```
            B(i,j) = (A(i,j) - B(i,1:j-1)*B(j,1:j-1)')/B(j,j);
        end
    end
end
B(n,n) = sqrt(A(n,n) - B(n,1:n-1)*B(n,1:n-1)');
end
```

If we run the above algorithm on the following matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 4 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 \end{pmatrix},$$

we obtain

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} 2.0000 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.5000 & 1.9365 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.5164 & 1.9322 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.5175 & 1.9319 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0.5176 & 1.9319 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The Cholesky factorization can be used to solve linear systems $Ax = b$ where A is symmetric positive definite: Solve the two systems $Bw = b$ and $B^\top x = w$.

Remark: It can be shown that this method requires $n^3/6 + O(n^2)$ additions, $n^3/6 + O(n^2)$ multiplications, $n^2/2+O(n)$ divisions, and $O(n)$ square root extractions. Thus, the Cholesky method requires half of the number of operations required by Gaussian elimination (since Gaussian elimination requires $n^3/3 + O(n^2)$ additions, $n^3/3 + O(n^2)$ multiplications, and $n^2/2 + O(n)$ divisions). It also requires half of the space (only B is needed, as opposed to both L and U). Furthermore, it can be shown that Cholesky's method is numerically stable (see Trefethen and Bau [176], Lecture 23). In `Matlab` the function `chol` returns the lower-triangular matrix B such that $A = BB^\top$ using the call $B = \mathrm{chol}(A, \text{‘lower’})$.

Remark: If $A = BB^\top$, where B is any invertible matrix, then A is symmetric positive definite.

Proof. Obviously, $BB^\top$ is symmetric, and since B is invertible, $B^\top$ is invertible, and from

$$x^\top Ax = x^\top BB^\top x = (B^\top x)^\top B^\top x,$$

it is clear that $x^\top Ax > 0$ if $x \neq 0$. $\square$

We now give three more criteria for a symmetric matrix to be positive definite.