

# LECTURE 4:

## LINEAR ALGEBRA

- We wish to solve for a linear system of equations.  
For now assume equal number of equations as variables  $N$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} a_{11} & x_1 & + & a_{12} x_2 & + & \cdots & a_{1n} x_n = d_1 \\ a_{21} & x_1 & + & a_{22} x_2 & + & \cdots & a_{2n} x_n = d_2 \\ \vdots & & & \vdots & & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & x_1 & + & a_{n2} x_2 & + & \cdots & a_{nn} x_n = d_n \end{array} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} d_1 \\ d_2 \\ \vdots \\ d_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$Ax = b$ : formal solution is  $x = A^{-1}b$ ;  $A$  is  $N \times N$  matrix.  
Matrix inversion is very slow.

# Gaussian Elimination

- $Ax = b$
- Multiply any row of  $A$  by any constant, and do the same on  $b$
- Take linear combination of two rows, adding or subtracting them, and the same on  $b$
- We can keep performing these operations until we set all elements of first column to 0 except 1<sup>st</sup> one, which can be set to 1
- Then we can repeat the same to set to 0 all elements of 2<sup>nd</sup> column, except first 2...
- We end up with an upper diagonal matrix with 1 on the diagonal

# Gaussian Elimination

- $Ax = b$
- Multiply any row of  $A$  by any constant, and do the same on  $b$
- Take linear combination of two rows, adding or subtracting them, and the same on  $b$
- We can keep performing these operations until we set all elements of first column to 0 except 1<sup>st</sup> one, which can be set to 1
- Then we can repeat the same to set to 0 all elements of 2<sup>nd</sup> column, except first 2...
- We end up with an upper diagonal matrix with 1 on the diagonal

# Gaussian Elimination

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 4 & 1 \\ 3 & 4 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & -4 & -1 & 5 \\ 2 & -2 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} w \\ x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 3 \\ 9 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0.5 & 2 & 0.5 \\ 3 & 4 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & -4 & -1 & 5 \\ 2 & -2 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} w \\ x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 3 \\ 9 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}$$

↓

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0.5 & 2 & 0.5 \\ 0 & 2.5 & -7 & -2.5 \\ 0 & -4.5 & 1 & 4.5 \\ 0 & -3 & -3 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} w \\ x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 9 \\ 11 \\ 11 \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0.5 & 2 & 0.5 \\ 0 & 2.5 & -7 & -2.5 \\ 1 & -4 & -1 & 5 \\ 2 & -2 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} w \\ x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 9 \\ 9 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}$$

↓

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0.5 & 2 & 0.5 \\ 0 & 1 & -2.8 & -1 \\ 0 & -4.5 & 1 & 4.5 \\ 0 & -3 & -3 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} w \\ x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 3.6 \\ 11 \\ 11 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0.5 & 2 & 0.5 \\ 0 & 1 & -2.8 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} w \\ x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 3.6 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Backsubstitution

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0.5 & 2 & 0.5 \\ 0 & 1 & -2.8 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} w \\ x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 3.6 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$1 \cdot z = 1 \rightarrow z = 1$$

$$1 \cdot y + 0 \cdot z = -2 \rightarrow y = -2$$

$$1 \cdot x + -2.8 \cdot y - 1 \cdot z = 3.6 \rightarrow x = -1$$

$$1 \cdot w + 0.5 \cdot x + 2 \cdot y + 0.5 \cdot z = -2 \rightarrow w = 2$$

**Back** just means we start at the bottom and move up

# Pivoting

- What if the first element is 0?
- Swap the rows (**partial pivoting**) or rows and columns (**full pivoting**)!
- In practice simply pick the largest element (keep in mind this changes det sign)

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 4 & 1 \\ 3 & 4 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & -4 & 1 & 5 \\ 2 & -2 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} w \\ x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 3 \\ 9 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 4 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 & 1 \\ 1 & -4 & 1 & 5 \\ 2 & -2 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} w \\ x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -4 \\ 9 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}$$

# LU Decomposition

- We want to solve  $Ax = b$  varying  $b$ , so we'd like to have a decomposition of  $A$  that is done once and then can be applied to several  $b$
- Suppose we can write  $A = LU$ , where  $L$  is lower diagonal and  $U$  is upper diagonal:  $L(Ux) = b$
- Then we can first solve for  $y$  in  $Ly = b$  using forward substitution, followed by  $Ux = y$  using backward substitution
- Operation count  $N^3$ .

Revisit Gauss Elimination: Make  $A$  an upper triangular matrix.

