

**STAT 309: MATHEMATICAL COMPUTATIONS I**  
**FALL 2023**  
**LECTURE 12**

1. ORTHOGONALIZATION USING GIVENS ROTATIONS

- we illustrate the process in the case where  $A$  is a  $2 \times 2$  matrix
- in Gaussian elimination, we compute  $L^{-1}A = U$  where  $L^{-1}$  is unit lower triangular and  $U$  is upper triangular, specifically,

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ m_{21} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11}^{(2)} & a_{12}^{(2)} \\ 0 & a_{22}^{(2)} \end{bmatrix}, \quad m_{21} = -\frac{a_{21}}{a_{11}}$$

- by contrast, the QR decomposition takes the form

$$\begin{bmatrix} \gamma & \sigma \\ -\sigma & \gamma \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} \\ 0 & r_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $\gamma^2 + \sigma^2 = 1$

- from the relationship  $-\sigma a_{11} + \gamma a_{21} = 0$  we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma a_{21} &= \sigma a_{11} \\ \gamma^2 a_{21}^2 &= \sigma^2 a_{11}^2 = (1 - \gamma^2) a_{11}^2 \end{aligned}$$

which yields

$$\gamma = \pm \frac{a_{11}}{\sqrt{a_{21}^2 + a_{11}^2}}$$

- it is conventional to choose the + sign
- then, we obtain

$$\sigma^2 = 1 - \gamma^2 = 1 - \frac{a_{11}^2}{a_{21}^2 + a_{11}^2} = \frac{a_{21}^2}{a_{21}^2 + a_{11}^2},$$

or

$$\sigma = \pm \frac{a_{21}}{\sqrt{a_{21}^2 + a_{11}^2}}$$

- again, we choose the + sign
- as a result, we have

$$r_{11} = a_{11} \frac{a_{11}}{\sqrt{a_{21}^2 + a_{11}^2}} + a_{21} \frac{a_{21}}{\sqrt{a_{21}^2 + a_{11}^2}} = \sqrt{a_{21}^2 + a_{11}^2}$$

- the matrix

$$Q^T = \begin{bmatrix} \gamma & \sigma \\ -\sigma & \gamma \end{bmatrix}$$

is called a rotation in the plane  $\mathbb{R}^2$

- it is called a rotation because it is orthogonal, and therefore length-preserving, and also because there is an angle  $\theta$  such that  $\sin \theta = \sigma$  and  $\cos \theta = \gamma$ , and its effect is to rotate a vector through the angle  $\theta$

- in particular,

$$\begin{bmatrix} \gamma & \sigma \\ -\sigma & \gamma \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \rho \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $\rho = \sqrt{\alpha^2 + \beta^2}$ ,  $\alpha = \rho \cos \theta$  and  $\beta = \rho \sin \theta$

- the representation  $\alpha = \rho \cos \theta$ ,  $\beta = \rho \sin \theta$  is a purely theoretical device

anyone who stores  $\theta$  instead of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  fails this class instantly

- it is easy to verify that the product of two rotations is itself a rotation
- now, in the case where  $A$  is an  $n \times n$  matrix, suppose that we are given the vector

$$\begin{bmatrix} \times \\ \vdots \\ \times \\ \alpha \\ \times \\ \vdots \\ \times \\ \beta \\ \times \\ \vdots \\ \times \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^n,$$

then

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & & & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & & & & & \\ & & 1 & & & & & & \\ & & & \gamma & & & \sigma & & \\ & & & & 1 & & & & \\ & & & & & \ddots & & & \\ & & & & & & 1 & & \\ & & & & & & & -\sigma & \\ & & & & & & & & \gamma & \\ & & & & & & & & & 1 & \\ & & & & & & & & & & \ddots \\ & & & & & & & & & & & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \times \\ \vdots \\ \times \\ \alpha \\ \times \\ \vdots \\ \times \\ \beta \\ \times \\ \vdots \\ \times \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \times \\ \vdots \\ \times \\ \rho \\ \times \\ \vdots \\ \times \\ 0 \\ \times \\ \vdots \\ \times \end{bmatrix}$$

- so, in order to transform  $A$  into an upper triangular matrix  $R$ , we can find a product of rotations  $Q$  such that  $Q^T A = R$
- it is easy to see that  $O(n^2)$  rotations are required



