# §2.1 Solving Linear Systems

Augmented coefficient matrix:

$$A_{11}x_1 + A_{12}x_2 + \dots + A_{1n}x_n = b_1$$

$$A_{21}x_1 + A_{22}x_2 + \dots + A_{2n}x_n = b_2$$

. . . .

$$A_{n1}x_1 + A_{n2}x_2 + \dots + A_{nn}x_n = b_n$$



# Uniqueness of Solution

- Unique if A is non-singular or det(A) = |A| ≠ 0; equivalently, the rows of A and columns of A must be *linearly* independent.
- If **A** is singular, then Ax=b has  $\infty$  or no solutions.



# Ill-conditioning

- Case when coefficient matrix **A** is *nearly* singular (or when | **A** | is very small).
- Can estimate |A| < |A|, where |A| is a matrix norm:



# Ill-conditioning

- The <u>condition number</u> of a **A** is defined by  $cond(\mathbf{A}) = ||A|| \times ||A^{-1}||$ .



# Ill-conditioning

• Suppose we modify the second equation of the previous example to be 2x + 1.002y = 0. What does the solution to the 2 by 2 linear system become?

• So, we see that a \_\_\_\_\_% change in **A** yields a \_\_\_\_\_% change in the solution.



### Methods of Solution

- **Direct methods** based on *elementary operations* that do not augment the solution:
  - 1. Exchange 2 rows (changes sign of |A|);
  - 2. Multiply equation by nonzero constant  $\alpha$  (|**A**| becomes  $\alpha$  |**A**|);
  - 3. Multiply equation by nonzero constant  $\alpha$  and subtract it from another equation (|A| unchanged).
- Iterative methods (or indirect methods) typically used for large and sparse A (more zeros than nonzeros); guess solution and improve every iteration.



### Direct Methods

Method	Initial Form	Final Form
Gauss Elimination	$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{b}$	$\mathbf{U}_{\mathbf{X}=\mathbf{C}}$
LU Decomposition	$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{b}$	LUx=b

Gauss-Jordan Elim. Ax=b Ix=c

Sample U,L for 3-by-3 matrices:



# LU Decomposition

Transform Ax=b given A=LU:
 (LU)x=b → L(Ux)=b; let Ux=y and solve Ly=b for y via forward substitution, then solve Ux=y for the solution vector x.



## LU Decomposition

• Now that we have  $y=(y_1 y_2 y_3)^T$  use back-substitution to get  $x=(x_1 x_2 x_3)^T$ :



# LU Decomposition Example

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 8 & -6 & 2 \\ -4 & 11 & -7 \\ 4 & -7 & 6 \end{pmatrix}, \quad b = \begin{pmatrix} 28 \\ -40 \\ 33 \end{pmatrix}$$



• Use elementary row operations that preserve the solution and produce an *upper-triangular* augmented coefficient matrix.

Example: 
$$4x_1 - 2x_2 + x_3 = 11$$

$$-2x_1 + 4x_2 - 2x_3 = -16$$

$$x_1 - 2x_2 + 4x_3 = 17$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -2 & 1 & 11 \\ -2 & 4 & -2 & -16 \\ 1 & -2 & 4 & 17 \end{pmatrix} a$$
b
c



• Now element in (2,2) position is the *pivot*:

$$Eq(c) \leftarrow Eq(c) - (-0.5) \times Eq(b) \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -2 & 1 & | & 11 \\ 0 & 3 & -1.5 & | & -10.5 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & | & 9 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$(x_1, x_2, x_3)^T = (\underline{\phantom{a}})^T$$

• Python code for elimination phase (getting the uppertriangular augmented coefficient matrix):

```
for k in range(0,n-1):
    for i in range(k+1,n):
        if a[i,k] != 0.0
            lam=a[i,k]/a[k,k] #pivot
            a[i,k+1:n]=a[i,k+1:n]-lam*a[k,k+1:n]
            b[i]=b[i]-lam*b[k]
```

• What happens to  $A_{ij}$  for i > j?



- See gaussElim.py on page 41 of textbook.
- Can handle multiple right-hand-sides (**AX**=**B**) with minor changes to gaussElim.py but method would be inefficient; back-substitution has to be repeated for each final column of **B**.



# §2.3 LU Decomposition

• Can express  $\underline{any} n$ -by-n matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  as  $\mathbf{A}$ = $\mathbf{LU}$ .

