

Pivoting

The starting point of this tutorial is the LU decomposition code we wrote and tested in lecture 5. We found that it fails when the input matrix has a singular sub matrix, even when the input matrix itself is invertable. For instance

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

has the sub matrix

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

which is singular and therefore our LU decomposition code encounters a division by zero.

The solution to this problem is “pivoting”, described in lecture 6. The pseudo-code is on slide 7. Implement this algorithm, following the steps below.

- Write a function that swaps two rows of a matrix. Inputs should be a $n \times n$ array M and indices $0 \leq i, j < n$ (following the Python convention that indices start from 0). Output should be the array M with rows i and j swapped.
- There is a line in the pseudo-code that says “Select $i \geq k$ to maximize $|U_{i,k}|$.” Read the documentation on the `Argmax` function on [numpy.org](https://numpy.org/doc/stable/reference/generated/numpy.argmax.html) to figure out how to find the index of the largest element in an array. Work out how to use this function to implement the line in the pseudo-code mentioned above.
- Now implement the pseudocode for LU decomposition with pivoting. Input should be a $n \times n$ array A , output should be $n \times n$ arrays P , L and U so that P is a permutation matrix and $PA = LU$.
- If you have time, test it by decomposing the matrix A above and verifying that $PA = LU$.