

Solve the Rubik's Cube using Proc IML

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Overview

- Rubik's Cube basics
- Translating the cube into linear algebra
- Steps to solving the cube using proc IML
- Proc IML examples

The Rubik's Cube

- 3x3x3 cube invented in 1974 by Hungarian Erno Rubik
 - Most popular in the 80's
 - Still has popularity with speed-cubers
- 43x10¹⁸ permutations of the Rubik's Cube
 - Quintillion
- Interested in discovering moves that lead to permutations of interest
 - or generalized permutations

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• Generalized permutations can help solve the puzzle

The Rubik's Cube

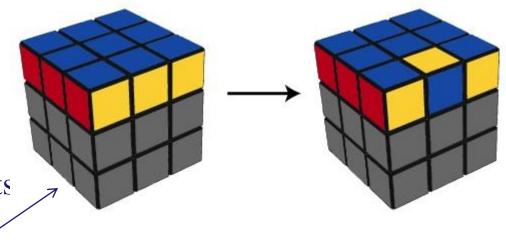
Made up of Edges and corners

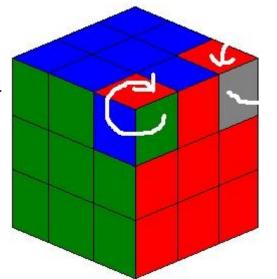
• Pieces can permute

Squares called facets

• Edges can flip

Corners can rotate

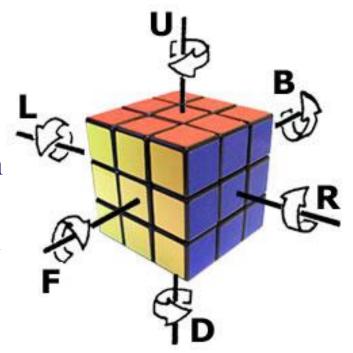




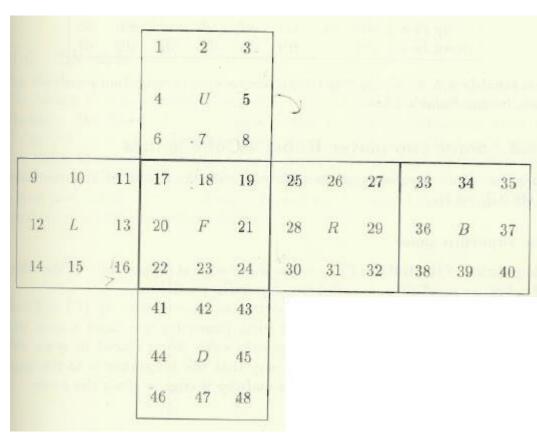


Rubik's Cube Basics

- Each move can be defined as a combination of Basic Movement Generators
 - each face rotated a quarter turn clockwise
- Eg.
 - Movement of front face ¼ turn move F
 - ¼ turn counter clockwise is F⁻¹
 - 2 quarter turns would be F*F
 or F²



Relation to Linear Algebra



The Rubik's cube can represented by a Vector, numbering each facet 1-48 (excl centres). Permutations occur through matrix algebra where the basic movements are represented by Matrices Ax=b



Relation to Linear Algebra

- Certain facets are connected and will always move together
- Facets will always move in a predictable fashion
 - Can be written as: F= (17,19,24,22) (18,21,23,20) (6,25,43,16) (7,28,42,13) (8,30,41,11)

	6	- 7	8	100
11	17	. 18	19	25
13	20	F	21	28
16	22	23	24	30
	41	42	43	



Relation to Linear Algebra

- Therefore, if you can keep track of which numbers are edges and which are corners, you can use a program such as SAS to mathematically determine moves which are useful in solving the puzzle
 - Moves that only permute or flip a few pieces at a time such that it is easy to predict what will happen

Useful Group Theory

• Notes:

- All moves of the Rubik's cube are cyclical where the order is the number of moves needed to return to the original
 - Eg. Movement F (front face ½ turn)
 - If done enough times, will return to original position
 - Enough times=4; F is Order 4

Proc IML

Proc IML (interactive matrix language)
 can be used to test Rubik's Cube moves
 using Matrix algebra to determine which
 moves are useful for solving the puzzle

Intro to Proc IML

Similar to proc SQL in use

```
Proc iml;
IML code ...;
Quit;
```

- code will be able to run while in IML until you exit with a 'quit;' statement
- Useful for row and column calculations/summaries
 - Good at do loops, simulations and linear algebra
 - Not as awesome with character data
 - As always, need to keep track of matrix/vector dimensions



Steps to Solve Cube

- Read in and Create list of moves to test
- Determine Order of each move
 - How many moves in cycle
- Determine during cycle, if at any point:
 - The edges are stable but corners move
 - When and how many?
 - The corners stay stable but edges move
 - When and how many?



