



# Computer Methods (MAE 3403)

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## Systems of Linear Equations



# Motivation

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- Many engineering problems can be described or approximated by linear relationships, e.g., combine resistors, small deformations of rigid structures
- Important and fundamental in numerical methods
- $n$  linear, algebraic equations with  $n$  unknowns



# Systems of linear equations

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- Linear equations: unknown variables appear linearly.

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

$$\frac{-x_1 + x_2}{x_3} = 2$$

$$x_1x_2 + x_3 = 5$$

- A system of linear equations

$$4x + 3y - 5z = 2$$

$$-2x - 4y + 5z = 5$$

$$7x + 8y = -3$$

$$x + 2z = 1$$

$$9 + y - 6z = 6$$



# General m equations with n unknowns

$$\begin{array}{cccccccccc} a_{1,1}x_1 & + & a_{1,2}x_2 & + & \dots & + & a_{1,n-1}x_{n-1} & + & a_{1,n}x_n & = & b_1, \\ a_{2,1}x_1 & + & a_{2,2}x_2 & + & \dots & + & a_{2,n-1}x_{n-1} & + & a_{2,n}x_n & = & b_2, \\ & & & & \dots & & & & & & \\ a_{m-1,1}x_1 & + & a_{m-1,2}x_2 & + & \dots & + & a_{m-1,n-1}x_{n-1} & + & a_{m-1,n}x_n & = & b_{m-1}, \\ a_{m,1}x_1 & + & a_{m,2}x_2 & + & \dots & + & a_{m,n-1}x_{n-1} & + & a_{m,n}x_n & = & b_m. \end{array}$$

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} a_{1,1} & a_{1,2} & \dots & a_{1,n} \\ a_{2,1} & a_{2,2} & \dots & a_{2,n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_{m,1} & a_{m,2} & \dots & a_{m,n} \end{bmatrix}}_A \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \dots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}}_x = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \dots \\ b_m \end{bmatrix}}_b$$



# Solutions to systems of linear equations

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- Given the equation  $Ax = b$  ( $m$  equations,  $n$  unknowns), we have three cases
  - No solution for  $x$ , if  $\text{rank}(A) + 1 = \text{rank}([A, b])$
  - Unique solution for  $x$ , if  $\text{rank}([A, b]) = \text{rank}(A)$  &  $\text{rank}(A) = n$
  - Infinite number of solutions for  $x$ , if  $\text{rank}([A, b]) = \text{rank}(A)$  &  $\text{rank}(A) < n$



# How do we solve for $x$ ?

- Assume a unique solution exists for  $Ax = b$

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} a_{1,1} & a_{1,2} & \dots & a_{1,n} \\ a_{2,1} & a_{2,2} & \dots & a_{2,n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_{m,1} & a_{m,2} & \dots & a_{m,n} \end{bmatrix}}_A \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \dots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}}_x = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \dots \\ b_m \end{bmatrix}}_b$$

- Gauss elimination
- Gauss Seidel iterative method




# Gauss elimination

$$\begin{array}{rcl} 4x_1 + 3x_2 - 5x_3 & = & 2 \\ -2x_1 - 4x_2 + 5x_3 & = & 5 \\ 8x_1 + 8x_2 & = & -3 \end{array} \quad \longrightarrow \quad Ax = y$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 3 & -5 \\ -2 & -4 & 5 \\ 8 & 8 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Then eliminate the elements in the matrix.

- Choose a pivot equation
- Eliminate elements in other equations


$$[A, y] = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 3 & -5 & 2 \\ -2 & -4 & 5 & 5 \\ 8 & 8 & 0 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Next

$$[A, y] = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 3 & -5 & 2 \\ -2 & -4 & 5 & 5 \\ 8 & 8 & 0 & -3 \end{bmatrix} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 3 & -5 & 2 \\ 0 & -2.5 & 2.5 & 6 \\ 8 & 8 & 0 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 3 & -5 & 2 \\ 0 & -2.5 & 2.5 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 12 & -2.2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \longleftarrow \quad \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 3 & -5 & 2 \\ 0 & -2.5 & 2.5 & 6 \\ 0 & 2 & 10 & -7 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Solve for  $x_3 = -2.2/12$
- Substitute  $x_3$  to the 2<sup>nd</sup> equation and solve for  $x_2$
- Substitute  $x_2, x_3$  to the 1<sup>st</sup> equation and solve for  $x_1$



