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LU Factorization with Pivoting

Recall the definition of the LU factorization.

The LU Factorization, if it exists, is the product $\underline{L}\underline{U} = \underline{A}$, where \underline{L} is unit lower triangular and \underline{U} is upper triangular.

Remark: In one of our 1st examples,

we reduced a system of equations as:

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

\Downarrow

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Equivalently, we multiplied \underline{A} by $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \underline{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \\ = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

So we have $\underline{L}_1 \underline{A} = \underline{U}_1$, where

$$\underline{L}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \underline{U}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Now, we can write $\underline{A} = \underline{L}_1^{-1} \underline{U}_1$, $\underline{L}_1^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$.

$$\underline{A} = \underline{L}_1^{-1} \underline{U}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

This is the LU Factorization of A by our

definition, but it is not the only factorization of A into the product of an upper and lower Δ matrices. In particular, we can squeeze in $\begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & a \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{a} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{a} \end{pmatrix} = \underline{I}_{2 \times 2}$

For $a \neq 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{A} &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & a \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{a} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{a} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ a & a \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{a} & \frac{1}{a} \\ 0 & -\frac{2}{a} \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

This is why it is important to require L to be unit lower Δ for uniqueness.

Last time: we wrote down formulas to actually compute the matrices $\underline{L} = (l_{ij})$ and $\underline{U} = (u_{ij})$.

$$l_{ij} = \frac{1}{u_{jj}} \left(a_{ij} - \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} l_{ik} u_{kj} \right).$$

$$i = 2, \dots, n \quad \text{and} \quad j = 1, \dots, i-1$$

$$u_{ij} = a_{ij} - \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} l_{ik} u_{kj}$$

$$i = 1, \dots, n \quad \text{and} \quad j = i, \dots, n$$

When can we do the factorization $\underline{A} = \underline{L}\underline{U}$ "safely"? We need a condition on \underline{A} , which is weaker than invertibility.

Definition 2.4: $\underline{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, $n \geq 2$.

$$1 \leq k \leq n.$$

The leading principle submatrix of order k of \underline{A} is defined as $\underline{A}^{(k)} \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times k}$ whose element in row i and column j corresponds to the (i, j) element of \underline{A} .

Thm 2.2. $\underline{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, $n \geq 2$.

Suppose every leading principle submatrix $\underline{A}^{(k)}$, with $1 \leq k < n$, is nonsingular. Then we can write $A = LU$, where L is unit lower Δ and \underline{U} is upper Δ .

Pf. The proof is by induction.

Base case: $n = 2$. By assumption $a \neq 0$ if $\underline{A} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$.

We want to show the existence of

$$\underline{L} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ m & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \underline{U} = \begin{pmatrix} u & v \\ 0 & \eta \end{pmatrix}$$

so that $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} = \underline{A} = \underline{L} \underline{U} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ m & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u & v \\ 0 & \eta \end{pmatrix}$.

This is equivalent to the following eqs:

$$a = u, \quad b = v, \quad mu = c, \quad mv + \eta = d.$$

Since $a \neq 0$, we can solve for everything

$$m = \frac{c}{a} = \frac{c}{a}, \quad \eta = d - mv = d - \left(\frac{c}{a}\right)b.$$

So, the base case holds.

Inductive hypothesis Assume statement is

true for matrices of order k , $2 \leq k < n$.

