$$\psi_k(Y) = \bar{B}_{k+1} \bar{E}_k^T Y.$$

Then the relation (8) can be expressed as

$$\|A^T R_k\|_F^2 = \|\chi_k(Y_k) - \tilde{E}_1 \bar{B}_1\|_F^2 + \|\psi_k(Y_k)\|_F^2. \quad (9)$$

Therefore,  $Y_k$  minimizes the Frobenius norm of the quantity  $A^T R_k$  if and only if it satisfies the following linear matrix equation

$$\chi_k^T (\chi_k(Y_k) - \tilde{E}_1 \bar{B}_1) + \psi_k^T (\psi_k(Y_k)) = 0_s, \quad (10)$$

where the linear operators  $\chi_k^T$  and  $\psi_k^T$  are the transpose of the operators  $\chi_k$  and  $\psi_k$ , respectively. Therefore, (10) is also written as the following

$$(T_k^T T_k)^T (T_k^T T_k Y_k - \tilde{E}_1 \bar{B}_1) + (\bar{B}_{k+1} \bar{E}_k^T)^T (\bar{B}_{k+1} \bar{E}_k^T Y_k) = 0_s. \quad (11)$$

Hence,  $Y_k$  is given by

$$Y_k = \hat{T}_k^{-1} F_k,$$

where

$$\hat{T}_k = (T_k^T T_k)^2 + \bar{E}_k \bar{B}_{k+1}^T \bar{B}_{k+1} \bar{E}_k^T, \quad F_k = T_k^T T_k \tilde{E}_1 \bar{B}_1. \quad (12)$$

We define the matrix  $\bar{T}_k$  as follows:

$$\bar{T}_k = \begin{bmatrix} T_k^T T_k \\ \bar{B}_{k+1} \bar{E}_k^T \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{A}_1 & \bar{B}_2^T & & & \\ \bar{B}_2 & \bar{A}_2 & \ddots & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \bar{B}_k^T & \\ & & & \bar{B}_k & \bar{A}_k \\ & & & & \bar{B}_{k+1} \end{bmatrix},$$

where  $\bar{A}_i = A_i A_i^T + B_{i+1}^T B_{i+1}$ , for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ . Therefore

$$\hat{T}_k = \bar{T}_k^T \bar{T}_k, \quad F_k = [(\bar{A}_1 \bar{B}_1)^T (\bar{B}_2 \bar{B}_1)^T 0_s \dots 0_s]^T, \quad (13)$$

and the approximate solution of the system (1) is given by

$$X_k = \bar{V}_k \hat{T}_k^{-1} F_k.$$

Suppose that using the QR decomposition [11], we obtain a unitary matrix  $\bar{Q}_k$  such that

$$\bar{T}_k = \bar{Q}_k \begin{bmatrix} \bar{R}_k \\ 0_{s \times ks} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \bar{R}_k = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{\alpha}_1 & \bar{\beta}_2 & \bar{\theta}_3 & & & \\ & \bar{\alpha}_2 & \bar{\beta}_3 & \bar{\theta}_4 & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & & \bar{\alpha}_{k-2} & \bar{\beta}_{k-1} & \bar{\theta}_k \\ & & & & \bar{\alpha}_{k-1} & \bar{\beta}_k \\ & & & & & \bar{\alpha}_k \end{bmatrix}, \quad (14)$$

where  $\bar{R}_k$  is upper triangular as shown and  $\bar{\alpha}_i, \bar{\beta}_i, \bar{\theta}_i$  are the  $s \times s$  matrices. So,

$$X_k = \bar{V}_k (\bar{R}_k^T \bar{R}_k)^{-1} F_k.$$

By setting

$$\bar{P}_k = \bar{V}_k \bar{R}_k^{-1} \equiv [P_1 \ P_2 \ \dots \ P_k],$$

and

$$\bar{F}_k = \bar{R}_k^{-T} F_k \equiv [\varphi_1^T \ \varphi_2^T \ \dots \ \varphi_k^T]^T,$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} P_k &= (V_k - P_{k-2} \bar{\theta}_k - P_{k-1} \bar{\beta}_k) \bar{\alpha}_k^{-1}, \\ X_k &= X_{k-1} + P_k \varphi_k. \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

