
03_03_gaussian_elimination

Unknown Author

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Part I

Gaussian Elimination - I

We need the following functions which we wrote in the last class.

```
In [1]: def read_matrix(filename) :  
        fl = open(filename, 'r')  
        matrix = []  
        for line in fl :  
            row = []  
            words = line.split()  
            for word in words :  
                row.append(float(word))  
            matrix.append(row)  
        return matrix
```

```
In [2]: A = read_matrix("files/A.txt")  
print A  
[[1.0, 2.0, 3.0], [2.0, 1.0, 2.0], [3.0, 2.0, 1.0]]
```

```
In [3]: def print_matrix(matrix, myformat) :  
        for row in matrix :  
            for no in row :  
                print myformat % no,  
            print
```

```
In [4]: print_matrix(A, "%10.0f")  
  
          1          2          3  
          2          1          2  
          3          2          1
```

Row operation 1 : Interchanging two rows

As one can guess, this will be a function which takes a matrix as an input, and row numbers of two rows; like `elem1(A, 0, 2)`. However, before we do that, it might be useful to define a function called `copy_row(source)`.

```
In [5]: def copy_row(src) :  
        dest = []  
        for entry in src :  
            dest.append(entry)  
        return dest
```

```

def elem1(matrix, row1, row2) :
    if row1 < 0 or row2 < 0 or row1 >= len(matrix) or row2 >= len(matrix) :
        print "Row out of range."
    else :
        temp_row = copy_row(matrix[row1])
        matrix[row1] = copy_row(matrix[row2])
        matrix[row2] = copy_row(temp_row)
    return matrix

```

Row operation 2 : multiplying a row by a non-zero scalar

The function will take a matrix, and row number and a scalar as input. We'll also check if the scalar is non-zero.

```

In [6]: def elem2(matrix, row, scalar) :
        if row < 0 or row >= len(matrix) :
            print "row %d out of range." % row
        elif scalar == 0 :
            print "scalar has to be non-zero."
        else :
            for i in range(len(matrix[row])) :
                matrix[row][i] *= scalar
        return matrix

```

```

In [7]: print_matrix(A, "%2.0f")
        print "-----"
        print_matrix(elem2(A, 0, 4), "%2.0f")
        print "-----"
        print_matrix(A, "%2.0f")

```

```

1  2  3
2  1  2
3  2  1
-----
4  8 12
2  1  2
3  2  1
-----
4  8 12
2  1  2
3  2  1

```

row operation 3 : replacing a row by the sum of that row and a multiple of another row.

Here we need 4 inputs to the function: + The matrix + The row to be changed + The row whose multiple will be added to the first row, + a scalar : the multiplication factor.

Again for this we use some helper functions which are readily available for vectors.

```

In [8]: def add_vects(lst1, lst2) :
        return [a + b for (a, b) in zip(lst1, lst2)]

        def scalar_mult(a, lst) :
            return [a * no for no in lst]

        def elem3(matrix, row_2b_changed, row_used_4_change, scalar) :
            temp_row = copy_row(scalar_mult(scalar, matrix[row_used_4_change]))
            matrix[row_2b_changed] = add_vects(matrix[row_2b_changed], temp_row)
            return matrix

```

```
In [9]: print_matrix(A, "%2.0f")
print "-"*20
print_matrix(elem3(A, 0, 1, -2), "%2.0f")
print "-"*21
print_matrix(A, "%2.0f")
4  8 12
2  1  2
3  2  1
-----
0  6  8
2  1  2
3  2  1
-----
0  6  8
2  1  2
3  2  1
```

1 Sweeping a column

If we recall, sweeping a column requires a matrix and an entry (position in the matrix) which we call pivot. We shall define the pivot as the 2-tuple (row_no, col_no).

```
In [10]: def sweep(matrix, pivot) :
          (r, c) = pivot
          if r < 0 or r >= len(matrix) :
              print "row out of range"
          elif c < 0 or c >= len(matrix[r]) :
              print "column out of range"
          elif matrix[r][c] == 0:
              # pivot cannot be zero.
              print("pivot cannot be zero.")
          else :
              # print_matrix(matrix, "%5.2f")
              pivot = matrix[r][c]

              # Step 1 : multiply the row containing the pivot by 1/pivot to make the pivot
              matrix = elem2(matrix, r, 1.0/pivot)
              # print_matrix(matrix, "%5.2f")

              # Step 2 : for row != that of pivot, subtract matrix[row][c] times the row con
              for i in range(len(matrix)) :
                  if i != r :
                      matrix = elem3(matrix, i, r, -matrix[i][c])
                      # print_matrix(matrix, "%5.2f")
          return matrix
```

2 Gaussian elimination

Gaussian elimination is an algorithm to reduce a matrix to its reduced echelon form. Here *reduction* means performing row operations till the final matrix satisfies the definition of a reduced echelon form. For your convenience let us recall the definition.