- eventually, we get

$$Q \begin{bmatrix} R & S \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \Pi_1 \cdots \Pi_r = A$$

where  $R$  is upper triangular

- suppose

$$A = Q \begin{bmatrix} R & S \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \Pi$$

where  $R$  is upper triangular, then

$$A^\top = \Pi^\top \begin{bmatrix} R^\top & 0 \\ S^\top & 0 \end{bmatrix} Q^\top$$

where  $R^\top$  is lower triangular

- we apply Householder reflections so that

$$H_k \cdots H_2 H_1 \begin{bmatrix} R^\top & 0 \\ S^\top & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} U & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- then

$$A^\top = Z^\top \begin{bmatrix} U & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} Q^\top$$

where  $Z = H_k \cdots H_1 \Pi$

#### 4. EXISTENCE OF LU FACTORIZATION

- we next look at  $LU$  factorization and some of its variants: condensed  $LU$ ,  $LDU$ ,  $LDL^\top$ , and Cholesky factorizations
- the solution method for a linear system  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  depends on the structure of  $A$ :  $A$  may be a sparse or dense matrix, or it may have one of many well-known structures, such as being a banded matrix, or a Hankel matrix
- for the general case of a dense, unstructured matrix  $A$ , the most common method is to obtain a decomposition  $A = LU$ , where  $L$  is lower triangular and  $U$  is upper triangular
- this decomposition is called the  $LU$  factorization or  $LU$  decomposition
- we deduce its existence via a constructive proof, namely, *Gaussian elimination*
- the motivation for this is something you learnt in middle school, i.e., solving  $Ax = b$  by eliminating variables

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} a_{11}x_1 & + & \cdots & + & a_{1n}x_n & = & b_1 \\ a_{21}x_1 & + & \cdots & + & a_{2n}x_n & = & b_2 \\ \vdots & & & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1}x_1 & + & \cdots & + & a_{nn}x_n & = & b_n \end{array}$$

- we proceed by multiplying the first equation by  $-a_{21}/a_{11}$  and adding it to the second equation, and in general multiplying the first equation by  $-a_{i1}/a_{11}$  and adding it to equation  $i$  and this leaves you with the equivalent system

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} a_{11}x_1 & + & a_{12}x_2 & + & \cdots & + & a_{1n}x_n & = & b_1 \\ 0x_1 & + & a'_{22}x_2 & + & \cdots & + & a'_{2n}x_n & = & b'_2 \\ \vdots & & & & & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0x_1 & + & a'_{n2}x_2 & + & \cdots & + & a'_{nn}x_n & = & b'_n \end{array}$$

- continuing in this fashion, adding multiples of the second equation to each subsequent equation to make all elements below the diagonal equal to zero, you obtain an upper triangular system and may then solve for all  $x_n, x_{n-1}, \dots, x_1$  by back substitution

- getting the  $LU$  factorization  $A = LU$  is very similar, the main difference is that you want not just the final upper triangular matrix (which is your  $U$ ) but also to keep track of all the elimination steps (which is your  $L$ )

## 5. GAUSSIAN ELIMINATION REVISITED

- we are going to look at Gaussian elimination in a slightly different light from what you learnt in your undergraduate linear algebra class
- we think of Gaussian elimination as the process of transforming  $A$  to an upper triangular matrix  $U$  is equivalent to multiplying  $A$  by a sequence of matrices to obtain  $U$
- but instead of elementary matrices, we consider again a rank-1 change to  $I$ , i.e., a matrix of the form

$$I - \mathbf{u}\mathbf{v}^\top$$

where  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$

- in Householder  $QR$ , we used Householder reflection matrices of the form

$$H = I - 2\mathbf{u}\mathbf{u}^\top$$

- in Gaussian elimination, we use so-called *Gauss transformation* or *elimination matrices* of the form

$$M = I - \mathbf{m}\mathbf{e}_i^\top$$

where  $\mathbf{e}_i = [0, \dots, 1, \dots, 0]^\top$  is the  $i$ th standard basis vector

