

# The Envelope Method

for computing orthogonal eigenvectors  
belonging to isolated clusters of very close eigenvalues  
of a symmetric tridiagonal matrix

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**Theorem 1.**  $\beta_i \neq 0$ , all  $i \implies$  eigenvalues distinct

**Theorem 2.**  $\beta_i \neq 0$ , all  $i \implies x_1 x_n \neq 0$

**Givens method:** set  $x_1 = 1$   
Eqn. 1 determines  $x_2$   
Eqn. 2           "            $x_3$   
                  ...  
Eqn.  $n - 1$        "            $x_n$   
[Eqn.  $n$  is redundant]  
Normalize, if required

⟨could start with  $x_n = 1$  and proceed in reverse⟩

**Properties.** Perfect in exact arithmetic with exact  $\lambda$ .

**Defect 1.** What if 2 eigs agree to working precision?  
What if 4 eigs agree too working precision?

**Defect 2.** Can fail even for an isolated eigenvalue ( $W_{21}^-$ )

Is it difficult to compute numerically orthogonal eigenvectors belonging to an isolated cluster of very close eigenvalues?

Ans: **yes**, if you compute them one by one.

Ans: **no**, if you compute them all together.

# Envelopes

The **envelope** of a vector  $v$  is

$$|v| = [ |v_1|, |v_2|, \dots, |v_n| ]^t.$$

Let  $Q$  be any orthonormal basis for a subspace  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  of dimension  $p$ . Then its **envelope**  $\mathcal{E}_S$  is given by

$$\mathcal{E}_S(i) = \|Q(i, 1 : p)\|_2, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

$$\|\mathcal{E}_S\|_2 = \|Q\|_F = \sqrt{p}.$$

The envelopes of invariant subspaces belonging to isolated clusters of very close eigenvalues of tridiagonal  $T$  have hills and valleys.

The smaller is

$$\frac{\text{cluster width}}{\text{cluster gap}}$$

the deeper are the valleys.

The number of hills  $\leq$  the number of eigenvalues in the cluster.

### Distinguished sparse basis

To each hill associate a vector that is zero except for the hill (suitably extended).

Some hills may have two vectors assigned to them.

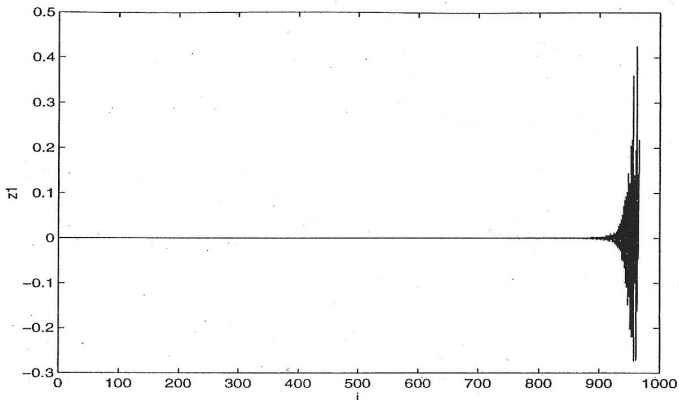


Figure: *An eigenvector of a tridiagonal: most of its entries are negligible*

Matrix comes from nuclear chemistry  
George Fann matrix,  $n = 966$

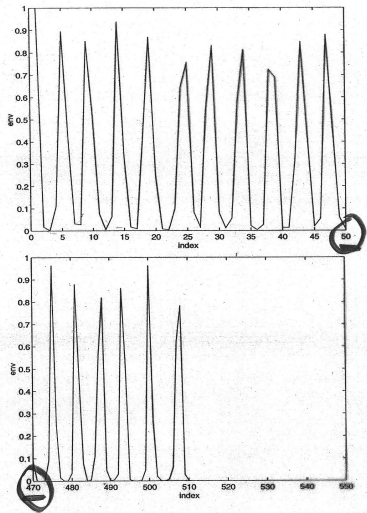


Figure: *Snapshot of Envelope (108 eigenvalues)*

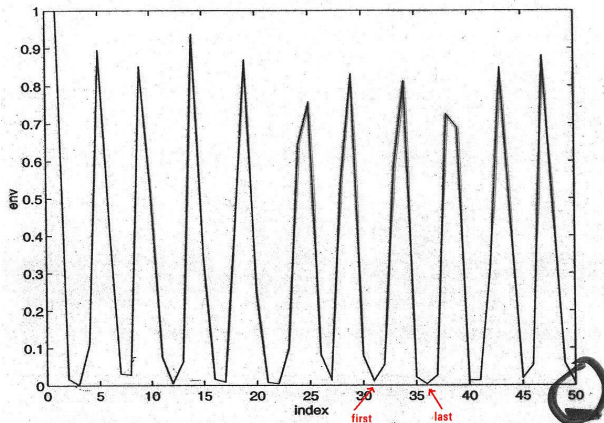
$n = 2053$ , cluster size 108

Cluster determined by submatrix 1:515



# How to construct a distinguished basis from the envelope

Take each hill down to the valley on each side and extend smoothly to zero to obtain the indices *first* and *last*



This gives one submatrix  $T(\text{first} : \text{last})$  per hill.

