

# NUR lecture 3

In this lecture:

Matrix inverse

Gauss-Jordan elimination

Gaussian elimination with back-substitution

LU decomposition & Crout's algorithm

Solving systems of equations

Iterative improvements

Least squares in matrix form

Singular value decomposition

# Numerical Recipes for Astrophysics A

## Lecture 3

# **Questions about last week?**

# Solving linear equations

NR Ch 2

# Solving linear equations

- Equation to matrix form  $N$  Variables  $x_j$ ,  $M$  constraining  $b_i$

$$\rightarrow a_{i0}x_0 + a_{i1}x_1 + \dots + a_{i(N-1)}x_{N-1} = b_i, \quad i=0,1,2,\dots,M-1$$

$$A \underline{x} = \underline{b} : \begin{bmatrix} a_{00} & a_{01} & \cdots & \\ a_{10} & a_{11} & \cdots & \\ \vdots & \ddots & & \\ a_{(M-1)0} & \cdots & a_{(M-1)(N-1)} & \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_{N-1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_0 \\ b_1 \\ \vdots \\ b_{M-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

If  $N$  out of  $M$  eqs. are indep.  $\rightarrow$  formal solution  $\rightarrow \underline{x} = \underline{A}^{-1}\underline{b}$

# of indep. eqs  $< N$ : no solution/not unique

# of indep. eqs  $> N$ : no solution

$\nearrow A$  is singular  $\Leftrightarrow \underline{A}^{-1}$  does not exist

- Libraries: BLAS, LAPACK

# Basic methods

- Compute and use the inverse?

Avoid (expensive, a lot of operations  $\rightarrow$  large error)

- Gauss-Jordan elimination

$$(A | b | I) \xrightarrow{\text{identity matrix}} (I | x | A^{-1})$$

Row operations: (1) addition/subtraction of rows ; (2) scale rows ;

(3) row swaps

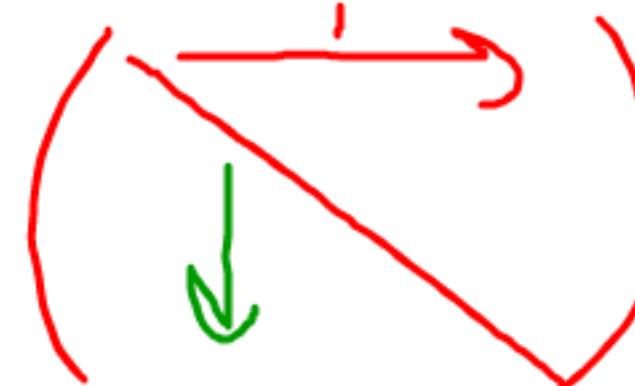
$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|cc} 0 & 2 & 6 & 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 & 4 & 7 & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & 5 & 6 & 0 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\text{(1)} \leftrightarrow \text{(2)}} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|cc} 0 & 1 & 3 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -11 & -11 & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & 5 & 6 & 0 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\text{(2)} \times (-1/11)} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|cc} 0 & 1 & 3 & 1 & 1/11 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & 5 & 6 & 0 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\text{(3) } R_1 \leftrightarrow R_3} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|cc} 1 & 3 & 5 & 6 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 1 & 1/11 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\text{(2)} \times (-3) + R_1} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|cc} 1 & 0 & 2 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 1 & 1/11 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\text{(1)} \times (-2) + R_1} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|cc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 1 & 1/11 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\text{(1)} \times (-3) + R_2} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|cc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -2 & 1/11 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\text{(2)} \times (-1) + R_2} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|cc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 10/11 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\text{---}}$$

Pivoting: getting particular elements on the diagonal

(first non-zero on a row for example)

# Gauss-Jordan algorithm

1. Take two matrix objects (define your own class: 2D array with a certain number of rows and columns) as input, one for  $\mathbf{A}$  and one for  $\mathbf{b}$  (and optionally, an identity matrix  $\mathbf{I}$ ).
2. Loop over the columns of  $\mathbf{A}$  – say the index is  $i$ .
3. Loop over the rows (starting on row  $i$ ) to find/choose the pivot element for that column (column  $i$ ). If there is none, the matrix is singular.
4. Shuffle rows to put the row with the pivot in the right row (which will be row  $i$ ) and scale the pivot row so the pivot element is 1. Don't forget to apply the same operations to  $\mathbf{b}$ .
5. Use the pivot row to reduce all other rows with non-zero elements in column  $i$ . Again, don't forget  $\mathbf{b}$ .