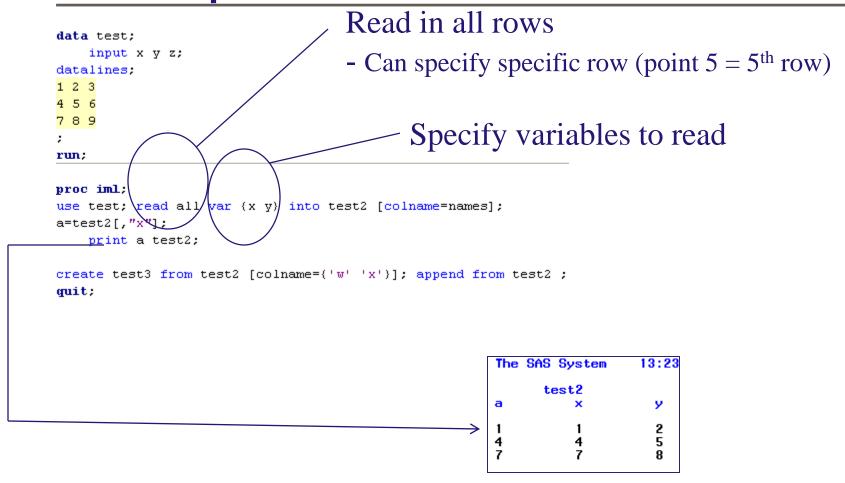
Solving in Proc IML

- Read data into proc IML
- Create functions in IML
- Operate on individual matrix cells
- Perform matrix operations
- Output data from IML

Importing Data

- 'Use' statement makes a SAS dataset available in proc iml
 - Can specify which variables you wish to import and any 'where' statements for filtering
- 'Read' statement turns this dataset into a usable matrix
 - Default only includes numeric variables
 - Rows and columns now numbered instead of named as default
 - Can read in names and refer to them

Example





Example

```
■ PROC IML;
RESET DEFLIB=RC;
use F; read all INTO F; use R; read all INTO R;
use B; read all INTO B; use L; read all INTO L;
use D; read all INTO D; use U; read all INTO U;
use Mu; read all INTO MU; use Mf; read all INTO Mf;
use Mr; read all INTO MR;
```

- Read in pre-created movement generators in matrix form
- Setup default libname
 - All input and output data will come/go to this library
- Specify rows and columns to import
 - We're using all of them



Functions/macros in IML

- Functions can be created in proc IML
 - Similar to macros
 - Use 'start' and 'end' statements instead of %macro and %mend
 - Eg. start(variable(s))

function

end

- Function is applied with a
 - Run <function name>(variable(s)) command



Example

```
START FILL(A);

DO I=1 TO 48;

IF (A[I ,+]=0 & A[+, I]=0) THEN A[I, I]=1;

END;

FINISH FILL;

RUN FILL(F); RUN FILL(R);

RUN FILL(B); RUN FILL(L);

RUN FILL(D); RUN FILL(U);

RUN FILL(Mr); RUN FILL(Mu);

RUN FILL(Mf);
```

• This function 'Fill' sets the movement generators diagonal values to 1 if there are no values in a row/column combination

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Creating and operating on vectors and matrices

- Vectors can be created with () and {}
 brackets
 - () for continuous style values
 - ST=(1:48)
 - **-** 1 2 3 4 ... 48
 - Starting position vector for each face of the cube
 - {} for discrete style
 - POS={2 3 2 3 3 2 ...}
 - Position vector for cube faces
 - 2's represent corners; 3's represent edges
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Creating and operating on vectors and matrices

- Matrices can be created discretely or with functions
 - $-A=\{1\ 2\ 3,\ 4\ 5\ 6\}\ 2x3\ matrix$
- Functions include
 - Identity matrix: I(3) = 3x3 identity matrix
 - All one value: j(4, 3,0) = 4x3 matrix of 0's
 - Useful to create a matrix to fill in with list of permuted faces in cube for each movement in cycle

