

Numerical Methods for Computational Science and Engineering

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Example: "Hidden summation"

$$A, B \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times p} \quad p \ll n$$

$$y = \text{triu}(AB^T)x$$

```
Eigen::MatrixXd AB = A*B.transpose();
y = AB.triangularView<Eigen::Upper>()*x;
```

computing AB^T : $\mathcal{O}(n^2p)$

↑ upper triangular of AB^T

Different approach?

Special case $p=1$:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ a \in \mathbb{K}^n \end{bmatrix} \cdot \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ b^T \end{bmatrix}}_{(b \in \mathbb{K}^n)}$$

Computing $y = \text{triu}(ab^T)x$: Decompose & regroup first

$$y = \text{triu}(ab^T)x = \begin{bmatrix} a_1b_1 & a_1b_2 & \dots & \dots & a_1b_n \\ 0 & a_2b_2 & a_2b_3 & \dots & a_2b_n \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & & & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & \dots & 0 & a_nb_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} a_1 & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & \\ & & \ddots & & \\ & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & a_n \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{multipl by diag: } \mathcal{O}(n)} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & \dots & \dots & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & \dots & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_T \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} b_1 & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & \\ & & \ddots & & \\ & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & b_n \end{bmatrix}}_{=:z} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$\mathcal{O}(n)$

$$z := \begin{bmatrix} b_1 x_1 \\ \vdots \\ b_n x_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Efficient multiplication Tz ? $\Theta(n^2)$ worst case

$$Tz = \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^n z_i \\ \sum_{i=2}^n z_i \\ \vdots \\ z_{n-1} + z_n \\ z_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Can be implemented in $\Theta(n)$

using partial-sum

(backwards computation from last entry)

$p > 1$?

$$AB^T = \sum_{l=1}^p \underbrace{(A)_{:,l} \cdot (B)_{:,l}^T}_{\text{outer product of 2 vectors ("p=1" case)}}$$

\Rightarrow overall complexity: $\Theta(pn)$!

C++11 code 1.4.16: Efficient multiplication with the upper diagonal part of a rank- p -matrix in EIGEN [→ GITLAB](#)

```

2  ///! Computation of y = triu(AB^T)x
3  ///! Efficient implementation with backward cumulative sum
4  ///! (partial_sum)
5  template<class Vec, class Mat>
6  void ltrimulteff(const Mat& A, const Mat& B, const Vec& x, Vec& y){
7      const int n = A.rows(), p = A.cols();
8      assert( n == B.rows() && p == B.cols()); // size mismatch
9      for(int l = 0; l < p; ++l){
10         Vec tmp = (B.col(l).array() * x.array()).matrix().reverse();
11         std::partial_sum(tmp.data(), tmp.data()+n, tmp.data());
12         y += (A.col(l).array() * tmp.reverse().array()).matrix();
13     }
14 }

```

Example: Kronecker product $A \otimes B$

$$A \in \mathbb{K}^{m,n}, B \in \mathbb{K}^{l,k}$$

$$A \otimes B := \begin{bmatrix} (A)_{1,1}B & (A)_{1,2}B & \dots & \dots & (A)_{1,n}B \\ (A)_{2,1}B & (A)_{2,2}B & & & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & & & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & & & \vdots \\ (A)_{m,1}B & (A)_{m,2}B & \dots & \dots & (A)_{m,n}B \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{K}^{ml,nk}$$

$$(A \otimes B)x \quad x \in \mathbb{K}^{nk}$$

$$A \otimes B \quad \Theta(ml, nk)$$

Reshape $x = \begin{bmatrix} x^1 \\ x^2 \\ \vdots \\ x^n \end{bmatrix} \quad x^d \in \mathbb{K}^k$

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} x^1 & x^2 & \dots & x^n \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{K}^{k,n}$$

$$(A \otimes B)x = \begin{bmatrix} (A)_{1,1}Bx^1 + (A)_{1,2}Bx^2 + \dots + (A)_{1,n}Bx^n \\ (A)_{2,1}Bx^1 + (A)_{2,2}Bx^2 + \dots + (A)_{2,n}Bx^n \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ (A)_{m,1}Bx^1 + (A)_{m,2}Bx^2 + \dots + (A)_{m,n}Bx^n \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \in \mathbb{K}^l$$

m such entries

$$BXA^T = \left[\sum_{j=1}^n Bx^j \cdot (A)_{1,j}, \dots, \sum_{j=1}^n Bx^j \cdot (A)_{m,j} \right]$$

$$BX = [Bx^1 \dots Bx^n]$$

$$A^T = \left[((A)_{1,:})^T \dots ((A)_{m,:})^T \right]$$

reshaping BXA^T to a column vector: $(A \otimes B)x$

$$B \in \mathbb{K}^{l,k}, X \in \mathbb{K}^{k,n}, A^T \in \mathbb{K}^{n,m}$$

$$Y = BX \quad \Theta(lkn) \quad Y \in \mathbb{K}^{l,n} \quad YA^T: \Theta(lnm)$$