Afterwards,  $\mathbf{A}$  will hold the identity matrix and  $\mathbf{b}$  will hold the solution  $\mathbf{x}$ .

# Basic methods

- Gaussian elimination with back-substitution

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{00} & a_{01} & a_{02} & a_{03} \\ a_{10} & a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{20} & a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{30} & a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_0 \\ b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} a'_{00} & a'_{01} & a'_{02} & a'_{03} \\ 0 & a'_{11} & a'_{12} & a'_{13} \\ 0 & 0 & a'_{22} & a'_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a'_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b'_0 \\ b'_1 \\ b'_2 \\ b'_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Like GJ, but: pivots not scaled to 1, and only reduce to 0 if below the diagonal

$$0 \cdot x_0 + 0 \cdot x_1 + 0 \cdot x_2 + a'_{33} x_3 = b'_3 \Rightarrow x_3 = \frac{b'_3}{a'_{33}}$$

$$a'_{22} x_2 + a'_{23} x_3 = b'_2 \Rightarrow x_2 = \frac{1}{a'_{22}} \left( b'_2 - a'_{23} \frac{b'_3}{a'_{33}} \right)$$

# Basic methods

- Gaussian elimination with back-substitution

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{00} & a_{01} & a_{02} & a_{03} \\ a_{10} & a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{20} & a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{30} & a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_0 \\ b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} a'_{00} & a'_{01} & a'_{02} & a'_{03} \\ 0 & a'_{11} & a'_{12} & a'_{13} \\ 0 & 0 & a'_{22} & a'_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a'_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b'_0 \\ b'_1 \\ b'_2 \\ b'_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Doesn't yield  $A^{-1}$ , but  $\sim 3\times$  faster than GJ  
(and fewer operations)

$$x_i = \frac{1}{a'_{ii}} \left[ b'_i - \sum_{j=i+1}^{N-1} a'_{ij} x_j \right]$$

$i = N-1, N-2, \dots, 0$

# LU decomposition: what and why

$$\begin{bmatrix} \alpha_{00} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \alpha_{10} & \alpha_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ \alpha_{20} & \alpha_{21} & \alpha_{22} & 0 \\ \alpha_{30} & \alpha_{31} & \alpha_{32} & \alpha_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \beta_{00} & \beta_{01} & \beta_{02} & \beta_{03} \\ 0 & \beta_{11} & \beta_{12} & \beta_{13} \\ 0 & 0 & \beta_{22} & \beta_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \beta_{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{00} & a_{01} & a_{02} & a_{03} \\ a_{10} & a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{20} & a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{30} & a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

Lower tri.  
Upper tri.  
 $A$

$N^2$  eqs. in  $N^2 + N$  unknowns  $\alpha$  &  $\beta \Rightarrow$  choose  $\alpha_{ii} = 1$

Always possible for  $A$  square and non-singular

$A\underline{x} = \underline{b} \Rightarrow L U \underline{x} = \underline{b} \Rightarrow L(\overbrace{U \underline{x}}^{= \underline{y}}) = \underline{b} \Rightarrow$  solve  $L\underline{y} = \underline{b}$ , then

$$U \underline{x} = \underline{y}$$

# LU decomposition: what and why

$$\begin{bmatrix} \alpha_{00} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \alpha_{10} & \alpha_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ \alpha_{20} & \alpha_{21} & \alpha_{22} & 0 \\ \alpha_{30} & \alpha_{31} & \alpha_{32} & \alpha_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \beta_{00} & \beta_{01} & \beta_{02} & \beta_{03} \\ 0 & \beta_{11} & \beta_{12} & \beta_{13} \\ 0 & 0 & \beta_{22} & \beta_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \beta_{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{00} & a_{01} & a_{02} & a_{03} \\ a_{10} & a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{20} & a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{30} & a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

forward  
substitution  $\Rightarrow y (= Ux)$

backward  
substitution  $\rightarrow x$

$$\boxed{\begin{aligned} y_0 &= \frac{b_0}{\alpha_{00}} & x_{N-1} &= \frac{y_{N-1}}{\beta_{(N-1)(N-1)}} \\ y_i &= \frac{1}{\alpha_{ii}} \left[ b_i - \sum_{j=0}^{i-1} \alpha_{ij} y_j \right] & x_i &= \frac{1}{\beta_{ii}} \left[ y_i - \sum_{j=i+1}^{N-1} \beta_{ij} x_j \right] \end{aligned}}$$