Now we try to prove the statement is true for $k+1=n$. Partition $\underline{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{(k+1) \times (k+1)}$ as

$$\underline{A} = \begin{pmatrix} \underline{A}^{(k)} & \underline{b} \\ \underline{c}^T & d \end{pmatrix}.$$

where $\underline{A}^{(k)} \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times k}$. Apply the inductive hypothesis on $\underline{A}^{(k)}$, i.e. $\exists \underline{L}^{(k)}, \underline{U}^{(k)}$ so that

$$\underline{A}^{(k)} = \underline{L}^{(k)} \underline{U}^{(k)}$$

We guess the form of L and U as:

$$\underline{L} = \begin{pmatrix} \underline{L}^{(k)} & \underline{0} \\ \underline{m}^T & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \underline{U} = \begin{pmatrix} \underline{U}^{(k)} & \underline{v} \\ \underline{0}^T & \eta \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then $A = LU$ is equivalent to

$$\underline{L}^{(k)} \underline{U}^{(k)} = \underline{A}^{(k)}, \quad \underline{L}^{(k)} \underline{v} = \underline{b}, \quad \underline{m}^T \underline{U}^{(k)} = \underline{c}^T, \quad \underline{m}^T \underline{v} + \eta = d.$$

$\underline{L}^{(k)} \underline{v} = \underline{b}$ allows us to uniquely determine \underline{v} since $\underline{L}^{(k)}$ is invertible. (why???)

Also, note that:

$$\begin{aligned}\det(\underline{A}^{(k)}) &= \det(\underline{L}^{(k)} \underline{U}^{(k)}) \\ &= \det(\underline{L}^{(k)}) \det(\underline{U}^{(k)}) \\ &= 1 \neq \det(\underline{U}^{(k)}).\end{aligned}$$

Since $\underline{A}^{(k)}$ is invertible by assumption, $\det(\underline{U}^{(k)}) \neq 0$. Thus:

$$\underline{m}^T \underline{U}^{(k)} = \underline{c}^T$$

uniquely determines m . The last equation $\underline{m}^T \underline{v} + \eta = d$ allows us to determine η , given m and v .

This concludes the proof since

$$\begin{pmatrix} \underline{L}^{(k)} & \underline{0} \\ \underline{m}^T & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ is unit lower } \Delta$$

$$\text{and } \begin{pmatrix} \underline{U}^{(k)} & \underline{v} \\ \underline{0}^T & \eta \end{pmatrix} \text{ is upper } \Delta.$$

Remk: let's say we are given an arbitrary matrix $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$ and we want to transform this to upper Δ , using the techniques just described. we can multiply the 1st row by $-\frac{c}{a}$ and add to the second row:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -\frac{c}{a} & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & -\frac{c}{a}(b+d) \end{pmatrix}.$$

But, what if $a \approx 0$. This is not stable. (we will define "not stable" later in the class).

It suffices to say that we need to be careful about ~~dividing~~ dividing by numbers close to zero when we do Gaussian elimination.

Example: $\underline{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$

If we try to use (blindly) our process to convert A to an upper Δ matrix, we are in trouble since $a_{11} = 0$.

But, we can multiply A by a permutation matrix P which rearranges

the rows.

$$\underline{P} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{PA} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Trivially, we have $PA = LU$,

where $L = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$, $U = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$.

Thm: let $n \geq 2$ and $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$. There exists a permutation matrix P , a unit lower Δ matrix L , and an upper Δ matrix U , so that $P, L, U \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ and $PA = LU$.

Pivoting:

Definition: Suppose $n \geq 2$. A matrix $\underline{P} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$

in which every element is either a 0 or a 1, and whose every row and every column contain exactly 1 nonzero element, is called a permutation matrix.

Example:
$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let's revisit this Theorem:

Theorem 2.3. $n \geq 2$, $\underline{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$. There exists a permutation matrix \underline{P} , a unit lower Δ matrix \underline{L} , and an upper Δ matrix \underline{U} , all three in $\mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, so that

$$\underline{P} \underline{A} = \underline{L} \underline{U}.$$

Pf: By induction: on n .

Base case: $n=2$. Express $\underline{A} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$

There are three possibilities:

$$\underbrace{a \neq 0}_{(1)}$$

$$\underbrace{a=0, c \neq 0}_{(2)}$$

$$\underbrace{a=c=0}_{(3)}$$

In (1), we can proceed as usual with Gaussian elimination.

$$\text{In (2), let } \underline{P} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$\text{Then } \underline{P} \underline{A} = \begin{pmatrix} c & d \\ 0 & b \end{pmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_L \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} c & d \\ 0 & b \end{pmatrix}}_U.$$

$$\text{In (3), } \underline{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & b \\ 0 & d \end{pmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_L \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 0 & b \\ 0 & d \end{pmatrix}}_U.$$

This proves the Base Case.