- $L_0 A = A'$

$$\underbrace{\frac{1}{a_{00}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -a_{10} & a_{00} & 0 & 0 \\ -a_{20} & 0 & a_{00} & 0 \\ -a_{30} & 0 & 0 & a_{00} \end{pmatrix}}_{L_0 \text{ lower triangular}} \begin{pmatrix} a_{00} & a_{01} & a_{02} & a_{03} \\ a_{10} & a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{20} & a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{30} & a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & b_{01} & b_{02} & b_{03} \\ 0 & b_{11} & b_{12} & b_{13} \\ 0 & b_{21} & b_{22} & b_{23} \\ 0 & b_{31} & b_{32} & b_{33} \end{pmatrix}$$

- $L_1 A' = A''$

$$\underbrace{\frac{1}{b_{11}} \begin{pmatrix} b_{11} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -b_{21} & b_{11} & 0 \\ 0 & -b_{31} & 0 & b_{11} \end{pmatrix}}_{L_1 \text{ lower triangular}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & b_{01} & b_{02} & b_{03} \\ 0 & b_{11} & b_{12} & b_{13} \\ 0 & b_{21} & b_{22} & b_{23} \\ 0 & b_{31} & b_{32} & b_{33} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & c_{01} & c_{02} & c_{03} \\ 0 & 1 & c_{12} & c_{13} \\ 0 & 0 & c_{22} & c_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & c_{32} & c_{33} \end{pmatrix}$$

Get  $L_2, L_3$  similarly



$$L_3 L_2 L_1 L_0 A x = L_3 L_2 L_1 L_0 b$$

Lower triangular      Upper triangular

Define  $L \equiv L_0^{-1} L_1^{-1} L_2^{-1} L_3^{-1}$ ,  $U \equiv L_3 L_2 L_1 L_0 A$   
 $\rightarrow LU = A$

- $L_3 L_2 L_1 L_0 A$  ( $=U$ ) is upper diagonal. It gives: 
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & \# & \# & \# \\ 0 & 1 & \# & \# \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \# \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$
- $L$  is lower diagonal because:

$$L_0 = \frac{1}{a_{00}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -a_{10} & a_{00} & 0 & 0 \\ -a_{20} & 0 & a_{00} & 0 \\ -a_{30} & 0 & 0 & a_{00} \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow L_0^{-1} = \frac{1}{a_{00}} \begin{pmatrix} a_{00} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ a_{10} & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ a_{20} & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ a_{30} & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\boxed{L_3 L_2 L_1 L_0} A x = L_3 L_2 L_1 L_0 b$$

Lower triangular
Upper triangular

Define  $L \equiv L_0^{-1} L_1^{-1} L_2^{-1} L_3^{-1}$ ,  $U \equiv L_3 L_2 L_1 L_0 A$   
 $\rightarrow LU = A$

- $L_3 L_2 L_1 L_0 A$  ( $=U$ ) is upper diagonal. It gives:  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & \# & \# & \# \\ 0 & 1 & \# & \# \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \# \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$
- $L$  is lower diagonal because:

$$L = L_0^{-1} L_1^{-1} L_2^{-1} L_3^{-1} = \frac{1}{a_{00}} \begin{pmatrix} a_{00} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ a_{10} & b_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ a_{20} & b_{21} & c_{22} & 0 \\ a_{30} & b_{31} & c_{32} & d_{33} \end{pmatrix}$$

We have  $N(N+1)/2$  components for  $L$  and  $N(N-1)/2$  for  $U$  because  $U_{ii}=1$ .  
 So in total  $N^2$  as in  $A$

## What if the matrix $A$ is symmetric and positive definite?

- $A_{12}=A_{21}$  hence we can set  $U=L^T$ , so the LU decomposition is  $A=LL^T$
- Symmetric matrix has  $N(N+1)/2$  elements, same as  $L$
- This is the fastest way to solve such a matrix and is called **Cholesky decomposition** (still  $N^3$ )
- Pivoting is needed for LU, while Cholesky is stable even without pivoting
- Use **`numpy.linalg import solve`**
- $L$  can be viewed as a square root of  $A$ , but this is not unique

# Inverse and Determinant

- $AX = I$  and solve with LU (use **inv** in **linalg**)
- $\det A = L_{00}L_{11}L_{22}\dots$  (note that  $U_{ii} = 1$ ) times number of row permutations
- Better to compute  $\ln \det A = \ln L_{00} + \ln L_{11} + \dots$

# Tridiagonal and Banded Matrices

- Solved with Gaussian substitution:  $O(N)$  instead of  $N^3$  in CPU,  $N$  instead of  $N^2$  in storage

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{00} & a_{01} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ a_{10} & a_{11} & a_{12} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{32} & a_{33} & a_{34} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{43} & a_{44} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{Tridiagonal}$$

E.g.