#### **Different forms**:

Doolittle  $L_{ii}=1$ , i=1,2,...,n

Crout  $U_{ii} = 1, i = 1, 2, ..., n$ 

Choleski  $L=U^T$  (for symmetric matrices A)

How do we solve Ax=b using A=LU?



# Doolittle's Decomposition

• Most common LU decomposition; matrix (or

array A) can be overwritten: Implicit that the diagonal of L is all ones; element in  $L_{ij}$ is the pivot equation

$$\left( \begin{array}{cccc} U_{11} & U_{12} & U_{13} \\ L_{21} & U_{22} & U_{23} \\ L_{31} & L_{32} & U_{33} \end{array} \right)$$

multiplier  $\lambda$  needed to zero the current  $A_{ij}$  element; LUdecomp.py on p. 47 in textbook.



# Choleski Decomposition

- $A=LL^T$
- A must be symmetric (i.e.,  $A=A^T$ )
- A must be positive definite  $(\vec{x}^T A \vec{x} > 0 \ \forall \vec{x} \neq \vec{0})$

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & A_{23} \\ A_{31} & A_{32} & A_{33} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} L_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ L_{21} & L_{22} & 0 \\ L_{31} & L_{32} & L_{33} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} L_{11} & L_{21} & L_{31} \\ 0 & L_{22} & L_{32} \\ 0 & 0 & L_{33} \end{pmatrix}$$



# Choleski Decomposition

Match A to the product LL<sup>T</sup>:

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & A_{23} \\ A_{31} & A_{32} & A_{33} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} L_{11}^2 & L_{11}L_{21} & L_{11}L_{31} \\ L_{11}L_{21} & L_{21}^2 + L_{22}^2 & L_{21}L_{31} + L_{22}L_{32} \\ L_{11}L_{31} & L_{21}L_{31} + L_{22}L_{32} & L_{21}^2 + L_{22}^2 + L_{23}^2 \end{pmatrix}$$



# Choleski Decomposition

• Generalization for *n*-by-*n* matrices:

$$\begin{split} L_{jj} &= \sqrt{A_{jj} - \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} L_{jk}^2}, \quad j = 2, 3, ..., n \\ L_{ij} &= \left(A_{ij} - \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} L_{ik} L_{jk}\right) / L_{jj}, \quad j = 2, 3, ..., n; i = j+1, j+2, ..., n \end{split}$$

- See choleski.py on p. 50 of textbook.
- <u>Applications</u>: Example 2.8 (p. 54), Problem Set 2.1 (#16, p. 57)



## §2.4 Symmetric & Banded Matrices

Sparse matrix – most elements are zero.

 Banded matrix – nonzeros are clustered near the main diagonal; tridiagonal matrix A has a

bandwidth of 3:



#### **Banded Matrices**

• For a banded matrix **A** with **A**=**LU**, both **L** and **U** retain the banded *structure* of **A**:



#### **Banded Matrices**

- How can we exploit symmetry & banded structure in solving Ax=b?
- For *tridiagonal* coefficient matrices, we only need to eliminate one element below each pivot element, i.e., only one elementary operation is needed per pivot row.
- See LUdecomp3.py on pp. 61-62 of the textbook.



#### **Banded Matrices**

- In LUdecomp3.py notice that b is overwritten with the solution vector in LUsolve3(c,d,e,b).
- <u>Application</u>: Example 2.11 on p.68 of the textbook.



### Symmetric Coefficient Matrices

• It is common to have symmetric and/or banded matrices in engineering applications;  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A}^T$  but not necessarily positive definite in this case.

If  $A=A^T$ , then  $A=LU=LDL^T$ , where **D** is a diagonal matrix.

 We can use LUdecomp.py and recover L and D from the U factor.



### Symmetric Coefficient Matrices

Matching elements of U we can recover L and D:

$$\begin{pmatrix} D_1 & & & \\ & D_2 & & \\ & & D_3 & & \\ & & & D_n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & L_{21} & L_{31} & \dots & L_{n1} \\ & 1 & L_{32} & \dots & L_{n2} \\ & & & 1 & \dots & L_{n3} \\ & & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} D_1 & D_1 L_{21} & D_1 L_{31} & \dots & D_1 L_{n1} \\ & D_2 & D_2 L_{32} & \dots & D_2 L_{n2} \\ & & & & D_3 & \dots & D_3 L_{n3} \\ & & & & & \dots & \\ & & & & & D_n \end{pmatrix}$$

• <u>Application</u>: Problem Set 2.2 (#3, p. 78): given 5-by-5 symmetric tridiagonal matrix **A**, determine **L** and **D** so that **A**=**LDL**<sup>T</sup>.



