

# BiLQ: AN ITERATIVE METHOD FOR NONSYMMETRIC LINEAR SYSTEMS WITH A QUASI-MINIMUM ERROR PROPERTY

ALEXIS MONTOISON\* AND DOMINIQUE ORBAN†

**Abstract.** We introduce an iterative method named BiLQ for solving general square linear systems  $Ax = b$  based on the Lanczos biorthogonalization process defined by least-norm subproblems, and is a natural companion to BiCG and QMR. Whereas the BiCG (Fletcher, 1976), CGS (Sonneveld, 1989) and BiCGSTAB (van der Vorst, 1992) iterates may not exist when the tridiagonal projection of  $A$  is singular, BiLQ is reliable on compatible systems even if  $A$  is ill-conditioned or rank deficient. As in the symmetric case, the BiCG residual is often smaller than the BiLQ residual and, when the BiCG iterate exists, an inexpensive transfer from the BiLQ iterate is possible. Although the Euclidean norm of the BiLQ error is usually not monotonic, it is monotonic in a different norm that depends on the Lanczos vectors. We establish a similar property for the QMR (Freund and Nachtigal, 1991) residual. BiLQ combines with QMR to take advantage of two initial vectors and solve a system and an adjoint system simultaneously at a cost similar to that of applying either method. We derive an analogous combination of USYMLQ and USYMQR based on the orthogonal tridiagonalization process (Saunders, Simon, and Yip, 1988). The resulting combinations, named BiLQR and TriLQR, may be used to estimate integral functionals involving the solution of a primal and an adjoint system. We compare BiLQR and TriLQR with MINRES-QLP on a related augmented system, which performs a comparable amount of work and requires comparable storage. In our experiments, BiLQR terminates earlier than TriLQR and MINRES-QLP in terms of residual and error of the primal and adjoint systems.

**Key words.** iterative methods, Lanczos biorthogonalization process, quasi-minimal error method, least-norm subproblems, adjoint systems, integral functional, tridiagonalization process, multiprecision

**AMS subject classifications.** 15A06, 65F10, 65F25, 65F50, 93E24 90C06

**1. Introduction.** We consider the square consistent linear system

$$(1.1) \quad Ax = b,$$

where  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  can be nonsymmetric, is either large and sparse, or is only available as a linear operator, i.e., via operator-vector products. We assume that  $A$  is nonsingular. Systems such as (1.1) arise in the discretization of partial differential equations (PDEs) in numerous applications, including compressible turbulent fluid flow (Chisholm and Zingg, 2009), and in circuit simulation (Davis and Natarajan, 2012). We consider Krylov subspace methods and are interested in generating iterates with guarantees as to the decrease of the error  $x_k - x_*$  in a certain norm, where  $x_*$  is the solution of (1.1).

The foundation of Krylov methods is a basis-generation process upon which three methods may be developed: one computing the minimum-norm solution of an under-determined system, one solving a square system and imposing a Galerkin condition, and one solving an over-determined system in the least-squares sense. These methods may be implemented with the help of a LQ, LU or QR factorization of a related operator, respectively.

In this paper, we develop an iterative method named BiLQ of the first type based on the Lanczos (1950) biorthogonalization process. Together with BiCG (Fletcher, 1976) and QMR (Freund and Nachtigal, 1991), BiLQ completes the family of methods

\*GERAD and Department of Mathematics and Industrial Engineering, Polytechnique Montréal, QC, Canada. E-mail: alexis.montoison@polymtl.ca. Research partially supported by a merit scholarship of the Arbour foundation.

†GERAD and Department of Mathematics and Industrial Engineering, Polytechnique Montréal, QC, Canada. E-mail: dominique.orban@gerad.ca. Research partially supported by an NSERC Discovery Grant.

42 based on the biorthogonalization process. We begin by stating the defining properties  
 43 of BiLQ, describing its implementation in detail, and illustrating its behavior on  
 44 numerical examples side by side with BiCG and QMR.

45 In a second stage, we exploit the fact that the biorthogonalization process requires  
 46 two initial vectors to develop a combination of BiLQ and QMR that solves (1.1)  
 47 together with a dual system

$$48 \quad (1.2) \quad A^T t = c$$

49 simultaneously at a cost comparable to that of applying BiLQ or QMR only to solve  
 50 one of those systems. The resulting combination is named BiLQR and is employed to  
 51 illustrate the computation of superconvergent estimates of integral functionals arising  
 52 in certain PDE problems.

53 We note that a similar approach may be developed for the [Saunders et al. \(1988\)](#)  
 54 orthogonal tridiagonalization process, which also requires two initial vectors, by  
 55 combining USYMLQ and USYMQR. The resulting combination is named TRILQR.

56 Finally, we compare BiLQR and TRILQR with MINRES-QLP on a related aug-  
 57 mented system to solve both (1.1) and (1.2) simultaneously. In our experiments,  
 58 BiLQR terminates earlier than TRILQR and MINRES-QLP in terms of residual and  
 59 error of the primal and adjoint systems.

60 Our Julia ([Bezanson, Edelman, Karpinski, and Shah, 2017](#)) implementation of  
 61 BiLQ, QMR, USYMLQ, USYMQR, BiLQR, TRILQR, and MINRES-QLP are available  
 62 from [github.com/JuliaSmoothOptimizers/Krylov.jl](https://github.com/JuliaSmoothOptimizers/Krylov.jl). Thanks to multiple dispatch,  
 63 a language feature allowing automatic compilation of variants of each method corre-  
 64 sponding to inputs expressed in various floating-point systems, our implementations  
 65 run in any floating-point precision supported.

66 **Related Research.** [Paige and Saunders \(1975\)](#) develop one of the best-known  
 67 minimum error methods, SYMMLQ, based on the symmetric Lanczos process. SYMMLQ  
 68 inspires [Estrin, Orban, and Saunders \(2019a,b\)](#) to develop LSLQ and LNLQ for rectan-  
 69 gular problems based on the [Golub and Kahan \(1965\)](#) process. LSLQ and LNLQ are  
 70 equivalent to SYMMLQ applied to the normal equations and normal equations of the  
 71 second kind, respectively.

72 [Saunders et al. \(1988\)](#) define USYMLQ for square consistent systems based on the  
 73 orthogonal tridiagonalization process. USYMLQ is based on a subproblem similar to that  
 74 of SYMMLQ, and coincides with SYMMLQ in the symmetric case. Its companion method,  
 75 USYMQR, is similar in spirit to MINRES. [Buttari, Orban, Ruiz, and Titley-Peloquin](#)  
 76 [\(2019\)](#) combine both into a method named USYMLQR designed to solve symmetric  
 77 saddle-point systems with general right-hand side, and inspire the development of  
 78 BiLQR and TRILQR in the present paper.

79 [Weiss \(1994\)](#) describes two types of error-minimizing Krylov methods for square  
 80  $A$ ; one based on a process applied to  $A^T A$ , and one to  $A^T$ . Our approach is to  
 81 apply the biorthogonalization process directly to  $A$ . We defer a numerical stability  
 82 analysis to future work, but note that [Paige, Panayotov, and Zemke \(2014\)](#) study  
 83 the augmented stability of the biorthogonalization process. In this sense, we make  
 84 the implicit assumption that computations are carried out in exact arithmetic. This  
 85 assumption prompted us to develop our implementations so that they can be applied  
 86 in any supported floating-point arithmetic.

87 The simultaneous solution of a system and an adjoint system has attracted  
 88 attention in the past. Notably, [Lu and Darmofal \(2003\)](#) devise a variant of QMR to  
 89 solve both systems at once at a cost approximately equal to that of QMR applied

90 to one of the systems but with an increase in storage requirements. Golub, Stoll,  
 91 and Wathen (2008) follow a similar approach and use a variant of USYMQR to solve  
 92 both (1.1) and (1.2). An advantage of USYMQR is to produce monotonic residuals in  
 93 the Euclidean norm for both systems. We illustrate in Table 3.1 that our methods are  
 94 cheaper and have smaller storage requirements than those of Lu and Darmofal (2003)  
 95 and Golub et al. (2008) though residuals are not monotonic in the Euclidean norm.

96 **Notation.** Matrices and vectors are denoted by capital and lowercase Latin  
 97 letters, respectively, and scalars by Greek letters. An exception is made for Givens  
 98 cosines and sines ( $c, s$ ) that compose reflections. For a vector  $v$ ,  $\|v\|$  denotes the  
 99 Euclidean norm of  $v$ , and for symmetric and positive-definite  $N$ , the  $N$ -norm of  $v$  is  
 100  $\|v\|_N^2 = v^T N v$ . For a matrix  $M$ ,  $\|M\|_F$  denotes the Frobenius norm of  $M$ . The vector  
 101  $e_i$  is the  $i$ -th column of an identity matrix of size dictated by the context. Vectors and  
 102 scalars decorated by a bar will be updated at the next iteration. For  $j = 2, \dots, k$ , we  
 103 use the compact representation

$$104 \quad Q_{j-1,j} = \begin{bmatrix} & j-1 & j & \\ & c_j & s_j & \\ & s_j & -c_j & \\ & & & \end{bmatrix} := \begin{bmatrix} I_{j-2} & & & \\ & c_j & s_j & \\ & s_j & -c_j & \\ & & & I_{k-j} \end{bmatrix},$$

105 for orthogonal reflections, where  $s_j^2 + c_j^2 = 1$ , where border indices indicate row and  
 106 column numbers, and where  $I_k$  represents the  $k \times k$  identity operator. We abuse the  
 107 notation  $\bar{z}_k = (z_{k-1}, \bar{\zeta}_k)$  to represent the column vector  $[z_{k-1}^T \quad \bar{\zeta}_k]^T$ .

## 108 2. Derivation of BiLQ.

109 **2.1. The Lanczos Biorthogonalization Process.** The Lanczos biorthogonal-  
 110 ization process generates sequences of vectors  $\{v_k\}$  and  $\{u_k\}$  such that  $v_i^T u_j = \delta_{ij}$   
 111 in exact arithmetic for as long as the process does not break down. The process is  
 112 summarized as Algorithm 2.1.

