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Matrix Inversion in C# using DecompositionPosted on [August 15, 2011](#)

It turns out that a naive approach to finding the inverse of a matrix is usually inefficient. The standard approach is to break down the matrix to be inverted into two matrices (lower and upper) and then use back substitution. For example:

```
double[][] m = MatrixCreate(4, 4);  
m[0][0] = 8.0; m[0][1] = 6.0; m[0][2] = 4.0; m[0][3] = 2.0;  
m[1][0] = 1.0; m[1][1] = 5.0; m[1][2] = 3.0; m[1][3] = 7.0;  
m[2][0] = 6.0; m[2][1] = 8.0; m[2][2] = 2.0; m[2][3] = 4.0;  
m[3][0] = 9.0; m[3][1] = 3.0; m[3][2] = 5.0; m[3][3] = 1.0;
```

```
Console.WriteLine("Original matrix is:");  
Console.WriteLine(MatrixAsString(m));
```

```
double[][] inv = MatrixInverse(m);  
Console.WriteLine("The inverse is:");  
Console.WriteLine(MatrixAsString(inv));
```

```
double[][] prod = MatrixProduct(m, inv);  
Console.WriteLine("Product of m * inv is:");  
Console.WriteLine(MatrixAsString(prod));
```

The well-known book "Numerical Recipes in C" has all the details and I refactored that code into C#. Here's the code:

```
static double[][] MatrixInverse(double[][] matrix)  
{  
    // use clever matrix decomposition technique.  
    // returns null on error.  
    int r = matrix.Length;  
    int c = matrix[0].Length;  
    if (r != c)  
        throw new Exception("Attempt to MatrixInverse a non-square matrix");  
  
    int n = r;  
    double[][] result = MatrixCreate(n, n);  
    double[] col = new double[n];  
    double[] x = new double[n];  
  
    int[] indx = new int[n];  
    double d;  
    double[][] luMatrix = MatrixDecomposition(matrix, indx, out d);  
  
    if (luMatrix == null) return null;
```

```

    for (int j = 0; j < n; ++j)
    {
        for (int i = 0; i < n; ++i) { col[i] = 0.0; }
        col[j] = 1.0;
        x = MatrixBackSub(luMatrix, indx, col);
        for (int i = 0; i < n; ++i) { result[i][j] = x[i]; }
    }
    return result;
} // MatrixInverse

static double[][] MatrixDecomposition(double[][] matrix,
    int[] indx, out double d)
{
    // see earlier blog post
}

static double[] MatrixBackSub(double[][] luMatrix,
    int[] indx, double[] b)
{
    int rows = luMatrix.Length;
    int cols = luMatrix[0].Length;
    if (rows != cols)
        throw new Exception("Non-square LU matrix");

    int ii = 0; int ip = 0;
    int n = b.Length;
    double sum = 0.0;

    double[] x = new double[b.Length];
    b.CopyTo(x, 0);

    for (int i = 0; i < n; ++i)
    {
        ip = indx[i];
        sum = x[ip];
        x[ip] = x[i]; //
        if (ii == 0)
        {
            for (int j = ii; j <= i - 1; ++j)
                { sum -= luMatrix[i][j] * x[j]; }
        }
        else if (sum == 0.0)
        {
            ii = i;
        }
        x[i] = sum;
    } // i

    for (int i = n - 1; i >= 0; --i)
    {

```

```
    sum = x[i];  
    for (int j = i + 1; j < n; ++j)  
        { sum -= luMatrix[i][j] * x[j]; }  
    x[i] = sum / luMatrix[i][i];  
}  
return x;  
} // MatrixBackSub
```



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