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 4 & -5 & 0 \\ 0 & -4 & 3 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0.5 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 4 & -5 & 0 \\ 0 & -4 & 3 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0.5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2.5 & -5 & 0 \\ 0 & -4 & 3 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

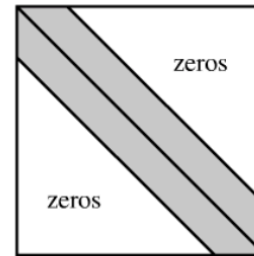
↓

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0.5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0.5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0.5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -5 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

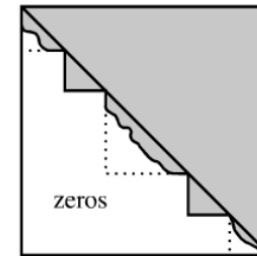
Same approach can be used for banded matrices

# General sparse matrices

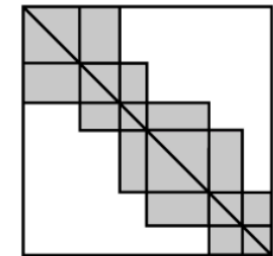
- Allow solutions to scale faster than  $N^3$
- General advice: be aware that such matrices can have much faster solutions
- General advice: be aware that such matrices can have much faster solutions



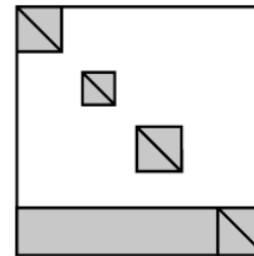
(a)



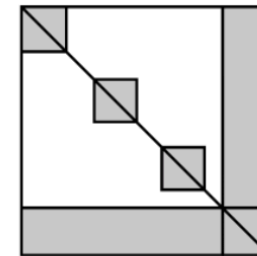
(b)



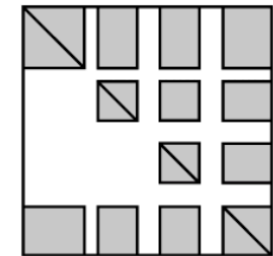
(c)



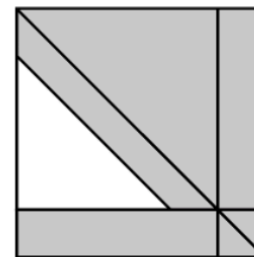
(d)



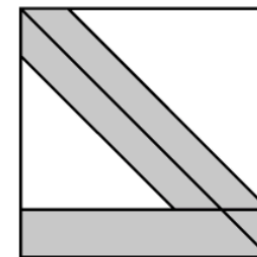
(e)



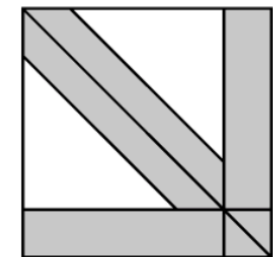
(f)



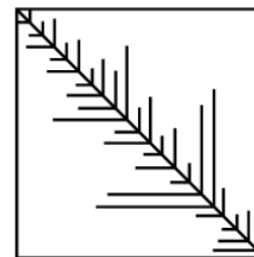
(g)



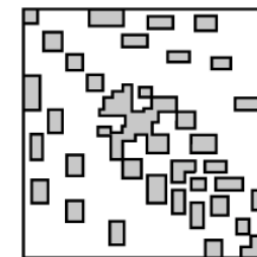
(h)



(i)



(j)



(k)

*Credit: NR, Press et al, chapter 2.7*

# Sherman-Morrison Formulac

- If we have a matrix  $A$  we can solve (e.g. tridiagonal etc) and we can add rank 1 component then we can get  $A^{-1}$  in  $3N^2$ :

$$\mathbf{A} \rightarrow (\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{u} \otimes \mathbf{v})$$

$$\begin{aligned}(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{u} \otimes \mathbf{v})^{-1} &= (\mathbf{1} + \mathbf{A}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{u} \otimes \mathbf{v})^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{A}^{-1} \\&= (\mathbf{1} - \mathbf{A}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{u} \otimes \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{A}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{u} \otimes \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{A}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{u} \otimes \mathbf{v} - \dots) \cdot \mathbf{A}^{-1} \\&= \mathbf{A}^{-1} - \mathbf{A}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{u} \otimes \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{A}^{-1} (1 - \lambda + \lambda^2 - \dots) \\&= \mathbf{A}^{-1} - \frac{(\mathbf{A}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{u}) \otimes (\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{A}^{-1})}{1 + \lambda}\end{aligned}\tag{2.7.2}$$

where

$$\lambda \equiv \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{A}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{u}\tag{2.7.3}$$

$$\mathbf{z} \equiv \mathbf{A}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{u} \quad \mathbf{w} \equiv (\mathbf{A}^{-1})^T \cdot \mathbf{v} \quad \lambda = \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{z}\tag{2.7.4}$$

to get the desired change in the inverse

$$\mathbf{A}^{-1} \rightarrow \mathbf{A}^{-1} - \frac{\mathbf{z} \otimes \mathbf{w}}{1 + \lambda}\tag{2.7.5}$$

