

## Algorithmic Differentiation of Numerical Methods: Tangent-Linear and Adjoint Direct Solvers for Systems of Linear Equations

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# Algorithmic Differentiation of Numerical Methods: Tangent-Linear and Adjoint Direct Solvers for Systems of Linear Equations

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**Abstract.** We consider the Algorithmic Differentiation (also known as Automatic Differentiation; AD) of numerical simulation programs that contain calls to direct solvers for systems of  $n$  linear equations. AD of the linear solvers yields a local overhead of  $O(n^3)$  for the computation of directional derivatives or adjoints of the solution vector with respect to the system matrix and right-hand side. The local memory requirement is of the same order in adjoint mode AD. Mathematical insight yields a reduction of the local computational complexity to  $O(n^2)$ . The memory overhead can be reduced to at least  $O(n^2)$  in adjoint mode. We derive efficient tangent-linear and adjoint direct linear solvers and illustrate their use within tangent-linear and adjoint versions of the enclosing numerical simulation.

## 1 Motivation

Algorithmic Differentiation (AD) [GW08, Nau12a] is a semantic program transformation technique that yields robust and efficient derivative code. Its reverse or adjoint mode is of particular interest in large-scale nonlinear optimization due to the independence of its computational cost on the number of free parameters. AD tools for compile- (source code transformation) and run-time (operator and function overloading) solutions have been developed many of which are listed on the AD community's web portal [www.autodiff.org](http://www.autodiff.org). Traditionally, AD tools transform the source code at the level of arithmetic operators and built-in functions. Potentially complex numerical kernels, for example, matrix products [Gil08] or the solvers for systems of linear equations to be discussed in this paper, are typically not considered as intrinsic functions often resulting in suboptimal computational performance. Ideally, one would like to re-use intermediate results of the evaluation of the original kernel for the evaluation of directional derivatives and/or adjoints, thus, potentially reducing the computational overhead induced by the differentiation. For direct linear solvers mathematical insight yields a reduction of the overhead from  $O(n^3)$  to  $O(n^2)$ . Applicability of this theoretical result is facilitated by the integration of direct linear solvers as intrinsic functions into AD software tools. For a given programming language a generally applicable solution would require built-in numerical kernels. However, currently these kernels are provided through various run time support libraries. A practical implementation needs to focus on a given library. A large number of technical issues need to be addressed that do not add to the conceptual understanding of the subject. For this reason we chose to present a reference implementation based on

a simple custom Gauss solver in the appendix while focusing on the mathematical/algorithmic details in the main paper. Readers are welcome to download the sources of all implementations that are referenced in the following from

[www.stce.rwth-aachen.de/publications/Naumann2012DLS](http://www.stce.rwth-aachen.de/publications/Naumann2012DLS).

## 2 Foundations

We consider the computation of directional derivatives (tangents)

$$\mathbb{R}^n \ni \mathbf{x}^{(1)} = \left\langle \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial A}, A^{(1)} \right\rangle + \left\langle \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{b}}, \mathbf{b}^{(1)} \right\rangle \quad (1)$$

and of adjoints

$$\mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \ni A_{(1)} = \left\langle \mathbf{x}_{(1)}, \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial A} \right\rangle \quad (2)$$

and

$$\mathbb{R}^n \ni \mathbf{b}_{(1)} = \left\langle \mathbf{x}_{(1)}, \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{b}} \right\rangle \quad (3)$$

for direct solvers of systems of linear equations

$$A \cdot \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}, \quad (4)$$

where  $A = A(\mathbf{z}) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ ,  $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{z}) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ . The *continuous approach* to the computation of derivatives of the solution  $\mathbf{x}$  with respect to the right-hand side  $\mathbf{b}$  (see Sections 3.2 and 4.2) has been proposed previously (see, for example, [TFK06]). We are not aware of a corresponding description of differentiation with respect to the system matrix  $A$ . Moreover, to the best of our knowledge, there does not exist a formal description of the special treatment of (direct) linear solvers in the context of AD tool development.

For the purpose of illustration, the linear solvers are assumed to be embedded into the convex nonlinear programming (NLP) problem

$$\min_{\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^m} f(\mathbf{z})$$

for a given objective function  $f : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . If first-order gradient-based methods shall be used for its solution, then the gradient of  $y = f(\mathbf{z}) \in \mathbb{R}$  with respect to  $\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^m$  needs to be computed.

We adopt the notation from [Nau12a]. Individual entries of a *projection*  $\mathbb{R}^n \ni \mathbf{x}_A^{(1)} \equiv \left\langle \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial A}, A^{(1)} \right\rangle$  of the three-tensor  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times (n \times n)}$  in direction  $A^{(1)} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  are defined as inner products

$$\left[ \mathbf{x}_A^{(1)} \right]_i = \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial A} \right]_{i,j,k} \cdot \left[ A^{(1)} \right]_{j,k} \quad (5)$$

for  $i = 0, \dots, n-1$  and given *serializations* (referred to as *vectorizations* in [MN02]) of  $A$  and  $A^{(1)} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ . We denote the element with indexes  $i_0, \dots, i_{k-1}$  within a  $k$ -tensor  $T$  by  $[T]_{i_0, \dots, i_{k-1}}$ . Tensors up to fourth order need to be considered in the following. The matrix-vector product  $\mathbb{R}^n \ni \mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{b}}^{(1)} \equiv \left\langle \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{b}}, \mathbf{b}^{(1)} \right\rangle$  (a projection of the two-tensor  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{b}} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  in direction  $\mathbf{b}^{(1)} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ) becomes

$$\left[ \mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{b}}^{(1)} \right]_i = \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{b}} \right]_{i,j} \cdot \left[ \mathbf{b}^{(1)} \right]_j \quad (6)$$

for  $i = 0, \dots, n-1$  and given  $\mathbf{b}^{(1)} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Adjoints are defined as projections of  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial A}$  in direction  $\mathbf{x}_{(1)}$ , that is,

$$[A_{(1)}]_{i,j} = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} [\mathbf{x}_{(1)}]_k \cdot \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial A} \right]_{k,i,j} \quad (7)$$

for  $i, j = 0, \dots, n-1$  and, similarly, as projections of  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{b}}$  in the same direction, that is,

$$[\mathbf{b}_{(1)}]_i = \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} [\mathbf{x}_{(1)}]_j \cdot \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{b}} \right]_{j,i} \quad (8)$$

for  $i = 0, \dots, n-1$  and given  $\mathbf{x}_{(1)} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . The above projections of the derivative tensors  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial A}$  and  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{b}}$  shall be evaluated in tensor-free fashion, that is, without accumulation of the tensors themselves.

For further illustration,  $f$  is decomposed into a sequence of three successive function evaluations

$$y = f(\mathbf{z}) = p(S(P(\mathbf{z}))), \quad (9)$$

where  $P : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \times \mathbb{R}^n$  denotes the part of the computation that precedes the direct linear solver  $S : \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \times \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  and where  $p : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  maps the result  $\mathbf{x}$  onto the scalar objective  $y$ . The direct linear solver  $\mathbf{x} = S(A, \mathbf{b})$  solves the system of linear equations for  $A = A(\mathbf{z})$  and  $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{z})$ , for example, by  $LU$ ,  $QR$ , or  $LL^T$  factorization of  $A$  as described in any standard textbook on numerical linear algebra; see, for example, [TB97].

While we use unconstrained NLP as the motivating context, the results in this paper are applicable to arbitrary problems that involve the solution of linear systems including the solution of systems of nonlinear equations and general NLP problems, for example, with constraints given as (partial) differential equations [HPUU09]. Our arguments will be based on the following algorithmic description of Equation (9):

$$\begin{pmatrix} A \\ \mathbf{b} \end{pmatrix} := P(\mathbf{z}) \quad (10)$$

$$\mathbf{x} := S(A, \mathbf{b}) \quad (11)$$

$$y := p(\mathbf{x}). \quad (12)$$

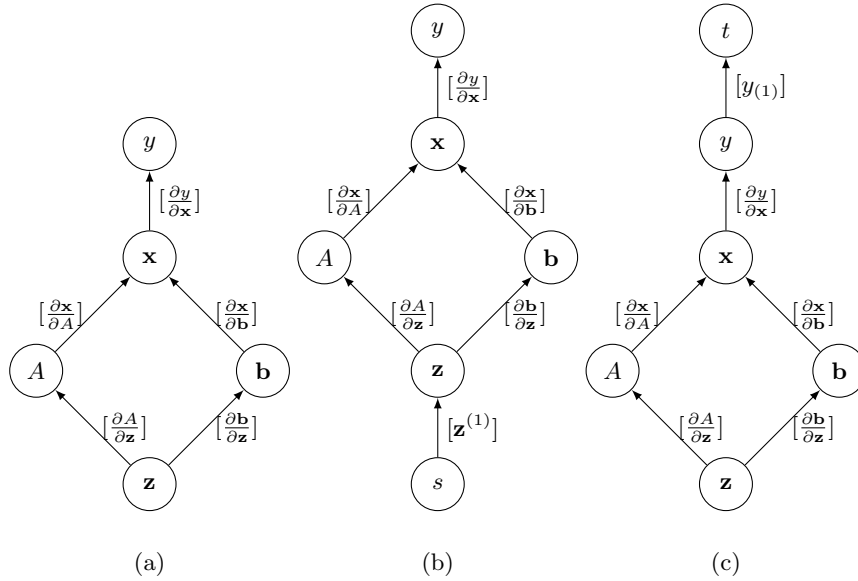
This structure occurs, for example, in the context of parameter calibration problems for (partial) differential equations the solution of which is to be fitted to given observations. See Section 5 for a case study.

