

Last time:

Thm (Backward error of GE)

Let  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  and suppose GE produces computed LU factor  $\hat{L}$ ,  $\hat{U}$  and a computed solution  $\hat{x}$  to  $Ax = b$

then  $(A + \Delta A)\hat{x} = b$ , with  $|\Delta A| \leq \gamma_{3n} |\hat{L}| |\hat{U}|$  (\*)

---

There are two issues regarding GE

**Problem 1:**  $A = LU$  doesn't always exist

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ but no LU fact. } \leftarrow \text{exercise.}$$

**Problem 2:** (\*) doesn't imply the stability of GE/Doolittle

- (\*) provides a bound  $|\Delta A| \leq \gamma_{3n} |\hat{L}| |\hat{U}|$ .

Ideally, we would like  $|\Delta A| \leq C_n \epsilon_{\text{mach}} |A|$

If  $|\hat{L}| |\hat{U}| = |\hat{L} \hat{U}|$ , we obtain that

$$|\hat{L}| |\hat{U}| = |\hat{L} \hat{U}| = |A + \Delta A|$$

$$\leq |A| + \gamma_n |\hat{L}| |\hat{U}|$$

$$\Rightarrow |\hat{L}| |\hat{U}| \leq \frac{1}{1 - \gamma_n} |A|$$

$$\stackrel{(*)}{\Rightarrow} |\Delta A| \leq \frac{\gamma_{3n}}{1 - \gamma_n} |A|$$

- $|\hat{L}| |\hat{U}| = |\hat{L} \hat{U}|$  does not always hold true. One condition

is that  $A$  being totally nonnegative, that is, if the determinant of every square submatrix is nonnegative and  $\epsilon_{\text{mach}}$  is small enough (to ensure that  $\hat{L} \approx L$  and  $\hat{U} \approx U$ )

- In general, we don't have this condition, and backward error can be quite large.

ex.  $A = \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $K_{\infty}(A) = \frac{4}{1-\epsilon}$  ( $\epsilon < 1$ )

Exact LU fact.  $L = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{\epsilon} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $U = \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon & 1 \\ 0 & 1 - \frac{1}{\epsilon} \end{bmatrix}$

If  $f(1 - \frac{1}{\epsilon}) = -\frac{1}{\epsilon}$

$\hat{L} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{\epsilon} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\hat{U} = \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon & 1 \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{\epsilon} \end{bmatrix}$

$\hat{L}\hat{U} = \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\|\hat{L}\| \|\hat{U}\| = \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon & 1 \\ 1 & \frac{2}{\epsilon} \end{bmatrix}$

$A - \hat{L}\hat{U} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\|\hat{L}\| \|\hat{U}\|_{\infty} = O(\frac{1}{\epsilon})$

$\Rightarrow \|A\|_{\infty} = O(1)$

Def: growth factor

$$\rho_n = \frac{\max\{\|L\|_{\infty}, \|U\|_{\infty}\}}{\|A\|_{\infty}}$$

*we should use  $\|\hat{L}\| \cdot \|\hat{U}\|$  but then the definition will involve  $\epsilon_{\text{mach}}$ , which is cumbersome.*

- Goal: Need to control  $\|L\|$  and  $\|U\|$

- Solution: pivoting

At  $k^{th}$  stage of GE

$$A^{(k)} = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11}^{(k)} & A_{12}^{(k)} \\ 0 & A_{22}^{(k)} \end{bmatrix} \quad A_{11}^{(k)} \in \mathbb{R}^{(k-1) \times (k-1)} \text{ upper triangular}$$

$$L = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & \\ l_{21} & 1 & & \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \\ l_{n1} & l_{n2} & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad l_{jk} = \frac{a_{jk}^{(k)}}{a_{kk}^{(k)}}, \quad j = k, \dots, n$$

- Idea: use row permutation to avoid small pivots and control growth in  $|L|$

Option 1: Partial pivoting: Select  $a_{rk}^{(k)} = \arg \max_{k \leq i \leq n} |a_{ik}^{(k)}|$  and permute rows

