

# Gaussian Elimination

12<sup>TH</sup> WEEK

# Gaussian Elimination

- The basic idea is to **reduce the linear equations** until only **a single unknown** is left, because such equations are trivial to solve
- Such reduction is achieved by **manipulating the equations**
- These manipulations are called **elementary row operations**

# Elementary Row Operations

01

Reordering the equations by interchanging both sides of the  $i_{th}$  and  $j_{th}$  equation in the system

02

Multiplying both sides of an equation by a scalar

03

Adding an equation to a second equation, and the result substituted for the original equation

# Gaussian Elimination

- Gaussian Elimination consists of 2 steps:
  - ❑ Forward elimination
  - ❑ Backward substitution

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & | & b_1 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & | & b_2 \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & | & b_3 \end{bmatrix}$$



$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & | & b_1 \\ & a'_{22} & a'_{23} & | & b'_2 \\ & & a''_{33} & | & b''_3 \end{bmatrix}$$



$$\begin{aligned} x_3 &= b''_3 / a''_{33} \\ x_2 &= (b'_2 - a'_{23}x_3) / a'_{22} \\ x_1 &= (b_1 - a_{12}x_2 - a_{13}x_3) / a_{11} \end{aligned}$$

Forward  
elimination

Back  
substitution

## Example

$$2x + 4y - 2z = 2$$

$$4x + 9y - 3z = 8$$

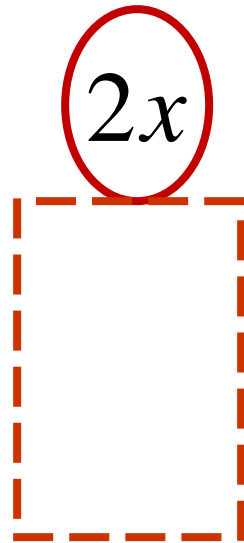
$$-2x - 3y + 7z = 10$$

## Example

$$\begin{array}{rclcl} 2x & + & 4y & - & 2z & = & 2 \\ 4x & + & 9y & - & 3z & = & 8 \\ -2x & - & 3y & + & 7z & = & 10 \end{array}$$

- Using the first equation to eliminate  $x$  from the next two equations

# Example


$$\begin{array}{rclcl} 2x & + & 4y & - & 2z & = & 2 \\ & & y & + & z & = & 4 \\ & & y & + & 5z & = & 12 \end{array}$$



## Example

$$2x + 4y - 2z = 2$$

$$y + z = 4$$

$$y + 5z = 12$$

- Using the second equation to eliminate  $y$  from the third equation

# Example

$$2x + 4y - 2z = 2$$

$$y + z = 4$$

$$4z = 8$$

# Example

- We now have a triangular system which is easily solved using a technique called ***Backward-Substitution***.

$$2x + 4y - 2z = 2$$

$$y + z = 4$$

$$4z = 8$$

# Example

- If  $A$  is upper triangular, we can solve  $Ax = b$  by:

$$x_n = b_n / A_{nn}$$

$$x_i = \left( b_i - \sum_{j=i+1}^n A_{ij} x_j \right) / A_{ii}, \quad i = n-1, \dots, 1$$

# Example

- From the previous work, we have

$$\begin{array}{rclcl} 2x & + & 4y & - & 2z & = & 2 \\ & & y & + & z & = & 4 \\ & & & & z & = & 2 \end{array}$$

- And substitute  $z$  in the first two equations

# Example

$$2x + 4y - 4 = 2$$

$$y + 2 = 4$$

$$z = 2$$

- We can solve  $y$

# Example

$$2x + 4y - 4 = 2$$

$$y = 2$$

$$z = 2$$

- Substitute  $y$  to the first equation

# Example

$$2x + 8 - 4 = 2$$

$$y = 2$$

$$z = 2$$

- We can solve the first equation



# Example

$$x = -1$$

$$y = 2$$

$$z = 2$$

# Gaussian Elimination with Augmented Matrix

$$x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 6$$

$$2x_1 + 5x_2 + 10x_3 = 17$$

$$x_1 + 3x_2 + 10x_3 = 18$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 6 \\ 2 & 5 & 10 & 17 \\ 1 & 3 & 10 & 17 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Gaussian Elimination with Augmented Matrix

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 2 & 3 & 6 \\ 2 & 5 & 10 & 17 \\ 1 & 3 & 10 & 17 \end{array} \right]$$

$$B_2 = B_2 - 2B_1$$

$$B_3 = B_3 - B_1$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 2 & 3 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 7 & 11 \end{array} \right]$$

# Gaussian Elimination with Augmented Matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 7 & 11 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$B_3 = B_3 - B_2$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Gaussian Elimination with Augmented Matrix

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 2 & 3 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 6 \end{array} \right]$$

$$3x_3 = 6,$$
$$x_3 = 2$$

$$x_2 + 4x_3 = 5$$

$$x_2 + 4(2) = 5$$

$$x_2 = -3$$

$$x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 6$$

$$x_1 + 2(-3) + 3(2) = 6$$

$$x_1 = 6$$