

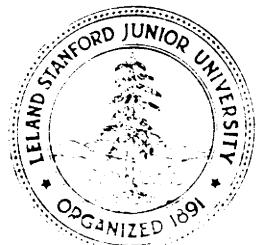
THE MATRIX INVERSE EIGENVALUE PROBLEM FOR  
PERIODIC JACOBI MATRICES

by

D. L. Boley and G. H. Golub

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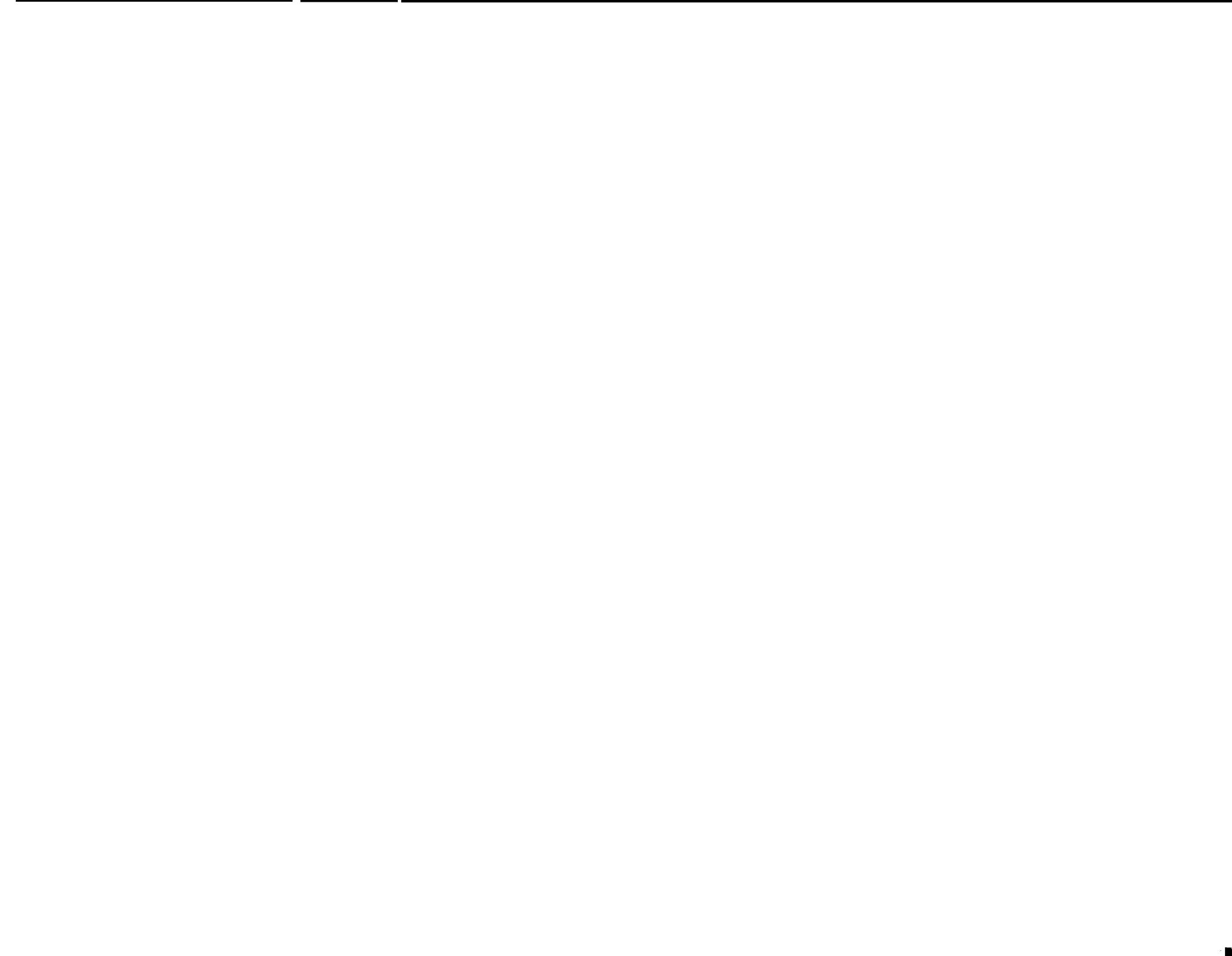
THE MATRIX INVERSE EIGEN-VALUE PROBLEM  
FOR PERIODIC JACOBI MATRICES

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Abstract

A stable numerical algorithm is presented for generating a periodic Jacobi matrix from two sets of eigenvalues and the product of the off-diagonal elements of the matrix. The algorithm requires a simple generalization of the Lanczos algorithm. It is shown that the matrix is not unique, but the algorithm will generate all possible solutions.