From (15) the residual  $R_k$  is given by

$$R_k = R_{k-1} - AP_k \varphi_k, \quad (16)$$

where  $AP_k$  can be computed from the previous  $AP_k$ 's and  $AV_k$  by the simple update

$$AP_k = (AV_k - AP_{k-2} \bar{\theta}_k - AP_{k-1} \bar{\beta}_k) \bar{\alpha}_k^{-1}.$$

In addition, as [4], we show that the  $\|R_k\|_F$  can be estimated by a simple formula. By transforming  $T_k$  to block upper-bidiagonal form using a  $QR$  factorization:  $\begin{bmatrix} \hat{R}_k \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \hat{Q}_{k+1} T_k$  with  $\hat{Q}_{k+1} = \hat{P}_k \dots \hat{P}_1$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} R_k &= B - AX_k \\ &= U_1 B_1 - A \bar{V}_k Y_k \\ &= \bar{U}_{k+1} (E_1 B_1 - T_k Y_k) \\ &= \check{U}_{k+1} \hat{Q}_{k+1}^T (\hat{Q}_{k+1} E_1 B_1 - \begin{bmatrix} \hat{R}_k \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} Y_k). \end{aligned}$$

Since the columns of the matrices  $\hat{Q}_{k+1}$  and  $\bar{U}_{k+1}$  are orthonormal, we have

$$\|R_k\|_F = \|\hat{Q}_{k+1} E_1 B_1 - \begin{bmatrix} \hat{R}_k \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} Y_k\|_F. \quad (17)$$

With definitions

$$\hat{Q}_{k+1} E_1 B_1 = [\tilde{\beta}_1^T \dots \tilde{\beta}_{k-1}^T \tilde{\beta}_k^T \tilde{\beta}_{k+1}^T]^T, \quad \hat{R}_k Y = [\tilde{\tau}_1^T \dots \tilde{\tau}_{k-1}^T \tilde{\tau}_k^T]^T, \quad (18)$$

the following Lemma shows that we can estimate  $\|R_k\|_F$  from just the last two blocks of  $\hat{Q}_{k+1} E_1 B_1$  and the last block of  $\hat{R}_k Y_k$ .

**Lemma 1.** In (17) and (18),  $\tilde{\beta}_i = \tilde{\tau}_i$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k-1$ .

*Proof.* The proof is similar to that of Lemma 3.1 in [4] (see [28]).  $\square$

For the Frobenius norm of  $A^T R_k$ , by using Theorem 1 (in section 4), we can also obtain the following simple formula:

$$\|A^T R_k\|_F^2 = \|A^T R_{k-1}\|_F^2 - \|\varphi_k\|_F^2, \quad \text{with } \|A^T R_0\|_F = \|\bar{B}_1\|_F = \|\varphi_0\|_F.$$

Now we can summarize the above descriptions as the following algorithm.



**Algorithm 2** Algorithm (Bl-LSMR)

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Set  $X_0 = 0_{n \times s}$ ,  
 Set  $\bar{a}_0 = 0_s, \bar{b}_{-1} = 0_s, \bar{b}_0 = I_s, \bar{c}_0 = 0_s, \bar{d}_{-1} = 0_s, \bar{d}_0 = I_s$ ,  
 Set  $P_{-1} = P_0 = 0_{n \times s}$ ,  
 Compute  $U_1 B_1 = B, V_1 A_1 = A^T U_1$  (QR decomposition of  $B$  and  $A^T U_1$ ),  
 Set  $\bar{B}_1 = A_1 B_1$ ,  
 Set  $\varphi_{-1} = 0_s, \varphi_0 = -\bar{B}_1$ ,  
 Set  $\|A^T R_0\|_F = \|\varphi_0\|_F$ ,  
 For  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ , until convergence Do:  
    $\bar{W}_k = AV_k - U_k A_k^T$ ,  
    $U_{k+1} B_{k+1} = \bar{W}_k$  (QR decomposition of  $\bar{W}_k$ ),  
    $\bar{A}_k = A_k A_k^T + B_{k+1}^T B_{k+1}$ ,  
    $\bar{S}_k = A^T U_{k+1} - V_k B_{k+1}^T$ ,  
    $V_{k+1} A_{k+1} = \bar{S}_k$  (QR decomposition of  $\bar{S}_k$ ),  
    $\bar{B}_{k+1} = A_{k+1} B_{k+1}$ ,  
    $\dot{\beta}_k = \bar{d}_{k-2} \bar{B}_k^T$ ,  
    $\dot{\alpha}_k = \bar{c}_{k-1} \dot{\beta}_k + \bar{d}_{k-1} \bar{A}_k$ ,  
    $\bar{\beta}_k = \bar{a}_{k-1} \dot{\beta}_k + \bar{b}_{k-1} \bar{A}_k$ ,  
    $\bar{\theta}_k = \bar{b}_{k-2} \bar{B}_k^T$ ,  
   Compute an unitary matrix  $\bar{Q}(\bar{a}_k, \bar{b}_k, \bar{c}_k, \bar{d}_k)$  such that  
   