AD yields semantic transformations of implementations of, in general, multivariate vector functions  $F : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  as computer programs. In the following we use the notation from [Nau12a] that is partially inspired by the notation used in [GW08]. For AD to become applicable, the given implementation of  $F$  is assumed to decompose into a *single assignment code* (SAC) as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{for } j = n, \dots, n + p + m - 1 \\ v_j = \varphi_j(v_i)_{i < j}, \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

where  $i \prec j$  denotes a direct dependence of  $v_j$  on  $v_i$ . The result of each *intrinsic function*<sup>1</sup>  $\varphi_j$  is assigned to a unique auxiliary variable  $v_j$ . The  $n$  *independent inputs*  $x_i = v_i$ , for  $i = 0, \dots, n - 1$ , are mapped onto  $m$  *dependent outputs*  $y_j = v_{n+p+j}$ , for  $j = 0, \dots, m - 1$ . The values of  $p$  *intermediate variables*  $v_k$  are computed for  $k = n, \dots, n + p - 1$ .

The SAC induces a directed acyclic graph (DAG)  $G = (V, E)$  with integer vertices  $V = \{0, \dots, n + p + m - 1\}$  and edges  $E = \{(i, j) | i \prec j\}$ . The vertices are sorted topologically with respect to variable dependence, that is,  $\forall i, j \in V : (i, j) \in E \Rightarrow i < j$ . Intrinsic functions  $\varphi_j$  are assumed to possess jointly continuous partial derivatives with respect to their arguments. Association of the local partial derivatives with their corresponding edges in the DAG yields the *linearized DAG*. The linearized DAG of our reference problem is shown in Fig. 1 (a) with (high-level) intrinsic functions  $P$ ,  $S$ , and  $p$ .



**Fig. 1.** Reference Problem: (a) Linearized DAG; (b) Tangent-Linear Extension; (c) Adjoint Extension

By the chain rule of differential calculus, the entries of the Jacobian  $A = (a_{i,j}) \equiv \nabla F(\mathbf{x})$  of  $F$  can be computed as

$$a_{i,j} = \sum_{\pi \in [i \rightarrow n+p+j]} \prod_{(k,l) \in \pi} c_{l,k} \quad (14)$$

<sup>1</sup> Intrinsic functions can range from fundamental arithmetic operations (+, \*, ...) and built-in (into the used programming language) functions (sin, exp, ...) to potentially highly complex numerical algorithms such as routines for interpolation, numerical integration, or the solution of systems of linear or nonlinear equations. In its basic form, AD is defined for the arithmetic operators and built-in functions. A formal extension of this concept to higher-level intrinsics turns out to be straight forward. For a complex algorithm to become an intrinsic function we require existence and availability of the partial derivatives of its results with respect to its arguments.

with local partial derivatives

$$c_{l,k} \equiv \frac{\partial \varphi_l}{\partial v_k} (v_q)_{q \prec l}$$

and where  $[i \rightarrow n+p+j]$  denotes the set of all paths that connect the independent vertex  $i$  with the dependent vertex  $n+p+j$  [Bau74]. For example, according to Fig. 1

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{z}} \equiv \frac{\partial y}{\partial \mathbf{z}} = \frac{\partial y}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial A} \cdot \frac{\partial A}{\partial \mathbf{z}} + \frac{\partial y}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{b}} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{b}}{\partial \mathbf{z}} = \frac{\partial y}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \cdot \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial A} \cdot \frac{\partial A}{\partial \mathbf{z}} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{b}} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{b}}{\partial \mathbf{z}} \right).$$

The minimization of the computational cost of Jacobian accumulation is known to be NP-hard [Nau08]. Elimination techniques on linearized DAGs that facilitate approximate solutions of the combinatorial *Optimal Jacobian Accumulation* problem have been developed for several years; see, for example, [GR91, GV03, Nau04].

The Jacobian  $\nabla F = \nabla F(\mathbf{x})$  induces a linear mapping  $\nabla F : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  defined by

$$\mathbf{x}^{(1)} \mapsto \langle \nabla F, \mathbf{x}^{(1)} \rangle.$$

The function  $F^{(1)} : \mathbb{R}^{2 \cdot n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ , defined as

$$\mathbf{y}^{(1)} = F^{(1)}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^{(1)}) \equiv \langle \nabla F, \mathbf{x}^{(1)} \rangle = \nabla F(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \mathbf{x}^{(1)}, \quad (15)$$

is referred to as the *tangent-linear model* of  $F$ . The directional derivative  $\mathbf{y}^{(1)}$  can be regarded as the partial derivative of  $\mathbf{y}$  with respect to an auxiliary scalar variable  $s$ , where

$$\mathbf{x}^{(1)} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial s}.$$

Interpretation of the chain rule on the corresponding linearized DAG (the *tangent-linear extension* of the original linearized DAG) yields

$$\mathbf{y}^{(1)} \equiv \frac{\partial \mathbf{y}}{\partial s} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{y}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial s} = \langle \nabla F(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x}^{(1)} \rangle.$$

The tangent-linear extension of the linearized DAG of our reference problem is shown in Fig. 1 (b). Equation (14) yields  $y^{(1)} = \frac{\partial y}{\partial \mathbf{z}} \cdot \mathbf{z}^{(1)} = \langle \frac{\partial y}{\partial \mathbf{z}}, \mathbf{z}^{(1)} \rangle$ . Note that  $\frac{\partial y}{\partial \mathbf{z}} \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times m}$ .

The adjoint of a linear operator is its transpose [DS88]. Consequently, the transposed Jacobian  $\nabla F^T = \nabla F(\mathbf{x})^T$  induces a linear mapping  $\mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  defined by

$$\mathbf{y}_{(1)} \mapsto \nabla F^T \cdot \mathbf{y}_{(1)}.$$

The function  $F_{(1)} : \mathbb{R}^{n+m} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  defined as

$$\mathbf{x}_{(1)} = F_{(1)}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}_{(1)}) \equiv \langle \mathbf{y}_{(1)}, \nabla F(\mathbf{x}) \rangle = \nabla F(\mathbf{x})^T \cdot \mathbf{y}_{(1)} \quad (16)$$

is referred to as the *adjoint model* of  $F$ . Adjoints can be defined as partial derivatives of an auxiliary scalar variable  $t$  with respect to  $\mathbf{y}$  and  $\mathbf{x}$ , where

$$\mathbf{y}_{(1)} \equiv \frac{\partial t}{\partial \mathbf{y}} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{x}_{(1)} \equiv \frac{\partial t}{\partial \mathbf{x}}.$$

By the chain rule, we get

$$\mathbf{x}_{(1)} \equiv \left( \frac{\partial t}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right)^T = \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{y}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right)^T \cdot \left( \frac{\partial t}{\partial \mathbf{y}} \right)^T = \nabla F(\mathbf{x})^T \cdot \mathbf{y}_{(1)}.$$

The corresponding *adjoint extension* of the linearized DAG of our reference problem is shown in Fig. 1 (c). Equation (14) yields  $\mathbf{z}_{(1)} = \frac{\partial y}{\partial \mathbf{z}}^T \cdot \mathbf{y}_{(1)} = \langle \mathbf{y}_{(1)}, \frac{\partial y}{\partial \mathbf{z}} \rangle$ .

