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# Chapter 4

## Solving Systems of Linear Equations

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# 4.0 Introduction

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In this chapter we discuss the numerical aspects of solving systems of linear equations having the following form

$$\begin{cases} a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + a_{13}x_3 + \text{L} + a_{1n}x_n = b_1 \\ a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + a_{23}x_3 + \text{L} + a_{2n}x_n = b_2 \\ \text{M} \quad \text{M} \quad \text{M} \quad \text{M} \quad \text{M} \\ a_{n1}x_1 + a_{n2}x_2 + a_{n3}x_3 + \text{L} + a_{nn}x_n = b_n \end{cases}$$

The above system has  $n$  equations in  $n$  unknowns  $x_1, x_2, \text{L}, x_n$ , and the elements  $a_{ij}$  and  $b_j$  are assumed to be real numbers.

# 4.0 Introduction

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In this chapter, we shall

- construct a general-purpose algorithm for solving the problem

$$\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$$

- analyze the errors that are associated with the computer solution
- study methods for controlling and reducing them
- introduce the important topic of iterative algorithms for this problem.

# 4.1 Matrix Algebra

- a review of the basic concepts - **Matrix**

A matrix is a rectangular array of numbers such as

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3.0 & 1.1 & -0.12 \\ 6.2 & 0.0 & 0.15 \\ 0.6 & -4.0 & 1.3 \\ 9.3 & 2.1 & 8.2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 6 & \frac{11}{7} & -17 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3.2 \\ -4.7 \\ 0.11 \end{bmatrix}$$

The number of rows and columns is called the dimension of the matrix. Therefore, the aboves are, a  $4 \times 3$  matrix, a  $1 \times 4$  matrix and a  $3 \times 1$  matrix respectively.

# 4.1 Matrix Algebra

- a review of the basic concepts - **Transpose**

The transpose of a matrix is denoted by  $\mathbf{A}^T$  and defined by

$(\mathbf{A}^T)_{ij} = a_{ji}$ . For example, if  $\mathbf{A}$  denotes

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 3.0 & 1.1 & -0.12 \\ 6.2 & 0.0 & 0.15 \\ 0.6 & -4.0 & 1.3 \\ 9.3 & 2.1 & 8.2 \end{bmatrix}$$

then  $\mathbf{A}^T$  is

$$\mathbf{A}^T = \begin{bmatrix} 3.0 & 6.2 & 0.6 & 9.3 \\ 1.1 & 0.0 & -4.0 & 2.1 \\ -0.12 & 0.15 & 1.3 & 8.2 \end{bmatrix}$$

# 4.1 Matrix Algebra

- a review of the basic concepts

1. A matrix is called a symmetric matrix, if  $\mathbf{A}^T = \mathbf{A}$ ;
2. A matrix is called a skew-symmetric matrix, if  $\mathbf{A}^T = -\mathbf{A}$ .
3. If  $\mathbf{A}$  is matrix and  $\lambda$  is a scalar, then  $\lambda\mathbf{A}$  is defined by

$$(\lambda\mathbf{A})_{ij} = \lambda a_{ij}.$$

4. If  $\mathbf{A} = (a_{ij})$  and  $\mathbf{B} = (b_{ij})$  are  $m \times n$  matrices, then  $\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}$  is defined by

$$(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B})_{ij} = a_{ij} + b_{ij}.$$

5.  $-\mathbf{A}$  means  $(-1)\mathbf{A}$ .
6. If  $\mathbf{A}$  is an  $m \times p$  matrix and  $\mathbf{B}$  is a  $p \times n$  matrix, then  $\mathbf{AB}$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix defined by

$$(\mathbf{AB})_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^p a_{ik} b_{kj} \quad (1 \leq i \leq m, 1 \leq j \leq n)$$

# 4.1 Matrix Algebra

- a review of the basic concepts - Equivalence

As we deal with the systems of linear equations, a concept of equivalence is important. Let us consider two systems, each of them consisting of  $n$  equations with  $n$  unknowns expressed by

$$\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{Bx} = \mathbf{d}$$

If the two systems have precisely the same solutions, we call them **equivalent systems**. Thus, to solve a system of equations, we can solve any equivalent system instead; Given a system of equations to be solved, we transform it by certain elementary operations into a simpler equivalent system, which we then solve instead. This simple idea is at the heart of our numerical procedures.