In practice, we will not have the envelope.

We want to create the index pair (*first:last*) from the tridiagonal itself.

There are several methods.

We will describe a new inexpensive one later.

To create the basis vector(s)

- ▶ Use the submatrix  $T(\textit{first}.\textit{last})$
- ▶ Compute the eigenpair(s) with eigenvalue in the cluster interval.



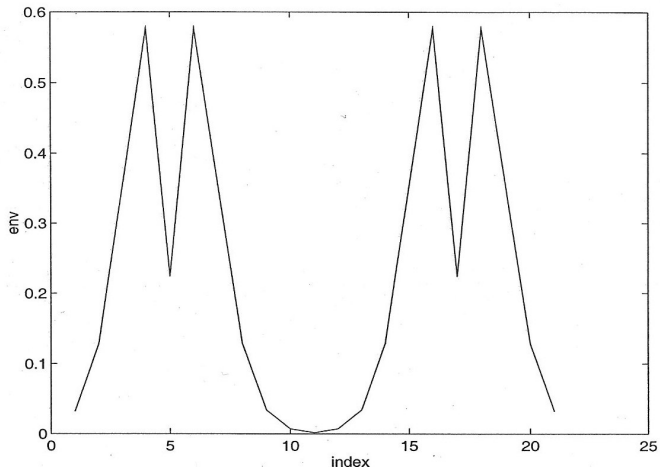


Figure: Envelope for  $\lambda_{12}$ ,  $\lambda_{13}$  from  $W_{21}^+$

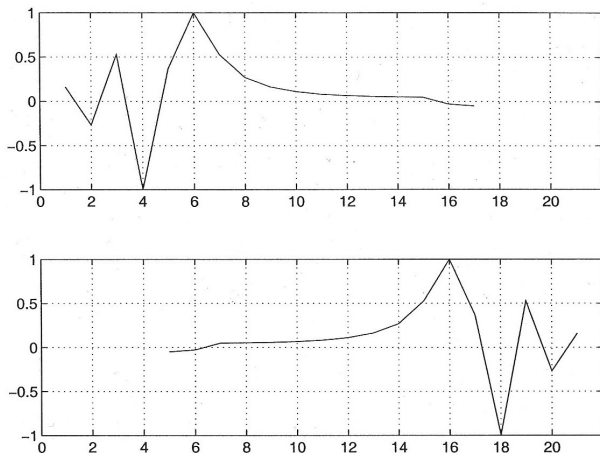


Figure: Vectors  $z_+$  and  $z_-$  for the pair near 6 on a log scale

$0 < x < 1$ ,  $x \longrightarrow -1/\log_{10} x$ , correct sign  
normalized

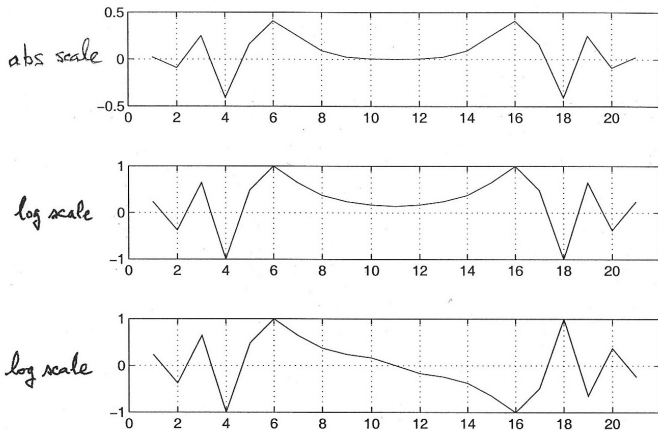


Figure: Bisectors of  $z_+$  and  $z_-$  on a log scale

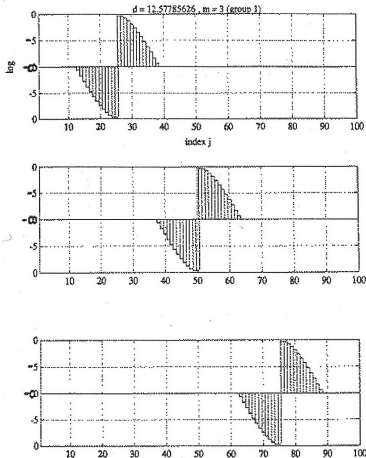


Figure: *Basis eigenvectors of  $W_{100}$  for  $\{\lambda_{93}, \lambda_{94}, \lambda_{95}\}$*