Projections of derivative tensors in vector-valued directions are defined to be invariant with respect to transposition of the vector argument, that is,

$$\langle \nabla F, \mathbf{x}^{(1)} \rangle = \langle \nabla F, \mathbf{x}^{(1)T} \rangle \quad (17)$$

and

$$\langle \mathbf{y}_{(1)}, \nabla F(\mathbf{x}) \rangle = \langle \mathbf{y}_{(1)}^T, \nabla F(\mathbf{x}) \rangle. \quad (18)$$

## 2.1 Example

For illustration of the algorithmic details behind basic AD we consider the simple scalar multivariate function

$$y = \left( \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} x_i^2 \right)^2$$

that is used in [Nau12a] to illustrate the superiority of adjoint over tangent-linear mode AD in the context of unconstrained nonlinear programming. Fig. 2 shows the linearized DAG for  $n = 3$  annotated with the tangent-linear SAC statements. The corresponding tangent-linear SAC itself is shown in the upper left corner of Fig. 2. A total of  $n = 3$  runs with  $\mathbf{x}^{(1)}$  ranging over the Cartesian basis vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  return the individual entries of the gradient of  $y$  with respect to  $\mathbf{x}$  at the current point in  $\mathbf{y}^{(1)}$ , respectively. Neither the  $v_i$  nor their tangent-linear versions  $v_i^{(1)}$  need to be stored persistently. Consequently, the memory requirement of the tangent-linear code is about twice as large as that of the original program.

Fig. 3 shows the same linearized DAG annotated with the adjoint SAC statements. The corresponding adjoint SAC is shown in the upper left corner of Fig. 3. A single run with  $\mathbf{y}_{(1)} = 1$  returns the gradient of  $y$  with respect to  $\mathbf{x}$  at the current point in  $\mathbf{x}_{(1)}$ . The  $v_i$  (or a subset thereof; see [HNP05]) need to be stored persistently in order to be able to access them in reverse order in the reverse section of the adjoint code. Thus, the memory requirement of the adjoint code is of the same order as the number of operations performed by the original program. Refer to [Nau12a] for in-depth information on the fundamental structure of tangent-linear and adjoint code.

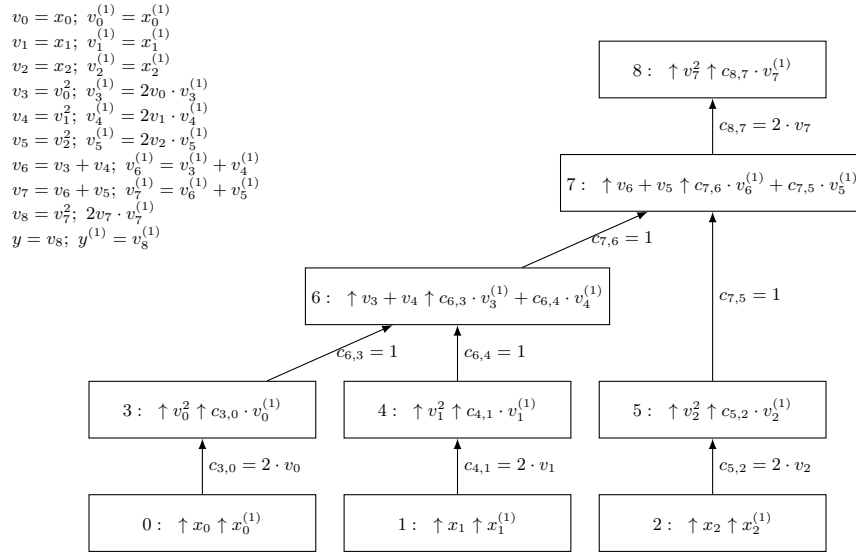
## 3 Tangent-Linear Direct Linear Solver

The chain rule applied to Fig. 1 (b) yields the following tangent-linear version of the algorithm in Equations (10)–(12):

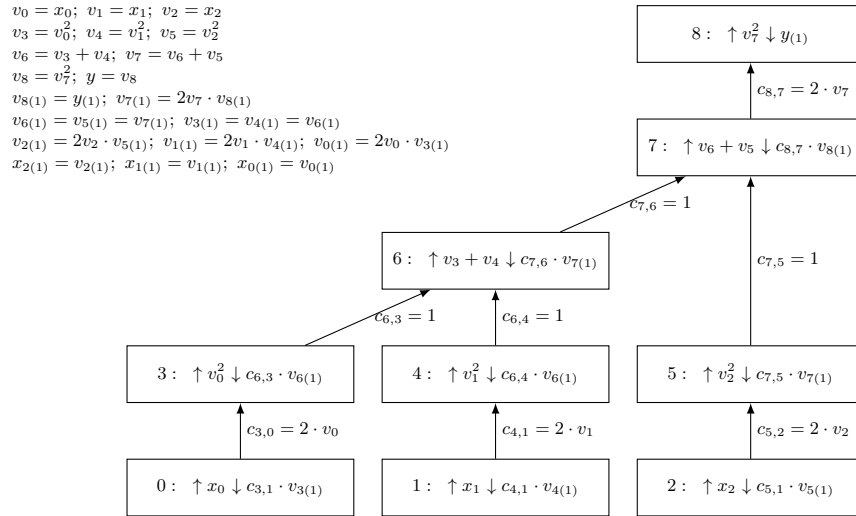
$$\begin{pmatrix} A \\ \mathbf{b} \end{pmatrix} := P(\mathbf{z}) \quad (19)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} A^{(1)} \\ \mathbf{b}^{(1)} \end{pmatrix} := P^{(1)}(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{z}^{(1)}) = \left( \begin{array}{c} \langle \frac{\partial A}{\partial \mathbf{z}}, \mathbf{z}^{(1)} \rangle \\ \langle \frac{\partial \mathbf{b}}{\partial \mathbf{z}}, \mathbf{z}^{(1)} \rangle \end{array} \right) \quad (20)$$





**Fig. 2.** Tangent-Linear AD illustrated for  $y = (\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} x_i^2)^2$  and  $n = 3$ ; The tangent-linear SAC shown in the upper left corner is derived from the displayed tangent-linear linearized DAG.



**Fig. 3.** Adjoint AD illustrated for  $y = (\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} x_i^2)^2$  and  $n = 3$ ; The adjoint SAC shown in the upper left corner is derived from the displayed adjoint linearized DAG.

$$\mathbf{x} := S(A, \mathbf{b}) \quad (21)$$

$$\mathbf{x}^{(1)} := S^{(1)}(A, A^{(1)}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{b}^{(1)}) = \left\langle \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial A}, A^{(1)} \right\rangle + \left\langle \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{b}}, \mathbf{b}^{(1)} \right\rangle \quad (22)$$

$$y := p(\mathbf{x}) \quad (23)$$

$$y^{(1)} := p^{(1)}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^{(1)}) = \left\langle \frac{\partial y}{\partial \mathbf{x}}, \mathbf{x}^{(1)} \right\rangle. \quad (24)$$

### 3.1 Discrete Version

A fully discrete version of Equations (19)–(24) is obtained by applying tangent-linear mode AD to the implementation of Equations (10)–(12). Conceptually, each operation is augmented with its tangent-linear counterpart resulting roughly in a duplication of the computational cost as well as the memory requirement. An example that illustrates the application of our AD tool `dco` (version 0.9; [Nau12b]) introduced in [Nau12a] to an *LU*-factorization and the following forward and backward substitutions is presented in Appendix A. Note that the computational cost of evaluating Equation (22) becomes  $O(n^3)$ , which will be improved through the exploitation of mathematical insight in the following section.

### 3.2 Continuous Version

Tangent-linear versions of  $P$  and  $p$ , called in Equation (20) and Equation (24), respectively, are assumed to be available. For example, they can be obtained through application of `dco` in tangent-linear mode to the given implementations of  $P$  and  $p$  similar to Section 3.1. Our focus is on the efficient evaluation of Equation (22).

**Computation of  $\left\langle \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{b}}, \mathbf{b}^{(1)} \right\rangle$**  Partial differentiation of Equation (4) with respect to  $\mathbf{b}$  yields

$$\left\langle \frac{\partial(A\mathbf{x})}{\partial A}, \frac{\partial A}{\partial \mathbf{b}} \right\rangle_{(=0)} + \frac{\partial(A\mathbf{x})}{\partial \mathbf{x}}, \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{b}} \right\rangle_{(=A)} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{b}}{\partial \mathbf{b}} \quad (25)$$

and, hence,

$$A \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{b}} = I_n, \quad (26)$$

where  $I_n \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  denotes the identity in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . The three-tensor  $\frac{\partial A}{\partial \mathbf{b}} \in \mathbb{R}^{(n \times n) \times n}$  and, hence, the projection  $\left\langle \frac{\partial(A\mathbf{x})}{\partial A}, \frac{\partial A}{\partial \mathbf{b}} \right\rangle$  vanish identically. The term  $A \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{b}}$  is the usual product of two  $n \times n$  matrices.

Multiplication of both sides of Equation (26) with  $\mathbf{b}^{(1)}$  from the right yields

$$A \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{b}} \cdot \mathbf{b}^{(1)} = A \cdot \left\langle \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{b}}, \mathbf{b}^{(1)} \right\rangle = \mathbf{b}^{(1)}. \quad (27)$$

Consequently, the second term in Equation (22) can be computed by replacing the original right-hand side in Equation (4) with  $\mathbf{b}^{(1)}$ . A previously computed factorization of  $A$  should be reused, thus, reducing the computational cost locally from  $O(n^3)$  to  $O(n^2)$ .

