

## LU Factorization

### Square Linear Systems

$$A \vec{x} = \vec{b}$$

where  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ ,  $\vec{b} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  are given.

- Polynomial interpolation

### Last time

• "Simple" systems (triangular)

$$\begin{cases} U \vec{x} = \vec{y} : \text{Backward subs.} \\ L \vec{x} = \vec{y} : \text{Forward elim.} \end{cases}$$

### Today

- General matrix  $A$ .

# Contents

① Gaussian Elimination

② LU Factorization

# Gaussian Elimination

# General Method: Gaussian Elimination

- Gaussian elimination is an algorithm for solving a general system of linear equations that involves a sequence of row operations performed on the associated matrix of coefficients. *(preserve the solution of given system)*
- This is also known as the method of row reduction.
- There are three variations to this method:
  - G.E. without pivoting
  - G.E. with partial pivoting (that is, row pivoting)
  - G.E. with full pivoting (that is, row and column pivoting)

To solve  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} S = \left[ A \mid \vec{b} \right] & \xrightarrow{\text{row ops.}} & \left[ U \mid \vec{\beta} \right] & \rightarrow & \left[ I \mid \vec{\beta} \right] \\ \text{N} \times (\text{N}+1) & & \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ \text{augmented matrix} & & \text{upper-}\Delta & & \text{the soln.} \end{array}$$

*echelon form*                      *reduced-echelon form*

What are the allowed row operations  
in general G.E.?

---

\* ① Row interchange (or swap) :  $R_i \leftrightarrow R_j$

② Row scaling :  $R_i \rightarrow cR_i$

\* ③ Row replacement :  $R_i \rightarrow R_i + cR_j$

# G.E. Without Pivoting: Example

## Key Example

Solve the following system of equations.

$$\begin{cases} 2x_1 + 2x_2 + x_3 = 6 \\ -4x_1 + 6x_2 + x_3 = -8 \\ 5x_1 - 5x_2 + 3x_3 = 4 \end{cases} \xrightarrow{\text{matrix equation}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 & 1 \\ -4 & 6 & 1 \\ 5 & -5 & 3 \end{bmatrix}}_A \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{x}} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ -8 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{b}}$$

Want:  $-4 + \left(\frac{4}{2}\right) 2 = 0$

**Step 1:** Write the corresponding *augmented matrix* and row-reduce to an echelon form.

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 2 & 2 & 1 & 6 \\ -4 & 6 & 1 & -8 \\ 5 & -5 & 3 & 4 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\substack{R_2 \rightarrow R_2 + \left(\frac{4}{2}\right) R_1 \\ R_3 \rightarrow R_3 + \left(\frac{-5}{2}\right) R_1}} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 2 & 2 & 1 & 6 \\ 0 & 10 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 10 & -0.5 & 11 \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 2 & 2 & 1 & 6 \\ 0 & 10 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 3.5 & -7 \end{array} \right]$$

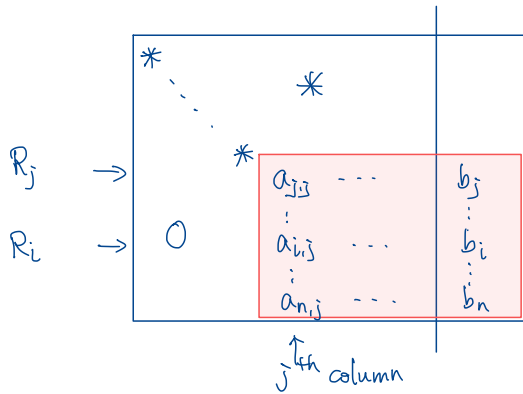
**Step 2:** Solve for  $x_3$ , then  $x_2$ , and then  $x_1$  via *backward substitution*.

$$\mathbf{x} = (3, 1, -2)^T.$$

$U \vec{x} = \vec{\beta}$

## Reduction to Echelon Form

- Only allowed row operation : row replacement ( $R_i \rightarrow R_i + c R_j$ )
- let  $j \in \mathbb{N}[1, n-1]$ . Suppose first  $(j-1)$  columns have been "worked out".