# 4.1 Matrix Algebra

- a review of the basic concepts – Elementary Operations

There are the following three types of **elementary operations** :

Note : Here,  $\varepsilon_i$  denotes the  $i$ th equation in the system.

1. Interchanging two equations in the system:  $\varepsilon_i \leftrightarrow \varepsilon_j$ .
2. Multiplying an equation by a nonzero number:  $\lambda \varepsilon_i \rightarrow \varepsilon_i$ .
3. Adding to an equation a multiple of some other equation :

$$\varepsilon_i + \lambda \varepsilon_j \rightarrow \varepsilon_i.$$

**Theorem 1** - on Equivalent Systems

If one system of equations is obtained from another by a finite sequence of elementary operations, then the two systems are equivalent.

# 4.1 Matrix Algebra

## - Matrix Properties – Identity Matrix

The  $n \times n$  matrix

$$\mathbf{I} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \text{L} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \text{L} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \text{L} & 0 \\ \text{M} & \text{M} & \text{M} & \text{L} & \text{M} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \text{L} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

is called the **identity matrix**. It has the property that

$$\mathbf{I} \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{I}$$

for any matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  of size  $n \times n$ .

If  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  are two matrices such that  $\mathbf{AB} = \mathbf{I}$ , then we say that  $\mathbf{B}$  is a **right inverse** of  $\mathbf{A}$  and that  $\mathbf{A}$  is a **left inverse** of  $\mathbf{B}$ .

For example,

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ \alpha & \beta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# 4.1 Matrix Algebra

## - Matrix Properties – Matrix Inverse

**Theorem 2** : (Theorem on right inverse)

A square matrix can possess at most one right inverse.

**Theorem 3** : (Theorem on matrix inverse)

If **A** and **B** are square matrices such that **AB = I**, then **BA = I**.

Example :

$$\begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ 3 & -\frac{1}{2} \\ 2 & -\frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ 3 & -\frac{1}{2} \\ 2 & -\frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# 4.1 Matrix Algebra

## - Matrix Properties - Matrix Inverse

If a square matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  has a right inverse  $\mathbf{B}$ , then  $\mathbf{B}$  is unique and  $\mathbf{BA} = \mathbf{AB} = \mathbf{I}$ . Then  $\mathbf{B}$  is called the **inverse** of  $\mathbf{A}$  and say that  $\mathbf{A}$  is **invertible** or **nonsingular** and of course  $\mathbf{B}$  is therefore invertible and  $\mathbf{A}$  is its inverse, we write  $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{A}^{-1}$  and  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{B}^{-1}$ .

For example,

$$\begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ \frac{2}{3} & -\frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ \frac{2}{3} & -\frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# 4.1 Matrix Algebra

## - Matrix Properties – Elementary Matrix

If  $\mathbf{A}$  is invertible, then the system of equations  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$  has the solution

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{b}.$$

If  $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$  is already available, this equation provides a good method of computing  $\mathbf{x}$ . The elementary operations discussed earlier can be carried out with matrix multiplications. An **elementary matrix** is defined to be an  $n \times n$  matrix that arise when an elementary operation is applied to the  $n \times n$  identity matrix. The elementary operations, expressed in terms of the rows of a matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ , are:

1. The interchange of two rows in  $\mathbf{A}$ ,  $\mathbf{A}_s \leftrightarrow \mathbf{A}_t$ .
2. Multiplying one row by a nonzero constant:  $\lambda \mathbf{A}_s \rightarrow \mathbf{A}_s$ .
3. Adding to one row a multiple of another:  $\mathbf{A}_s + \lambda \mathbf{A}_t \rightarrow \mathbf{A}_s$

