Gaussian Elimination

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Transforming Numerical Methods Education for STEM Undergraduates

Naïve Gauss Elimination

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Naïve Gaussian Elimination

A method to solve simultaneous linear equations of the form [A][X]=[C]

Two steps

1. Forward Elimination
2. Back Substitution

Forward Elimination

The goal of forward elimination is to transform the coefficient matrix into an upper triangular matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 64 & 8 & 1 \\ 144 & 12 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 106.8 \\ 177.2 \\ 279.2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 0 & -4.8 & -1.56 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 106.8 \\ -96.21 \\ 0.735 \end{bmatrix}$$

Forward Elimination

A set of *n* equations and *n* unknowns

$$a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + a_{13}x_3 + ... + a_{1n}x_n = b_1$$

$$a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + a_{23}x_3 + ... + a_{2n}x_n = b_2$$

$$\vdots \qquad\qquad \vdots$$

$$a_{n1}x_1 + a_{n2}x_2 + a_{n3}x_3 + ... + a_{nn}x_n = b_n$$

(n-1) steps of forward elimination

Forward Elimination

Step 1

For Equation 2, divide Equation 1 by a_{11} and multiply by a_{21}.

$$\left[\frac{a_{21}}{a_{11}}\right](a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + a_{13}x_3 + ... + a_{1n}x_n = b_1)$$

$$a_{21}x_1 + \frac{a_{21}}{a_{11}}a_{12}x_2 + ... + \frac{a_{21}}{a_{11}}a_{1n}x_n = \frac{a_{21}}{a_{11}}b_1$$

Forward Elimination

Subtract the result from Equation 2.

$$a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + a_{23}x_3 + ... + a_{2n}x_n = b_2$$

$$- \quad a_{21}x_1 + \frac{a_{21}}{a_{11}}a_{12}x_2 + ... + \frac{a_{21}}{a_{11}}a_{1n}x_n = \frac{a_{21}}{a_{11}}b_1$$

$$\left(a_{22} - \frac{a_{21}}{a_{11}}a_{12}\right)x_2 + ... + \left(a_{2n} - \frac{a_{21}}{a_{11}}a_{1n}\right)x_n = b_2 - \frac{a_{21}}{a_{11}}b_1$$

or $$a'_{22}x_2 + ... + a'_{2n}x_n = b'_2$$

Forward Elimination

Repeat this procedure for the remaining equations to reduce the set of equations as

$$a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + a_{13}x_3 + \ldots + a_{1n}x_n = b_1$$

$$a'_{22}x_2 + a'_{23}x_3 + \ldots + a'_{2n}x_n = b'_2$$

$$a'_{32}x_2 + a'_{33}x_3 + \ldots + a'_{3n}x_n = b'_3$$

$$\vdots \qquad \vdots \qquad \vdots$$

$$a'_{n2}x_2 + a'_{n3}x_3 + \ldots + a'_{nn}x_n = b'_n$$

End of Step 1

Forward Elimination

Step 2

Repeat the same procedure for the 3rd term of Equation 3.

$$
\begin{aligned}
a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + a_{13}x_3 + \ldots + a_{1n}x_n &= b_1 \\
a'_{22}x_2 + a'_{23}x_3 + \ldots + a'_{2n}x_n &= b'_2 \\
a''_{33}x_3 + \ldots + a''_{3n}x_n &= b''_3 \\
\vdots \qquad\quad \vdots \\
a''_{n3}x_3 + \ldots + a''_{nn}x_n &= b''_n
\end{aligned}
$$

End of Step 2

Forward Elimination

At the end of (n-1) Forward Elimination steps, the system of equations will look like

$$a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + a_{13}x_3 + \ldots + a_{1n}x_n = b_1$$

$$a'_{22}x_2 + a'_{23}x_3 + \ldots + a'_{2n}x_n = b'_2$$

$$a''_{33}x_3 + \ldots + a''_{3n}x_n = b''_3$$

$$\vdots \qquad \vdots$$

$$a_{nn}^{(n-1)}x_n = b_n^{(n-1)}$$

End of Step (n-1)