⇒ overall complexity: $\Theta(lkn + lnm)$

[compared to $\Theta(lknm)$]

Other examples: divide-and-conquer algorithms

Strassen's algorithm: for multiplication of 2
 $n \times n$ matrices: $\Theta(n^{\log_2 7}) \approx 2.81$
(compared to $\Theta(n^3)$)

1.5.4. Cancellation

Example: Roots of quadratic polynomial

$$p(z) = z^2 + \alpha z + \beta$$

$$p(z_{1/2}) = 0$$

$$z_{1/2} = -\frac{\alpha}{2} \pm \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\alpha^2 - 4\beta} \quad (*)$$

Scenario: z_1 large, z_2 small

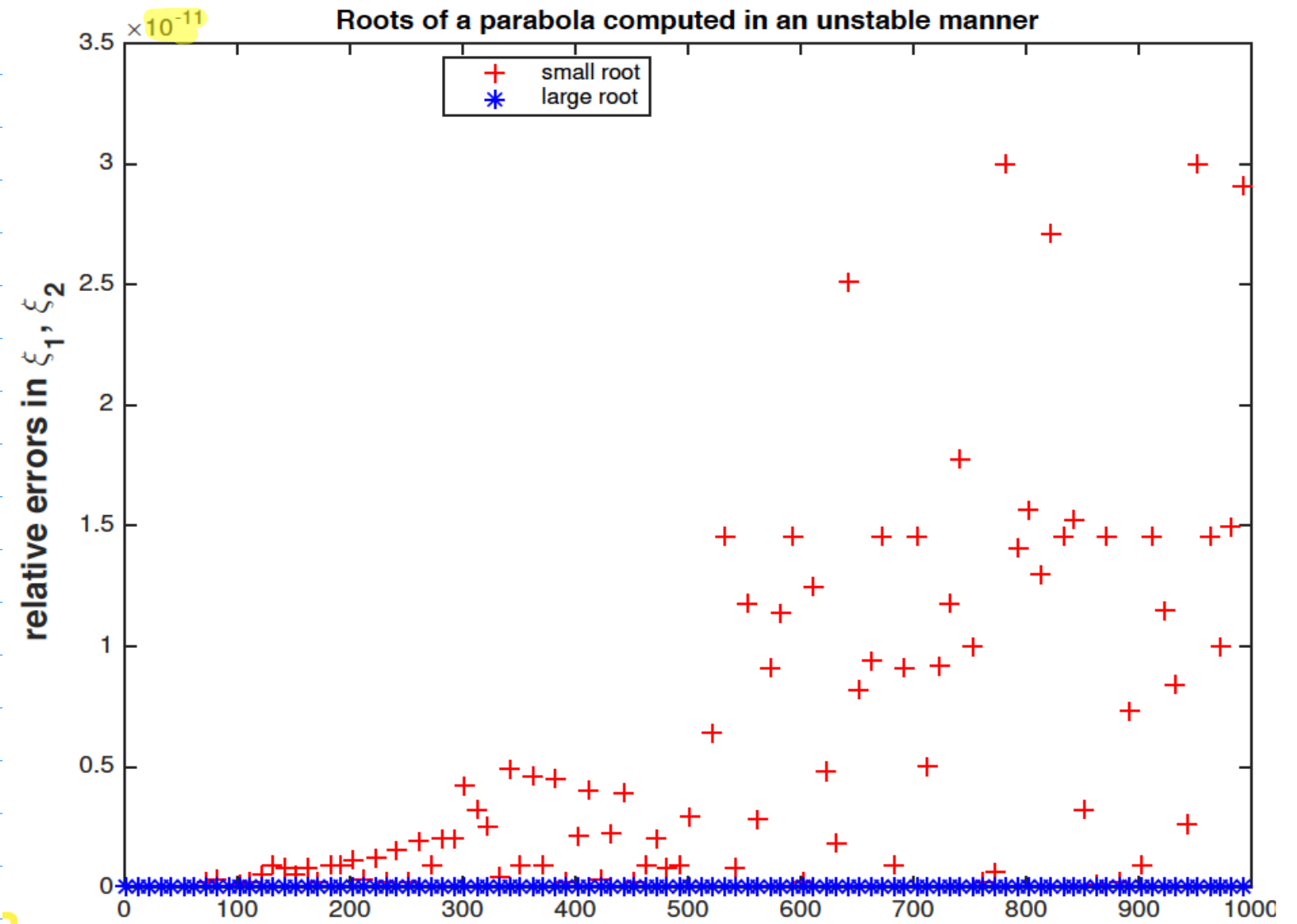
for example: $p(z) = (z - \mu)(z - \frac{1}{\mu})$

$$p(z) = z^2 - (\mu + \frac{1}{\mu})z + 1 \quad (\alpha = \mu + \frac{1}{\mu}, \beta = 1)$$

