

# SI231 Matrix Analysis and Computations

## Linear Systems and LU Decomposition

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# Linear Systems

- direct methods for general linear systems
- direct methods for special (structured) linear systems
- iterative methods for linear systems
- other topics on linear systems

## Main Results

- a matrix  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is said to have an **LU decomposition/factorization** if it can be factored as

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{U},$$

where  $\mathbf{L} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is lower triangular;  $\mathbf{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is upper triangular

- does not always exist
- pivoting: there exists a permutation matrix  $\mathbf{P} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  such that  $\mathbf{PA} = \mathbf{LU}$
- **LDL decomposition/factorization**: if  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{S}^n$  has an LU decomposition, then  $\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{DL}^T$  where  $\mathbf{D}$  is diagonal
- **Cholesky decomposition/factorization**: if  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{S}^n$  is PD, it can always be factored as

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{G}\mathbf{G}^T,$$

where  $\mathbf{G}$  is lower triangular

# The System of Linear Equations

Consider the system of linear equations (or linear system)

$$\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b},$$

where  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  and  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$  are given, and  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is the solution to the system.

- a linear inverse problem
- a system of nonlinear equations (or nonlinear system)  $f(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{A}) = \mathbf{b}$  can often be approximated by a linear system or solved via successive linear approximation
- solving system of linear (nonlinear) equations is closely related to linear (nonlinear) programming
- Rouché-Capelli theorem: The linear system has a solution if and only if  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = \text{rank}([\mathbf{A} \mid \mathbf{b}])$ . If there are solutions, they form an affine subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  of dimension  $n - \text{rank}(\mathbf{A})$ .
- Gauss elimination (GE), a.k.a. Gaussian elimination and row reduction, is an algorithm consisting of a sequence of operations on a matrix to get a row echelon form. This method can also be used to compute the rank of a matrix, the inverse of an invertible matrix, and the determinant of a square matrix.
- Cramer's rule (for square  $\mathbf{A}$ )

# The System of Linear Equations

Consider the **system of linear equations** (or **linear system**)

$$\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b},$$

where  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  and  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  are given, and  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is the solution to the system.

- a linear square system (or square systems of linear equations)
- $\mathbf{A}$  will be assumed to be nonsingular (unless specified)
- we consider the real case for convenience; extension to the complex case is simple
  - if  $\mathbf{A}$  is real and  $\mathbf{b}$  is complex
    - \* get the real and complex part of the solution separately
  - if  $\mathbf{A}$  is complex
    - \* rewrite LU decomposition routine to use complex arithmetic (more complicated code, fewer operations)
    - \* solve real and imaginary parts of matrix separately (utilizes same code, costs twice as many operations/storage space)

# Solving the Linear System

**Problem:** compute the solution to  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$  in a numerically efficient manner.

- the problem is easy if  $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$  is known
  - but computing  $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$  also costs computations...
  - do you know how to compute  $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$  efficiently?
- here,  $\mathbf{A}$  is assumed to be a general nonsingular matrix.
  - the problem may become easy in some special cases, e.g., diagonal  $\mathbf{A}$ , lower triangular  $\mathbf{A}$ , upper triangular  $\mathbf{A}$ , orthogonal  $\mathbf{A}$ , permutation matrices  $\mathbf{A}$ , Toeplitz  $\mathbf{A}$ , circulant  $\mathbf{A}$ , sparse  $\mathbf{A}$  (solving (large) sparse linear systems is an important topic).

## Solving Some “Easy” Linear Systems

- diagonal matrices  $\mathbf{A}$  ( $a_{ij} = 0$  if  $i \neq j$ ):  $n$  flops

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{b} = [b_1/a_{11}, \dots, b_n/a_{nn},]$$

- lower triangular matrices  $\mathbf{A}$  ( $a_{ij} = 0$  if  $i < j$ ):  $n^2$  flops with forward substitution
- upper triangular matrices  $\mathbf{A}$  ( $a_{ij} = 0$  if  $i > j$ ):  $n^2$  flops with backward substitution
- orthogonal matrices  $\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \mathbf{A}^T$ 
  - compute  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A}^T\mathbf{b}$  for general  $\mathbf{A}$  in  $2n^2$  flops
  - less with structure, e.g., if  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{I} - 2\mathbf{a}\mathbf{a}^T$  with  $\|\mathbf{a}\|^2 = 1$ , we can compute  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A}^T\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{b} - 2(\mathbf{a}^T\mathbf{b})\mathbf{a}$  in  $4n$  flops
- permutation matrices  $\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \mathbf{A}^T$

Example:

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{A}^{-1} = \mathbf{A}^T = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

compute  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A}^T\mathbf{b}$  in 0 flops

# Direct Methods for General Linear Systems



# LU Decomposition

**LU decomposition:** given  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , find two matrices  $\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  such that

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{LU},$$

where  $\mathbf{L} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is unit lower/left triangular (lower triangular with unit diagonal elements (i.e.,  $\ell_{ii} = 1$  for all  $i$ )),  $\mathbf{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is upper/right triangular, and  $\mathbf{L}$  and  $\mathbf{U}$  are called the LU factors of  $\mathbf{A}$ . (sometimes also called LR decomposition)

- a kind of **triangular decomposition**

**Idea:** **Suppose** that  $\mathbf{A}$  has an LU decomposition. Then, solving  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$  can be recast as two linear system problems:

1. solve  $\mathbf{Lz} = \mathbf{b}$  for  $\mathbf{z}$ , and then
2. solve  $\mathbf{Ux} = \mathbf{z}$  for  $\mathbf{x}$ .

## Questions:

1. how to solve  $\mathbf{Lz} = \mathbf{b}$ , and then  $\mathbf{Ux} = \mathbf{z}$ ?
2. how to perform  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{LU}$ ? Does LU decomposition exist?