Matrix Form at End of Forward Elimination

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ 0 & a'_{22} & a'_{23} & \cdots & a'_{2n} \\ 0 & 0 & a''_{33} & \cdots & a''_{3n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \cdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{nn}^{(n-1)} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b'_2 \\ b''_3 \\ \vdots \\ b_n^{(n-1)} \end{bmatrix}$$

Back Substitution

Solve each equation starting from the last equation

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 0 & -4.8 & -1.56 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 106.8 \\ -96.21 \\ 0.735 \end{bmatrix}$$

Example of a system of 3 equations

Back Substitution Starting Eqns

$$a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + a_{13}x_3 + \ldots + a_{1n}x_n = b_1$$

$$a'_{22}x_2 + a'_{23}x_3 + \ldots + a'_{2n}x_n = b'_2$$

$$a''_{33}x_3 + \ldots + a''_{n}x_n = b''_3$$

$$\vdots \qquad \vdots$$

$$a_{nn}^{(n-1)}x_n = b_n^{(n-1)}$$

Back Substitution

Start with the last equation because it has only one unknown

$$x_n = \frac{b_n^{(n-1)}}{a_{nn}^{(n-1)}}$$

Back Substitution

$$x_n = \frac{b_n^{(n-1)}}{a_{nn}^{(n-1)}}$$

$$x_i = \frac{b_i^{(i-1)} - a_{i,i+1}^{(i-1)} x_{i+1} - a_{i,i+2}^{(i-1)} x_{i+2} - \ldots - a_{i,n}^{(i-1)} x_n}{a_{ii}^{(i-1)}} \text{ for } i = n-1, \ldots, 1$$

$$x_i = \frac{b_i^{(i-1)} - \sum_{j=i+1}^{n} a_{ij}^{(i-1)} x_j}{a_{ii}^{(i-1)}} \text{ for } i = n-1, \ldots, 1$$

THE END

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Additional Resources

For all resources on this topic such as digital audiovisual lectures, primers, textbook chapters, multiple-choice tests, worksheets in MATLAB, MATHEMATICA, MathCad and MAPLE, blogs, related physical problems, please visit

http://numericalmethods.eng.usf.edu/topics/gaussian_elimination.html

Naïve Gauss Elimination Example

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Example 1

The upward velocity of a rocket is given at three different times

Table 1 Velocity vs. time data.

Time, $t\,(\mathrm{s})$	**Velocity,** $v\,(\mathrm{m/s})$
5	106.8
8	177.2
12	279.2

The velocity data is approximated by a polynomial as:

$$v(t) = a_1 t^2 + a_2 t + a_3 \,, \qquad 5 \le \mathrm{t} \le 12.$$

Find the velocity at t=6 seconds .

Example 1 Cont.

Assume

$$v(t) = a_1 t^2 + a_2 t + a_3 \ , \quad 5 \le t \le 12.$$

Results in a matrix template of the form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} t_1^2 & t_1 & 1 \\ t_2^2 & t_2 & 1 \\ t_3^2 & t_3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Using data from Table 1, the matrix becomes:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 64 & 8 & 1 \\ 144 & 12 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 106.8 \\ 177.2 \\ 279.2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Example 1 Cont.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 64 & 8 & 1 \\ 144 & 12 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 106.8 \\ 177.2 \\ 279.2 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 25 & 5 & 1 & 106.8 \\ 64 & 8 & 1 & 177.2 \\ 144 & 12 & 1 & 279.2 \end{array}\right]$$

1. Forward Elimination
2. Back Substitution

Forward Elimination

Number of Steps of Forward Elimination

Number of steps of forward elimination is

$$(n-1)=(3-1)=2$$

Forward Elimination: Step 1

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 & \vdots & 106.8 \\ 64 & 8 & 1 & \vdots & 177.2 \\ 144 & 12 & 1 & \vdots & 279.2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Divide Equation 1 by 25 and multiply it by 64, $\frac{64}{25} = 2.56$.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 & \vdots & 106.8 \end{bmatrix} \times 2.56 = \begin{bmatrix} 64 & 12.8 & 2.56 & \vdots & 273.408 \end{bmatrix}$$

