Automatic Differentiation Using Complex and Hypercomplex Variables

Applying CTSE using the Cauchy-Reimann matrix format

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1

Cauchy-Reimann (CR) form

 CTSE can be employed without complex numbers using Cauchy-Reimann matrices of all real values. This is sometimes useful for numerical algorithms/software without a complex version, e.g., solvers for systems of linear equations.

Any complex number a + bi can be rewritten in the matrix form $\begin{bmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{bmatrix}$. Thus, to differentiate a function using CTSE, one computes $f(x + ih) = f(\begin{bmatrix} x & -h \\ h & x \end{bmatrix})$ where h is again a small step size. Then

$$\frac{df}{dx} = \frac{f(\begin{bmatrix} x & -h\\ h & x \end{bmatrix})_{21}}{h}$$

Where the subscript 21 indicates the second row and first column of the resulting matrix.



Closed-form example: $f(x) = x^2$

• Compute the derivative of $f(x) = x^2$ using the CR form for complex numbers.

$$f(x) = x^{2}$$

$$f(x+ih) = \begin{bmatrix} x & -h \\ h & x \end{bmatrix}^{2} = \begin{bmatrix} x^{2} - h^{2} & -2hx \\ 2hx & x^{2} - h^{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$f = \begin{bmatrix} x & -h \\ h & x \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x^{2} - h^{2} & -2hx \\ 2hx & x^{2} - h^{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{df}{dx} = \frac{\int ([h \quad x])^{21}}{h} = \frac{1}{h} \begin{bmatrix} x^2 - h^2 & -2hx\\ 2hx & x^2 - h^2 \end{bmatrix}_{21} = 2x$$



Closed-form example: $f(x) = x^3$

• Compute the derivative of $f(x) = x^3$ using the CR form for complex numbers.

$$f(x) = x^{3}$$

$$f(x+ih) = \begin{bmatrix} x & -h \\ h & x \end{bmatrix}^{3} = \begin{bmatrix} x(x^{2}-h^{2})-2h^{2}x^{2} & -h(x^{2}-h^{2})-2hx^{2} \\ h(x^{2}-h^{2})+2hx^{2} & x(x^{2}-h^{2})-2h^{2}x^{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{df}{dx} = \lim_{h \to 0} \frac{f(\begin{bmatrix} x & -h \\ h & x \end{bmatrix})_{21}}{h} =$$

$$\lim_{h \to 0} \frac{1}{h} \begin{bmatrix} x(x^{2}-h^{2})-2h^{2}x^{2} & -h(x^{2}-h^{2})-2hx^{2} \\ h(x^{2}-h^{2})+2hx^{2} & x(x^{2}-h^{2})-2h^{2}x^{2} \end{bmatrix}_{21} = x^{2} + 2x^{2} = 3x^{2}$$

CTSE is exact in the limit as $h \rightarrow 0$.

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Closed-form example: $f(x) = e^x$

• Compute the derivative of $f(x) = e^x$ using the CR form for complex numbers.

$$f(x) = e^{x}$$

$$f(x+ih) = expM(\begin{bmatrix} x & -h \\ h & x \end{bmatrix}) = \begin{bmatrix} e^{x}\cos(h) & -e^{x}\sin(h) \\ e^{x}\sin(h) & e^{x}\cos(h) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{df}{dx} = \lim_{h \to 0} \frac{f(\begin{bmatrix} x & -h \\ h & x \end{bmatrix})_{21}}{h} =$$

$$\lim_{h \to 0} \frac{1}{h} \begin{bmatrix} e^x \cos(h) & -e^x \sin(h) \\ e^x \sin(h) & e^x \cos(h) \end{bmatrix}_{21} = e^x \frac{\sin(h)}{h} = e^x$$

CTSE is exact in the limit as $h \rightarrow 0$.

Note, functions of matrices must be used for the exponential operator NOT the standard exponential function.



Closed-form example: f(x) = sin(x)

• Compute the derivative of f(x) = sin(x) using the CR form for complex numbers. f(x) = sin(x)

$$f(x+ih) = cosM(\begin{bmatrix} x & -h \\ h & x \end{bmatrix}) = \begin{bmatrix} sin(x) cosh(h) & -cos(x) sinh(h) \\ cos(x) sinh(h) & sin(x) cosh(h) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{df}{dx} = \lim_{h \to 0} \frac{f(\begin{bmatrix} x & -h \\ h & x \end{bmatrix})_{21}}{h} =$$

$$\lim_{h \to 0} \frac{1}{h} \begin{bmatrix} \sin(x) \cosh(h) & -\cos(x) \sinh(h) \\ \cos(x) \sinh(h) & \sin(x) \cosh(h) \end{bmatrix}_{21} = \cos(x) \frac{\sinh(h)}{h} = \cos(x)$$

CTSE is exact in the limit as $h \to 0$.

Note, functions of matrices must be used for the sine operator NOT the standard sine function.



Closed-form example: f(x) = cos(x)

• Compute the derivative of f(x) = cos(x) using the CR form for complex numbers.

$$f(x) = \cos(x)$$

$$f(x+ih) = \cos M(\begin{bmatrix} x & -h \\ h & x \end{bmatrix}) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(x)\cosh(h) & \sin(x)\sinh(h) \\ -\sin(x)\sinh(h) & \cos(x)\cosh(h) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{df}{dx} = \lim_{h \to 0} \frac{f(\begin{bmatrix} x & -h \\ h & x \end{bmatrix})_{21}}{h} =$$

 $\lim_{h \to 0} \frac{1}{h} \begin{bmatrix} \cos(x)\cosh(h) & \sin(x)\sinh(h) \\ -\sin(x)\sinh(h) & \cos(x)\cosh(h) \end{bmatrix}_{21} = -\sin(x)\frac{\sinh(h)}{h} = -\sin(x)$ CTSE is exact in the limit as $h \to 0$.

Note, **functions of matrices** must be used for the cosine operator NOT the standard cosine function.



Functions of matrices

• Functions of matrices¹ are not the same as the standard functions. For example,

$$Exp\begin{bmatrix}a & 0\\c & d\end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix}e^{a} & 0\\\frac{c(e^{a} - e^{d})}{a - d} & e^{d}\end{bmatrix}$$
$$Sin\begin{bmatrix}a & 0\\c & d\end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix}\sin(a) & 0\\\frac{c(\sin(a) - \sin(d))}{a - d} & \sin(d)\end{bmatrix}$$

 Hence to use the CR form, one must have a language with good support of functions of matrices.

¹Higham, Nicholas J. Functions of matrices: theory and computation. Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics, 2008.



Functions of matrices

Note, some matrix functions loose accuracy for small h when using the complex variable CR form. Alternative: use the dual form of the CR matrix.