## Forward Substitution

Example: a  $3 \times 3$  lower triangular system  $\mathbf{Lz} = \mathbf{b}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \ell_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ \ell_{21} & \ell_{22} & 0 \\ \ell_{31} & \ell_{32} & \ell_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \\ z_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

If  $\ell_{11}, \ell_{22}, \ell_{33} \neq 0$ , then  $z_1, z_2, z_3$  can be solved by

$$z_1 = b_1 / \ell_{11}$$

$$z_2 = (b_2 - \ell_{21}z_1) / \ell_{22}$$

$$z_3 = (b_3 - \ell_{31}z_1 - \ell_{32}z_2) / \ell_{33}$$

# Forward Substitution

Forward substitution for solving  $\mathbf{Lz} = \mathbf{b}$ :

$$z_i = \left( b_i - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} \ell_{ij} z_j \right) / \ell_{ii}, \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

Forward substitution in MATLAB form:

```
function z= for_subs(L,b)
n= length(b);
z= zeros(n,1);
z(1)= b(1)/L(1,1);
for i=2:1:n
    z(i)= (b(i)-L(i,1:i-1)*z(1:i-1))/L(i,i);
end;
```

- complexity:  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$  ( $n^2$  multiplications/divisions +  $n^2 - n$  additions/subtractions)

## Backward Substitution

Example: a  $3 \times 3$  upper triangular system  $\mathbf{U}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{z}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} u_{11} & u_{12} & u_{13} \\ 0 & u_{22} & u_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & u_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \\ z_3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

If  $u_{11}, u_{22}, u_{33} \neq 0$ , then  $x_1, x_2, x_3$  can be solved by, in sequence,

$$x_3 = z_3 / u_{33}$$

$$x_2 = (z_2 - u_{23}x_3) / u_{22}$$

$$x_1 = (z_1 - u_{12}x_2 - u_{13}x_3) / u_{11}$$

# Backward Substitution

Backward substitution for solving  $Ux = z$ :

$$x_i = \left( z_i - \sum_{j=i+1}^n u_{ij}x_j \right) / u_{ii}, \quad \text{for } i = n, n-1, \dots, 1.$$

Backward substitution in MATLAB form:

```
function x= back_subs(U,z)
n= length(z);
x= zeros(n,1);
x(n)= z(n)/U(n,n);
for i= n-1:-1:1,
    x(i)= ( z(i)- U(i,i+1:n)*x(i+1:n) )/U(i,i);
end;
```

- complexity:  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$  ( $n^2$  multiplications/divisions +  $n^2 - n$  additions/subtractions)

## Gauss Transformations: the Key Building Block for LU

**Observation:** given  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  that has  $x_k \neq 0$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq n$ ,

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & \\ & & 1 & & \\ & & -\frac{x_{k+1}}{x_k} & 1 & \\ & & \vdots & & \ddots \\ & & -\frac{x_n}{x_k} & & & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{=\mathbf{M}} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_k \\ x_{k+1} \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_k \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The above  $\mathbf{M}$  also satisfies

$$\mathbf{M}\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y}, \quad \text{for any } \mathbf{y} = [y_1, \dots, y_{k-1}, 0, \dots, 0]^T, \quad y_i \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Characterization of a **Gauss transformation  $\mathbf{M}$**  (an outer-product form):

$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{I} - \boldsymbol{\tau} \mathbf{e}_k^T, \quad \boldsymbol{\tau} = [0, \dots, 0, x_{k+1}/x_k, \dots, x_n/x_k]^T.$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\tau}$  is called **Gauss vector** with  $x_{k+1}/x_k, \dots, x_n/x_k$  called **multipliers**.

## Finding U by Gauss Elimination

**Problem:** find Gauss transformations  $\mathbf{M}_1, \dots, \mathbf{M}_{n-1} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  such that

$$\mathbf{M}_{n-1} \cdots \mathbf{M}_2 \mathbf{M}_1 \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{U}, \quad \mathbf{U} \text{ being upper triangular.}$$

**Step 1:** choose  $\mathbf{M}_1$  such that  $\mathbf{M}_1 \mathbf{a}_1 = [a_{11}, 0, \dots, 0]^T$

- **if**  $a_{11} \neq 0$ , then we can choose

$$\mathbf{M}_1 = \mathbf{I} - \boldsymbol{\tau}^{(1)} \mathbf{e}_1^T, \quad \boldsymbol{\tau}^{(1)} = [0, a_{21}/a_{11}, \dots, a_{n1}/a_{11}]^T.$$

- result:

$$\mathbf{M}_1 \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A} - \boldsymbol{\tau}^{(1)} \mathbf{e}_1^T \mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \times & \dots & \times \\ 0 & \times & \dots & \times \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & \times & \dots & \times \end{bmatrix}$$

## Finding U by Gauss Elimination

Step 2: let  $\mathbf{A}^{(1)} = \mathbf{M}_1 \mathbf{A}$ . Choose  $\mathbf{M}_2$  such that  $\mathbf{M}_2 \mathbf{a}_2^{(1)} = [a_{12}^{(1)}, a_{22}^{(1)}, 0, \dots, 0]^T$ .

- **if**  $a_{22}^{(1)} \neq 0$ , then we can choose

$$\mathbf{M}_2 = \mathbf{I} - \boldsymbol{\tau}^{(2)} \mathbf{e}_2^T, \quad \boldsymbol{\tau}^{(2)} = [0, 0, a_{32}^{(1)} / a_{22}^{(1)}, \dots, a_{n,2}^{(1)} / a_{22}^{(1)}]^T.$$

- result:

$$\mathbf{M}_2 \mathbf{A}^{(1)} = \mathbf{A}^{(1)} - \boldsymbol{\tau}^{(2)} \mathbf{e}_2^T \mathbf{A}^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11}^{(1)} & a_{12}^{(1)} & \times & \dots & \times \\ 0 & a_{22}^{(1)} & \times & \dots & \times \\ \vdots & 0 & \times & & \times \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \times & \dots & \times \end{bmatrix}$$



## Finding U by Gauss Elimination

Let  $\mathbf{A}^{(k)} = \mathbf{M}_k \mathbf{A}^{(k-1)}$ ,  $\mathbf{A}^{(0)} = \mathbf{A}$ . Note  $\mathbf{A}^{(k)} = \mathbf{M}_k \cdots \mathbf{M}_2 \mathbf{M}_1 \mathbf{A}$ .