Subtract the result from Equation 2

$$\begin{array}{r} \begin{bmatrix} 64 & 8 & 1 & \vdots & 177.2 \end{bmatrix} \\ -\begin{bmatrix} 64 & 12.8 & 2.56 & \vdots & 273.408 \end{bmatrix} \\ \hline \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -4.8 & -1.56 & \vdots & -96.208 \end{bmatrix} \end{array}$$

Substitute new equation for Equation 2

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 & \vdots & 106.8 \\ 0 & -4.8 & -1.56 & \vdots & -96.208 \\ 144 & 12 & 1 & \vdots & 279.2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Forward Elimination: Step 1 (cont.)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 & \vdots & 106.8 \\ 0 & -4.8 & -1.56 & \vdots & -96.208 \\ 144 & 12 & 1 & \vdots & 279.2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Divide Equation 1 by 25 and multiply it by 144, $\frac{144}{25} = 5.76$.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 & \vdots & 106.8 \end{bmatrix} \times 5.76 = \begin{bmatrix} 144 & 28.8 & 5.76 & \vdots & 615.168 \end{bmatrix}$$

Subtract the result from Equation 3

$$\begin{array}{r} \begin{bmatrix} 144 & 12 & 1 & \vdots & 279.2 \end{bmatrix} \\ -\begin{bmatrix} 144 & 28.8 & 5.76 & \vdots & 615.168 \end{bmatrix} \\ \hline \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -16.8 & -4.76 & \vdots & -335.968 \end{bmatrix} \end{array}$$

Substitute new equation for Equation 3

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 & \vdots & 106.8 \\ 0 & -4.8 & -1.56 & \vdots & -96.208 \\ 0 & -16.8 & -4.76 & \vdots & -335.968 \end{bmatrix}$$

Forward Elimination: Step 2

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 & \vdots & 106.8 \\ 0 & -4.8 & -1.56 & \vdots & -96.208 \\ 0 & -16.8 & -4.76 & \vdots & -335.968 \end{bmatrix}$$

Divide Equation 2 by −4.8 and multiply it by −16.8, $\frac{-16.8}{-4.8} = 3.5$.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -4.8 & -1.56 & \vdots & -96.208 \end{bmatrix} \times 3.5 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -16.8 & -5.46 & \vdots & -336.728 \end{bmatrix}$$

Subtract the result from Equation 3

$$\begin{array}{r} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -16.8 & -4.76 & \vdots & 335.968 \end{bmatrix} \\ -\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -16.8 & -5.46 & \vdots & -336.728 \end{bmatrix} \\ \hline \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0.7 & \vdots & 0.76 \end{bmatrix} \end{array}$$

Substitute new equation for Equation 3

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 & \vdots & 106.8 \\ 0 & -4.8 & -1.56 & \vdots & -96.208 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.7 & \vdots & 0.76 \end{bmatrix}$$

Back Substitution

Back Substitution

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 & \vdots & 106.8 \\ 0 & -4.8 & -1.56 & \vdots & -96.2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.7 & \vdots & 0.7 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 0 & -4.8 & -1.56 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 106.8 \\ -96.208 \\ 0.76 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solving for a_3

$$0.7a_3 = 0.76$$

$$a_3 = \frac{0.76}{0.7}$$

$$a_3 = 1.08571$$

Back Substitution (cont.)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 0 & -4.8 & -1.56 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 106.8 \\ -96.208 \\ 0.76 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solving for a_2

$$-4.8a_2 - 1.56a_3 = -96.208$$

$$a_2 = \frac{-96.208 + 1.56a_3}{-4.8}$$

$$a_2 = \frac{-96.208 + 1.56 \times 1.08571}{-4.8}$$

$$a_2 = 19.6905$$

Back Substitution (cont.)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 0 & -4.8 & -1.56 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 106.8 \\ -96.2 \\ 0.76 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solving for a_1

$$25a_1 + 5a_2 + a_3 = 106.8$$

$$a_1 = \frac{106.8 - 5a_2 - a_3}{25}$$

$$= \frac{106.8 - 5 \times 19.6905 - 1.08571}{25}$$

$$= 0.290472$$

Naïve Gaussian Elimination Solution

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 64 & 8 & 1 \\ 144 & 12 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 106.8 \\ 177.2 \\ 279.2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.290472 \\ 19.6905 \\ 1.08571 \end{bmatrix}$$

Example 1 Cont.

