

# Gauss Elimination (GE) with Partial Pivoting

## CS/SE 4X03

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September 28, 2021

# Outline

Example

GE with partial pivoting

Scaled partial pivoting

# Example

Example 1. Consider

$$10^{-5}x_1 + x_2 = 1$$

$$2x_1 + x_2 = 2$$

The solution is

$$x_1^* \approx 5.000\,025\,000\,125 \times 10^{-1} \approx 0.5$$

$$x_2^* \approx 9.999\,949\,999\,750 \times 10^{-1} \approx 1$$

Solve by Gauss elimination in  $t = 5$  digit decimal floating-point arithmetic

## Example cont.

## Example 1. cont.

- Eliminate with the first row, also called **pivot row**
- $10^{-5}$  is the **pivot**
- Multiply the first row by  $2/10^{-5} = 2 \times 10^5$  :

$$2x_1 + 2 \times 10^5 x_2 = 2 \times 10^5$$

and subtract from the second row:

$$(1 - 2 \times 10^5)x_2 = 2 - 2 \times 10^5$$

- $1 - 2 \times 10^5$  and  $2 - 2 \times 10^5$  round to  $-2.0000 \times 10^5$
- The second equation becomes

$$-2.0000 \times 10^5 x_2 = -2.0000 \times 10^5$$

from which we compute  $\tilde{x}_2 = 1.0000$

## Example cont.

## Example 1. cont.

- Using  $10^{-5}x_1 + x_2 = 1$ , compute

$$\tilde{x}_1 = \frac{1 - \tilde{x}_2}{10^{-5}} = \frac{0}{10^{-5}} = 0$$

- The error in  $\tilde{x}_2$  is

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{x}_2 - x_2^* &\approx 1 - 9.999\,949\,999\,75 \times 10^{-1} \\ &\approx 5 \times 10^{-6}\end{aligned}$$

- Hence

$$\tilde{x}_2 \approx x_2^* + 5 \times 10^{-6}$$

## Example cont.

## Example 1. cont.

- We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \tilde{x}_1 &= \frac{1 - \tilde{x}_2}{10^{-5}} = \frac{1 - (x_2^* + 5 \times 10^{-6})}{10^{-5}} \\
 &\approx \underbrace{\frac{1 - x_2^*}{10^{-5}}}_{x_1^*} - \underbrace{5 \times 10^{-6}}_{\text{error in } \tilde{x}_2} \times \underbrace{\frac{1}{10^{-5}}}_{1/\text{pivot}} \\
 &= x_1^* - (\text{error in } \tilde{x}_2) \times \frac{1}{\text{pivot}} \\
 &= x_1^* - 0.5
 \end{aligned}$$

- The error in  $\tilde{x}_2$  is **multiplied** by  $1/\text{pivot} = 10^5$   
Error in  $\tilde{x}_1$  is **-0.5**
- Avoid small pivots

## Example cont.

## Example 1. cont.

- Swap the equations

$$\begin{aligned}2x_1 + x_2 &= 2 \\ 10^{-5}x_1 + x_2 &= 1\end{aligned}$$

- Pivot is 2
- Multiply the first row by  $10^{-5}/2$

$$10^{-5}x_1 + 10^{-5}/2 x_2 = 10^{-5}$$

and subtract from the second row

$$(1 - 10^{-5}/2)x_2 = 1 - 10^{-5}$$

- $1 - 10^{-5}/2$  and  $1 - 10^{-5}$  round to 1

## Example cont.

## Example 1. cont.

- The second equation is  $x_2 = 1$ , find  $\tilde{x}_2 = 1$
- Using  $2x_1 + x_2 = 2$ ,  $\tilde{x}_1 = \frac{2 - \tilde{x}_2}{2} = 0.5$
- Using  $\tilde{x}_2 \approx x_2^* + 5 \times 10^{-6}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \tilde{x}_1 &= \frac{2 - \tilde{x}_2}{2} = \frac{2 - (x_2^* + 5 \times 10^{-6})}{2} \\
 &= \underbrace{\frac{2 - x_2^*}{2}}_{x_1^*} - \underbrace{5 \times 10^{-6}}_{\text{error in } \tilde{x}_2} \times \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}}_{1/\text{pivot}} \\
 &= x_1^* - (\text{error in } \tilde{x}_2) \times \frac{1}{\text{pivot}} \\
 &= x_1^* - 2.5 \times 10^{-5}
 \end{aligned}$$



## GE with partial pivoting

GE with partial pivoting

- Eliminate with the row with the largest (in magnitude) entry

## Example 2. Solve

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 1$$

$$x_1 + 1.0001x_2 + 2x_3 = 2$$

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

with partial pivoting and  $t = 5$  decimal arithmetic

Can chose any row to eliminate  $x_1$ . Use first row:

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 1$$

$$0.0001x_2 + x_3 = 1$$

$$x_2 + x_3 = 2$$

Now eliminate with third row:

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 1$$

$$x_2 + x_3 = 2 \quad \rightarrow$$

$$0.0001x_2 + x_3 = 1$$

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 1$$

$$x_2 + x_3 = 2$$

$$(1 - 0.0001)x_3 = 1 - 0.0002$$

## Example 2. cont.

$$\begin{aligned}
 x_3 &= 9.9990 \times 10^{-1} \\
 x_2 &= 2 - x_3 = 1.0001 \\
 x_1 &= 1 - x_2 - x_3 = -1
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{1}$$

Using MATLAB's backslash operator,  $A \backslash b$  where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1.0001 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad b = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

we obtain

$$[-1, 1.000100010001, 9.99899989999 \times 10^{-1}]$$

The errors (in absolute value) in the computed  $x_1, x_2, x_3$  are  $\approx 0, 10^{-8}, 10^{-8}$ , respectively.