**Step  $k$ :** Choose  $\mathbf{M}_k$  such that  $\mathbf{M}_k \mathbf{a}_k^{(k-1)} = [a_{1k}^{(k-1)}, \dots, a_{kk}^{(k-1)}, 0, \dots, 0]^T$ .

- **if**  $a_{kk}^{(k-1)} \neq 0$ , then

$$\mathbf{M}_k = \mathbf{I} - \boldsymbol{\tau}^{(k)} \mathbf{e}_k^T, \quad \boldsymbol{\tau}^{(k)} = [0, \dots, 0, a_{k+1,k}^{(k-1)} / a_{kk}^{(k-1)}, \dots, a_{n,k}^{(k-1)} / a_{kk}^{(k-1)}]^T,$$

- result:

$$\mathbf{A}^{(k)} = \mathbf{M}_k \mathbf{A}^{(k-1)} = \mathbf{A}^{(k-1)} - \boldsymbol{\tau}^{(k)} \mathbf{e}_k^T \mathbf{A}^{(k-1)} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11}^{(k-1)} & \cdots & a_{1k}^{(k-1)} & \times & \cdots & \times \\ 0 & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \vdots & & a_{kk}^{(k-1)} & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \vdots & & 0 & \times & & \times \\ \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & \times & \cdots & \times \end{bmatrix}$$

–  $\mathbf{A}^{(n-1)} = \mathbf{U}$  is upper triangular

## Where is $\mathbf{L}$ ?

We have seen that under the assumption of  $a_{kk}^{(k-1)} \neq 0$  for all  $k$ ,

$$\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{M}_{n-1} \cdots \mathbf{M}_2 \mathbf{M}_1 \mathbf{A} \text{ is upper triangular.}$$

But where is  $\mathbf{L}$ ?

**Property 1.** Let  $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be lower triangular. Then,  $\mathbf{AB}$  is lower triangular. Also, if  $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}$  have unit diagonal entries, then  $\mathbf{AB}$  has unit diagonal entries.

**Property 2.** If  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is lower triangular, then  $\det(\mathbf{A}) = \prod_{i=1}^n a_{ii}$ .

**Property 3.** Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be nonsingular lower triangular. Then,  $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$  is lower triangular with  $[\mathbf{A}^{-1}]_{ii} = 1/a_{ii}$ .

**Suppose** that every  $\mathbf{M}_k$  is invertible. Then,

$$\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{M}_1^{-1} \mathbf{M}_2^{-1} \cdots \mathbf{M}_{n-1}^{-1}$$

satisfies  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{LU}$ , and is lower triangular with unit diagonal entries.

## A Naive Implementation of LU (Don't Use It)

```
function [L,U]= my_naive_lu(A)
n= size(A,1);
L= eye(n); t= zeros(n,1); U= A;
for k=1:1:n-1,
    rows= k+1:n;
    t(rows)= U(rows,k)/U(k,k);
    M= eye(n); M(rows,k)= -t(rows);
    U= M*U;           % compute  $\mathbf{A}^{(k)} = \mathbf{M}_k \mathbf{A}^{(k-1)}$ 
    L= L*inv(M);       % to eventually obtain  $\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{M}_1^{-1} \mathbf{M}_2^{-1} \cdots \mathbf{M}_{n-1}^{-1}$ 
end;
```

Weaknesses:

- the above code treats each  $\mathbf{A}^{(k)} = \mathbf{M}_k \mathbf{A}^{(k-1)}$  as a general matrix multiplication process, which takes  $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$  flops. It does not utilize structures of  $\mathbf{M}_k$ .
- (more serious) to compute  $\mathbf{L}$ , the above code calls inverse  $n - 1$  times. If the problem is to solve  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$ , then why not just call inverse once for  $\mathbf{A}$ ?

## Computing $\mathbf{L}$

**Fact:**  $\mathbf{M}_k^{-1} = \mathbf{I} + \boldsymbol{\tau}^{(k)} \mathbf{e}_k^T$ .

Verification by definition: by noting  $[\boldsymbol{\tau}^{(k)}]_k = 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathbf{I} + \boldsymbol{\tau}^{(k)} \mathbf{e}_k^T) \mathbf{M}_k &= (\mathbf{I} + \boldsymbol{\tau}^{(k)} \mathbf{e}_k^T) (\mathbf{I} - \boldsymbol{\tau}^{(k)} \mathbf{e}_k^T) \\ &= \mathbf{I} + \boldsymbol{\tau}^{(k)} \mathbf{e}_k^T - \boldsymbol{\tau}^{(k)} \mathbf{e}_k^T + \boldsymbol{\tau}^{(k)} \underbrace{\mathbf{e}_k^T \boldsymbol{\tau}^{(k)}}_{=0} \mathbf{e}_k^T = \mathbf{I}. \end{aligned}$$

can also be verified by matrix inversion lemma (cf. Basic Concepts)

By the same spirit ( $\mathbf{e}_j^T \boldsymbol{\tau}^{(k)} = 0$  for  $j \leq k$ ), it can be verified that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{L} &= \mathbf{M}_1^{-1} \mathbf{M}_2^{-1} \dots \mathbf{M}_{n-1}^{-1} = (\mathbf{I} + \boldsymbol{\tau}^{(1)} \mathbf{e}_1^T) (\mathbf{I} + \boldsymbol{\tau}^{(2)} \mathbf{e}_2^T) \dots (\mathbf{I} + \boldsymbol{\tau}^{(n-1)} \mathbf{e}_{(n-1)}^T) \\ &= \mathbf{I} + \boldsymbol{\tau}^{(1)} \mathbf{e}_1^T + \boldsymbol{\tau}^{(2)} \mathbf{e}_2^T \dots + \boldsymbol{\tau}^{(n-1)} \mathbf{e}_{(n-1)}^T = \mathbf{I} + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \boldsymbol{\tau}^{(k)} \mathbf{e}_k^T \end{aligned}$$

## A More Mature LU Code (Still Not the LU inside MATLAB)

```
function [L,U]= my_lu(A)
n= size(A,1);
L= eye(n); t= zeros(n,1); U= A;
for k=1:1:n-1,
    rows= k+1:n;
    t(rows)= U(rows,k)/U(k,k);
    U(rows,rows)= U(rows,rows)- t(rows)*U(k,rows);
    U(rows,k)= 0;
    L(rows,k)= t(rows);
end;
```

