

# THE LAPACKE C INTERFACE TO LAPACK

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

This document describes a two-level C interface to LAPACK, consisting of a high-level interface and a middle-level interface. The high-level interface handles all workspace memory allocation internally, while the middle-level interface requires the user to provide workspace arrays as in the original FORTRAN interface. Both interfaces provide support for both column-major and row-major matrices. The prototypes for both interfaces, associated macros and type definitions are contained in the header file `lapacke.h`.

**1.1. Naming Schemes.** The naming scheme for the high-level interface is to take the FORTRAN LAPACK routine name, make it lower case, and add the prefix `LAPACKE_`. For example, the LAPACK subroutine `DGETRF` becomes `LAPACKE_dgetrf`.

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The naming scheme for the middle-level interface is to take the FORTRAN LAPACK routine name, make it lower case, then add the prefix `LAPACKE_` and the suffix `_work`. For example, the LAPACK subroutine `DGETRF` becomes `LAPACKE_dgetrf_work`.

**1.2. Complex Types.** Complex data types are defined by the macros `lapack_complex_float` and `lapack_complex_double`, which represent single precision and double precision complex data types respectively. It is assumed throughout that the real and imaginary components are stored contiguously in memory, with the real component first. The `lapack_complex_float` and `lapack_complex_double` macros can be either C99 `_Complex` types, a C struct defined type, C++ STL complex types, or a custom complex type. See `lapacke.h` for more details.

**1.3. Array Arguments.** Arrays are passed as pointers, not as a pointer to pointers. All the LAPACKE routines that take one or more 2D arrays as a pointer receive a single extra parameter of type `int`. This argument must be equal to either `LAPACK_ROW_MAJOR` or `LAPACK_COL_MAJOR` which are defined in `lapacke.h`, specifying whether the arrays are stored in row-major or column-major order. If a routine has multiple array inputs, they must all use the same ordering.

Note that using row-major ordering may require more memory and time than column-major ordering, because the routine must transpose the row-major order to the column-major order required by the underlying LAPACK routine.

Each 2D array argument in a FORTRAN LAPACK routine has an additional argument that specifies its leading dimension. For row-major 2D arrays, elements within a row are assumed to be contiguous and elements from one row to the next are assumed to be a leading dimension apart. For column-major 2D arrays, elements within a column are assumed to be contiguous and elements from one column to the next are assumed to be a leading dimension apart.

**1.4. Aliasing of Arguments.** Unless specified otherwise, only input arguments (that is, scalars passed by values and arrays specified with the `const` qualifier) may be legally aliased on a call to C interface to LAPACK.

**1.5. INFO Parameters.** The LAPACKE interface functions set their `lapack_int` return value to the value of the `INFO` parameter, which contains information such as error and exit conditions. This differs from LAPACK routines, which return this information as a FORTRAN integer parameter.

In LAPACKE, `INFO` is used exactly as it is in LAPACK. If `INFO` returns the row or column number of a matrix using 1-based indexing in FORTRAN, the value is not adjusted for zero-based indexing.

**1.6. NaN Checking.** The high-level interface includes an optional, on by default, NaN check on all matrix inputs before calling any LAPACK routine. This option affects all routines. If the inputs contain any NaNs, the input parameter corresponding matrix will be flagged with an `INFO` parameter error. For example, if the fifth parameter is found to contain a NaN, the function will return with the value -5.

The NaN check, as well as other parameters, can be disabled by defining `LAPACK_DISABLE_NAN_CHECK` macro in `lapacke.h`. The middle-level interface does not contain the NaN check.

**1.7. Integers.** Variables with the FORTRAN type `integer` are converted to `lapack_int` in LAPACKE. This conforms with modifiable integer type size, especially given ILP64 programming model: re-defining `lapack_int` as `long int` (8 bytes) will be enough to support this model, as `lapack_int` is defined as `int` (4 bytes) by default, supporting LP64 programming model.

