

$$A = L \cdot U$$

01204211 Discrete Mathematics

Lecture 11a: Gaussian Elimination and LU Decomposition

Jittat Fakcharoenphol

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$$12 = 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 2$$

Review: A Linear System

Consider the following system of linear equations:

$$\begin{array}{l} x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 5 \\ 2x_1 + x_2 + 2x_3 = 10 \\ 3x_1 + x_2 + 2x_3 = 4 \end{array}$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 5 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 & 10 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 & 4 \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{c} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{c} 5 \\ 10 \\ 4 \end{array} \right]$$

Diagram illustrating the row echelon form of the matrix:

The diagram shows the coefficient matrix with red annotations. Red circles highlight the pivot elements at the top-left of each row. Red boxes highlight the entries below each pivot element, indicating they are zero. A red bracket underlines the first two rows, and another underlines the last row. A blue arrow points from the text "upper triangular" to the last row of the matrix.

upper triangular

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Again we can view it as a vector equation:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} x_1 + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} x_2 + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} x_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 10 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

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Solving this system is equivalent to testing if

$$[5, 10, 4] \in \text{Span } \{[1, 2, 3], [1, 1, 1], [1, 2, 2]\}.$$

Review: Testing spans

Problem

Given a set of n -vectors $S = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\}$ over \mathbb{F} and an n -vector \mathbf{v} , can we check if $\mathbf{v} \in \text{Span } S$?

Example: Consider 3-vectors over \mathbb{R} . Let

$$\mathbf{u}_1 = [1, 2, 3], \mathbf{u}_2 = [1, 1, 1], \mathbf{u}_3 = [1, 2, 2].$$

We would like to check if

$$\mathbf{v} = [10, 13, 29] \in \text{Span } \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3\}.$$

Let us define variables $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3$ such that $\mathbf{v} = \alpha_1 \mathbf{u}_1 + \alpha_2 \mathbf{u}_2 + \alpha_3 \mathbf{u}_3$; i.e., we want $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3$ to be such that

$$\alpha_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + \alpha_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \alpha_3 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 13 \\ 29 \end{bmatrix}$$

Matrix form

We can write these constraints down as the following linear equations.

$$\begin{aligned}1\alpha_1 + 1\alpha_2 + 1\alpha_3 &= 10 \\2\alpha_1 + 1\alpha_2 + 2\alpha_3 &= 13 \\3\alpha_1 + 1\alpha_2 + 2\alpha_3 &= 29\end{aligned}$$

We also can, equivalently, write them in matrix form.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ \alpha_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 13 \\ 29 \end{bmatrix}$$

Review: Properties of matrix multiplications

Let A, B, C be matrices.

- ▶ (Associative) $(AB)C = A(BC)$
- ▶ (Distributive) $A(B + C) = AB + AC$
- ▶ In general not commutative: Usually $AB \neq BA$

Identity Matrix

Definition

An n -by- n matrix I is an **identity matrix** if

$$I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Identity Matrix

Definition

An n -by- n matrix I is an **identity matrix** if

$$I = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix},$$

such that $a_{ii} = 1$ for $1 \leq i \leq n$ and $a_{ij} = 0$ for all $i \neq j$.

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For any n -by- m matrix A ,

$$IA = A,$$

and for any m -by- n matrix B ,

$$BI = B.$$

Inverses

Definition

For an n -by- n matrix A , the **inverse of A** , denoted by A^{-1} , is an n -by- n matrix such that

$$AA^{-1} = A^{-1}A = I.$$

Remark 1: You can think of an inverse as a matrix that let you “get back” anything after multiplying with A , i.e.,

A handwritten note showing the equation $A^{-1}AB = B$. The term $A^{-1}A$ is circled in pink, and a pink arrow points from the circled term to the equals sign (=) at the end of the equation.

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Remark 3: A might not have an inverse. If A has an inverse, we say that A is **invertible**.

Lemma 1

If A and B are invertible, we have that

$$(AB)^{-1} = B^{-1}A^{-1}.$$

Proof.

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Transpose

- ▶ $(AB)^T = B^T A^T.$
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This is because

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Definition

Matrix A is **symmetric** if

$$A = A^T.$$

Solving a system of linear equations

For an $n \times n$ matrix A and a system of linear equations

$$Ax = b,$$

with n variables $\mathbf{x} = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$, if A^{-1} is an inverse of A , we can use it to solve for \mathbf{x} .