Solution

The solution vector is

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.290472 \\ 19.6905 \\ 1.08571 \end{bmatrix}$$

The polynomial that passes through the three data points is then:

$$v(t) = a_1 t^2 + a_2 t + a_3$$

$$= 0.290472t^2 + 19.6905t + 1.08571, \quad 5 \le t \le 12$$

$$v(6) = 0.290472(6)^2 + 19.6905(6) + 1.08571$$

$$= 129.686 \text{ m/s.}$$

THE END

Naïve Gauss Elimination Pitfalls

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Pitfall#1. Division by zero

$$10x_2 - 7x_3 = 3$$

$$6x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 11$$

$$5x_1 - x_2 + 5x_3 = 9$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 10 & -7 \\ 6 & 2 & 3 \\ 5 & -1 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 11 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

Is division by zero an issue here?

$$12x_1 + 10x_2 - 7x_3 = 15$$
$$6x_1 + 5x_2 + 3x_3 = 14$$
$$5x_1 - x_2 + 5x_3 = 9$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 12 & 10 & -7 \\ 6 & 5 & 3 \\ 5 & -1 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 15 \\ 14 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

Is division by zero an issue here? YES

$$12x_1 + 10x_2 - 7x_3 = 15$$
$$6x_1 + 5x_2 + 3x_3 = 14$$
$$24x_1 - x_2 + 5x_3 = 28$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 12 & 10 & -7 \\ 6 & 5 & 3 \\ 24 & -1 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 15 \\ 14 \\ 28 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 12 & 10 & -7 \\ 0 & 0 & 6.5 \\ 12 & -21 & 19 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 15 \\ 6.5 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Division by zero is a possibility at any step of forward elimination

Pitfall#2. Large Round-off Errors

$$\begin{bmatrix} 20 & 15 & 10 \\ -3 & -2.249 & 7 \\ 5 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 45 \\ 1.751 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

Exact Solution

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Pitfall#2. Large Round-off Errors

$$\begin{bmatrix} 20 & 15 & 10 \\ -3 & -2.249 & 7 \\ 5 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 45 \\ 1.751 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solve it on a computer using 6 significant digits with chopping

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.9625 \\ 1.05 \\ 0.999995 \end{bmatrix}$$

Pitfall#2. Large Round-off Errors

$$\begin{bmatrix} 20 & 15 & 10 \\ -3 & -2.249 & 7 \\ 5 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 45 \\ 1.751 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solve it on a computer using **5** significant digits with chopping

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.625 \\ 1.5 \\ 0.99995 \end{bmatrix}$$

Is there a way to reduce the round off error?

Avoiding Pitfalls

Increase the number of significant digits

- Decreases round-off error
- Does not avoid division by zero

Avoiding Pitfalls

Gaussian Elimination with Partial Pivoting

- Avoids division by zero
- Reduces round off error

THE END

Gauss Elimination with Partial Pivoting

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Pitfalls of Naïve Gauss Elimination

- Possible division by zero
- Large round-off errors

Avoiding Pitfalls

Increase the number of significant digits

- Decreases round-off error
- Does not avoid division by zero

Avoiding Pitfalls

Gaussian Elimination with Partial Pivoting

- Avoids division by zero
- Reduces round off error

What is Different About Partial Pivoting?

At the beginning of the k^{th} step of forward elimination, find the maximum of

$$|a_{kk}|, |a_{k+1,k}|, \ldots\ldots\ldots\ldots\ldots, |a_{nk}|$$

If the maximum of the values is $|a_{pk}|$

in the p^{th} row, $k \le p \le n,$ then switch rows p and k.

Matrix Form at Beginning of 2nd Step of Forward Elimination

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ 0 & a'_{22} & a'_{23} & \cdots & a'_{2n} \\ 0 & a'_{32} & a'_{33} & \cdots & a'_{3n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \cdots & \vdots \\ 0 & a'_{n2} & a'_{n3} & a'_{n4} & a'_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b'_2 \\ b'_3 \\ \vdots \\ b'_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Example (2^{nd} step of FE)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 6 & 14 & 5.1 & 3.7 & 6 \\ 0 & -7 & 6 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 4 & 12 & 1 & 11 \\ 0 & 9 & 23 & 6 & 8 \\ 0 & -17 & 12 & 11 & 43 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ -6 \\ 8 \\ 9 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Which two rows would you switch?