**Computation of  $\langle \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial A}, \mathbf{A}^{(1)} \rangle$**  Partial differentiation of Equation (4) with respect to  $A$  yields

$$\left\langle \frac{\partial(A\mathbf{x})}{\partial A}, \frac{\partial A}{\partial A} \right\rangle + \left\langle \frac{\partial(A\mathbf{x})}{\partial \mathbf{x}}, \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial A} \right\rangle = \frac{\partial \mathbf{b}}{\partial A}, \quad (28)$$

$(=I_{n \times n})$   $(=A)$   $(=0)$

where  $I_{n \times n} \in \mathbb{R}^{(n \times n) \times (n \times n)}$  denotes the identity in  $\mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , which yields

$$\frac{\partial(A\mathbf{x})}{\partial A} + \left\langle \frac{\partial(A\mathbf{x})}{\partial \mathbf{x}}, \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial A} \right\rangle = \frac{\partial \mathbf{b}}{\partial A}. \quad (29)$$

$(=0)$

and, hence,

$$\left\langle \frac{\partial(A\mathbf{x})}{\partial \mathbf{x}}, \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial A} \right\rangle = -\frac{\partial(A\mathbf{x})}{\partial A}. \quad (30)$$

Projection of the two trailing dimensions of both sides of Equation (30) in direction  $A^{(1)}$  yields

$$\left\langle \left\langle \frac{\partial(A\mathbf{x})}{\partial \mathbf{x}}, \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial A} \right\rangle, A^{(1)} \right\rangle \stackrel{(Assoc.)}{=} \left\langle A, \left\langle \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial A}, A^{(1)} \right\rangle \right\rangle \quad (31)$$

$$\stackrel{(Eq.(15))}{=} A \cdot \left\langle \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial A}, A^{(1)} \right\rangle \quad (32)$$

$$\stackrel{(Eq.(30))}{=} -\left\langle \frac{\partial(A\mathbf{x})}{\partial A}, A^{(1)} \right\rangle \quad (33)$$

$$\stackrel{(Lemma 1)}{=} -A^{(1)} \cdot \mathbf{x} \quad (34)$$

with *(Assoc.)* denoting the associativity of the projection operation. Consequently, the first term in Equation (22) can be computed by replacing the original right-hand side in Equation (4) with  $-A^{(1)} \cdot \mathbf{x}$ . A previously computed factorization of  $A$  can be reused thus reducing the computational cost locally from  $O(n^3)$  to  $O(n^2)$ .

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $A, A^{(1)} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  and  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Then*

$$\left\langle \frac{\partial(A\mathbf{x})}{\partial A}, A^{(1)} \right\rangle = A^{(1)} \cdot \mathbf{x}.$$

*Proof.* The entries of the three-tensor  $\frac{\partial(A\mathbf{x})}{\partial A}$  are the following:

$$\left[ \frac{\partial(A\mathbf{x})}{\partial A} \right]_{i,j,k} = \frac{\partial[A\mathbf{x}]_i}{\partial[A]_{j,k}} = \frac{\partial \sum_{l=0}^{n-1} ([A]_{i,l} \cdot [\mathbf{x}]_l)}{\partial[A]_{j,k}} = \begin{cases} [\mathbf{x}]_k & \text{for } i = j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (35)$$

It follows that the sum

$$\left[ \left\langle \frac{\partial(A\mathbf{x})}{\partial A}, A^{(1)} \right\rangle \right]_i = \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \left[ \frac{\partial(A\mathbf{x})}{\partial A} \right]_{i,j,k} \cdot [A^{(1)}]_{j,k} \quad (36)$$

collapses to

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} [\mathbf{x}]_k \cdot [A^{(1)}]_{i,k} = [A^{(1)} \cdot \mathbf{x}]_i.$$

### 3.3 Examples

Discrete tangents of  $LU$ ,  $QR$ , and  $LL^T$  factorizations followed by the corresponding substitution procedures can be obtained in a straight-forward fashion by applying tangent-linear mode AD to the given implementations as outlined in Section 3. In the following we focus on the continuous versions.

**LU-Factorization** Equations (19) and (20) are followed by

$$(\mathbf{x}, L, U) = S(A, \mathbf{b}) \quad (37)$$

$$\mathbf{x}^{(1)} = B(U, F(L, \mathbf{b}^{(1)})) + B(U, F(L, -\mathbf{x}^T \cdot A^{(1)})) \quad (38)$$

and by Equations (23) and (24), where  $F, B : \mathbb{R}^{n \cdot (n+1)/2} \times \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  denote solvers for lower and upper triangular systems by forward and backward substitution, respectively. Refer to Appendix B for a corresponding implementation that has been verified against the discrete tangent-linear version from Appendix A.

**QR-Factorization** Fully discrete tangent-linear  $QR$  factorization adds little insight and is hence omitted. Its computational complexity is  $O(n^3)$  to be reduced to  $O(n^2)$  by the following continuous approach, where Equations (19) and (20) are followed by

$$(\mathbf{x}, Q, R) = S(A, \mathbf{b}) \quad (39)$$

$$\mathbf{x}^{(1)} = B(R, Q^T \cdot \mathbf{b}^{(1)}) + B(R, -Q^T \cdot \mathbf{x}^T \cdot A^{(1)}) \quad (40)$$

and by Equations (23) and (24). The reduced computational complexity follows from  $\mathbf{b}^{(1)} = A \cdot \langle \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{b}}, \mathbf{b}^{(1)} \rangle = Q \cdot R \cdot \langle \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{b}}, \mathbf{b}^{(1)} \rangle$  and, hence,  $R \cdot \langle \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{b}}, \mathbf{b}^{(1)} \rangle = Q^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{b}^{(1)} = Q^T \cdot \mathbf{b}^{(1)}$ .

**LL<sup>T</sup>-Factorization** If  $A$  is symmetric positive definite within the range of  $P$ , then  $\mathbf{x}$  depends only on the lower (or upper) triangular submatrix of  $A$ . Hence,  $U$  can simply be replaced by  $L^T$  in Section 3.3.

## 4 Adjoint Direct Linear Solver

An adjoint code starts with an (augmented) forward section to record all data required for the data flow reversal due to the propagation of adjoints in the reverse section. See [Nau12a] for details.

### 4.1 Discrete Version

The chain rule as illustrated in Fig. 1 (c) yields the following discrete adjoint version of the algorithm in Equations (10)–(12):

forward section:

$$\left( \begin{pmatrix} A \\ \mathbf{b} \end{pmatrix}, \tau_0 \right) := P_{\downarrow}(\mathbf{z}) \quad (41)$$

$$(\mathbf{x}, \tau_1) := S_{\downarrow}(A, \mathbf{b}) \quad (42)$$

$$(y, \tau_2) := p_{\downarrow}(\mathbf{x}) \quad (43)$$

reverse section:

$$\mathbf{x}_{(1)} := p_{(1)}(\tau_2, y_{(1)}) \equiv \langle y_{(1)}, \frac{\partial y}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \rangle \quad (44)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_{(1)} \\ \mathbf{b}_{(1)} \end{pmatrix} := S_{(1)}(\tau_1, \mathbf{x}_{(1)}) \equiv \begin{pmatrix} \langle \mathbf{x}_{(1)}, \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial A} \rangle \\ \langle \mathbf{x}_{(1)}, \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{b}} \rangle \end{pmatrix} \quad (45)$$

$$\mathbf{z}_{(1)} := P_{(1)}(\tau_0, A_{(1)}, \mathbf{b}_{(1)}) \equiv \langle \begin{pmatrix} A_{(1)} \\ \mathbf{b}_{(1)} \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial A}{\partial \mathbf{z}} \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{b}}{\partial \mathbf{z}} \end{pmatrix} \rangle. \quad (46)$$

Data that is required for the correct evaluation of adjoints in the reverse section is recorded on a *tape*  $\tau = (\tau_0, \tau_1, \tau_2)$  by running  $P_{\downarrow}$ ,  $S_{\downarrow}$ , and  $p_{\downarrow}$  in the forward section. Typically, the term *tape* is used in the context of implementations of AD by overloading. Here we allow for a relaxed interpretation that includes required data stored in the augmented forward sections of adjoint codes generated by source code transformation.

The size of the memory occupied by  $\tau_1$  is  $O(n^3)$ . The computational complexity of its interpretation in Equation (45) is also  $O(n^3)$ . Both can be reduced to  $O(n^2)$  through the exploitation of mathematical insight in the following section.

