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Transforming Numerical Methods Education for STEM Undergraduates

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LU Decomposition is another method to solve a set of simultaneous linear equations

Which is better, Gauss Elimination or LU Decomposition?

To answer this, a closer look at LU decomposition is needed.

Method

For most non-singular matrix [A] that one could conduct Naïve Gauss Elimination forward elimination steps, one can always write it as

$$[A] = [L][U]$$

where

[L] = lower triangular matrix

[U] = upper triangular matrix

How does LU Decomposition work?

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If solving a set of linear equations [A][X] = [C]
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If
$$[A] = [L][U]$$
 then $[L][U][X] = [C]$

Multiply by $[L]^{-1}$

Which gives $[L]^{-1}[L][U][X] = [L]^{-1}[C]$

Remember $[L]^{-1}[L] = [I]$ which leads to $[I][U][X] = [L]^{-1}[C]$

Now, if [I][U] = [U] then $[U][X] = [L]^{-1}[C]$

Now, let $[L]^{-1}[C] = [Z]$

Which ends with [L][Z] = [C] (1)

and [U][X] = [Z] (2)

How can this be used?

Given
$$[A][X] = [C]$$

- 1. Decompose [A] into [L] and [U]
- 2. Solve [L][Z] = [C] for [Z]
- 3. Solve [U][X] = [Z] for [X]

When is LU Decomposition better than Gaussian Elimination?

To solve
$$[A][X] = [B]$$

Table. Time taken by methods

Gaussian Elimination	LU Decomposition		
$T\left(\frac{8n^3}{3} + 12n^2 + \frac{4n}{3}\right)$	$T\left(\frac{8n^3}{3} + 12n^2 + \frac{4n}{3}\right)$		

where T = clock cycle time and n = size of the matrix

So both methods are equally efficient.

To find inverse of [A]

Time taken by Gaussian Elimination

$$= n(CT|_{FE} + CT|_{BS})$$

$$= T\left(\frac{8n^4}{3} + 12n^3 + \frac{4n^2}{3}\right)$$

Time taken by LU Decomposition

$$= CT |_{LU} + n \times CT |_{FS} + n \times CT |_{BS}$$
$$= T \left(\frac{32n^3}{3} + 12n^2 + \frac{20n}{3} \right)$$

Table 1 Comparing computational times of finding inverse of a matrix using LU decomposition and Gaussian elimination.

n	10	100	1000	10000
CT _{inverse GE} / CT _{inverse LU}	3.28	25.83	250.8	2501

Method: [A] Decompose to [L] and [U]

$$[A] = [L][U] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \ell_{21} & 1 & 0 \\ \ell_{31} & \ell_{32} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_{11} & u_{12} & u_{13} \\ 0 & u_{22} & u_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & u_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

[*U*] is the same as the coefficient matrix at the end of the forward elimination step.

[L] is obtained using the *multipliers* that were used in the forward elimination process

Finding the [U] matrix

Using the Forward Elimination Procedure of Gauss Elimination

Step 1:
$$\frac{64}{25} = 2.56$$
; $Row2 - Row1(2.56) = \begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1\\ 0 & -4.8 & -1.56\\ 144 & 12 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\frac{144}{25} = 5.76; \quad Row3 - Row1(5.76) = \begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1\\ 0 & -4.8 & -1.56\\ 0 & -16.8 & -4.76 \end{bmatrix}$$

Finding the [U] Matrix

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

Step 2:
$$\frac{-16.8}{-4.8} = 3.5$$
; $Row3 - Row2(3.5) = \begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 0 & -4.8 & -1.56 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.7 \end{bmatrix}$

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

Finding the [L] matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \ell_{21} & 1 & 0 \\ \ell_{31} & \ell_{32} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Using the multipliers used during the Forward Elimination Procedure

From the first step of forward elimination
$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 64 & 8 & 1 \\ 144 & 12 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \ell_{21} = \frac{a_{21}}{a_{11}} = \frac{64}{25} = 2.56$$

$$\ell_{31} = \frac{a_{31}}{a_{11}} = \frac{144}{25} = 5.76$$

$$\ell_{21} = \frac{a_{21}}{a_{11}} = \frac{64}{25} = 2.56$$

$$\ell_{31} = \frac{a_{31}}{a_{11}} = \frac{144}{25} = 5.76$$

Finding the [L] Matrix

From the second step of forward elimination
$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 0 & -4.8 & -1.56 \\ 0 & -16.8 & -4.76 \end{bmatrix} \quad \ell_{32} = \frac{a_{32}}{a_{22}} = \frac{-16.8}{-4.8} = 3.5$$

$$\ell_{32} = \frac{a_{32}}{a_{22}} = \frac{-16.8}{-4.8} = 3.5$$

$$[L] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2.56 & 1 & 0 \\ 5.76 & 3.5 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Does [L][U] = [A]?

$$\begin{bmatrix} L \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} U \end{bmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 2.56 & 1 & 0 & 0 & -4.8 & -1.56 \\ 5.76 & 3.5 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0.7 \end{vmatrix} = ?$$

Using LU Decomposition to solve SLEs

Solve the following set of linear equations using LU Decomposition

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

Using the procedure for finding the [L] and [U] matrices

$$[A] = [L][U] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2.56 & 1 & 0 \\ 5.76 & 3.5 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 0 & -4.8 & -1.56 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.7 \end{bmatrix}$$

