

# ESO 208A: Computational Methods in Engineering

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## Recap

- What is a system of linear equations?
- Different kind of matrices
- Direct method-Gauss Elimination Method

## Today's lecture

- Situations under which Gauss Elimination method will not work
- Gauss Jordan Method
- How to find algorithm complexity?
- LU decomposition method



# Gauss Elimination Algorithm

## *Forward Elimination:*

For  $k = 1, 2, \dots, (n - 1)$

Define multiplication factors:  $l_{ik} = \frac{a_{ik}}{a_{kk}}$

Compute:  $a_{ij} = a_{ij} - l_{ik} a_{kj}$ ;  $b_i = b_i - l_{ik} b_k$  for  
 $i = k+1, k+2, \dots, n$  and  $j = k+1, k+2, \dots, n$

Resulting System of equation is upper triangular. Solve it using the *Back-Substitution algorithm*:

$$x_n = \frac{b_n}{a_{nn}}; x_i = \frac{b_i - \sum_{j=i+1}^n a_{ij} x_j}{a_{ii}}; i = (n - 1), (n - 2), \dots, 3, 2, 1$$



# Gauss Elimination

## Difficult Cases

### a) Division by zero

$$E_1 : \checkmark \quad 3x_2 - x_3 = 5$$

$$E_2 : 4x_1 + 4x_2 - 3x_3 = 3$$

$$E_3 : -2x_1 + 3x_2 - x_3 = 1$$

$$A = \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 0 & 2 & -1 & 5 \\ 4 & 4 & -3 & 3 \\ -2 & 3 & -1 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

$$l_{21} = \frac{a_{21}}{a_{11}}$$

- $l_{21}$  can not be calculated, exchange the rows, which one to pick
- Does it matter? Yes, in terms of round off error.
- When we switch the rows, it is called as pivoting or row pivoting
- When we switch columns, it is column pivoting. In this case, we need to reorder the unknowns.
- When we switch both, it is total pivoting

Partial  
Pivoting



# Gauss Elimination

## Difficult Cases

### b) Ill-conditioned

$$x_1 + 2x_2 = 10$$

$$1.1x_1 + 2x_2 = 10.4$$

Solution:  $x_1=4$ ,  $x_2=3$

Now if I slightly change the coefficients

$$x_1 + 2x_2 = 10$$

$$1.05x_1 + 2x_2 = 10.4$$

Solution:  $x_1=8$ ,  $x_2=1$

- By just changing the coefficient slightly, the solution changes significantly
- This is very costly
- Can we without solving find if the system is ill conditioned



# Gauss Elimination

## Difficult Cases

### c) Round-off Error

$$\begin{aligned}0.0004 x_1 + 1.402 x_2 &= 1.406 \\0.4003 x_1 - 1.502 x_2 &= 2.501\end{aligned}$$

True Solution:  $x_1=10$ ,  $x_2=1$

What if you are using a computer that has four significant digits

# Gauss Elimination

## Difficult Cases

### c) Round-off Error

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0.0004 & 1.402 & 1.406 \\ 0.4003 & -1.502 & 2.501 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$R_2 = R_2 - l_{21} R_1 \quad l_{21} = \frac{a_{21}}{a_{11}}$$
$$= \frac{0.4003}{0.0004} = 0.1001 \times 10^4$$

$$\begin{aligned} -1405x_2 &= 1404 \\ x_2 &= 0.9993 \\ x_1 &= \frac{(1.406 - 1.402 \times 0.9993)}{0.0004} \\ &= \underline{\underline{12.5}} \end{aligned}$$

- The solution is very different from the actual solution
- Before solving the problem, can we know our system will have round-off problem





# Gauss Elimination

## Difficult Cases: Options for handling

### a) Ill-Conditioned

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 + 2x_2 &= 10 \\1.1x_1 + 2x_2 &= 10.4\end{aligned}$$

1.05 — }  $\begin{cases} x_1 = 8 \\ x_2 = 1 \end{cases}$

$$\begin{aligned}a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 &= b_1 \\a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 &= b_2\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}x_2 &= -\frac{a_{11}}{a_{12}}x_1 + \frac{b_1}{a_{12}} \\x_2 &= -\frac{a_{21}}{a_{22}}x_1 + \frac{b_2}{a_{22}}\end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{a_{11}}{a_{12}} = \frac{a_{21}}{a_{22}} \quad - 1'$$

$$a_{11}a_{22} - a_{12}a_{21} \approx 0$$

- If determinant is close to zero- ill conditioned
- If determinant is zero- singular



# Gauss Elimination

## Difficult Cases: Options for handling

### a) Ill-Conditioned

Can we use determinant as a measure of ill-conditioning?