**1.8. Logicals.** FORTRAN logicals are converted to `lapack_logical`, which is defined as `lapack_int`.

**1.9. Memory Management.** All memory management is handled by the functions `LAPACKE_malloc` and `LAPACKE_free`. This allows users to easily use their own memory manager instead of the default by modifying their definitions in `lapacke.h`.

This interface should be thread-safe to the extent that these memory management routines and the underlying LAPACK routines are thread-safe.

**1.10. New Error Codes.** Since the high level interface does not use work arrays, error notification is needed in the event of a user running out of memory.

If a work array cannot be allocated, `LAPACK_WORK_MEMORY_ERROR` is returned by the function; if there was insufficient memory to complete a transposition, `LAPACK_TRANSPOSE_MEMORY_ERROR` is returned.

## 2. FUNCTION LIST

This section list the currently available LAPACK subroutines that are available in the LAPACKE C interface. The LAPACK base names are given below; the corresponding LAPACKE function name is `LAPACKE_xbase` or `LAPACKE_xbase_work` where *x* is the type: `s` or `d` for single or double precision real, `c` or `z` for single or double precision complex, with *base* representing the base name. Function prototypes are given in the file `lapacke.h`. See the LAPACK documentation for detailed information about the routines and their parameters.

**2.1. Real Functions.** The following LAPACK subroutine base names are supported for single precision (s) and double precision (d), in both the high-level and middle-level interfaces:

bdsc bdsqr disna gbrd gbcon gbequ gbequb gbrfs gbrfsx gbsv gbsvx gbsvxx  
 gbtrf gbtrs gebak gebal gebrd gecon geequ geequb gees geesx geev geevx gehrd  
 gejsv gelqf gels gelsd gelss gelsy geqlf geqp3 geqpf geqrf geqrqf gerfs gerfsx  
 gerqf gesdd gesv gesvd gesvj gesvx gesvxx getrf getri getrs ggbak ggbal gges  
 ggesx ggev ggevxx ggglm gghrd ggls ggqrqf ggrqf ggsvd ggsvp gtcon gtrfs gtsv  
 gtsvx gttrf gttrs hgeqz hsein hseqr opgtr opmtr orgbr orghr orglq orgql orgqr  
 orgrq orgtr ormbr ormhr ormlq ormql ormqr ormrq ormrz ormtr pbcon pbequ  
 pbrfs pbstf pbsv pbsvx pbtrf pbtrs pptrf pptri pptrs pocon poequ poequb porfs  
 porfsx posv posvx posvxx potrf potri potrs pcon ppequ pprfs ppsv ppsvx pptrf  
 pptri pptrs pstrf ptcon pteqr ptrfs ptsv ptsvx pptrf pptrs sbev sbevd sbevx sbgst  
 sbgv sbgvd sbgvx sbtrd sfrk scon spev spevd spevx spgst spgv spgvd spgvx  
 sprfs spsv spsvx sprd sprf sprtri sprts stebz stedc stegr stein stemr steqr sterf  
 stev stevd stevr stevx sycon syequb syev syevd syevr syevx sygst sygv sygvd  
 sygvx syrfs syrfsx sysv sysvx sysvxx syrd sytrf sytri sytrs tbcon tbrfs tbtrs tfsm  
 tftri tfttp tfttr tgevc tgexc tgsen tgsja tgsna tgsyl tcon tprfs tptri tptrs tptf  
 tptr trcon trevc trexc trfs trsen trsna trsyl trtri trtrs trttf trttp trzf