- complexity:  $\mathcal{O}(2n^3/3)$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \left( \sum_{\text{rows}=k+1}^n 1 + 2 \sum_{\text{rows}=k+1}^n \sum_{\text{rows}=k+1}^n 1 \right) = \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} (n-k+2(n-k)^2) = 2n^3/3 + \mathcal{O}(n^2)$$

- works as long as  $a_{kk}^{(k-1)}$ —the so-called **pivots**—are all nonzero

# Existence and Uniqueness of LU Decomposition

**Theorem 1.** A matrix  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  has a unique LU decomposition if every leading principal submatrix  $\mathbf{A}_{\{1, \dots, k\}}$  satisfies

$$\det(\mathbf{A}_{\{1, \dots, k\}}) \neq 0,$$

for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$ , i.e., the first  $n - 1$  leading principal minors are nonzero.

- the proof is essentially about when  $a_{kk}^{(k-1)} \neq 0$ .
- see Theorem 3.2.1 in [\[Golub-van-Loan'13\]](#)

# Existence and Uniqueness of LU Decomposition

**Theorem 2.** If  $\mathbf{A}$  is nonsingular, then it admits a unique LU decomposition if and only if all its leading principal minors are nonzero.

**Theorem 3.** If  $\mathbf{A}$  is singular of rank  $k$ , then it admits a unique LU decomposition if the first  $k$  leading principal minors are nonzero.

- see Section 3.5 in [Horn-Johnson'12]

For the existence and uniqueness of LU decomposition of a general matrix, refer to: C. R. Johnson and P. Okunev, *Necessary and Sufficient Conditions for Existence of the LU Factorization of an Arbitrary Matrix*, 1997. Available online at <https://arxiv.org/pdf/math/0506382v1.pdf>.

## Remark:

- A nonsingular matrix can have no or a unique LU decomposition.
- A singular matrix can have no, a unique, or infinitely many LU decompositions. E.x.p., for the zero matrix any unit lower triangular matrix can be used as  $\mathbf{L}$  in an LU.

## Doolittle Algorithm for LU Decomposition

- Doolittle algorithm provides an alternative way to factor  $\mathbf{A}$  into an LU decomposition without going through the hassle of Gauss elimination.
- For a general matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ , we assume that an LU decomposition exists, and write the form of  $\mathbf{L}$  and  $\mathbf{U}$  explicitly.

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & \dots & a_{3n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & a_{n3} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & & \\ \ell_{21} & 1 & & & \\ \ell_{31} & \ell_{32} & 1 & & \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \\ \ell_{n1} & \ell_{n2} & \ell_{n3} & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_{11} & u_{12} & u_{13} & \dots & u_{1n} \\ & u_{22} & u_{23} & \dots & u_{2n} \\ & & u_{33} & \dots & u_{3n} \\ & & & \ddots & \vdots \\ & & & & u_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

- We then systematically solve for the entries in  $\mathbf{L}$  and  $\mathbf{U}$  from the equations that result from the multiplications necessary for  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{LU}$ .  
for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$

$$\text{the } k\text{th row} \quad u_{kj} = a_{kj} - \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} \ell_{ki} u_{ij}, \quad \text{for } j = k, k+1, \dots, n.$$

$$\text{the } k\text{th column} \quad \ell_{ik} = (a_{ik} - \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} \ell_{ij} u_{jk}) / u_{kk}, \quad \text{for } i = k+1, k+2, \dots, n.$$



## Discussion

- the LU algorithm described above requires nonzero pivots,  $a_{kk}^{(k-1)} \neq 0$  for all  $k$ .
- Gauss elimination is known to be numerically unstable when a pivot is close to zero, i.e.,  $|a_{kk}^{(k-1)}| \ll 1$
- examine the main step in Gauss elimination (in scalar form)

$$a_{ij}^{(k)} = [\mathbf{M}_k]_{ik} a_{kj}^{(k-1)} + a_{ij}^{(k-1)}$$

any roundoff error in the computation of  $a_{kj}^{(k-1)}$  is amplified by multiplier  $[\mathbf{M}_k]_{ik}$

- **pivoting:** to ensure that the multipliers are small, at each Gauss elimination step, interchange the rows of  $\mathbf{A}^{(k)}$  to obtain better pivots.
  - when you call `lu(A)` or `A\b` in MATLAB, it always perform pivoting

## LU Decomposition with Partial Pivoting

- **pivoting:** when eliminating elements in  $\mathbf{a}_k^{(k-1)}$ , find an integer  $p$ ,  $k \leq p \leq n$ , s.t.

$$|a_{pk}^{(k-1)}| = \max_{k \leq i \leq n} |a_{ik}^{(k-1)}|.$$

and then interchange rows  $p$  and  $k$  of  $\mathbf{A}^{(k-1)}$ .

- requires  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$  comparisons to determine the appropriate row interchanges
- $[\mathbf{M}_k]_{ik} = -a_{ik}^{(k-1)} / a_{kk}^{(k-1)}$ , then  $|[\mathbf{M}_k]_{ik}| \leq 1$  for  $k = 1, \dots, n-1$  and  $i = k+1, \dots, n$ .

**LU decomposition with partial pivoting:** given  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , find three matrices  $\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{U}, \mathbf{P} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  such that

$$\mathbf{PA} = \mathbf{LU}$$

where

$\mathbf{P} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is a permutation matrix

$\mathbf{L} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is unit lower triangular with  $|\ell_{ij}| \leq 1$ ;

$\mathbf{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is upper triangular.

**Questions:** how to perform  $\mathbf{PA} = \mathbf{LU}$ ?

## Finding $U$ by Gauss Elimination with Partial Pivoting

**Problem:** find interchange permutations (a.k.a. elementary permutations)  $\Pi_1, \Pi_2, \dots, \Pi_{n-1} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  and Gauss transformations  $M_1, M_2, \dots, M_{n-1} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  such that

$$M_{n-1}\Pi_{n-1} \cdots M_2\Pi_2 M_1\Pi_1 A = U, \quad U \text{ being upper triangular,}$$

and no multipliers in  $M_k$  for  $k = 1, \dots, n-1$  is larger than one in absolute value.

