

## § 2-2 Direct method

Gaussian Elimination (GE)

and LU factorization.

Given  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ ,  $\underline{b} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ to solve  $A\underline{x} = \underline{b}$  for  $\underline{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$   
 $\uparrow$  invertible

## Direct method

Special case.  $A = \text{triangular}$ 

$$\begin{pmatrix} \times & \times & \times \\ & \times & \times \\ & & \times \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} \times & & \\ \times & \times & \\ \times & \times & \times \end{pmatrix}$$

 $\uparrow$   
 back substitution  
 $n^2$ 
 $\uparrow$   
 forward sub...  
 $n^2$

general case

$$A \underline{x} = \underline{b}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} x & x & x \\ x & x & x \\ x & x & x \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} x & x & x \\ 0 & \boxed{x} & \boxed{x} \\ x & x & x \end{pmatrix}$$

$A$

$$\downarrow$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} x & x & x \\ 0 & \boxed{x} & \boxed{x} \\ 0 & \boxed{x} & \boxed{x} \end{pmatrix}$$

$x$

$$\downarrow$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} x & x & x \\ 0 & \boxed{x} & \boxed{x} \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{x} \end{pmatrix}$$

$U$

$$U \underline{x} = \hat{\underline{b}}$$

$$A \longrightarrow U$$

$$(A = LU) \leftarrow$$

$$\text{cost} \approx \frac{2}{3} n^3$$

↑ next,  
to understand  
this

# Revisit matrix multiplication

Given  $A = (a_{ij}) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$

$$B = (b_{ij}) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$$

we know  $C = AB = (c_{ij}) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$

where  $c_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik} b_{kj}$ , next to establish a new view-point

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} \underline{b_{11}} & \underline{b_{12}} & \cdots & \underline{b_{1n}} \\ \underline{b_{21}} & \underline{b_{22}} & \cdots & \underline{b_{2n}} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \underline{b_{n1}} & \underline{b_{n2}} & \cdots & \underline{b_{nn}} \end{pmatrix}$$

first row  $\underline{\beta_1^T}$   
2nd row  $\underline{\beta_2^T}$   
nth row  $\underline{\beta_n^T}$

$$\underline{\beta_j} = \begin{bmatrix} \beta_{j1} \\ \beta_{j2} \\ \vdots \\ \beta_{jn} \end{bmatrix}$$

Take a closer look at the  $i$ th row of  $C$

$$[c_{i1}, c_{i2}, \dots, c_{in}]$$

$$= \left[ \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik} b_{k1}, \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik} b_{k2}, \dots, \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik} b_{kn} \right]$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik} [b_{k1}, b_{k2}, \dots, b_{kn}]$$

$k$ th row of  $B$ , or  $\underline{\beta}_k^T$

$$= a_{i1} \underline{\beta}_1^T + a_{i2} \underline{\beta}_2^T + \dots + a_{in} \underline{\beta}_n^T$$

$C = AB$  : "a new viewpoint"

$i$ th row of  $C$  is a linear combination of the rows of  $B$ , with the coefficients from  $i$ th row of  $A$

Example :

$$\begin{matrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 5 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} & = & \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 5 \\ 9 & 10 \end{pmatrix} \\ A & B & & C \end{matrix}$$

1st row of C

$$1 \cdot [3, 5] + 0 \cdot [1, 0] = [3, 5]$$

2nd row of C

$$\begin{aligned} 2 \cdot [3, 5] + 3 \cdot [1, 0] \\ = [9, 10] \end{aligned}$$

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Exercises.  $AB = C$ ,

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow \text{fixed. To compute } C, \text{ when}$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -c & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -c & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -c & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

more exercises

$$\bullet \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -c & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ c & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = ?$$

$$\bullet \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ b & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ c & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & d & 1 \end{bmatrix} = ?$$

$$\bullet \begin{bmatrix} ? & & \\ & & \\ & & \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b_{11} & b_{12} & b_{13} \\ b_{21} & b_{22} & b_{23} \\ b_{31} & b_{32} & b_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} b_{21} - b_{11} & b_{22} - b_{12} & b_{23} - b_{13} \\ b_{31} & b_{32} & b_{33} \\ 2b_{21} & 2b_{22} & 2b_{23} \end{bmatrix}$$

How to use matrix multiplication  
to exchange row 1 and row 2  
of  $B \in \mathbb{R}^{4 \times 4}$ .

