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Getting Started:

First, we started a git repo and created directories with file structures that could be useful in our project. We may not end up using all those files, but this structure will be helpful in enforcing modularity into our program.

```
Parallel Equation Solver
                                  # Source files
    src/
       — main.c
       - main.c
- lu_serial.c  # Serial LU Decomposition implements
- lu_serial.h  # Header for serial LU Decomposition
- lu_parallel.c  # Parallel LU Decomposition implementation using Pthreads
- lu_parallel.h  # Header for parallel LU Decomposition
- ilities c  # Utility functions for matrix operations and timing
                                 # Main program entry point
    include/
                                 # Header files
       — matrix.h
                                # Definitions and functions for matrix operations
       — timing.h
                                  # Timing and performance measurement utilities
                                  # Documentation files
    docs/
                                 # Setup instructions
       setup.md

    usage.md # Usage instructions
    development.md # Notes on development decisions and project structure

    tests/
                                 # Test files
     benchmarks/
                                 # Benchmark scripts and results
        - benchmark_script.sh # Script to run benchmarks
       - results.md # Benchmark results and analysis
                                  # Makefile for building the project
    Makefile
    README.md
                                  # Project overview and general instructions
```

Before we start any actual coding, we made sure to review how the actual LU Decomposition works, and just see how in general a set of linear equations is transferred into a matrix that's to be decomposed and solved using LU Decomposition.

Step-by-step walk through of the algorithm.

(Making sense of the program we're making): Those examples will be used to code our initial algorithm and verify its working as expected.

Example (1)

Step1: System of Linear Equations

Let's start with the following system of equations:

$$2x_1 + 3x_2 - x_3 = 5$$
$$4x_1 + x_2 + 2x_3 = 6$$
$$-2x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 8$$

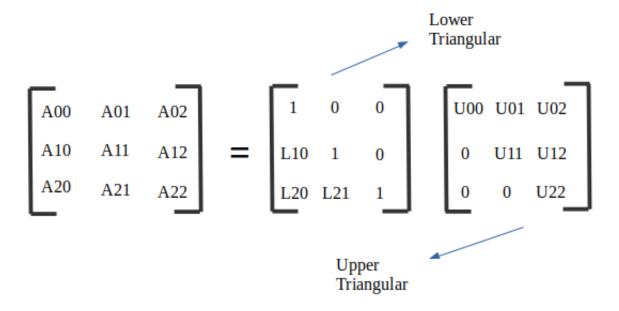
Step2: Transforming into Matrix Form:

This system can be represented in matrix form as Ax=b, where:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 & -1 \\ 4 & 1 & 2 \\ -2 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad x = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad b = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 6 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$$

Step3: LU Decomposition

Next, we decompose A into L and U, where L is a lower triangular matrix and U is an upper triangular matrix.



In our example:

(Step by step derivations of the LU matrices in the appendix)

$$L = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad U = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & -5 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

Step4: Solving Ly = b for y

Given L and b, we solve for y (which is an intermediate vector, not the final solution). Using <u>forward substitution</u>.

Ly = b,
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 6 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$$

 $y_1 = 5$ (from the first row of L and b)

$$2y_1 + y_2 = 6$$
, $2 \times 5 + y_2 = 6$, $y_2 = -4$
 $-y_1 - y_2 + y_3 = 8$, $-5 - (-4) + y_3 = 8$, $y_3 = 9$

So
$$\therefore y = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -4 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix},$$

Step5: Solving Ux = y for x

Now, with U and y, we can solve for x using backward substitution.

$$Ux = y, \qquad \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & -5 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -4 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$6x_3 = 9$$
, $\therefore x_3 = \frac{3}{2}$, (from the last row of U and y)
 $-5x_2 + 4x_3 = -4$, $-5x_2 + 4 \times \left(\frac{3}{2}\right) = -4$, $x_2 = 2$
 $2x_1 + 3x_2 - x_3 = 5$, $2x_1 + 3 \times 2 - \frac{3}{2} = 5$, $x_1 = \frac{1}{4}$

$$\therefore x = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{4} \\ 2 \\ \frac{3}{2} \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \therefore x_1 = \frac{1}{4}, \qquad x_2 = 2, \qquad x_3 = \frac{3}{2}$$