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1.1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow D = 2 - 2.2 = -0.2$$

Suppose in the example we multiply the equations by 10

$$\begin{bmatrix} 10 & 20 \\ 11 & 20 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow D = \underline{\underline{-20}}$$

Now the determinant is significantly different from 0. On its own D is not a good measure of ill-conditioning



# Gauss Elimination

## Difficult Cases: Options for handling

The three issues mentioned earlier can be avoided by:

- Use of more significant digits
- Pivoting: Row or partial pivoting-exchange row of the augmented matrix
  - Exchange rows which will result in largest magnitude of pivot element



# Gauss Elimination

## Difficult Cases: Options for handling

Example:

$$\begin{aligned} 0.0004 x_1 + 1.402 x_2 &= 1.406 \\ 0.4003 x_1 - 1.502 x_2 &= 2.501 \end{aligned}$$

Exact —  $x_1 = 10$   
 $x_2 = 1$

If we solved the problem by  
a 4-digit

→  $x_1 = 0.9993$

—  $x_2 = 12.5$



# Gauss Elimination

## Difficult Cases: Options for handling

Example:

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 0.0004 & 1.402 & 1.406 \\ 0.4003 & -1.502 & 2.501 \end{array} \right]$$

Pivoting

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 0.4003 & -1.502 & 2.501 \\ 0.0004 & 1.402 & 1.406 \end{array} \right]$$

$$l_{21} = \frac{0.0004}{0.4003} = 0.9993 \times 10^{-3}$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 0.4003 & -1.502 & 2.501 \\ 0 & 1.404 & 1.404 \end{array} \right]$$

Backsub.

$$x_2 = 1.0$$

$$x_1 = \frac{2.501 - (-1.502 \times x_2)}{0.4003} = \frac{4.003}{0.4003} = \underline{\underline{10}}$$

We did row pivoting



# Gauss Elimination

## Difficult Cases: Options for handling

Example:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0.0004 & 1.402 & 1 & 1.406 \\ 0.4003 & -1.502 & 1 & 2.501 \end{bmatrix}$$

Total pivoting

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1.502 & 0.4003 & 1 & 2.502 \\ 1.402 & 0.0004 & 1 & 1.406 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$Q_{21} = -\frac{1.402}{1.502} = -0.9334$$

We did total pivoting

$$x_1=10, \text{ and } x_2=1$$



# Gauss Elimination

## Difficult Cases: Options for handling

Why pivoting has worked?

$$10^m \times 0.0004 x_1 + 10^m \times 1.402 x_2 = 1.406 \times 10^m$$

$$0.4003 x_1 - 1.502 x_2 = 2.501$$

$$l_{21} = \frac{0.4003}{0.0004 \times 10^m} = 1001 \times 10^{-m}$$

$$a_{22} = -1.502 - (1.402 \times 10^m \times 1001 \times 10^{-m})$$

$$= -1405$$

$$b_2 = 1404 \quad x_1 = \underline{\underline{0.9993}}$$

$$x_2 = 12.5$$

So, it is not the magnitude of pivot element that avoided round-off errors

$$|a_{12}| > |a_{11}|$$


# Gauss Elimination

## Difficult Cases: Options for handling

### Why pivoting has worked?

- Even by making the pivot large still we get round-off error.
- It is not the magnitude of the pivot element but relative magnitude of elements that leads to round-off error
- **Scaling** of elements of 'A' governs the round-off errors





# Gauss Elimination

## Difficult Cases: Options for handling

### Scaling

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 2 & 10^5 & 10^5 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{array} \right]$$

Exact  
 $x_1 = 1.00002$   
 $x_2 = \underline{\underline{0.99998}}$

If we use 3-digit

$$L_{21} = 1/2 = 0.5$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} x_2 = 1.0 \\ x_1 = 0.0 \end{array} \right\}$$

Scaling - Divide the  $\left| \frac{a_{ij}}{A_i} \right|$

$A_i$  is the maximum value in a row



# Gauss Elimination

## Difficult Cases: Options for handling

### Scaling

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 2 \times 10^{-5} & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right]$$

Partial pivoting

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 \times 10^{-5} & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

Perform pivoting by using scaled coefficients but perform computations (GE) using original coefficients



# Gauss Elimination

## Difficult Cases: Options for handling

### Scaling

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 10^5 & 1 & 10^5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 1.0$

Perform pivoting by using scaled coefficients but perform computations (GE) using original coefficients



# Gauss Elimination

## Difficult Cases: Options for handling

Most common implementations of GE:

- Use scaled values of the coefficients as a criterion to decide pivoting
- Retain the original coefficients for actual elimination and substitution
- “No general pivoting strategy that will work for all linear systems”
  - Example: If coefficient matrix is a positive definite matrix, the BEST strategy is no interchange
- If you know, any special characteristics of the system use it to decide the pivoting strategy



# Direct Methods: Gauss Jordan

In this method, the coefficient matrix is reduced to an **Identity matrix**

- Requires a minor modification in GE algorithm
  - At each step, first the pivot element is made unity by dividing pivot equation by the pivot element
  - In addition to sub-diagonal elements, the above diagonal elements are also made 0.



# Direct Methods: Gauss Jordan

Example

Example

$$\textcircled{1} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 2 & 3 & -1 & 5 \\ 4 & 4 & -3 & 3 \\ -2 & 3 & -1 & 1 \end{array} \right] \quad \begin{array}{l} x_1 = 1 \\ x_2 = 2 \\ x_3 = 3 \end{array}$$

$$R_1 = \frac{R_1}{a_{11}}$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1.5 & -0.5 & 2.5 \\ 4 & 4 & -3 & 3 \\ -2 & 3 & -1 & 1 \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1.5 & -0.5 & 2.5 \\ 0 & -2 & -1 & -7 \\ 0 & 6 & -2 & 6 \end{array} \right]$$

$$R_2 = R_2 / a_{22}$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1.5 & -0.5 & 2.5 \\ 0 & 1 & 0.5 & 3.5 \\ 0 & 6 & -2 & 6 \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -1.25 & -2.75 \\ 0 & 1 & 0.5 & 3.5 \\ 0 & 0 & -5 & -15 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right]$$



# Summary

- Under what situations Gauss Elimination will not work
- Gauss Jordan Method