# Crout's algorithm

1. Set  $\alpha_{ii} = 1$  for every  $i$ .
2. Loop over the columns  $j$ :
3. For each  $j$ ,  $\beta_{0j} = a_{0j}$ ; all  $\beta_{ij}$  (where  $i \leq j$ ) can be expressed in previously calculated values:

$$\beta_{ij} = a_{ij} - \sum_{k=0}^{i-1} \alpha_{ik} \beta_{kj}$$

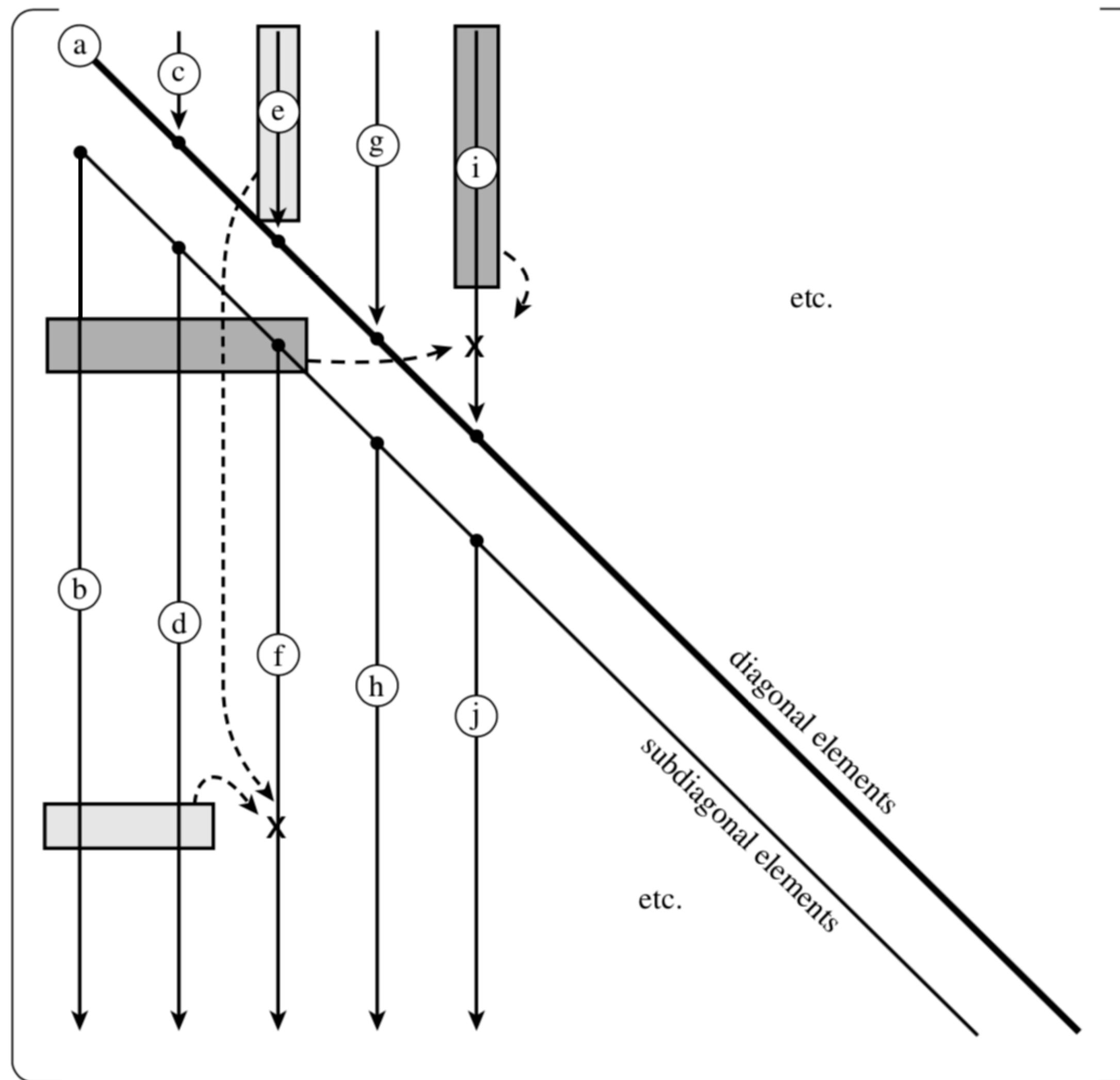
*already known!*

4. In the same loop, all  $\alpha_{ij}$  (where  $i > j$ ) can also be expressed in previously calculated values:

$$\alpha_{ij} = \frac{1}{\beta_{jj}} \left( a_{ij} - \sum_{k=0}^{j-1} \alpha_{ik} \beta_{kj} \right)$$

5. Finish the loop over  $j$ .

# Crout's algorithm



$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{00} & a_{01} & a_{02} & a_{03} \\ a_{10} & a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{20} & a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{30} & a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