## 4.2 Continuous Version

We aim to avoid the recording of the tape  $\tau_1$  in Equation (42) and hence its interpretation in Equation (45) yielding the following adjoint code:

forward section:

$$\begin{pmatrix} A \\ \mathbf{b} \end{pmatrix}, \tau_0 := P_{\downarrow}(\mathbf{z}) \quad (47)$$

$$\mathbf{x} := S(A, \mathbf{b}) \quad (48)$$

$$(y, \tau_2) := p_{\downarrow}(\mathbf{x}) \quad (49)$$

reverse section:

$$\mathbf{x}_{(1)} := p_{(1)}(\tau_2, y_{(1)}) \equiv \langle y_{(1)}, \frac{\partial y}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \rangle \quad (50)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_{(1)} \\ \mathbf{b}_{(1)} \end{pmatrix} := S_{(1)}(A, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x}_{(1)}) \equiv \begin{pmatrix} \langle \mathbf{x}_{(1)}, \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial A} \rangle \\ \langle \mathbf{x}_{(1)}, \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{b}} \rangle \end{pmatrix} \quad (51)$$

$$\mathbf{z}_{(1)} := P_{(1)}(\tau_0, A_{(1)}, \mathbf{b}_{(1)}) \equiv \langle \begin{pmatrix} A_{(1)} \\ \mathbf{b}_{(1)} \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial A}{\partial \mathbf{z}} \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{b}}{\partial \mathbf{z}} \end{pmatrix} \rangle. \quad (52)$$

It remains to show how to evaluate Equation (51).

**Computation of  $\mathbf{b}_{(1)} \equiv \langle \mathbf{x}_{(1)}, \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{b}} \rangle$**  From Equation (26) follows

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{b}} = A^{-1}. \quad (53)$$

Multiplication of both sides of Equation (53) with  $\mathbf{x}_{(1)}^T$  from the left yields

$$\mathbf{x}_{(1)}^T \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{b}} = \langle \mathbf{x}_{(1)}, \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{b}} \rangle^T = \mathbf{x}_{(1)}^T \cdot A^{-1} \quad (54)$$

and hence

$$\langle \mathbf{x}_{(1)}, \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{b}} \rangle^T \cdot A = \mathbf{x}_{(1)}^T. \quad (55)$$

Transposing Equation (55) gives

$$A^T \cdot \langle \mathbf{x}_{(1)}, \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{b}} \rangle = A^T \cdot \mathbf{b}_{(1)} = \mathbf{x}_{(1)} \quad (56)$$

whose solution can be obtained at the computational cost of  $O(n^2)$  using the previously computed factorization of  $A$ .

**Computation of  $A_{(1)} \equiv \langle \mathbf{x}_{(1)}, \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial A} \rangle$**  Projection of the leading dimension of Equation (30) in direction  $\mathbf{x}_{(1)}$  yields

$$\langle \mathbf{x}_{(1)}, \langle \frac{\partial(A\mathbf{x})}{\partial \mathbf{x}}, \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial A} \rangle \rangle = \langle \mathbf{x}_{(1)}, \frac{\partial(A\mathbf{x})}{\partial A} \rangle. \quad (57)$$

Transposition and exploitation of associativity on the left-hand side and application of Equation (56) to the right-hand side yields as an immediate consequence of Equation (18)

$$A^T \cdot \langle \mathbf{x}_{(1)}, \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial A} \rangle = - \langle \langle A^T, \mathbf{b}_{(1)} \rangle, \frac{\partial(A\mathbf{x})}{\partial A} \rangle \quad (58)$$

$(=A_{(1)})$

and, hence,

$$A_{(1)} = - \langle \mathbf{b}_{(1)}, \frac{\partial(A\mathbf{x})}{\partial A} \rangle = -\mathbf{b}_{(1)} \cdot \mathbf{x}^T \quad (59)$$

as shown in the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  and  $\mathbf{b}_{(1)}, \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Then*

$$\langle \mathbf{b}_{(1)}, \frac{\partial(A\mathbf{x})}{\partial A} \rangle = \mathbf{b}_{(1)} \cdot \mathbf{x}^T$$

*Proof.* With the three-tensor  $\frac{\partial(A\mathbf{x})}{\partial A}$  as in Lemma 1 we get

$$\left[ \langle \mathbf{b}_{(1)}, \frac{\partial(A\mathbf{x})}{\partial A} \rangle \right]_{j,k} = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} [\mathbf{b}_{(1)}]_i \cdot \left[ \frac{\partial(A\mathbf{x})}{\partial A} \right]_{i,j,k} \quad (60)$$

$$\stackrel{Eq.(35)}{=} [\mathbf{b}_{(1)}]_j \cdot \left[ \frac{\partial(A\mathbf{x})}{\partial A} \right]_{j,j,k} \quad (61)$$

$$= [\mathbf{b}_{(1)}]_j \cdot [\mathbf{x}]_k = [\mathbf{b}_{(1)} \cdot \mathbf{x}^T]_{j,k}. \quad (62)$$

Note that the memory overhead induced by the continuous adjoint can even be reduced to  $O(n)$  through exploitation of the unit rank of  $A_{(1)}$ . The integration of this feature into our AD software tool set is the subject of an ongoing development effort.

### 4.3 Examples

**LU-Factorization** A reference implementation of the discrete adjoint using `dco` is listed in Appendix C. In the continuous version, Equation (47) is followed by

$$(\mathbf{x}, L, U) = S(A, \mathbf{b}) \quad (63)$$

and by Equation (49) in the forward section and Equation (50) precedes

$$\mathbf{b}_{(1)} = B(L^T, F(U^T, \mathbf{x}_{(1)})) \quad (64)$$

$$A_{(1)} = -\mathbf{b}_{(1)} \cdot \mathbf{x}^T \quad (65)$$

and Equation (52) in the reverse section. Refer to Appendix D for a corresponding implementation that has been validated against the discrete adjoint version from Appendix C. The unit rank of  $A_{(1)}$  can be exploited by storing  $\mathbf{b}_{(1)}$  and  $\mathbf{x}$  instead of  $A_{(1)}$  thus reducing the memory requirement locally from  $O(n^2)$  to  $O(n)$ .

**QR-Factorization** Equation (47) is followed by

$$(\mathbf{x}, Q, R) = S(A, \mathbf{b}) \quad (66)$$

and by Equation (49) in the forward section and Equation (50) precedes

$$\mathbf{b}_{(1)} = Q \cdot F(R^T, \mathbf{x}_{(1)}) \quad (67)$$

$$A_{(1)} = -\mathbf{b}_{(1)} \cdot \mathbf{x}^T \quad (68)$$

and Equation (52) in the reverse section. The computational complexity of the adjoint linear solver is reduced to  $O(n^2)$  due to  $\mathbf{x}_{(1)} = A^T \cdot \mathbf{b}_{(1)} = (Q \cdot R)^T \cdot \mathbf{b}_{(1)} = R^T \cdot Q^T \cdot \mathbf{b}_{(1)}$  and, hence,  $\mathbf{b}^{(1)}$  can be obtained by multiplying the result of the solution of  $R^T \cdot (Q^T \cdot \mathbf{b}^{(1)}) = \mathbf{x}_{(1)}$  by forward substitution with  $Q^{-T} = Q$ .

**LL<sup>T</sup>-Factorization** If  $A$  is symmetric positive definite within the range of  $P$ , then  $U$  can simply be replaced by  $L^T$  in Section 4.3 similar to Section 3.3.

## 5 Case Study

We consider the solution  $u^* = u^*(x, z)$  of the one-dimensional linear differential equation

$$\nabla^2(z \cdot u^*) = 0 \quad \text{on } \Omega = (0, 1) \quad (69)$$

$$u^* = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad z = 1 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega \quad (70)$$

$$(71)$$

with parameter  $z = z(x)$ . For given measurements  $u^m = u^m(x)$  we consider the following parameter estimation problem for  $z$

$$z^* = \arg \min_{z \in \mathbb{R}} J(z) \quad (72)$$

with

$$J(z) = \|u^* - u^m\|_2^2. \quad (73)$$

The measurements are generated by a given set of parameters (the wanted parameter distribution  $z^*(x)$ ). An equidistant second-order central finite difference discretization results for a given  $\mathbf{u}$  (as in the previous sections, discretized and, hence, vector-valued variables are written as bold letters) in the residual function

$$[\mathbf{r}]_i = \frac{1}{\Delta^2} \cdot ([\mathbf{z}]_{i-1} \cdot [\mathbf{u}]_{i-1} - 2 \cdot [\mathbf{z}]_i \cdot [\mathbf{u}]_i + [\mathbf{z}]_{i+1} \cdot [\mathbf{u}]_{i+1}) \quad (74)$$

with  $\Delta = 1/n$  and  $n$  the number of discretization points yielding the linear system