**2.2. Complex Functions.** The following LAPACK subroutine base names are supported for complex single precision (c) and complex double precision (z), in both the high-level and middle-level interfaces:

bdsqr gbrd gbcon gbequ gbequb gbrfs gbrfsx gbsv gbsvx gbsvxx gbtrf gbtrs  
 gebak gebal gebrd gecon geequ geequb gees geesx geev geevx gehrd gelqf gels  
 gelsd gelss gelsy geqlf geqp3 geqpf geqrf geqrqf gerfs gerfsx gerqf gesdd gesv  
 gesvd gesvx gesvxx getrf getri getrs ggbak ggbal gges ggesx ggev ggevxx ggglm  
 gghrd ggls ggqrqf ggrqf ggsvd ggsvp gtcon gtrfs gtsv gtsvx gttrf gttrs hbev  
 hbevd hbevx hbgst hbgv hbgvd hbgvx hbtrd hecon heequb heev heevd heevr  
 heevx hegst hegv hegvd hegvx herfs herfsx hesv hesvx hesvxx hetrd hetrf hetri  
 hetrs hfrk hgeqz hpcon hpev hpevd hpevx hpgst hpgv hpgvd hpgvx hprfs hpsv  
 hpsvx hptrd hptrf hptri hptrs hsein hseqr pbcon pbequ pbrfs pbstf pbsv pbsvx  
 pbtrf pbtrs pptrf pptri pptrs pocon poequ poequb porfs porfsx posv posvx posvxx  
 potrf potri potrs pcon ppequ pprfs ppsv ppsvx pptrf pptri pptrs pstrf ptcon  
 pteqr ptrfs ptsv ptsvx pptrf pptrs scon sprfs spsv spsvx sprf sprtri sprts stedc  
 stegr stein stemr steqr sycon syequb syrfs syrfsx sysv sysvx sysvxx sytrf sytri  
 sytrs tbcon tbrfs tbtrs tfsm tftri tfttp tfttr tgevc tgexc tgsen tgsja tgsna tgsyl  
 tcon tprfs tptri tptrs tptf tptr trcon trevc trexc trfs trsen trsna trsyl trtri  
 trtrs trttf trttp trzf unbr unhr unglq unql unqr ungrq ungr unbr unhr  
 unmlq unml unmlq unml unmrz unmr unmrz unmr upgtr upmtr

**2.3. Mixed Precision Functions.** The following LAPACK subroutine base names are supported only for double precision (d) and complex double precision (z):

sgesv sposv

### 3. EXAMPLES

This section contains examples of calling LAPACKE functions from a C program.

**3.1. Calling DGEQRF.** Suppose you wish to call the function DGEQRF, which computes the QR factorization of a double precision real rectangular matrix in LAPACK, and you wish to have the LAPACKE interface handle the necessary work space memory allocation for you.

The base name for this function is `geqrf`, which is included in the list of real functions above. The LAPACKE function name is then constructed by prepending `LAPACK_` followed by `d` to the base name: `LAPACKE_dgeqrf`.

We will assume that our matrix is stored in column-major order in the  $m \times n$  array `a`, which has a leading dimension of `lda`. The variable declarations should be as follows:

```
lapack_int m, n, lda, info;
double *a, *tau;
```

The LAPACKE function call is then:

```
info = LAPACKE_dgeqrf( LAPACK_COL_MAJOR, m, n, a, lda, tau );
```

**3.2. Calling CUNGQR.** Suppose you wish to call the function CUNGQR, which generates `Q` from the results of a QR factorization of a single precision complex rectangular matrix, and you wish to provide the required workspace.

The base name for this function is `ungqr`, which is included in the list of complex functions above. The LAPACKE function name is then constructed by prepending `LAPACK_` followed by `c` to the base name, with the suffix `_work` to indicate that the user will supply the work space: `LAPACKE_cungqr_work`.