Overwrite! ↓

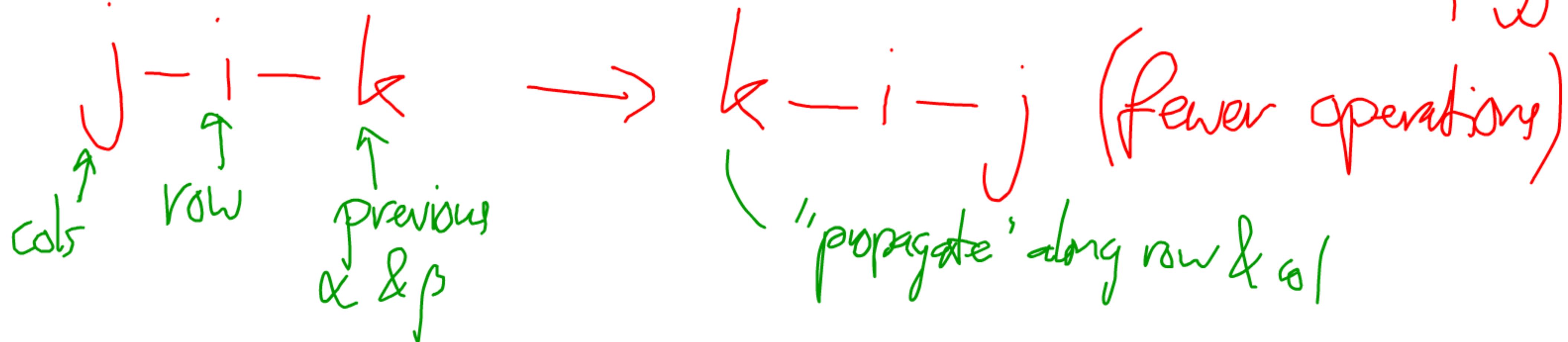
Combined

"U" matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} \beta_{00} & \beta_{01} & \beta_{02} & \beta_{03} \\ \alpha_{10} & \beta_{11} & \beta_{12} & \beta_{13} \\ \alpha_{20} & \alpha_{21} & \beta_{22} & \beta_{23} \\ \alpha_{30} & \alpha_{31} & \alpha_{32} & \beta_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

# Improving Crout's algorithm

- Pivoting  $\frac{1}{\beta_{jj}}$ : I'd like  $\beta_{jj}$  to be large (more stable!)  
hold off on division by  $\beta_{jj} \Rightarrow \alpha$ 's &  $\beta$ 's interchangeable  
 $\Rightarrow$  calculate pivot candidate in column  $j$ , then decide on pivot  $\beta_{jj}$
- Changing the loop order