An $m \times n$ matrix is said to be in echelon form, if it has r , $0 \leq r \leq m$ non-zero rows and 1. All the non-zero rows are on the top. 1. For $1 \leq i \leq r$, p_i denotes the column containing the *first non-zero entry* of the i -th row, then $p_1 < p_2 < \dots < p_r$. 1. $a_{ip_i} = 1$. The matrix is said to be in reduced echelon form if in addition to being in the echelon form, the p_i 'th columns have all but one zeroes. The non-zero entry is a_{ip_i} .

Example :

The matrix

0 1 4 5

1 4 3 3

0 0 0 5

is not even in echelon form as $p_1 = 2$ and $p_2 = 1$ and hence $p_1 < p_2$ is not satisfied. Note, for the sake of giving an example, here $p_3 = 4$.

2 1 4 5

1 4 3 3

0 0 0 5

is also not in echelon form because of the same reason.

1 4 5 3

0 3 8 2

0 0 5 6

does satisfy the conditions on p_i s but $a_{2p_2} \neq 1$ and hence is not in echelon form.

1 4 0 3

0 1 0 2

0 0 1 6

is in echelon form but not in reduced echelon form as p_2 -th column has extra non-zero entries (namely 4).

1 0 0 3

0 1 0 2

0 0 1 6

is in reduced echelon form.

The algorithm to reduce to echelon form.

1. First find the *first* non-zero column. Suppose the the column number is p_1 and the first non-zero entry is in the i -th row.
2. Switch the 1st row with the i -th row.
3. Sweep the p_1 -th column
4. Repeat this for the smaller matrix spanning row 2 - last row and column $p_1 + 1$ to the last column.

First let us write a function to find the first column with a non-zero entry.

It will return a tuple (row, column) for the non-zero entry. If the matrix is zero. It will return (-1, -1).

```
In [11]: def first_non_zero(matrix) :  
         found_entry = False  
         column_scanning = 0  
         if matrix == [] or matrix == [[]] :  
             print "The matrix is empty."
```

```

        row = -1
        col = -1
    else :
        while found_entry == False and column_scanning < len(matrix[0]) :
            # len(matrix[0]) = number of columns of the matrix.
            row_scanning = 0
            while found_entry == False and row_scanning < len(matrix) :
                #print "r, c : ", row_scanning, column_scanning
                if matrix[row_scanning][column_scanning] != 0 :
                    found_entry = True
                    row = row_scanning
                    col = column_scanning
                else :
                    row_scanning += 1
                    column_scanning += 1
            if found_entry == False :
                row = -1
                col = -1
                print "The matrix is the zero matrix."
        return (row, col)

# To test it out :
In [12]: print first_non_zero([[0, 0, 0, 0], [0, 2, 1, 0], [0, 0, 5, 1], [0, 5, 5, 6]])
print first_non_zero([[0, 0, 0, 0], [0, 0, 0, 0]])
print first_non_zero([], [])
(1, 1)
The matrix is the zero matrix.
(-1, -1)
The matrix is the zero matrix.
(-1, -1)

```

3 Digression : recursion

In python a function can call itself. It has some uses.

In math some things are defined recursively.

Example

Fibonacci sequences is defined to be sequence a_1, a_2, \dots where

- $a_1 = 1$,
- $a_2 = 1$,
- for an other $n \geq 3$, $a_n = a_{n-1} + a_{n-2}$.

As demonstration let us define a function `fib(n)` which returns the n -th entry of the Fibonacci sequence, first without recursion, second with recursion.

```

In [13]: def fib_nonrec(n) :
        if n != int(n) :
            print "Please input an positive integer."
            retval = None
        elif n <= 0 :
            print "Please input a natural number."
            retval = None
        elif n == 1 or n == 2 :
            retval = 1
        else :
            i = 2

```

```
fi = 1
fi_1 = 1

while i < n :
    i += 1
    fi_2 = fi_1
    fi_1 = fi
    fi = fi_1 + fi_2
    retval = fi
return retval

for i in range(11):
    print fib_nonrec(i)
print fib_nonrec(4.5)
```

In [14]:

Please input a natural number.
None
1
1
2
3
5
8
13
21
34
55
Please input an positive integer.
None

```
def fib_rec(n) :
    if n != int(n) or n <= 0 :
        print "Please input a natural number."
        retval = None
    elif n == 1 or n == 2 :
        retval = 1
    else :
        retval = fib_rec(n-1) + fib_rec(n-2)
    return retval
```

In [15]:

```
for i in range(11) :
    print fib_rec(i)
print fib_rec(4.5)
```

In [16]:


```

        cell_found = True
        r = present_row
        c = present_col
        present_row += 1
        present_col += 1

    if cell_found == False :
        r = -1
        c = -1
    return (r, c)

```

```

In [20]: my_matrix = [[0, 0, 1], [0, 0, 2], [0, 1, 3]]
print left_most_non_zero(my_matrix)
(2, 1)

```

Here is the algorithm.

