## **LECTURE 17**

# **DIRECT SOLUTIONS TO LINEAR SYSTEMS OF ALGEBRAIC EQUATIONS**

• Solve the system of equations

$$AX = B$$

 $\Rightarrow$ 

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{1,1} & a_{1,2} & a_{1,3} & a_{1,4} \\ a_{2,1} & a_{2,2} & a_{2,3} & a_{2,4} \\ a_{3,1} & a_{3,2} & a_{3,3} & a_{3,4} \\ a_{4,1} & a_{4,2} & a_{4,3} & a_{4,4} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \\ b_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

• The solution is formally expressed as:

$$X = \mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{B}$$

- Typically it is more efficient to solve for X directly without solving for  $A^{-1}$  since finding the inverse is an expensive (and less accurate) procedure
- Types of solution procedures
  - Direct Procedures
    - Exact procedures which have infinite precision (excluding roundoff error)
    - Suitable when A is relatively fully populated/dense or well banded
    - A predictable number of operations is required
  - Indirect Procedures
    - Iterative procedures
    - Are appropriate when A is
      - Large and sparse but not tightly banded
      - Very large (since roundoff accumulates more slowly)
    - Accuracy of the solution improves as the number of iterations increases

### **Cramer's Rule - A Direct Procedure**

• The components of the solution *X* are computed as:

$$x_k = \frac{|\mathbf{A}_k|}{|\mathbf{A}|}$$

where

 $\mathbf{A}_k$  is the matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  with its  $k^{th}$  column replaced by vector  $\mathbf{B}$ 

|A| is the determinant of matrix A

- For each B vector, we must evaluate N+1 determinants of size N where N defines the size of the matrix A
- Evaluate a determinant as follows using the method of expansion by cofactors

$$|\mathbf{A}| = \sum_{i=1}^{N} a_{I,j} [cof(a_{I,j})] = \sum_{i=1}^{N} a_{i,J} [cof(a_{i,J})]$$

where

I = specified value of i

J = specified value of j

$$cof(a_{i,j}) = (-1)^{i+j}(minor(a_{i,j}))$$

minor  $(a_{i,j})$  = determinant of the sub-matrix obtained by deleting the  $i^{th}$  row and the  $j^{th}$  column

• Procedure is repeated until  $2 \times 2$  matrices are established (which has a determinant by definition):

$$|\mathbf{A}| = \begin{bmatrix} a_{1,1} & a_{1,2} \\ a_{2,1} & a_{2,2} \end{bmatrix} = a_{1,1}a_{2,2} - a_{2,1}a_{1,2}$$

## **Example**

• Evaluate the determinant of A

$$det[\mathbf{A}] = |\mathbf{A}| = \begin{bmatrix} a_{1,1} & a_{1,2} & a_{1,3} \\ a_{2,1} & a_{2,2} & a_{2,3} \\ a_{3,1} & a_{3,2} & a_{3,3} \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow$$

$$det[\mathbf{A}] = a_{1,1}(-1)^{(1+1)} \begin{bmatrix} a_{2,2} & a_{2,3} \\ a_{3,2} & a_{3,3} \end{bmatrix} + a_{1,2}(-1)^{(1+2)} \begin{bmatrix} a_{2,1} & a_{2,3} \\ a_{3,1} & a_{3,3} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$+ a_{1,3}(-1)^{(1+3)} \begin{bmatrix} a_{2,1} & a_{2,2} \\ a_{3,1} & a_{3,2} \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow$$

$$det[\mathbf{A}] = a_{1,1}(+1)(a_{2,2}a_{3,3} - a_{3,2}a_{2,3}) + a_{1,2}(-1)(a_{2,1}a_{3,3} - a_{3,1}a_{2,3})$$
 
$$+ a_{1,3}(+1)(a_{2,1}a_{3,2} - a_{3,1}a_{2,2})$$

- Note that more efficient methods are available to compute the determinant of a matrix. These methods are associated with alternative direct procedures.
- This evaluation of the determinant involves  $O(N)^3$  operations
- Number of operations for Cramers' Rule  $O(N)^4$

$$2 \times 2$$
 system  $\Rightarrow O(2^4) = O(16)$ 

$$4 \times 4$$
 system  $\Rightarrow O(4^4) = O(256)$ 

$$8 \times 8 \text{ system} \Rightarrow O(8^4) = O(4096)$$

- Cramer's rule is not a good method for very large systems!
- If  $|\mathbf{A}| = 0$  and  $|\mathbf{A}_k| \neq 0$   $\Rightarrow$  no solution! The matrix **A** is singular
- If  $|\mathbf{A}| = 0$  and  $|\mathbf{A}_k| = 0$   $\Rightarrow$  infinite number of solutions!

#### **Gauss Elimination - A Direct Procedure**

• Basic concept is to produce an upper or lower triangular matrix and to then use backward or forward substitution to solve for the unknowns.

