

Lecture 4 Numerical Method #1

Solving Systems of Linear Algebraic Equations

Gauss Elimination Method

Part 1. Theory — We will discuss it during the class.

Part 2. Programming

The Gauss elimination method consists of Forward Elimination and Back Substitution.

2-1. Implementation of *Gauss Elimination* in MathCAD

Let's consider a system of 3-linear equations

$$A_{11}x_1 + A_{12}x_2 + A_{13}x_3 = b_1$$

$$A_{21}x_1 + A_{22}x_2 + A_{23}x_3 = b_2$$

$$A_{31}x_1 + A_{32}x_2 + A_{33}x_3 = b_3$$

Then, cast the coefficients and the RHS (right hand side) terms into a matrix form to perform *Forward Elimination*

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} & b_1 \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & A_{23} & b_2 \\ A_{31} & A_{32} & A_{33} & b_3 \end{array} \right]$$

⇓

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} & b_1 \\ 0 & A'_{22} & A'_{23} & b'_2 \\ 0 & 0 & A''_{33} & b''_3 \end{array} \right]$$

After forward elimination is completed,
we have an upper triangular system.

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$$x_3 = b''_3 / A''_{33}$$

$$x_2 = (b'_2 - A'_{23}x_3) / A'_{22}$$

$$x_1 = (b_1 - A_{12}x_2 - A_{13}x_3) / A_{11}$$

Back-Substitution

A. Pseudocode for Forward Elimination

Iteration #1

1. Determine the pivot term (A_{11}): move down the matrix from one pivot row to the next as the iterations go on
2. Elimination Process:
 - 2-A Start from the second row and moves to the last row in order to determine the pivot term for each row
 - (1) Compute the factor for Row#2

$$\text{factor} \leftarrow \frac{A_{21}}{A_{11}}$$

- 2-B Elimination process moves one column to the next (until the last column: cols(A))

- (2) Eliminate the terms in Row#2

$$A_{21} \leftarrow \underbrace{A_{21} - \text{factor} * A_{11}}_{\substack{\text{Elimination of} \\ \text{the 1st column} \\ \text{of the 2nd row}}}$$

Elimination process repeats until the last column

$$A_{22} \leftarrow A_{22} - \text{factor} * A_{12}$$

$$A_{23} \leftarrow A_{23} - \text{factor} * A_{13}$$

(3) Modify the RHS

$$b_2 \leftarrow b_2 - \text{factor} * b_1$$

Go back to Step 2: move on to the next row and repeat Step 2 until the iteration reaches to the last row.

(1) Compute the factor for Row#3

$$\text{factor} \leftarrow \frac{A_{31}}{A_{11}}$$

(2) Eliminate terms in Row#3

$$A_{31} \leftarrow \underbrace{A_{31} - \text{factor} * A_{11}}_{\substack{\text{Elimination of} \\ \text{the 1st column} \\ \text{of the 3rd row}}}$$

$$A_{32} \leftarrow A_{32} - \text{factor} * A_{12}$$

$$A_{33} \leftarrow A_{33} - \text{factor} * A_{13}$$

(3) Modify the RHS

$$b_3 \leftarrow b_3 - \text{factor} * b_1$$

Part I : Forward Elimination

Iteration #1

$$\text{Fiteration01}(A, b) := \left| \begin{array}{l} \text{pivot} \leftarrow A_{1,1} \\ \text{for } i \in 2.. \text{rows}(A) \\ \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} \text{factor} \leftarrow \frac{A_{i,1}}{\text{pivot}} \\ \text{for } k \in 1.. \text{cols}(A) \\ \quad A_{i,k} \leftarrow A_{i,k} - \text{factor} \cdot A_{1,k} \\ \quad b_i \leftarrow b_i - \text{factor} \cdot b_1 \end{array} \right. \\ \text{out} \leftarrow (A \ b) \end{array} \right.$$

$$A := \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 \\ 4 & 5 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \quad b := \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ -5 \\ 10 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{result01} := \text{Fiteration01}(A, b)$$

$$\text{result01} = (\{3,3\} \ \{3,1\})$$

$$A01 := \text{result01}_{1,1}$$

$$b01 := \text{result01}_{1,2}$$

$$A01 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad b01 = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ -5 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$$

At this point, Forward Elimination for Column #1 has been completed.

Iteration #2

1. Determine the pivot term, i.e., A_{22} :

Remember $[A]$ and $\{b\}$ have already been modified once (after the first iteration) so that, for example, A_{22} and b_2 in the following pseudocode really mean $A_{01_{22}}$ and b_{01_2} (refer to the Mathcad code on the previous page), respectively. However, for simplicity in developing an algorithm, I will use the notations of A_{22} and b_2 , etc., instead of $A_{01_{22}}$ and b_{01_2} , etc. Please be aware of that.