Step6: Verifying the answers:

$$2x_1 + 3x_2 - x_3 = 5$$
$$2\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) + 3(2) - \left(\frac{3}{2}\right) = 5, #$$

$$4x_1 + x_2 + 2x_3 = 6$$

$$4\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) + (2) + 2\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) = 6, #$$

$$-2x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 8$$
$$-2\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) + 2(2) + 3\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) = 8,$$
 #

Example (2):

Step1: System of Linear Equations

$$x_1 + x_2 - x_3 = 4$$

 $x_1 - 2x_2 + 3x_3 = -6$
 $2x_1 + 3x_2 + x_3 = 7$

Step2: Transforming into Matrix Form:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -2 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -6 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -2 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad x = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad b = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -6 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}$$

Step3: LU Decomposition

$$L = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & -\frac{1}{3} & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad U = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & -3 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{13}{3} \end{pmatrix}$$

Step4: Solving Ly = b for y

Given L and b, we solve for y (which is an intermediate vector, not the final solution). Using <u>forward substitution.</u>

Ly = b,
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & -\frac{1}{3} & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -6 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}$$

 $y_1 = 4$ (from the first row of L and b)

$$y_1 + y_2 = -6,$$
 $y_2 = -10$
 $2y_1 - \frac{1}{3}y_2 + y_3 = 7,$ $y_3 = -\frac{13}{3}$

So
$$\therefore y = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -10 \\ -\frac{13}{3} \end{pmatrix},$$

Step5: Solving Ux = y for x

Now, with U and y, we can solve for x using backward substitution.

Ux = y,
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & -3 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{13}{3} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -10 \\ -\frac{13}{3} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\frac{13}{3}x_3 = -\frac{13}{3}$$
, $\therefore x_3 = -1$, (from the last row of U and y)
 $-3x_2 + 4x_3 = -10$, $x_2 = 2$
 $x_1 + x_2 - x_3 = 4$, $x_1 = 1$

$$\therefore x = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \therefore x_1 = 1, \qquad x_2 = 2, \qquad x_3 = -1$$

Step6: Verifying the answers:

$$x_{1} + x_{2} - x_{3} = 4$$

$$x_{1} - 2x_{2} + 3x_{3} = -6$$

$$2x_{1} + 3_{x2} + x_{3} = 7$$

$$x_{1} + x_{2} - x_{3} = 4$$

$$(1) + (2) - (-1) = 4, \qquad \#$$

$$x_{1} - 2x_{2} + 3x_{3} = -6$$

$$(1) - 2(2) + 3(-1) = -6, \qquad \#$$

$$2x_{1} + 3_{x2} + x_{3} = 7$$

$$2(1) + 3(2) + (-1) = 7, \qquad \#$$

Coding a simple serial program to do this calculation:

To get started, we will code a simple C code implementing this algorithm, then we'll use those same examples above to verify the correctness of that algorithm. Next, we'll improve the algorithm to work on bigger matrices, and will use pthreads.

Code structure:

The matrix is defined in the main here, as a next step, we'll have It defined in a separate file or function. (The complete code is in <u>appendix 2</u>).

```
> gcc -o bin/simple src/simple.c
> ./bin/simple
Solution:
x[0] = 0.250000
x[1] = 2.000000
x[2] = 1.500000
```

Testing the program:

Version 0.1:

First example:

The first example we tried was this matrix:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 & -1 \\ 4 & 1 & 2 \\ -2 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad x = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad b = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 6 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$$

And the answer was:

$$x = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{4} \\ 2 \\ \frac{3}{2} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.25 \\ 2 \\ 1.5 \end{pmatrix}$$

When we give the program this matrix:

```
int main() {
   double A[N][N] = {{2, 3, -1}, {4, 1, 2}, {-2, 2, 3}};
   double b[N] = {5, 6, 8};
```

We get:

```
> ./bin/simple
Solution:
x[0] = 0.250000
x[1] = 2.000000
x[2] = 1.500000
```

Which is the expected solution.

Second example:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -2 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad x = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad b = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -6 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}$$

And the answer was:

$$x = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix},$$

When we give the program this matrix:

```
double A[N][N] = \{\{1, 1, -1\}, \{1, -2, 3\}, \{2, 3, 1\}\};
double b[N] = \{4, -6, 7\};
```

We get:

```
> gcc -o bin/simple src/simple.c
> ./bin/simple
Solution:
x[0] = 1.000000
x[1] = 2.000000
x[2] = -1.000000
```

Which is the expected solution.