# 4.1 Matrix Algebra

## - Matrix Properties – Finding the inverse of a matrix

To find  $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$ , think about to apply a succession of elementary row operations to  $\mathbf{A}$  such that

$$\mathbf{E}_m \mathbf{E}_{m-1} \dots \mathbf{E}_2 \mathbf{E}_1 \mathbf{A}$$

If  $\mathbf{A}$  is invertible, such a sequence of elementary row operation can be applied to it and reducing it to  $\mathbf{I}$ , i.e.

$$\mathbf{E}_m \mathbf{E}_{m-1} \dots \mathbf{E}_2 \mathbf{E}_1 \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{I}$$

This follows that

$$\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \mathbf{E}_m \mathbf{E}_{m-1} \dots \mathbf{E}_2 \mathbf{E}_1$$

$\mathbf{A}^{-1}$  is therefore obtained by applying the same sequence of elementary row operations to  $\mathbf{I}$ .

# 4.1 Matrix Algebra

## - Matrix Properties – Positive definiteness

An important fundamental concept is the **positive definiteness** of a matrix. A matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  is positive definite if  $\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} > 0$  for any nonzero vector  $\mathbf{x}$ . For example,

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

is positive definite because

$$\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = (x_1 + x_2)^2 + x_1^2 + x_2^2 > 0$$

for all  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  except  $x_1 = x_2 = 0$ .

## 4.2 *LU* and Cholesky Factorizations

- Easy to Solve System

Let us consider a system of  $n$  linear equations in  $n$  unknowns  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ . It can be written in the form

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & \dots & a_{3n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & a_{n3} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \\ \vdots \\ b_n \end{bmatrix}$$

The matrices in this equation are denoted by  $\mathbf{A}$ ,  $\mathbf{x}$ , and  $\mathbf{b}$ . Thus, our system is simply

$$\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b} \tag{1}$$



## 4.2 *LU* and Cholesky Factorizations

- Easy to Solve System

We look for special types of systems that can be easily solved. For example, suppose that the  $n \times n$  matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  has a diagonal structure. This means that all the nonzero elements of  $\mathbf{A}$  are on the main diagonal, and system (1) is

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & 0 & 0 & \text{L} & 0 \\ 0 & a_{22} & 0 & \text{L} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{33} & \text{L} & 0 \\ \text{M} & \text{M} & \text{M} & \text{M} & \text{M} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \text{L} & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ \text{M} \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \\ \text{M} \\ b_n \end{bmatrix} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1/a_{11} \\ b_2/a_{22} \\ b_3/a_{33} \\ \text{M} \\ b_n/a_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

In this case our system collapses to  $n$  simple equations, and the solution is shown above. If  $a_{ii} = 0$  for some index  $i$ , and if  $b_i = 0$  also, then  $x_i$  can be any real number. If  $a_{ii} = 0$  and  $b_i \neq 0$ , no solution of the system exists.

## 4.2 *LU* and Cholesky Factorizations

- Easy to Solve System

We are searching for easy solutions of system (1), we assume a lower triangular structure for  $\mathbf{A}$ . This means that all the nonzero elements of  $\mathbf{A}$  are situated on or below the main diagonal, and system (1) is

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & 0 & 0 & \text{L} & 0 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & 0 & \text{L} & 0 \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & \text{L} & 0 \\ \text{M} & \text{M} & \text{M} & \text{M} & \text{M} \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & a_{n3} & \text{L} & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ \text{M} \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \\ \text{M} \\ b_n \end{bmatrix}$$

To solve this, we assume that  $a_{ii} \neq 0$  for all  $i$ ; then obtain  $x_1$  from the first equation. With the known value of  $x_1$  substituted into the second equation, solve the second equation for  $x_2$ . We proceed in the same way, obtaining  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ , one at a time and in this order.

## 4.2 *LU* and Cholesky Factorizations

### - *LU*-Factorizations

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Suppose  $\mathbf{A}$  can be factored into the product of a lower triangular matrix  $\mathbf{L}$  and an upper triangular matrix  $\mathbf{U}$ , that is  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{LU}$ .