Glued Wilkinson matrix

$$G_2(W_{25}^+, 4, 0.3)$$

4 copies of  $W_{25}^+$ , glue= 0.3

Cluster structure 3 – 2 – 3

12.5778...      3

12.74619...    2

12.93911...    3





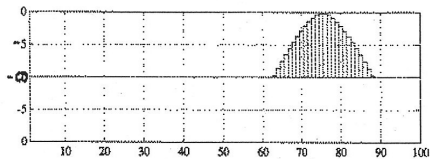
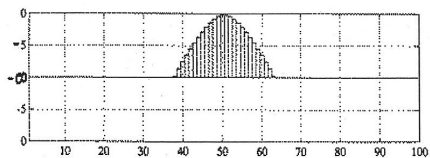
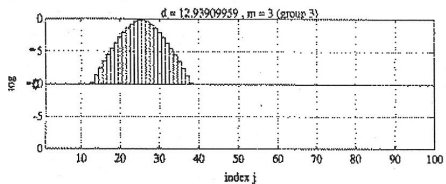


Figure: Basis eigenvectors of  $W_{100}$  for  $\{\lambda_{98}, \lambda_{99}, \lambda_{100}\}$

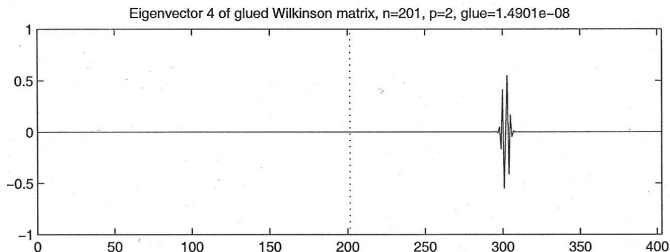
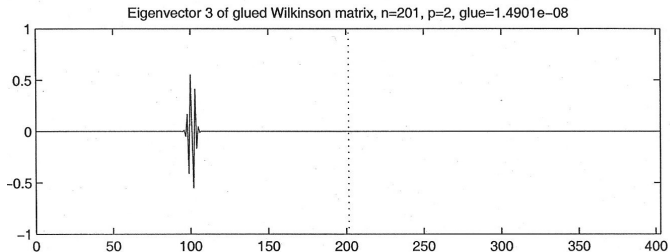


Figure:  $G_2(W_{201}^+, 2, \sqrt{\epsilon})$ ,  $\lambda_3, \lambda_4 \sim 0.25$

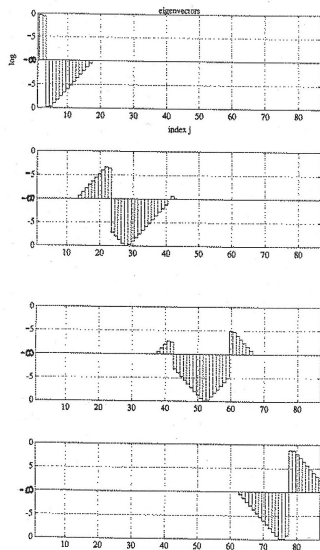


Figure: Eigenvectors  $x_{79}$ ,  $x_{80}$ ,  $x_{81}$ ,  $x_{82}$  for  $T_{87}$  on a log scale

Wanted:

a cheap way to approximate the submatrices

# Results complementary to Gersgorin's Circle Theorem

$$B \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$$

$$G_j^{row} := \left\{ \zeta : |\zeta - b_{jj}| \leq \sum_{k \neq j} |b_{jk}| \right\}$$

**G's Theorem.** Each  $\lambda \in \text{eig}(B)$  is located in at least one  $G$ -disk.

## A complementary result

If

$$\lambda \notin G_j^{row} \text{ for } j = p : q, \quad p < q,$$

then

$\lambda$ 's column eigenvector **decays** in entries  $p : q$ .

(the direction of decay varies, sometimes from  $p$  to  $q$ ,  
sometimes  $q$  to  $p$ )

**Corollary.** The (local) maximal elements of an eigenvector occur only for indices  $k$  for which  $\lambda \in G_k$ .

For large  $n$  this corollary makes searching for a maximal entry more efficient.

E.g.

If  $\lambda \notin G_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, 500$ , then start computing at index 501.

