

# Mathematical Preliminaries

CENG6202: Advanced Computational Methods in  
Geotechnical Engineering

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1 Vectors

2 Matrices

3 Linear System of Equations

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# Vectors

A vector is a column of numbers. For example, vector  $\mathbf{a}$  of size  $n$  is written as

$$\mathbf{a} = \begin{Bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ \vdots \\ a_n \end{Bmatrix}$$

The *transpose* of vector  $\mathbf{a}$ :

$$\mathbf{a}^T = \{a_1 \ a_2 \ \cdots \ a_n\}$$

The *magnitude* or *norm* of vector  $\mathbf{a}$  is defined as

$$\|\mathbf{a}\| = \sqrt{a_1^2 + a_2^2 + \cdots + a_n^2}$$

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The *dot product* (also called *scalar product*) of two vectors  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$ , each of size  $n$ , is defined as:

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i b_i = a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2 + \cdots + a_n b_n$$

The dot product can also be written as

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{b} = \{a_1 \ a_2 \ \cdots \ a_n\} \begin{Bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_n \end{Bmatrix} = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i b_i$$



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$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{b} = \{a_1 \ a_2 \ \cdots \ a_n\} \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_n \end{pmatrix} = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i b_i$$

The product  $\mathbf{a}\mathbf{b}^\top$ , however, results in a matrix, i.e.

$$\mathbf{a}\mathbf{b}^\top = \begin{Bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ \vdots \\ a_n \end{Bmatrix} \{b_1 \ b_2 \ \cdots \ b_n\} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1b_1 & a_1b_2 & \cdots & a_1b_n \\ a_2b_1 & a_2b_2 & \cdots & a_2b_n \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_nb_1 & a_nb_2 & \cdots & a_nb_n \end{bmatrix}$$

The *cross product* of three-dimensional vectors  $\mathbf{a}^T = \{a_1 \ a_2 \ a_3\}$  and  $\mathbf{b}^T = \{b_1 \ b_2 \ b_3\}$  is a vector (say  $\mathbf{c}$ ) and is defined as

$$\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = \|\mathbf{a}\| \|\mathbf{b}\| \sin \theta \mathbf{n}$$

where  $\theta$  is the angle between  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  and  $\mathbf{n}$  is a unit normal vector ( $\|\mathbf{n}\| = 1$ ) to the plane of  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$ .

The elements of vector  $\mathbf{c}$  are

$$\mathbf{c} = \begin{Bmatrix} a_2 b_3 - a_3 b_2 \\ a_3 b_1 - a_1 b_3 \\ a_1 b_2 - a_2 b_1 \end{Bmatrix}$$

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# Matrices

A matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  with  $n$  rows and  $m$  columns is written as:

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1m} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2m} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & a_{nm} \end{bmatrix}$$

The *transpose* of matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ :

$$\mathbf{A}^T = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{21} & \cdots & a_{n1} \\ a_{12} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{n2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{1m} & a_{2m} & \cdots & a_{nm} \end{bmatrix}$$

Square matrix:  $n = m$

Symmetric matrix: Square and  $a_{ij} = a_{ji}$

Skew matrix: Square and  $a_{ij} = -a_{ji}$

Skew-symmetric matrix: Square,  $a_{ii} = 0$  and  $a_{ij} = -a_{ji}$

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Upper and Lower triangular decompositions of  $\mathbf{A}$ :

$$\mathbf{U} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ 0 & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{L} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ a_{21} & & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

Strictly upper and strictly lower triangular decompositions of  $\mathbf{A}$ :

$$\mathbf{U}' = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{L}' = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ a_{21} & & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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Addition, subtraction, scalar multiplication and transposition:

- ①  $\mathbf{A} \pm \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{B} \pm \mathbf{A}$
- ②  $(\mathbf{A} \pm \mathbf{B})^\top = \mathbf{A}^\top \pm \mathbf{B}^\top$
- ③  $(\mathbf{A}^\top)^\top = \mathbf{A}$
- ④  $(s\mathbf{A})^\top = s(\mathbf{A}^\top)$

Addition, subtraction, scalar multiplication and transposition:

- ①  $A \pm B = B \pm A$
- ②  $(A \pm B)^T = A^T \pm B^T$
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Matrix-Vector multiplication:

