

# Linear equations 1

## Linear algebra basics

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Numerical Methods (6BER03), 2024-2025

# Today's outline

- Introduction
- Matrix inversion
- Solving a linear system
- Towards larger systems
- Summary

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# Overview

## Goals

- Different ways of looking at a system of linear equations
- Determination of the inverse, determinant and the rank of a matrix
- The existence of a solution to a set of linear equations

# Different views of linear systems

- Separate equations:

$$x + y + z = 4$$

$$2x + y + 3z = 7$$

$$3x + y + 6z = 5$$

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- Matrix mapping  $Mx = b$ :

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- Linear combination:

$$x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + y \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + z \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 7 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

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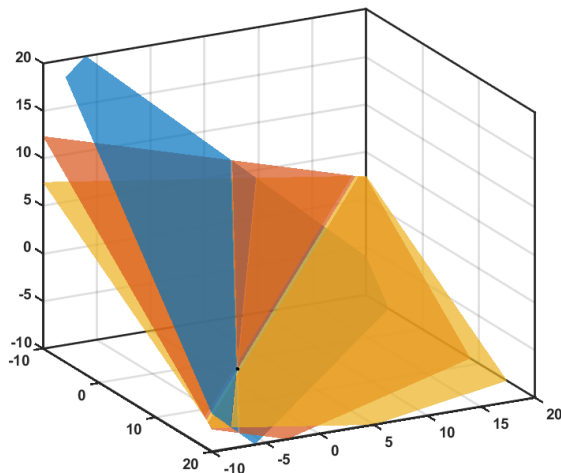
$$3x + y + 6z = 5$$

- Matrix mapping  $Mx = b$ :

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# Inverse of a matrix

- The inverse  $M^{-1}$  is defined such that:

$$MM^{-1} = I \quad \text{and} \quad M^{-1}M = I$$

- Use the inverse to solve a set of linear equations:

$$M\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$$

$$M^{-1}M\mathbf{x} = M^{-1}\mathbf{b}$$

$$I\mathbf{x} = M^{-1}\mathbf{b}$$

$$\mathbf{x} = M^{-1}\mathbf{b}$$

# How to calculate the inverse?

- The inverse of an  $N \times N$  matrix can be calculated using the co-factors of each element of the matrix:

$$M^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det|M|} \begin{bmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} & C_{13} \\ C_{21} & C_{22} & C_{23} \\ C_{31} & C_{32} & C_{33} \end{bmatrix}^T$$

- $\det|M|$  is the *determinant* of matrix  $M$ .
- $C_{ij}$  is the *co-factor* of the  $ij^{\text{th}}$  element in  $M$ .

# Computing the co-factors

Consider the following example matrix:  $M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$

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$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & \times & \times \\ \times & 1 & 3 \\ \times & 1 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$\begin{bmatrix} + & - & + \\ - & + & - \\ + & - & + \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & \times & \times \\ \times & 1 & 3 \\ \times & 1 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} + & - & + \\ - & + & - \\ + & - & + \end{bmatrix}$$

$$C_{11} = +1 \cdot \det \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 6 \end{vmatrix} \\ = 6 \times 1 - 3 \times 1 = 3$$

# Computing the co-factors

Back to our example:

$$M^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 6 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det|M|} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -3 & -1 \\ -5 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}^T$$



# Computing the co-factors

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- The determinant is very important
- If  $\det|M| = 0$ , the inverse does not exist (singular matrix)

# Calculating the determinant

Compute the determinant by multiplication of each element on a row (or column) by its cofactor and adding the results:

$$\det \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 6 \end{vmatrix} = +\det \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 6 \end{vmatrix} - \det \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 6 \end{vmatrix} + \det \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = -1$$

# Calculating the determinant

Compute the determinant by multiplication of each element on a row (or column) by its cofactor and adding the results:

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$$\det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 6 \end{bmatrix} = +\det \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} - 3\det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + 6\det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = -1$$

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# Solving a linear system

- Our example:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 7 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 7 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

- The solution is:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = M^{-1}b = \frac{1}{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -5 & 2 \\ -3 & 3 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 7 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{-1} \begin{bmatrix} -13 \\ 4 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 13 \\ -4 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}$$

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- The inverse exists, because  $\det|M| = -1$ .

# Solving a linear system in Python using the inverse

- Create the matrix:

```
1 >>> A = np.array([[1, 1, 1], [2, 1, 3], [3, 1, 6]])
```



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1 >>> Ainv = np.linalg.inv(A)
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```

- Python's internal direct solver:

```
1 >>> x = np.linalg.solve(A, b)
```

- These are black boxes! We are going over some methods later!