Version 0.2:

We then made the program more structured but adding the matrices in the /matrices directory as text files passed to the program using the command-line terminal as the first argument.

For example:

```
> ./bin/simple matrices/3x3_1.txt

Solution:

x[0] = 0.250000

x[1] = 2.000000

x[2] = 1.500000
```

and

```
> ./bin/simple matrices/3x3_2.txt  
Solution: x[0] = 1.000000 
x[1] = 2.000000 
x[2] = -1.000000
```

Version 0.3:

Now we parameterized the size of the matrix, such that it's passed to the program from the first line in the matrix txt file.

```
// Version: 0.3 : readin the matrix from a file passed as an argument to the program
// : added a function to free the allocated memory
// : the matrix size is parameterized, and passed as the first line in
the matrix file
```

We tested the program on multiple 3x3 and 4x4 matrices which we know the answers to previously as a way to debug the code. The program solved all the matrices correctly.

To get and test much bigger matrices, we wrote a python script <utilities/matrix_generator.py> which takes in an argument of the dimension of nodes, and generates a matrix which gates saved in the <matrices/py_generated> directory with \$matrix_dimension.txt tile.

```
# matrix generator.py
# Author: Mohamed Ghonim
# Created: 02/18/2024
# Last Modified: 02/18/2024
# Function: This script generates a random matrix of a given dimension and saves it to
a file in matrices/py generated
# Usage: python matrix generator.py <dimension>
# version: 0.1
import numpy as np
import sys
import os
def generate_matrix_and_save(dimension):
    # Define the target directory
    target_directory = os.path.join(os.path.dirname(__file__),
"../matrices/py_generated")
    #target directory = "../matrices"
   # Ensure the target directory exists
    os.makedirs(target_directory, exist_ok=True)
    matrix = np.random.randint(-10, 10, size=(dimension, dimension))
    # Generating the final row with random integers between -10 and 10
    final_row = np.random.randint(-10, 10, size=(dimension,))
    matrix_str = f"{dimension}\n" + "\n".join(" ".join(map(str, row)) for row in
matrix) + "\n" + " ".join(map(str, final row))
    file name = os.path.join(target directory, f"{dimension}x{dimension}.txt")
    # Saving to file
    with open(file name, 'w') as file:
        file.write(matrix_str)
```

```
print(f"Matrix saved to {file_name}")

if __name__ == "__main__":
    if len(sys.argv) != 2:
        print("Usage: python script.py <dimension>")
        sys.exit(1)

try:
        dimension = int(sys.argv[1])
        if dimension <= 0:
            raise ValueError
        generate_matrix_and_save(dimension)
    except ValueError:
        print("Please provide a valid positive integer for the matrix dimension.")</pre>
```

To further enhance the code, we are not allowing for the user to specify an output file where the solution will get saved, if no output file is specified, the solution gets printed on the terminal.

```
// main.c
// Author: Mohamed Ghonim
// Created: 02/18/2024
// Last Modified: 02/18/2024
// Functionality: Perform LU decomposition and solve a system of linear equations
using forward and backward substitution.
// Version: 0.3 : readin the matrix from a file passed as an argument to the program
// : added a function to free the allocated memory
// : the matrix size is parameterized, and passed as the first line in
the matrix file
// Version: 0.4 : allow write the solution to a file passed as an argument to the
program
// : if no file is passed, the solution will be printed to the standard
output
// : example usage: matrices/py_generated/5000x5000.txt
matrices_solution/5000x5000.txt
```

Running the program serially:

Currently, we have a functional serial program that takes in a matrix of dimensions N and solves it using LU decomposition and saves the solution to a text file or prints it on the screen.

Next steps:

At this point, we need to focus on parallelizing the program, so that we can use pthreads to run it on multiple cores.

We also need to implement a way to measure the time it takes to find a solution, so that we can use that to collect benchmarks and compare the serial performance to the parallel performance.

We will then use perl or python to automate running the program once serially, then in parallel on multiple processors from 1 to 16, and produce an output file in the benchmark directory with the time it takes to find the solutions, as well as the speedup achieved.