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### Algorithm 2.1 Lanczos Biorthogonalization Process

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**Require:**  $A, b, c$

1:  $v_0 = 0, u_0 = 0$

2:  $\beta_1 v_1 = b, \gamma_1 u_1 = c$

$(\beta_1, \gamma_1)$  so that  $v_1^T u_1 = 1$

3: **for**  $k = 1, 2, \dots$  **do**

4:  $q = Av_k - \gamma_k v_{k-1}, \alpha_k = u_k^T q$

5:  $p = A^T u_k - \beta_k u_{k-1}$

6:  $\beta_{k+1} v_{k+1} = q - \alpha_k v_k$

$(\beta_{k+1}, \gamma_{k+1})$  so that  $v_{k+1}^T u_{k+1} = 1$

7:  $\gamma_{k+1} u_{k+1} = p - \alpha_k u_k$

8: **end for**

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113 We denote  $V_k = [v_1 \ \dots \ v_k]$  and  $U_k = [u_1 \ \dots \ u_k]$ . Without loss of gener-  
 114 ality, we choose the scaling factors  $\beta_k$  and  $\gamma_k$  so that  $v_k^T u_k = 1$  for all  $k \geq 1$ , i.e.,  
 115  $V_k^T U_k = I_k$ . After  $k$  iterations, the situation may be summarized as

$$116 \quad (2.1a) \quad AV_k = V_k T_k + \beta_{k+1} v_{k+1} e_k^T = V_{k+1} T_{k+1,k}$$

$$117 \quad (2.1b) \quad A^T U_k = U_k T_k^T + \gamma_{k+1} u_{k+1} e_k^T = U_{k+1} T_{k,k+1}^T,$$



147 followed by an application of  $Q_{k-1,k}$  to the result:

$$148 \quad \begin{array}{c} k-2 \\ k-1 \\ k \end{array} \begin{bmatrix} & k-2 & k-1 & k \\ \delta_{k-2} & & & \\ \lambda_{k-2} & \bar{\delta}_{k-1} & & \gamma_k \\ \varepsilon_{k-2} & \bar{\lambda}_{k-1} & & \alpha_k \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} & k-2 & k-1 & k \\ & 1 & & \\ & & c_k & s_k \\ & & s_k & -c_k \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} & k-2 & k-1 & k \\ \delta_{k-2} & & & \\ \lambda_{k-2} & \delta_{k-1} & & \\ \varepsilon_{k-2} & \lambda_{k-1} & & \bar{\delta}_k \end{bmatrix}.$$

149 The reflection  $Q_{k-1,k}$  is designed to zero out  $\gamma_k$  on the superdiagonal of  $T_k$  and affects  
150 three rows and two columns. It is defined by

$$151 \quad (2.7) \quad \delta_{k-1} = \sqrt{\bar{\delta}_{k-1}^2 + \gamma_k^2}, \quad c_k = \bar{\delta}_{k-1}/\delta_{k-1}, \quad s_k = \gamma_k/\delta_{k-1},$$

152 and yields the recursion

$$153 \quad (2.8a) \quad \varepsilon_{k-2} = s_{k-1}\beta_k, \quad k \geq 3,$$

$$154 \quad (2.8b) \quad \bar{\lambda}_{k-1} = -c_{k-1}\beta_k, \quad k \geq 3,$$

$$155 \quad (2.8c) \quad \lambda_{k-1} = c_k\bar{\lambda}_{k-1} + s_k\alpha_k, \quad k \geq 2,$$

$$156 \quad (2.8d) \quad \bar{\delta}_k = s_k\bar{\lambda}_{k-1} - c_k\alpha_k, \quad k \geq 2.$$

158 **2.4. Definition and update of the BiLQ and BiCG iterates.** In order  
159 to compute  $y_k^L$  solution of (2.2) using (2.6), we solve  $[L_{k-1} \ 0] Q_k y_k^L = \beta_1 e_1$ . If  
160  $z_{k-1} := (\zeta_1, \dots, \zeta_{k-1})$  is defined so that  $L_{k-1} z_{k-1} = \beta_1 e_1$ , then the minimum-norm  
161 solution of (2.2) is  $y_k^L = Q_k^T \begin{bmatrix} z_{k-1} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ , and  $\|y_k^L\| = \|z_{k-1}\|$ .

162 We may compute  $y_k^C$  in (2.3) simultaneously as a cheap update of  $y_k^L$ . Indeed, (2.3)  
163 and (2.5) yield  $\bar{L}_k Q_k y_k^C = \beta_1 e_1$ . Let  $\bar{z}_k := (z_{k-1}, \bar{\zeta}_k)$  be defined so  $\bar{L}_k \bar{z}_k = \beta_1 e_1$ . Then,  
164  $y_k^C = Q_k^T \bar{z}_k$ . If  $\bar{\delta}_k = 0$ ,  $y_k^C$  and the BiCG iterate  $x_k^C$  are undefined. The components of  
165  $\bar{z}_k$  are computed from

$$166 \quad (2.9a) \quad \eta_k = \begin{cases} \beta_1, & k = 1, \\ -\lambda_1 \zeta_1, & k = 2, \\ -\varepsilon_{k-2} \zeta_{k-2} - \lambda_{k-1} \zeta_{k-1}, & k \geq 3, \end{cases}$$

$$167 \quad (2.9b) \quad \zeta_{k-1} = \eta_{k-1}/\delta_{k-1}, \quad k \geq 2,$$

$$168 \quad (2.9c) \quad \bar{\zeta}_k = \eta_k/\bar{\delta}_k, \quad \text{if } \bar{\delta}_k \neq 0.$$

170 By definition,  $x_k^L = V_k y_k^L$  and  $x_k^C = V_k y_k^C$ . To avoid storing  $V_k$ , we let

$$171 \quad (2.10) \quad \bar{D}_k := V_k Q_k^T = [d_1, d_2, \dots, d_{k-1}, \bar{d}_k], \quad \bar{d}_1 = v_1,$$

172 defined by the recursion

$$173 \quad (2.11) \quad \begin{aligned} d_{k-1} &= c_k \bar{d}_{k-1} + s_k v_k \\ \bar{d}_k &= s_k \bar{d}_{k-1} - c_k v_k. \end{aligned}$$

174 Finally,

$$175 \quad (2.12a) \quad x_k^L = V_k y_k^L = \bar{D}_k \begin{bmatrix} z_{k-1} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = D_{k-1} z_{k-1} = x_{k-1}^L + \zeta_{k-1} d_{k-1}$$

$$176 \quad (2.12b) \quad x_k^C = V_k y_k^C = \bar{D}_k \bar{z}_k = D_{k-1} z_{k-1} + \bar{\zeta}_k \bar{d}_k = x_k^L + \bar{\zeta}_k \bar{d}_k.$$

178 We see from (2.12b) that it is possible to transfer from  $x_k^L$  to  $x_k^C$  cheaply provided  
179  $\bar{\zeta}_k \neq 0$ . Such transfer was described by [Paige and Saunders \(1975\)](#) as an inexpensive  
180 update from the SYMMLQ to the CG point in the symmetric case.

181 **2.5. Residuals estimates.** The identity (2.1a) allows us to write the residual  
 182 associated to  $x_k = V_k y_k$  as

$$183 \quad r_k = b - Ax_k = \beta_1 v_1 - AV_k y_k = \beta_1 v_1 - V_{k+1} T_{k+1,k} y_k.$$

184 Thus, (2.2) yields the residual at the BiLQ iterate:

$$185 \quad r_k^L = V_{k-1}(\beta_1 e_1 - T_{k-1,k} y_k^L) - (\beta_k e_{k-1} + \alpha_k e_k)^T y_k^L v_k - \beta_{k+1} e_k^T y_k^L v_{k+1}$$

$$186 \quad (2.13) \quad = -(\beta_k e_{k-1} + \alpha_k e_k)^T y_k^L v_k - \beta_{k+1} e_k^T y_k^L v_{k+1},$$

188 and (2.3) yields the residual at the BiCG iterate:

$$189 \quad r_k^C = V_k(\beta_1 e_1 - T_k y_k^C) - \beta_{k+1} v_{k+1} e_k^T y_k^C = -\beta_{k+1} e_k^T y_k^C v_{k+1}.$$

190 Because  $Q_k^T = Q_{1,2} Q_{2,3} \cdots Q_{k-1,k}$ , we have

$$191 \quad e_{k-1}^T Q_k^T = e_{k-1}^T Q_{k-2,k-1} Q_{k-1,k} = s_{k-1} e_{k-2}^T - c_{k-1} c_k e_{k-1}^T - c_{k-1} s_k e_k^T,$$

$$192 \quad e_k^T Q_k^T = e_k^T Q_{k-1,k} = s_k e_{k-1}^T - c_k e_k^T,$$

192 so that

$$193 \quad e_{k-1}^T y_k^L = e_{k-1}^T Q_k^T \begin{bmatrix} z_{k-1} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = s_{k-1} \zeta_{k-2} - c_{k-1} c_k \zeta_{k-1},$$

$$194 \quad e_k^T y_k^L = e_k^T Q_k^T \begin{bmatrix} z_{k-1} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = s_k \zeta_{k-1},$$

$$195 \quad e_k^T y_k^C = e_k^T Q_k^T \bar{z}_k = s_k \zeta_{k-1} - c_k \bar{\zeta}_k.$$

197 Therefore, if we define  $\mu_k = \beta_k (s_{k-1} \zeta_{k-2} - c_{k-1} c_k \zeta_{k-1}) + \alpha_k s_k \zeta_{k-1}$ ,  $\omega_k = \beta_{k+1} s_k \zeta_{k-1}$   
 198 and  $\rho_k = \beta_{k+1} (s_k \zeta_{k-1} - c_k \bar{\zeta}_k)$ , we obtain

$$199 \quad \|r_k^L\| = \sqrt{\mu_k^2 \|v_k\|^2 + \omega_k^2 \|v_{k+1}\|^2 + 2\mu_k \omega_k v_k^T v_{k+1}},$$

200 and

$$201 \quad \|r_k^C\| = |\rho_k| \|v_{k+1}\|.$$

202 We summarize the complete procedure as [Algorithm 2.2](#). For simplicity, we do  
 203 not include a lookahead procedure, although a robust implementation should in order  
 204 to avoid serious breakdowns ([Parlett, Taylor, and Liu, 1985](#)). Table 2.1 summarizes  
 205 the cost per iteration of BiLQ, BiCG and QMR. Each method requires one operator-  
 206 vector product with  $A$  and one with  $A^T$  per iteration. We assume that in-place ‘‘gemv’’  
 207 updates of the form  $y \leftarrow Av + \gamma y$  and  $y \leftarrow A^T u + \beta y$  are available. Otherwise, each  
 208 method requires two additional  $n$ -vectors to store  $Av$  and  $A^T u$ . In the table, ‘‘dots’’  
 209 refers to dot products of  $n$ -vectors, ‘‘scal’’ refers to scaling an  $n$ -vector by a scalar, and  
 210 ‘‘axpy’’ refers to adding a multiple of one  $n$ -vector to another one.