# Example: cyclic tridiagonal systems

- This happens for finite difference differential equations with periodic boundary conditions

$$\begin{bmatrix} b_0 & c_0 & 0 & \cdots & & & \beta \\ a_1 & b_1 & c_1 & \cdots & & & \\ & & & \cdots & & & \\ & & & \cdots & a_{N-2} & b_{N-2} & c_{N-2} \\ \alpha & & & \cdots & 0 & a_{N-1} & b_{N-1} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ x_1 \\ \cdots \\ x_{N-2} \\ x_{N-1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} r_0 \\ r_1 \\ \cdots \\ r_{N-2} \\ r_{N-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} \gamma \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ \alpha \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ \beta/\gamma \end{bmatrix} \quad b'_0 = b_0 - \gamma, \quad b'_{N-1} = b_{N-1} - \alpha\beta/\gamma$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} b_0 & c_0 & 0 & \cdots & & & \\ a_1 & b_1 & c_1 & \cdots & & & \\ & & & \cdots & & & \\ & & & \cdots & a_{N-2} & b_{N-2} & c_{N-2} \\ & & & \cdots & 0 & a_{N-1} & b_{N-1} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} u_0 \\ u_1 \\ \cdots \\ u_{N-2} \\ u_{N-1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} r_0 \\ r_1 \\ \cdots \\ r_{N-2} \\ r_{N-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

$\mathbf{A} \rightarrow (\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{u} \otimes \mathbf{v})$  where  $A$  is tridiagonal



## Generalization: Woodbury formula

- Successive application of Sherman-Morrison to rank  $P$ , with  $P \ll N$

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{U} \cdot \mathbf{V}^T)^{-1} \\ = \mathbf{A}^{-1} - \left[ \mathbf{A}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{U} \cdot (\mathbf{1} + \mathbf{V}^T \cdot \mathbf{A}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{U})^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{V}^T \cdot \mathbf{A}^{-1} \right] \end{aligned}$$

- $U$  and  $V$  are now  $N \times P$  matrices
- Proof same as for Sherman-Morrison

# Inversion by Partitioning

- Sometimes we can decompose the matrix into block sub-matrices  $P$  (dimension  $p \times p$ ),  $S$  ( $s \times s$ ) and  $Q$  and  $R$  ( $p \times s$  and  $s \times p$ )

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{P} & \mathbf{Q} \\ \mathbf{R} & \mathbf{S} \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{A}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{P}} & \tilde{\mathbf{Q}} \\ \tilde{\mathbf{R}} & \tilde{\mathbf{S}} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{P}} = (\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{S}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{R})^{-1}$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{Q}} = -(\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{S}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{R})^{-1} \cdot (\mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{S}^{-1})$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{R}} = -(\mathbf{S}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{R}) \cdot (\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{S}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{R})^{-1}$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{S}} = \mathbf{S}^{-1} + (\mathbf{S}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{R}) \cdot (\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{S}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{R})^{-1} \cdot (\mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{S}^{-1})$$

$$\det \mathbf{A} = \det \mathbf{P} \det(\mathbf{S} - \mathbf{R} \cdot \mathbf{P}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{Q}) = \det \mathbf{S} \det(\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{S}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{R})$$

# Vandermode and Toeplitz Matrices

- Can be solved with  $N^2$

- Vandermonde

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_0 & x_0^2 & \cdots & x_0^{N-1} \\ 1 & x_1 & x_1^2 & \cdots & x_1^{N-1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 1 & x_{N-1} & x_{N-1}^2 & \cdots & x_{N-1}^{N-1} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} c_0 \\ c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_{N-1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_0 \\ y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_{N-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

- Toeplitz

$$\begin{bmatrix} R_0 & R_{-1} & R_{-2} & \cdots & R_{-(N-2)} & R_{-(N-1)} \\ R_1 & R_0 & R_{-1} & \cdots & R_{-(N-3)} & R_{-(N-2)} \\ R_2 & R_1 & R_0 & \cdots & R_{-(N-4)} & R_{-(N-3)} \\ \cdots & & & & & \\ R_{N-2} & R_{N-3} & R_{N-4} & \cdots & R_0 & R_{-1} \\ R_{N-1} & R_{N-2} & R_{N-3} & \cdots & R_1 & R_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Summary

- Linear algebra allows us to solve linear systems of equations, compute inverse and determinant of a matrix...
- $N^3$  scaling is very steep: we cannot do it above  $N = 10^4$ - $10^5$
- For larger dimensions iterative methods are needed: these will be discussed when we discuss optimization

# Literature

- *Numerical Recipes*, Press et al., Chapter 2, 11
- *Computational Physics*, M. Newman, Chapter 6