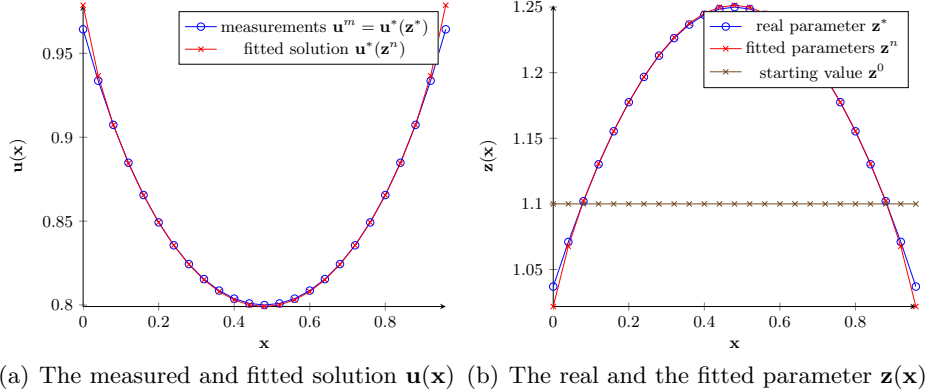
$$\nabla \mathbf{r}|_{\mathbf{u}=\mathbf{0}} \cdot \mathbf{u}^* = -\mathbf{r}|_{\mathbf{u}=\mathbf{0}}. \quad (75)$$

To ensure consistency with the notation used throughout the previous sections, we use subscripted square brackets to denote accesses to individual tensor, resp. vector, entries.

In order to solve the parameter estimation problem, we apply a steepest descent algorithm to the discrete objective  $J(\mathbf{z})$  as follows

$$\mathbf{z}^{i+1} = \mathbf{z}^i - \nabla J(\mathbf{z}^i), \quad (76)$$

where the computation of the gradient of  $J$  at the current iterate  $\mathbf{z}^i$  includes the differentiation of the solution process for  $\mathbf{u}^*$ , i. e., the differentiation of solver for the linear system in Equation (75). Extension of the given example to the use of Quasi-Newton methods (for example, BFGS) is straight forward.



**Fig. 4.** Visualization of the parameter fitting problem Equation (72)

The preprocessor  $P(\mathbf{z})$  computes the Jacobian matrix  $\nabla \mathbf{r}$  as well as the residual  $\mathbf{r}$ . The postprocessor  $p(\mathbf{u})$  computes the cost functional  $J(\mathbf{z})$ .

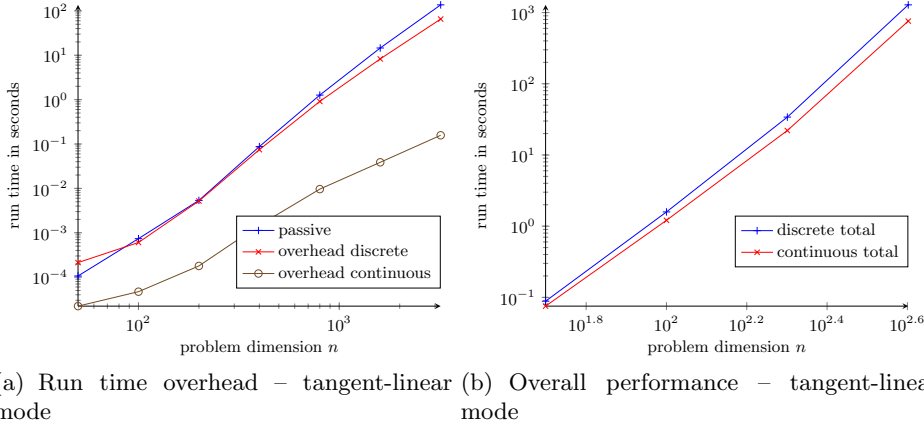
Fig. 4 shows the measured solution  $\mathbf{u}^m$ , the fitted solution  $\mathbf{u}^*(\mathbf{z}^n)$  as well as the starting parameter set  $\mathbf{z}^0$ , the real (wanted) parameter  $\mathbf{z}^*$  and the fitted parameter  $\mathbf{z}^n$  after  $n = 3$  steepest descent steps.

In the following we compare the run time and memory consumption of the linear solver for the discrete and continuous methods and we show the impact on the overall performance of the parameter fitting problem.



## 5.1 Tangent-Linear Mode

Fig. 5(a) shows in a double logarithmic scale the run time for the solution of the linear system and the overhead introduced by the discrete and continuous methods for the computation of the required derivatives. The overhead of the discrete



**Fig. 5.** Performance of tangent-linear mode.

method is approximately identical to the passive execution, which is consistent with the fact that the discrete tangent-linear method roughly duplicates every floating point operation. Both, the passive solution of the linear system and the discrete overhead have a computational complexity of  $O(n^3)$ . The continuous overhead is merely  $O(n^2)$ .

$n$	speed-up
50	1.17
100	1.31
200	1.54
400	1.69

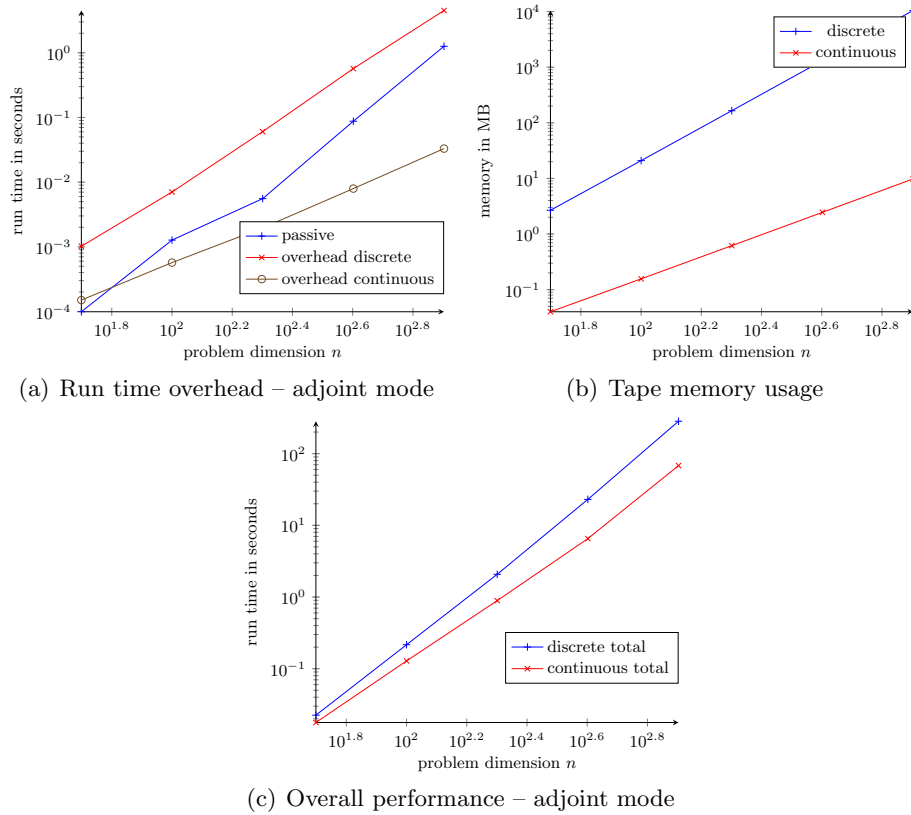
**Table 1.** Overall speed-up of continuous versus discrete tangent-linear mode.

In Fig. 5(b) the overall performance for the steepest descent algorithm is shown. The difference between the continuous and the discrete approaches increases with growing problem dimension  $n$ , and even the speed-up increases for the continuous approach (see Table 1).

## 5.2 Adjoint Mode

In Fig. 6 a comparison for the discrete and continuous adjoint approaches is shown including the run time overhead for the adjoint computation, the tape memory usage, and the overall performance of the steepest descent algorithm. The ratio of the discrete run time overhead and the passive run time in Fig. 6(a) is  $\approx 8$ , while the ratio is only  $\approx 0.03$  for the continuous approach. For increasing problem size  $n$ , the discrete ratio stays constant, while the continuous ratio will

decrease further. The amount of tape memory needed grows – as expected – with  $O(n^3)$  and  $O(n^2)$  for the discrete and the continuous approaches, respectively (see Fig. 6(b)). The overall speed-up of the steepest descent algorithm increases



**Fig. 6.** Performance of adjoint mode.

significantly faster than in the tangent-linear case as shown in Table 2.

$n$	speed-up
50	1.26
100	1.69
200	2.33
400	3.5

**Table 2.** Overall speed-up of continuous versus discrete adjoint mode.

## 6 Conclusion and Outlook

Simulation codes in Computational Science, Engineering, and Finance contain a hierarchy of calls to numerical algorithms ranging from (basic) linear algebra to optimization routines and including other special function such as interpolation or integration routines. Knowledge about the partial derivatives of the respective relevant outputs with respect to inputs enable us to treat such functions as

intrinsic in the context of AD. Significant improvements can be made in terms of computational cost and memory requirement. Each algorithm needs to be analyzed individually for this purpose.