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1m} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2m} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & a_{nm} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_m \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \cdots a_{1m}x_m \\ a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \cdots a_{2m}x_m \\ \vdots \\ a_{n1}x_1 + a_{n2}x_2 + \cdots a_{nm}x_m \end{Bmatrix}$$

Vector-Matrix multiplication:

$$\mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{A} = \{y_1 \quad y_2 \quad \cdots \quad y_n\} \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1m} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2m} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & a_{nm} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \{y_1 a_{11} + \cdots + y_n a_{n1} \quad \cdots \quad y_1 a_{1m} + \cdots + y_n a_{nm}\}$$

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Vector-Matrix multiplication:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{A} &= \{y_1 \quad y_2 \cdots y_n\} \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1m} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2m} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & a_{nm} \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \{y_1 a_{11} + \cdots + y_n a_{n1} \quad \cdots \quad y_1 a_{1m} + \cdots + y_n a_{nm}\} \end{aligned}$$

Bilinear form:

$$\mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} \rightarrow \text{Scalar}$$

Quadratic form:

$$\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} \rightarrow \text{Scalar}$$

A matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  is called **positive-definite** if

$$\mathbf{z}^\top \mathbf{A} \mathbf{z} > 0 \quad \forall \mathbf{z} \neq 0$$

Matrix-Matrix multiplication:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbf{AB} &= \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1m} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2m} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & a_{nm} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b_{11} & b_{12} & \cdots & b_{1p} \\ b_{21} & b_{22} & \cdots & b_{2p} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ b_{m1} & b_{m2} & \cdots & b_{mp} \end{bmatrix} \\
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# Matrices

↪ Inverse

The *inverse* of a matrix  $A$  is denoted by  $A^{-1}$  and

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

where

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

Some properties of inverse:

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

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The *inverse* of a matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  is denoted by  $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$  and

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{I}$$

where

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

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The *determinant* of a matrix  $A$  is denoted by  $\det A$  or  $|A|$  and is given by

$$|A| = \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik} (-1)^{i+k} |A_{ik}|, \quad k = 1, \dots, n$$

Some properties of determinants:

- $|AB| = |A| |B|$  for square matrices  $A$  and  $B$  of the same size.
- $|A^T| = |A|$
- $|A^{-1}| = 1/|A|$
- $|sA| = s^n |A|$  for an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$ .
- $|I| = 1$  for an identity matrix of any size.



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A **block matrix** or **partitioned matrix** is a matrix that is composed of submatrices:

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{bmatrix}$$

A **block diagonal matrix** is a square diagonal matrix in which the diagonal elements are square matrices of any size and the off-diagonal elements are zero or zero matrices of any size:

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1 Vectors

2 Matrices

3 Linear System of Equations

# Linear System of Equations

The final problem to be solved in computational science and engineering usually takes the form:

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

Homogeneous system of equations ( $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{0}$ ):

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$$

Given a matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  of size  $m \times n$  and a vector  $\mathbf{b}$  of size  $m$ :

- If  $n < m$ , the system is called **over-determined** and there is no solution.
- If  $n > m$ , the system is **under-determined** and the equations may be solved as far as possible.
- If  $m = n$  and  $\mathbf{A}$  is non-singular, a direct solution can be obtained.

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# Linear System of Equations

↪ Solution Methods

## Direct Methods: Examples

- Gaussian Elimination
- $LU$  Factorization

## Iterative Methods: Examples

- Jacobi Iteration
- Gauss-Seidel Iteration
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↪ Direct Methods: Gaussian Elimination

Elementary row operations on **augmented matrix**  $A|\mathbf{b}$  to get a simpler system  $A'|\mathbf{b}'$ :

$$A|\mathbf{b} = \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} & b_1 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} & b_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & a_{nn} & b_n \end{array} \right] \implies A'|\mathbf{b}' = \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} a'_{11} & a'_{12} & \cdots & a'_{1n} & b'_1 \\ 0 & a'_{22} & \cdots & a'_{2n} & b'_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & a'_{nn} & b'_n \end{array} \right]$$

Equivalent linear system:

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccc} a'_{11} & a'_{12} & \cdots & a'_{1n} \\ 0 & a'_{22} & \cdots & a'_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & a'_{nn} \end{array} \right] \begin{Bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} b'_1 \\ b'_2 \\ \vdots \\ b'_n \end{Bmatrix}$$