$$\begin{bmatrix} \bar{a}_k & \bar{b}_k \\ \bar{c}_k & \bar{d}_k \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{\alpha}_k \\ \bar{B}_{k+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{\alpha}_k \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
,  
    $\varphi_k = -\bar{\alpha}_k^{-T} (\bar{\theta}_k^T \varphi_{k-2} + \bar{\beta}_k^T \varphi_{k-1})$ ,  
    $P_k = (V_k - P_{k-2} \bar{\theta}_k - P_{k-1} \bar{\beta}_k) \bar{\alpha}_k^{-1}$ ,  
    $X_k = X_{k-1} + P_k \varphi_k$ ,  
    $R_k = R_{k-1} - A P_k \varphi_k$ ,  
    $\|A^T R_k\|_F^2 = \|A^T R_{k-1}\|_F^2 - \|\varphi_k\|_F^2$ ,  
   If  $\|A^T R_k\|_F$  is small enough then stop,  
 End Do.

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The Bl-LSMR algorithm will be break down at step  $k$ , if  $\bar{\alpha}_k$  is singular. This happens when the matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} \dot{\alpha}_k \\ \bar{B}_{k+1} \end{bmatrix}$  is not full rank. So the Bl-LSMR algorithm will not break down at step  $k$ , if  $\bar{B}_{k+1}$  is nonsingular. We will not treat the problem of breakdown in this paper and we also assume that the matrices  $\bar{B}_k$ 's produced by the Bl-LSMR algorithm are nonsingular.

We mention that, we can use the Bl-LSMR algorithm for computing a matrix solution  $X$  to the problem

$$\text{minimize} \|AX - B\|_F, \quad A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}, \quad B \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times s}, \quad s \ll \min \{m, n\},$$

where  $m \geq n$  or  $m \leq n$ . In Section 5, we present the results of the Bl-LSMR algorithm for this kind of problems.

#### 4 The convergence of the BI-LSMR algorithm

In this section, we aim at studying the convergence behavior of the BI-LSMR method. We first give the following lemmas.

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $P_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ , be the  $n \times s$  auxiliary matrices produced by the BI-LSMR algorithm and  $R_k$  be the residual matrix associated with the approximate solution  $X_k$  of the matrix equation(1). Then, we have*

$$(A^T AP_k)^T A^T R_k = 0_s.$$

*Proof.* Using  $\bar{P}_k = \bar{V}_k \bar{R}_k^{-1}$  and equation(4), we have

$$\begin{aligned} A^T AP_k &= A^T A \bar{P}_k \bar{E}_k \\ &= A^T A \bar{V}_k \bar{R}_k^{-1} \bar{E}_k \\ &= \bar{V}_{k+1} \begin{bmatrix} T_k^T T_k \\ \bar{B}_{k+1} \bar{E}_k^T \end{bmatrix} \bar{R}_k^{-1} \bar{E}_k. \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

