

# The Smallest Computational Complexity for the Linear Complementarity Problem with $P$ -Matrix

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## Abstract

The linear complementarity problem  $LCP(A, q)$  which consists of finding an real vector  $z \in R^n$  such that

$$Az + q \geq 0,$$

$$z \geq 0,$$

$$z^T(Az + q) = 0,$$

where  $A \in R^{n \times n}$  and  $q \in R^n$  are given real matrix and real vector respectively. When  $A$  is a  $P$ -matrix,  $LCP(A, q)$  is a NP-complete problem. Some traditional direct methods for solving the above problem need  $O(2^n n^2)$  or  $O(2^n n^3)$  number of arithmetic operations at least. This paper proposes a recursive algorithm for solving the  $LCP(A, q)$  with  $A$  is a  $P$ -matrix. The maximum computational complexity for proposed algorithm is not more than  $O(2^n)$  which is the possible smallest computational complexity. And the average computational complexity for proposed algorithm is not more than  $O((\frac{3}{2})^n)$ . The proposed algorithm has simple structure and can be implemented easily.

**Keywords :** Linear complementarity problem, Recursive algorithm,  $P$ -matrix, Computational complexity.

## 1 Introduction

We know that the following Linear Complementarity Problem [1] often appears in fields of the mathematical programming.

$LCP(A, q)$ : Let  $A \in R^{n \times n}$  and  $q \in R^n$ , finding one or all real vectors  $z$  with satisfying

$$Az + q \geq 0,$$

$$z \geq 0, \tag{1}$$

$$z^T(Az + q) = 0.$$

The practical importance of the LCP is evidenced by the fact that linear programming problems, convex quadratic programming problems, and problems