- the same trick that led us to the appropriate  $\mathbf{u}$  in Householder matrix can be applied to find the appropriate  $\mathbf{m}$  too: suppose we want  $M_1 = I - \mathbf{m}_1\mathbf{e}_1^\top$  to ‘zero out’ all the entries beneath the first in a vector  $\mathbf{a}$ , i.e.,

$$M_1 \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ \vdots \\ a_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \gamma \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

i.e.,

$$(I - \mathbf{m}_1\mathbf{e}_1^\top)\mathbf{a} = \gamma\mathbf{e}_1$$

$$\mathbf{a} - (\mathbf{e}_1^\top\mathbf{a})\mathbf{m}_1 = \gamma\mathbf{e}_1$$

$$a_1\mathbf{m}_1 = \mathbf{a} - \gamma\mathbf{e}_1$$

and if  $a_1 \neq 0$ , then we may set

$$\gamma = a_1, \quad \mathbf{m}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ a_2/a_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_n/a_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- so we get

$$M_1 = I - \mathbf{m}_1\mathbf{e}_1^\top = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & 0 \\ -a_2/a_1 & 1 & & \\ \vdots & 0 & \ddots & \\ -a_n/a_1 & & & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

and, as required,

$$M_1 \mathbf{a} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & 0 \\ -a_2/a_1 & 1 & & \\ \vdots & & 0 & \ddots \\ -a_n/a_1 & & & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ \vdots \\ a_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = a_1 \mathbf{e}_1$$

- applying this to zero out the entries beneath  $a_{11}$  in the first column of a matrix  $A$ , we get  $M_1 A = A_2$  where

$$A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ 0 & a_{22}^{(2)} & \cdots & a_{2n}^{(2)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & a_{n2}^{(2)} & \cdots & a_{nn}^{(2)} \end{bmatrix}$$

where the superscript in parenthesis denote that the entries have changed

- we will write

$$M_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & 0 \\ -\ell_{21} & 1 & & \\ \vdots & & 0 & \ddots \\ -\ell_{n1} & & & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \ell_{i1} = \frac{a_{i1}}{a_{11}}$$

for  $i = 2, \dots, n$

- if we do this recursively, defining  $M_2$  by

$$M_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & & \\ 0 & 1 & & & \\ 0 & -\ell_{32} & 1 & & \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \ddots & \\ 0 & -\ell_{n2} & & & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \ell_{i2} = \frac{a_{i2}^{(2)}}{a_{22}^{(2)}}$$

for  $i = 3, \dots, n$ , then

$$M_2 A_2 = A_3 = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ 0 & a_{22}^{(2)} & a_{23}^{(2)} & \cdots & a_{2n}^{(2)} \\ 0 & 0 & a_{33}^{(3)} & \cdots & a_{3n}^{(3)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & a_{n3}^{(3)} & \cdots & a_{nn}^{(3)} \end{bmatrix}$$

- in general, we have

$$M_k = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & & \\ 0 & \ddots & & & \\ \vdots & \ddots & 1 & & \\ \vdots & & -\ell_{k+1,k} & 1 & \\ \vdots & & \vdots & & \ddots \\ 0 & & -\ell_{nk} & & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \ell_{ik} = \frac{a_{ik}^{(k)}}{a_{kk}^{(k)}}$$

for  $i = k + 1, \dots, n$ , and

$$M_{n-1}M_{n-2}\cdots M_1A = A_n \equiv \begin{bmatrix} u_{11} & \cdots & & u_{1n} \\ 0 & u_{22} & \cdots & u_{2n} \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & u_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

or, equivalently,

$$A = M_1^{-1}M_2^{-1}\cdots M_{n-1}^{-1}U$$

- it turns out that  $M_j^{-1}$  is very easy to compute, we claim that

$$M_1^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & 0 \\ \ell_{21} & 1 & & \\ \vdots & 0 & \ddots & \\ \ell_{n1} & & & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (5.1)$$

- to see this, consider the product

$$M_1M_1^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & 0 \\ -\ell_{21} & 1 & & \\ \vdots & 0 & \ddots & \\ -\ell_{n1} & & & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & 0 \\ \ell_{21} & 1 & & \\ \vdots & 0 & \ddots & \\ \ell_{n1} & & & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

which can easily be verified to be equal to the identity matrix

- in general, we have

$$M_k^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & & & \\ 0 & \ddots & & & & \\ \vdots & \ddots & & 1 & & \\ \vdots & & \ell_{k+1,k} & 1 & & \\ \vdots & & \vdots & & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \ell_{nk} & & & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (5.2)$$

- now, consider the product

$$\begin{aligned} M_1^{-1}M_2^{-1} &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & & \\ \ell_{21} & 1 & & & \\ \ell_{31} & 0 & 1 & & \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \ddots & \\ \ell_{n1} & 0 & & & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & & \\ 0 & 1 & & & \\ 0 & \ell_{32} & 1 & & \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \ddots & \\ 0 & \ell_{n2} & & & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & & \\ \ell_{21} & 1 & & & \\ \ell_{31} & \ell_{32} & 1 & & \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \ddots & \\ \ell_{n1} & \ell_{n2} & & & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