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We are interested in solving the inverse eigenvalue problem for periodic matrices of the form:

$$J = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 & \beta_1 & & & \beta_n \\ \beta_1 & \alpha_2 & \beta_2 & & \\ & \beta_2 & \ddots & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & & \ddots & \beta_{n-1} \\ & & & & \beta_{n-1} & \alpha_n \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{.}$$

Such problems arise in inverse scattering theory problems (cf. [3]). The problem and the algorithm given here are closely related to that discussed in our previous paper [2] and that of Van Moerbeke [3]. For this problem, we consider the matrices

$$(1a) \quad J^+ = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 & \beta_1 & & & \beta_n \\ \beta_1 & \alpha_2 & \ddots & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \beta_{n-1} \\ & & & & \beta_{n-1} & \alpha_n \end{bmatrix} \quad \equiv \quad \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 & (\beta^+)^\top \\ \beta^+ & K \end{bmatrix}$$

and

(1b)

$$J^- = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 & \beta_1 & & -\beta_n \\ \beta_1 & \alpha_2 & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \beta_2 & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \beta_{n-1} \\ -\beta_n & & \beta_{n-1} & \alpha_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 & (\beta^-)^T \\ \beta^- & K \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $\beta^+$  and  $\beta^-$  are  $(n-1)$ -vectors;  $K$  is an  $(n-1) \times (n-1)$  matrix, and  $\alpha_1$  is a scalar. We assume three sets of eigenvalues are given: we denote the eigenvalues of  $J^+$  by  $\lambda_1^+ < \dots < \lambda_n^+$ , those of  $J^-$  by  $\lambda_1^- < \lambda_2^- < \dots < \lambda_n^-$ , and those of  $K$  by  $\mu_1 < \dots < \mu_{n-1}$ . We will use the notation  $\Lambda^+ = \text{diag}(\lambda_1^+, \lambda_2^+, \dots, \lambda_n^+)$ ;  $\Lambda^- = \text{diag}(\lambda_1^-, \dots, \lambda_n^-)$  and  $M = \text{diag}(\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_{n-1})$ . We will also assume that the  $\{\mu_i\}_{i=1}^{n-1}$  strictly interlace both sets of eigenvalues  $\{\lambda_i^+ \}_{i=1}^n$  and  $\{\lambda_i^- \}_{i=1}^{n-1}$ , viz

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_i^+ &< \mu_i & & & \lambda_{i+1}^+ \\ \lambda_i^- &< \mu_i & & & \lambda_{i+1}^- \end{aligned} \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$$

We can show that there is a close relationship between the characteristic polynomials of  $J^+$  and  $J^-$ , and thus it is sufficient to have given the single scalar quantity

$$\beta^* = \beta_1 \beta_2 \cdots \beta_n$$

in place of the  $n$  eigenvalues  $\lambda_1^-, \dots, \lambda_n^-$ . Using equation (5.2) in [1], we can write

$$\det(J^+ - \lambda I) = p(\lambda) - \beta_n^2 r(\lambda) + 2(-1)^{n-1} \beta^*$$

and

$$\det(J^- - \lambda I) = p(\lambda) - \mathbf{s}_n^2 r(\lambda) - 2(-1)^{n-1} \mathbf{s}^*$$

where  $p(\lambda)$  is the characteristic polynomial of the matrix obtained from  $J^+$  or  $J^-$  by setting  $\mathbf{s}_n = 0$ , and  $r(\lambda)$  is the characteristic polynomial of the submatrix consisting of rows and columns  $2, 3, \dots, n-1$  of the matrix  $J^+$  or  $J^-$ . By subtracting these two expressions we obtain

$$(2) \quad \det(J^- - \lambda I) = \det(J^+ - \lambda I) + 4(-1)^n \mathbf{s}^*.$$

We will see the values  $\lambda_i^-$  appear only as the product  $(\lambda_1^- - \lambda) \dots (\lambda_n^- - \lambda)$ , so that if we are given the values  $\lambda_1^+, \dots, \lambda_n^+$  as well as  $\mathbf{s}^*$ , then we do not need explicitly the values  $\lambda_1^-, \dots, \lambda_n^-$ .