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \begin{array}{c} A \\ \begin{bmatrix} x & x & x \\ x & x & x \\ \Delta & x & x \end{bmatrix} \end{array} & \xrightarrow{\begin{array}{c} P_1 \\ \uparrow \\ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{array}} & \begin{array}{c} P_1 A \\ \begin{bmatrix} \Delta & x & x \\ x & x & x \\ x & x & x \end{bmatrix} \end{array} \xrightarrow{E_1} \begin{array}{c} E_1 P_1 A \\ \begin{bmatrix} \Delta & x & x \\ 0 & x & x \\ 0 & x & x \end{bmatrix} \end{array} \end{array}$$

Select pivot

The GE with partial pivoting is equivalent to

GE without pivoting applied to row-permuted matrix

ex.  $U = E_2 P_2 E_1 P_1 A$

$$= E_2 \cdot P_2 E_1 P_2 \cdot \underbrace{(P_2 P_1 A)}_P \quad (\text{since } P_i^2 = I)$$

$$= \underbrace{E_2 E_1 \dots P_n}_{L^{-1}} PA \Rightarrow PA = LU$$

where  $E_i = P_n \dots P_{i+1} E_i P_{i+1} \dots P_n$

$$= I - \underbrace{(P_n \dots P_{i+1})}_{=: l_i'} l_i e_i^T$$

Let

$$E_i = I - l_i e_i^T$$

$$l_i = (0, \dots, 0, l_{i+1,i}, \dots, l_{n,i})^T$$

$$e_i = (0, \dots, 0, \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{i-th entry}}}{1}, 0, \dots, 0)^T$$

From how  
we choose  $P_i$

$$\max_{k+1 \leq j \leq n} |l'_{jk}| = \max_{k+1 \leq j \leq n} |l_{jk}| \stackrel{\downarrow}{=} \max_{k+1 \leq j \leq n} \frac{|a_{jk}^{(k)}|}{|a_{kk}^{(k)}|} \leq 1.$$

hence  $\rho_n = \frac{\max\{1, \|U\|_\infty\}}{\|A\|_\infty}$

Thm (Wilkinson) Let  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , suppose GE with partial pivoting,  
and  $\hat{x}$  be computed solution  $\hat{x}$  to  $Ax = b$   
then  $(A + \Delta A)\hat{x} = b$ ,  
with  $\|\Delta A\|_\infty \leq n^2 \gamma_n \rho_n \|A\|_\infty$

some constant that  
polynomially depend on  $n$

Remark: Forward error  $\frac{\|x - \hat{x}\|}{\|x\|} \leq C_n \kappa(A) \rho_n \epsilon_{mach}$

• How large is  $\rho_n$ ?

dependence on  $n$ ?

By induction  $|u_{ij}| \leq 2^{i-1} \max_{k \leq i} |a_{kj}|$  ← exercise

$$\Rightarrow \|U\|_{\infty} \leq 2^{n-1} \|A\|_{\infty} \Rightarrow \rho_n \leq 2^{n-1} \leftarrow \text{exponentially large in } n$$

This bound is achievable:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & & 1 \\ -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ -1 & -1 & \dots & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & \\ -1 & 1 & & \\ -1 & -1 & 1 & \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \\ -1 & -1 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & 1 \\ & 1 & & 2 \\ & & 1 & \vdots \\ 0 & & & 2^{n-2} \\ & & & & 2^{n-1} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \rho_n = 2^{n-1}$$

- $\kappa_{\infty}(A) = O(n)$

when  $\epsilon_{mach} = 2^{-53}$ ,  $n = 53$ ,  $\frac{\|x - \hat{x}\|}{\|x\|} = O(1)$

But this not observed in the Julia notebook on Canvas.

why? ← worst-case error

- GE with partial pivoting is NOT backward stable.

But in practice exponential growth  $\rho_n(A)$  seems "rare"

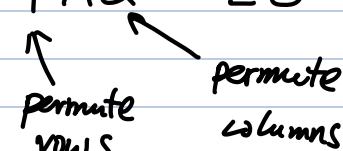
- growth factor for random matrix is small:

$$\rho_n \approx O(\sqrt{n}) \text{ for } a_{ij} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} N(0, 1)$$

---

Option 2: Complete pivoting: Select  $a_{rs}^{(k)} = \operatorname{argmax}_{k \leq i, j \leq n} |a_{ij}^{(k)}|$

and permute rows and/or columns

- equivalent to apply GE to  $PAQ = LU$   


- For complete pivoting,  $p_n \leq \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{n} n^{\log(n)/4}$   


GE is good for dense matrix without structure.

For matrix with structure, GE can be improved.