## Where is P and Where is L?

**Fact:** since each permutation matrix  $\Pi_k$  at most interchanges row  $k$  with row  $p$ , where  $p > k$ , there is no difference between applying all of the row interchanges “up front” and applying  $\Pi_k$  immediately before applying  $M_k$  for each  $k$ . It follows that

$$\tilde{M}_{n-1} \cdots \tilde{M}_2 \tilde{M}_1 \Pi_{n-1} \cdots \Pi_2 \Pi_1 \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{U}, \quad \mathbf{U} \text{ being upper triangular}, \quad (\star)$$

where  $\tilde{M}_k$ 's are “new” Gauss transformations related to  $M_k$ .

From  $(\star)$ , we have

- $\mathbf{P} = \Pi_{n-1} \cdots \Pi_2 \Pi_1$  (the product of all interchange permutation matrices)
- $\mathbf{L} = \tilde{M}_1^{-1} \tilde{M}_2^{-1} \cdots \tilde{M}_{n-1}^{-1}$  where  $(\Pi_k \text{ is symmetric and hence involutory})$

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{M}_k &= (\Pi_{n-1} \cdots \Pi_{k+1}) M_k (\Pi_{k+1} \cdots \Pi_{n-1}) \\ &= (\Pi_{n-1} \cdots \Pi_{k+1}) (\mathbf{I} - \tau^{(k)} \mathbf{e}_k^T) (\Pi_{k+1} \cdots \Pi_{n-1}) = \mathbf{I} - \tilde{\tau}^{(k)} \mathbf{e}_k^T \end{aligned}$$

which is unit lower triangular with  $\tilde{\tau}^{(k)} = (\Pi_{n-1} \cdots \Pi_{k+1}) \tau^{(k)}$  and hence  $\tilde{M}_k^{-1} = \mathbf{I} + \tilde{\tau}^{(k)} \mathbf{e}_k^T$ . Then,  $\mathbf{L} = \tilde{M}_1^{-1} \tilde{M}_2^{-1} \cdots \tilde{M}_{n-1}^{-1} = \mathbf{I} + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \tilde{\tau}^{(k)} \mathbf{e}_k^T$ .

## Where is P and Where is L?

**Proof:** moving  $\Pi_k$  to the far-right-hand side

$$\begin{aligned}
 U &= M_{n-1} \Pi_{n-1} M_{n-2} \Pi_{n-2} \cdots \Pi_3 M_2 \Pi_2 M_1 \Pi_1 A \\
 &= M_{n-1} \Pi_{n-1} M_{n-2} (\Pi_{n-1} \Pi_{n-1}) \Pi_{n-2} \cdots \Pi_3 M_2 (\Pi_3 \Pi_3) \Pi_2 M_1 (\Pi_2 \Pi_2) \Pi_1 A \\
 &= M_{n-1} (\Pi_{n-1} M_{n-2} \Pi_{n-1}) \Pi_{n-1} (\Pi_{n-2} \cdots M_2 \Pi_3) \Pi_3 (\Pi_2 M_1 \Pi_2) \Pi_2 \Pi_1 A \\
 &= M_{n-1} (\Pi_{n-1} M_{n-2} \Pi_{n-1}) \Pi_{n-1} (\Pi_{n-2} \cdots \\
 &\quad M_2 \Pi_3) (\Pi_4 \Pi_4) \Pi_3 (\Pi_2 M_1 \Pi_2) (\Pi_3 \Pi_3) \Pi_2 \Pi_1 A \\
 &= M_{n-1} (\Pi_{n-1} M_{n-2} \Pi_{n-1}) (\Pi_{n-1} \Pi_{n-2} \cdots \\
 &\quad M_2 \Pi_3 \Pi_4) \Pi_4 (\Pi_3 \Pi_2 M_1 \Pi_2 \Pi_3) \Pi_3 \Pi_2 \Pi_1 A \\
 &= \dots \\
 &= \underbrace{M_{n-1}}_{\tilde{M}_{n-1}} \underbrace{(\Pi_{n-1} M_{n-2} \Pi_{n-1})}_{\tilde{M}_{n-2}} \underbrace{(\Pi_{n-1} \Pi_{n-2} \cdots}_{\tilde{M}_{n-3}} \\
 &\quad \underbrace{M_2 \Pi_3 \Pi_4 \cdots \Pi_{n-1})}_{\tilde{M}_2} \underbrace{(\Pi_{n-1} \cdots \Pi_3 \Pi_2 M_1 \Pi_2 \Pi_3 \cdots \Pi_{n-1})}_{\tilde{M}_1} \Pi_{n-1} \cdots \Pi_3 \Pi_2 \Pi_1 A
 \end{aligned}$$

## The LU with Partial Pivoting Code

```
function [P,L,U]= my_lu_pivoting(A)
n= size(A,1);
P= eye(n); L= eye(n); t= zeros(n,1); U= A;
for k=1:1:n-1,
    p= argmax(U(k:n,k));           % pivoting
    P(k,:)  $\longleftrightarrow$  P(p,:);      % to form the permutation matrix
    U(k,k:n)  $\longleftrightarrow$  U(p,k:n);  % interchange rows in  $\mathbf{A}^{(k)}$ 
    L(k,1:k-1)  $\longleftrightarrow$  L(p,1:k-1); % interchange the mutipliers
    rows= k+1:n;
    t(rows)= U(rows,k)/U(k,k);
    U(rows,rows)= U(rows,rows)- t(rows)*U(k,rows);
    U(rows,k)= 0;
    L(rows,k)= t(rows);
end;
```

- complexity:  $\mathcal{O}(2n^3/3)$
- **Reiteration:** If row  $k$  and  $p$  are interchanged to create the  $k$ th pivot, the multipliers  $[\ell_{k1}, \dots, \ell_{k,k-1}]$  and  $[\ell_{p1}, \dots, \ell_{p,k-1}]$  trade places in the formation of  $\mathbf{L}$ .