From (19), and (7), we have

$$\begin{aligned} (A^T AP_k)^T (A^T R_k) &= \bar{E}_k^T \bar{R}_k^{-T} \begin{bmatrix} T_k^T T_k, (\bar{B}_{k+1} \bar{E}_k^T)^T \end{bmatrix} \bar{V}_{k+1}^T \bar{V}_{k+1} \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{E}_1 \bar{B}_1 - T_k^T T_k Y_k \\ -\bar{B}_{k+1} \bar{E}_k^T Y_k \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \bar{E}_k^T \bar{R}_k^{-T} (T_k^T T_k (\tilde{E}_1 \bar{B}_1 - T_k^T T_k Y_k) - (\bar{B}_{k+1} \bar{E}_k^T)^T \bar{B}_{k+1} \bar{E}_k^T Y_k) \\ &= 0_s. \quad (\text{from (11)}) \end{aligned}$$

We note that  $\bar{V}_{k+1}$  is orthonormal, thus  $\bar{V}_{k+1}^T \bar{V}_{k+1} = I_{(k+1)s}$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.** *Let  $P_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ , be the  $n \times s$  auxiliary matrices produced by the BI-LSMR algorithm. Then we have the following property*

$$P_i^T A^T A A^T A P_i = I_s.$$

*Proof.* Using (19), (12), (13) and (14), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(A^T AP_i)^T (A^T AP_i) &= (\bar{V}_{i+1} \begin{bmatrix} T_i^T T_i \\ \bar{B}_{i+1} \bar{E}_i^T \end{bmatrix} \bar{R}_i^{-1} \bar{E}_i)^T (\bar{V}_{i+1} \begin{bmatrix} T_i^T T_i \\ \bar{B}_{i+1} \bar{E}_i^T \end{bmatrix} \bar{R}_i^{-1} \bar{E}_i) \\
&= \bar{E}_i^T \bar{R}_i^{-T} \begin{bmatrix} T_i^T T_i & \bar{B}_{i+1}^T \bar{E}_i \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} T_i^T T_i \\ \bar{B}_{i+1} \bar{E}_i^T \end{bmatrix} \bar{R}_i^{-1} \bar{E}_i \\
&= \bar{E}_i^T \bar{R}_i^{-T} \bar{T}_i^T \bar{T}_i \bar{R}_i^{-T} \bar{E}_i \\
&= \bar{E}_i^T \bar{R}_i^{-T} \begin{bmatrix} \bar{R}_i^T & 0_{ks \times s} \end{bmatrix} \bar{Q}_i^T \bar{Q}_i \begin{bmatrix} \bar{R}_i \\ 0_{s \times ks} \end{bmatrix} \bar{R}_i^{-1} \bar{E}_i \\
&= \bar{E}_i^T \begin{bmatrix} I_{ks} & 0_{ks \times s} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I_{ks} \\ 0_{s \times ks} \end{bmatrix} \bar{E}_i \\
&= \bar{E}_i^T \bar{E}_i = I_s.
\end{aligned}$$

□

**Theorem 1.** Let  $X_k$  be the approximate solution of (1), obtained from the Bl-LSMR algorithm. Then

$$\|A^T R_k\|_F \leq \|A^T R_{k-1}\|_F,$$

where  $R_k = B - AX_k$ .

*Proof.* From(16), we have

$$A^T R_{k-1} = A^T R_k + A^T AP_k \varphi_k.$$

Using Lemma 2, since  $A^T R_k$  and  $A^T AP_k$  are orthogonal, we have

$$\|A^T R_{k-1}\|_F^2 = \|A^T R_k\|_F^2 + \|A^T AP_k \varphi_k\|_F^2.$$

Thus

$$\|A^T R_k\|_F^2 = \|A^T R_{k-1}\|_F^2 - \|A^T AP_k \varphi_k\|_F^2.$$

Using Lemma 3, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\|A^T R_k\|_F^2 &= \|A^T R_{k-1}\|_F^2 - \|\varphi_k\|_F^2, \\
\|A^T R_k\|_F &\leq \|A^T R_{k-1}\|_F.
\end{aligned}$$

□

Theorem 1 is helpful in showing that if  $\|\varphi_k\|_F$  is not very small in each iteration of the Bl-LSMR algorithm, then the Bl-LSMR algorithm will be stopped after a finite number of iterations. Otherwise, it is possible to occur stagnation. In this case, we can apply a reliable preconditioner for the block linear system of equations (1).