Are there any uses for indices  $i$  for which  $\lambda \notin G_i$ ?

# Symmetric Tridiagonal Case

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 & \beta_1 & & & & & \\ \beta_1 & \alpha_2 & \beta_2 & & & & \\ & \beta_2 & \alpha_3 & \beta_3 & & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & & \\ & & & \beta_{n-2} & \alpha_{n-1} & \beta_{n-1} & \\ & & & & \beta_{n-1} & \alpha_n & \end{bmatrix}$$

Suppose that

$$T - \lambda I = LDL^t$$

$$L := \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & & & & \\ l_1 & 1 & & & & & \\ & l_2 & 1 & & & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & & & \\ & & & l_{n-1} & 1 & & \end{bmatrix}, \quad D := \begin{bmatrix} d_1 & & & & & & \\ & d_2 & & & & & \\ & & \ddots & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & d_{n-1} & \\ & & & & & & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(T - \lambda I)z = \mathbf{0} \implies L^t z = \mathbf{e}_n z_n \implies z_j = -l_j z_{j+1}, \quad j = n-1, \dots, 1$$

**Lemma.** If  $\lambda \notin G_j$  and  $|l_{j-1}| < 1$  then  $|l_j| < 1$ .

**Proof.**

$$l_j = \frac{\beta_j}{d_j}$$
$$d_j = \alpha_j - \lambda - l_{j-1}\beta_{j-1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} |d_j| &\geq |\alpha_j - \lambda| - |l_{j-1}||\beta_{j-1}| \\ &> |\alpha_j - \lambda| - |\beta_{j-1}|, \end{aligned} \quad \text{since } |l_{j-1}| < 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} |l_j| &< \frac{|\beta_j|}{|\alpha_j - \lambda| - |\beta_{j-1}|} \\ &< 1, \end{aligned} \quad \text{since } \lambda \notin G_j \quad \square$$



**Theorem.** If  $\lambda \notin G_j$  for  $j = p : q$ ,  $p < q$ , and  $|l_{p-1}| < 1$  then

$$|l_j| < 1 \quad \text{for } j = p - 1 : q$$

and

$$|z_j| < \left( \prod_{i=j}^q |l_i| \right) |z_{q+1}| \quad \text{for } j = p - 1 : q.$$

Similar results for  $T - \lambda I = U\dot{D}U^t$ .

Heuristic: replace  $d_i^+$  and  $d_i^-$  by  $\alpha_i - \lambda$

Hence

$$\prod_{i=j}^q |l_i| \approx \frac{\prod_{i=j}^q \beta_i}{\prod_{i=j}^q (\alpha_i - \lambda)} =: \frac{\text{num}}{\text{den}}$$

**Test:** num  $\leq$  tol.den

tol =  $10^{-12}$  or  $10^{-15}$

# General Case

$$B - \lambda I = L^+ D^+ U^+$$

$$u_{kj}^+ = \frac{b_{kj}}{d_k^+}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, j-1$$

$$d_j^+ = (b_{jj} - \lambda) - \sum_{k < j} b_{jk} u_{kj}^+$$

$$u_{jl}^+ = \frac{b_{jl}}{d_j^+}, \quad l = j+1 : n$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{l > j} |u_{jl}^+| &= \frac{1}{|d_j^+|} \sum_{l > j} |b_{jl}| \leq \frac{\sum_{l > j} |b_{jl}|}{|b_{jj} - \lambda| - (\sum_{k < j} |b_{jk}|) \max_{k < j} |u_{kj}^+|} \\ &< \frac{\sum_{l > j} |b_{jl}|}{|b_{jj} - \lambda| - \sum_{k < j} |b_{jk}|}, \quad \text{if } \max_{k < j} |u_{kj}^+| < 1 \\ &< 1, \quad \text{if } \lambda \notin G_j^{\text{row}} \end{aligned}$$

Theorem. If  $\max_{k < p} |u_{kp}^+| < 1$  and  $\lambda \notin G_j^{row}$  for  $j = p : q$  then