TABLE 2.1  
 Storage and cost per iteration of methods based on [Algorithm 2.1](#).

	$n$ -vectors	dots	scal	axpy
BiLQ	6	2	3	7
BiCG	6	2	3	6
QMR	7	2	4	7

**Algorithm 2.2** BiLQ**Require:**  $A, b, c$ 


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1:  $\beta_1 v_1 = b, \gamma_1 u_1 = c$   $(\beta_1, \gamma_1)$  so that  $v_1^T u_1 = 1$ 
2:  $\alpha_1 = u_1^T A v_1$  begin biorthogonalization
3:  $\beta_2 v_2 = A v_1 - \alpha_1 v_1$ 
4:  $\gamma_2 u_2 = A^T u_1 - \alpha_1 u_1$ 
5:  $c_1 = -1, s_1 = 0, \bar{\delta}_1 = \alpha_1$  begin LQ factorization
6:  $\eta_1 = \beta_1, \bar{d}_1 = v_1, x_1^L = 0$ 
7: for  $k = 2, 3, \dots$  do
8:    $q = A v_k - \gamma_k v_{k-1}, \alpha_k = u_k^T q$  continue biorthogonalization
9:    $p = A^T u_k - \beta_k u_{k-1}$ 
10:   $\beta_{k+1} v_{k+1} = q - \alpha_k v_k$   $(\beta_{k+1}, \gamma_{k+1})$  so that  $v_{k+1}^T u_{k+1} = 1$ 
11:   $\gamma_{k+1} u_{k+1} = p - \alpha_k u_k$ 
12:   $\bar{\delta}_{k-1} = (\bar{\delta}_{k-1}^2 + \gamma_k^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$  compute  $Q_{k-1,k}$ 
13:   $c_k = \bar{\delta}_{k-1} / \delta_{k-1}$ 
14:   $s_k = \gamma_k / \delta_{k-1}$ 
15:   $\varepsilon_{k-2} = s_{k-1} \beta_k$  continue LQ factorization
16:   $\lambda_{k-1} = -c_{k-1} c_k \beta_k + s_k \alpha_k$ 
17:   $\bar{\delta}_k = -c_{k-1} s_k \beta_k - c_k \alpha_k$ 
18:   $\zeta_{k-1} = \eta_{k-1} / \delta_{k-1}$  update  $z_{k-1}$ 
19:   $\eta_k = -\varepsilon_{k-2} \zeta_{k-2} - \lambda_{k-1} \zeta_{k-1}$ 
20:   $\mu_k = \beta_k (s_{k-1} \zeta_{k-2} - c_{k-1} c_k \zeta_{k-1}) + \alpha_k s_k \zeta_{k-1}$ 
21:   $\omega_k = \beta_{k+1} s_k \zeta_{k-1}$ 
22:   $\|r_k^L\| = (\mu_k^2 \|v_k\|^2 + \omega_k^2 \|v_{k+1}\|^2 + 2\mu_k \omega_k v_k^T v_{k+1})^{\frac{1}{2}}$  compute  $\|r_k^L\|$ 
23:  if  $\bar{\delta}_k \neq 0$  then
24:     $\bar{\zeta}_k = \eta_k / \bar{\delta}_k$  optional: update  $\bar{z}_k$ 
25:     $\rho_k = \beta_{k+1} (s_k \zeta_{k-1} - c_k \bar{\zeta}_k)$ 
26:     $\|r_k^C\| = |\rho_k| \|v_{k+1}\|$  optional: compute  $\|r_k^C\|$ 
27:  end if
28:   $\bar{d}_{k-1} = c_k \bar{d}_{k-1} + s_k v_k$  update  $\bar{D}_k$ 
29:   $\bar{d}_k = s_k \bar{d}_{k-1} - c_k v_k$ 
30:   $x_k^L = x_{k-1}^L + \zeta_{k-1} \bar{d}_{k-1}$  BiLQ point
31: end for
32: if  $\bar{\delta}_k \neq 0$  then
33:    $x_k^C = x_k^L + \bar{\zeta}_k \bar{d}_k$  optional: BiCG point
34: end if

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211 **2.6. Properties.** By construction, assuming [Algorithm 2.1](#) does not break down,  
212 there exists an iteration  $p \leq n$  such that  $x_{p+1}^L = x_p^C = x_*$ , the exact solution of (1.1).  
213 In particular, there exists  $y_*$  such that  $x_* = V_p y_*$ .  
214 The definition (2.2) of  $y_k^L$  ensures that  $\|y_k^L\|$  is monotonically increasing while  
215  $\|y_k^L - y_*\|$  is monotonically decreasing. Because  $V_k^T U_k = I_k$  at each iteration, the  
216 iteration-dependent norm

217 (2.15) 
$$\|x_k^L\|_{U_k U_k^T} = \|y_k^L\|$$

218 is monotonically increasing. Because we may write

$$219 \quad (2.16) \quad x_k^L = V_k y_k^L = V_p \begin{bmatrix} y_k^L \\ 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

220  $\|x_k^L\|_{U_p U_p^T} = \|x_k^L\|_{U_k U_k^T}$  is also monotonically increasing, and the error norm

$$221 \quad (2.17) \quad \|x_k^L - x_\star\|_{U_p U_p^T}$$

222 is monotonically decreasing. Note that (2.15) is readily computable as  $\|z_{k-1}\|$ , and  
223 can be updated as

$$224 \quad \|x_{k+1}^L\|_{U_{k+1} U_{k+1}^T}^2 = \|x_k^L\|_{U_k U_k^T}^2 + \zeta_k^2.$$

225 A lower bound on the error (2.17) can be obtained as  $\|z_{k-d} - z_{k-1}\|$  for a user-defined  
226 *delay* of  $d$  iterations. Such a lower bound may be used to define a simple, though not  
227 robust, error-based stopping criterion (Estrin et al., 2019b).

228 The following result establishes properties of  $x_k^L$  that are analogous to those of the  
229 SYMMLQ iterate in the symmetric case.

PROPOSITION 1. *Let  $x_\star$  be as above. The  $k$ th BiLQ iterate  $x_k^L$  solves*

$$(2.18) \quad \underset{x}{\text{minimize}} \|x\|_{U_k U_k^T} \quad \text{subject to } x \in \text{Range}(V_k), \quad b - Ax \perp \text{Range}(U_{k-1}),$$

and

$$(2.19) \quad \underset{x}{\text{minimize}} \|x - x_\star\|_{U_p U_p^T} \quad \text{subject to } x \in \text{Range}(V_p V_p^T A^T U_{k-1}).$$

230 *Proof.* The first set of constraints of (2.18) imposes that there exist  $y \in \mathbb{R}^k$  such  
231 that  $x = V_k y$ . By biorthogonality, the objective value at such an  $x$  can be written  
232  $\|V_k y\|_{U_k U_k^T} = \|y\|$ . Biorthogonality again and (2.13) show that  $y_k$  defined in (2.2) is  
233 primal feasible for (2.18). Dual feasibility of (2.18) requires that there exist a vector  
234  $q$  such that  $y = V_k^T A^T U_{k-1} q$ . By (2.1b) and biorthogonality one more time, this  
235 amounts to  $y = T_{k-1,k}^T q$ , which is the same as dual feasibility for (2.2). Thus,  $V_k y_k^L$  is,  
236 optimal for (2.18).

237 To establish primal feasibility of  $x_k^L$  for (2.19), note first that (2.1b) yields  
238  $A^T U_{k-1} = U_k T_{k-1,k}^T$ . Let  $\bar{V}_{p-k}$  denote the last  $p - k$  columns of  $V_p$ . Biorthogo-  
239 nality yields

$$240 \quad V_p^T U_k = \begin{bmatrix} V_k^T \\ \bar{V}_{p-k}^T \end{bmatrix} U_k = \begin{bmatrix} I_k \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \text{and} \quad V_p V_p^T U_k = V_k.$$

241 As in the first part of the proof,  $y_k^L = T_{k-1,k}^T q$  for some  $q \in \mathbb{R}^{k-1}$ , and therefore,  
242  $x_k^L = V_p V_p^T A^T U_{k-1} q$ . Dual feasibility imposes that

$$\begin{aligned} 243 \quad 0 &= U_{k-1}^T A V_p V_p^T U_p U_p^T (x_k^L - x_\star) \\ 244 &= U_{k-1}^T A V_p U_p^T V_p \left( \begin{bmatrix} y_k^L \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} - y_\star \right) \\ 245 &= U_{k-1}^T A (x_k^L - x_\star) \\ 246 &= -U_{k-1}^T r_k^L, \end{aligned}$$

248 where we used biorthogonality, and (2.16), and is satisfied because of (2.13).  $\square$

249 Note that (2.18) continues to hold if the objective is measured in the  $U_p U_p^T$ -norm.  
 250 Although this norm is no longer iteration dependent, it is unknown until the end of  
 251 the biorthogonalization process.