# Code your own Gauss elimination method ( $Ax = b$ )

- Elimination Phase

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccccccc|c}
 A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} & \cdots & A_{1k} & \cdots & A_{1j} & \cdots & A_{1n} & b_1 \\
 0 & A_{22} & A_{23} & \cdots & A_{2k} & \cdots & A_{2j} & \cdots & A_{2n} & b_2 \\
 0 & 0 & A_{33} & \cdots & A_{3k} & \cdots & A_{3j} & \cdots & A_{3n} & b_3 \\
 \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\
 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & A_{kk} & \cdots & A_{kj} & \cdots & A_{kn} & b_k \\
 \hline
 \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\
 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & A_{ik} & \cdots & A_{ij} & \cdots & A_{in} & b_i \\
 \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\
 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & A_{nk} & \cdots & A_{nj} & \cdots & A_{nn} & b_n
 \end{array} \right]$$

← pivot row

← row being transformed

Elimination of row  $i$  below row  $k$

$$A_{ij} \leftarrow A_{ij} - \lambda A_{kj}, \quad j = k, k+1, \dots, n$$

$$b_i \leftarrow b_i - \lambda b_k$$

Range of  $i$  and  $k$ ?

```
for k in range(0,n-1):
```

```
    for i in range(k+1,n):
```



# Back substitution

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$$[\mathbf{A} \mid \mathbf{b}] = \left[ \begin{array}{ccccc|c} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} & \cdots & A_{1n} & b_1 \\ 0 & A_{22} & A_{23} & \cdots & A_{2n} & b_2 \\ 0 & 0 & A_{33} & \cdots & A_{3n} & b_3 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & A_{nn} & b_n \end{array} \right]$$

$$x_k = \left( b_k - \sum_{j=k+1}^n A_{kj} x_j \right) \frac{1}{A_{kk}}, \quad k = n-1, n-2, \dots, 1$$



# Pseudo code (no pivoting)

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— *Gaussian Elimination* —

```
for  $k = 1$  to  $n - 1$  do
  for  $i = k + 1$  to  $n$  do
     $a_{ik} = a_{ik} / a_{kk}$ 
    for  $j = k + 1$  to  $n$  do
       $a_{ij} = a_{ij} - a_{ik}a_{kj}$ 
    endfor
  endfor
endfor
```

— *Forward Elimination* —

```
for  $k = 1$  to  $n - 1$  do
  for  $i = k + 1$  to  $n$  do
     $b_i = b_i - a_{ik}b_k$ 
  endfor
```

— *Backward Solve* —

```
for  $i = n$  downto  $1$  do
   $s = b_i$ 
  for  $j = i + 1$  to  $n$  do
     $s = s - a_{ij}x_j$ 
  endfor
   $x_i = s / a_{ii}$ 
endfor
```





# Iterative method: Gauss Seidel

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- Always use the latest estimated value for each elements in  $x$ .
  - Assume initial values of  $x_2, \dots, x_n$  and then solve for  $x_1$
  - Using the calculated  $x_1$  and the rest of  $x$  to solve for  $x_2$
  - Repeat the process until convergence.



# Correction: Gauss Seidel for $Ax = b$

- In Gauss-Seidel, the computation of  $x^{(k+1)}$  uses the elements of  $x^{(k+1)}$  that have already been computed and only the elements of  $x^{(k)}$  that have not been computed in the  $(k+1)$ -th iteration.

Input: initial values for all  $x_i$ ,  $i=1, \dots, n$ ,  $x^{(0)}$

for k in range(0, max\_iter):

for i in range(0, n):

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

#check convergence

if converged:

break



# New slide: Gauss Jacobi

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- In Gauss-Seidel, the computation of  $x^{(k+1)}$  uses only the elements of  $x^{(k)}$  in the  $(k+1)$ -th iteration.

$$x_i^{(k+1)} = \frac{1}{a_{ii}} \left( b_i - \sum_{j \neq i} a_{ij} x_j^{(k)} \right), \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

- Code up your own Jacobi method



# Code your own Gauss-Seidel algorithm

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- Test on the previous example

$$\begin{aligned}4x_1 + 3x_2 - 5x_3 &= 2 \\ -2x_1 - 4x_2 + 5x_3 &= 5 \\ 8x_1 + 8x_2 &= -3\end{aligned}$$

- NOTE: Convergence of Gauss-Seidel requires specific conditions. A sufficient (but not necessary) condition is that  $A$  is **diagonally dominant**.



# Python implementations

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- Numerous and SIMPLE ways to solve systems of linear equations in Python using the numpy module

- `numpy.linalg.solve` (LU decomposition)

- Matrix inverse:

```
A_inv = np.linalg.inv(A)
x = np.dot(A_inv, y)
```

```
import numpy as np
A = np.array([[4, 3, -5],
              [-2, -4, 5],
              [8, 8, 0]])
y = np.array([2, 5, -3])
x = np.linalg.solve(A, y)
print(x)
```