$$\sum_{l > m} |u_{ml}^+| < 1 \text{ for } m = p : q.$$

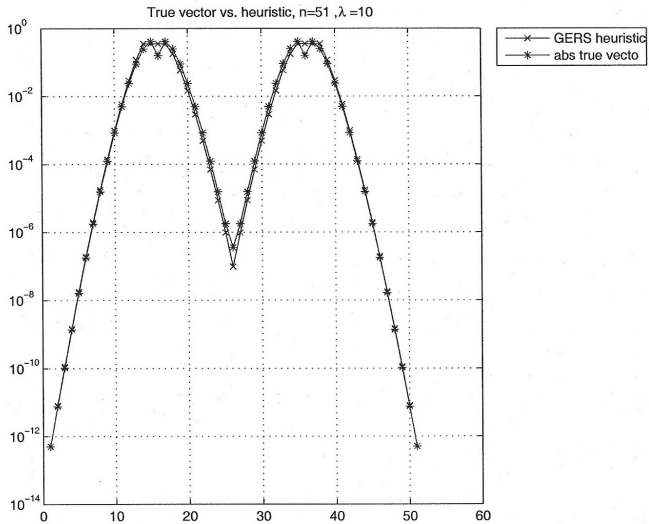


Figure:  $W_{51}^+, \lambda_{21}$

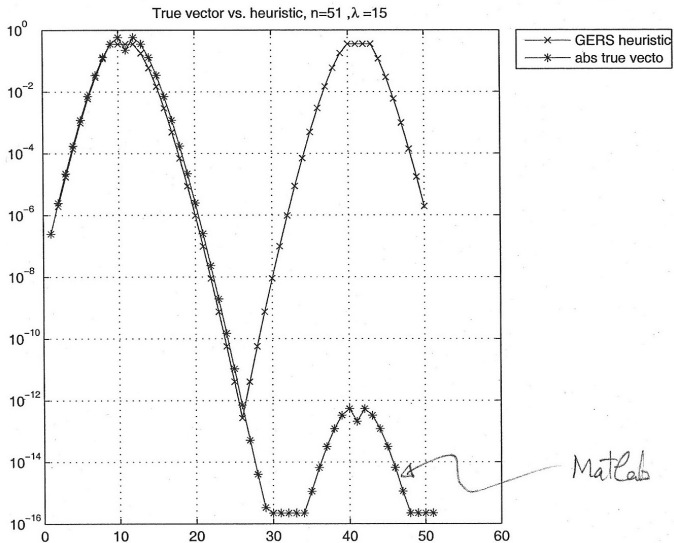


Figure:  $W_{51}^+, \lambda_{31}$

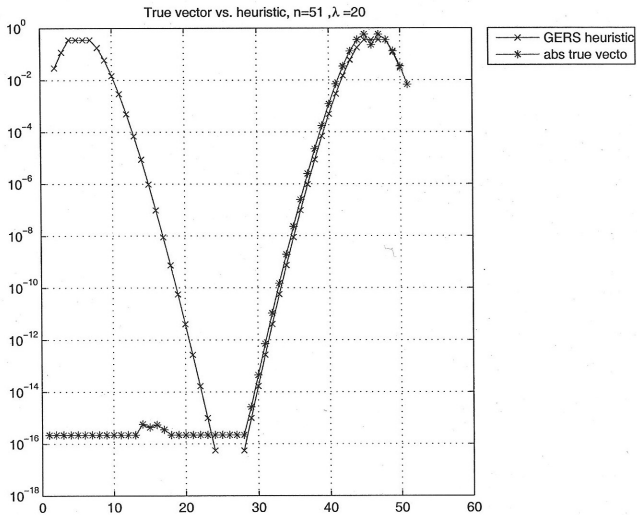


Figure:  $W_{51}^+$ ,  $\lambda_{41}$

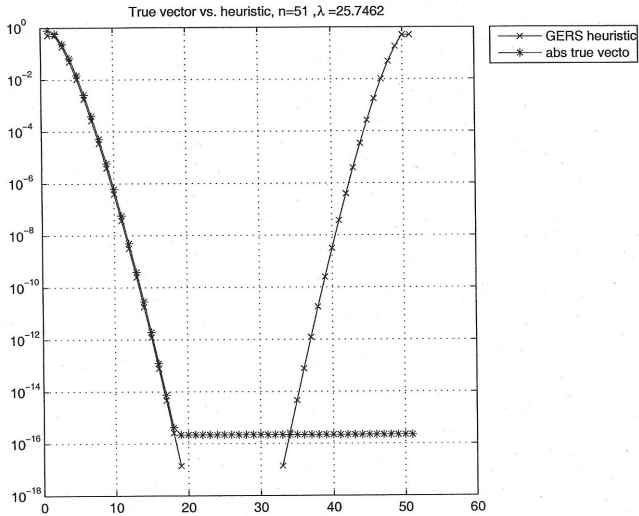


Figure:  $W_{51}^+$ ,  $\lambda_{51}$

# Conclusion

For symmetric tridiagonal matrices the computation of numerically orthogonal eigenvectors for

isolated cluster of close eigenvalues

is

easy and rapid

if the cluster is treated as a whole and

almost impossible

if they are computed one by one.