## Example 2. cont.

If we eliminate with the second row

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 1 & & x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 1 \\
 0.0001x_2 + x_3 = 1 & \rightarrow & 0.0001x_2 + x_3 = 1 \\
 x_2 + x_3 = 2 & & -9.9990 \times 10^3 x_3 = -9.9980 \times 10^3
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 x_3 &= 9.9990 \times 10^{-1} \\
 x_2 &= \frac{1 - x_3}{0.0001} = 1.0000 \\
 x_1 &= -9.9990 \times 10^{-1}
 \end{aligned}$$

The errors now are  $\approx 10^{-4}, 10^{-4}, 10^{-8}$

Note: the errors in  $x_3$  are the same, but the error in  $x_2$  changed from  $10^{-8}$  to  $10^{-4}$ , similarly for  $x_1$

## Scaled partial pivoting

Example 3. Consider

$$2x_1 + 2cx_2 = 2c$$

$$x_1 + x_2 = 2$$

$c > 1$  is a constant

- Partial pivoting: first row as pivot row ( $2 > 1$ )
- GE gives

$$2x_1 + 2cx_2 = 2c$$

$$(1 - c)x_2 = 2 - c$$

- For  $c$  sufficiently large,  $1 - c \approx -c$ ,  $2 - c \approx -c$

## Scaled partial pivoting cont.

## Example 3. cont.

- Backward substitution gives

$$\tilde{x}_2 \approx 1, \quad \tilde{x}_1 = \frac{2c - 2c\tilde{x}_2}{2} \approx 0$$

If  $\delta = \tilde{x}_2 - x_2$ ,

$$\tilde{x}_1 = \frac{2c - 2c\tilde{x}_2}{2} = c - c(x_2 + \delta) = c - cx_2 - c\delta = x_1 - c\delta$$

- Error is multiplied by  $c$
- When  $c$  is sufficiently large,

$$x_2 = \frac{c-2}{c-1} \approx 1, \quad x_1 = \frac{c}{c-1} \approx 1$$

## Scaled partial pivoting cont.

## Example 3. cont.

Chose the row with the largest entry with respect to the entries in this row

$$2x_1 + 2cx_2 = 2c$$

$$1x_1 + 1x_2 = 1$$

- Scale vector  $s = (2c, 1)$ ,  $2c$  largest in first row, 1 largest in second row
- Ratio vector

$$r = \left( \frac{2}{2c}, \frac{1}{1} \right)$$

- Chose row with largest ratio as pivot row
- Eliminate with second row

## Scaled partial pivoting cont.

Example 3. cont.

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 + x_2 &= 2 \\ 2x_1 + 2cx_2 &= 2c\end{aligned}$$

- GE gives

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 + x_2 &= 2 \\ (2c - 2)x_2 &= 2c - 4\end{aligned}$$

- Backward substitution (when  $c$  sufficiently large)

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{x}_2 &\approx 1 \\ \hat{x}_1 &\approx 1\end{aligned}$$



## Scaled partial pivoting cont.

## Example 4.

$$Ax = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -13 & 9 & 3 \\ -6 & 4 & 1 & -18 \\ 6 & -2 & 2 & 4 \\ 12 & -8 & 6 & 10 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -19 \\ 34 \\ 16 \\ 26 \end{bmatrix} = b$$

- Scale vector  $s = (13, 18, 6, 12)$

$$s_i = \max\{|a_{ij}| \mid j = 1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

- Ratio vector

$$r = \left( \frac{3}{13}, \frac{6}{18}, \frac{6}{6}, \frac{12}{12} \right)$$

- Select index in  $r$  with largest ratio: 3 or 4
- Pick 3 and eliminate with row 3

## Scaled partial pivoting cont.

Example 4. cont.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -12 & 8 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 & -14 \\ 6 & -2 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & -4 & 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -27 \\ 50 \\ 16 \\ -6 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Scale vector  $s = (13, 18, 6, 12)$
- Ratio vector

$$r = \left( \frac{12}{13}, \frac{2}{18}, -, \frac{4}{12} \right)$$

– means entry does not matter

- Select index from 1,2,4 with largest ratio: 1
- Eliminate with row 1

## Scaled partial pivoting cont.

## Example 4. cont.

With rounding to 4 decimal places

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -12 & 8 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 4.3333 & -13.8333 \\ 6 & -2 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & -0.6667 & 1.6667 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -27 \\ 45.5 \\ 16 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Scale vector  $s = (13, 18, 6, 12)$
- Ratio vector

$$r = \left( -, \frac{4.3333}{18}, -, \frac{0.6667}{12} \right)$$

- Select index from 2,4 with largest ratio: 2
- Eliminate with row 2

## Example 4. cont.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -12 & 8 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 4.3333 & -13.8333 \\ 6 & -2 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & -0 & -0.4615 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -27 \\ 45.5 \\ 16 \\ 10 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_4 = -21.6667$$

$$\begin{aligned} x_3 &= (45.5 - (-13.8333) * (-21.6667)) / (4.3333) \\ &= -58.6671 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x_2 &= (-27 - 8 * (-58.6671) - 1 * (-21.6667)) / (-12) \\ &= -38.6667 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= (16 - (-2) * (-38.6667) - 2 * (-58.6671) - 4 * (-21.6667)) / 6 \\ &= 23.7779 \end{aligned}$$