Set
$$[L][Z] = [C]$$

Set
$$[L][Z] = [C]$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2.56 & 1 & 0 \\ 5.76 & 3.5 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \\ z_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 106.8 \\ 177.2 \\ 279.2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solve for
$$[Z]$$

$$z_1 = 10$$

$$2.56z_1 + z_2 = 177.2$$

$$5.76z_1 + 3.5z_2 + z_3 = 279.2$$

Complete the forward substitution to solve for [Z]

$$z_{1} = 106.8$$

$$z_{2} = 177.2 - 2.56z_{1}$$

$$= 177.2 - 2.56(106.8)$$

$$= -96.2$$

$$z_{3} = 279.2 - 5.76z_{1} - 3.5z_{2}$$

$$= 279.2 - 5.76(106.8) - 3.5(-96.21)$$

$$= 0.735$$

$$[Z] = \begin{bmatrix} z_{1} \\ z_{2} \\ z_{3} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 106.8 \\ -96.21 \\ 0.735 \end{bmatrix}$$

Set
$$[U][X] = [Z]$$

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

The 3 equations become

$$25a_1 + 5a_2 + a_3 = 106.8$$
$$-4.8a_2 - 1.56a_3 = -96.21$$
$$0.7a_3 = 0.735$$

From the 3rd equation

$$0.7a_3 = 0.735$$

$$a_3 = \frac{0.735}{0.7}$$

$$a_3 = 1.050$$

Substituting in a₃ and using the second equation

$$-4.8a_2 - 1.56a_3 = -96.21$$

$$a_2 = \frac{-96.21 + 1.56a_3}{-4.8}$$

$$a_2 = \frac{-96.21 + 1.56(1.050)}{-4.8}$$

$$a_2 = 19.70$$

Substituting in a₃ and a₂ using the first equation

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

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

$$= \frac{106.8 - 5(19.70) - 1.050}{25}$$

$$= 0.2900$$

Hence the Solution Vector is:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.2900 \\ 19.70 \\ 1.050 \end{bmatrix}$$

Finding the inverse of a square matrix

The inverse [B] of a square matrix [A] is defined as

$$[A][B] = [I] = [B][A]$$

Finding the inverse of a square matrix

How can LU Decomposition be used to find the inverse?

Assume the first column of [B] to be $[b_{11} \ b_{12} \ \dots \ b_{n1}]^T$

Using this and the definition of matrix multiplication

First column of [B]

$$\begin{bmatrix} A \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b_{11} \\ b_{21} \\ \vdots \\ b_{n1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Second column of [B]

$$\begin{bmatrix} A \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b_{12} \\ b_{22} \\ \vdots \\ b_{n2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The remaining columns in [B] can be found in the same manner

Find the inverse of a square matrix [A]

$$[A] = \begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 64 & 8 & 1 \\ 144 & 12 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Using the decomposition procedure, the [L] and [U] matrices are found to be

$$[A] = [L][U] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2.56 & 1 & 0 \\ 5.76 & 3.5 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 0 & -4.8 & -1.56 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.7 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solving for the each column of [B] requires two steps

- 1) Solve [L][Z] = [C] for [Z]
- 2) Solve [U][X] = [Z] for [X]

Step 1:
$$[L][Z] = [C] \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2.56 & 1 & 0 \\ 5.76 & 3.5 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \\ z_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

This generates the equations:

$$z_1 = 1$$

$$2.56z_1 + z_2 = 0$$

$$5.76z_1 + 3.5z_2 + z_3 = 0$$

Solving for [Z]

$$z_{1} = 1$$

$$z_{2} = 0 - 2.56z_{1}$$

$$= 0 - 2.56(1)$$

$$= -2.56$$

$$z_{3} = 0 - 5.76z_{1} - 3.5z_{2}$$

$$= 0 - 5.76(1) - 3.5(-2.56)$$

$$= 3.2$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} Z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \\ z_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2.56 \\ 3.2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solving
$$[U][X] = [Z]$$
 for $[X]$

Solving [*U*][X] = [Z] for [X]
$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 0 & -4.8 & -1.56 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b_{11} \\ b_{21} \\ b_{31} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2.56 \\ 3.2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$25b_{11} + 5b_{21} + b_{31} = 1$$
$$-4.8b_{21} - 1.56b_{31} = -2.56$$
$$0.7b_{31} = 3.2$$

Using Backward Substitution

$$b_{31} = \frac{3.2}{0.7} = 4.571$$

$$b_{21} = \frac{-2.56 + 1.560b_{31}}{-4.8}$$

$$= \frac{-2.56 + 1.560(4.571)}{-4.8} = -0.9524$$

$$b_{11} = \frac{1 - 5b_{21} - b_{31}}{25}$$

$$= \frac{1 - 5(-0.9524) - 4.571}{25} = 0.04762$$

So the first column of the inverse of [A] is:

$$\begin{bmatrix} b_{11} \\ b_{21} \\ b_{31} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.04762 \\ -0.9524 \\ 4.571 \end{bmatrix}$$

Repeating for the second and third columns of the inverse

Second Column

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 64 & 8 & 1 \\ 144 & 12 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b_{12} \\ b_{22} \\ b_{32} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} b_{12} \\ b_{22} \\ b_{32} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -0.08333 \\ 1.417 \\ -5.000 \end{bmatrix}$$

Third Column

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 5 & 1 \\ 64 & 8 & 1 \\ 144 & 12 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b_{13} \\ b_{23} \\ b_{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} b_{13} \\ b_{23} \\ b_{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.03571 \\ -0.4643 \\ 1.429 \end{bmatrix}$$

The inverse of [A] is

$$[A]^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.04762 & -0.08333 & 0.03571 \\ -0.9524 & 1.417 & -0.4643 \\ 4.571 & -5.000 & 1.429 \end{bmatrix}$$

To check your work do the following operation

$$[A][A]^{-1} = [I] = [A]^{-1}[A]$$

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

<u>http://numericalmethods.eng.usf.edu/topics/lu_decomposition.html</u>

THE END

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