

luFactor.m

This function uses LU decomposition to manipulate the A input matrix into an output L U and P matrices.

Within MATLAB (*or Octave*) this function can be called upon using $[L, U, P] = \text{luFactor}(A)$.

Inputs

- A - The input matrix

Outputs

- L - The lower triangular matrix. Stores values used to modify the A matrix
- U - The upper triangular matrix. Is the final product of LU factorization
- P - The permutation matrix. Stores information on row pivoting

Useful Knowledge

- The outputs should be useful in calculating the x matrix if you are solving the matrix equation $[A] * \{x\} = \{b\}$.
- Using the outputs of this function can be checked using $[P] * [A] = [L] * [U]$ (*this should be true*).

Limitations

The built-in MATLAB `lu` function will likely be more accurate and work in more cases. `luFactor` occasionally fails when it runs into very small numbers in the A or L matrices.