

# SPECIAL LINEAR SYSTEMS OF EQUATIONS

---

- Symmetric positive definite matrices.
- The  $LDL^T$  decomposition; The Cholesky factorization
- Banded systems

## Positive-Definite Matrices

- A real matrix is said to be positive definite if

$$(Au, u) > 0 \text{ for all } u \neq 0, u \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

- Let  $A$  be a real positive definite matrix. Then there is a scalar  $\alpha > 0$  such that

$$(Au, u) \geq \alpha \|u\|_2^2,$$

- Consider now the case of Symmetric Positive Definite (SPD) matrices.
- Consequence 1:  $A$  is nonsingular
- Consequence 2: the eigenvalues of  $A$  are (real) positive

## A few properties of SPD matrices

- Diagonal entries of  $A$  are positive
- Each principal submatrix ( $A(1 : k, 1 : k)$  in matlab notation) is SPD
- For any  $n \times k$  matrix  $X$  of rank  $k$ , the matrix  $X^T A X$  is SPD.
- The mapping :

$$x, y \rightarrow (x, y)_A \equiv (Ax, y)$$

is a proper inner product on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . The associated norm, denoted by  $\|\cdot\|_A$ , is called the **energy norm**:

$$\|x\|_A = (Ax, x)^{1/2} = \sqrt{x^T A x}$$

## More terminology

- A matrix is **Positive Semi-Definite** if

$$(Au, u) \geq 0 \text{ for all } u \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

- Eigenvalues of symmetric positive semi-definite matrices are real nonnegative, i.e., ...
- ...  $A$  can be singular [If not,  $A$  is SPD]
- A matrix is said to be **Negative Definite** if  $-A$  is positive definite. Similar definition for Negative Semi-Definite
- A matrix that is neither positive semi-definite nor negative semi-definite is **indefinite**

 Show that if  $A^T = A$  and  $(Ax, x) = 0 \forall x$  then  $A = 0$

 Show:  $A$  is indefinite iff  $\exists x, y : (Ax, x)(Ay, y) < 0$

## The $LDL^T$ and Cholesky factorizations

Consider the LU factorization of an SPD matrix  $A$ . Let  $D = \text{diag}(U)$ .

$$A = LU = LD \underbrace{(D^{-1}U)}_{M^T} \equiv LDM^T$$

- Both  $L$  and  $M$  are unit lower triangular
- Consider  $L^{-1}AL^{-T} = DM^TL^{-T}$
- Matrix on the right is upper triangular. But it is also symmetric. Therefore  $M^TL^{-T} = I$  and so  $M = L$
- The diagonal entries of  $D$  are positive [Proof: consider  $L^{-1}AL^{-T} = D$ ]. In the end:

$$A = LDL^T = GG^T \text{ where } G = LD^{1/2}$$

➤ Cholesky factorization is a specialization of the LU factorization for the SPD case. Several variants exist.

**First algorithm:** row-oriented LDLT

Adapted from Gaussian Elimination [Work only on upper triang. part]

```
1. For  $k = 1 : n - 1$  Do:
2.   For  $i = k + 1 : n$  Do:
3.      $piv := a(k, i) / a(k, k)$ 
4.      $a(i, i : n) := a(i, i : n) - piv * a(k, i : n)$ 
5.   End
6. End
```

➤ This will give the  $U$  matrix of the LU factorization. Therefore  $D = \text{diag}(U)$ ,  $L = D^{-1}U$ .

## Row-Cholesky (outer product form)

Scale the rows as the algorithm proceeds. Line 4 becomes

$$a(i, :) := a(i, :) - [a(k, i) / \sqrt{a(k, k)}] * [a(k, :) / \sqrt{a(k, k)}]$$




### ALGORITHM : 1. Outer product Cholesky

1. For  $k = 1 : n$  Do:
2.      $A(k, k : n) = A(k, k : n) / \sqrt{A(k, k)}$  ;
3.     For  $i := k + 1 : n$  Do :
4.          $A(i, i : n) = A(i, i : n) - A(k, i) * A(k, i : n)$ ;
5.     End
6. End

➤ Result: Upper triangular matrix  $U$  such  $A = U^T U$ .