Then, to solve the system of equations

$$\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$$

it is to solve this problem in two stages:

$$\mathbf{Lz} = \mathbf{b}, \quad \text{solve for } \mathbf{z}$$

$$\mathbf{Ux} = \mathbf{z} \quad \text{solve for } \mathbf{x}$$

Our previous analysis indicates that solving these two triangular systems is simple. We shall show how the factorization  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{LU}$  can be carried out, provided that in certain steps of the computation 0 divisors are not encountered. (Note: not every matrix has such a factorization).

## 4.2 $LU$ and Cholesky Factorizations

We begin with an  $n \times n$  matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  and search for matrices

$$\mathbf{L} = \begin{bmatrix} l_{11} & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ l_{21} & l_{22} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ l_{31} & l_{32} & l_{33} & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ l_{n1} & l_{n2} & l_{n3} & \dots & l_{nn} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{U} = \begin{bmatrix} u_{11} & u_{12} & u_{13} & \dots & u_{1n} \\ 0 & u_{22} & u_{23} & \dots & u_{2n} \\ 0 & 0 & u_{33} & \dots & u_{3n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & u_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

such that  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{LU}$  (2)

when this is possible, we say that  $\mathbf{A}$  has an  $\mathbf{LU}$ -*decomposition*. It turns out that  $\mathbf{L}$  and  $\mathbf{U}$  are not uniquely determined by (2). In fact for each  $i$ , we can assign a nonzero value to either  $l_{ii}$  or  $u_{ii}$  (but not both).

For example, one simple choice is to set

$$l_{ii} = 1 \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n,$$

thus making  $\mathbf{L}$  unit lower triangular. Another obvious choice is to make  $\mathbf{U}$  unit upper triangular ( $u_{ii} = 1$  for each  $i$ ).

## 4.2 $LU$ and Cholesky Factorizations

### - $LU$ -Factorization

To derive an algorithm for the  $LU$ -factorization of  $\mathbf{A}$ , we consider

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \mathbf{L} & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & \mathbf{L} & a_{2n} \\ \mathbf{M} & & \mathbf{M} \\ a_{n1} & \mathbf{L} & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ l_{21} & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \mathbf{M} & \mathbf{M} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{M} \\ l_{n1} & l_{n2} & \mathbf{L} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_{11} & u_{12} & \mathbf{L} & u_{1n} \\ 0 & u_{22} & \mathbf{L} & u_{2n} \\ \mathbf{M} & \mathbf{M} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{M} \\ 0 & 0 & \mathbf{L} & u_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

Comparing the elements in the first rows on both sides, we have

$$u_{1k} = a_{1k}, \quad k = 1, 2, \mathbf{L}, n;$$

Comparing the elements in the first column on both sides, we have

$$l_{k1} = a_{k1} / u_{11}, \quad k = 2, 3, \mathbf{L}, n;$$

Comparing the rest elements in the second row, we have

$$u_{2k} = a_{2k} - l_{21}u_{1k}, \quad k = 2, 3, \mathbf{L}, n;$$

Comparing the rest elements in the second column, we have

$$l_{k2} = (a_{k2} - l_{k1}u_{12}) / u_{22}, \quad k = 3, 4, \mathbf{L}, n;$$

## 4.2 $LU$ and Cholesky Factorizations

### - $LU$ -Factorization

In general, after obtain  $u_{1k}$  and  $l_{k1}$  ( $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ), for  $i = 2, 3, \dots, n$ , we can get each element for  $\mathbf{U}$  and  $\mathbf{L}$  step by step using the following formula:

$$\begin{cases} u_{ik} = a_{ik} - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} l_{ij} u_{jk}, \\ l_{ki} = \left[ a_{ki} - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} l_{kj} u_{ji} \right] / u_{ii} \end{cases} \quad k = i, i+1, \dots, n \quad (3)$$

This is the procedure of the Doolittle's factorization.