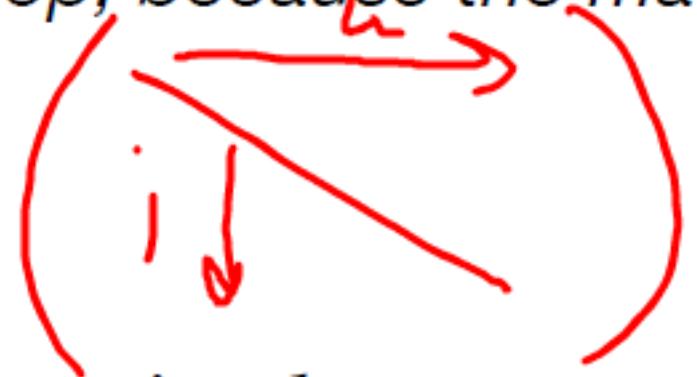
Assumes:  $LU = A$   
at the start

## Improving Crout's algorithm

"implicit pivoting"

0. Optional: find the largest (absolute!) coefficient on every row and store its inverse (make sure to keep track of row swaps for this variable, too). If it's zero on any row, stop, because the matrix is singular.

1. Loop over  $k$ :



index of row with  
Chosen pivot

2. Using  $k$  as the column index, loop over rows  $i \geq k$  to find the row with the largest (absolute!) pivot candidate,  $i_{\max}$  (if you did 0., compare the pivot candidates multiplied by the inverse max of that row).

$\Rightarrow$  not diag. elem.

3. If  $i_{\max} \neq k$ , then pivot (i.e. swap rows) by looping over all columns  $j$  and swapping elements  $LU_{i_{\max}j}$  with elements  $LU_{kj}$ .

4. In your indexing array, keep track of what  $i_{\max}$  was for each  $k$  (we need this later).

index  $[k] = i_{\max}$

5. Now loop over  $i > k$  and apply:  $LU_{ik} = LU_{ik}/LU_{kk}$

$$= \frac{1}{\beta_{jj}}$$

6. Inside that loop, loop over  $j > k$  and apply:  $LU_{ij} = LU_{ij} - \underbrace{LU_{ik}}_{\alpha} \underbrace{LU_{kj}}_{\beta}$

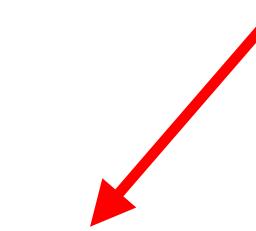
7. Finish the loop over  $i$ .

8. Finish the loop over  $k$ .

# Solving a system

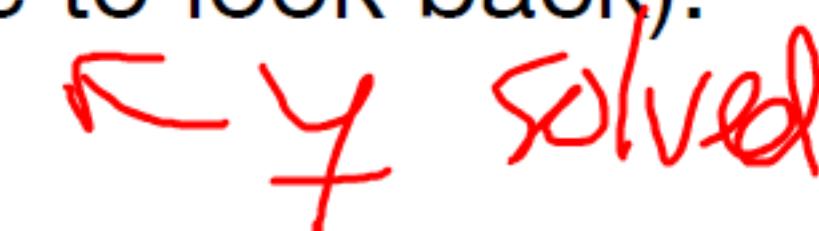
1. Set  $x_i = b_i$  for all  $i$ .
2. Loop over row  $i$  in  $\mathbf{b}$ , from 0 through  $N - 1$ :  

Swap  $x[i]$  and  $x[\text{indx}[i]]$  \*before\* applying  
the forward substitution to  $x[i]$

3. Apply the forward substitution from before (slide 11), but don't forget that rows may have been swapped! So use the indexing array you made with the LU decomposition to swap the  $b_i$  ( $= x_i$ ), and keep in mind that  $i_{\max} \geq i$  (we never have to look back).  

Use  $x[\text{indx}[i]]$  instead of  $x[i]$


4. Finish the loop over  $i$ , then start a new (backwards) loop over  $i$  from  $N - 1$  through 0:
5. Apply the back-substitution from before (slide 11). You already swapped the  $x_i$  in the previous loop, so there's no need to swap them again.  