- so inductively we get

$$M_1^{-1}M_2^{-1}\cdots M_{n-1}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & & \\ \ell_{21} & \ddots & & & \\ \vdots & \ell_{32} & \ddots & & \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ \ell_{n1} & \ell_{n2} & \cdots & \ell_{n,n-1} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- it follows that under proper circumstances, we can write  $A = LU$  where

$$L = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \ell_{21} & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \ell_{31} & \ell_{32} & \ddots & & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & 0 \\ \ell_{n1} & \ell_{n2} & \cdots & \ell_{n,n-1} & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad U = \begin{bmatrix} u_{11} & u_{12} & \cdots & \cdots & u_{1n} \\ 0 & u_{22} & \cdots & \cdots & u_{2n} \\ 0 & 0 & \ddots & & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & u_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

- what exactly are proper circumstances?
- we will discuss them in the next section and also introduce *pivoting* to ensure that they are always satisfied

## 6. NEED FOR PIVOTING

- we must have  $a_{kk}^{(k)} \neq 0$ , or we cannot proceed with the decomposition
- for example, if

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 11 \\ 3 & 7 & 2 \\ 2 & 9 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{or} \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 4 \\ 2 & 6 & 4 \\ 7 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Gaussian elimination will fail; note that both matrices are nonsingular

- in the first case, it fails immediately; in the second case, it fails after the subdiagonal entries in the first column are zeroed, and we find that  $a_{22}^{(k)} = 0$
- in general, we must have  $\det A_{ii} \neq 0$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$  where

$$A_{ii} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1i} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{i1} & \cdots & a_{ii} \end{bmatrix}$$

for the  $LU$  factorization to exist

- the existence of  $LU$  factorization (without pivoting) can be guaranteed by several conditions, one example is *column<sup>1</sup> diagonal dominance*: if a nonsingular  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  satisfies

$$|a_{jj}| \geq \sum_{\substack{i=1 \\ i \neq j}}^n |a_{ij}|, \quad j = 1, \dots, n,$$

then one can guarantee that Gaussian elimination as described above produces  $A = LU$  with  $|\ell_{ij}| \leq 1$

- there are necessary and sufficient conditions guaranteeing the existence of  $LU$  decomposition but those are difficult to check in practice and we do not state them here
- how can we obtain the  $LU$  factorization for a general nonsingular matrix?
- if  $A$  is nonsingular, then *some* element of the first column must be nonzero
- if  $a_{i1} \neq 0$ , then we can interchange row  $i$  with row 1 and proceed

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<sup>1</sup>the usual type of diagonal dominance, i.e.,  $|a_{ii}| \geq \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^n |a_{ij}|$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , is called row diagonal dominance



- this is equivalent to multiplying  $A$  by a permutation matrix  $\Pi_1$  that interchanges row 1 and row  $i$ :

$$\Pi_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \cdots & \cdots & 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ & 1 & & & & & & \\ & & \ddots & & & & & \\ & & & 1 & & & & \\ 1 & 0 & \cdots & \cdots & 0 & \cdots & \cdots & 0 \\ & & & & & 1 & & \\ & & & & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & & & & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- thus  $M_1\Pi_1A = A_2$  (refer to earlier lecture notes for more information about permutation matrices)
- then, since  $A_2$  is nonsingular, some element of column 2 of  $A_2$  below the diagonal must be nonzero
- proceeding as before, we compute  $M_2\Pi_2A_2 = A_3$ , where  $\Pi_2$  is another permutation matrix
- continuing, we obtain

$$A = (M_{n-1}\Pi_{n-1} \cdots M_1\Pi_1)^{-1}U$$

- it can easily be shown that  $\Pi A = LU$  where  $\Pi$  is a permutation matrix — easy but a bit of a pain because notation is cumbersome
- so we will be informal but you'll get the idea
- for example if after two steps we get (recall that permutation matrices or orthogonal matrices),

$$\begin{aligned} A &= (M_2\Pi_2M_1\Pi_1)^{-1}A_2 \\ &= \Pi_1^T M_1^{-1} \Pi_2^T M_2^{-1} A_2 \\ &= \Pi_1^T \Pi_2^T (\Pi_2 M_1^{-1} \Pi_2^T) M_2^{-1} A_2 \\ &= \Pi^T L_1 L_2 A_2 \end{aligned}$$