$$R_i \rightarrow R_i + \boxed{\left(-\frac{a_{i,j}}{a_{j,j}}\right)} R_j$$

$$\text{Want: } 0 = a_{i,j} + \left(\frac{-a_{i,j}}{a_{j,j}}\right) a_{j,j}$$

multiplier

# G.E. without Pivoting: General Procedure

As shown in the example, G.E. without pivoting involves two steps:

① **Row reduction:** Transform  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  to  $U\mathbf{x} = \boldsymbol{\beta}$  where

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} u_{11} & u_{12} & \cdots & u_{1n} \\ & u_{22} & \cdots & u_{2n} \\ & & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{0} & & & u_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \boldsymbol{\beta} = \begin{bmatrix} \beta_1 \\ \beta_2 \\ \vdots \\ \beta_n \end{bmatrix}.$$

② **Backward substitution:** Solve  $U\mathbf{x} = \boldsymbol{\beta}$  for  $\mathbf{x}$  by

$$\begin{cases} x_n = \frac{\beta_n}{u_{nn}} \quad \text{and} \\ x_i = \frac{1}{u_{ii}} \left( \beta_i - \sum_{j=i+1}^n u_{ij}x_j \right), \quad \text{for } i = n-1, n-2, \dots, 1. \end{cases}$$



# G.E. without Pivoting: MATLAB Implementation

Convention

$i$  : row index

$j$  : column index

```
1 function x = GEnp(A, b)
2   % Step 1: Row reduction to upper tri. system
3   S = [A, b];           % augmented matrix
4   n = size(A, 1);       % or n = length(A) or n = length(b)
5   for j = 1:n-1
6       for i = j+1:n;
7           mult = -S(i,j)/S(j,j);
8           S(i,:) = S(i,:) + mult*S(j,:);   %  $R_i \rightarrow R_i + \left(-\frac{a_{i,j}}{a_{j,j}}\right) R_j$ 
9       end
10  end
11  % Step 2: Backward substitution
12  U = S(:,1:end-1);
13  beta = S(:,end);
14  x = backsub(U, beta);
15 end
```

$[A | \vec{b}] \rightarrow [U | \vec{\beta}]$

$\rightarrow$  code from last lecture

**Exercise.** Rewrite Lines 6–9 without using a loop. (Think vectorized!)

# G.E. with Partial Pivoting: Procedure

row interchange

Allowed ops:  $\begin{cases} R_i \leftrightarrow R_j \\ R_i \rightarrow R_i + cR_j \end{cases}$

In this variation of G.E., reduction to echelon form is done slightly differently.

- On the augmented matrix  $[A | \mathbf{b}]$ ,

## Key Process (partial pivoting)

- Find the entry in the first column with the largest absolute value. This entry is called the pivot.
- Perform a row interchange, if necessary, so that the pivot is on the first diagonal position.
- Use elementary row operations to reduce the remaining entries in the first column to zero.

①

2	
5	
-7	

↖ pivot

② Row interchange

-7	
5	
2	

③

Row replacements

-7	
0	
0	

- Once done, ignore the first row and first column and repeat the **Key Process** on the remaining submatrix.
- Continue this until the matrix is in a row-echelon form.

# G.E. with Partial Pivoting: Example

Let's solve the example on p. 5 again, now using G.E. with partial pivoting.

**1st column:**

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 2 & 2 & 1 & 6 \\ -4 & 6 & 1 & -8 \\ 5 & -5 & 3 & 4 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\text{pivot}} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 5 & -5 & 3 & 4 \\ -4 & 6 & 1 & -8 \\ 2 & 2 & 1 & 6 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\text{zero}} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 5 & -5 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 2 & 3.4 & -4.8 \\ 0 & 4 & -0.2 & 4.4 \end{array} \right]$$

**2nd column:**

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 5 & -5 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 2 & 3.4 & -4.8 \\ 0 & 4 & -0.2 & 4.4 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\text{pivot}} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 5 & -5 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 4 & -0.2 & 4.4 \\ 0 & 2 & 3.4 & -4.8 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\text{zero}} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 5 & -5 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 4 & -0.2 & 4.4 \\ 0 & 0 & 3.5 & -7 \end{array} \right]$$

Now that the last matrix is upper triangular, we work up from the third equation to the second to the first and obtain the same solution as before.