## 5 Numerical examples

In this section, we consider the system  $AX = B$ , where  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $B \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times s}$ ,  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times s}$ , and we present numerical results for several matrices taken from the University of Florida Sparse Matrix Collection (Davis [7]). These matrices with their properties are shown in Table 1. Our implementation is done on MATLAB version 07 on a PC machine with 4 GB RAM. Moreover, for the initial guess  $X_0 = 0_{n \times s}$  and  $B = \text{rand}(m, s)$ , where the function  $\text{rand}$  creates an  $m \times s$  random matrix with the coefficients uniformly distributed in  $[0, 1]$ . The stopping criteria is set to  $\|A^T R_k\|_F / \|R_k\|_F \leq 10^{-10} \times \|A\|_F$ .

Diagonal scaling was applied to the columns of  $[A, B]$  to give a scaled problem  $AX = B$ , in which the columns of  $[A, B]$  have unit 2-norm. By scaling, the number of iterations of BI-LSMR for convergence reduced satisfactorily.

In Table 2, we give the ratio  $t(s)/t(1)$ , for  $s = 5, 10, 20$ , and  $30$ , where  $t(s)$  is the CPU time for BI-LSMR algorithm and  $t(1)$  is the CPU time obtained when applying LSMR for one right-hand side linear system. Note that the time obtained by LSMR for one right-hand side depends on which right-hand side was used. So,  $t(1)$  is the average of the times needed for the  $s$  right-hand sides using LSMR. The results of Table 2 show that the BI-LSMR algorithm is effective and less expensive than the LSMR algorithm, because the indicator  $t(s)/t(1)$  is less than  $s$ .

To show that the Frobenius norm of residual matrix decreases monotonically, we display the convergence history in Figure 1 for the systems corresponding to the matrices of Table 2 and BI-LSMR algorithm. In this figure, the vertical axis and horizontal axis are the logarithm in base 10 of the Frobenius norm of residual matrix and the number of iterations to convergence, respectively. We observe that for all matrices the Frobenius norm of residual matrix decreases monotonically.

We display the convergence history of BI-LSMR and BI-LSQR in Figure 2 for the system corresponding to the matrix LPnetlib/lp\_pilot. Figure 3 (left and right) shows both solvers reducing  $\|A^T R_k\|_F / \|R_k\|_F$  and  $\|R_k\|_F$  monotonically and similarly.

Table 1: Test problems information

Matrix\Property	rows	columns	sym	nnz	id	Discipline
Hamm/add32	4960	4960	no	19848	540	Electronic circuit design
Simon/appu	14000	14000	no	1853104	811	Random sparse matrix used in the APP BENCHMARK
HB/fs6801	680	680	no	2184	149	Chemical kinetics
HB/gre115	115	115	no	421	161	Simulation studies in computer systems
HB/gr-30-30	900	900	yes	7744	159	Partial differential equations
LPnetlib/lpadlittle	56	138	no	424	596	Linear programming problem
LPnetlib/lp-maros	846	1966	no	10137	642	Linear programming problem
LPnetlib/lp-pilot	1441	4860	no	44375	654	Linear programming problem
LPnetlib/lp-sc205	205	317	no	665	665	Linear programming problem
Bai/pde2961	2961	2961	no	14585	324	Partial differential equations
Bai/pde900	900	900	no	4380	325	Partial differential equations
Bai/rdb32001	3200	3200	no	18880	1633	Chemical engineering
HB/sherman4	1104	1104	no	3786	245	Oil reservoir modeling

Table 2: Effectiveness of BI-LSMR algorithm measured  $t(s)/t(1)$

Matrix \ s	5	10	20	30
Hamm/add32	0.47	0.95	3.07	5.39
Simon/appu	1.24	1.89	3.21	5.13
HB/fs6801	0.27	0.38	0.97	1.19
HB/gre115	0.99	0.51	3.41	8.57
HB/gr-30-30	1.55	1.72	2.05	2.53
LPnetlib/lpadlittle	0.37	0.42	1.63	12.54
LPnetlib/lp_maros	2.92	3.75	6.79	12.36
LPnetlib/lp_pilot	2.40	4.95	15.90	22.92
LPnetlib/lp_sc205	0.70	1.30	2.11	4.70
Bai/pde2961	0.33	0.52	0.98	1.14
Bai/pde900	0.49	0.72	1.10	1.47
Bai/rdb32001	0.30	0.39	0.38	0.76
HB/sherman4	0.37	0.50	0.54	1.03