## Exercise: performance of inverse computation

Create a script that generates matrices with random elements of various sizes  $N \times N$  (e.g. values of  $N \in \{10, 20, 50, 100, 200, \dots, 5000, 10000\}$ ). Compute the inverse of each matrix, and use `import time` and `time.time()` to see the computing time for each inversion. Plot the time as a function of the matrix size  $N$ .

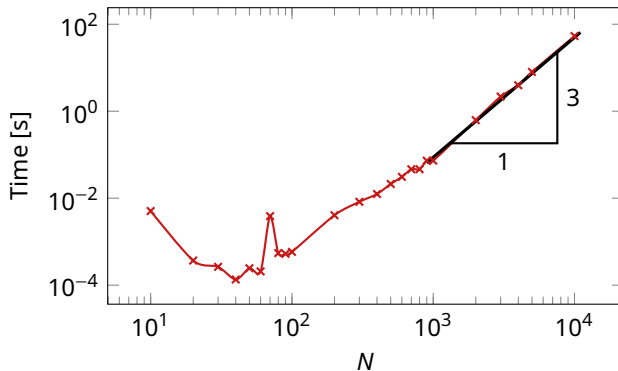
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```
1 import numpy as np
2 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
3 import time
4
5 # Generate random matrices of various sizes 's'.
6 # Invert the matrices and store the time required
7 # for the inversion. Plot the times vs 's'
8 s = np.array([10, 20, 50, 100, 200, 500, 1000, 2000, 5000, 10000])
9 t_inv = []
10 for n in s:
11     print(f'Working on size {n}')
12     A = np.random.rand(n, n)
13     start_time = time.time()
14     Ainv = np.linalg.inv(A)
15     t_inv.append(time.time() - start_time)
16
17 plt.loglog(s, t_inv)
18 plt.xlabel('N')
19 plt.ylabel('Time [s]')
20 plt.show()
```

## Exercise: sample results

Each computer produces slightly different results because of background tasks, different matrices, etc. This is especially noticable for small systems.



The time increases by 3 orders of magnitude, for every magnitude in  $N$ . The *computational complexity* of matrix inversion scales with  $\mathcal{O}(N^3)$ !

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# Towards larger systems

Computation of determinants and inverses of large matrices in this way is too difficult (slow), so we need other methods to solve large linear systems!

# Towards larger systems

- Determinant of upper triangular matrix:

$$\det |M_{\text{tri}}| = \prod_{i=1}^n a_{ii} \quad M = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 9 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \det |M| = 5 \times 9 \times 1 = 45$$

- Matrix multiplication:

$$\det |AM| = \det |A| \times \det |M|$$

- When  $A$  is an identity matrix ( $\det |A| = 1$ ):

$$\det |AM| = \det |A| \times \det |M| = 1 \times \det |M|$$

- With rules like this, we can use row-operations so that we can compute the determinant more cheaply.

# Solutions of linear systems

Rank of a matrix: the number of linearly independent columns (columns that can not be expressed as a linear combination of the other columns) of a matrix.

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 9 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- 3 independent columns
- In Python:

```
1 >>> numpy.linalg.matrix_rank(M)
```

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- col 2 = 2 × col 1
- col 4 = col 3 - col 1
- 2 independent columns: rank = 2

# Solutions of linear systems

The solution of a system of linear equations may or may not exist, and it may or may not be unique. Existence of solutions can be determined by comparing the rank of the Matrix  $M$  with the rank of the augmented matrix  $M_a$ :