# G.E. with Partial Pivoting: MATLAB Implementation

HW

## Exercise

Write a MATLAB function `GEpp.m` which carries out G.E. with partial pivoting.

- Modify `GEpp.m` on p. 7 to incorporate partial pivoting.
- The only part that needs to be changed is the for-loop starting at Line 5.
  - Right after `for j = 1:n-1`, find the index of the pivot element of the  $j$ th column of  $A$  below the diagonal.

```
[~, iM] = max(abs(A(j:end, j)));  
iM = iM + j - 1;
```

- If the pivot element is not on the diagonal, swap rows so that it is on the diagonal.

```
if j ~= iM  
    S([j iM], :) = S([iM j], :)  
end
```

# Why Is Pivoting Necessary?

## Example

Given  $\epsilon \ll 1$ , solve the system

$\epsilon$  is a tiny positive #.

$$\begin{bmatrix} -\epsilon & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \epsilon \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Ans.  $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

using Gaussian elimination with and without pivoting.

**Without pivoting:** By  $R_2 \rightarrow R_2 + (1/\epsilon)R_1$ , we have

$$\begin{bmatrix} -\epsilon & 1 \\ 0 & -1 + 1/\epsilon \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \epsilon \\ 1/\epsilon - 1 \end{bmatrix} \xRightarrow{\text{back subs.}} \begin{cases} x_2 = 1, \\ x_1 = \frac{(1 - \epsilon) - 1}{-\epsilon} = \frac{-\epsilon}{-\epsilon} = 1 \end{cases}$$

- In exact arithmetic, this yields the correct solution.
- In floating-point arithmetic, calculation of  $x_1$  suffers from catastrophic cancellation.

Since  $\epsilon$  is small,  
 $1 - \epsilon \approx 1$ .

# Why Is Pivoting Necessary? (cont')

## Example

Given  $\epsilon \ll 1$ , solve the system

$$\begin{bmatrix} -\epsilon & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \epsilon \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

using Gaussian elimination with and without partial pivoting.

**With partial pivoting:** First, swap the rows  $R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2$ , and then do  $R_2 \rightarrow R_2 + \epsilon R_1$  to obtain

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 - \epsilon \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 - \epsilon \end{bmatrix} \implies \begin{cases} x_2 = 1, \\ x_1 = \frac{0 - (-1)}{1}. \end{cases}$$

- Each of the arithmetic steps (to compute  $x_1, x_2$ ) is well-conditioned.
- The solution is computed stably.

# LU Factorization

# Emulation of Gaussian Elimination

In this section, we emulate row operations steps required in Gaussian elimination by matrix multiplications. **Two major operations.**

- Row interchange  $R_i \leftrightarrow R_j$ :

$P(i, j)A$ , where  $P(i, j)$  is an elementary permutation matrix.

the matrix obtained by interchanging  
 $i^{\text{th}}$  and  $j^{\text{th}}$  row of  $I$ .

- Row replacement  $R_i \rightarrow R_i + cR_j$ :

$$(I + ce_i e_j^T)A$$

Gaussian transformation matrix.

See Notes on Row and Column Operations for more details.



# Key Example Revisited

Let's work out the key example from last time once again, now in matrix form  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 & 1 \\ -4 & 6 & 1 \\ 5 & -5 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ -8 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

**[Pivot]** Switch  $R_1$  and  $R_3$  using  $P(1,3)$ :

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{P(1,3)} \left[ \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 & 1 \\ -4 & 6 & 1 \\ 5 & -5 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ -8 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \right] \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -5 & 3 \\ -4 & 6 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -8 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

**[Zero]** Do row operations  $R_2 \rightarrow R_2 + (4/5)R_1$  and  $R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - (2/5)R_1$ :

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 4/5 & 1 & 0 \\ -2/5 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{G_1} \left[ \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -5 & 3 \\ -4 & 6 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -8 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} \right] \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -5 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 & 3.4 \\ 0 & 4 & -0.2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -4.8 \\ 4.4 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Key Example Revisited (cont')