References:

- [1] K. Hartnett and substantive Quanta Magazine moderates comments to facilitate an informed, "New algorithm breaks speed limit for solving linear equations," Quanta Magazine, https://www.quantamagazine.org/new-algorithm-breaks-speed-limit-for-solving-linear-equations-20210308/ (accessed Jan. 28, 2024).
- [2] T. J. Dekker, W. Hoffmann, and K. Potma, "Parallel algorithms for solving large linear systems," *Journal of Computational and Applied Mathematics*, vol. 50, no. 1–3, pp. 221–232, 1994. doi:10.1016/0377-0427(94)90302-6
- [3] W. by: Q. Chunawala, "Fast algorithms for solving a system of linear equations," Baeldung on Computer Science, https://www.baeldung.com/cs/solving-system-linear-equations (accessed Jan. 28, 2024).

Appendix – 1 (Step by step solution of example 1 using LU Decomposition)

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 & -1 \\ 4 & 1 & 2 \\ -2 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & = 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & +5 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$L = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \beta = \begin{pmatrix} \beta_1 \\ \beta_2 \\ \beta_3 \end{pmatrix}, b = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 6 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 9_1 \\ 9_2 \\ 9_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 6 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$$

②
$$23_1 + 32 = 6$$
 $3_2 = 6 - 2(5) = -4$

$$\therefore \beta = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -4 \\ q \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & -5 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -4 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

①
$$2x_1+3x_2-x_3=5$$
 $2x_1=5+\frac{3}{2}-3(2)=\frac{1}{4}$ *

(3)
$$6x_3 = 9$$
 $x_3 = \frac{3}{2}$

Now we know that
$$x_i = x$$
 $x_j = x$

$$\frac{2}{2} = 7$$

$$x_2 = 0$$
 $x_3 = 2$

Let's Substitute back in the Christians.

 $x_3 = \frac{3}{2}$

①
$$2x_1 + 3x_2 - x_3 = 5$$

 $2(\frac{1}{4}) + 3(2) - (\frac{3}{2}) = 5 \#$
② $4x_1 + x_2 + 2x_3 = 6$
 $4(\frac{1}{4}) + (2) + 2(\frac{3}{2}) = 6$
③ $-2x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 8$
 $-2(\frac{1}{4}) + 2(2) + 3(\frac{3}{2}) = 8 \#$

Appendix –2 (Basic Example code to solve a 3x3 matrix using LU Decomposition)

```
// Author: Mohamed Ghonim
// Created: 02/18/2024
// Last Modified: 02/18/2024
// Functionality: Perform LU decomposition and solve a system of linear equations
using forward and backward substitution.
// Version: 0.1
#include <stdio.h>
#define N 3 // Size of the matrix (3x3)
void luDecomposition(double A[N][N], double L[N][N], double U[N][N]) {
    int i, j, k;
    for (i = 0; i < N; i++) {
        for (j = 0; j < N; j++) {
            if (j < i)
                L[j][i] = 0;
            else {
                L[j][i] = A[j][i];
                for (k = 0; k < i; k++) {
                    L[j][i] = L[j][i] - L[j][k] * U[k][i];
        for (j = 0; j < N; j++) {
            if (j < i)
                U[i][j] = 0;
            else if (j == i)
                U[i][j] = 1;
                U[i][j] = A[i][j] / L[i][i];
                for (k = 0; k < i; k++) {
                    U[i][j] = U[i][j] - ((L[i][k] * U[k][j]) / L[i][i]);
    }
void forwardSubstitution(double L[N][N], double b[N], double y[N]) {
    for (int i = 0; i < N; i++) {
        y[i] = b[i];
        for (int j = 0; j < i; j++) {
```

```
y[i] = L[i][j] * y[j];
        y[i] = y[i] / L[i][i];
// Function to solve the equation Ux = y
void backwardSubstitution(double U[N][N], double y[N], double x[N]) {
    for (int i = N - 1; i >= 0; i--) {
        x[i] = y[i];
        for (int j = i + 1; j < N; j++) {
            x[i] = U[i][j] * x[j];
int main() {
    double A[N][N] = \{\{2, 3, -1\}, \{4, 1, 2\}, \{-2, 2, 3\}\};
    double b[N] = \{5, 6, 8\};
    double L[N][N] = \{0\};
    double U[N][N] = \{\emptyset\};
    double y[N] = \{0\};
    double x[N] = \{0\};
    luDecomposition(A, L, U);
    forwardSubstitution(L, b, y);
    backwardSubstitution(U, y, x);
    printf("Solution: \n");
    for (int i = 0; i < N; i++) {
        printf("x[%d] = %f\n", i, x[i]);
    return 0;
```