## Discussion

**Theorem 4.** Any matrix  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  has an LU decomposition with partial pivoting.

- procedures for solving a linear system  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$  by LU dec. with partial pivoting
  - LU decomposition: decompose  $\mathbf{A}$  as  $\mathbf{PA} = \mathbf{LU}$  ( $2n^3/3$  flops).
  - Permutation:  $\mathbf{Pb}$  (0 flops).
  - Forward substitution: solve  $\mathbf{Lz} = \mathbf{Pb}$  ( $n^2$  flops).
  - Backward substitution: solve  $\mathbf{Ux} = \mathbf{z}$  ( $n^2$  flops).

complexity:  $\mathcal{O}(2n^3/3)$

## LU Decomposition with Complete Pivoting

- **complete/full pivoting:** when eliminating elements in  $\mathbf{a}_k^{(k-1)}$ , find integers  $p, q$ ,  $k \leq p, q \leq n$ , s.t.

$$|a_{pq}^{(k-1)}| = \max_{k \leq i, j \leq n} |a_{ij}^{(k-1)}|.$$

and then interchange rows  $p$  and  $k$  and then columns  $q$  and  $k$  of  $\mathbf{A}^{(k-1)}$ .

- requires  $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$  comparisons to determine the row and column interchanges
- $[\mathbf{M}_k]_{ik} = -a_{ik}^{(k-1)} / a_{kk}^{(k-1)}$ , then  $|[\mathbf{M}_k]_{ik}| \leq 1$  for  $k = 1, \dots, n-1$  and  $i = k+1, \dots, n$ .

**LU decomposition with complete pivoting:** given  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , find matrices  $\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{U}, \mathbf{P}, \mathbf{Q} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  such that

$$\mathbf{PAQ} = \mathbf{LU}$$

where

$\mathbf{P}, \mathbf{Q} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is a permutation matrix

$\mathbf{L} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is unit lower triangular with  $|\ell_{ij}| \leq 1$ ;

$\mathbf{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is upper triangular.

**Questions:** how to perform  $\mathbf{PAQ} = \mathbf{LU}$ ?



# LU Decomposition with Complete Pivoting

Finding  $\mathbf{U}$  by Gauss elimination with complete pivoting

**Problem:** find interchange permutations  $\mathbf{\Pi}_1, \mathbf{\Pi}_2, \dots, \mathbf{\Pi}_{n-1}, \mathbf{\Gamma}_1, \mathbf{\Gamma}_2, \dots, \mathbf{\Gamma}_{n-1} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  and Gauss transformations  $\mathbf{M}_1, \mathbf{M}_2, \dots, \mathbf{M}_{n-1} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  such that

$$\mathbf{M}_{n-1}\mathbf{\Pi}_{n-1} \cdots \mathbf{M}_2\mathbf{\Pi}_2\mathbf{M}_1\mathbf{\Pi}_1\mathbf{A}\mathbf{\Gamma}_1\mathbf{\Gamma}_2 \cdots \mathbf{\Gamma}_{n-1} = \mathbf{U}, \quad \mathbf{U} \text{ being upper triangular,}$$

and no multipliers in  $\mathbf{M}_k$  for  $k = 1, \dots, n-1$  is larger than one in absolute value.

Where is  $\mathbf{P}$ ,  $\mathbf{Q}$ , and  $\mathbf{L}$ ?

- $\mathbf{L}$ ,  $\mathbf{P}$  is defined as the same with LU factorization with partial pivotings
- $\mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{\Gamma}_1\mathbf{\Gamma}_2 \cdots \mathbf{\Gamma}_{n-1}$
- LU decomposition with complete pivoting  $\mathbf{PAQ} = \mathbf{LU}$  (more stable, higher cost)

## Discussion

- besides solving  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$ , LU decomposition (with pivoting) can also be used to
  - compute  $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$ : let  $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{A}^{-1}$ .

$$\mathbf{AB} = \mathbf{I} \iff \mathbf{Ab}_i = \mathbf{e}_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n \text{ (i.e., solve } n \text{ linear systems).}$$

- compute  $\det(\mathbf{A})$ :  $\det(\mathbf{A}) = \det(\mathbf{L})\det(\mathbf{U}) = \prod_{i=1}^n u_{ii}$  (cf. Property 2).
- I have learned solving  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$  by reducing the augmented matrix  $[\mathbf{A} \mid \mathbf{b}]$  to a row echelon form based on Gauss elimination followed by backward substitution in “elementary linear algebra”. Why LU decomposition?
  - reducing the augmented matrix  $[\mathbf{A} \mid \mathbf{b}]$  to a row echelon form:  $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$
  - LU decomposition  $\mathbf{PA} = \mathbf{LU}$ :  $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$
  - what if you have a series of linear systems, i.e.,  $\mathbf{Ax}_i = \mathbf{b}_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, N$ ?

## Properties of LU

Given the LU factorization  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{U}$ ,

- $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = \text{number of pivots (pivots cannot be 0)} = \text{number of nonzero rows of } \mathbf{U}$ 
  - for nonsingular  $\mathbf{A}$ , all  $u_{ii} \neq 0$
- the basis of  $\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{A})$  is the pivot columns of  $\mathbf{A}$
- $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = \text{number of pivot columns of } \mathbf{A} = \text{number of pivot rows of } \mathbf{A}$
- $\text{nullity}(\mathbf{A}) = \text{number of non-pivot columns of } \mathbf{A}$
- $\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{A})$  is a subspace of the  $\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{L})$
- the basis of  $\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{A})$  is the columns of  $\mathbf{L}$  corresponding to the pivot rows of  $\mathbf{U}$

Via the use of Gaussian elimination or LU factorization applied to  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ , one can determine the dimensions of all of the four subspaces associated with  $\mathbf{A}$  and basis vectors for them. We will continue a similar discussion on [SVD Topic](#).

## LDM Decomposition

**LDM decomposition:** given  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , find matrices  $\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{D}, \mathbf{M} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  such that

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{LDM}^T,$$

where

$\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{M}$  is unit lower triangular,

$\mathbf{D} = \text{Diag}(d_1, \dots, d_n)$ .