252 In the symmetric case, where  $V_k = U_k$  is orthogonal and  $T_k = T_k^T$ , the SYMMLQ  
 253 iterate solves the problem

$$254 \quad (2.20) \quad \underset{x}{\text{minimize}} \|x - x_\star\| \quad \text{subject to } x \in \text{Range}(AV_{k-1}),$$

255 which coincides with (2.19).

256 **2.7. Numerical experiments.** Non-homogeneous linear PDEs with variable  
 257 coefficients of the form

$$258 \quad (2.21) \quad \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^p a_{i,j}(x) \frac{\partial^j u(x)}{\partial x_i^j} = b(x)$$

259 are frequent when physical phenomena are modeled in polar, cylindrical or spherical  
 260 coordinates. The discretization of (2.21) often leads to a nonsymmetric square system.  
 261 Such is the case with Poisson’s equation  $\Delta u = f$  used, for instance, to describe the  
 262 gravitational or electrostatic field caused by a given mass density or charge distribution.  
 263 The 2D Poisson equation in polar coordinates with Dirichlet boundary conditions is

$$264 \quad (2.22a) \quad \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\partial u(r, \theta)}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2 u(r, \theta)}{\partial \theta^2} = f(r, \theta), \quad (r, \theta) \in (0, R) \times [0, 2\pi)$$

$$265 \quad (2.22b) \quad u(R, \theta) = g(\theta), \quad \theta \in [0, 2\pi),$$

267 where  $R > 0$ , the source term  $f$  and the boundary condition  $g$  are given. We discretize  
 268 (2.22) using centered differences using 50 discretization points for  $r$  and 50 for  $\theta$ ,  
 269 with  $g(\theta) = 0$ ,  $f(r, \theta) = -3 \cos(\theta)$  and  $R = 1$  so that (2.22) models the response  
 270 of an attached circular elastic membrane to a force. The resulting matrix has size  
 271 2,500 with 12,400 nonzeros, and is block tridiagonal with extra diagonal blocks in the  
 272 northeast and southwest corners. Each block on the main diagonal is tridiagonal but  
 273 not symmetric. Each off-diagonal block is diagonal. More details on the discretization  
 274 used are given by Lai (2001). The exact solution is represented in Figure 2.1.

275 We compare BiLQ with our implementation of QMR without lookahead. We also  
 276 simulate BiCG by way of the transition from  $x_k^L$  to  $x_k^C$  in Algorithm 2.2. Figure 2.2  
 277 reports the residual and error history of BiLQ, BiCG and QMR on (2.22). To compute  
 278  $\|r_k\|$  and  $\|e_k\|$ , residuals  $b - Ax_k$  and errors  $x_k - x_\star$  are explicitly calculated at each  
 279 iteration. We compute a reference solution with Julia’s backslash command. We run  
 280 each method with an absolute tolerance  $\varepsilon_a = 10^{-10}$  and a relative tolerance  $\varepsilon_r = 10^{-7}$   
 281 such that algorithms stop when  $\|r_k\| \leq \varepsilon_a + \|b\| \varepsilon_r$ .

282 We also compare BiLQ with BiCG and QMR on matrices SHERMAN5 and  
 283 RAEFSKY1, with their respective right-hand side, from the UFL collection of Davis  
 284 and Hu (2011).<sup>1</sup> System SHERMAN5 has size 3,312 with 20,793 nonzeros and  
 285 RAEFSKY1 has size 3,242 with 293,409 nonzeros. A Jacobi preconditioner is used  
 286 for both systems.

287 Figure 2.2, Figure 2.3 and Figure 2.4 all show that in BiLQ, neither the residual  
 288 nor the error are monotonic in general. They also appear more erratic than those of  
 289 QMR. As in the symmetric case, both generally lag compared to those of BiCG and

<sup>1</sup>Now the SuiteSparse Matrix Collection [sparse.tamu.edu](http://sparse.tamu.edu).

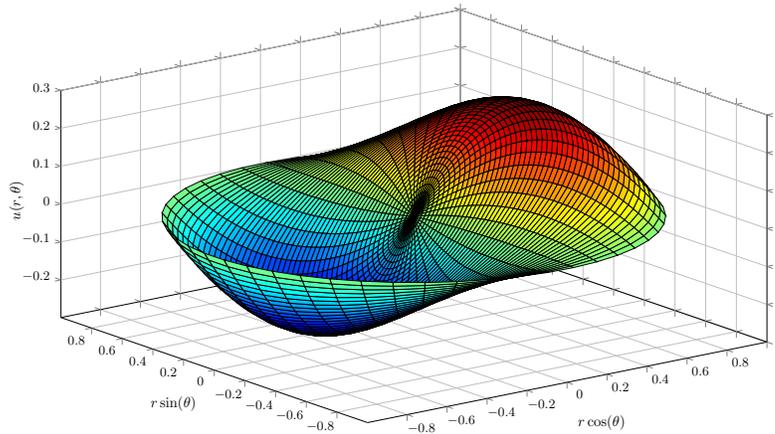


FIG. 2.1. Solution  $u(r, \theta) = r(1 - r) \cos(\theta)$  of (2.22) with  $g(\theta) = 0$ ,  $f(r, \theta) = -3 \cos(\theta)$  and  $R = 1$ .

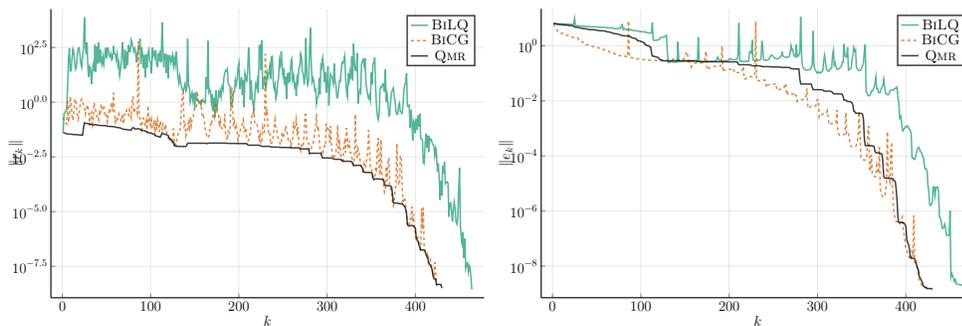


FIG. 2.2. Convergence curves of BiLQ, BiCG and QMR iterates on (2.22). The figures show the residual (left) and error (right) history for each method.

290 QMR, but are not far behind. We experimented with other systems and observed the  
 291 same qualitative behavior. As showed in section 2.6, although BiLQ is a minimum-  
 292 error-type method, this error is minimized over a different space than that where  
 293  $x_k^L$  and  $x_k^C$  reside—see Proposition 1. This situation is analogous to that between  
 294 SYMMLQ and CG in the symmetric case (Estrin, Orban, and Saunders, 2019c). Thus,  
 295 the possibility of transferring to the BiCG point, when it exists, is attractive. Because  
 296 the BiCG residual is easily computable, transferring based on the residual norm is  
 297 readily implemented. The determination of upper bounds on the error suitable as  
 298 stopping criteria remains the subject of active research (Estrin et al., 2019a,b,c).

299 **2.8. Discussion.** Like QMR, the BiLQ iterate is well defined at each step even  
 300 if  $T_k$  is singular, whereas  $x_k^C$  is undefined when  $\bar{\delta}_k = 0$ . A simple example is

$$301 \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad b = c = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

302 According to Algorithm 2.1,  $\beta_1 = \gamma_1 = 1$ ,  $v_1 = u_1 = b = c$ . Then  $\alpha_1 = u_1^T A v_1 = 0$ ,  
 303  $T_1 = [\alpha_1]$  is singular, and  $T_1 y_1 = \beta_1$  is inconsistent. BiCG and its variants CGS  
 304 (Sonneveld, 1989) and BiCGSTAB (van der Vorst, 1992) all fail. However,  $T_2$  is  
 305 not singular and the BiCG point exists, although we cannot compute it without

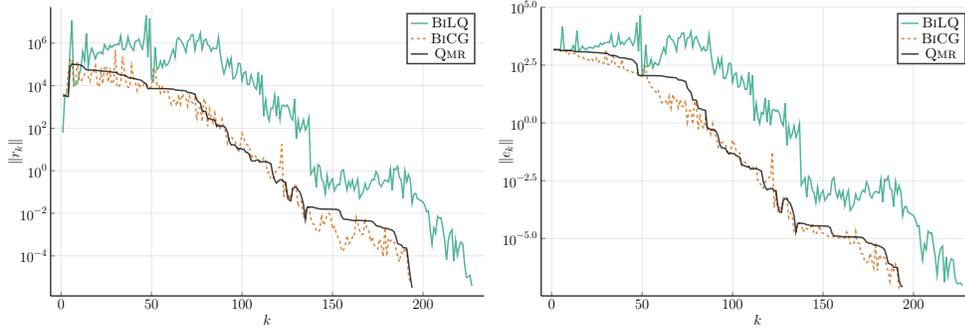


FIG. 2.3. Convergence curves of BiLQ, BiCG and QMR iterates for the SHERMAN5 system. The figures show the residual (left) and error (right) history for each method.

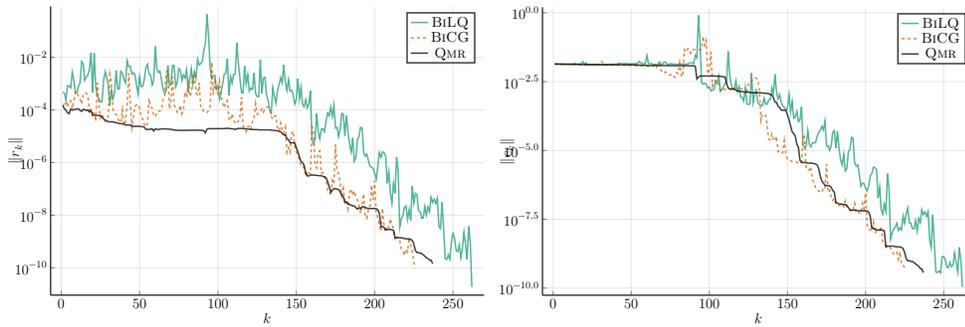


FIG. 2.4. Convergence curves of BiLQ, BiCG and QMR iterates for the RAEFSKY1 system. The figures show the residual (left) and error (right) history for each method.