Note that the roles of  $\lambda_i^+$  and  $\lambda_i^-$  are essentially interchangeable at several stages, and we have made the choice to use  $\lambda_i^+$  as much as possible.

We let  $Q = [q_1, \dots, q_n]$  be the matrix of eigenvectors of  $J^+$  so that

$$\Lambda^+ = Q^T J^+ Q.$$

It is useful to write  $Q$  in terms of rows as well:

$$(3a) \quad Q \equiv \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{r}_1^T \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{r}_n^T \end{bmatrix} \quad | \quad \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{r}_3^T \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{r}_n^T \end{bmatrix}$$

We let  $P$  be the matrix of eigenvectors of  $K$ , and write  $P$  only in terms of its rows:

$$(3b) \quad P = \begin{bmatrix} \underline{p}_1^T \\ \vdots \\ \underline{p}_{n-1}^T \end{bmatrix}.$$

In section 1 of [2] it is shown how we may compute the first row  $\underline{r}_1$  of  $Q$  from  $\{\lambda_i^+\}_{i=1}^n$  and  $\{\mu_i\}_{i=1}^{n-1}$ . The final result obtained there is

$$(4) \quad q_{1j}^2 = \frac{\prod_{k=1}^{n-1} (\mu_k - \lambda_j^+)}{\prod_{\substack{k=1 \\ k \neq j}}^n (\lambda_k^+ - \lambda_j^+)} \quad (j = 1, \dots, n).$$

We can pick the signs of the  $q_{1j}$  arbitrarily, since changing one sign is equivalent to just multiplying the corresponding eigenvector by  $-1$ .

Consider the matrix

$$L^+ \equiv \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 (\underline{b}^+)^T \\ \underline{\Lambda}_+^T \\ \underline{b}^+ \\ M \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & P^T \end{bmatrix} J^+ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & P \end{bmatrix}$$

where we partition  $J^+$  as in (1a),  $\underline{b}^+ = P^T \underline{b}^+$ , and  $M$  is the matrix of eigenvalues of  $K$ . We define  $L^-$  similarly: Since the eigenvalues of

$L^+$  are  $\{\lambda_1^+, \dots, \lambda_n^+\}$ , we have that

$$\det(L^+ - \lambda I) = \prod_{k=1}^n (\lambda_k^+ - \lambda).$$

If we evaluate the determinant and equate the two sides of the equation, we obtain the result:

$$(5a) \quad \begin{aligned} (b_k^+)^2 &= - \frac{\prod_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq k}}^n (\lambda_j^+ - \mu_k)}{\prod_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq k}}^n (\mu_j - \mu_k)} \quad (k=1, \dots, n-1). \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we obtain

$$(5b) \quad \begin{aligned} (b_k^-)^2 &= - \frac{\prod_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq k}}^n (\lambda_j^- - \mu_k)}{\prod_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq k}}^n (\mu_j - \mu_k)} \quad (k=1, \dots, n-1), \end{aligned}$$

but using equation (2) we can rewrite (5b) as:

$$(5c) \quad \begin{aligned} (b_k^-)^2 &= - \frac{\prod_{j=1}^n (\lambda_j^+ - \mu_k) + 4(-1)^n \mathbf{e}^*}{\prod_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq k}}^n (\mu_j - \mu_k)} \end{aligned}$$

Note that the signs of  $b_k^+$  and  $b_k^-$  are unspecified. Any combination of signs will give a valid matrix, and using a different set of signs may or may not give a different matrix. We see that  $\mathbf{b}^+ = [\mathbf{e}_1, 0, \dots, 0, + \mathbf{e}_n]$  and