The calculation order is such as

$$\begin{array}{cc} u_{11}, u_{12}, \dots, u_{1n}; & l_{21}, l_{31}, \dots, l_{n1}; \\ u_{22}, u_{23}, \dots, u_{2n}; & l_{32}, l_{42}, \dots, l_{n2}; \\ \mathbf{M} & \mathbf{M} \\ u_{n-1, n-1}, u_{n-1, n}; & l_{n, n-1}; \\ u_{nn}; & . \end{array}$$

## 4.2 *LU* and Cholesky Factorizations

### - *LU*-Factorization – memory/calculation time saving

We have made use of the fact that, for a fixed  $i$ , when  $u_{ik}$  has been calculated,  $a_{ik}$  is not needed any more in the subsequent calculations, therefore the value of  $u_{ik}$  can be stored in the memory element for  $a_{ik}$ ; and similarly when  $l_{ki}$  is calculated,  $a_{ki}$  is also not needed any more and the calculated value of  $l_{ki}$  can be stored in the memory element for  $a_{ki}$ . In fact, the storing elements for **A** now for **U** and **L** becomes

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & \text{L} & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & \text{K} & a_{2n} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & \text{K} & a_{3n} \\ \text{M} & \text{M} & \text{M} & \text{O} & \text{M} \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & a_{n3} & \text{L} & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} u_{11} & u_{12} & u_{13} & \text{K} & u_{1n} \\ l_{21} & u_{22} & u_{23} & \text{K} & u_{2n} \\ l_{31} & l_{32} & u_{33} & \text{K} & u_{3n} \\ \text{M} & \text{M} & \text{M} & \text{O} & \text{M} \\ l_{n1} & l_{n2} & l_{n3} & \text{L} & u_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

It is noted that the calculations (3) for  $u_{ik}$  and  $l_{ki}$  can be carried out simultaneously. On some computers this can actually be done, with a considerable savings in execution time.

## 4.2 $LU$ and Cholesky Factorizations

### - $LU$ -Factorization – $LDU$ factorization

The computation of the  $i$ th row in  $\mathbf{U}$  and the  $i$ th column in  $\mathbf{L}$  as described completes the  $i$ th step in the algorithm. This decomposition of  $\mathbf{A}$  is called **Doolittle's factorization**. If the upper matrix is a unit triangular matrix, then the decomposition is called **Crout's factorization**. We can have following further factorization

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{LDU}$$

where  $\mathbf{D}$  is a diagonal matrix, and  $\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{U}$  are unit lower and upper triangular matrices. This is the  $LDU$  factorization. It can be done through the further factorization of  $\mathbf{U}$  or  $\mathbf{L}$ . When  $\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{L}^T$ , so that  $l_{ii} = u_{ii}$  for  $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$ , that is  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{LL}^T$ , the algorithm is called **Cholesky's factorization**. We shall discuss the Cholesky method in more detail later in this section since this factoring requires the matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  to have several special properties; namely,  $\mathbf{A}$  should be real, symmetric, and positive definite.



## 4.2 $LU$ and Cholesky Factorizations

### - $LU$ -Factorization

#### **Example :**

Find the Doolittle, Crout, and Cholesky factorizations of  $\mathbf{A}$

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 60 & 30 & 20 \\ 30 & 20 & 15 \\ 20 & 15 & 12 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ l_{21} & 1 & 0 \\ l_{31} & l_{32} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_{11} & u_{12} & u_{13} \\ 0 & u_{22} & u_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & u_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{cases} u_{ik} = a_{ik} - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} l_{ij} u_{jk}, \\ l_{ki} = \left[ a_{ki} - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} l_{kj} u_{ji} \right] / u_{ii} \end{cases} \quad k = i, i+1, \dots, n$$

