# **Algorithms and Data Structures**

# Matrix Decomposition Cholesky Decomposition

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#### Learning goals

- Cholesky decomposition
- Properties of Cholesky decomposition

Aim: Solve LES of the form Ax = b

with  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , **A** positive-definite

- Write **A** as  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{L}^{\top}$
- Solve Ly = b by forward substitution
- **3** Solve  $\mathbf{L}^{\top}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y}$  by back substitution

Example: Let  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  be a LES

$$\begin{pmatrix} 4 & 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 5 & 3 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 11 & 5 \\ 2 & 3 & 5 & 19 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 22 \\ 33 \\ 61 \\ 99 \end{pmatrix}$$

**1** Write **A** as  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{L}^{\top}$ 

$$\begin{pmatrix} l_{11} & 0 & 0 & 0\\ l_{21} & l_{22} & 0 & 0\\ l_{31} & l_{32} & l_{33} & 0\\ l_{41} & l_{42} & l_{43} & l_{44} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} l_{11} & l_{21} & l_{31} & l_{41}\\ 0 & l_{22} & l_{32} & l_{42}\\ 0 & 0 & l_{33} & l_{43}\\ 0 & 0 & 0 & l_{44} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 2 & 2 & 2\\ 2 & 5 & 3 & 3\\ 2 & 3 & 11 & 5\\ 2 & 3 & 5 & 19 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$l_{11}^{2} = a_{11} \quad \rightarrow \quad l_{11} = \sqrt{a_{11}} = \sqrt{4} = 2$$

**1** Write **A** as  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{L}^{\top}$ 

$$\begin{pmatrix} l_{11} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ l_{21} & l_{22} & 0 & 0 \\ l_{31} & l_{32} & l_{33} & 0 \\ l_{41} & l_{42} & l_{43} & l_{44} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} l_{11} & l_{21} & l_{31} & l_{41} \\ 0 & l_{22} & l_{32} & l_{42} \\ 0 & 0 & l_{33} & l_{43} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & l_{44} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 5 & 3 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 11 & 5 \\ 2 & 3 & 5 & 19 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$l_{11}^{2} = a_{11} \quad \rightarrow \quad l_{11} = \sqrt{a_{11}} = \sqrt{4} = 2 \\ l_{21} \cdot l_{11} = a_{21} \quad \rightarrow \quad l_{21} = \frac{a_{21}}{l_{11}} = \frac{2}{2} = 2$$

**1** Write **A** as  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{L}^{\top}$ 

$$\begin{pmatrix} h_{11} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ h_{21} & h_{22} & 0 & 0 \\ h_{31} & h_{32} & h_{33} & 0 \\ h_{41} & h_{42} & h_{43} & h_{44} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} h_{11} & h_{21} & h_{31} & h_{41} \\ 0 & h_{22} & h_{32} & h_{42} \\ 0 & 0 & h_{33} & h_{43} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & h_{44} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 5 & 3 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 11 & 5 \\ 2 & 3 & 5 & 19 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$l_{11}^{2} = a_{11} \rightarrow h_{11} = \sqrt{a_{11}} = \sqrt{4} = 2$$
$$h_{21} \cdot h_{11} = a_{21} \rightarrow h_{21} = \frac{a_{21}}{h_{11}} = \frac{2}{2} = 2$$

$$l_{22}^2 + l_{21}^2 = a_{22} \rightarrow l_{22} = \sqrt{a_{22} - l_{21}^2} = \sqrt{5 - 1^2} = 2$$

**1** Write **A** as  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{L}^{\top}$ 

$$\begin{pmatrix} l_{11} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ l_{21} & l_{22} & 0 & 0 \\ l_{31} & l_{32} & l_{33} & 0 \\ l_{41} & l_{42} & l_{43} & l_{44} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} l_{11} & l_{21} & l_{31} & l_{41} \\ 0 & l_{22} & l_{32} & l_{42} \\ 0 & 0 & l_{33} & l_{43} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & l_{44} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 5 & 3 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 11 & 5 \\ 2 & 3 & 5 & 19 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$l_{11}^2 = a_{11} \rightarrow l_{11} = \sqrt{a_{11}} = \sqrt{4} = 2$$

$$l_{21} \cdot l_{11} = a_{21} \rightarrow l_{21} = \frac{a_{21}}{l_{11}} = \frac{2}{2} = 2$$

$$l_{22}^2 + l_{21}^2 = a_{22} \rightarrow l_{22} = \sqrt{a_{22} - l_{21}^2} = \sqrt{5 - 1^2} = 2$$

$$l_{31} \cdot l_{11} = a_{31} \rightarrow l_{31} = \frac{a_{31}}{l_{11}} = \frac{2}{2} = 1$$

General formula:  $I_{jj} = \left(a_{jj} - \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} I_{jk}^2\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$   $I_{ij} = \frac{1}{I_{jj}} \left(a_{ij} - \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} I_{ik}I_{jk}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ 

**2** Solve Ly = b by forward substitution

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \\ y_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 22 \\ 33 \\ 61 \\ 99 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2y_1 \\ y_1 + 2y_2 \\ y_1 + y_2 + 3y_3 \\ y_1 + y_2 + y_3 + 4y_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 22 \\ 33 \\ 61 \\ 99 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow y_1 = 11, y_2 = 11, y_3 = 13, y_4 = 16$$

Solve  $\mathbf{L}^{\top}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y}$  by back substitution

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 11 \\ 11 \\ 13 \\ 16 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow x_4 = 4, x_3 = 3, x_2 = 2, x_1 = 1$$

