

# NAG Toolbox for MATLAB

## f04ax

### 1 Purpose

f04ax calculates the approximate solution of a set of real sparse linear equations with a single right-hand side,  $Ax = b$  or  $A^T x = b$ , where  $A$  has been factorized by f01br or f01bs.

### 2 Syntax

```
[rhs, resid] = f04ax(a, icn, ikeep, rhs, mtype, idisp, 'n', n, 'licn',  
licn)
```

### 3 Description

To solve a system of real linear equations  $Ax = b$  or  $A^T x = b$ , where  $A$  is a general sparse matrix,  $A$  must first be factorized by f01br or f01bs. f04ax then computes  $x$  by block forward or backward substitution using simple forward and backward substitution within each diagonal block.

The method is fully described in Duff 1977.

A more recent method is available through solver function fl1mf and factorization function fl1me .

### 4 References

Duff I S 1977 MA28 – a set of Fortran subroutines for sparse unsymmetric linear equations *AERE Report R8730* HMSO

### 5 Parameters

#### 5.1 Compulsory Input Parameters

- 1: **a(licn)** – double array  
The nonzero elements in the factorization of the matrix  $A$ , as returned by f01br or f01bs.
- 2: **icn(licn)** – int32 array  
The column indices of the nonzero elements of the factorization, as returned by f01br or f01bs.
- 3: **ikeep(5 × n)** – int32 array  
**ikeep** provides, on entry, indexing information about the factorization, as returned by f01br or f01bs. Used as internal workspace prior to being restored and hence is unchanged.
- 4: **rhs(n)** – double array  
The right-hand side vector  $b$ .
- 5: **mtype** – int32 scalar  
**mtype** specifies the task to be performed.

**mtype** = 1

Solve  $Ax = b$ .

**mtype**  $\neq$  1

Solve  $A^T x = b$ .

6: **idisp(2)** – **int32** array

The values returned in **idisp** by f01br.

## 5.2 Optional Input Parameters

1: **n** – **int32** scalar

*Default:* The dimension of the array **rhs**.

$n$ , the order of the matrix  $A$ .

*Constraint:*  $n \geq 0$ .

2: **licn** – **int32** scalar

*Default:* The dimension of the arrays **a**, **icn**. (An error is raised if these dimensions are not equal.)

## 5.3 Input Parameters Omitted from the MATLAB Interface

**w**

## 5.4 Output Parameters

1: **rhs(n)** – **double** array

The array contains the solution vector  $x$ .

2: **resid** – **double** scalar

The value of the maximum residual,  $\max \left( \left| b_i - \sum_j a_{ij} x_j \right| \right)$ , over all the unsatisfied equations, in case f01br or f01bs has been used to factorize a singular or rectangular matrix.

## 6 Error Indicators and Warnings

Errors or warnings detected by the function:

**ifail** = 1

On entry,  $n < 0$ .

## 7 Accuracy

The accuracy of the computed solution depends on the conditioning of the original matrix. Since f04ax is always used with either f01br or f01bs, you are recommended to set **GROW** = **true** on entry to these functions and to examine the value of **w**(1) on exit (see f01br and f01bs). For a detailed error analysis see page 17 of Duff 1977.

If storage for the original matrix is available then the error can be estimated by calculating the residual

$$r = b - Ax \quad (\text{or } b - A^T x)$$

and calling f04ax again to find a correction  $\delta$  for  $x$  by solving

$$A\delta = r \quad (\text{or } A^T \delta = r).$$

## 8 Further Comments

If the factorized form contains  $\tau$  nonzeros (**idisp**(2) =  $\tau$ ) then the time taken is very approximately  $2\tau$  times longer than the inner loop of full matrix code. Some advantage is taken of zeros in the right-hand side when solving  $A^T x = b$  (**mtype**  $\neq 1$ ).

## 9 Example

```
n = int32(6);
nz = int32(15);
a = zeros(150,1);
a(1:15) = [5; 2; -1; 2; 3; -2; 1; 1; -1; -1; 2; -3; -1; -1; 6];
irn = zeros(75,1,'int32');
irn(1:15) = [int32(1); int32(2); int32(2); int32(2); int32(3); int32(4);
...
            int32(4); int32(4); int32(5); int32(5); int32(5); int32(5);
...
            int32(6); int32(6); int32(6)];
icn = zeros(150,1,'int32');
icn(1:15) = [int32(1); int32(2); int32(3); int32(4); int32(3); int32(1);
...
            int32(4); int32(5); int32(1); int32(4); int32(5); int32(6);
...
            int32(1); int32(2); int32(6)];
abort = [true;
        true;
        false;
        true];

rhs = [15;
      12;
      18;
       3;
      -6;
       0];
mtype = int32(1);
[a, irn, icn, ikeep, w, idisp, ifail] = f01br(n, nz, a, irn, icn, abort);
[rhsOut, resid] = f04ax(a, icn, ikeep, rhs, mtype, idisp)
```

```
rhsOut =
     3
     3
     6
     6
     3
     1
resid =
     0
```