## **Example** application

Solve the system of equations

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{1,1} & a_{1,2} & a_{1,3} \\ a_{2,1} & a_{2,2} & a_{2,3} \\ a_{3,1} & a_{3,2} & a_{3,3} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

• Divide the first row of A and B by  $a_{1,1}$  (pivot element) to get

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & a'_{1,2} & a'_{1,3} \\ a_{2,1} & a_{2,2} & a_{2,3} \\ a_{3,1} & a_{3,2} & a_{3,3} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b'_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

• Now multiply row 1 by  $a_{2,1}$  and subtract from row 2 and then multiply row 1 by  $a_{3,1}$  and subtract from row 3

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & a'_{1,2} & a'_{1,3} \\ 0 & a'_{2,2} & a'_{2,3} \\ 0 & a'_{3,2} & a'_{3,3} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b'_1 \\ b'_2 \\ b'_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

• Now divide row 2 by  $a'_{2,2}$  (**pivot element**)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & a'_{1,2} & a'_{1,3} \\ 0 & 1 & a''_{2,3} \\ 0 & a'_{3,2} & a'_{3,3} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b'_1 \\ b''_2 \\ b'_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

• Now multiply row 2 by  $a'_{3,2}$  and subtract from row 3 to get

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & a'_{1,2} & a'_{1,3} \\ 0 & 1 & a''_{2,3} \\ 0 & 0 & a''_{3,3} \end{vmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} b'_1 \\ b''_2 \\ b''_3 \end{vmatrix}$$

• Finally divide row 3 by  $a_{3,3}$  (*pivot element*) to complete the triangulation procedure and results in the *upper triangular matrix* 

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & a'_{1,2} & a'_{1,3} \\ 0 & 1 & a''_{2,3} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b'_1 \\ b''_2 \\ b'''_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

• We have triangularized the coefficient matrix simply by taking linear combinations of the equations • We can very conveniently solve the *upper triangularized* system of equations

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & a'_{1,2} & a'_{1,3} \\ 0 & 1 & a''_{2,3} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b'_1 \\ b''_2 \\ b'''_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

• We apply a *backward substitution* procedure to solve for the components of *X* 

$$x_3 = b'''_3$$
  
 $x_2 + a''_{2,3}x_3 = b''_2 \implies x_2 = b''_2 - a''_{2,3}x_3$   
 $x_1 + a'_{1,2}x_2 + a'_{1,3}x_3 = b'_1 \implies x_1 = b'_1 - a'_{1,2}x_2 - a'_{1,3}x_3$ 

• We can also produce a lower triangular matrix and use a forward substitution procedure

- Number of operations required for Gauss elimination
  - Triangularization  $\frac{1}{3}N^3$
  - Backward substitution  $\frac{1}{2}N^2$
  - Total number of operations for Gauss elimination equals  $O(N)^3$  versus  $O(N)^4$  for Cramer's rule
  - Therefore we save O(N) operations as compared to Cramer's rule

### **Gauss-Jordan Elimination - A Direct Procedure**

 Gauss Jordan elimination is an adaptation of Gauss elimination in which both elements above and below the pivot element are cleared to zero → the entire column except the pivot element become zeroes

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1'''' \\ b_2'''' \\ b_3'''' \\ b_4'''' \end{bmatrix}$$

No backward/forward substitution is necessary

#### **Matrix Inversion by Gauss-Jordan Elimination**

• Given A, find  $A^{-1}$  such that

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^{-1} \equiv \mathbf{I}$$

where 
$$\mathbf{I}$$
 = identity matrix = 
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Procedure is similar to finding the solution of AX = B except that the matrix  $A^{-1}$  assumes the role of vector X and matrix I serves as vector B
  - Therefore we perform the same operations on A and I

• Convert  $A \rightarrow I$  through Gauss-Jordan elimination

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \mathbf{I}$$

 $\Rightarrow$ 

$$\mathbf{A'}\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \mathbf{I'}$$

• However through the manipulations  $A \rightarrow A' = I$  and therefore

$$\mathbf{I}\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \mathbf{I'}$$

 $\Rightarrow$ 

$$\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \mathbf{I'}$$

ullet The right hand side matrix,  $\mathbf{I}'$ , has been transformed into the inverted matrix

- Notes:
  - Inverting a diagonal matrix simply involves computing reciprocals

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & a_{22} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/a_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/a_{22} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/a_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \mathbf{I}$$

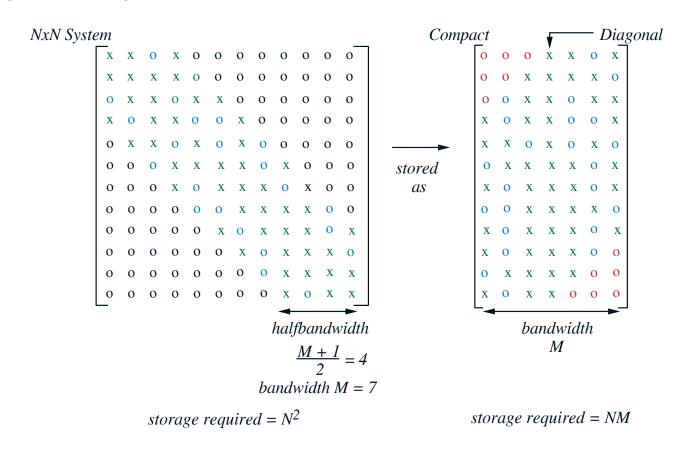
• Inverse of the product relationship

$$[\mathbf{A}_1 \mathbf{A}_2 \mathbf{A}_3]^{-1} = \mathbf{A}_3^{-1} \mathbf{A}_2^{-1} \mathbf{A}_1^{-1}$$