Calculation of the lower triangular matrix (L):

$$\begin{pmatrix} l_{11} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ l_{21} & l_{22} & 0 & 0 \\ l_{31} & l_{32} & l_{33} & 0 \\ l_{41} & l_{42} & l_{43} & l_{44} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} l_{11} & l_{21} & l_{31} & l_{41} \\ 0 & l_{22} & l_{32} & l_{42} \\ 0 & 0 & l_{33} & l_{43} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & l_{44} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & a_{14} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & a_{24} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & a_{34} \\ a_{41} & a_{42} & a_{43} & a_{44} \end{pmatrix}$$

Thus the entries of L (j rows, i columns) result from

$$I_{ij} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } i < j \\ (a_{jj} - \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} I_{jk}^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} & \text{for } i = j \\ \frac{1}{I_{jj}} (a_{ij} - \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} I_{ik} I_{jk}) & \text{for } i > j \end{cases}$$

Important: Order of calculation (row by row) matters!

 $\rightarrow \textit{I}_{11},\textit{I}_{21},\textit{I}_{22},\textit{I}_{31},\textit{I}_{32},\textit{I}_{33},\!...,\textit{I}_{nn}$ 

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Algorithm Cholesky decomposition

1: for j = 1 to n do 2:  $I_{jj} = \left(a_{jj} - \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} I_{jk}^2\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ 3: for i = j + 1 to n do 4:  $I_{ij} = \frac{1}{I_{jj}} \left(a_{ij} - \sum_{k=1}^{j-1} I_{ik} I_{jk}\right)$ 5: end for

6: **end for** 

If we consider only the (dominant) multiplications, we count in each step of the outer loop

- For diagonal elements: (j 1) multiplications
- For non-diagonal elements: (n j)(j 1) multiplications

In total, we estimate the computational effort with

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n} [(j-1) + (n-j)(j-1)]$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^{n} [j-1+nj-n-j^{2}+j] = \sum_{j=1}^{n} [(n+2)j-1-j^{2}]$$

$$= n \frac{(n+2)(n+1)}{2} - n - n \frac{(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$$

$$= n \cdot \frac{3(n+2)(n+1) - 6 - (n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$$

$$= n \cdot \frac{3n^{2} + 9n + 6 - 6 - 2n^{2} - 2n - n - 1}{6}$$

$$\approx \frac{1}{6}n^{3} + \mathcal{O}(n^{2}) \text{ for large } n$$

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# **PROPERTIES OF CHOLESKY DECOMPOSITION**

- Most important procedure for positive-definite matrices
- Algorithm is always stable (no pivoting necessary)
- Existence and uniqueness: The Cholesky decomposition exists and is unique for a positive-definite matrix **A**
- Runtime behavior:
  - Decomposition of the matrix:  $\frac{n^3}{6} + O(n^2)$  multiplications
  - Forward and back substitution:  $n^2$

# **PROPERTIES OF CHOLESKY DECOMPOSITION / 2**

```
cholesky = function(a) {
 n = nrow(a)
  l = matrix(0, nrow = n, ncol = n)
  for (j in 1:n) {
    l[j, j] = (a[j, j] - sum(l[j, 1:(j - 1)]^2))^{0.5}
    if (j < n) {
      for (i in (j + 1):n) {
        l[i, j] = (a[i, j] -
          sum(l[i, 1:(j - 1)] * l[j, 1:(j - 1)])) / l[j, j]
      }
  }
 return(1)
```

# **PROPERTIES OF CHOLESKY DECOMPOSITION / 3**

```
A = crossprod(matrix(runif(16), 4, 4))
cholesky(A)
```

t(chol(A))

```
A = crossprod(matrix(runif(1e+06), 1e+03, 1e+03))
system.time(cholesky(A))
system.time(chol(A))
```

# **APPLICATION EX.: MULTIVARIATE GAUSSIAN**

Target: Efficient evaluation of the density of a normal distribution.

The density of the *d*-dimensional multivariate normal distribution is

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{\frac{d}{2}} |\Sigma|^{\frac{1}{2}}} \exp\{-\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^{\top} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})\}$$

with  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $\mathsf{Cov}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{\Sigma}, \mathbf{\Sigma}$  positive-definite.

With  $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^d$  we obtain:

$$(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^{\top} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) = \mathbf{z}^{\top} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} \mathbf{z}$$

**Problem:** Calculation of  $\Sigma^{-1}$  is numerically unstable and requires a long time.

# APPLICATION EX.: MULTIVARIATE GAUSSIAN / 2

**Solution:** Use Cholesky decomposition to avoid inverting  $\Sigma^{-1}$ . Write  $\Sigma$  as  $\Sigma = LL^{\top}$ , rank(L) = d.

Thus it holds:

$$\mathbf{z}^{\top} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} \mathbf{z} = \mathbf{z}^{\top} (\mathbf{L} \mathbf{L}^{\top})^{-1} \mathbf{z}$$
$$= \mathbf{z}^{\top} (\mathbf{L}^{\top})^{-1} \mathbf{L}^{-1} \mathbf{z}$$
$$= (\mathbf{L}^{-1} \mathbf{z})^{\top} \mathbf{L}^{-1} \mathbf{z}$$
$$= \mathbf{v}^{\top} \mathbf{v}$$

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with  $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{L}^{-1}\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ .

To avoid inverting  $\mathbf{L}$  we can calculate  $\mathbf{v}$  as a solution of the LES

 $\mathbf{L}\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{z}$ 

Then we can calculate  $\mathbf{v}^T \mathbf{v}$  as a scalar product of two *d*-dimensional vectors.