306 lookahead. In finite precision arithmetic, such exact breakdown are rather rare. But  
 307 near-breakdowns ( $\bar{\delta}_k \approx 0$ ) may happen and lead to numerical instabilities in ensuing  
 308 iterations. An additional drawback of BiCG is that the LU decomposition of  $T_k$  might  
 309 not exist without pivoting even if  $T_k$  is nonsingular whereas the LQ factorization of  
 310  $T_{k-1,k}$  is always well defined.

311 **3. Adjoint systems.** Motivated by fluid dynamics applications, [Pierce and Giles](#)  
 312 [\(2000\)](#) describe a method for doubling the order of accuracy of estimates of integral  
 313 functionals involving the solution of a PDE. Consider a well-posed linear PDE  $Lu = f$   
 314 on a domain  $\Omega$  subject to homogeneous boundary conditions, where  $L$  is a differential  
 315 operator of the form [\(2.21\)](#) and  $f \in L_2(\Omega)$ . Suppose we wish to evaluate the functional  
 316  $J(u) := \langle u, g \rangle$ , where  $g \in L_2(\Omega)$  and  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  represents an integral inner product on  
 317  $L_2(\Omega)$ . The problem may be stated equivalently as evaluating the functional  $\langle v, f \rangle$   
 318 where  $v$  solves the adjoint PDE  $L^*v = g$  because  $\langle v, f \rangle = \langle v, Lu \rangle = \langle L^*v, u \rangle = \langle g, u \rangle$ .

319 Let the discretization of  $L$  yield the linear system  $Au_D = f_D$  with  $D$  a set of points  
 320 that define a grid on  $\Omega$ . For certain types of PDEs and certain discretization schemes,  
 321  $A^T$  is an appropriate discretization of  $L^*$ . [Pierce and Giles \(2000\)](#) provide examples  
 322 with linear operators such as Poisson's equation discretized by finite differences in 1D  
 323 and by finite elements in 2D, but their discretizations are symmetric. Their method  
 324 also applies to cases where  $A \neq A^T$  but in such cases, the discretization of the primal  
 325 and dual equations commonly differ. Therefore, there is a need for methods that solve  
 326 an unsymmetric primal system and its adjoint simultaneously. [Lu and Darmofal \(2003\)](#)

327 and Golub et al. (2008) were also interested in this problem for scattering amplitude  
 328 evaluation. Lu and Darmofal (2003) devise a modification of QMR in which the two  
 329 initial vectors are  $b$  and  $c$  and a quasi residual is minimized for both the primal and  
 330 adjoint systems via an updated QR factorization. Golub et al. (2008) apply USYMQR  
 331 (Saunders et al., 1988) to both the primal and the adjoint system<sup>2</sup> simultaneously by  
 332 updating two QR factorizations. The advantage of their approach is that it produces  
 333 monotonic residuals for both systems.

334 Assume we use a method to compute  $u_D$  and to solve  $A^T v_D = g_D$  such that  
 335  $\|u - u_D\| \in O(h^p)$  and  $\|v - v_D\| \in O(h^p)$ , where  $h$  describes the grid coarseness. From  
 336  $u_D$  and  $v_D$  we compute approximations  $u_h \approx u$  and  $v_h \approx v$  over  $\Omega$  by way of an  
 337 interpolation of higher order than the discretization. Define  $f_h := Lu_h$  and  $g_h := L^* v_h$ .  
 338 Instead of  $J(u) \approx \langle u_h, g \rangle$ , an approximation of order  $p$ , we may obtain one of order  
 339  $2p$  via the identity

$$340 \quad (3.1) \quad \langle g, u \rangle = \langle g, u_h \rangle - \langle v_h, f_h - f \rangle + \langle g_h - g, u_h - u \rangle.$$

341 The first two terms constitute our new approximation while the remaining error term  
 342 can be expressed as  $\langle g_h - g, L^{-1}(f_h - f) \rangle = O(h^{2p})$ .

343 From this point, we consider, in addition to (1.1), the adjoint system

$$344 \quad (3.2) \quad A^T t = c.$$

345 Solving simultaneously primal and dual systems can also be formulated as solving the  
 346 symmetric and indefinite system

$$347 \quad (3.3) \quad \begin{bmatrix} 0 & A \\ A^T & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} t \\ x \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b \\ c \end{bmatrix}.$$

348 MINRES or MINRES-QLP (Choi, Paige, and Saunders, 2011) are prime candidates  
 349 for (3.3) and will serve as a basis for comparison.

350 In the context of Algorithm 2.1, we can take advantage of the two initial vectors  
 351  $b$  and  $c$  to combine BiLQ and QMR and solve both the primal and adjoint systems  
 352 simultaneously at no other extra cost than that of updating solution and residual  
 353 estimates. We call the resulting method BiLQR. Contrary to the approach of Lu and  
 354 Darmofal (2003), no extra factorization updates are necessary. Instead of approximating  
 355  $u_D$  and  $v_D$  by minimizing two quasi residuals, BiLQR minimizes one quasi residual  
 356 and computes the second approximation via a minimum-norm subproblem.

357 A similar method based on the orthogonal tridiagonalization process of Saunders  
 358 et al. (1988) can be derived by combining USYMLQ and USYMQR, which we call  
 359 TRILQR, and which is to the approach of Golub et al. (2008) as BiLQR is to that of  
 360 Lu and Darmofal (2003). TRILQR remains well defined for rectangular  $A$ .

361 **3.1. Description of BiLQR.** BiLQR updates an approximate solution  $t_{k-1}^Q =$   
 362  $U_{k-1} f_{k-1}^Q$  of  $A^T t = c$  by solving the QMR least-squares subproblem

$$363 \quad (3.4) \quad \underset{f}{\text{minimize}} \quad \|T_{k-1,k}^T f - \gamma_1 e_1\| \iff \underset{f}{\text{minimize}} \quad \left\| \begin{bmatrix} L_{k-1}^T \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} f - Q_k \gamma_1 e_1 \right\|$$

<sup>2</sup>Although they call USYMQR the “generalized LSQR”.

364 because the QR factorization of  $T_{k-1,k}^T$  is readily available. Define  $\bar{h}_k = Q_k \gamma_1 e_1 =$   
 365  $(h_{k-1}, \bar{\psi}_k) = (\psi_1, \dots, \psi_{k-1}, \bar{\psi}_k)$ . The components of  $\bar{h}_k$  are updated according to

$$366 \quad (3.5a) \quad \bar{\psi}_1 = \gamma_1,$$

$$367 \quad (3.5b) \quad \psi_k = c_{k+1} \bar{\psi}_k, \quad k \geq 1,$$

$$368 \quad (3.5c) \quad \bar{\psi}_{k+1} = s_{k+1} \bar{\psi}_k, \quad k \geq 1.$$

370 The solution of (3.4) is  $f_{k-1}^Q = L_{k-1}^{-T} h_{k-1}$  and the least-squares residual norm is  $|\bar{\psi}_k|$ .  
 371 To avoid storing  $U_k$ , we define  $W_k = U_k L_k^{-T}$ , which can be updated as

$$372 \quad (3.6a) \quad w_1 = u_1 / \delta_1,$$

$$373 \quad (3.6b) \quad w_2 = (u_2 - \lambda_1 w_1) / \delta_2,$$

$$374 \quad (3.6c) \quad w_k = (u_k - \lambda_{k-1} w_{k-1} - \varepsilon_{k-2} w_{k-2}) / \delta_k, \quad k \geq 3.$$

376 At the next iteration,  $t_k^Q$  can be recursively updated according to

$$377 \quad t_k^Q = U_k f_k^Q = U_k L_k^{-T} h_k = W_k h_k = W_{k-1} h_{k-1} + \psi_k w_k = t_{k-1}^Q + \psi_k w_k.$$

378 The QMR residual is

$$379 \quad r_k^Q = c - A^T t_k^Q = U_{k+1} (\gamma_1 e_1 - T_{k,k+1}^T f_k^Q) = \bar{\psi}_{k+1} U_{k+1} Q_{k+1}^T e_{k+1}^T,$$

380 so that

$$381 \quad \|r_k^Q\| \leq \|U_{k+1}\|_F \|\bar{\psi}_{k+1} Q_{k+1}^T e_{k+1}^T\| \leq \|\bar{\psi}_{k+1}\| \sqrt{\tau_{k+1}},$$

382 where  $\tau_{k+1} = \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} \|u_i\|^2 = \tau_k + \|u_{k+1}\|^2$ . If the  $u_k$  are normalized, then  $\tau_k = k$ .  
 383 [Algorithm 3.2](#) states the complete procedure.

384 The following result states a minimization property of the QMR residual in an  
 385 iteration-dependent norm.

PROPOSITION 2. *The  $(k-1)$ th QMR iterate  $t_{k-1}^Q$  solves*

$$(3.7) \quad \underset{t}{\text{minimize}} \|c - A^T t\|_{V_k V_k^T} \quad \text{subject to } t \in \text{Range}(U_{k-1}).$$

*In addition,  $\|r_k^Q\|_{V_k V_k^T}$  is monotonically decreasing.*

386 *Proof.* The set of constraints of (3.7) imposes that there exist  $f \in \mathbb{R}^{k-1}$  such  
 387 that  $t = U_{k-1} f$ . By biorthogonality, the objective value at such an  $t$  can be written  
 388  $\|c - A^T U_{k-1} f\|_{V_k V_k^T} = \|c - U_k T_{k-1,k}^T f\|_{V_k V_k^T} = \|\gamma_1 e_1 - T_{k-1,k}^T f\|$ . We recover the  
 389 subproblem (3.4).

