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Bisection and Gaussian elimination

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## Bisection:

~~Definition:~~

Also used in finding a root of  $f$ ,  $f(x) = 0$ .

Idea: Start with some initial interval in which we know exists a root by the ~~mean~~ intermediate value theorem.

i.e. we have  $(a_0, b_0)$  so that

$$f(a_0) f(b_0) < 0.$$

$\Rightarrow$   $f(a_0)$  and  $f(b_0)$  have opposite sign.

Define two new intervals:  $(a_1, c_1), (c_1, b_1)$

with  $a_1 = a_0, c_1 = \frac{1}{2}(a_0 + b_0), b_1 = b_0$ .

Then  $(a_2, b_2) = \begin{cases} (a_1, c_1) & \text{if } f(a_1) f(c_1) < 0 \\ (c_1, b_1) & \text{if } f(c_1) f(b_1) < 0 \end{cases}$

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# Gaussian Elimination

Very simple example:

$$x_1 + x_2 = 1$$

$$x_1 - x_2 = 0.$$

To solve, we would add the equations to get:

$$2x_1 = 1. \Leftrightarrow x_1 = \frac{1}{2}.$$

We can plug  $x_1 = \frac{1}{2}$  back into either equation to get  $x_2 = \frac{1}{2}$ .

This can be formulated in matrix form:

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\underline{A}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}}_{\underline{x}} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}}_{\underline{b}}.$$

Gaussian elimination CAN be thought of as a process through which we transform  $\underline{A}$  to upper triangle form.

Definition 2.2 Let  $n$  be an integer  $\geq 2$ .

The matrix  $\underline{L} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is lower triangular if  $\underline{L} = (l_{ij})$  satisfies:

$$l_{ij} = 0 \quad \forall i, j \text{ with } 1 \leq i < j \leq n.$$

$\underline{L}$  is called unit lower triangular if it is lower triangular and all its diagonal elements are equal to 1.

$\underline{U}$  is called upper triangular if  $\underline{U}^T$  is lower triangular.

EX: 
$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 5 & 6 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

upper  
lower  $\Delta$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 5 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

unit upper  $\Delta$ .

Back to the example:

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

$\rightarrow$

If we try to put  $A$  in upper  $\Delta$  form, we can multiply the 1st equation by  $-1$  and add it to the second equation:

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

Now, the second equation reads:

$$-2x_2 = -1$$

implying  $x_2 = \frac{1}{2}$ . We can then "back-substitute"  $x_2$  into the 1st equation:

$$x_1 + x_2 = 1 \Leftrightarrow x_1 + \frac{1}{2} = 1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x_1 = \frac{1}{2},$$

to get  $x_1$ . This is a simple example showing the process of backsubstitution and Gaussian elimination.

## Gaussian Elimination: Bigger Example

History: Introduced by Gauss in 1809 to solve six linear equations with six unknowns. This was a model for the motion of the asteroid Pallas.

Example:

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 6$$

$$2x_1 + 4x_2 + 2x_3 = 16$$

$$-x_1 + 5x_2 - 4x_3 = -3.$$

We can rewrite this in matrix form

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 & 2 \\ -1 & 5 & -4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 16 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Multiply 3<sup>rd</sup> row by 2:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 & 2 \\ -2 & 10 & -8 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 16 \\ -6 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x + y &= 1 \\ x - y &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2x &= 1 \\ x &= \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

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Multiply 1st row by  $-2$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} -2 & -2 & -2 \\ 2 & 4 & 2 \\ -1 & 5 & -4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -12 \\ 16 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Add 1st and second rows, and put result in the second row

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ -1 & 5 & -4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 4 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Note that above we went ahead and also multiplied the 1st row by  $-\frac{1}{2}$ .

Now add the 1st row to the 3rd row, and put result in 3rd row:

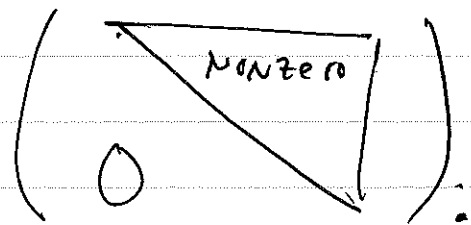
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 4 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Finally, take the second row, multiply by  $-3$ , add to the third row, and put the result in the 3<sup>rd</sup> row:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 4 \\ -9 \end{pmatrix}$$

To solve, we can now use "back substitution."

First, notice the structure of the resulting matrix: it is called "upper triangular"





Let's go back and look at the first operation we did: multiply first row by -2 and add to second row:  
This can be expressed in terms of a matrix:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$


$$\text{i.e.} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 & 2 \\ -1 & 5 & -4 \end{pmatrix} \\ = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ -1 & 5 & -4 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Notice that  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  is

"lower triangular."