$\underline{\underline{b}}^- = [\underline{\underline{b}}_1, 0, \dots, 0, -\underline{\underline{b}}_n]^\top$  from (1), so that

$$\underline{\underline{b}}^+ - \underline{\underline{b}}^- = 2 \underline{\underline{b}}_n \underline{\underline{e}}_{n-1}$$

where  $\underline{\underline{e}}_{n-1} = [0, \dots, 0, 1]^\top$ . Note that all the vectors in the above equation are  $(n-1)$ -vectors. But, using the definition of  $L$ , we may write

$$(6) \quad \underline{\underline{b}}^+ - \underline{\underline{b}}^- = P^\top (\underline{\underline{b}}^+ - \underline{\underline{b}}^-) = 2 \underline{\underline{b}}_n P^\top \underline{\underline{e}}_{n-1} = 2 \underline{\underline{b}}_n \underline{\underline{p}}_{n-1}.$$

Since  $\underline{\underline{p}}_n$  is of norm unity- we need not know  $\underline{\underline{b}}_n$  explicitly; we just have to scale the vector  $\underline{\underline{b}}^+ - \underline{\underline{b}}^-$  to be of norm unity.

It is useful to partition the eigenvector  $\underline{\underline{q}}_k$  of  $J^+$  as follows

$$\underline{\underline{q}}_k = \begin{bmatrix} \underline{\underline{x}}_k \\ \underline{\underline{y}}_k \end{bmatrix}.$$

where  $\underline{\underline{x}}_k = \underline{\underline{q}}_{1k}$  is a scalar, and  $\underline{\underline{y}}_k$  is an  $(n-1)$ -vector. Since  $J^+ \underline{\underline{q}}_k = \lambda_k^+ \underline{\underline{q}}_k$ , we have

$$\underline{\underline{b}}^+ \underline{\underline{x}}_k + K \underline{\underline{y}}_k = \lambda_k^+ \underline{\underline{y}}_k$$

or

$$(K - \lambda_k^+ I) \underline{\underline{y}}_k = \underline{\underline{b}}^+ \underline{\underline{x}}_k.$$

Using the decomposition  $K = P M P^\top$ , we obtain

$$\underline{y}_k = -P(M - \lambda_k^+ I)^{-1} \underline{P}^\top \underline{b} + \underline{x}_k$$

$$= -P(M - \lambda_k^+ I)^{-1} \underline{b}^\top \underline{x}_k .$$

Thus, the last row of  $Q$  is

$$(7) \quad q_{n,k} \equiv v_{n-1,k} = -q_{1k} \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \frac{p_{n-1,j} \hat{b}_j^+}{(\mu_j - \lambda_k^+)}$$

where all the quantities on the right hand side are either given or are computed using (4), (5a) and (6).

Now we are in a position to generate the matrix using a modified Lanczos process. We need two initial vectors:

$$\underline{z}_1 = \underline{r}_1 \quad (\text{computed using (4)})$$

and

$$\underline{z}_n = \underline{r}_n \quad (\text{computed using (7)}),$$

using the notation in (3a). We have for these two vectors

$$\|\underline{z}_1\|_2 = \|\underline{z}_n\|_2 = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \underline{z}_1^\top \underline{z}_n = 0 .$$

Note that we have obtained two initial vectors for the Lanczos process in a manner **very** similar to that used in our previous paper for the five diagonal case [2]. The Lanczos process itself is a little different but is based on the same ideas.

To derive the Algorithm we use the relationships

$$\underline{Z}^\top A \underline{Z} = J^+ \quad \text{and} \quad A \underline{Z} = \underline{Z} J^+$$

where  $Z = [\underline{z}_1, \underline{z}_2, \dots, \underline{z}_n]$  is an orthogonal matrix. We then arrive at the

following procedure, using the identification

$$A = \Lambda^+ = \text{diag} (\lambda_1^+, \lambda_2^+, \dots, \lambda_n^+) .$$

(8) Modified Lanczos Procedure.