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$$A|\mathbf{b} = \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} & b_1 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} & b_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & a_{nn} & b_n \end{array} \right] \Rightarrow A'|\mathbf{b}' = \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} a'_{11} & a'_{12} & \cdots & a'_{1n} & b'_1 \\ 0 & a'_{22} & \cdots & a'_{2n} & b'_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & a'_{nn} & b'_n \end{array} \right]$$

Equivalent linear system:

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccc} a'_{11} & a'_{12} & \cdots & a'_{1n} \\ 0 & a'_{22} & \cdots & a'_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & a'_{nn} \end{array} \right] \begin{Bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} b'_1 \\ b'_2 \\ \vdots \\ b'_n \end{Bmatrix}$$

# Linear System of Equations

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Solution for  $x_n$  from the  $n^{th}$  row as

$$x_n = \frac{b'_n}{a'_{nn}}$$

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# Linear System of Equations

↪ Direct Methods: *LU* Factorization

Coefficient matrix *A* first decomposed into lower and upper triangular matrices:

$$A = LU$$

such that

$$L = \begin{bmatrix} l_{11} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ l_{21} & l_{22} & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ l_{n1} & l_{n2} & \cdots & l_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \quad U = \begin{bmatrix} u_{11} & u_{12} & \cdots & u_{1n} \\ 0 & u_{22} & \cdots & u_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & u_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

Elements of *L* and *U* can be calculated from:

$$l_{ij} = \frac{1}{u_{ii}} \left( a_{ij} - \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} l_{ik} u_{kj} \right)$$
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# Linear System of Equations

↪ Direct Methods: *LU* Factorization

The linear system  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$  may now be written as

$$(\mathbf{LU})\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b} \Rightarrow \mathbf{L}(\mathbf{Ux}) = \mathbf{b}$$

Two simpler systems to solve:

$$\mathbf{Ly} = \mathbf{b}$$

$$\mathbf{Ux} = \mathbf{y}$$

Solutions:

$$y_1 = \frac{b_1}{l_{11}} \quad y_i = \frac{1}{l_{ii}} \left( b_i - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} l_{ij}y_j \right) \quad i = 2, \dots, n$$

$$x_n = \frac{y_n}{u_{nn}} \quad x_i = \frac{1}{u_{ii}} \left( y_i - \sum_{j=i+1}^n u_{ij}x_j \right) \quad i = n-1, \dots, 1$$

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# Linear System of Equations

↪ Iterative Methods: Gauss-Seidel Iteration

Coefficient matrix  $A$  is decomposed such that

$$A = L' + D + U'$$

Linear system  $Ax = b$  now written as

$$(D + L')x = b - U'x$$

Solve for  $x$  on the LHS based on assumed/previous  $x$  on the RHS:

$$x^{(k+1)} = (D + L')^{-1} (b - U'x^{(k)})$$

Forward substitution expression of iteration procedure

$$x_i^{(k+1)} = \frac{1}{a_{ii}} \left( b_i - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} a_{ij}x_j^{(k+1)} - \sum_{j=i+1}^n a_{ij}x_j^{(k)} \right)$$

Perform iteration until an error criterion is satisfied:

$$\|x^{(k+1)} - x^{(k)}\| \leq e$$

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Coefficient matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  is decomposed such that

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Linear system  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  now written as

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# Linear System of Equations

↪ Iterative Methods: Successive Over-Relaxation (SOR)

Coefficient matrix  $A$  is decomposed such that

$$A = L' + D + U'$$

Scalar factor  $\omega$  is introduced to the linear system

$$\begin{aligned}\omega (L' + D + U') x &= \omega b \\ \Rightarrow (D + \omega L') x &= \omega b - [\omega U' + (\omega - 1)D] x\end{aligned}$$

Solve for  $x$  on the LHS based on assumed/previous  $x$  on the RHS:

$$x^{(k+1)} = (D + \omega L')^{-1} (\omega b - [\omega U' + (\omega - 1)D] x^{(k)})$$

Forward substitution expression of iteration procedure

$$x_i^{(k+1)} = (1 - \omega)x_i^{(k)} + \frac{\omega}{a_{ii}} \left( b_i - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} a_{ij}x_j^{(k+1)} - \sum_{j=i+1}^n a_{ij}x_j^{(k)} \right)$$

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Solve for  $\mathbf{x}$  on the LHS based on assumed/previous  $\mathbf{x}$  on the RHS:

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