*Example:*

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 \\ -1 & 5 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

-  Is  $A$  symmetric positive definite?
-  What is the  $LDL^T$  factorization of  $A$  ?
-  What is the Cholesky factorization of  $A$  ?



## Column Cholesky.

Let  $A = GG^T$  with  $G =$  lower triangular. Then equate  $j$ -th columns:

$$a(i, j) = \sum_{k=1}^j g(j, k)g^T(k, i) \rightarrow$$

$$A(:, j) = \sum_{k=1}^j G(j, k)G(:, k)$$

$$= G(j, j)G(:, j) + \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} G(j, k)G(:, k) \rightarrow$$

$$G(j, j)G(:, j) = A(:, j) - \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} G(j, k)G(:, k)$$

- Assume that first  $j - 1$  columns of  $G$  already known.
- Compute unscaled **column-vector**:

$$v = A(:, j) - \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} G(j, k)G(:, k)$$

- Notice that  $v(j) \equiv G(j, j)^2$ .
- Compute  $\sqrt{v(j)}$  scale  $v$  to get  $j$ -th column of  $G$ .

## ALGORITHM : 2. Column Cholesky

---

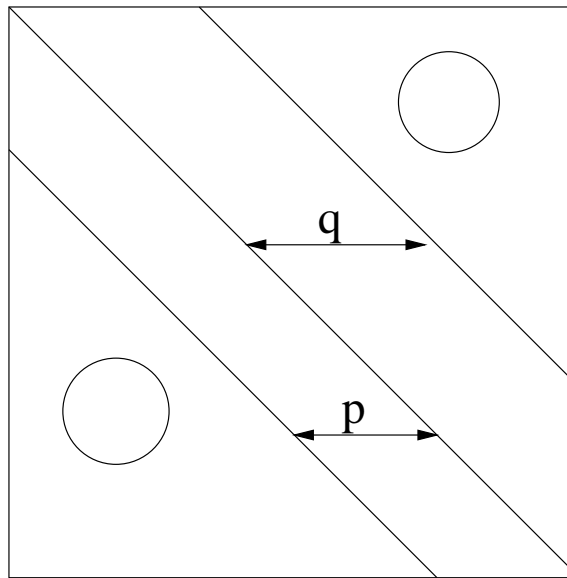
1. For  $j = 1 : n$  do
2.     For  $k = 1 : j - 1$  do
3.          $A(j : n, j) = A(j : n, j) - A(j, k) * A(j : n, k)$
4.     EndDo
5.     If  $A(j, j) \leq 0$  ExitError(“Matrix not SPD”)
6.      $A(j, j) = \sqrt{A(j, j)}$
7.      $A(j + 1 : n, j) = A(j + 1 : n, j) / A(j, j)$
8. EndDo

*Example:*

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 \\ -1 & 5 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Banded matrices

- Banded matrices arise in many applications
- $A$  has upper bandwidth  $q$  if  $a_{ij} = 0$  for  $j - i > q$
- $A$  has lower bandwidth  $p$  if  $a_{ij} = 0$  for  $i - j > p$



- Simplest case: tridiagonal ➤  $p = q = 1$ .

➤ First observation: Gaussian elimination (no pivoting) preserves the initial banded form. Consider first step of Gaussian elimination:

```
2.   For  $i = 2 : n$  Do:
3.        $a_{i1} := a_{i1}/a_{11}$  (pivots)
4.       For  $j := 2 : n$  Do :
5.            $a_{ij} := a_{ij} - a_{i1} * a_{1j}$ 
6.       End
7.   End
```

➤ If  $A$  has upper bandwidth  $q$  and lower bandwidth  $p$  then so is the resulting  $[L/U]$  matrix. ➤ Band form is preserved (induction)



Operation count?

## What happens when partial pivoting is used?

If  $A$  has lower bandwidth  $p$ , upper bandwidth  $q$ , and if Gaussian elimination with partial pivoting is used, then the resulting  $U$  has upper bandwidth  $p + q$ .  $L$  has at most  $p + 1$  nonzero elements per column (bandedness is lost).

➤ Simplest case: tridiagonal ➤  $p = q = 1$ .

*Example:*

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$