This step continues (move down the matrix from one pivot row to the next) as the iterations go on

2. Elimination Process: starting from the second row and moves to the last row

a. Compute the factor for Row#3

$$\text{factor} \leftarrow \frac{A_{32}}{\text{pivot}} \quad (\text{or } \frac{A_{32}}{A_{22}})$$

b. Eliminate the terms in Row#3

$$A_{32} \leftarrow \underbrace{A_{32} - \text{factor} * A_{22}}_{\substack{\text{Elimination of} \\ \text{the 2nd column} \\ \text{in the 3rd row}}}$$

then elimination process moves one column to the next (until the last column: $\text{cols}(A)$, but in this specific case, $\text{cols}(A) = 3$)

$$A_{33} \leftarrow A_{33} - \text{factor} * A_{23}$$

c. Modify the RHS

$$b_3 \leftarrow b_3 - \text{factor} * b_2$$

iteration#2

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Fiteration02(A,b) :=
  pivot ← A2,2
  for i ∈ rows(A)
    factor ←  $\frac{A_{i,2}}{\text{pivot}}$ 
    for k ∈ 1..cols(A)
      Ai,k ← Ai,k - factor·A2,k
    bi ← bi - factor·b2
  out ← (A b)

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result02 := Fiteration02(A01, b01)

result02 = ({3,3} {3,1})

$$\text{result02}_{1,1} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{result02}_{1,2} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ -5 \\ -9 \end{pmatrix}$$

A02 := result02_{1,1}

b02 := result02_{1,2}

$$A02 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$b02 = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ -5 \\ -9 \end{pmatrix}$$

Identify a pattern and then generalize the pseudocode for iterations #1 and #2.

What will be a complete algorithm for [Forward Elimination](#)?

2.2 Implementation of *Back-Substitution* in Mathcad.

Forward Elimination has been completed for [A] and {b}. Thus, A_{22} and b_2 in the following pseudocode really mean $A_{02_{33}}$ and b_{02_3} (refer to the Mathcad code above), respectively. However, for simplicity in developing an algorithm, I will use the notations of A_{22} and b_2 , etc., instead of $A_{01_{22}}$ and b_{01_2} , etc.

Iteration #1

1. Solve for the unknown in the last row (Row#3)

$$x_3 \leftarrow \frac{b_3}{A_{33}}$$

: moves up the matrix from the last row to the next (one row up) as each iteration goes on

2. Back-Substitute x_3 into Row#2

$$i \leftarrow 2$$

: We use “ i ” to count iterations of back-substitution going on from one row (starting from (n-1)th row) to the next (n-2)th until the first row.

$$sum \leftarrow 0.0$$

(Why do you need this? please read a several lines in the following)

2-1. The dot product between [A] and {b}

(Recall the general equation of Back-Substitution:

$$\sum_{j=i+1}^n A_{ij} * x_j \text{ from } x_i = \frac{b_i - \sum_{j=i+1}^n A_{ij} * x_j}{A_{ii}}$$

for $j = i + 1, i + 2 \dots \text{cols}(A)$

: column j of [A] is multiplied by row j of x

$$sum \leftarrow sum + A_{2j} * x_j \text{ (OR } sum \leftarrow sum + A_{ij} * x_j)$$

(We use a variable “sum” to accumulate the summation of a dot product between $A_{ij} * x_j$. Thus, I have to define this new variable before this line.

That’s a reason why I assign a value of zero to variable “sum” in step #2, previously. However, there is a more important reason. I will talk about this during the class. If NOT, please remind me of this)

2-2 Assign “sum” to x_2 (or x_i)

$$x_2 \leftarrow \frac{b_2 - \text{sum}}{A_{22}} \quad (\text{or } x_i \leftarrow \frac{b_i - \text{sum}}{A_{ii}})$$

: where “sum” containing $A_{23} * x_3$ is passed from the result of the FOR-loop. A Mathcad code for iteration #1 is presented in the following:

Part II : Back-Substitution

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Iteration #1

These are the matrices resulted from
Forward Elimination

$$A := \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \quad b := \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ -5 \\ -9 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Biteration01}(A, b) := \left. \begin{array}{l} x_3 \leftarrow \frac{b_3}{A_{3,3}} \\ i \leftarrow 2 \\ \text{sum} \leftarrow 0.0 \\ \text{for } j \in i + 1, i + 2.. \text{cols}(A) \\ \quad \text{sum} \leftarrow \text{sum} + A_{i,j} \cdot x_j \\ x_i \leftarrow \frac{b_i - \text{sum}}{A_{i,i}} \end{array} \right| x$$

unknown_x01 := Biteration01(A, b)

$$\text{unknown_x01} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 4 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

At this point, we have found two unknowns x_3, x_2 since completion of iteration#1.