We will assume again that our matrix is stored in column-major order in the  $m \times n$  array `a`, which has a leading dimension of `lda`. From the LAPACK documentation, the work space array `work` must have a length of at least `n`; the length of `work` is given in `lwork`. The variable declarations should be as follows:

```
lapack_int m, n, k, lda, lwork, info;
lapack_complex_float *a, *tau, *work;
```

The LAPACKE function call is then:

```
info = LAPACKE_cungqr_work( LAPACK_COL_MAJOR, m, n, k, a, lda, tau,
work, lwork );
```

**3.3. Calling DGELS.** In this example, we wish solve the least squares problem

$$\min_x \|B - Ax\|$$

for two right-hand sides using the LAPACK routine DGELS. For input we will use the  $5 \times 3$  matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 3 & 5 & 2 \\ 4 & 2 & 5 \\ 5 & 4 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

and the  $5 \times 2$  matrix

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} -10 & -3 \\ 12 & 14 \\ 14 & 12 \\ 16 & 16 \\ 18 & 16 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We will first store the input matrix as a static C two-dimensional array, which is stored in row-major order, and let LAPACKE handle the work space array allocation. The LAPACK base name for this function is `gels`, and we will use double precision (`d`), so the LAPACKE function name is `LAPACKE_dgels`.

Note that the leading dimensions of the arrays are in this case the number of *columns*, thus `lda= 3` and `ldb= 2`. The output for each right hand side is stored in `b` as consecutive vectors of length 3. The correct answer for this problem is the  $3 \times 2$  matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

A complete C program for this example is given in Figure 1. Note that when the arrays are passed to the LAPACK routine, they must be dereferenced, since LAPACK is expecting arrays of type `double *`, *not* `double **`.

Alternatively, we can use column-major ordering for the matrices in this example, as shown in Figure 2. Here, the matrices are stored as static one-dimensional C arrays. These arrays have a leading dimension that is equal to the number of rows.

---

```

#include <stdio.h>
#include <lapacke.h>

int main (int argc, const char * argv[])
{
    double a[5][3] = {1,1,1,2,3,4,3,5,2,4,2,5,5,4,3};
    double b[5][2] = {-10,-3,12,14,14,12,16,16,18,16};
    lapack_int info,m,n,lda,ldb,nrhs;
    int i,j;

    m = 5;
    n = 3;
    nrhs = 2;
    lda = 3;
    ldb = 2;

    info = LAPACKE_dgels(LAPACK_ROW_MAJOR,'N',m,n,nrhs,*a,lda,*b,ldb);

    for(i=0;i<n;i++)
    {
        for(j=0;j<nrhs;j++)
        {
            printf("%lf ",b[i][j]);
        }
        printf("\n");
    }
    return(info);
}

```

---

FIGURE 1. Calling DGELS using row-major order.

**3.4. Calling CGEQRF and the CBLAS.** In this example, we will call the LAPACK routine CGEQRF to compute the QR factorization of a matrix. We then call CUNGQR to construct the  $Q$  matrix and then use the CBLAS routine CGEMM to compute  $Q^H Q - I$  to check that  $Q$  is Hermitian. The error  $\|Q^H Q - I\|$  is printed at the end of the program.

In the first version, given below in Figure 3, we let LAPACKE handle the memory allocation for the workspace internally. The second version, shown in Figure 4, uses the workspace query facility for both CGEQRF and CUNGQR to obtain the optimal size for the parameter `lwork`, which we use to allocate our own workspace in the array `work`.

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <lapacke.h>

int main (int argc, const char * argv[])
{
    double a[5*3] = {1,2,3,4,5,1,3,5,2,4,1,4,2,5,3};
    double b[5*2] = {-10,12,14,16,18,-3,14,12,16,16};
    lapack_int info,m,n,lda,ldb,nrhs;
    int i,j;

    m = 5;
    n = 3;
    nrhs = 2;
    lda = 5;
    ldb = 5;

    info = LAPACKE_dgels(LAPACK_COL_MAJOR,'N',m,n,nrhs,a,lda,b,ldb);

    for(i=0;i<n;i++)
    {
        for(j=0;j<nrhs;j++)
        {
            printf("%lf ",b[i+ldb*j]);
        }
        printf("\n");
    }
    return(info);
}
```

---

FIGURE 2. Calling DGELS using column-major order.

---