390 For the second part,  $\|r_k^Q\|_{V_{k+1} V_{k+1}^T} = |\bar{\psi}_{k+1}| = |s_{k+1}| |\bar{\psi}_k| = |s_{k+1}| \|r_{k-1}^Q\|_{V_k V_k^T}$ .  $\square$

391 Note that [Proposition 2](#) continues to hold if  $r_k^Q$  is measured in the  $V_p V_p^T$ -norm.

392 **3.2. Description of TriLQR.** The [Saunders et al. \(1988\)](#) tridiagonalization  
 393 process generates sequences of vectors  $\{v_k\}$  and  $\{u_k\}$  such that  $v_i^T v_j = \delta_{ij}$  and  
 394  $u_i^T u_j = \delta_{ij}$  in exact arithmetic for as long as the process does not break down. The  
 395 process is summarized as [Algorithm 3.1](#).

396 At the end of the  $k$ -th iteration, we have

$$397 \quad (3.8a) \quad AU_k = V_k T_k + \beta_{k+1} v_{k+1} e_k^T = V_{k+1} T_{k+1,k}$$

$$398 \quad (3.8b) \quad A^T V_k = U_k T_k^T + \gamma_{k+1} u_{k+1} e_k^T = U_{k+1} T_{k,k+1}^T,$$

**Algorithm 3.1** Tridiagonalization Process**Require:**  $A, b, c$ 

1:  $v_0 = 0, u_0 = 0$

2:  $\beta_1 v_1 = b, \gamma_1 u_1 = c$

$(\beta_1, \gamma_1) > 0$  so that  $\|v_1\| = \|u_1\| = 1$

3: **for**  $k = 1, 2, \dots$  **do**

4:  $q = Au_k - \gamma_k v_{k-1}, \alpha_k = v_k^T q$

5:  $p = A^T v_k - \beta_k u_{k-1}$

6:  $\beta_{k+1} v_{k+1} = q - \alpha_k v_k$

$\beta_{k+1} > 0$  so that  $\|v_{k+1}\| = 1$

7:  $\gamma_{k+1} u_{k+1} = p - \alpha_k u_k$

$\gamma_{k+1} > 0$  so that  $\|u_{k+1}\| = 1$

8: **end for**

400 to be compared with (2.1).

401 [Saunders et al. \(1988\)](#) develop two methods based on [Algorithm 3.1](#). USYMLQ  
402 generates an approximation to a solution of (1.1) of the form  $x_k^{\text{LQ}} = U_k y_k^{\text{LQ}}$ , where  
403  $y_k^{\text{LQ}} \in \mathbb{R}^k$  solves

404 (3.9) 
$$\underset{y}{\text{minimize}} \|y\| \quad \text{subject to } T_{k-1,k} y = \beta_1 e_1.$$

405 With (3.8) and (3.9), we have the following analogue of [Proposition 1](#) and (2.20).

PROPOSITION 3. Let  $x_\star$  be the exact solution of (1.1). The  $k$ th USYMLQ iterate  $x_k^{\text{LQ}}$  solves

(3.10) 
$$\underset{x}{\text{minimize}} \|x\| \quad \text{subject to } x \in \text{Range}(U_k), b - Ax \perp \text{Range}(U_{k-1}),$$

and

(3.11) 
$$\underset{x}{\text{minimize}} \|x - x_\star\| \quad \text{subject to } x \in \text{Range}(A^T V_{k-1}).$$

406 *Proof.* The proof is nearly identical to that of [Proposition 1](#) and relies on the fact  
407 that  $r_k^{\text{LQ}} := b - Ax_k^{\text{LQ}}$  is a combination of  $u_k$  and  $u_{k+1}$  ([Buttari et al., 2019, §3.2.2](#)).□408 The second method, USYMQR, generates an approximation  $t_k^{\text{QR}} = V_k f_k^{\text{QR}}$  where  
409  $f_k^{\text{QR}} \in \mathbb{R}^k$  solves

410 (3.12) 
$$\underset{f}{\text{minimize}} \|T_{k,k+1}^T f - \gamma_1 e_1\|.$$

411 The following property applies to  $t_k^{\text{QR}}$  due to our assumption that (1.1) is consistent.

PROPOSITION 4 ([Buttari et al., 2019, Theorem 1](#)). Assume  $b \in \text{Range}(A)$ . Then USYMQR finds the minimum-norm solution of

$$\underset{t}{\text{minimize}} \|A^T t - c\|.$$

412 Of course,  $A$  nonsingular implies that the solution to (3.2) is unique but [Proposi-](#)  
413 [tion 4](#) applies more generally to rectangular and/or rank-deficient  $A$ .414 When  $A = A^T$  and  $b = c$ , [Algorithm 3.1](#) coincides with the symmetric Lanczos  
415 process, and USYMLQ and USYMQR are equivalent to SYMLQ and MINRES ([Paige](#)  
416 [and Saunders, 1975](#)), respectively. Besides the orthogonalization process, differences  
417 between those methods and BILQ and QMR are the definition of  $\bar{D}_k$  and  $W_k$ , and  
418 the fact that  $u_k$  and  $v_k$  are swapped. If stopping criteria are based on residual norms,

419 expressions derived for methods based on [Algorithm 2.1](#) apply to methods based on  
 420 [Algorithm 3.1](#), but their expressions can be simplified because  $V_k$  and  $U_k$  are orthogonal.  
 421 USYMQR and USYMLQ can be combined into TRILQR to solve both the primal and  
 422 a joint system simultaneously. We summarize the complete procedure as [Algorithm 3.3](#)  
 423 and highlight lines with differences between the two algorithms.

**Algorithm 3.2** BILQR**Require:**  $A, b, c$ 

```

1:  $\beta_1 v_1 = b, \gamma_1 u_1 = c$ 
2:  $\alpha_1 = u_1^T A v_1$ 
3:  $\beta_2 v_2 = A v_1 - \alpha_1 v_1$ 
4:  $\gamma_2 u_2 = A^T u_1 - \alpha_1 u_1$ 
5:  $c_1 = -1, s_1 = 0, \bar{\delta}_1 = \alpha_1$ 
6:  $\eta_1 = \beta_1, \bar{d}_1 = v_1, \bar{\psi}_1 = \gamma_1$ 
7:  $x_1^L = 0, t_0^Q = 0$ 
8: for  $k = 2, 3, \dots$  do
9:    $q = A v_k - \gamma_k v_{k-1}, \alpha_k = u_k^T q$ 
10:   $p = A^T u_k - \beta_k u_{k-1}$ 
11:   $\beta_{k+1} v_{k+1} = q - \alpha_k v_k$ 
12:   $\gamma_{k+1} u_{k+1} = p - \alpha_k u_k$ 
13:   $\delta_{k-1} = (\bar{\delta}_{k-1}^2 + \gamma_k^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ 
14:   $c_k = \bar{\delta}_{k-1} / \delta_{k-1}$ 
15:   $s_k = \gamma_k / \delta_{k-1}$ 
16:   $\varepsilon_{k-2} = s_{k-1} \beta_k$ 
17:   $\lambda_{k-1} = -c_{k-1} c_k \beta_k + s_k \alpha_k$ 
18:   $\bar{\delta}_k = -c_{k-1} s_k \beta_k - c_k \alpha_k$ 
19:   $\zeta_{k-1} = \eta_{k-1} / \delta_{k-1}$ 
20:   $\eta_k = -\varepsilon_{k-2} \zeta_{k-2} - \lambda_{k-1} \zeta_{k-1}$ 
21:   $d_{k-1} = c_k \bar{d}_{k-1} + s_k v_k$ 
22:   $\bar{d}_k = s_k \bar{d}_{k-1} - c_k v_k$ 
23:   $\bar{\psi}_{k-1} = c_k \bar{\psi}_{k-1}$ 
24:   $\bar{\psi}_k = s_k \bar{\psi}_{k-1}$ 
25:   $w_{k-1} = \frac{u_{k-1} - \lambda_{k-2} w_{k-2} - \varepsilon_{k-3} w_{k-3}}{\delta_{k-1}}$ 
26:   $x_k^L = x_{k-1}^L + \zeta_{k-1} d_{k-1}$ 
27:   $t_{k-1}^Q = t_{k-2}^Q + \bar{\psi}_{k-1} w_{k-1}$ 
28: end for
29: if  $\bar{\delta}_k \neq 0$  then
30:    $\bar{\zeta}_k = \eta_k / \bar{\delta}_k$ 
31:    $x_k^C = x_k^L + \bar{\zeta}_k \bar{d}_k$ 
32: end if

```

**Algorithm 3.3** TRILQR**Require:**  $A, b, c$ 

```

 $\beta_1 v_1 = b, \gamma_1 u_1 = c$ 
 $\alpha_1 = u_1^T A v_1$ 
 $\beta_2 v_2 = A u_1 - \alpha_1 v_1$ 
 $\gamma_2 u_2 = A^T v_1 - \alpha_1 u_1$ 
 $c_1 = -1, s_1 = 0, \bar{\delta}_1 = \alpha_1$ 
 $\bar{\eta}_1 = \beta_1, \bar{d}_1 = u_1, \bar{\psi}_1 = \gamma_1$ 
 $x_1^{LQ} = 0, t_0^{QR} = 0$ 
for  $k = 2, 3, \dots$  do
   $q = A u_k - \gamma_k v_{k-1}, \alpha_k = v_k^T q$ 
   $p = A^T v_k - \beta_k u_{k-1}$ 
   $\beta_{k+1} v_{k+1} = q - \alpha_k v_k$ 
   $\gamma_{k+1} u_{k+1} = p - \alpha_k u_k$ 
   $\delta_{k-1} = (\bar{\delta}_{k-1}^2 + \gamma_k^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ 
   $c_k = \bar{\delta}_{k-1} / \delta_{k-1}$ 
   $s_k = \gamma_k / \delta_{k-1}$ 
   $\varepsilon_{k-2} = s_{k-1} \beta_k$ 
   $\lambda_{k-1} = -c_{k-1} c_k \beta_k + s_k \alpha_k$ 
   $\bar{\delta}_k = -c_{k-1} s_k \beta_k - c_k \alpha_k$ 
   $\zeta_{k-1} = \eta_{k-1} / \delta_{k-1}$ 
   $\eta_k = -\varepsilon_{k-2} \zeta_{k-2} - \lambda_{k-1} \zeta_{k-1}$ 
   $d_{k-1} = c_k \bar{d}_{k-1} + s_k u_k$ 
   $\bar{d}_k = s_k \bar{d}_{k-1} - c_k u_k$ 
   $\bar{\psi}_{k-1} = c_k \bar{\psi}_{k-1}$ 
   $\bar{\psi}_k = s_k \bar{\psi}_{k-1}$ 
   $w_{k-1} = \frac{v_{k-1} - \lambda_{k-2} w_{k-2} - \varepsilon_{k-3} w_{k-3}}{\delta_{k-1}}$ 
   $x_k^{LQ} = x_{k-1}^{LQ} + \zeta_{k-1} d_{k-1}$ 
   $t_{k-1}^{QR} = t_{k-2}^{QR} + \bar{\psi}_{k-1} w_{k-1}$ 
end for
if  $\bar{\delta}_k \neq 0$  then
   $\bar{\zeta}_k = \eta_k / \bar{\delta}_k$ 
   $x_k^{CG} = x_k^{LQ} + \bar{\zeta}_k \bar{d}_k$ 
end if