Example (2^{nd} step of FE)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 6 & 14 & 5.1 & 3.7 & 6 \\ 0 & -17 & 12 & 11 & 43 \\ 0 & 4 & 12 & 1 & 11 \\ 0 & 9 & 23 & 6 & 8 \\ 0 & -7 & 6 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 3 \\ 8 \\ 9 \\ -6 \end{bmatrix}$$

Switched Rows

Gaussian Elimination with Partial Pivoting

A method to solve simultaneous linear equations of the form [A][X]=[C]

Two steps

1. Forward Elimination
2. Back Substitution

Forward Elimination

Same as naïve Gauss elimination method except that we switch rows before **each** of the (n-1) steps of forward elimination.

Example: Matrix Form at Beginning of 2nd Step of Forward Elimination

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ 0 & a'_{22} & a'_{23} & \cdots & a'_{2n} \\ 0 & a'_{32} & a'_{33} & \cdots & a'_{3n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \cdots & \vdots \\ 0 & a'_{n2} & a'_{n3} & a'_{n4} & a'_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b'_2 \\ b'_3 \\ \vdots \\ b'_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Matrix Form at End of Forward Elimination

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ 0 & a'_{22} & a'_{23} & \cdots & a'_{2n} \\ 0 & 0 & a''_{33} & \cdots & a''_{3n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \cdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{nn}^{(n-1)} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b'_2 \\ b''_3 \\ \vdots \\ b_n^{(n-1)} \end{bmatrix}$$

Back Substitution Starting Eqns

$$a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + a_{13}x_3 + \ldots + a_{1n}x_n = b_1$$

$$a'_{22}x_2 + a'_{23}x_3 + \ldots + a'_{2n}x_n = b'_2$$

$$a''_{33}x_3 + \ldots + a''_{n}x_n = b''_3$$

$$\vdots \qquad \vdots$$

$$a_{nn}^{(n-1)}x_n = b_n^{(n-1)}$$

Back Substitution

$$x_n = \frac{b_n^{(n-1)}}{a_{nn}^{(n-1)}}$$

$$x_i = \frac{b_i^{(i-1)} - \sum_{j=i+1}^{n} a_{ij}^{(i-1)} x_j}{a_{ii}^{(i-1)}} \text{ for } i = n-1, \ldots, 1$$

THE END

Gauss Elimination with Partial Pivoting Example

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Example 2

Solve the following set of equations by Gaussian elimination with partial pivoting

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 64 & 8 & 1 \\ 144 & 12 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 106.8 \\ 177.2 \\ 279.2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Example 2 Cont.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 64 & 8 & 1 \\ 144 & 12 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 106.8 \\ 177.2 \\ 279.2 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 & \vdots & 106.8 \\ 64 & 8 & 1 & \vdots & 177.2 \\ 144 & 12 & 1 & \vdots & 279.2 \end{bmatrix}$$

1. Forward Elimination
2. Back Substitution

Forward Elimination

Number of Steps of Forward Elimination

Number of steps of forward elimination is

$(n-1)=(3-1)=2$

Forward Elimination: Step 1

- Examine absolute values of first column, first row and below.

$$|25|, |64|, |144|$$

- Largest absolute value is 144 and exists in row 3.
- Switch row 1 and row 3.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 & \vdots & 106.8 \\ 64 & 8 & 1 & \vdots & 177.2 \\ 144 & 12 & 1 & \vdots & 279.2 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 144 & 12 & 1 & \vdots & 279.2 \\ 64 & 8 & 1 & \vdots & 177.2 \\ 25 & 5 & 1 & \vdots & 106.8 \end{bmatrix}$$

Forward Elimination: Step 1 (cont.)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 144 & 12 & 1 & \vdots & 279.2 \\ 64 & 8 & 1 & \vdots & 177.2 \\ 25 & 5 & 1 & \vdots & 106.8 \end{bmatrix}$$