In this paper, we consider direct solvers for systems of  $n$  linear equations as potential intrinsics of AD tools. Our analysis shows that AD of such solvers should be avoided. The overhead in the computational cost induced by the propagation of directional derivatives or adjoints can thus be reduced from  $O(n^3)$  to  $O(n^2)$ . The additional memory requirement of adjoint mode becomes  $O(n^2)$  (potentially even  $O(n)$ ) compared to  $O(n^3)$ .

Linear solvers are at the core of many numerical algorithms including nonlinear solvers, optimizers, and interpolation methods. Hence, they should be treated according to the results in this paper even if the enclosing algorithm cannot be made intrinsic in the context of AD. Many of them can (and should) be made AD intrinsics as illustrated by ongoing research.

At the algorithmic level, iterative linear solvers can be treated similar to their direct counterparts. For example, in adjoint mode, the original linear system is solved within the forward section of the enclosing adjoint code followed by the iterative solution of the adjoint linear system in the reverse section. As a proof of concept we have successfully reimplemented the case study from Section 5 using a basic GMRES [SS86] solver. The error in the solution of the adjoint system can be expected to depend on the error in the original solution. A detailed convergence analysis is the subject of ongoing work.

## 7 Acknowledgement

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## A Discrete Tangent-Linear Solver

Throughout this appendix we apply basic  $LU$ -factorization followed by forward and backward substitution to the linear system

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{1}{5} & \frac{1}{4} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} x_0 \\ x_1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 9 \\ 11 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Discrete tangent-linear and adjoint versions are generated by version 0.9 of `dco` as discussed in detail in [Nau12a]. `dco` is available for downloading on

[www.siam.org/books/se24](http://www.siam.org/books/se24).

There is also a user guide to `dco` and to version 0.9 of the derivative code compiler `dcc`. The following source code is available for downloading under

[www.stce.rwth-aachen.de/publications/Naumann2012DLS](http://www.stce.rwth-aachen.de/publications/Naumann2012DLS).

```

1 #include <iostream>
2 using namespace std;
3
4 // declaration of dco's
5 // tangent-linear 1st-order scalar type
6 #include "dco_tls/dco_tls_type.hpp"
7
8 // dimension of linear system
9 const int n=2;
10
11 // L*U
12 // Factorization in tangent-linear mode
13 void LU(dco_tls_type** A) {
14     for (int k=0;k<n;k++) {
15         for (int i=k+1;i<n;i++) A[i][k]=A[i][k]/A[k][k];

```

```

16     for (int j=k+1;j<n;j++)
17         for (int i=k+1;i<n;i++)
18             A[i][j]=A[i][j]-A[i][k]*A[k][j];
19     }
20 }
21
22 // L*b
23 // Forward substitution in tangent-linear mode
24 void F(dco_tls_type** A, dco_tls_type* b) {
25     for (int i=0;i<n;i++)
26         for (int j=0;j<i;j++)
27             b[i]=b[i]-A[i][j]*b[j];
28 }
29
30 // U*b
31 // Backward substitution in tangent-linear mode
32 void B(dco_tls_type** A, dco_tls_type* b) {
33     for (int i=n-1;i>=0;i--) {
34         for (int j=n-1;j>i;j--)
35             b[i]=b[i]-A[i][j]*b[j];
36         b[i]=b[i]/A[i][i];
37     }
38 }
39
40 int main() {
41     // allocation of active data as of dco's
42     // tangent-linear 1st-order scalar type
43     dco_tls_type *b=new dco_tls_type[n];
44     dco_tls_type **A=new dco_tls_type*[n];
45     for (int i=0;i<n;i++) A[i]=new dco_tls_type[n];
46
47     // Jacobian in discrete tangent-linear mode
48     //
49     // directional derivatives of A range over
50     // the Cartesian basis vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ 
51     for (int i=0;i<n;i++)
52         for (int j=0;j<n;j++) {
53             A[0][0]=1./2; A[0][1]=1./3; A[1][0]=1./5; A[1][1]=3./4;
54             b[0]=9.; b[1]=11.;
55             A[i][j].t=1;
56             LU(A); F(A,b); B(A,b);
57             cout << "dx/dA[" << i << "][" << j << "]=( ";
58             for (int ii=0;ii<n;ii++) cout << b[ii].t << " ";
59             cout << ")" << endl;
60         }
61     // directional derivatives of b range over
62     // the Cartesian basis vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ 
63     for (int i=0;i<n;i++) {
64         A[0][0]=1./2; A[0][1]=1./3; A[1][0]=1./5; A[1][1]=3./4;
65         b[0]=9.; b[1]=11.;
66         b[i].t=1;
67         LU(A); F(A,b); B(A,b);
68         cout << "dx/db[" << i << "]=( ";
69         for (int j=0;j<n;j++) cout << b[j].t << " ";
70         cout << ")" << endl;
71     }
72
73     // deallocation of active data
74     for (int i=0;i<n;i++) delete [] A[i];

```

```

75 | delete [] A; delete [] b;
76 | return 0;
77 | }

```

Compilation of the source file and linkage with the implementation of dco's `tangent-linear_1st-order_scalar` type `dco_t1s_type` yields an executable that generates the following output:

```

dx/dA[0][0]=(-24.3243, 6.48649)
dx/dA[0][1]=(-29.1892, 7.78378)
dx/dA[1][0]=(10.8108, -16.2162)
dx/dA[1][1]=(12.973, -19.4595)
dx/db[0]=(2.43243, -0.648649)
dx/db[1]=(-1.08108, 1.62162)

```

## B Continuous Tangent-Linear Solver

```

1 | #include <iostream>
2 | using namespace std;
3 |
4 | // dimension of linear system
5 | const int n=2;
6 |
7 | // L*U
8 | // Result of factorization to be reused
9 | // for computation of directional derivatives
10 | // with respect to system matrix and right-hand side
11 | void LU(double** A) {
12 |     for (int k=0;k<n;k++) {
13 |         for (int i=k+1;i<n;i++) A[i][k]=A[i][k]/A[k][k];
14 |         for (int j=k+1;j<n;j++)
15 |             for (int i=k+1;i<n;i++)
16 |                 A[i][j]=A[i][j]-A[i][k]*A[k][j];
17 |     }
18 | }
19 |
20 | // L*b
21 | // Forward substitution required for solution
22 | // and for directional derivative with respect to
23 | // right-hand side
24 | void F(double** A, double* b) {
25 |     for (int i=0;i<n;i++)
26 |         for (int j=0;j<i;j++)
27 |             b[i]=b[i]-A[i][j]*b[j];
28 | }
29 |
30 | // U*b
31 | // Backward substitution required for solution
32 | // and for directional derivative with respect to
33 | // right-hand side
34 | void B(double** A, double* b) {
35 |     for (int i=n-1;i>=0;i--) {
36 |         for (int j=n-1;j>i;j--)
37 |             b[i]=b[i]-A[i][j]*b[j];
38 |         b[i]=b[i]/A[i][i];
39 |     }
40 | }

```

```

41 |
42 | int main() {
43 | // duplication of active data segment
44 | double *b=new double[n];
45 | double *b_t1s=new double[n];
46 | double **A=new double*[n];
47 | for (int i=0;i<n;i++) A[i]=new double[n];
48 | double **A_t1s=new double*[n];
49 | for (int i=0;i<n;i++) A_t1s[i]=new double[n];
50 |
51 | // Jacobian in continuous tangent-linear mode
52 | A[0][0]=1./2; A[0][1]=1./3; A[1][0]=1./5; A[1][1]=3./4;
53 | b[0]=9.; b[1]=11.;
54 | // solution of linear system
55 | LU(A); F(A,b); B(A,b);
56 |
57 | // directional derivatives A_t1s of A range over
58 | // the Cartesian basis vectors in R^(n x n)
59 | // to compute right-hand sides (see Eq. (38))
60 | for (int i=0;i<n;i++)
61 |     for (int j=0;j<n;j++) {
62 |         for (int ii=0;ii<n;ii++)
63 |             for (int jj=0;jj<n;jj++) A_t1s[ii][jj]=0;
64 |         A_t1s[i][j]=1;
65 |         for (int ii=0;ii<n;ii++) {
66 |             b_t1s[ii]=0;
67 |             for (int jj=0;jj<n;jj++) b_t1s[ii]-=A_t1s[ii][jj]*b[jj];
68 |         }
69 | // existing factorization of A is reused to solve the
70 | // tangent-linear system
71 | F(A, b_t1s); B(A, b_t1s);
72 | cout << "dx/dA[" << j << "]"[" << i << "]=( ";
73 | for (int ii=0;ii<n;ii++) cout << b_t1s[ii] << " ";
74 | cout << ")" << endl;
75 | }
76 |
77 | // directional derivatives of b range over
78 | // the Cartesian basis vectors in R^n
79 | // yielding right-hand sides (see Eq. (38))
80 | for (int i=0;i<n;i++) {
81 |     for (int j=0;j<n;j++) b_t1s[j]=0;
82 |     b_t1s[i]=1;
83 | // existing factorization of A is reused to solve the
84 | // tangent-linear system
85 | F(A, b_t1s); B(A, b_t1s);
86 | cout << "dx/db[" << i << "]=( ";
87 | for (int j=0;j<n;j++) cout << b_t1s[j] << " ";
88 | cout << ")" << endl;
89 | }
90 |
91 | // deallocation of activated data segment
92 | for (int i=0;i<n;i++) delete [] A[i];
93 | for (int i=0;i<n;i++) delete [] A_t1s[i];
94 | delete [] A; delete [] b;
95 | delete [] A_t1s; delete [] b_t1s;
96 | return 0;
97 | }

```

Compilation of the source file yields an executable that generates the same output as shown in Appendix A.