```
1 >>> numpy.linalg.matrix_rank(A)
2 >>> numpy.linalg.matrix_rank(np.column_stack((A,b))) # Concatenated matrices
```

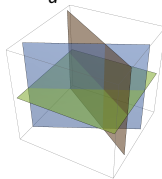
Our system:  $Mx = b$

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} M_{11} & M_{12} & M_{13} \\ M_{21} & M_{22} & M_{23} \\ M_{31} & M_{32} & M_{33} \end{bmatrix}, b = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow M_a = \begin{bmatrix} M_{11} & M_{12} & M_{13} & b_1 \\ M_{21} & M_{22} & M_{23} & b_2 \\ M_{31} & M_{32} & M_{33} & b_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Existence of solutions for linear systems

For a matrix  $M$  of size  $n \times n$ , and augmented matrix  $M_a$ :

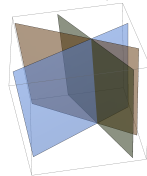
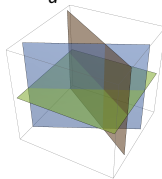
- $\text{Rank}(M) = n$ :  
Unique solution



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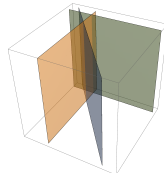
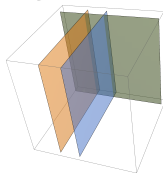
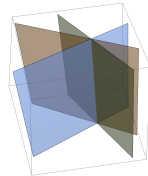
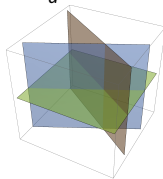
- $\text{Rank}(M) = n$ :  
Unique solution
- $\text{Rank}(M) = \text{Rank}(M_a) < n$ :  
Infinite number of solutions



# Existence of solutions for linear systems

For a matrix  $M$  of size  $n \times n$ , and augmented matrix  $M_a$ :

- $\text{Rank}(M) = n$ :  
Unique solution
- $\text{Rank}(M) = \text{Rank}(M_a) < n$ :  
Infinite number of solutions
- $\text{Rank}(M) < n$ ,  $\text{Rank}(M) < \text{Rank}(M_a)$ :  
No solutions



## Two examples

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad b = \begin{bmatrix} 17 \\ 11 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow M_a = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & 17 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 & 11 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\text{rank}(M) = 3 = n \Rightarrow \text{Unique solution}$



## Two examples

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad b = \begin{bmatrix} 17 \\ 11 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow M_a = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & 17 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 & 11 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\text{rank}(M) = 3 = n \Rightarrow \text{Unique solution}$

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad b = \begin{bmatrix} 17 \\ 11 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow M_a = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & 17 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 & 11 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\text{rank}(M) = \text{rank}(M_a) = 2 < n \Rightarrow \text{Infinite number of solutions}$

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# Summary

- Linear equations can be written as matrices
- Using the inverse, the solution can be determined
  - Inverse via cofactors
  - Inverse and solution in Python
- Introduced the concept of computational complexity: matrix inversion scales with  $N^3$
- A solution depends on the rank of a matrix

# Linear equations 2

## Direct methods

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# Overview

## Goals

Today we are going to write a program, which can solve a set of linear equations

- The first method is called Gaussian elimination
- We will encounter some problems with Gaussian elimination
- Then LU decomposition will be introduced

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# Define the linear system

Consider the system:

$$Ax = b$$

In general:

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_{00} & A_{01} & A_{02} \\ A_{10} & A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{20} & A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_0 \\ b_1 \\ b_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Desired solution:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b'_0 \\ b'_1 \\ b'_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Using row operations

- Use row operations to simplify the system. Eliminate element  $A_{10}$  by subtracting  $A_{10}/A_{00} = d_{10}$  times row 1 from row 2.
- In this case, Row 1 is the pivot row, and  $A_{00}$  is the pivot element.

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} A_{00} & A_{01} & A_{02} & b_0 \\ A_{10} & A_{11} & A_{12} & b_1 \\ A_{20} & A_{21} & A_{22} & b_2 \end{array} \right] \longrightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} A_{00} & A_{01} & A_{02} & b_0 \\ 0 & A'_{11} & A'_{12} & b'_1 \\ A_{20} & A_{21} & A_{22} & b_2 \end{array} \right]$$

# Using row operations

Eliminate element  $A_{10}$  using  $d_{10} = A_{10}/A_{00}$ .

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} A_{00} & A_{01} & A_{02} & b_0 \\ A_{10} & A_{11} & A_{12} & b_1 \\ A_{20} & A_{21} & A_{22} & b_2 \end{array} \right] \longrightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} A_{00} & A_{01} & A_{02} & b_0 \\ 0 & A'_{11} & A'_{12} & b'_1 \\ A_{20} & A_{21} & A_{22} & b_2 \end{array} \right]$$

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- $d_{10} \rightarrow A_{10}/A_{00}$
- $A_{10} \rightarrow A_{10} - A_{00}d_{10}$
- $A_{11} \rightarrow A_{11} - A_{01}d_{10}$
- $A_{12} \rightarrow A_{12} - A_{02}d_{10}$
- $b_1 \rightarrow b_1 - b_0d_{10}$

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```
1 d10 = A[1,0] / A[0,0]
2
3 A[1,0] = A[1,0] - A[0,0] * d10
4 A[1,1] = A[1,1] - A[0,1] * d10
5 A[1,2] = A[1,2] - A[0,2] * d10
6
7 b[1] = b[1] - b[0] * d10
```

# Using row operations

Eliminate element  $A_{20}$  using  $d_{20} = A_{20}/A_{00}$ .