Matrix Operations

- Matrices can be operated on
 - A*B=Matrix A times Matrix B
 - Eg. F*R creates a single move from 2 movement generators
 - $A^{**}n = matrix A$ to the power of n
 - Eg. F**3
 - A//B = stack A and B (must have same #cols)
 - Stack moves on top of each other to create list of moves as matrices
 - -A||B = A beside B (must have same #rows)



Testing a Move

- To determine the order of a move:
 - Isolate Movement matrix G from list as a 48x48 matrix
 - Let d be the number of moves being examined
 - Do i=1 to d by 48 will isolate moves 1 at a time
 - Multiply G by ST vector (1:48) to get permutation (A=G*ST)
 - Re-attach ST to A to identify starting position
 - -A=ST||A|
- Do while (sum(A=ST)<48) will continue to cycle until every element of A=every element of the starting position vector ST
 - Run a count variable to enumerate the number of moves in the cycle
 - The order

Testing a Move

Example

\bullet G=F*R³

Λ	
\Box	

	COL1	COL2	COL3	
1	1	1	1	
2	2	2	2	
3	3	19	48	
4	4	4	4	
5	5	21	23	
6	6	30	41	
7	7	31	29	
8	8	32	27	
9	9	9	9	
10	10	10	10	
11	11	24	22	
12	12	12	12	
13	13	7	31	
1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	

COL61	COL62 COL63		COL64	
1	1	1	1	
2	2	2	2	
27	25	38	3	
4	4	4	4	
18	45	36	5	
17	43	16	6	
28	42	13	7	
19	48	33	8	
9	9	9	9	
10	10	10	10	
6	30	41	11	
12	12	12	12	
26	28	42	13	
14	14	14	14	

• Order=63

Summarizing a Move

- Matrix is created for each move which has a 1 or 0 indicating whether a facet has been permuted (compared to starting location)
- Can isolate corners and edges into vectors



Example

	COL1	COL2	COL3	COL4
1	1	0	0	0
2	2	0	0	0
3	3	1	1	1
4	4	0	0	0
5	5	1	1	1
6	6	1	1	1
7	7	1	1	1
8	8	1	1	1
9	9	0	0	0
10	10	0	0	0
11	11	1	1	1
12	12	0	0	0
13	13	1	1	1
14	14	0	0	0
		_	_	_

		COL64	
COL62	COL62 COL63		COL65
0	0	0	2
0	0	0	3
1	1	0	2
0	0	0	3
1	1	0	3
1	1	0	2
1	1	0	3
1	1	0	2
0	0	0	2
0	0	0	3
1	1	0	1 2
0	0	0	/ 3
1	1	0	/ 3
0	0	0	/ 2
			/

Position vector

		COL1	COL2	COL3	COL4
Corners permuted	1	18	18	18	18
Edges permuted >>	2	14	14	14	14



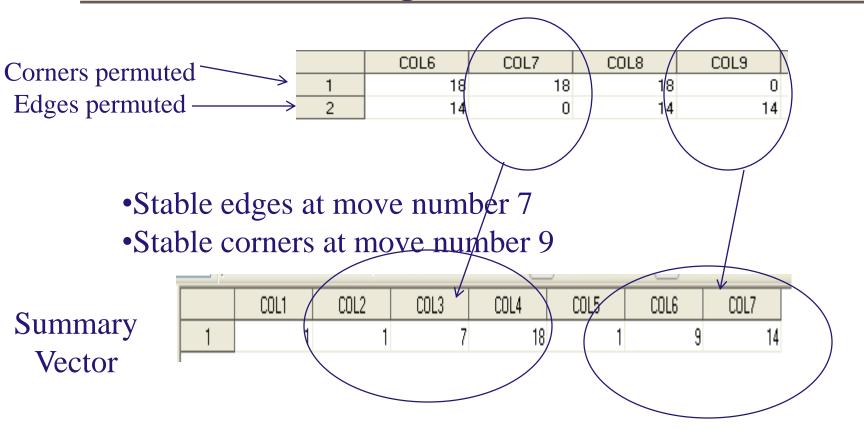
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Summarizing a Move

- Create 7 column vector that identifies:
 - Do either corners or edges stay stable in cycle
 (1/0)
 - If edges stable (1/0):
 - What move in cycle does this occur?
 - How many corners move?
 - If corners stable (1/0):
 - What move in cycle does this occur?
 - How many edges move?



Summarizing a Move



Exporting results

- For each move and 7 column vector generating describing the move:
 - Stack vectors to create an Nx7 matrix corresponding to all moves tested
- Can output as SAS dataset for further analysis:

```
create study_jh_20141106 from study1;
    append from study1;
```



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Questions?

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