## C Discrete Adjoint Solver

```

1 #include <iostream>
2 using namespace std;
3
4 // declaration of dco's
5 // adjoint 1st-order scalar type
6 #include "dco_als/dco_als_type.hpp"
7
8 // dimension of linear system
9 const int n=2;
10
11 // L*U
12 // Factorization is recorded on tape
13 void LU(dco_als_type** A) {
14     for (int k=0;k<n;k++) {
15         for (int i=k+1;i<n;i++) A[i][k]=A[i][k]/A[k][k];
16         for (int j=k+1;j<n;j++)
17             for (int i=k+1;i<n;i++)
18                 A[i][j]=A[i][j]-A[i][k]*A[k][j];
19     }
20 }
21
22 // L*b
23 // Forward substitution is recorded on tape
24 void F(dco_als_type** A, dco_als_type* b) {
25     for (int i=0;i<n;i++)
26         for (int j=0;j<i;j++)
27             b[i]=b[i]-A[i][j]*b[j];
28 }
29
30 // U*b
31 // Backward substitution is recorded on tape
32 void B(dco_als_type** A, dco_als_type* b) {
33     for (int i=n-1;i>=0;i--) {
34         for (int j=n-1;j>i;j--)
35             b[i]=b[i]-A[i][j]*b[j];
36         b[i]=b[i]/A[i][i];
37     }
38 }
39
40 int main() {
41     // allocation of active data as of dco's
42     // adjoint 1st-order scalar type
43     dco_als_type *b=new dco_als_type[n];
44     dco_als_type **A=new dco_als_type*[n];
45     for (int i=0;i<n;i++) A[i]=new dco_als_type[n];
46     // tape
47     extern dco_als_tape_entry dco_als_tape[DCO_A1S_TAPE_SIZE];
48
49     // Jacobian in discrete adjoint mode
50     for (int i=0;i<n;i++) {
51         A[0][0]=1./2; A[0][1]=1./3; A[1][0]=1./5; A[1][1]=3./4;
52         int va_A[n*n]={A[0][0].va,A[0][1].va,A[1][0].va,A[1][1].va};
53         b[0]=9.; b[1]=11.;

```



```

54 |     int va_b[n]={b[0].va,b[1].va};
55 | // Solution procedure gets recorded on tape
56 |     LU(A); F(A,b); B(A,b);
57 | // adjoints of solution range over
58 | // the Cartesian basis vectors in R^n
59 |     dco_als_tape[b[i].va].a=1;
60 | // tape gets interpreted in current adjoint direction
61 |     dco_als_interpret_tape();
62 |     cout << "dx[" << i << "]/db=( ";
63 |     for (int j=0;j<n;j++) cout << dco_als_tape[va_b[j]].a << " ";
64 |     cout << "]" << endl;
65 |     cout << "dx[" << i << "]/dA=( ";
66 |     for (int j=0;j<n;j++)
67 |         for (int k=0;k<n;k++)
68 |             cout << dco_als_tape[va_A[j*n+k]].a << " ";
69 |     cout << "]" << endl;
70 |     dco_als_reset_tape();
71 | }
72 |
73 | // deallocation of active data
74 | for (int i=0;i<n;i++) delete [] A[i];
75 | delete [] A; delete [] b;
76 | return 0;
77 | }

```

Compilation of the source file and linkage with the implementation of `dco`'s adjoint 1st-order scalar type `dco_als.type` yields an executable that generates the following output:

```

dx[0]/db=( 2.43243 -1.08108 )
dx[0]/dA=( -24.3243 -29.1892 10.8108 12.973 )
dx[1]/db=( -0.648649 1.62162 )
dx[1]/dA=( 6.48649 7.78378 -16.2162 -19.4595 )

```

## D Continuous Adjoint Solver

```

1 | #include <iostream>
2 | using namespace std;
3 |
4 | // dimension of linear system
5 | const int n=2;
6 |
7 | // L*U
8 | // Result of factorization to be reused
9 | // for computation of adjoints
10 | // with respect to right-hand side
11 | void LU(double** A) {
12 |     for (int k=0;k<n;k++) {
13 |         for (int i=k+1;i<n;i++) A[i][k]=A[i][k]/A[k][k];
14 |         for (int j=k+1;j<n;j++)
15 |             for (int i=k+1;i<n;i++)
16 |                 A[i][j]=A[i][j]-A[i][k]*A[k][j];
17 |     }
18 | }
19 |
20 | // L*b
21 | // Forward substitution required for solution
22 | // of linear system

```

```

23 void F(double** A, double* b) {
24     for (int i=0;i<n;i++)
25         for (int j=0;j<i;j++)
26             b[i]=b[i]-A[i][j]*b[j];
27 }
28
29 // U*b
30 // Backward substitution required for solution
31 // of linear system
32 void B(double** A, double* b) {
33     for (int i=n-1;i>=0;i--) {
34         for (int j=n-1;j>i;j--)
35             b[i]=b[i]-A[i][j]*b[j];
36         b[i]=b[i]/A[i][i];
37     }
38 }
39
40 // L*b
41 // Transposed forward substitution required for
42 // adjoints with respect to right-hand side
43 void F_als(double** A, double* b) {
44     for (int i=0;i<n;i++) {
45         for (int j=0;j<i;j++)
46             b[i]=b[i]-A[i][j]*b[j];
47         b[i]=b[i]/A[i][i];
48     }
49 }
50
51 // U*b
52 // Transposed backward substitution required for
53 // adjoints with respect to right-hand side
54 void B_als(double** A, double* b) {
55     for (int i=n-1;i>=0;i--)
56         for (int j=n-1;j>i;j--)
57             b[i]=b[i]-A[i][j]*b[j];
58 }
59
60 int main() {
61     // duplication of active data segment
62     double *b=new double[n];
63     double *b_als=new double[n];
64     double **A=new double*[n];
65     for (int i=0;i<n;i++) A[i]=new double[n];
66     double **A_als=new double*[n];
67     for (int i=0;i<n;i++) A_als[i]=new double[n];
68
69     // Jacobian in continuous adjoint mode
70     A[0][0]=1./2; A[0][1]=1./3; A[1][0]=1./5; A[1][1]=3./4;
71     b[0]=9.; b[1]=11.;
72     // solution of linear system
73     LU(A); F(A,b); B(A,b);
74
75     for (int i=0;i<n;i++)
76         for (int j=0;j<n;j++) A_als[i][j]=A[j][i];
77
78     // adjoints b_als of solution range over
79     // the Cartesian basis vectors in R^n
80     // to compute right-hand sides (see Eq. (64))
81     for (int i=0;i<n;i++) {

```

```

82     for (int j=0;j<n;j++) b_als[j]=0;
83     b_als[i]=1;
84     F_als(A_als,b_als); B_als(A_als,b_als);
85     cout << "dx[" << i << "]/db=( ";
86     for (int j=0;j<n;j++) cout << b_als[j] << " ";
87     cout << ")" << endl;
88 // rank-1 adjoint with respect to system matrix
89 // (see Eq. (65))
90     cout << "dx[" << i << "]/dA=( ";
91     for (int ii=0;ii<n;ii++)
92         for (int jj=0;jj<n;jj++)
93             cout << -b_als[ii]*b[jj] << " ";
94     cout << ")" << endl;
95 }
96
97 // deallocation of activated data segment
98 for (int i=0;i<n;i++) delete [] A[i];
99 for (int i=0;i<n;i++) delete [] A_als[i];
100 delete [] A; delete [] b;
101 delete [] A_als; delete [] b_als;
102 return 0;
103 }

```

Compilation of the source file yields an executable that generates the same output as shown in Appendix C.



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