then

- $\Pi = \Pi_2\Pi_1$  is a permutation matrix
- $L_2 = M_2^{-1}$  is a unit lower triangular matrix
- $L_1 = \Pi_2 M_1^{-1} \Pi_2^T$  will always be a unit lower triangular matrix because  $M_1^{-1}$  is of the form in

$$M_1^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & \\ \ell & I & \\ & & \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & 0 \\ \ell_{21} & 1 & \\ \vdots & 0 & \ddots \\ \ell_{n1} & & & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (6.1)$$

whereas  $\Pi_2$  must be of the form

$$\Pi_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \\ & \hat{\Pi}_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

for some  $(n-1) \times (n-1)$  permutation matrix  $\hat{\Pi}_2$  and so

$$\Pi_2 M_1^{-1} \Pi_2^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \hat{\Pi}_2 \ell & I \end{bmatrix}$$

in other words  $\Pi_2 M_1^{-1} \Pi_2^T$  also has the form in (6.1)

- if we do one more steps we get

$$\begin{aligned}
A &= (M_3 \Pi_3 M_2 \Pi_2 M_1 \Pi_1)^{-1} A_3 \\
&= \Pi_1^\top M_1^{-1} \Pi_2^\top M_2^{-1} \Pi_3^\top M_3^{-1} A_3 \\
&= \Pi_1^\top \Pi_2^\top \Pi_3^\top (\Pi_3 \Pi_2 M_1^{-1} \Pi_2^\top \Pi_3^\top) (\Pi_3 M_2^{-1} \Pi_3^\top) M_3^{-1} A_3 \\
&= \Pi^\top L_1 L_2 L_3 A_3
\end{aligned}$$

where

- $\Pi = \Pi_3 \Pi_2 \Pi_1$  is a permutation matrix
- $L_3 = M_3^{-1}$  is a unit lower triangular matrix
- $L_2 = \Pi_3 M_2^{-1} \Pi_3^\top$  will always be a unit lower triangular matrix because  $M_2^{-1}$  is of the form

$$M_2^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & \\ & 1 & & \\ & \ell & I & \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & \\ 0 & 1 & & \\ 0 & -\ell_{32} & 1 & \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \ddots \\ 0 & -\ell_{n2} & & & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (6.2)$$

whereas  $\Pi_3$  must be of the form

$$\Pi_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & \\ & 1 & \\ & & \hat{\Pi}_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

for some  $(n-2) \times (n-2)$  permutation matrix  $\hat{\Pi}_3$  and so

$$\Pi_3 M_2^{-1} \Pi_3^\top = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & \\ & 1 & 0 \\ & \hat{\Pi}_3 \ell & I \end{bmatrix}$$

in other words  $\Pi_3 M_2^{-1} \Pi_3^\top$  also has the form in (6.2)

- $L_1 = \Pi_3 \Pi_2 M_1^{-1} \Pi_2^\top \Pi_3^\top$  will always be a unit lower triangular matrix for the same reason above because  $\Pi_3 \Pi_2$  must have the form

$$\Pi_3 \Pi_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & \\ & 1 & \\ & & \hat{\Pi}_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \\ & \hat{\Pi}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \\ & \Pi_{32} \end{bmatrix}$$

for some  $(n-1) \times (n-1)$  permutation matrix

$$\Pi_{32} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \\ & \hat{\Pi}_3 \end{bmatrix} \hat{\Pi}_2$$

- more generally if we keep doing this, then

$$A = \Pi^\top L_1 L_2 \cdots L_{n-1} A_{n-1}$$

where

- $\Pi = \Pi_{n-1} \Pi_{n-2} \cdots \Pi_1$  is a permutation matrix
- $L_{n-1} = M_{n-1}^{-1}$  is a unit lower triangular matrix
- $L_k = \Pi_{n-1} \cdots \Pi_{k+1} M_k^{-1} \Pi_{k+1}^\top \cdots \Pi_{n-1}^\top$  is a unit lower triangular matrix for all  $k = 1, \dots, n-2$
- $A_{n-1} = U$  is an upper triangular matrix
- $L = L_1 L_2 \cdots L_{n-1}$  is a unit lower triangular matrix
- this algorithm with the row permutations is called *Gaussian elimination with partial pivoting* or GEPP for short; we will say more in the next section