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Note that we can multiply on the left of both sides with A^{-1} to obtain

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Note that we can multiply on the left of both sides with A^{-1} to obtain

$$\mathbf{x} = A^{-1}Ax = A^{-1}\mathbf{b}.$$

Thus

$$\mathbf{x} = A^{-1}\mathbf{b},$$

is the solution of the system.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 3 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ \alpha_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 30 \\ 13 \\ 29 \end{bmatrix}$$

Let's perform Gaussian elimination.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 3 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_1 \leftarrow R_1/3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\begin{array}{l} R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - 2R_1 \\ R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - 3R_1 \end{array}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & -2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\begin{array}{l} R_2 \leftarrow -R_2 \\ R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - 2R_2 \end{array}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ \alpha_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 13 \\ 29 \end{bmatrix}$$

Let's perform Gaussian elimination.

$$R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - 2R_1$$

$$R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - 3R_1$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ \alpha_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 13 \\ 29 \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & \textcolor{red}{-2} & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ \alpha_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ -7 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - 2R_2$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ \alpha_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 13 \\ 29 \end{bmatrix}$$

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We can perform backward substitution to find that $\alpha_1 = 16$, $\alpha_2 = 7$, and $\alpha_3 = -13$.

Gaussian elimination and matrix operations

We will look closer to see how we could “describe” the steps from Gaussian elimination using matrix multiplications. This would be very useful later. We start with

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The first row operation we did is: $R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - 2R_1$

Can we explain this step with a matrix multiplication?

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

M A

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Can we explain this step with a matrix multiplication? I.e., can we find M such that

$$MA = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

We currently have

$$MA = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The next row operation we did is: $R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - 3R_1$

Can we explain this step with a matrix multiplication?

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -3 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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Can we explain this step with a matrix multiplication? I.e., can we find M' such that

$$M'MA = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

We currently have

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$$M''M'MA = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Elementary matrices

$[A]$

$E_{12} A$

Operations	Result	Elementary matrix	Remarks
$R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - 2R_1$	$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$	$E_{12} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$	
$R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - 3R_1$	$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$	$E_{13} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -3 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$	$E_{13}(E_{12} A)$
$R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - 2R_2$	$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$	$E_{23} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$	$U = E_{23} E_{13} E_{12} A$

~~$$A \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 4 \end{pmatrix} - b \cdot x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$~~

~~$$x = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 4 \end{pmatrix}^{-1} b$$~~

Goal: $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$

Let's denote the final upper triangular matrix by B . Therefore, we have

~~$$E_{23} E_{13} E_{12} A = B,$$~~

or equivalently,

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -3 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$AB \neq BA$$

$$\underbrace{R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - 2R_2}_{R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - 2R_2}$$

$$E_{23} E_{13} E_{12} A = \begin{pmatrix} I \\ C \\ F_{23} \end{pmatrix} A$$

$$\xrightarrow{\hspace{1cm}} C B$$

$$B^{-1} (B A) \xleftarrow{=} A$$

$$(A) \xleftarrow[B^{-1}]{\hspace{1cm}} @=$$

Recall that we have $R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - 2R_2$

$$E_{32} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad E_{13} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -3 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad E_{12} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Let E_{12}^{-1} , E_{13}^{-1} , E_{23}^{-1} be inverses of E_{12} , E_{13} , E_{23} , respectively.

It is not hard to see that

$$E_{32}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad E_{13}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad E_{12}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$R_3 \leftarrow R_3 + 2R_2$

Recall that we have

$$E_{12} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad E_{13} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -3 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad E_{23} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Let $E_{12}^{-1}, E_{13}^{-1}, E_{23}^{-1}$ be inverses of E_{12}, E_{13}, E_{23} , respectively.

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Therefore, we can write

$$E_{12}^{-1} E_{13}^{-1} E_{23}^{-1} E_{23} E_{13} E_{12} A = A = E_{12}^{-1} E_{13}^{-1} E_{23}^{-1} B,$$

After working out the multiplication

$$E_{12}^{-1} E_{13}^{-1} E_{23}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

we see that

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The matrix A is “factored” into two matrices. We denote the first matrix L (for lower triangular) and the second one U (for upper triangular).

This is called an **LU decomposition** of A .

Why is an LU decomposition useful? (1)

Why is an LU decomposition useful? (2)

LU decomposition - pivots