6. Finish the (second) loop over  $i$ .

# Further improvements

GJ:  $\sim N^3$  operations, LU<sub>decamp.</sub>:  $\frac{1}{3}N^3$ , but solving for (new) b:  $\mathcal{O}(N^2)$

(1)  $Ax = b \rightarrow AX = B$  (matrices of column vectors)

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  inverse of A by  $B = I$  ( $AA^{-1} = I$ )

(3)  $\text{Det}(A) = |A| = \prod_{j=0}^{N-1} \beta_{jj}$

If I did d row swaps:  $|A| = (-1)^d \prod_{j=0}^{N-1} \beta_{jj}$   
keep track of d, or parity:  $1 \rightarrow -1 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow -1 \rightarrow \dots$

# Iterative improvements

unknown  
errors

$$A\underline{x} = \underline{b}, \text{ found imperfect } \underline{x}' \approx \underline{x}; \quad \underline{x}' = \underline{x} + \underline{\delta x}$$

$$A\underline{x}' = A(\underline{x} + \underline{\delta x}) = \underline{b} + \underline{\delta b}$$

uses same  $A \Rightarrow$  same  $\underline{\delta b}$ !

$$\Rightarrow A\underline{\delta x} = \underline{\delta b} = \underline{x}' - \underline{b} \Rightarrow \text{solve for } \underline{\delta x}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{improved solution } \underline{x}'' = \underline{x}' - \underline{\delta x}$$

(iterate!)

# Singular value decomposition

- Least-squares problems :  $A$  is singular (no exact, unique solution)  
 $\Rightarrow \hat{x}$  such that  $\|b - A\hat{x}\|^2$  is minimized

Solution:  $\hat{x} = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T b$

- Three-matrix decomposition

$A = U W V^T$ :  $U$  orthogonal  $M \times N$  matrix,  $W$  non-neg. diagonal m. ( $N \times N$ )

$V$  orthogonal  $N \times N$ .

$$W = \begin{pmatrix} w_0 & & \\ & w_1 & \phi \\ \phi & \ddots & \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow W^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1/w_0 & & \\ & 1/w_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\hat{x} = V W^{-1} U^T b$$

$A$  singular  $\Leftrightarrow 1$  or more  $w_i = 0$

$\Rightarrow$  set  $\frac{1}{w_i} = 0$  if  $w_i = 0$

$A^T A$ : Gram matrix

$(A^T A)^{-1}$ : pseudo-inverse

# Singular value decomposition

e.g. Hilbert matrix

- Singularities and ill-conditioned matrices

Condition :  $\text{cond}(A) = \frac{\max(w_i)}{\min(w_i)}$

$w_i = 0$ : singular

$w_i \approx 0$ : ill-conditioned  
(= "close to singular")

- Range, nullspace and their relevance

collection of  $A\underline{x}$  for all  $\underline{x}$  (dim: rank)

if singular:  $\text{rank} < \min(M, N)$ , nullspace: all  $\underline{x}$  such that  $A\underline{x} = \underline{0}$

If I have solution to  $A\underline{x} = \underline{b}$ , and I know a  $\underline{x}'$  in nullspace:

$$A(\underline{x} + \underline{x}') = \underline{b} + \underline{0}$$

The columns of  $U$  at non-zero  $w_i$  span the range of  $A$ , while the columns of  $V$  at  $w_i=0$  span the nullspace of  $A$ !  
This is why setting  $1/w_i=0$  works for finding the LSQ solution: zero nullspace contribution, so "closest" solution.

# Special systems

If matrix is "special" (known form/pattern  
of sparseness / tridiagonal)  
then exploit this to simplify  
(e.g. Special decomposition)

## Bonus: Other decompositions

$$M = N \rightarrow (A = A^T) \quad \forall \underline{v} \cdot (A\underline{v}) > 0 \text{ for all } \underline{v}$$

- Cholesky : only for square, symmetric, positive-definite  $A$   
→ "special" LU decomp with  $U=L^T \Rightarrow L L^T = A$   
(eqs. simplify greatly) ⇒ exactly fails if  $A$  is not pos.-def. (if it  
is square & sym.) ⇒ use this to test for pos. def. ness
- QR

→  $A = QR$ ,  $R$  is upper triangular (like  $U$ ),  $Q$  is orthogonal  
(so  $Q^T Q = I$ )

⇒ unlike  $(U, f)$  works for non-square  $A$

**Next week:  
Integrating functions**