## 4.2 $LU$ and Cholesky Factorizations

### - $LU$ -Factorization

$$i = 1, \quad u_{11} = a_{11} = 60; \quad u_{12} = a_{12} = 30; \quad u_{13} = a_{13} = 20;$$

$$l_{21} = a_{21}/u_{11} = 30/60 = 1/2; \quad l_{31} = a_{31}/u_{11} = 20/60 = 1/3;$$

$$i = 2, \quad u_{22} = a_{22} - l_{21}u_{12} = 20 - \frac{1}{2} \times 30 = 5$$

$$u_{23} = a_{23} - l_{21}u_{13} = 15 - \frac{1}{2} \times 20 = 5$$

$$l_{32} = (a_{32} - l_{31}u_{12})/u_{22} = (15 - \frac{1}{3} \times 30)/5 = 1$$

$$i = 3, \quad u_{33} = a_{33} - (l_{31}u_{13} + l_{32}u_{23}) = 12 - (\frac{1}{3} \times 20 + 1 \times 5) = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 60 & 30 & 20 \\ 30 & 20 & 15 \\ 20 & 15 & 12 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1/2 & 1 & 0 \\ 1/3 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 60 & 30 & 20 \\ 0 & 5 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/3 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{LU}$$

## 4.2 $LU$ and Cholesky Factorizations

### – Cholesky Factorizations

We put the diagonal elements of  $\mathbf{U}$  into a diagonal matrix  $\mathbf{D}$ , and obtain

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1/2 & 1 & 0 \\ 1/3 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 60 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1/2 & 1/3 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{LD}\hat{\mathbf{U}}$$

By putting  $\hat{\mathbf{L}} = \mathbf{LD}$ , we obtain the Crout factorization.

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 60 & 0 & 0 \\ 30 & 5 & 0 \\ 20 & 5 & 1/3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1/2 & 1/3 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \hat{\mathbf{L}}\hat{\mathbf{U}}$$

The Cholesky factorization is obtained by splitting  $\mathbf{D}$  into the form  $\mathbf{D}^{1/2}\mathbf{D}^{1/2}$  in the  $\mathbf{LDU}$ -factorization and associating one factor with  $\mathbf{L}$  and the other with  $\hat{\mathbf{U}}$ .

## 4.2 $LU$ and Cholesky Factorizations

### - Cholesky Factorizations

That is

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1/2 & 1 & 0 \\ 1/3 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{60} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{5} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3}\sqrt{3} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{60} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{5} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3}\sqrt{3} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1/2 & 1/3 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{60} & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{60} & \sqrt{5} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{3}\sqrt{60} & \sqrt{5} & \frac{1}{3}\sqrt{3} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{60} & \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{60} & \frac{1}{3}\sqrt{60} \\ 0 & \sqrt{5} & \sqrt{5} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3}\sqrt{3} \end{bmatrix} = \tilde{\mathbf{L}}\tilde{\mathbf{L}}^T$$

## 4.2 $LU$ and Cholesky Factorizations

### – Cholesky Factorization

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#### **Theorem on LU-Decomposition**

**Theorem 1:** If all  $n$  leading principal minors of  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  are nonsingular, then  $A$  has an LU decomposition.

**Proof :** Ignore.

#### **Cholesky Theorem on $LL^T$ -Factorization**

**Theorem 2:** If  $A$  is a real, symmetric, and positive definite matrix, then it has a unique factorization,  $A = LL^T$ , in which  $L$  is lower triangular with a positive diagonal.

**Proof :** Ignore.

## 4.2 $LU$ and Cholesky Factorizations

### - $LL^T$ Cholesky Factorization

Cholesky factorization is a special case of the general  $LU$  factorization. If  $\mathbf{A}$  is real, symmetric, and positive definite, then by Theorem 2 it has a unique factorization of the form  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{L}^T$ , in which  $\mathbf{L}$  is lower trigangular and has positive diagonal. Comparing both sides of  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{L}^T$ ,

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \mathbf{L} & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \mathbf{K} & a_{2n} \\ \mathbf{M} & \mathbf{M} & \mathbf{M} & \mathbf{M} \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \mathbf{K} & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} l_{11} & 0 & \mathbf{K} & 0 \\ l_{21} & l_{22} & \mathbf{K} & 0 \\ \mathbf{M} & \mathbf{M} & \mathbf{M} & \mathbf{M} \\ l_{n1} & l_{n2} & \mathbf{K} & l_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} l_{11} & l_{21} & \mathbf{K} & l_{n1} \\ 0 & l_{22} & \mathbf{K} & l_{n2} \\ \mathbf{M} & \mathbf{M} & \mathbf{M} & \mathbf{M} \\ 0 & 0 & \mathbf{K} & l_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

we have

$$a_{jj} = l_{j1}^2 + \mathbf{L} + l_{jj}^2$$

## 4.2 $LU$ and Cholesky Factorizations

### - $LL^T$ Cholesky Factorization

(we have  $a_{jj} = l_{j1}^2 + \dots + l_{jj}^2$ )