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} A_{00} & A_{01} & A_{02} & b_0 \\ 0 & A'_{11} & A'_{12} & b'_1 \\ A_{20} & A_{21} & A_{22} & b_2 \end{array} \right] \longrightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} A_{00} & A_{01} & A_{02} & b_0 \\ 0 & A'_{11} & A'_{12} & b'_1 \\ 0 & A'_{21} & A'_{22} & b'_2 \end{array} \right]$$

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- $A_{21} \rightarrow A_{21} - A_{01}d_{20}$
- $A_{22} \rightarrow A_{22} - A_{02}d_{20}$
- $b_2 \rightarrow b_2 - b_0d_{20}$

```
1 d20 = A[2, 0] / A[0, 0]
2
3 A[2, 0] = A[2, 0] - A[0, 0] * d20
4 A[2, 1] = A[2, 1] - A[0, 1] * d20
5 A[2, 2] = A[2, 2] - A[0, 2] * d20
6 b[2] = b[2] - b[0] * d20
```

## Using row operations

Eliminate element  $A'_{21}$  using  $d_{21} = A'_{21}/A'_{11}$ . Note that now the second row has become the pivot row.

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} A_{00} & A_{01} & A_{02} & b_0 \\ 0 & A'_{11} & A'_{12} & b'_1 \\ 0 & A'_{21} & A'_{22} & b'_2 \end{array} \right] \longrightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} A_{00} & A_{01} & A_{02} & b_0 \\ 0 & A'_{11} & A'_{12} & b'_1 \\ 0 & 0 & A''_{22} & b''_2 \end{array} \right]$$



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$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} A_{00} & A_{01} & A_{02} & b_0 \\ 0 & A'_{11} & A'_{12} & b'_1 \\ 0 & A'_{21} & A'_{22} & b'_2 \end{array} \right] \longrightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} A_{00} & A_{01} & A_{02} & b_0 \\ 0 & A'_{11} & A'_{12} & b'_1 \\ 0 & 0 & A''_{22} & b''_2 \end{array} \right]$$

- $d_{21} \rightarrow A_{21}/A'_{11}$
- $A_{21} \rightarrow A_{21} - A'_{11}d_{21}$
- $A_{22} \rightarrow A_{22} - A'_{12}d_{21}$
- $b_2 \rightarrow b_2 - b'_1d_{21}$

```
1 d21 = A[2, 1] / A[1, 1]
2 A[2, 1] = A[2, 1] - A[1, 1] * d21
3 A[2, 2] = A[2, 2] - A[1, 2] * d21
4 b[2] = b[2] - b[1] * d21
```

## Using row operations

Eliminate element  $A'_{21}$  using  $d_{21} = A'_{21}/A'_{11}$ . Note that now the second row has become the pivot row.

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} A_{00} & A_{01} & A_{02} & b_0 \\ 0 & A'_{11} & A'_{12} & b'_1 \\ 0 & A'_{21} & A'_{22} & b'_2 \end{array} \right] \longrightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} A_{00} & A_{01} & A_{02} & b_0 \\ 0 & A'_{11} & A'_{12} & b'_1 \\ 0 & 0 & A''_{22} & b''_2 \end{array} \right]$$

- $d_{21} \rightarrow A_{21}/A'_{11}$
- $A_{21} \rightarrow A_{21} - A'_{11}d_{21}$
- $A_{22} \rightarrow A_{22} - A'_{12}d_{21}$
- $b_2 \rightarrow b_2 - b'_1d_{21}$

```
1 d21 = A[2, 1] / A[1, 1]
2 A[2, 1] = A[2, 1] - A[1, 1] * d21
3 A[2, 2] = A[2, 2] - A[1, 2] * d21
4 b[2] = b[2] - b[1] * d21
```

The matrix is now a triangular matrix — the solution can be obtained by back-substitution.

# Backsubstitution

The system now reads:

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_{00} & A_{01} & A_{02} \\ 0 & A'_{11} & A'_{12} \\ 0 & 0 & A''_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_0 \\ b'_1 \\ b''_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$\begin{bmatrix} A_{00} & A_{01} & A_{02} \\ 0 & A'_{11} & A'_{12} \\ 0 & 0 & A''_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_0 \\ b'_1 \\ b''_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Start at the last row  $N$ , and work upward until row 1.

$$x_2 = b''_2 / A''_{22}$$

$$x_1 = (b'_1 - A'_{12}x_2) / A'_{11}$$

$$x_0 = (b_0 - A_{01}x_1 - A_{02}x_2) / A_{00}$$

# Backsubstitution

The system now reads:

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Start at the last row  $N$ , and work upward until row 1.