- Cholesky factorization:

$$A = LL^T, \quad L \text{ low triangular}$$

Thm: If  $A$  is symmetric positive definite, then  
 $A$  has a unique Cholesky factorization  
 with positive diagonal elements.

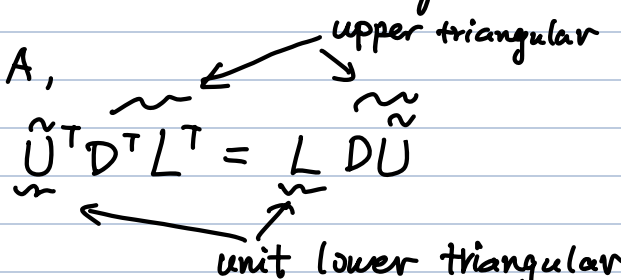
Pf: Since  $A$  is positive definite, we know

$$\det(A(1:i, 1:i)) > 0, \quad \forall i = 1, \dots, n$$

This implies  $A = LU$  exists  $\leftarrow$  exercise

Let  $U = D\tilde{U}$  where  $\tilde{U}$  has unit diagonal element

From symmetry of  $A$ ,

$$A^T = A \Rightarrow \tilde{U}^T D^T L^T = L D \tilde{U}$$


From uniqueness of  $LU$ ,

$$\tilde{U}^T = L, \quad D^T L^T = D \tilde{U}$$

So we have  $A = L D \tilde{U} = L D L^T$

Clearly  $D_{ii} > 0$ . Let  $\tilde{L} = L D^{\frac{1}{2}}$  then  $A = \tilde{L} \tilde{L}^T$



- An algorithm to compute  $A = L L^T$  can be derived following how we derive Doolittle's method.

But operation count  $\approx \frac{1}{3} n^3 \leftarrow$  half of GE ( $\frac{2}{3} n^3$ )

- Similar backward error bound for Cholesky

$$(A + \Delta A) \hat{x} = b, \quad \text{with } |\Delta A| \leq \gamma_{3n+1} |\hat{L}^T| |\hat{L}|$$

But doesn't suffer from growth factor because

$$\| |\hat{L}^T| |\hat{L}| \|_2 = \| |\hat{L}| \|_2^2 \leq n \| \hat{L} \|_2^2 = n \| A \|_2$$

exercise (show that  $\| |A| \|_2^2 \leq \text{rank}(A) \| A \|_2^2$ )

- Nonpositive definite symmetric

$$A = L D L^T$$

- Tridiagonal matrix (Thomas algorithm)

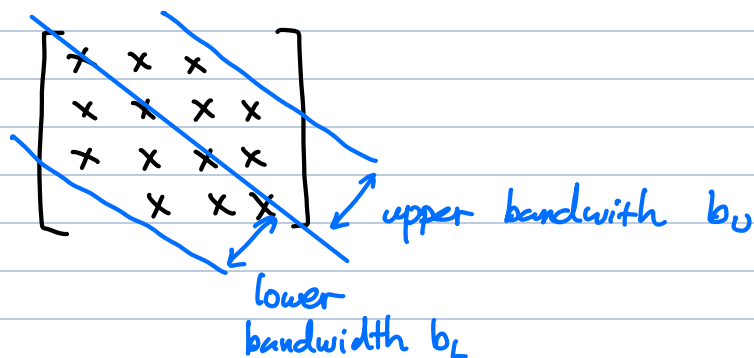
$$A = L U$$

$\uparrow \quad \nearrow$   
bidiagonal

$$\begin{bmatrix} x & & & \\ x & x & & \\ & x & x & \\ & & x & x \end{bmatrix}$$

Solve in  $O(n)$  FLOPs.

- Banded matrix



$$A = \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{lower triangular} \\ \text{with lower bandwidth } b_L}}{L} \underset{\substack{\leftarrow \\ \text{upper triangular} \\ \text{with upper bandwidth } b_u}}{U}$$

with partial pivoting.

Solve in  $O(n(b_u + b_L)^2)$

$$PA = \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{lower} \\ \text{bandwidth} \\ b_L}}{L} \underset{\substack{\leftarrow \\ \text{upper} \\ \text{bandwidth} \\ b_u + b_L}}{U}$$

- Sparse matrix : mostly zero entries  $\Rightarrow$  sparse direct solvers