Thus, the diagonal entry is computed by

$$l_{jj} = (a_{jj} - \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} l_{jk}^2)^{1/2}$$

and other elements are related to  $a_{ij}$  by

$$a_{ij} = l_{i1}l_{j1} + \dots + l_{ij}l_{jj} \quad j < i$$

and calculated by 
$$l_{ij} = (a_{ij} - \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} l_{ik}l_{jk})/l_{jj}$$

Thus the formula of the **square root** method is

$$\begin{cases} l_{jj} = (a_{jj} - \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} l_{jk}^2)^{1/2} \\ l_{ij} = (a_{ij} - \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} l_{ik}l_{jk})/l_{jj}, (i = j+1, \dots, n) \end{cases} \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

It is seen that for any  $k \leq j$ , we have

$$|l_{jk}| \leq \sqrt{a_{jj}}$$

## 4.2 $LU$ and Cholesky Factorizations

### - Example

Use the Gauss elimination method to find solutions for a system

$$\begin{cases} 2x_1 + 4x_2 - 2x_3 = 6 \\ x_1 - x_2 + 5x_3 = 0 \\ 4x_1 + x_2 - 2x_3 = 2 \end{cases}$$

To eliminate  $x_1$  from the second and third equations, we subtract  $\frac{1}{2}$  times the first equation from the second, and subtract 2 times the first equation from the third, and get an equivalent system as

$$\begin{cases} 2x_1 + 4x_2 - 2x_3 = 6 \\ -3x_2 + 6x_3 = -3 \\ -7x_2 + 2x_3 = -10 \end{cases}$$



## 4.2 $LU$ and Cholesky Factorizations

### - Example

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Similarly, we subtract  $\frac{7}{3}$  times the second equation from the third to remove  $x_2$  from the third equation, and get

$$\begin{cases} 2x_1 + 4x_2 - 2x_3 = 6 \\ -3x_2 + 6x_3 = -3 \\ -12x_3 = -3 \end{cases}$$

We then start back substitution and easily get the solution

$$\begin{cases} x_3 = \frac{1}{4} \\ x_2 = \frac{3}{2} \\ x_1 = \frac{1}{4} \end{cases}$$

## 4.2 $LU$ and Cholesky Factorizations

### - Example

Find the Doolittle, Crout and **LDU** factorizations for **A**

$$\mathbf{Ax} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & -2 \\ 1 & -1 & 5 \\ 4 & 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{b}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & -2 \\ 1 & -1 & 5 \\ 4 & 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1/2 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 7/3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & -2 \\ 0 & -3 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & -12 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1/2 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 7/3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -12 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -3 & 0 \\ 4 & -7 & -12 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

# Exercises

*Ex1.* Using the block form of matrix to prove: Doing elementary row operations for  $A_{m \times n}$  is equivalent to multiplying on left by a corresponding elementary matrix. Similarly, Doing elementary column operations for  $A_{m \times n}$  is equivalent to multiplying on right by a corresponding elementary matrix.

*Ex2.* Let  $E(p,q,\lambda)$  be the matrix that results from the  $n \times n$  identity matrix when  $\lambda$  times row  $q$  is added to row  $p$ . (Assume that  $p \neq q$ ) Prove that

$$E^{-1}(p,q,\lambda) = E(p,q,-\lambda)$$

*Ex3.* Prove that if  $A$  is skew-symmetric, then the diagonal elements are 0. Moreover, if the order of the matrix is odd, then the matrix is singular.

*Ex4.* Whether the matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} 4 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$  is positive definite?

## 习题

Ex5. Find the LU-factorization of the matrix

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

Ex6. Factor the matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$ , so that  $A = LL^T$ , where L is lower triangular.