### **Gauss Elimination Type Solutions to Banded Matrices**

# **Banded matrices**

• Have non-zero entries contained within a defined number of positions to the left and right of the diagonal (bandwidth)



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- Notes on banded matrices
  - The advantage of banded storage mode is that we avoid storing and manipulating zero entries *outside* of the defined bandwidth
  - Banded matrices typically result from finite difference and finite element methods (conversion from p.d.e. → algebraic equations)
  - Compact banded storage mode can still be sparse (this is particularly true for *large* finite difference and finite element problems)

### Savings on storage for banded matrices

•  $N^2$  for full storage versus NM for banded storage where N = the size of the matrix and M = the bandwidth

• Examples:

N	M	full	banded	ratio
400	20	160,000	8,000	20
106	$10^{3}$	$10^{12}$	109	1000

# Savings on computations for banded matrices

• Assuming a Gauss elimination procedure

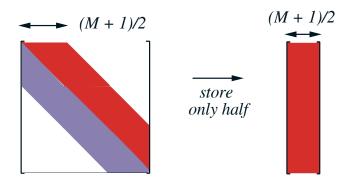
$$O(N^3)$$
 versus  $O(NM^2)$  (full) (banded)

- Therefore save  $O(N^2/M^2)$  operations since we are not manipulating all the zeros outside of the bands!
- Examples:

N	M	full	banded	ratio
400	20	$O(6.4 \times 10^7)$	$O(1.6 \times 10^5)$	O(400)
106	103	$O(10^{18})$	$O(10^{12})$	$O(10^6)$

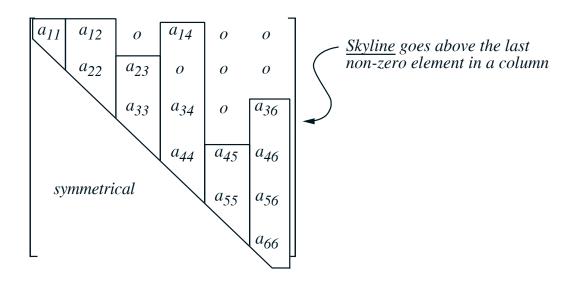
# **Symmetrical banded matrices**

- Substantial savings on both storage and computations if we use a banded storage mode
- Even greater savings (both storage and computations) are possible if the matrix A is symmetrical
  - Therefore if  $a_{ij} = a_{ji}$  we need only store and operate on half the bandwidth in a banded matrix (half the matrix in a full storage mode matrix)



# **Alternative Compact Storage Modes for Direct Methods**

- Skyline method defines an alternative compact storage procedure for symmetrical matrices
- The skyline goes below the last non-zero element in a column



• Store *all* entries between skyline and diagonal into a vector as follows:

• Accounting procedure must be able to identify the location within the matrix of elements stored in vector mode in  $A(i) \Rightarrow$  Store locations of diagonal terms in A(i)

$$MaxA = \begin{bmatrix} 1\\2\\4\\6\\10\\12 \end{bmatrix}$$

• Savings in storage and computation time due to the elimination of the additional zeroes e.g. storage savings:

full	symmetrical banded	skyline
$N^2 = 36$	$\left(\frac{M+1}{2}\right)N = \left(\frac{7+1}{2}\right)6 = 24$	15

• Program COLSOL (Bathe and Wilson) available for skyline storage solution

### **Problems with Gauss Elimination Procedures**

## Inaccuracies originating from the pivot elements

- The *pivot element* is the diagonal element which divides the associated row
- As more pivot rows are processed, the number of times a pivot element has been modified increases.
- Sometimes a pivot element can become very small compared to the rest of the elements in the pivot row
  - Pivot element will be inaccurate due to roundoff
  - When the pivot element divides the rest of the pivot row, large inaccurate numbers result across the pivot row
  - Pivot row now subtracts (after being multiplied) from all rows below the pivot row, resulting in propagation of large errors throughout the matrix!

## Partial pivoting

 Always look below the pivot element and pick the row with the largest value and switch rows

### Complete pivoting

- Look at all columns and all rows to the right/below the pivot element and switch so that the largest element possible is in the pivot position.
- For complete pivoting, you must change the order of the variable array
- Pivoting procedures give large diagonal elements
  - minimize roundoff error
  - increase accuracy
- Pivoting is not required when the matrix is diagonally dominant
  - A matrix is diagonally dominant when the absolute values of the diagonal terms is greater than the sum of the absolute values of the off diagonal terms for each row