1. Set  $\beta_0 = \beta_n = \underline{z}_n^T A \underline{z}_1$

$$\alpha_n = \underline{z}_n^T A \underline{z}_n$$

and

$$\text{set } \underline{z}_0 = \underline{z}_n .$$

2. For  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$

$$\text{Set } \alpha_k = \underline{z}_k^T A \underline{z}_k$$

$$\underline{v}_k = A \underline{z}_k - \alpha_k \underline{z}_k - \beta_k \underline{z}_{k-1}$$

$$\beta_k = \|\underline{v}_k\|_2$$

$$\text{If } k \neq n-1 \text{ then set } \underline{z}_{k+1} = (\beta_k^{-1} \underline{v}_k) .$$

(For numerical stability only);

Orthogonalize  $\underline{z}_{k+1}$  with respect to  $\underline{z}_0, \dots, \underline{z}_k$  using, say, the modified Gram-Schmidt procedure or Householder transformations.

The matrix  $J^+$  and  $J^-$  will be defined by (1) using the  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n$ ,  $\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_n$  computed in the Lanczos procedure. There is an ambiguity in the signs of the  $\{\beta_i\}_{i=1}^n$  in that we can switch the sign of  $\beta_i$  while changing the sign of  $\underline{z}_i$  without affecting the result of the procedure. Because an even number of sign changes in the  $\{\beta_i\}_{i=1}^n$  in  $J^+$  will not affect the eigenvalues (see Appendix II), we may assume that  $\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_{n-1}$  are all positive and set the sign of  $\beta_n$  to match that of  $\beta$ , adjusting

the vector  $\underline{z}_n$  accordingly.

To summarize the Algorithm:

We are given two sets of eigenvalues

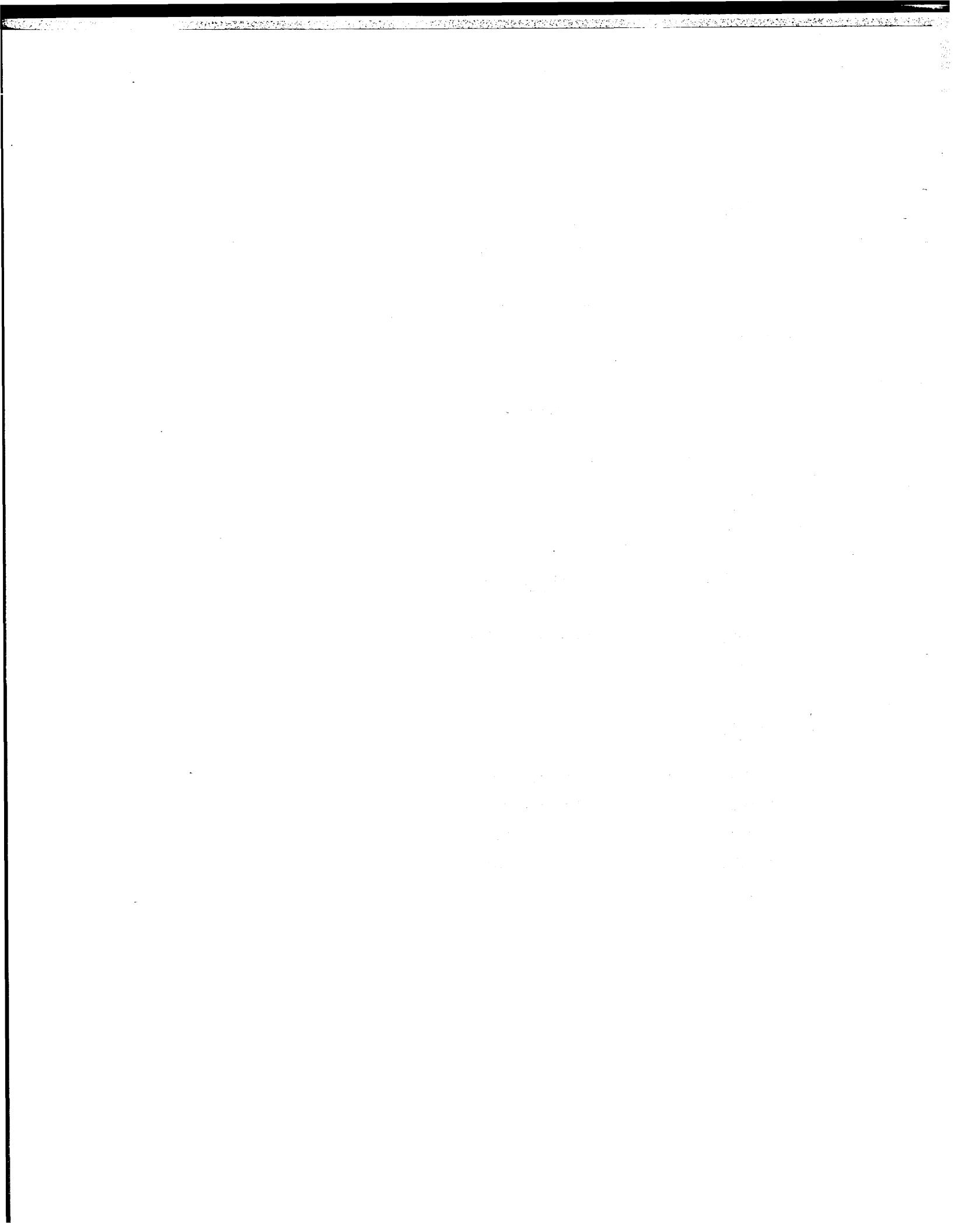
$$\{\lambda_i^+\}_{i=1}^n, \quad \{\mu_i\}_{i=1}^{n-1}$$