```

#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <lapacke.h>
#include <cblas.h>
int main (int argc, const char * argv[])
{
    lapack_complex_float *a,*tau,*r,one,zero;
    lapack_int info,m,n,lda;
    int i,j;
    float err=0.0;
    m = 10;    n = 5;    lda = m;
    one = lapack_make_complex_float(1.0,0.0);
    zero= lapack_make_complex_float(0.0,0.0);
    a = calloc(m*n,sizeof(lapack_complex_float));
    r = calloc(n*n,sizeof(lapack_complex_float));
    tau = calloc(m,sizeof(lapack_complex_float));
    for(j=0;j<n;j++)
        for(i=0;i<m;i++)
            a[i+j*m] = lapack_make_complex_float(i+1,j+1);
    info = LAPACKE_cgeqrf(LAPACK_COL_MAJOR,m,n,a,lda,tau);
    info = LAPACKE_cungqr(LAPACK_COL_MAJOR,m,n,n,a,lda,tau);
    for(j=0;j<n;j++)
        for(i=0;i<n;i++)
            r[i+j*n]=(i==j)?-one:zero;
    cblas_cgemm(CblasColMajor,CblasConjTrans,CblasNoTrans,
                n,n,m,&one,a,lda,a,lda,&one,r,n );
    for(i=0;i<n;i++)
        for(j=0;j<n;j++)
            err=MAX(err,cabs(r[i+j*n]));
    printf("error=%e\n",err);
    free(tau);
    free(r);
    free(a);
    return(info);
}

```

---

FIGURE 3. Calling CGEQRF and CUNGQR to compute  $Q$ .

---

```

#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <lapacke.h>
#include <cblas.h>

int main (int argc, const char * argv[])
{
    lapack_complex_float *a,*tau,*r,*work,one,zero,query;
    lapack_int info,m,n,lda,lwork;
    int i,j;
    float err;
    m = 10;    n = 5;    lda = m;
    one = lapack_make_complex_float(1.0,0.0);
    zero= lapack_make_complex_float(0.0,0.0);
    a = calloc(m*n,sizeof(lapack_complex_float));
    r = calloc(n*n,sizeof(lapack_complex_float));
    tau = calloc(m,sizeof(lapack_complex_float));
    for(j=0;j<n;j++)
        for(i=0;i<m;i++)
            a[i+j*m] = lapack_make_complex_float(i+1,j+1);
    info = LAPACKE_cgeqrf_work(LAPACK_COL_MAJOR,m,n,a,lda,tau,&query,-1);
    lwork = (lapack_int)query;
    info = LAPACKE_cungqr_work(LAPACK_COL_MAJOR,m,n,n,a,lda,tau,&query,-1);
    lwork = MAX(lwork,(lapack_int)query);
    work = calloc(lwork,sizeof(lapack_complex_float));
    info = LAPACKE_cgeqrf_work(LAPACK_COL_MAJOR,m,n,a,lda,tau,work,lwork);
    info = LAPACKE_cungqr_work(LAPACK_COL_MAJOR,m,n,n,a,lda,tau,work,lwork);
    for(j=0;j<n;j++)
        for(i=0;i<n;i++)
            r[i+j*n]=(i==j)?-one:zero;
    cblas_cgemm(CblasColMajor,CblasConjTrans,CblasNoTrans,
               n,n,m,&one,a,lda,a,lda,&one,r,n);
    err=0.0;
    for(i=0;i<n;i++)
        for(j=0;j<n;j++)
            err=MAX(err,cabs(r[i+j*n]));
    printf("error=%e\n",err);
    free(work);
    free(tau);
    free(r);
    free(a);
    return(info);
}

```

---

FIGURE 4. Calling CGEQRF and CUNGQR with workspace querying.