We can write this sequence of row operations as a product of lower  $\Delta$  matrices,  $L_1, L_2, L_3, \dots$

$$L_1 L_2 L_3 Ax = L_1 L_2 L_3 b$$



where we showed in our example that

$$L_1 L_2 L_3 A$$

is an upper triangular matrix.

We can move the  $L_1 L_2 L_3$  multiplying  $b$  to the left hand side by ~~with~~ multiplying by their inverses:

$$L_3^{-1} L_2^{-1} L_1^{-1} L_1 L_2 L_3 A x = b$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (L_1 L_2 L_3)^{-1} (L_1 L_2 L_3 A) x = b.$$

What is the structure of  $(L_1 L_2 L_3)^{-1}$ ?

Exercise: Show  $(L_1 L_2 L_3)^{-1}$  is lower triangular.

We've factored  $A = (L_1 L_2 L_3)^{-1} (L_1 L_2 L_3 A)$

into the product of a lower  $\Delta$  and upper  $\Delta$  matrix in the process of solving the linear system. This is called the LU Factorization of  $A$ .

Thm: 2.1 These are true for any integer  $n \geq 2$ .

(i) The product of two lower  $\Delta$  matrices of order  $n$  is lower  $\Delta$  of order  $n$ .

(ii) The product of two unit lower  $\Delta$  matrices of order  $n$  is unit lower  $\Delta$  of order  $n$ .

(iii) a lower  $\Delta$  matrix is nonsingular  $\Leftrightarrow$  all the diagonal elements are nonzero.

(iv) The inverse of a nonsingular lower  $\Delta$  matrix of order  $n$  is lower  $\Delta$  of order  $n$ .

(v) The inverse of a unit lower  $\Delta$  matrix of order  $n$  is unit lower  $\Delta$  of order  $n$ .

Pf of iv (By induction).

Base case:  $n=2$ .

let  $L = \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ c & b \end{pmatrix}$ . Note that we can write down  $L^{-1}$  explicitly:

$$L^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det L} \begin{pmatrix} b & 0 \\ -c & a \end{pmatrix}.$$

Since  $\det L = ab$ , we are implicitly assuming  $a \neq 0$  and  $b \neq 0$ . Thus,  $L^{-1}$  is lower  $\Delta$ .

Inductive hypothesis Assume true for  $2 \leq n \leq k$ .

i.e. the inverse of a nonsingular lower  $\Delta$  matrix of order  $k$  is lower  $\Delta$  of order  $k$ .

Prove true for  $k+1$ . Let  $L$  be a

lower  $\Delta$  triangular matrix of order  $k+1$ .

We can partition  $L$  and its inverse  $L^{-1}$  as:

$$L = \begin{pmatrix} L_1 & \underline{0} \\ \underline{r}^T & \alpha \end{pmatrix}, \quad L^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} X & \underline{y} \\ \underline{z}^T & \beta \end{pmatrix}.$$

By definition,  $LL^{-1} = \underline{I}_{k+1}$ , so

$$L_1 X = \underline{I}_k, \quad L_1 \underline{y} = \underline{0}, \quad \underline{r}^T X + \alpha \underline{z}^T = \underline{0}^T$$

$$\text{and } \underline{r}^T \underline{y} + \alpha \beta = 1.$$

By induction, since  $X = L_1^{-1}$ ,  $X$  is lower  $\Delta$ . Also, since  $L_1$  is invertible,  $\underline{y} = \underline{0}$ . This shows  $L^{-1}$  is lower  $\Delta$ .

Some comments:

Rank: In our first example, we reduced the system of equations as:

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

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

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

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

So we have  $L_1 A = U_1$ , where

$$L_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad U_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Now, we can write  $A = L_1^{-1} U_1$ ,  
with  $L_1^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

$$A = L_1^{-1} U_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix},$$

This is an LU factorization for  $A$ ,

but it is not unique! In particular,  
we can squeeze in  $\begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & a \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{a} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{a} \end{pmatrix}$

For  $a \neq 0$  to get

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

Fact: (I think, please check!). An LU  
Factorization is unique if  $L$  is required  
to be unit lower  $\Delta$ .

Base on the nonuniqueness of a factorization of  $A$  into ~~upper~~ a product of upper  $\Delta$  and lower  $\Delta$  matrices, we explicitly define the (unique) LU Factorization of  $A$  as follows:

Definition The LU Factorization of  $A$ ,

if it exists, is the product  $A = LU$ , where  $L$  is unit lower  $\Delta$  and  $U$  is upper  $\Delta$ .

Rule: 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  $\Delta$ , 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:  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .



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

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

the rows.

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

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

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  $\Delta$  matrix  $L$ , and an upper  $\Delta$  matrix  $U$ , so that  $P, L, U \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  and

$$PA = LU.$$