Divide Equation 1 by 144 and multiply it by 64, $\frac{64}{144} = 0.4444$.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 144 & 12 & 1 & \vdots & 279.2 \end{bmatrix} \times 0.4444 = \begin{bmatrix} 63.99 & 5.333 & 0.4444 & \vdots & 124.1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Subtract the result from Equation 2

$$\begin{array}{r} \begin{bmatrix} 64 & 8 & 1 & \vdots & 177.2 \end{bmatrix} \\ - \begin{bmatrix} 63.99 & 5.333 & 0.4444 & \vdots & 124.1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \hline \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2.667 & 0.5556 & \vdots & 53.10 \end{bmatrix} \end{array}$$

Substitute new equation for Equation 2

$$\begin{bmatrix} 144 & 12 & 1 & \vdots & 279.2 \\ 0 & 2.667 & 0.5556 & \vdots & 53.10 \\ 25 & 5 & 1 & \vdots & 106.8 \end{bmatrix}$$

Forward Elimination: Step 1 (cont.)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 144 & 12 & 1 & \vdots & 279.2 \\ 0 & 2.667 & 0.5556 & \vdots & 53.10 \\ 25 & 5 & 1 & \vdots & 106.8 \end{bmatrix}$$

Divide Equation 1 by 144 and multiply it by 25, $\frac{25}{144} = 0.1736$.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 144 & 12 & 1 & \vdots & 279.2 \end{bmatrix} \times 0.1736 = \begin{bmatrix} 25.00 & 2.083 & 0.1736 & \vdots & 48.47 \end{bmatrix}$$

Subtract the result from Equation 3

$$\begin{array}{r} \begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 & \vdots & 106.8 \end{bmatrix} \\ -\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 2.083 & 0.1736 & \vdots & 48.47 \end{bmatrix} \\ \hline \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2.917 & 0.8264 & \vdots & 58.33 \end{bmatrix} \end{array}$$

Substitute new equation for Equation 3

$$\begin{bmatrix} 144 & 12 & 1 & \vdots & 279.2 \\ 0 & 2.667 & 0.5556 & \vdots & 53.10 \\ 0 & 2.917 & 0.8264 & \vdots & 58.33 \end{bmatrix}$$

Forward Elimination: Step 2

- Examine absolute values of second column, second row and below.

$$|2.667|,|2.917|$$

- Largest absolute value is 2.917 and exists in row 3.
- Switch row 2 and row 3.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 144 & 12 & 1 & \vdots & 279.2 \\ 0 & 2.667 & 0.5556 & \vdots & 53.10 \\ 0 & 2.917 & 0.8264 & \vdots & 58.33 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 144 & 12 & 1 & \vdots & 279.2 \\ 0 & 2.917 & 0.8264 & \vdots & 58.33 \\ 0 & 2.667 & 0.5556 & \vdots & 53.10 \end{bmatrix}$$

Forward Elimination: Step 2 (cont.)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 144 & 12 & 1 & \vdots & 279.2 \\ 0 & 2.917 & 0.8264 & \vdots & 58.33 \\ 0 & 2.667 & 0.5556 & \vdots & 53.10 \end{bmatrix}$$

Divide Equation 2 by 2.917 and multiply it by 2.667,

$$\frac{2.667}{2.917} = 0.9143.$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2.917 & 0.8264 & \vdots & 58.33 \end{bmatrix} \times 0.9143 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2.667 & 0.7556 & \vdots & 53.33 \end{bmatrix}$$

Subtract the result from Equation 3

$$\begin{array}{r} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2.667 & 0.5556 & \vdots & 53.10 \end{bmatrix} \\ -\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2.667 & 0.7556 & \vdots & 53.33 \end{bmatrix} \\ \hline \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & -0.2 & \vdots & -0.23 \end{bmatrix} \end{array}$$

Substitute new equation for Equation 3

$$\begin{bmatrix} 144 & 12 & 1 & \vdots & 279.2 \\ 0 & 2.917 & 0.8264 & \vdots & 58.33 \\ 0 & 0 & -0.2 & \vdots & -0.23 \end{bmatrix}$$