Answers:  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{pmatrix} = B \quad C = AB$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad C = \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 8 & 9 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -c & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4-c & 5-2c & 6-3c \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & \\ 0 & 1 & \\ -c & & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7-c & 8-2c & 9-3c \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -c & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7-4c & 8-5c & 9-6c \end{pmatrix}$$

Answers to "more exercise",

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

they are inverse to each other identity

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \end{pmatrix} B = \begin{pmatrix} b_{21}-b_{11} & b_{22}-b_{12} & b_{23}-b_{13} \\ b_{31} & b_{32} & b_{33} \\ 2b_{21} & 2b_{22} & 2b_{23} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

to exchange row 1  
row 2  
of  $B \in \mathbb{R}^{4 \times 4}$



## To understand G E

go back to the example  $Ax = \underline{b}$  where

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 & 1 \\ 5 & -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \underline{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$x = \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \\ w \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{system} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} u + v + w = 1 & \dots (1) \\ 2u + 4v + w = 0 & \dots (2) \\ 5u - v - w = 2 & \dots (3) \end{cases}$$

$$(2) - 2 \cdot (1)$$

$$\Rightarrow 2v - w = -2 \quad \dots (2)'$$

$$(3) - 5 \cdot (1)$$

$$\Rightarrow -6v - 6w = -3 \quad \dots (3)'$$

$$\text{finally } (3)' - (-3)(2)'$$

$$-9w = -9$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} u + v + w = 1 \\ 2v - w = -2, -9w = -9 \end{cases}$$

Tableau form

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 & 1 & 0 \\ 5 & -1 & -1 & 2 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{A}$$

$R_2 - 2R_1 \rightarrow R_2$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 & -2 \\ 5 & -1 & -1 & 2 \end{array} \right]$$

$R_3 - 5R_1 \rightarrow R_3$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & -6 & -6 & -3 \end{array} \right]$$

$R_3 - (-3)R_2 \rightarrow R_3$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & -9 & -9 \end{array} \right]$$

upper  
-triangular

↓  
U

Express every **action** using matrix notation

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -5 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} A$$

$$= U = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & -9 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -5 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} U$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 5 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} U$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 5 & -3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} U$$

**L**

That is  $GE \Leftrightarrow A = LU$

Once we have LU factorization of  $A$   
namely  $A = LU$

then  $Ax = \underline{b}$

$$\Leftrightarrow \underline{LU} \underline{x} = \underline{b} \quad \text{--- Cost } \frac{2}{3}n^3$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} \text{solve } L \underline{y} = \underline{b} \text{ for } \underline{y} & n^2 \\ \text{solve } U \underline{x} = \underline{y} \text{ for } \underline{x} & n^2 \end{cases}$$

GE method does not always work  
typical step

$$\text{Row } i - \frac{a_{ij}}{a_{jj}} \text{Row } j \rightarrow \text{Row } i$$

$a_{jj}$  → pivot

when  $\text{pivot} = 0$ , the method fails.

Example

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \underline{b} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

To solve  $A\underline{x} = \underline{b}$       $\underline{x} = \begin{bmatrix} b_2 \\ b_1 \end{bmatrix}$

GE fails at the first step.

Remedy: "pivoting" by  
exchanging equations  
exchanging rows.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \underline{x} = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Exchange rows, by left

multiplying  $P = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \underline{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{or } \underline{PAx} = P\underline{b}$$

Apply GE to this

and the new pivot  
= 1

Example:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 5 & 6 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \rightarrow & 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{To solve } Ax = b \text{ by GE.}$$

$a_{11} = 0$ , GE fails.

"Pivoting!"

Strategy 1: exchange row 1 and row 2.

$$PAx = Pb$$

where  $P = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow PA = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 5 & 6 \\ \rightarrow & 8 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$

Strategy 2: exchange row 1 and row 3

$$PAx = Pb$$

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad PA = \begin{pmatrix} \rightarrow & 8 & 9 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

Strategy 2 is preferred in practice

pivot: is preferred to have  
the largest possible magnitude.

Overall, the reason to choose  
a pivot with largest possible  
magnitude:

to ensure the algorithm to be  
**Less sensitive** to rounding  
error (( to be illustrated  
next)).

**GE with pivoting (In practice)**

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{cccc}
 x & x & x & x \\
 \begin{pmatrix} \otimes & \otimes & \otimes & \otimes \\ \boxtimes & \boxtimes & \boxtimes & \boxtimes \\ \triangle & \triangle & \triangle & \triangle \end{pmatrix}
 \end{array}
 \xrightarrow[\text{even } a_{11} \neq 0]{\text{pivoting}}
 \begin{array}{c}
 \begin{pmatrix} \boxtimes & \boxtimes & \boxtimes & \boxtimes \\ \otimes & \otimes & \otimes & \otimes \\ x & x & x & x \\ \triangle & \triangle & \triangle & \triangle \end{pmatrix}
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \xrightarrow{\text{GE}} \\
 \text{for 1st} \\
 \text{column}
 \end{array}
 \begin{array}{c}
 \begin{pmatrix} \boxtimes & \boxtimes & \boxtimes & \boxtimes \\ 0 & \boxed{+} & + & + \\ 0 & + & + & + \\ 0 & + & + & + \end{pmatrix}
 \end{array}
 \begin{array}{c}
 \text{repeat the} \\
 \text{process} \\
 \text{to the part} \\
 \text{in the box.}
 \end{array}$$

{ pivoting }  $\xrightarrow{\text{GE for 2nd column}}$