**[Pivot]** Switch  $R_2$  and  $R_3$  using  $P(2, 3)$ :

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{P(2,3)} \left[ \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -5 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 & 3.4 \\ 0 & 4 & -0.2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -4.8 \\ 4.4 \end{bmatrix} \right] \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -5 & 3 \\ 0 & 4 & -0.2 \\ 0 & 2 & 3.4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 4.4 \\ -4.8 \end{bmatrix}$$

**[Zero]** Do a row operation  $R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - (1/2)R_2$ :

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1/2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{G_2} \left[ \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -5 & 3 \\ 0 & 4 & -0.2 \\ 0 & 2 & 3.4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 4.4 \\ -4.8 \end{bmatrix} \right] \rightarrow \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 5 & -5 & 3 \\ 0 & 4 & -0.2 \\ 0 & 0 & 3.5 \end{bmatrix}}_U \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 4.4 \\ -7 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Analysis of Example

- The previous calculations can be summarized as

$$G_2 P(2, 3) G_1 P(1, 3) A = U. \quad (\star)$$

- Using the noted properties of permutation matrices and GTMs,  $(\star)$  can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} G_2 P(2, 3) G_1 \underbrace{P(2, 3) P(2, 3)}_{=I} P(1, 3) A &= U \\ \longrightarrow G_2 \underbrace{P(2, 3) G_1 P(2, 3)}_{=: \tilde{G}_1} \underbrace{P(2, 3) P(1, 3)}_{=: P} A &= U. \end{aligned}$$

- The above can be summarized as  $PA = LU$  where  $L = (G_2 \tilde{G}_1)^{-1}$  is a lower triangular matrix.

When  $n=4$

$$G_3 P_3 G_2 P_2 G_1 P_1 A = U$$

# Generalization – PLU Factorization

For an arbitrary matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , the partial pivoting and row operations are intermixed as

$$G_{n-1}P(n-1, r_{n-1}) \cdots G_2P(2, r_2)G_1P(1, r_1)A = U.$$

Going through the same calculations as above, it can always be written as

$$\left(\tilde{G}_{n-1} \cdots \tilde{G}_2\tilde{G}_1\right)P(n-1, r_{n-1}) \cdots P(2, r_2)P(1, r_1)A = U,$$

which again leads to  $PA = LU$ :

$$\underbrace{P(n-1, r_{n-1}) \cdots P(2, r_2)P(1, r_1)}_{=:P} A = \underbrace{\left(\tilde{G}_{n-1} \cdots \tilde{G}_2\tilde{G}_1\right)^{-1}}_{=:L} U.$$

This is called the **PLU factorization** of matrix  $A$ .

# LU and PLU Factorization

If no pivoting is required, the previous procedure simplifies to

$$G_{n-1} \cdots G_2 G_1 A = U .$$

which leads to  $A = LU$ :

$$A = \underbrace{(G_{n-1} \cdots G_2 G_1)^{-1}}_{=:L} U .$$

This is called the **LU factorization** of matrix  $A$ .

# Implementation of LU Factorization

```
function [L,U] = mylu(A)
% MYLU    LU factorization (demo only--not stable!).
% Input:
%   A      square matrix
% Output:
%   L,U    unit lower triangular and upper triangular such that
%           LU=A
n = length(A);
L = eye(n); % ones on diagonal
% Gaussian elimination
for j = 1:n-1
    for i = j+1:n
        L(i,j) = A(i,j) / A(j,j); % row multiplier
        A(i,j:n) = A(i,j:n) - L(i,j)*A(j,j:n);
    end
end
U = triu(A);
end
```

# Implementation of LU Factorization

**Exercise.** Write a MATLAB function `myplu` for PLU factorization by modifying the previous function `mylu.m`.

```
function [L,U,P] = myplu(A)
% MYPLU    PLU factorization (demo only--not stable!).
% Input:
%   A      square matrix
% Output:
%   P,L,U  permutation, unit lower triangular, and upper
%           triangular such that LU=PA

% Your code here.

end
```