and the scalar  $\beta^*$ .

1. Compute  $\underline{z}_1 = \underline{r}_1 = [q_{11}, q_{12}, \dots, q_{1n}]^T$  by (4) .
2. Compute  $\underline{b}^+$  and  $\underline{b}^-$  by (5) .
3. Compute  $\underline{p}_{n-1} = [p_{n-1,1}, \dots, p_{n-1,n-1}]^T$  by (6).
4. Compute  $\underline{z}_n = \underline{r}_n = [q_{n1}, \dots, q_{nn}]^T$  by (7).
5. Apply the modified Lanczos procedure (8) using  $\Lambda^+$  and initial vectors  $\underline{z}_1$  and  $\underline{z}_n$  .

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## Appendix I.

It is possible to show that the Lanczos process described by (8), if it reaches completion (with  $\theta_k \neq 0$  for all  $k$ ) will generate orthonormal vectors for any real symmetric  $A$  and thus the matrix  $J$  will be a periodic matrix. For notational convenience, we write  $\underline{z}^T = \underline{z}_0$ . We assume that  $\underline{z}_0$  and  $\underline{z}_1$  are given with  $\|\underline{z}_0\|_2 = \|\underline{z}_1\|_2 = 1$  and that

$$\underline{z}_0^T \underline{z}_1 = 0 .$$

To generate the periodic matrix, we use the recurrence relationship

$$(9) \quad \theta_{j-1} \underline{z}_j = \underline{A} \underline{z}_{j-1} - \alpha_{j-1} \underline{z}_{j-1} - \theta_{j-2} \underline{z}_{j-2}$$

for  $j = 2, 3, \dots, n-1$ .

Let

$$\theta_0 = \theta_n = \underline{z}_0^T \underline{A} \underline{z}_1$$

and

$$\alpha_1 = \underline{z}_1^T \underline{A} \underline{z}_1 .$$

Note this immediately implies

$$\theta_1 \underline{z}_0^T \underline{z}_2 = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \theta_1 \underline{z}_1^T \underline{z}_2 = 0 .$$

The parameter  $\theta_1$  is computed so that  $\|\underline{z}_2\|_2 = 1$ . Let us assume

$$(10a) \quad \underline{z}_i^T \underline{z}_j = 0 \quad \text{for } i \neq j, \quad i, j = 0, 1, \dots, k$$

and

$$(10b) \quad \|\underline{z}_i\|_2 = 1 \quad \text{for } i = 0, 1, \dots, k .$$

We calculate

$$(11a) \quad \alpha_k = \underline{z}_k^T A \underline{z}_k$$

$$(11b) \quad \underline{v}_{k+1} = A \underline{z}_k - \alpha_k \underline{z}_k - \beta_{k-1} \underline{z}_{k-1}$$

$$(11c) \quad \beta_k = \|\underline{v}_{k+1}\|_2$$

$$(11d) \quad \underline{z}_{k+1} = \frac{(\underline{v}_{k+1})}{\beta_k} - \underline{z}_k \quad .$$

Note that  $\|\underline{z}_{k+1}\|_2 = 1$  providing  $\|\underline{v}_{k+1}\|_2 \neq 0$ .