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$$x_1 = (b'_1 - A'_{12}x_2) / A'_{11}$$

$$x_0 = (b_0 - A_{01}x_1 - A_{02}x_2) / A_{00}$$

```
1 x = np.empty_like(b)
2 x[2] = b[2] / A[2,2]
3 x[1] = (b[1] - A[1,2] * x[2]) / A[1,1]
4 x[0] = (b[0] - A[0,1] * x[1] - A[0,2] * x[2]) / A[0,0]
```

In general:

$$x_N = \frac{b_N}{A_{NN}} \quad x_i = \frac{b_i - \sum_{j=i+1}^N A_{ij}x_j}{A_{ii}}$$

# Writing the program

- Create a function that provides the framework: take matrix  $A$  and vector  $b$  as an input, and return the solution  $x$  as output:

```
1 def gaussian_eliminate(A, b):  
2     pass # Your implementation here
```

- We will use *for-loops* instead of typing out each command line.
- Useful Python (with NumPy) shortcuts:
  - $A[0, :] = [A_{00}, A_{01}, A_{02}]$
  - $A[:, 1] = [A_{01}, A_{11}, A_{21}]$
  - $A[0, 1:] = [A_{01}, A_{02}]$
- A row operation could look like:

```
1 A[i, :] = A[i, :] - d * A[0, :]
```

# The program: elimination step

An initial draft could look like:

```
1 def gaussian_eliminate_draft(A,b):
2     """Perform elimination to obtain an upper triangular matrix"""
3     A = np.array(A,dtype=np.float64)
4     b = np.array(b,dtype=np.float64)
5
6     assert A.shape[0] == A.shape[1], "Coefficient matrix should be square"
7
8     N = len(b)
9     for col in range(N-1): # Select pivot
10         for row in range(col+1,N): # Loop over rows below pivot
11             d = A[row,col] / A[col,col] # Choose elimination factor
12             for element in range(row,N): # Elements from diagonal to right
13                 A[row,element] = A[row,element] - d * A[col,element]
14                 b[row] = b[row] - d * b[col]
15
16     return A,b
```

# The program: elimination step

Employing some of the row operations to create `gaussian_eliminate_v1`:

```
1 for element in range(row,N):  
2     A[row,element] = A[row,element] - d * A[col,element]
```

```
1 A[row,:] = A[row,:] - d * A[col,:]
```



# The program: elimination step

Employing some of the row operations to create `gaussian_eliminate_v1`:

```
1 for element in range(row,N):  
2     A[row,element] = A[row,element] - d * A[col,element]
```

```
1 A[row,:] = A[row,:] - d * A[col,:]
```

```
1 def gaussian_eliminate_v1(A,b):  
2     A = np.array(A,dtype=np.float64)  
3     b = np.array(b,dtype=np.float64)  
4  
5     assert A.shape[0] == A.shape[1], "Coefficient matrix should be square"  
6  
7     N = len(b)  
8     for col in range(N-1):  
9         for row in range(col+1,N):  
10             d = A[row,col] / A[col,col]  
11             A[row,:] = A[row,:] - d * A[col,:]  
12             b[row] = b[row] - d * b[col]  
13  
14     return A,b
```

# Testing

Let's try to eliminate our linear system! If you create/downloaded our file `gaussjordan.py`, you can access the functions by importing them. The file should be stored where your own code/notebook is:

```
1 from gaussjordan import gaussian_eliminate_draft, gaussian_eliminate_v1
2 import numpy as np
3
4 A = np.array([[1, 1, 1], [2, 1, 3], [3, 1, 6]])
5 b = np.array([4, 7, 5])
6
7 Aprime, bprime = gaussian_eliminate_draft(A, b)
8 print(Aprime)
9 print(bprime)
```

# The program: Backsubstitution

Now we have elimination working, let's create a back substitution algorithm too. Recall:

$$x_N = \frac{b_N}{A_{NN}} \quad x_i = \frac{b_i - \sum_{j=i+1}^N A_{ij}x_j}{A_{ii}}$$

```
1 def backsubstitution_draft(A, b):
2     """Back substitutes an upper triangular matrix to
3         find x in Ax=b"""
4     x = np.copy(b)
5     N = len(b)
6
7     for row in range(N-1, -1, -1):
8         for i in range(row+1, N):
9             x[row] = x[row] - A[row, i] * x[i]
10            x[row] = x[row] / A[row, row]
11
12     return x
```

# The program: Backsubstitution

Now we have elimination working, let's create a back substitution algorithm too. Recall:

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3         find x in Ax=b"""
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5     N = len(b)
6
7     for row in range(N-1, -1, -1):
8         for i in range(row+1, N):
9             x[row] = x[row] - A[row, i] * x[i]
10            x[row] = x[row] / A[row, row]
11
12     return x
```