## §2.5 Pivoting

• Need to reorder equations during the elimination phase in order to avoid very *small* multipliers (pivot elements).  $\begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ 

• Suppose the augmented matrix is  $\begin{bmatrix} \epsilon & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 & 0 \\ 2 & -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ 



### Pivoting

- We don't always have to pick  $A_{kk}$  for the pivot element when zeroing out elements in column k (below the diagonal).
- Instead, we find  $A_{pk}$  of the largest *relative* size  $(r_{pk})$ :  $r = max(r_{pk})$  is k

$$r_{pk} = \max_{j} (r_{jk}), j \ge k,$$

where 
$$r_{ij} = \frac{|A_{ij}|}{S_i}$$
,  $S_i = \max_j |A_{ij}|$ ,  $i = 1, 2, ..., n$ .



### Pivoting

- If  $p \neq k$ , we interchange rows k and p and proceed with the elimination.
- See gaussPivot.py on pp. 72-73; uses the swap.py function on p. 67.
- See also the LUpivot.py module on pp. 74-75; incorporates pivoting into Doolittle's decomposition and row permutations are stored in the seq vector.
- <u>Sample application</u>: Problem Set 2.2 (#12) on pp. 79-80.



# Pivoting (Caveats)

- Destroys symmetry and bandedness which do arise in many engineering applications.
- Pivoting is unnecessary when the matrix is diagonally dominant: ( 1 2 1

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

Computation time is increased with pivoting.



### §2.6 Matrix Inversion

- Can compute  $A^{-1}$  for an n-by-n matrix A by solving  $AX=I_n$ .
- If **A** is banded, **A**<sup>-1</sup> will be dense (lose nonzero structure); if **A** is triangular, **A**<sup>-1</sup> will also be triangular.
- Cost of inverting A to solve Ax=b (i.e.,  $x=A^{-1}b$ ) is much higher than using LU decomposition.



### §2.7 Iterative Methods

- Sometimes they are called *indirect* methods.
- Take an initial guess at the solution x (for Ax=b) and repeatedly improve x until change is negligible.
- <u>Advantages</u>: store only nonzeros of A and methods are self-correcting (round-off errors are corrected in subsequent iterations).



### Iterative Methods

- <u>Drawback</u>: do not always converge to the exact solution; if the matrix **A** is *diagonally dominant*, convergence is **guaranteed**.
- Initial guess affects the number of iterations (not really if method converges).
- First method we consider is <u>Gauss-Seidel</u>.



- Write  $\mathbf{A}x = \mathbf{b}$  as  $\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_{ij} x_j = b_i, i = 1, 2, ..., n$ .
- Extract term for  $x_i$  to get  $A_{ii}x_i + \sum_{\substack{j=1 \ i \neq i}}^{n} A_{ij}x_j = b_i, i = 1, 2, ..., n$ .
- Solving for  $x_i$  yields:

$$x_{i} = \frac{1}{A_{ii}} \left( b_{i} - \sum_{\substack{j=1 \ j \neq i}}^{n} A_{ij} x_{j} \right), i = 1, 2, ..., n.$$



• Algorithm:  $x_i^{(k+1)} \leftarrow \frac{1}{A_{ii}} \left( b_i - \sum_{\substack{j=1 \ j \neq i}}^n A_{ij} x_j^{(k)} \right), i = 1, 2, ..., n.$ 

• Start with an initial guess,  $x^{(0)}$  and generate successive iterates  $x^{(1)}$ ,  $x^{(2)}$ ,..., etc. until the difference between  $x^{(k+1)}$  and  $x^{(k)}$  is sufficiently small; how can convergence be improved?



Algorithm with relaxation:

$$x_i^{(k+1)} \leftarrow \frac{\omega}{A_{ii}} \left( b_i - \sum_{\substack{j=1 \ j \neq i}}^n A_{ij} x_j^{(k)} \right) + (1 - \omega) x_i^{(k)}, i = 1, 2, ..., n.$$

• Take weighted average of previous iteration values;  $\omega$ <1 (under-relaxation),  $\omega$ >1 (over-relaxation). What is optimal  $\omega$ ?



• Can be shown that  $\omega_{\text{opt}} = \frac{2}{1 + \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{\Delta x^{(k+p)}}{\Delta x^{(k)}}\right)^{\frac{1}{p}}}}$ 

where *p* is a positive integer and  $\Delta x^{(k)} = |x^{(k-1)} - x^{(k)}|$ .