- a different way of writing the LU decomposition (if it exists)
- For nonsingular  $\mathbf{A}$ , if  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{LU}$  is the LU decomposition, then the same  $\mathbf{L}$ ,

$$\mathbf{D} = \text{Diag}(u_{11}, \dots, u_{nn}), \quad \mathbf{M}^T = \mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{U},$$

form the LDM decomposition.

- $\mathbf{D}$  is the matrix of pivots.  $\mathbf{M}^T$  is a row scaling of  $\mathbf{U}$ .
- Therefore, for nonsingular  $\mathbf{A}$ , the existence of LDM decomposition follows that of LU and hence the LDM decomposition is unique.
- also usually referred to as the LDU decomposition with  $\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{M}^T$

## Solving LDM Decomposition

**Notation:**  $\mathbf{A}_{i:j,k:l}$  denotes a submatrix of  $\mathbf{A}$  obtained by keeping  $i, i+1, \dots, j$  rows and  $k, k+1, \dots, l$  columns of  $\mathbf{A}$ .

**Idea:** examine  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{LDM}^T$  column by column:

$$\mathbf{a}_j = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{e}_j = \mathbf{A}_j = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{v}, \quad (\star)$$

where  $1 \leq j \leq n$ ,

$$\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{DM}^T \mathbf{e}_j.$$

Observations:

1.  $(\star)$  can be expanded as

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}_{1:j,j} \\ \mathbf{A}_{j+1:n,j} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{L}_{1:j,1:j} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{L}_{j+1:n,1:j} & \mathbf{L}_{j+1:n,j+1:n} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v}_{1:j} \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{L}_{1:j,1:j} \mathbf{v}_{1:j} \\ \mathbf{L}_{j+1:n,1:j} \mathbf{v}_{1:j} \end{bmatrix}$$

2.  $v_i = d_i m_{ji}$ , specifically,  $v_j = d_j$  since  $m_{ij} = 1$ ,  $i = j$ ;

3.  $v_i = 0, i = j+1, \dots, n$ ;

(can also analyze  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{LDM}^T$  row by row defining  $\mathbf{e}_i^T \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{M}^T$  and  $\mathbf{u}^T = \mathbf{e}_i^T \mathbf{LD}$ )

## Solving LDM Decomposition

$$\overbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \times & \times & \cdots & \cdots \\ \times & \times & \cdots & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \ddots \end{bmatrix}}^{\mathbf{A}} \mathbf{e}_j = \overbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & \\ \times & 1 & & \\ \vdots & ? & \ddots & \\ \vdots & ? & & \ddots \end{bmatrix}}^{\mathbf{L}} \overbrace{\begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}}^{\mathbf{v}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A}_{1:j,j} &= \mathbf{L}_{1:j,1:j} \mathbf{v}_{1:j} \\ \mathbf{A}_{j+1:n,j} &= \mathbf{L}_{j+1:n,1:j} \mathbf{v}_{1:j} \end{aligned}$$

$$v_i = d_i m_{ji} \quad (v_j = d_j) \quad \overbrace{\begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}}^{\mathbf{v}} = \overbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \times & & \\ & ? & \\ & & \ddots \end{bmatrix}}^{\mathbf{D}} \overbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & ? & \\ & 1 & \\ & & \ddots \end{bmatrix}}^{\mathbf{M}^T} \mathbf{e}_j$$

**Problem:** suppose that  $\mathbf{L}_{1:n,1:j-1}$  (the first  $j-1$  columns of  $\mathbf{L}$ ) is known. Find  $\mathbf{L}_{j+1:n,j}$  (the  $j$ th column of  $\mathbf{L}$ ),  $d_j$ , and  $[\mathbf{M}^T]_{1:j-1,j}$  (the  $j$ th column of  $\mathbf{M}^T$ ).

1.  $\mathbf{L}_{1:j,1:j}$  is known; solve  $\mathbf{A}_{1:j,j} = \mathbf{L}_{1:j,1:j} \mathbf{v}_{1:j}$  for  $\mathbf{v}_{1:j}$  via forward substitution
2. obtain  $\mathbf{L}_{j+1:n,j}$ ,  $d_j$ , and  $[\mathbf{M}^T]_{1:j-1,j}$  (can be solved in parallel)
  - $\mathbf{L}_{j+1:n,j} = (\mathbf{A}_{j+1:n,j} - \mathbf{L}_{j+1:n,1:j-1} \mathbf{v}_{1:j-1}) / v_j$ .
  - $d_j = v_j$ ,
  - $m_{ji} = v_i / d_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, j-1$ .

## An LDM Decomposition Code

```
function [L,D,M]= my_ldm(A)
n= size(A,1);
L= eye(n); d= zeros(n,1); M= eye(n);
v= zeros(n,1);
for j=1:n,
    % solve  $\mathbf{A}_{1:j,j} = \mathbf{L}_{1:j,1:j}\mathbf{v}_{1:j}$  by forward substitution
    v(1:j)= for_subs(L(1:j,1:j),A(1:j,j));
    d(j)= v(j);
    for i=1:j-1,
        M(j,i)= v(i)/d(i);
    end;
    L(j+1:n,j)= (A(j+1:n,j)-L(j+1:n,1:j-1)*v(1:j-1))/v(j);
end;
D= diag(d);
```

- complexity:  $\mathcal{O}(2n^3/3)$  (same as the previous LU code)
- the LDM is not normally used in practice for solving general linear systems
- however, LDM decomposition is much more interesting when  $\mathbf{A}$  is symmetric

# Direct Methods for Special Linear Systems



## LDL Decomposition for Symmetric Matrices

If  $\mathbf{A}$  is symmetric, then the LDM decomposition may be reduced to

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{L}^T.$$

**Theorem 5.** If  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{M}^T$  is the LDM decomposition of a nonsingular symmetric  $\mathbf{A}$ , then  $\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{M}$ .

### Solving LDL:

- recall that in the previous LDM decomposition, the key is to find the unknown

$$\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{D}\mathbf{M}^T \mathbf{e}_j$$

by solving  $\mathbf{A}_{1:j,j} = \mathbf{L}_{1:j,1:j} \mathbf{v}_{1:j}$  via forward substitution.