```
1 def backsubstitution_v1(A,b):
2     """Back substitutes an upper triangular matrix to find x in Ax=b"""
3     x = np.empty_like(b)
4     N = len(b)
5
6     for row in range(N)[::-1]:
7         x[row] = (b[row] - np.sum(A[row,row+1:] * x[row+1:])) / A[row,row]
8
9     return x
```

# A full Gauss Elimination solver

- The functions we just built are distributed via Canvas too
- Use **help** GaussianEliminate to find out how it works
- Solve the following system of equations:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 9 & 9 & 5 & 2 \\ 6 & 7 & 1 & 3 \\ 6 & 4 & 3 & 5 \\ 2 & 6 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 4 \\ 10 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Compare your solution with `np.linalg.solve(A,b)`

# Today's outline

- Introduction
- Gauss elimination
- Partial Pivoting
- LU decomposition
- Summary

# Partial pivoting

- Now try to run the algorithm with the following system:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \\ 10 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Partial pivoting

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- It does not work! Division by zero, due to  $A_{11} = 0$ .
- Solution: Swap rows to move largest element to the diagonal.



# Partial pivoting: implementing row swaps

- Find maximum element row below pivot in current column

```
index = np.argmax(np.abs(A[col:, col])) + col
```

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- Store current row

```
temp = A[column,:]
```

# Partial pivoting: implementing row swaps

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```
index = np.argmax(np.abs(A[col:, col])) + col
```

- Store current row

```
temp = A[column, :]
```

- Swap pivot row and desired row in A

```
A[column, :] = A[index, :]  
A[index, :] = temp
```

# Partial pivoting: implementing row swaps

- Find maximum element row below pivot in current column

```
index = np.argmax(np.abs(A[col:, col])) + col
```

- Store current row

```
temp = A[column,:]
```

- Swap pivot row and desired row in A

```
A[column,:] = A[index,:]  
A[index,:] = temp
```

- Do the same for  $b$  — store and swap

```
temp = b[column]  
b[column] = b[index]  
b[index] = temp
```

# Adding the partial pivoting rules

```
1 def gaussian_eliminate_partial_pivot(A,b):
2     A = np.array(A,dtype=np.float64)
3     b = np.array(b,dtype=np.float64)
4
5     assert A.shape[0] == A.shape[1], "Coefficient matrix should be square"
6
7     N = len(b)
8     for col in range(N-1):
9         index = np.argmax(np.abs(A[col:, col])) + col
10        temp = A[col,:]
11        A[col,:] = A[index,:]
12        A[index,:] = temp
13
14        temp = b[col]
15        b[col] = b[index]
16        b[index] = temp
17        for row in range(col+1,N):
18            d = A[row,col] / A[col,col]
19            A[row,:] = A[row,:] - d * A[col,:]
20            b[row] = b[row] - d * b[col]
21
22    return A,b
```

# Improve the program by using re-usable functions

```
1 def swap_rows(mat,i1,i2):
2     """Swap two rows in a matrix/vector"""
3     temp = mat[i1,...].copy()
4     mat[i1,...] = mat[i2,...]
5     mat[i2,...] = temp
```

```
1 def gaussian_eliminate_v2(A,b):
2     A = np.array(A,dtype=np.float64)
3     b = np.array(b,dtype=np.float64)
4
5     assert A.shape[0] == A.shape[1], "Coefficient matrix should be square"
6
7     N = len(b)
8     for col in range(N-1):
9         index = np.argmax(np.abs(A[col:, col])) + col
10        swap_rows(A,col,index)
11        swap_rows(b,col,index)
12        for row in range(col+1,N):
13            d = A[row,col] / A[col,col]
14            A[row,:] = A[row,:] - d * A[col,:]
15            b[row] = b[row] - d * b[col]
16
17    return A,b
```

# Alternatives to this program

- Python can compute the solution to  $Ax=b$  with `scipy.linalg.solve` OR `numpy.linalg.solve` solvers (more efficient)
- Too many loops. Loops make Python slow.
- There are fundamental problems with Gaussian elimination

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- There are fundamental problems with Gaussian elimination
  - You can add a counter to the algorithm to see how many subtraction and multiplication operations it performs for a given size of matrix  $A$ .
  - The number of operations to perform Gaussian elimination is  $\mathcal{O}(2N^3)$  (where  $N$  is the number of equations)
  - Exercise: verify this for our script



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  - You can add a counter to the algorithm to see how many subtraction and multiplication operations it performs for a given size of matrix  $A$ .
  - The number of operations to perform Gaussian elimination is  $\mathcal{O}(2N^3)$  (where  $N$  is the number of equations)
  - Exercise: verify this for our script
  - LU decomposition takes  $\mathcal{O}(2N^3/3)$  flops, 3 times less!
  - Forward and backward substitution each take  $\mathcal{O}(N^2)$  flops (both cases)