1. First find the first non-zero column, say c , and find a row which has a non-zero entry on that column. Let that row be r .
2. Interchange rows 0 and r . (elementary operation 1).
3. Sweep respect to pivot $(0, c)$.
4. Repeat the procedure on the submatrix whose first row is the elements of the 1st row from $c + 1$ till the end till the last row from $c + 1$ to the last column.

Thus to use recursion we shall write a function which given a matrix M and a coordinate (r, c) returns a submatrix as above. We also need a function which will help us to copy the submatrix at the correct position.

```

In [21]: def extract_sub_matrix(M, t) :
        """M : matrix; t = (r, c) is the tuple such that every entry of the submatrix has
        coordinates (i, j) with i > r and j > c."""

        r = t[0]
        c = t[1]

        submat = []
        no_rows_M = len(M)
        if no_rows_M == 0 :
            print "The matrix is empty."
        else :
            no_cols_M = len(M[0])
            for i in range(r+1, no_rows_M) :
                current_row = []
                for j in range(c+1, no_cols_M) :
                    current_row.append(M[i][j])
                submat.append(current_row)
        return submat

```

```

In [22]: new_matrix=[[1,2,3,4],[5,6,7,8],[9,10,11,12]]
print_matrix(new_matrix, "%3.0f")
print
print_matrix(extract_sub_matrix(new_matrix, (-1,-1)), "%3d")

1  2  3  4
5  6  7  8
9 10 11 12

1  2  3  4
5  6  7  8
9 10 11 12

```


In [23]:

```
def copy_back_submatrix(M, S) :
    """Copies submatrix S into M to the lower right of t."""
    no_rows_M = len(M)
    no_rows_S = len(S)

    if no_rows_M == 0 :
        print "M is anyway empty."
        retM = []
    elif no_rows_S == 0 :
        print "Nothing to copy: S is empty"
        retM = M
    else :
        no_cols_M = len(M[0])
        no_cols_S = len(S[0])

        r = no_rows_M - no_rows_S
        c = no_cols_M - no_cols_S
        if r < 0 or c < 0 :
            print "Matrix S is too big."
            retM = S
        else :
            retM = []
            for i in range(no_rows_M) :
                present_row = []
                for j in range(no_cols_M) :
                    if i < r or j < c :
                        present_row.append(M[i][j])
                    else :
                        present_row.append(S[i-r][j-c])
                retM.append(present_row)
    return retM
```

In [24]:

```
print_matrix(new_matrix, "%3d")
print "-"*15
print_matrix(copy_back_submatrix(new_matrix, [[-2], [-3]]), "%3d")
1  2  3  4
5  6  7  8
9 10 11 12
-----
1  2  3  4
5  6  7 -2
9 10 11 -3
```

In [25]:

```
def red_to_ech_form(M) :
    """Reduce matrix M to echelon form."""

    # First find the non-zero column.
    t = left_most_non_zero(M)
    r = t[0]
    c = t[1]

    if r == -1 or c == -1 :
        retM = M
    else :
        # Swap row r and row 0 and sweep
        retM = M
        retM = elem1(retM, r, 0)
        retM = sweep(retM, (0, c))

        Mprime = extract_sub_matrix(retM, (0, c))
        Mprimeech = red_to_ech_form(Mprime)
        retM = copy_back_submatrix(retM, Mprimeech)

    return retM
```

```
In [26]: another_matrix = [[0,.5,1,0],[2,11,0,0],[1,0,0,9]]
print_matrix(another_matrix, "%10.5f")
print "-"*50
print_matrix(red_to_ech_form(another_matrix), "%10.5f")
```

```
0.00000    0.50000    1.00000    0.00000
2.00000   11.00000    0.00000    0.00000
1.00000    0.00000    0.00000    9.00000
```

The matrix is empty.

Nothing to copy: S is empty

```
1.00000    5.50000    0.00000    0.00000
0.00000    1.00000    2.00000    0.00000
0.00000    0.00000    1.00000    0.81818
```