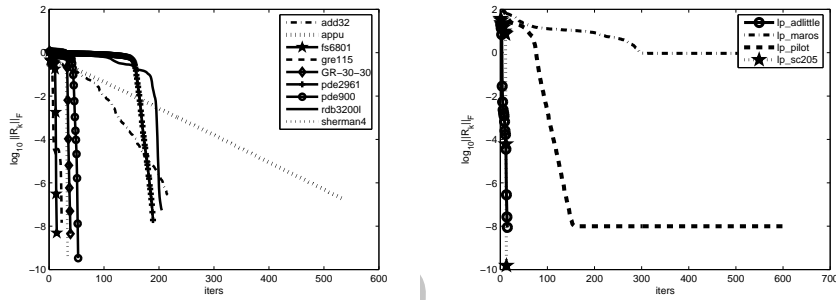


Figure 1: Convergence history of the BI-LSMR algorithm with  $s=20$

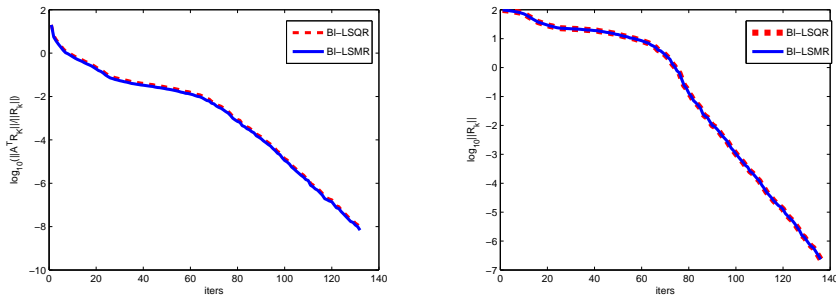


Figure 2: BI-LSMR and BI-LSQR solving a linear system  $AX = B$  with  $s = 20$ : problem LPnetlib/lp\_pilot

## 6 Conclusion

In this paper, we have presented a block version of LSMR algorithm for solving linear systems with multiple right-hand sides. We derived a simple recurrence formula for generating the sequence of approximate solutions  $\{X_k\}$  such that the Frobenius norm of the quantity  $A^T R_k$  decreases monotonically. In addition, we studied the convergence of the presented method. Besides, we showed that in absence of the break down condition, the presented algorithm always converges. Numerical results have shown that the new algorithm obtains the results which are effective and less expensive than the LSMR algorithm applied to each right-hand side.

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## الگوریتم بلوکی LSMR برای حل دستگاه معادلات خطی با چند طرف ثانی

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**چکیده :** LSMR (مانده مینیمال کمترین توان‌های دوم) یک روش تکراری برای حل دستگاه معادلات خطی و مسائل کمترین توان‌های دوم می‌باشد. این مقاله یک نسخه بلوکی از الگوریتم LSMR را برای حل دستگاه‌های خطی با چند طرف ثانی ارائه می‌دهد. الگوریتم جدید مبتنی بر دوقطری سازی بلوکی است و از مینیمم سازی نرم فریبنیوس معادلات نرمال ماتریس مانده نتیجه می‌شود. به علاوه، همگرایی الگوریتم پیشنهادی مورد بحث قرار می‌گیرد. همچنین، در عمل ملاحظه می‌شود که نرم فریبنیوس ماتریس مانده به طور یکنواخت کاهش می‌یابد. در نهایت، آزمایش‌های عددی که بر روی مسائل کاربردی واقعی پیاده سازی شده‌اند، کارایی روش ارائه شده را تایید خواهند کرد.

**کلمات کلیدی :** روش LSMR؛ دوقطری سازی؛ روش‌های بلوکی؛ روش‌های تکراری؛ چند طرف ثانی.

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