- Finding  $\mathbf{v}$  is much easier and there is no need to run forward substitution.
  - (exploit the symmetry property) since  $\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{L}$ ,

$$v_i = d_i \ell_{ji}.$$

All the elements, except for  $v_j$ , are known.

$$- a_{jj} = \mathbf{L}_{j,1:j} \mathbf{v}_{1:j} = \mathbf{L}_{j,1:j-1} \mathbf{v}_{1:j-1} + v_j = \mathbf{L}_{j,1:j-1} \mathbf{D}_{1:j-1,1:j-1} \mathbf{L}_{j,1:j-1}^T + v_j$$

## An LDL Decomposition Code

```
function [L,D]= my_ldl(A)
n= size(A,1);
L= eye(n); d= zeros(n,1); M= eye(n);
v= zeros(n,1);
for j=1:n,
    v(1:j)= for_subs(L(1:j,1:j),A(1:j,j));
    v(1:j-1)= L(j,1:j-1)' .* d(1:j-1); % replace for_subs.
    v(j)= A(j,j)- L(j,1:j-1)*v(1:j-1); % replace for_subs.
    d(j)= v(j);
    for i=1:j-1,
        M(j,i)= v(i)/d(i);
    end;
    L(j+1:n,j)= (A(j+1:n,j)-L(j+1:n,1:j-1)*v(1:j-1))/v(j);
end;
D= diag(d);
```

- complexity:  $\mathcal{O}(n^3/3)$ , half of LU or LDM
- LDL is used to solve symmetric linear systems

# Cholesky Factorization for PD Matrices

- a matrix  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{S}^n$  is said to be **positive semidefinite (PSD)** if

$$\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} \geq 0, \quad \text{for all } \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n;$$

and **positive definite (PD)** if

$$\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} > 0, \quad \text{for all } \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \text{ with } \mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}$$

**Cholesky factorization:** given a PD  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{S}^n$ , factorize  $\mathbf{A}$  as

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{G} \mathbf{G}^T,$$

where  $\mathbf{G} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is lower triangular with positive diagonal elements and is called the Cholesky factor of  $\mathbf{A}$ .

- the factorization is also written as  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{R}^T \mathbf{R}$  with upper triangular  $\mathbf{R} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$
- we only discuss symmetric PD matrices here

## Cholesky Factorization for PD Matrices

**Theorem 6.** If  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{S}^n$  is PD, then there exists a unique lower triangular  $\mathbf{G} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  with positive diagonal elements such that  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{G}\mathbf{G}^T$ .

- idea: if  $\mathbf{A}$  is symmetric and PD, then its LDL decomposition

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{L}^T$$

has  $d_i > 0$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, n$  (as an exercise, verify this). Putting  $\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{D}^{\frac{1}{2}}$  where  $\mathbf{D}^{\frac{1}{2}} = \text{Diag}(d_1^{\frac{1}{2}}, \dots, d_n^{\frac{1}{2}})$  yields the Cholesky factorization.

### Solving Cholesky factorization:

- (exploit the symmetry) the key is to find the unknown

$$\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{e}_j \quad \text{or} \quad v_i = g_{ji}.$$

All the elements, except for  $v_j$ , are known.

- (exploit the positive-definiteness property)

$$\begin{aligned} a_{jj} &= \mathbf{G}_{j,1:j} \mathbf{v}_{1:j} = \mathbf{G}_{j,1:j-1} \mathbf{v}_{1:j-1} + g_{jj} v_j = \mathbf{G}_{j,1:j-1} \mathbf{G}_{j,1:j-1}^T + g_{jj}^2 \\ &= \mathbf{v}_{1:j-1}^T \mathbf{v}_{1:j-1} + (v_j)^2 \end{aligned}$$

## A Cholesky Factorization Code

```
function [G]= my_Cholesky(A)
n= size(A,1);
G= zeros(n,n);
v= zeros(n,1);
for j=1:n,
    v(1:j-1)= G(j,1:j-1);
    v(j)= sqrt(A(j,j)- v(1:j-1)'*v(1:j-1));
    G(j,j)= v(j);
    G(j+1:n,j)= (A(j+1:n,j)-G(j+1:n,1:j-1)*v(1:j-1))/v(j);
end;
```

- computing procedure is similar to LDL
- can be computed in  $\mathcal{O}(n^3/3)$ , no pivoting required, numerically very stable
- Cholesky decomposition is used to solve PD linear systems

# Pivoted Cholesky Factorization

**Pivoted Cholesky factorization:** given a PSD  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{S}^n$ , factorize  $\mathbf{A}$  as

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{G}\mathbf{G}^T\mathbf{P}^T,$$

where  $\mathbf{P}$  is a permutation matrix, and

$$\mathbf{G} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{G}_1 \\ \mathbf{G}_2 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times r}$$

with leading submatrix  $\mathbf{G}_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times r}$  being lower triangular with positive diagonal.

- $r_{ii}$  can be chosen to satisfy  $r_{11} \geq r_{22} \geq \cdots \geq r_{rr} > 0$
- $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{G}) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{G}_1) = r$

# LU Decomposition for Band Matrices

For a banded matrix  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ ,

- lower bandwidth  $p$  if  $a_{ij} = 0$  whenever  $i > j + p$
- upper bandwidth  $q$  if  $a_{ij} = 0$  whenever  $j > i + q$

**Theorem 7.** Suppose  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  has an LU factorization  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{U}$ . If  $\mathbf{A}$  has lower bandwidth  $p$  and upper bandwidth  $q$ , then  $\mathbf{L}$  has lower bandwidth  $p$  and  $\mathbf{U}$  has upper bandwidth  $q$ .

**Proof:** cf. Theorem 4.3.1 in [\[Golub-van-Loan'13\]](#) for details

- $\mathbf{L}$  inherits the lower bandwidth of  $\mathbf{A}$
- $\mathbf{U}$  inherits the upper bandwidth of  $\mathbf{A}$

Banded LU factorization with partial pivoting: the upper bandwidth of  $\mathbf{U}$  is  $p + q$   
cf. Theorem 4.3.2 in [\[Golub-van-Loan'13\]](#) for details