We now show

$$\underline{z}_{k+1}^T \underline{z}_j = 0 \quad \text{for } j < k \quad .$$

$$\text{Since } \underline{z}_k^T \underline{z}_{j-1} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \|\underline{z}_k\|_2 = 1 \quad ,$$

$$\underline{z}_{k+1}^T \underline{z}_k = 0$$

when  $\alpha_k$  is calculated by (11a). Now

$$(12) \quad \beta_k \underline{z}_j^T \underline{z}_{k+1} = \underline{z}_j^T A \underline{z}_k - \alpha_k \underline{z}_j^T \underline{z}_k - \beta_{k-1} \underline{z}_j^T \underline{z}_{k-1}$$

so that for  $j < k-1$

$$(13) \quad \beta_k \underline{z}_j^T \underline{z}_{k+1} = \underline{z}_j^T A \underline{z}_k - \beta_{k-1} \underline{z}_j^T \underline{z}_{k-1}$$

But  $\underline{z}_j^T A \underline{z}_k = \underline{z}_k^T A \underline{z}_j$  so that (13) becomes, using (9)

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_k \underline{z}_j^T \underline{z}_{k+1} &= \underline{z}_k^T (\beta_j \underline{z}_{j+1} + \alpha_j \underline{z}_j + \beta_{j-1} \underline{z}_{j-1}) - \beta_{k-1} \underline{z}_j^T \underline{z}_{k-1} \\ &= \beta_j \underline{z}_k^T \underline{z}_{j+1} + 0 \cdot \alpha_j + 0 \cdot \beta_{j-1} - \beta_{k-1} \underline{z}_j^T \underline{z}_{k-1} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\beta_k \begin{smallmatrix} \top \\ z_{k-1} \end{smallmatrix} z_{k+1} = \beta_{k-1} \begin{smallmatrix} \top \\ z_k \end{smallmatrix} z_k - \beta_{k-1} \begin{smallmatrix} \top \\ z_{k-1} \end{smallmatrix} z_{k-1} = 0$$

and for  $j \leq k-2$ ,

$$\beta_k \begin{smallmatrix} \top \\ z_j \end{smallmatrix} z_{k+1} = 0 \quad \beta_j = 0 \quad \beta_{k-1} = 0.$$

## Appendix II.

We include here a short discussion of the signs of  $\beta_i$  ( $i=1,2,\dots,n$ ). We wish to find what sign changes can be made that will leave the eigenvalues unaffected. In order to do this, we will try to see what sign changes can be made by similarity transformations.

Define the matrix

$$V_{ij} = \text{diag} \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq j \leq n,$$

where

$$v_1 = v_2 = \dots = v_i = 1,$$

$$v_{i+1} = \dots = v_j = -1,$$

and

$$v_{j+1} = \dots = v_n = 1.$$

Then  $V_{ij} = V_{ij}^{-1}$  for any  $i$  and  $j$ .

Consider the matrix

$$\tilde{J} = V_{ij}^{-1} J^+ V_{ij},$$

We can see that  $\tilde{J}$  will be identical to  $J^+$  except that  $\beta_i$  and  $\beta_j$  are replaced by  $-\beta_i$  and  $-\beta_j$ ; however,  $\beta^+ = \prod_{i=1}^n \beta_i$  is unchanged. Thus, we may toggle the signs on any two  $\beta_k$  without affecting the eigenvalues. It follows

then, that making any even number of sign change will leave the eigenvalues unaffected.

If we make an odd number of sign changes then by using the above argument we can see that we get a matrix with the same eigenvalues as  $J^-$ . Thus by toggling the signs of the  $\beta_i$  we can get only two sets of eigenvalues, those of  $J^+$  called  $\{\lambda_i^+\}_{i=1}^n$  and those of  $J^-$  called  $\{\lambda_i^-\}_{i=1}^n$ . Whichever set we get is determined by how we set the sign of  $\beta^*$ .