Inductive hypothesis: Assume statement is

true for $\underline{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times k}$, $2 \leq k < n$.

Now, we let $\underline{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{(k+1) \times (k+1)}$ and prove the statement is true



Find the element in the 1st column of \underline{A} with largest absolute value. Say it is α , and it is in row r . Then we can multiply \underline{A} by a permutation $\underline{P}^{(1r)}$ which swaps the 1st and r th rows to put α in the upper left corner of $\underline{P}^{(1r)} \underline{A}$. i.e.

$$\underline{P}^{(1r)} \underline{A} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \underline{w}^T \\ \underline{p} & \underline{B} \end{pmatrix}, \text{ with}$$

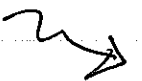
$\underline{p}, \underline{w} \in \mathbb{R}^k$, $\underline{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times k}$. Let us

Suppose we can express $\underline{P}^{(1r)} \underline{A}$ as:

$$\underline{P}^{(1r)} \underline{A} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \underline{w}^T \\ \underline{p} & \underline{B} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \underline{0}^T \\ \underline{m} & \underline{I}_{k \times k} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \underline{v}^T \\ \underline{0} & \underline{C} \end{pmatrix},$$

where we do not yet know \underline{m} , \underline{C} , and \underline{v} . Note that $\underline{C} \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times k}$ and $\underline{m}, \underline{v} \in \mathbb{R}^k$. This expression of \underline{A} is equivalent to the following equations for \underline{m} , \underline{C} , and \underline{v} :

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{v}^T &= \underline{w}^T \\ \alpha \underline{m} &= \underline{p} \\ \underline{C} &= \underline{B} - \underline{m} \underline{v}^T \end{aligned}$$



Here there are two cases:

$\alpha = 0$: In this case, $f = 0$. We can also set $\underline{m} = \underline{0}$, so $\underline{v} = \underline{w}$ and $\underline{C} = \underline{B}$.

So we have determined \underline{m} , \underline{v} , \underline{C} from our data.

$\alpha \neq 0$: Solving for \underline{m} , we get $\underline{m} = \left(\frac{1}{\alpha}\right)f$.

Then also $\underline{v} = \underline{w}$ as before and

$$\underline{C} = \underline{B} - \underline{m}\underline{v}^T = \underline{B} - \left(\frac{1}{\alpha}\right)f\underline{w}^T;$$

So \underline{m} , \underline{v} , \underline{C} are determined from our data. Since $\underline{C} \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times k}$, we can apply the inductive hyp to conclude

$$\underline{P}^* \underline{C} = \underline{L}^* \underline{U}^*.$$

Now, notice that we can write:

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} \underline{1} & \underline{0}^T \\ \underline{0} & \underline{P}^* \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \underline{v}^T \\ \underline{0} & \underline{C} \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \underline{v}^T \\ \underline{0} & \underline{P}^* \underline{C} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \underline{v}^T \\ \underline{0} & \underline{L}^* \underline{U}^* \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \underline{1} & \underline{0}^T \\ \underline{0} & \underline{L}^* \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \underline{v}^T \\ \underline{0} & \underline{U}^* \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Noting that $P^* P^{*T} = \underline{I}_{k \times k}$, we can

multiply both sides of the previous equation ^{to get} $\left(\begin{array}{c|c} \underline{1} & \underline{0}^T \\ \hline \underline{0} & \underline{P}^* \end{array} \right)$

