

# Homework Assignment 3

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**Problem 1.** Let  $A$  and  $B$  be square  $n \times n$  matrices and  $x \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times 1}$  be a column vector. Count the number of multiplications needed to compute  $(AB)x$  versus  $A(Bx)$ . Which one is better for large values of  $n$ ?

*Solution.* To determine the number of multiplications necessary to compute the product  $(AB)x$  we must find out how many multiplications it takes to compute  $AB = C$  and how many multiplications it takes to compute  $Cx$ . Since  $A$  and  $B$  are square  $n \times n$  matrices, each entry in their product will require  $n$  multiplications. Since  $AB$  has  $n^2$  entries, it will take  $n^3$  multiplications to compute  $AB = C$ . Now,  $C$  is a square  $n \times n$  matrix and  $x$  is a  $n \times 1$  matrix, so each entry in the product  $Cx$  will require  $n$  multiplications. Since there are  $n$  entries in  $Cx$ , the product will require  $n^2$  multiplications. Therefore,  $n^3 + n^2$  multiplications are necessary to compute  $(AB)x$ .

Similarly the number of multiplications necessary to compute  $A(Bx)$  is determined by the number of multiplications necessary to compute  $Bx = D$  and  $AD$ . Since  $Bx$  has  $n$  entries and it takes  $n$  multiplications to compute each entry, it takes  $n^2$  multiplications to compute  $Bx$ . For similar reasons it takes  $n^2$  multiplications to compute  $AD$ . Therefore, it takes  $2n^2$  multiplications to compute  $A(Bx)$ .

Clearly, it is better to compute  $A(Bx)$  for large values of  $n$  if the goal is to reduce the number of multiplications necessary to compute the product.  $\square$

**Problem 2.** Let  $A$  and  $B$  be square  $n \times n$  upper triangular matrices. Show that  $C = AB$  is also upper triangular. How many multiplications are needed to compute  $C$ ?

*Solution.* Note that a matrix  $A = (a_{ij})$  is upper triangular if every entry of the matrix below the main diagonal is 0, i.e. if  $a_{ij} = 0$  when  $i > j$ .

If  $C = AB$ , then it is clear that by definition  $c_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik}b_{kj}$ . Thus, the matrix product  $C$  is upper triangular if  $c_{ij} = 0$  when  $i > j$ . So, let's consider  $c_{ij}$  for which  $1 \leq j < i \leq n$ . Then

$$c_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik}b_{kj} = \sum_{k=1}^j a_{ik}b_{kj} + \sum_{k=j+1}^n a_{ik}b_{kj} \quad (1)$$

Now for  $1 \leq k \leq j < i$ , the entry  $a_{ik} = 0$  since  $A$  is upper triangular showing that the left sum in (1) is 0 and for  $j < j+1 \leq k \leq n$ , the entry  $b_{kj} = 0$  since  $B$  is upper triangular showing that the right sum in (1) is 0. Therefore,  $c_{ij} = 0$  for  $i > j$  and  $C$  is an upper triangular matrix.

To compute the number of multiplications necessary to compute this product, we must determine what the other entries  $c_{ij}$  are when  $i \leq j$ .

When  $1 \leq i \leq j \leq n$ ,

$$c_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik}b_{kj} = \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} a_{ik}b_{kj} + \sum_{k=i}^j a_{ik}b_{kj} + \sum_{k=j+1}^n a_{ik}b_{kj} = \sum_{k=i}^j a_{ik}b_{kj}$$

since  $a_{ik} = 0$  for  $1 \leq k \leq i-1$  due to the fact that  $A$  is upper triangular and  $b_{kj} = 0$  for  $j+1 \leq k \leq n$  due to the fact that  $B$  is upper triangular. Thus, to compute the entry  $c_{ij}$  when  $i \leq j$ , there are  $j-i+1$  multiplications necessary to compute the entry and 0 multiplications are necessary when  $i > j$ .

If  $x(c_{ij})$  is the number of multiplications necessary to calculate the entry  $c_{ij}$ , then  $X$ , the number of computations necessary to calculate the product  $C$ , using the above, is given by

$$\begin{aligned} X &= \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^n x(c_{ij}) = \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^j x(c_{ij}) \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^j j-i+1 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^n 2j^2 - j(j+1) + 2j \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^n j^2 + j = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{12} + \frac{n(n+1)}{4} = \frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{6} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the number of multiplications necessary to compute the product of two  $n \times n$  upper triangular matrices is, in general,  $n(n+1)(n+2)/6$ .  $\square$

**Problem 3.** Let  $A$  be a square  $n \times n$  upper triangular matrix. Show that  $A^{-1}$  is also upper triangular.

*Solution.* Suppose a matrix  $A$  is an upper triangular matrix. Then

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ 0 & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & a_{22} & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & a_{22} & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right) \\ &= \Lambda(I + U) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Lambda$  is a diagonal matrix consisting of the main diagonal of  $A$ ,  $I$  is the identity matrix, and  $U$  is an upper triangular nilpotent matrix.

Using this definition of  $A$ , we can see easily that  $A^{-1} = (I + U)^{-1}\Lambda^{-1}$ . Let  $B = I - U + U^2 + \cdots + (-1)^n U^n$ . Then it is easy to see that  $B$  commutes with  $I + U$  and

$$\begin{aligned}
(I + U)B &= (I + U)(I - U + U^2 + \cdots + (-1)^n U^n) \\
&= (I + U) \sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^i U^i \\
&= \sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^i U^i + \sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^i U^{i+1} \\
&= I + \sum_{i=1}^n (-1)^i U^i + \sum_{i=1}^n (-1)^{i-1} U^i + U^{n+1} \\
&= I + \sum_{i=1}^n ((-1)^i + 1^i) U^i + U^{n+1} = I + U^{n+1}. \tag{2}
\end{aligned}$$

Now  $(I + U)B = I + U^{n+1} = I$  since  $U$  is a nilpotent matrix. Thus,  $(I + U)^{-1} = B = I - U + U^2 + \cdots + (-1)^n U^n$ . Note that since the sum of two upper triangular matrices is an upper triangular matrix and the product of two upper triangular matrices is an upper triangular matrix,  $(I + U)^{-1} = I - U + U^2 + \cdots + (-1)^n U^n$  is an upper triangular matrix since  $I$  and  $U$  are upper triangular matrices.

Therefore,  $A^{-1} = (I + U)^{-1}\Lambda^{-1}$  must be upper triangular since  $\Lambda^{-1}$  is an upper triangular matrix.  $\square$