Back Substitution

Back Substitution

$$\begin{bmatrix} 144 & 12 & 1 & \vdots & 279.2 \\ 0 & 2.917 & 0.8264 & \vdots & 58.33 \\ 0 & 0 & -0.2 & \vdots & -0.23 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 144 & 12 & 1 \\ 0 & 2.917 & 0.8264 \\ 0 & 0 & -0.2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 279.2 \\ 58.33 \\ -0.23 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solving for a_3

$$-0.2a_3 = -0.23$$

$$a_3 = \frac{-0.23}{-0.2}$$

$$= 1.15$$

Back Substitution (cont.)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 144 & 12 & 1 \\ 0 & 2.917 & 0.8264 \\ 0 & 0 & -0.2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 279.2 \\ 58.33 \\ -0.23 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solving for a_2

$$2.917a_2 + 0.8264a_3 = 58.33$$

$$a_2 = \frac{58.33 - 0.8264a_3}{2.917}$$

$$= \frac{58.33 - 0.8264 \times 1.15}{2.917}$$

$$= 19.67$$

Back Substitution (cont.)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 144 & 12 & 1 \\ 0 & 2.917 & 0.8264 \\ 0 & 0 & -0.2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 279.2 \\ 58.33 \\ -0.23 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solving for a_1

$$144a_1 + 12a_2 + a_3 = 279.2$$

$$a_1 = \frac{279.2 - 12a_2 - a_3}{144}$$

$$= \frac{279.2 - 12 \times 19.67 - 1.15}{144}$$

$$= 0.2917$$

Gaussian Elimination with Partial Pivoting Solution

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 64 & 8 & 1 \\ 144 & 12 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 106.8 \\ 177.2 \\ 279.2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.2917 \\ 19.67 \\ 1.15 \end{bmatrix}$$

Gauss Elimination with Partial Pivoting Another Example

http://numericalmethods.eng.usf.edu

Partial Pivoting: Example

Consider the system of equations

$$10x_1 - 7x_2 = 7$$

$$-3x_1 + 2.099x_2 + 6x_3 = 3.901$$

$$5x_1 - x_2 + 5x_3 = 6$$

In matrix form

$$\begin{bmatrix} 10 & -7 & 0 \\ -3 & 2.099 & 6 \\ 5 & -1 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 3.901 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solve using Gaussian Elimination with Partial Pivoting using five significant digits with chopping

Partial Pivoting: Example

Forward Elimination: Step 1

Examining the values of the first column

|10|, |-3|, and |5| or 10, 3, and 5

The largest absolute value is 10, which means, to follow the rules of Partial Pivoting, we switch row1 with row1.

Performing Forward Elimination

$$\begin{bmatrix} 10 & -7 & 0 \\ -3 & 2.099 & 6 \\ 5 & -1 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 3.901 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 10 & -7 & 0 \\ 0 & -0.001 & 6 \\ 0 & 2.5 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 6.001 \\ 2.5 \end{bmatrix}$$

Partial Pivoting: Example

Forward Elimination: Step 2

Examining the values of the first column

|-0.001| and |2.5| or 0.0001 and 2.5

The largest absolute value is 2.5, so row 2 is switched with row 3

Performing the row swap

$$\begin{bmatrix} 10 & -7 & 0 \\ 0 & -0.001 & 6 \\ 0 & 2.5 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 6.001 \\ 2.5 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 10 & -7 & 0 \\ 0 & 2.5 & 5 \\ 0 & -0.001 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 2.5 \\ 6.001 \end{bmatrix}$$

Partial Pivoting: Example

Forward Elimination: Step 2

Performing the Forward Elimination results in:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 10 & -7 & 0 \\ 0 & 2.5 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 6.002 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 2.5 \\ 6.002 \end{bmatrix}$$

Partial Pivoting: Example

Back Substitution

Solving the equations through back substitution

$$\begin{bmatrix} 10 & -7 & 0 \\ 0 & 2.5 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 6.002 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 2.5 \\ 6.002 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_3 = \frac{6.002}{6.002} = 1$$

$$x_2 = \frac{2.5 - 5x_3}{2.5} = -1$$

$$x_1 = \frac{7 + 7x_2 - 0x_3}{10} = 0$$

Partial Pivoting: Example

Compare the calculated and exact solution

The fact that they are equal is coincidence, but it does illustrate the advantage of Partial Pivoting

$$[X]_{calculated} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \qquad [X]_{exact} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