```

424 BILQR and TRILQR both need nine  $n$ -vectors:  $u_k, u_{k-1}, v_k, v_{k-1}, w_k, w_{k-1},$   
 425  $\bar{d}_k, x_k$  and  $t_{k-1}$  whereas MINRES-QLP applied to (3.3) can be implemented with five  
 426  $(2n)$ -vectors. Two more  $n$ -vectors are needed when in-place “gemv” updates are not  
 427 explicitly available. Table 3.1 summarizes the cost of BILQR, TRILQR, MINRES-QLP

428 and variants from [Lu and Darmofal \(2003\)](#) and [Golub et al. \(2008\)](#), developed for  
 429 adjoint systems. An advantage of MINRES-QLP and TRILQR is that adjoint systems  
 430 can be solved even if  $b^T c = 0$ , which is not possible with BILQR. In addition, serious  
 431 breakdowns  $q^T p = 0$  with  $p \neq 0$  and  $q \neq 0$  are not a problem with TRILQR. TRILQR  
 432 is similar in spirit to the recent method USYMLQR of [Buttari et al. \(2019\)](#) for solving  
 433 symmetric saddle-point systems, but is slightly cheaper.

TABLE 3.1  
 Storage and cost per iteration of methods for solving (1.1) and (3.2) simultaneously.

	$n$ -vectors	dots	scal	axpy
BILQR	9	2	5	10
TRILQR	9	2	5	10
MINRES-QLP	10	4	8	14
<a href="#">Lu and Darmofal (2003)</a>	10	2	6	10
<a href="#">Golub et al. (2008)</a>	10	2	6	10

434 **3.3. Applications.** For the purpose of a simple illustration, we consider a one-  
 435 dimensional ODE and a two-dimensional PDE. Consider first the linear ODE with  
 436 constant coefficients

$$437 \quad (3.13a) \quad \chi_1 u''(x) + \chi_2 u'(x) + \chi_3 u(x) = f(x) \quad x \in \Omega$$

$$438 \quad (3.13b) \quad u(x) = 0 \quad x \in \partial\Omega,$$

440 where  $\Omega = [0, 1]$ , and say we are interested in the value of the linear functional

$$441 \quad (3.14) \quad J(u) = \int_{\Omega} u(x)g(x) \, d\Omega,$$

442 where  $u$  solves (3.13) and  $g \in L_2(\Omega)$ . The adjoint equation can be derived from (3.13)  
 443 using integration by parts:

$$444 \quad (3.15a) \quad \chi_1 v''(x) - \chi_2 v'(x) + \chi_3 v(x) = g(x) \quad x \in \Omega$$

$$445 \quad (3.15b) \quad v(x) = 0 \quad x \in \partial\Omega.$$

447 Note that the only difference between the primal and adjoint equations resides in the  
 448 sign of odd-degree derivatives. The discussion in [section 3](#) ensures that

$$449 \quad (3.16) \quad G(v) := \int_{\Omega} f(x)v(x) \, d\Omega = J(u).$$

450 Consider the uniform discretization  $x_i = ih$ ,  $i = 0, \dots, N+1$ , where  $h = 1/(N+1)$ .  
 451 We use centered finite differences of order 2, i.e.,

$$452 \quad u'(x_i) = \frac{u_{i+1} - u_{i-1}}{2h} + O(h^2), \quad u''(x_i) = \frac{u_{i-1} - 2u_i + u_{i+1}}{h^2} + O(h^2).$$

453 We obtain  $u(x_i)$  for  $x_i \in D := \{x_i \mid i \in 1, \dots, N\}$  from the tridiagonal linear system

$$454 \quad \begin{bmatrix} -2\chi_1 + \chi_3 h^2 & \chi_1 + \chi_2 h & & & \\ \chi_1 - \chi_2 h & -2\chi_1 + \chi_3 h^2 & \ddots & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \chi_1 + \chi_2 h & \\ & & \chi_1 - \chi_2 h & -2\chi_1 + \chi_3 h^2 & \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u(x_1) \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ u(x_N) \end{bmatrix} = h^2 \begin{bmatrix} f(x_1) \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ f(x_N) \end{bmatrix}.$$

455 More compactly, we write  $Au_D = f_D$ . Similarly, we compute  $v(x_i)$  for  $x_i \in D$  from  
 456  $A^T v_D = g_D$ . Next, we compute an approximation of  $u$  and  $v$  over  $\Omega$  by cubic spline  
 457 interpolation, and the resulting functions are denoted  $u_h$  and  $v_h$ . We impose that  $Lu_h =$   
 458  $f$  and  $L^* v_h = g$  on  $\partial\Omega$ . We subsequently obtain  $f_h(x) := \chi_1 u_h''(x) + \chi_2 u_h'(x) + \chi_3 u_h(x)$ .  
 459 The end points conditions of the cubic splines impose that  $f_h$  coincide with  $f$  on  $\partial\Omega$ .  
 460 Finally, we compute the improved estimate (3.1) using a three-point Gauss quadrature  
 461 to approximate each

$$462 \quad \int_{x_i}^{x_{i+1}} g(x)u_h(x) dx - \int_{x_i}^{x_{i+1}} v_h(x)(f_h(x) - f(x)) dx$$

463 on each subinterval to ensure that the numerical quadrature errors are smaller than  
 464 the discretization error.

465 We choose  $n = 50$ ,  $\chi_1 = \chi_2 = \chi_3 = 1$ ,  $g(x) = e^x$  and  $f(x)$  such that the exact  
 466 solution of (3.13) is  $u_*(x) = \sin(\pi x)$ . The resulting linear system has dimension 50  
 467 with 148 nonzeros. Those parameters ensure that  $J_* = \langle g, u_* \rangle = (\pi(e+1))/(\pi^2+1)$ .  
 468 Figures 3.1 and 3.2 report the evolution of the residual and error on (1.1) and (3.2)  
 469 for (3.13) and (3.15), respectively. BiLQR terminates in 51 iterations, TrILQR in 87  
 470 iterations and MINRES-QLP in 198 iterations. The left plot of Figure 3.3 illustrates  
 471 the error in the evaluation of  $J(u)$  as a function of  $h$  using the naive  $J(u) \approx J(u_h)$   
 472 and improved (3.1) approximations.

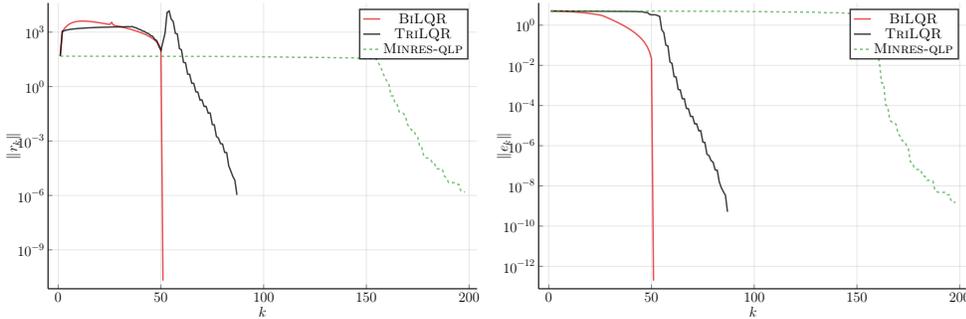


FIG. 3.1. Residuals and errors norms of BiLQR, TrILQR and MINRES-QLP iterates for on (3.13).

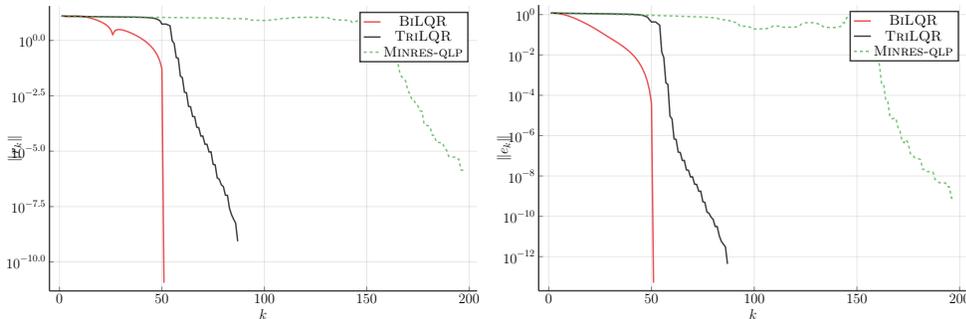


FIG. 3.2. Residuals and errors norms of BiLQR, TrILQR and MINRES-QLP iterates on (3.15).