Iteration #2

1. Solve for the unknown x_1 in the first row (Since we are dealing with a 3X3 matrix here) (in general, move up the matrix from the previous row to the next as the iterations go on)

In other words, Back-Substitute x_3, x_2 into Row#1

$i \leftarrow 1$: Row#1

$sum \leftarrow 0.0$

2. The dot product between $[A]$ and $\{b\}$

(recall the general equation of Back-Substitution:

$$\sum_{j=i+1}^n A_{ij} * x_j \text{ from } x_i = \frac{b_i - \sum_{j=i+1}^n A_{ij} * x_j}{A_{ii}}$$

for $j = i + 1, i + 2 \dots \text{cols}(A)$

: column j of $[A]$ is multiplied by row j of x

$$sum \leftarrow sum + A_{2j} * x_j \text{ (OR } sum \leftarrow sum + A_{ij} * x_j \text{)}$$

(We use a variable “sum” to accumulate the summation of all the dot products between $A_{ij} * x_j$)

- a. Assign “sum” ($= A_{12} * x_2 + A_{13} * x_3$) to x_2 (or x_i)

$$x_1 \leftarrow \frac{b_1 - sum}{A_{11}} \text{ (or } x_i \leftarrow \frac{b_i - sum}{A_{ii}} \text{)}$$

where “sum” containing $A_{12} * x_2 + A_{13} * x_3$ is passed from the result of the “for”-loop.

Iteration #2

x_3 and x_2 were computed in iteration #1. However, to develop the Biteration02 as a continuation from Biteration01, I re-compute these two variables herein