$$\left(\begin{array}{c|c} \underline{1} & \underline{0}^T \\ \hline \underline{0} & \underline{P}^* \end{array} \right) \left(\begin{array}{c|c} \underline{1} & \underline{0}^T \\ \hline \underline{0} & \underline{P}^* \end{array} \right) \left(\begin{array}{c|c} \alpha & \underline{v}^T \\ \hline \underline{0} & \underline{c} \end{array} \right)$$

$$= \underline{I}_{(k+1) \times (k+1)}$$

$$= \left(\begin{array}{c|c} \alpha & \underline{v}^T \\ \hline \underline{0} & \underline{c} \end{array} \right) = \left(\begin{array}{c|c} \underline{1} & \underline{0}^T \\ \hline \underline{0} & \underline{P}^* \end{array} \right) \left(\begin{array}{c|c} \underline{1} & \underline{0}^T \\ \hline \underline{0} & \underline{L}^* \end{array} \right) \left(\begin{array}{c|c} \alpha & \underline{v}^T \\ \hline \underline{0} & \underline{u}^* \end{array} \right)$$

(*)

Now, plug in the equation (*) For the Formula For $\underline{P}^{(1r)} \underline{A}$:

$$\underline{P}^{(1r)} \underline{A} = \left(\begin{array}{c|c} \underline{1} & \underline{0}^T \\ \hline \underline{m} & \underline{I} \end{array} \right) \left(\begin{array}{c|c} \alpha & \underline{v}^T \\ \hline \underline{0} & \underline{c} \end{array} \right)$$

$$= \left(\begin{array}{c|c} \underline{1} & \underline{0}^T \\ \hline \underline{m} & \underline{I} \end{array} \right) \left(\begin{array}{c|c} \underline{1} & \underline{0}^T \\ \hline \underline{0} & \underline{P}^* \end{array} \right) \left(\begin{array}{c|c} \underline{1} & \underline{0}^T \\ \hline \underline{0} & \underline{L}^* \end{array} \right) \left(\begin{array}{c|c} \alpha & \underline{v}^T \\ \hline \underline{0} & \underline{u}^* \end{array} \right)$$

$$= \left(\begin{array}{c|c} \underline{1} & \underline{0}^T \\ \hline \underline{m} & \underline{P}^* \end{array} \right) \left(\begin{array}{c|c} \underline{1} & \underline{0}^T \\ \hline \underline{0} & \underline{L}^* \end{array} \right) \left(\begin{array}{c|c} \alpha & \underline{v}^T \\ \hline \underline{0} & \underline{u}^* \end{array} \right)$$

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$$= \begin{pmatrix} \underline{1} & \underline{0}^T \\ \underline{m} & \underline{P}^* \underline{L}^* \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \underline{\alpha} & \underline{v}^T \\ \underline{0} & \underline{u}^* \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\stackrel{\rightarrow}{=} \begin{pmatrix} \underline{1} & \underline{0}^T \\ \underline{0} & \underline{P}^* \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \underline{1} & \underline{0}^T \\ \underline{P}^* \underline{m} & \underline{L}^* \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \underline{\alpha} & \underline{v}^T \\ \underline{0} & \underline{u}^* \end{pmatrix}$$

where in this last equality, we used again the fact $\underline{P}^* \underline{P}^* = \underline{I}_{k \times k}$.

This string of equalities allows us to conclude:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \underline{1} & \underline{0}^T \\ \underline{0} & \underline{P}^* \end{pmatrix} \underline{P}^{(1r)} \underline{A} = \begin{pmatrix} \underline{1} & \underline{0}^T \\ \underline{P}^* \underline{m} & \underline{L}^* \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \underline{\alpha} & \underline{v}^T \\ \underline{0} & \underline{u}^* \end{pmatrix}$$

with $\begin{pmatrix} \underline{1} & \underline{0}^T \\ \underline{0} & \underline{P}^* \end{pmatrix} \underline{P}^{(1r)}$ a permutation matrix, and \underline{L} and \underline{u} above satisfying the conditions of the theorem.