# Today's outline

- Introduction
- Gauss elimination
- Partial Pivoting
- **LU decomposition**
- Summary

# LU Decomposition

Suppose we want to solve the previous set of equations, but with several right hand sides:

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & A_{23} \\ A_{31} & A_{32} & A_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ x_1 & x_2 & x_3 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

# LU Decomposition

Suppose we want to solve the previous set of equations, but with several right hand sides:

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & A_{23} \\ A_{31} & A_{32} & A_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ x_1 & x_2 & x_3 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

Factor the matrix A into two matrices, L and U, such that  $A = LU$ :

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & A_{23} \\ A_{31} & A_{32} & A_{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \times & 1 & 0 \\ \times & \times & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \times & \times & \times \\ 0 & \times & \times \\ 0 & 0 & \times \end{bmatrix}$$

Now we can solve for each right hand side, using only a forward followed by a backward substitution!

# Substitutions

- Define a lower and upper matrix  $L$  and  $U$  so that  $A = LU$
- Therefore  $LUx = b$
- Define a new vector  $y = Ux$  so that  $Ly = b$
- Solve for  $y$ , use  $L$  and forward substitution
- Then we have  $y$ , solve for  $x$ , use  $Ux = y$
- Solve for  $x$ , use  $U$  and backward substitution
- But how to get  $L$  and  $U$ ?

# Decomposing the matrix (1)

When we eliminate the element  $A_{21}$  we can keep multiplying by a matrix that undoes this row operations, so that the product remains equal to  $A$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & A_{23} \\ A_{31} & A_{32} & A_{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ d_{21} & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} \\ 0 & A_{22} - d_{21}A_{12} & A_{23} - d_{21}A_{13} \\ A_{31} & A_{32} & A_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

## Decomposing the matrix (2)

When we eliminate the element  $A_{31}$  we can keep multiplying by a matrix that undoes this row operations, so that the product remains equal to  $A$ .

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ d_{21} & 1 & 0 \\ d_{31} & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} \\ 0 & A'_{22} = A_{22} - d_{21}A_{12} & A'_{23} = A_{23} - d_{21}A_{13} \\ 0 & A'_{32} = A_{32} - d_{31}A_{12} & A'_{33} = A_{33} - d_{31}A_{21} \end{bmatrix}$$

## Decomposing the matrix (3)

When we eliminate the element  $A_{32}$  we can keep multiplying by a matrix that undoes this row operations, so that the product remains equal to  $A$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & A_{23} \\ A_{31} & A_{32} & A_{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ d_{21} & 1 & 0 \\ d_{31} & d_{32} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} \\ 0 & A'_{22} & A'_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & A''_{33} = A'_{33} - d_{32}A'_{23} \end{bmatrix}$$



## Decomposing the matrix (3)

When we eliminate the element  $A_{32}$  we can keep multiplying by a matrix that undoes this row operations, so that the product remains equal to  $A$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & A_{23} \\ A_{31} & A_{32} & A_{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ d_{21} & 1 & 0 \\ d_{31} & d_{32} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} \\ 0 & A'_{22} & A'_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & A''_{33} = A'_{33} - d_{32}A'_{23} \end{bmatrix}$$

We now have a lower matrix  $L$  and an upper matrix  $U$ . This finishes the LU decomposition!

## Pivoting during decomposition

Suppose we have arrived at the situation below, where  $A'_{32} > A'_{22}$ :

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & A_{23} \\ A_{31} & A_{32} & A_{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ d_{21} & 1 & 0 \\ d_{31} & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} \\ 0 & A'_{22} & A'_{23} \\ 0 & A'_{32} & A'_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

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Suppose we have arrived at the situation below, where  $A'_{32} > A'_{22}$ :

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & A_{23} \\ A_{31} & A_{32} & A_{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ d_{21} & 1 & 0 \\ d_{31} & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} \\ 0 & A'_{22} & A'_{23} \\ 0 & A'_{32} & A'_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

Exchange rows 2 and 3 to get the largest value on the main diagonal. Use a permutation matrix to store the swapped rows:

## Pivoting during decomposition

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Exchange rows 2 and 3 to get the largest value on the main diagonal. Use a permutation matrix to store the swapped rows:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & A_{23} \\ A_{31} & A_{32} & A_{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ d_{31} & 0 & 1 \\ d_{21} & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} \\ 0 & A'_{32} & A'_{33} \\ 0 & A'_{22} & A'_{23} \end{bmatrix}$$

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Exchange rows 2 and 3 to get the largest value on the main diagonal. Use a permutation matrix to store the swapped rows:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & A_{23} \\ A_{31} & A_{32} & A_{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ d_{31} & 0 & 1 \\ d_{21} & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} \\ 0 & A'_{32} & A'_{33} \\ 0 & A'_{22} & A'_{23} \end{bmatrix}$$

Multiplying with a permutation matrix will swap the rows of a matrix. The permutation matrix is just an identity matrix, whose rows have been interchanged.