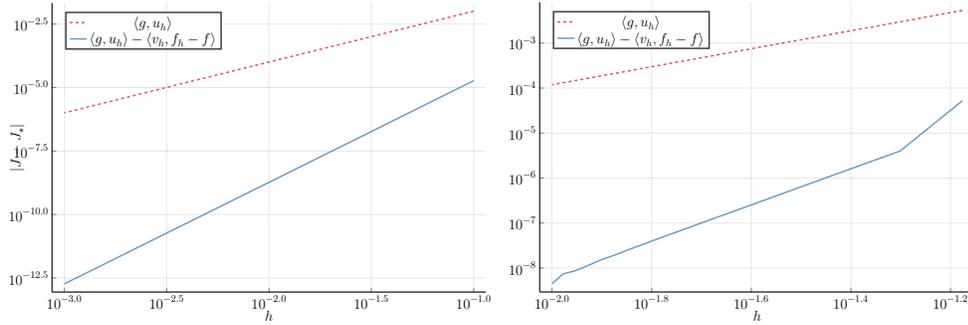


FIG. 3.3. Functional evaluation errors for (3.13)–(3.15) (left) and (3.17)–(3.18) (right).

473 The steady-state convection-diffusion equation with constant coefficients

474 (3.17a)  $\kappa_1 \Delta u(x) + \kappa_2 \nabla \cdot u(x) = f(x) \quad x \in \Omega$

475 (3.17b)  $u(x) = 0 \quad x \in \partial\Omega,$

477 where  $f \in L_2(\Omega)$ , describes the flow of heat, particles, or other physical quantities in  
 478 situations where there is both diffusion and convection or advection. Assume as before  
 479 that we are interested in the linear functional (3.14). The adjoint equation of (3.17),  
 480 again obtained via integration by parts, reads

481 (3.18a)  $\kappa_1 \Delta v(x) - \kappa_2 \nabla \cdot v(x) = g(x) \quad x \in \Omega$

482 (3.18b)  $v(x) = 0 \quad x \in \partial\Omega,$

484 and duality ensures (3.16).

485 In the case of heat transfer,  $u(x)$  represents temperature and  $f(x)$  sources or sinks.  
 486 For example, with  $g(x) = 1/\text{vol}(\Omega)$ ,  $J(u)$  represents the average temperature in  $\Omega$ .

487 We choose  $\Omega = [0, 1] \times [0, 1]$  and discretize (3.17) on a uniform  $N \times N$  grid with  
 488 the finite difference method such that the step along both coordinates is  $h = 1/(N + 1)$ .  
 489 With centered second-order differences for first and second derivatives, the discretized  
 490 operator has the structure

491 
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} T & D_U & & & \\ D_L & T & \ddots & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & D_U & \\ & & & D_L & T \end{bmatrix}, \quad T = \begin{bmatrix} -4\kappa_1 & \kappa_1 + \frac{1}{2}\kappa_2 h & & & \\ \kappa_1 - \frac{1}{2}\kappa_2 h & -4\kappa_1 & & \ddots & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \kappa_1 + \frac{1}{2}\kappa_2 h \\ & & & \kappa_1 - \frac{1}{2}\kappa_2 h & -4\kappa_1 \end{bmatrix},$$

492  $D_U = \text{diag}(\kappa_1 + \frac{1}{2}\kappa_2 h)$ ,  $D_L = \text{diag}(\kappa_1 - \frac{1}{2}\kappa_2 h)$ , where the right-hand sides  $b$  and  
 493  $c$  include the  $h^2$  term. Solutions  $u_D$  and  $v_D$  contain an approximation of  $u$  and  
 494  $v$  at grid points stored column by column. The discretization of (3.18) with the  
 495 same scheme yields  $A^T$ . We compare BiLQR, TriLQR and MINRES-QLP on (3.17)  
 496 and (3.18) with  $\kappa_1 = 5$ ,  $\kappa_2 = 20$ ,  $N = 50$ ,  $g(x, y) = e^{x+y}$  and  $f(x, y)$  such that the  
 497 exact solution of (3.17) is  $u_*(x, y) = \sin(\pi x) \sin(\pi y)$ . The resulting linear system has  
 498 dimension 2,500 with 12,300 nonzeros. We use an absolute tolerance  $\varepsilon_a = 10^{-10}$  and  
 499 a relative tolerance  $\varepsilon_r = 10^{-7}$ , and terminate when both  $\|r_k\| \leq \varepsilon_a + \|b\|\varepsilon_r$  for (1.1)  
 500 and  $\|r_k\| \leq \varepsilon_a + \|c\|\varepsilon_r$  for (3.2) hold.

501 Figures 3.4 and 3.5 report the evolution of the residual and error on (1.1) and (3.2)  
 502 for (3.17) and (3.18), respectively. In this numerical illustration, residuals and errors  
 503 are computed explicitly at each iteration as  $b - Ax$ ,  $c - A^T t$ ,  $x - x_*$ , and  $t - t_*$  in  
 504 order to discount errors in the approximation formulae for those expressions. In this  
 505 example, BiLQR terminates in about four times fewer iterations than TriLQR and  
 506 six times fewer iterations than MINRES-QLP. Only the USYMLQ error and the USYMQR  
 507 residual are monotonic. Although the MINRES-QLP residual on (3.3) is monotonic,  
 508 individual residuals on (1.1) and (3.2) are not.

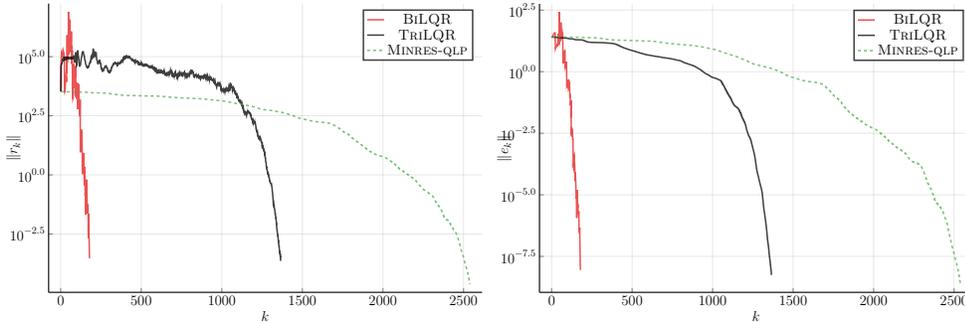


FIG. 3.4. Residuals and errors norms of BiLQR, TriLQR and MINRES-QLP iterates for on (3.17).

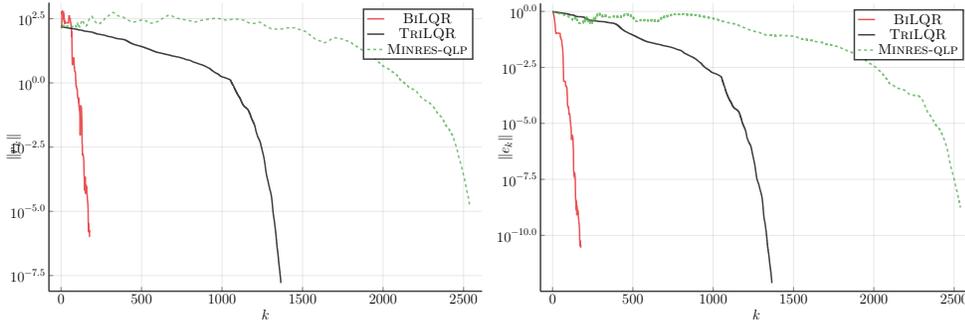


FIG. 3.5. Residuals and errors norms of BiLQR, TriLQR and MINRES-QLP iterates on (3.18).

509 We use bicubic spline interpolation and  $3 \times 3$  points Gauss quadrature to compute  
 510 estimates of  $J(u)$  with and without correction term. With the  $u_*$  given above,  
 511  $J_* := J(u_*) = (\pi(e+1))^2 / (\pi^2 + 1)^2$ . The right plot of Figure 3.3 illustrates the  
 512 error in the evaluation of  $J(u)$  as a function of  $h$  using the naive  $J(u) \approx J(u_h)$  and  
 513 improved (3.1) approximations.

514 **4. Discussion.** BiLQ completes the family of Krylov methods based on the  
 515 Lanczos biorthogonalization process, and is a natural companion to BiCG and QMR.  
 516 It is a quasi-minimum error method, and in general, neither the error nor the residual  
 517 norm are monotonic.

518 Contrary to the Arnoldi (1951) and the Golub and Kahan (1965) processes, the  
 519 Lanczos biorthogonalization and orthogonal trigonalization processes require two initial  
 520 vectors. This distinguishing feature makes them readily suited to the simultaneous  
 521 solution of primal and adjoint systems. A prime application is the superconvergent

522 estimation of integral functionals in the context of discretized ODEs and PDEs. In our  
 523 experiments, we observed that BiLQR outperforms both TriLQR and MINRES-QLP  
 524 applied to an augmented system in terms of error and residual norms.

525 Our Julia implementation of BiLQ, QMR, BiLQR, TriLQR and MINRES-QLP are  
 526 available from [github.com/JuliaSmoothOptimizers/Krylov.jl](https://github.com/JuliaSmoothOptimizers/Krylov.jl) and can be applied  
 527 in any floating-point arithmetic supported by the language. In our experiments with  
 528 adjoint systems, we run both the primal and adjoint solvers until both residuals are  
 529 small. A slightly more sophisticated implementation would interrupt the first solver  
 530 that converges and only apply the other until it too converges. That is the strategy  
 531 applied by [Buttari et al. \(2019\)](#).

532 MINRES applied to (3.3) does not produce monotonic residuals in the individual  
 533 primal and adjoint systems. In our experiments, we explicitly computed those residuals  
 534 but [Herzog and Soodhalter \(2017\)](#) devised a modification of MINRES that allows to  
 535 monitor block residuals that could be of use in the context of estimating integral  
 536 functionals.

537 Although the BiLQ error is not monotonic in the Euclidean norm, it is in the  
 538  $U_p U_p^T$ -norm, which is not iteration dependent, but is unknown until the end of the  
 539 biorthogonalization process. The same property holds for the QMR residual. Exploiting  
 540 such properties to obtain useful bounds on the BiLQ and BiCG error in Euclidean  
 541 norm that could help devise useful stopping criteria is the subject of ongoing research.

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