THE END

Determinant of a Square Matrix
Using Naïve Gauss Elimination

Example

http://numericalmethods.eng.usf.edu

Theorem of Determinants

If a multiple of one row of $[A]_{n x n}$ is added or subtracted to another row of $[A]_{n x n}$ to result in $[B]_{n x n}$ then $\det(A)=\det(B)$

Theorem of Determinants

The determinant of an upper triangular matrix $[A]_{n \times n}$ is given by

$$\det(A) = a_{11} \times a_{22} \times \ldots \times a_{ii} \times \ldots \times a_{nn}$$

$$= \prod_{i=1}^{n} a_{ii}$$

Forward Elimination of a Square Matrix

Using forward elimination to transform $[A]_{n\boldsymbol{x}n}$ to an upper triangular matrix, $[U]_{n\boldsymbol{x}n}$.

$$[A]_{n\times n} \rightarrow [U]_{n\times n}$$

$$\det(A) = \det(U)$$

Example

Using naïve Gaussian elimination find the determinant of the following square matrix.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 64 & 8 & 1 \\ 144 & 12 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Forward Elimination

Forward Elimination: Step 1

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 64 & 8 & 1 \\ 144 & 12 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Divide Equation 1 by 25 and multiply it by 64, $\frac{64}{25} = 2.56$.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \times 2.56 = \begin{bmatrix} 64 & 12.8 & 2.56 \end{bmatrix}$$

Subtract the result from Equation 2

$$\begin{array}{r} \begin{bmatrix} 64 & 8 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ -\begin{bmatrix} 64 & 12.8 & 2.56 \end{bmatrix} \\ \hline \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -4.8 & -1.56 \end{bmatrix} \end{array}$$

Substitute new equation for Equation 2

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 0 & -4.8 & -1.56 \\ 144 & 12 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Forward Elimination: Step 1 (cont.)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 0 & -4.8 & -1.56 \\ 144 & 12 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Divide Equation 1 by 25 and multiply it by 144, $\frac{144}{25} = 5.76$.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \times 5.76 = \begin{bmatrix} 144 & 28.8 & 5.76 \end{bmatrix}$$

Subtract the result from Equation 3

$$\begin{array}{r} \begin{bmatrix} 144 & 12 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ -\begin{bmatrix} 144 & 28.8 & 5.76 \end{bmatrix} \\ \hline \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -16.8 & -4.76 \end{bmatrix} \end{array}$$

Substitute new equation for Equation 3

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 0 & -4.8 & -1.56 \\ 0 & -16.8 & -4.76 \end{bmatrix}$$

Forward Elimination: Step 2

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 0 & -4.8 & -1.56 \\ 0 & -16.8 & -4.76 \end{bmatrix}$$

Divide Equation 2 by -4.8

and multiply it by -16.8, $\dfrac{-16.8}{-4.8} = 3.5$.

$$\left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -4.8 & -1.56 \end{bmatrix}\right) \times 3.5 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -16.8 & -5.46 \end{bmatrix}$$

Subtract the result from Equation 3

$$\begin{array}{r} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -16.8 & -4.76 \end{bmatrix} \\ -\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -16.8 & -5.46 \end{bmatrix} \\ \hline \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0.7 \end{bmatrix} \end{array}$$

Substitute new equation for Equation 3

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 0 & -4.8 & -1.56 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.7 \end{bmatrix}$$

Finding the Determinant

After forward elimination

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 64 & 8 & 1 \\ 144 & 12 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \to \begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 0 & -4.8 & -1.56 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.7 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \det(\mathrm{A}) &= u_{11} \times u_{22} \times u_{33} \\ &= 25 \times (-4.8) \times 0.7 \\ &= -84.00 \end{aligned}$$

Summary

-Forward Elimination

-Back Substitution

-Pitfalls

-Improvements

-Partial Pivoting

-Determinant of a Matrix

Additional Resources

For all resources on this topic such as digital audiovisual lectures, primers, textbook chapters, multiple-choice tests, worksheets in MATLAB, MATHEMATICA, MathCad and MAPLE, blogs, related physical problems, please visit

http://numericalmethods.eng.usf.edu/topics/gaussian_elimination.html

THE END