# Recipe for LU decomposition

When decomposing matrix  $A$  into  $A = LU$ , it may be beneficial to swap rows to get the largest values on the diagonal of  $U$  (pivoting). A permutation matrix  $P$  is used to store row swapping such that:

$$PA = LU$$

- Write down a permutation matrix and the linear system
- Promote the largest value in the column diagonal
- Eliminate all elements below diagonal
- Move on to the next column and move largest elements to diagonal
- Eliminate elements below diagonal
- Repeat 5 and 6
- Write down  $L, U$  and  $P$

# LU decomposition example (1)

Write down a permutation matrix, which starts as the identity matrix, and the linear system:

$$PA = LU$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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Promote the largest value into the diagonal of column 1 — swap row 1 and 2:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



## LU decomposition example (2)

Eliminate all elements below the diagonal — row 2 already contains a zero in column 1, row 3 = row 3 - 0.5 row 1. Record the multiplier 0.5 in L:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0.5 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1.5 & -0.5 \end{bmatrix}$$

## LU decomposition example (2)

Eliminate all **elements below the diagonal** — row 2 already contains a zero in column 1, row 3 = row 3 - 0.5 row 1. Record the **multiplier 0.5** in  $L$ :

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0.5 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1.5 & -0.5 \end{bmatrix}$$

Elimination of column 1 is done. Now step to the next column, and move the largest value below the diagonal to the top of the column. This is the **lower triangle of  $L$**  accordingly:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.5 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1.5 & -0.5 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

## LU decomposition example (3)

Eliminate all elements below the diagonal —  
row 3 = row 3 -  $\frac{2}{3}$  row 2. Record the multiplier  $\frac{2}{3}$  in L:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.5 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{2}{3} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1.5 & -0.5 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{4}{3} \end{bmatrix}$$

## LU decomposition example (3)

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We have obtained the matrices from  $PA = LU$ :

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad L = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.5 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{2}{3} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad U = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1.5 & -0.5 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{4}{3} \end{bmatrix}$$

Proceed with solving for x.

# Substitutions

$$Ax = b \quad \Rightarrow \quad PAx = Pb \equiv d$$

$$PA = LU \quad \Rightarrow \quad LUx = d$$

- Define a new vector  $y = Ux$ 
  - $Ly = b \quad \Rightarrow \quad Ly = d$
  - Solve for  $y$ , forward substitution:

$$y_0 = \frac{d_0}{L_{00}}$$

$$y_i = \frac{d_i - \sum_{j=0}^i L_{ij}y_j}{L_{ii}}$$

- Then solve  $Ux = y$ :
  - Solve for  $x$ , backward substitution:

$$x_N = \frac{y_N}{U_{NN}}$$

$$x_i = \frac{y_i - \sum_{j=i+1}^N U_{ij}x_j}{U_{ii}}$$

# How to use the solver in Python

```
1 import numpy as np
2 from scipy.linalg import lu
3 from gaussjordan import backsubstitution_v1 as backwardSub
4 from gaussjordan import forwardsubstitution as forwardSub
5
6 # Example usage
7 A = np.random.rand(5, 5) # Get random matrix
8 P, L, U = lu(A) # Get L, U and P
9 b = np.random.rand(5) # Random b vector
10 d = P @ b # Permute b vector
11 y = forwardSub(L, d) # Can also do y=L\d
12 x = backwardSub(U, y) # Can also do x=U\y
13 rnorm = np.linalg.norm(A @ x - b) # Residual
```

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```

- Use this as a basis to create a function that takes  $A$  and  $b$ , and returns  $x$ .
- Use the function to check the performance for various matrix sizes and inspect the performance.

# Today's outline

- Introduction
- Gauss elimination
- Partial Pivoting
- LU decomposition
- Summary



# Summary

- This lecture covered direct methods using elimination techniques.
- Gaussian elimination can be slow ( $\mathcal{O}(N^3)$ )
- Back substitution is often faster ( $\mathcal{O}(N^2)$ )
- LU decomposition means that we don't have to do Gaussian elimination every time (saves time and effort), but the matrix has to stay the same.
- Python's libraries have built in routines for solving linear equations and LU decomposition.
- Advanced techniques such as (preconditioned) conjugate gradient or biconjugate gradient solvers are also available.
- Next part covers iterative approaches