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Biteration02(A, b) :=
  x3 ←  $\frac{b_3}{A_{3,3}}$ 
  x2 ←  $\frac{b_2 - A_{2,3} \cdot x_3}{A_{2,2}}$ 
  i ← 1
  sum ← 0.0
  for j ∈ i + 1, i + 2.. cols(A)
    sum ← sum + Ai,j · xj
  x1 ←  $\frac{b_1 - \text{sum}}{A_{i,i}}$ 
  x

```

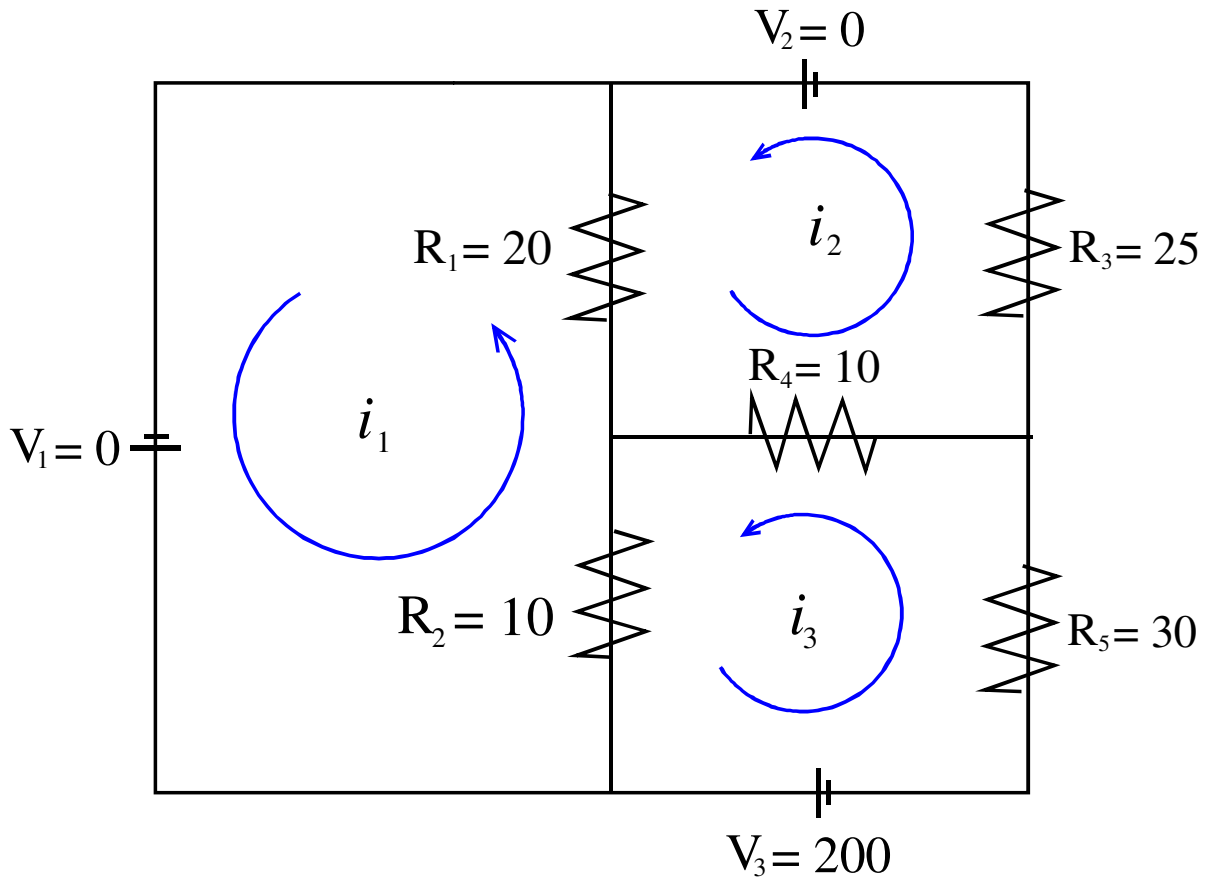
unknown_x02 := Biteration02(A, b)

$$\text{unknown_x02} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Identify a pattern and then generalize the pseudocode for iterations #1 and #2.

What will be a complete algorithm for **Back-Substitution**?

Example of using the Gauss Elimination Method to solve a system of linear algebraic equations: [How the Gauss Elimination method is applied to solve an electrical engineering problem.](#)



A simple electrical network contains a number of resistances and three source of electromotive force (3 batteries) as shown above.

We define each unknown current to be positive if it flows in the counterclockwise direction; if a computed current i is negative, the flow is clockwise.

The analysis tools come from elementary physics:

1. The sum of the voltage drops around a closed loop is zero
2. The voltage drop across a resistor is the product of the current and the resistance.

The analysis of the voltages around the three loops gives three equations, which we solve by **Gauss Elimination**. → We solve for electric current in each loop !

$$\text{FLOW AROUND LEFT LOOP: } 20(i_1 - i_2) + 10(i_1 - i_3) = 0$$

$$\text{FLOW AROUND UPPER RIGHT LOOP: } 25i_2 + 10(i_2 - i_3) + 20(i_2 - i_1) = 0$$

$$\text{FLOW AROUND LOWER RIGHT LOOP: } 30i_3 + 10(i_3 - i_2) + 10(i_3 - i_1) = 200$$

Thus,

$$20(i_1 - i_2) + 10(i_1 - i_3) = 0 \quad \rightarrow 30i_1 - 20i_2 - 10i_3 = 0$$

$$25i_2 + 10(i_2 - i_3) + 20(i_2 - i_1) = 0 \quad \rightarrow -20i_1 + 55i_2 - 10i_3 = 0$$

$$30i_3 + 10(i_3 - i_2) + 10(i_3 - i_1) = 200 \quad \rightarrow -10i_1 - 10i_2 + 50i_3 = 200$$

In a matrix form, the system of three linear equations can be written as:

$$+30i_1 - 20i_2 - 10i_3 = 0$$

$$-20i_1 + 55i_2 - 10i_3 = 0$$

$$-10i_1 - 10i_2 + 50i_3 = 200$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 30 & -20 & -10 \\ -20 & 55 & -10 \\ -10 & -10 & 50 \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} i_1 \\ i_2 \\ i_3 \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 200 \end{Bmatrix}$$

First iteration, pivot = 30, factor for row #2 = $-2/3$; II-factor*I, and factor for row#3 = $-1/3$; III-factor*I

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 30 & -20 & -10 & 0 \\ 0 & (125/3) & (-50/3) & 0 \\ 0 & (-50/3) & (140/3) & 200 \end{array} \right]$$

After 1st iteration is completed

Second iteration; III-factor*II where pivot = $(125/3)$, factor for row #3 = $-2/5$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 30 & -20 & -10 & 0 \\ 0 & (125/3) & (-50/3) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 40 & 200 \end{array} \right]$$

Since 2nd iteration was completed,
the system has been transformed into
an upper triangular system

Back-Substitution

$$\begin{aligned} 40 * i_3 &= 200 & \Rightarrow & i_3 = 5 \\ (125/3) * i_2 - (50/3) * i_3 &= 0 & \Rightarrow & i_2 = 2 \\ 30 * i_1 - 20 * i_2 - 10 * i_3 &= 0 & \Rightarrow & i_1 = 3 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{Bmatrix} i_1 \\ i_2 \\ i_3 \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 5 \end{Bmatrix}$$