• <u>Strategy</u>: (1) perform k iterations with  $\omega = 1$ , after  $k^{\text{th}}$  iteration record  $\Delta x^{(k)}$ ; (2) perform p more iterations and record  $\Delta x^{(k+p)}$ ; and (3) perform subsequent iterations with  $\omega = \omega_{opt}$ ; see gaussSeidel.py on p.89 and Example 2.17 on pp. 95-96.



- Consider the function  $f(x) = \frac{1}{2} x^T A x b^T x$ , where **A** is a symmetric and positive definite (SPD) matrix and x,b are vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
- The minimum for f(x) occurs when the gradient  $\nabla f = Ax b = 0$  or when Ax = b.
- Desire an iteration of the form  $x_{k+1} = x_k + \alpha_k s_k$ ; where  $s_k$  is a search direction and  $\alpha_k$  is the step length.



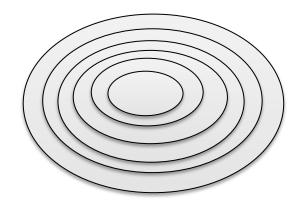
- To minimize  $f(x_{k+1})$  we choose  $\alpha_k$  so that  $\mathbf{A}(x_k + \alpha_k s_k) = b$ , why?
- Let  $r_k = b \mathbf{A} x_k$  ( $k^{\text{th}}$  residual? vector) so that  $\mathbf{A}(x_k + \alpha_k s_k) = b$  after multiplying through by  $\mathbf{A}$  yields  $\alpha_k \mathbf{A} s_k = b \mathbf{A} x_k = r_k$ .
- Using this last equality and solving for  $\alpha_k$  yields  $\alpha_k = s_k^T r_k / s_k^T \mathbf{A} s_k$  (a way to compute the step length).
- How do we determine the search direction  $s_k$ ?



- Could choose  $s_k = -\nabla f = r_k$  (i.e., direction of largest negative change in f(x)); this is called the method of *steepest descent*.
- How would it converge?
- Alternative approach: conjugate gradient with  $s_{k+1} = r_{k+1} + \beta_k s_k$ , where the constant  $\beta_k$  is chosen so that two successive  $s_k$ 's are *conjugate*. This means  $s_{k+1}^T \mathbf{A} s_k = 0$ .



- CG preserves minimizations from previous iterations (no backtracking); not the case for steepest descent.
- Compare convergence paths:



Assuming **exact** arithmetic, CG would converge in at most *n* steps for an *n*-by-*n* linear system.



- Since  $s_{k+1} = r_{k+1} + \beta_k s_k$  and we require  $s_{k+1}^T \mathbf{A} s_k = 0$ , then we must have  $(r_{k+1} + \beta_k s_k)^T \mathbf{A} s_k = 0$ .
- Solving for  $\beta_k$  we obtain...  $\beta_k = -r_{k+1}{}^T \mathbf{A} s_k / s_k{}^T \mathbf{A} s_k$  (and we can now advance the search direction).
- Initialization of CG algorithm:
  - 1) Choose  $x_0$
  - 2) Compute  $r_0 = b \mathbf{A} x_0$
  - 3) Choose  $s_0 = r_0$  (i.e., start with direction of steepest descent)



Main loop of CG algorithm:

4) For 
$$k = 0, 1, 2, ...$$

$$\alpha_{k} = s_{k}^{T} r_{k} / s_{k}^{T} \mathbf{A} s_{k}$$

$$x_{k+1} = x_{k} + \alpha_{k} s_{k}$$

$$r_{k+1} = b - \mathbf{A} x_{k+1}$$
If  $|r_{k+1}| \le \varepsilon$ , exit loop. ( $\varepsilon$  is the error tolerance.)
$$\beta_{k} = -r_{k+1}^{T} \mathbf{A} s_{k} / s_{k}^{T} \mathbf{A} s_{k}$$

$$s_{k+1} = r_{k+1} + \beta_{k} s_{k}$$

• Residual vectors  $r_1, r_2, r_3,...$  are mutually orthogonal (i.e.,  $r_i^T r_j = 0$  for  $i \neq j$ ).



- Since the n residual vectors  $\{r_1, r_2, r_3, ..., r_n\}$  are mutually orthogonal, we know that  $r_{n+1} = 0$ . Why?
- This means that CG should theoretically converge in *n* iterations of the loop; typically obtain convergence in much less than *n* iterations.
- See conjGrad.py on pp.91-92 of textbook and review Example 2.18 on p.97.