Use (*) to compute the roots & compare the errors made in z_1, z_2

C++11-code 1.5.41: Discriminant formula for the real roots of $p(\xi) = \xi^2 + \alpha\xi + \beta \rightarrow$ GITLAB

```
2  /// C++ function computing the zeros of a quadratic polynomial
3  ///  $\xi \rightarrow \xi^2 + \alpha\xi + \beta$  by means of the familiar discriminant
4  /// formula  $\xi_{1,2} = \frac{1}{2}(-\alpha \pm \sqrt{\alpha^2 - 4\beta})$ . However
5  /// this implementation is vulnerable to round-off! The zeros are
6  /// returned in a column vector
7  Vector2d zerosquadpol(double alpha, double beta){
8      Vector2d z;
9      double D = std::pow(alpha,2) -4*beta; // discriminant
10     if (D < 0) throw "no real zeros";
11     else {
12         // The famous discriminant formula
13         double wD = std::sqrt(D);
14         z << (-alpha-wD)/2, (-alpha+wD)/2; //
15     }
16     return z;
17 }
```



Large errors in z_2 compared to EPS!

$$\zeta_2 = -\frac{\alpha}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{\alpha^2 - 4}$$

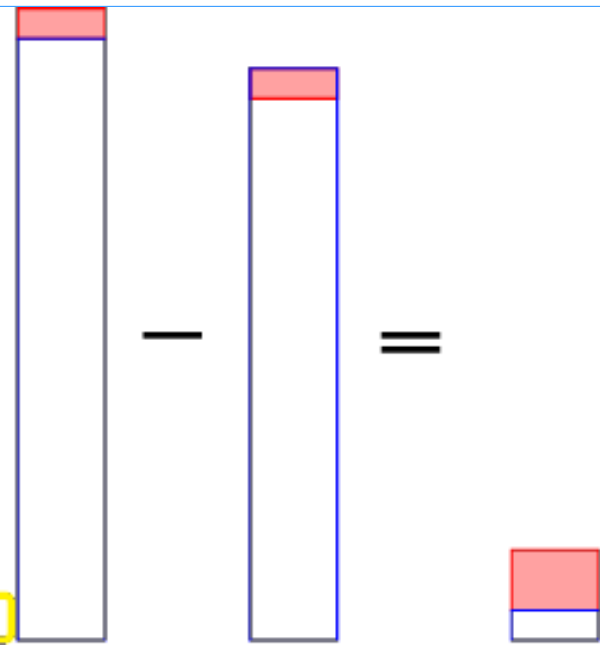
α large
 $\alpha \gg 1$

$$\sqrt{\alpha^2 - 4} \approx \alpha$$

errors get amplified
as we subtract 2 numbers
that are about the same

size : cancellation

Fig. 41



Stable computation of roots?

Step 1 : $\zeta_1 = -\frac{\alpha}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{\alpha^2 - 4\beta}$ (stable)

Idea: $\zeta_2 = -\frac{\alpha}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{\alpha^2 - 4\beta}$

$\zeta_1 + \zeta_2 = -\alpha$

$\zeta_2 = -\alpha - \zeta_1$

BUT $\alpha = \mu + \frac{1}{\mu}$
 $\zeta_1 \approx \alpha$
 $\mu = \zeta_1$

Vieta's formula: $\beta = \zeta_1 \cdot \zeta_2$

Step 2: $\zeta_2 = \beta / \zeta_1$ (stable)

C++11-code 1.5.57: Stable computation of real root of a quadratic polynomial → [GITLAB](#)

```

2  /// C++ function computing the zeros of a quadratic polynomial
3  ///  $\zeta \rightarrow \zeta^2 + \alpha\zeta + \beta$  by means of the familiar discriminant
4  /// formula  $\zeta_{1,2} = \frac{1}{2}(-\alpha \pm \sqrt{\alpha^2 - 4\beta})$ .
5  /// This is a stable implementation based on Vieta's theorem.
6  /// The zeros are returned in a column vector
7  VectorXd zerosquadpolstab(double alpha, double beta){
8      Vector2d z(2);
9      double D = std::pow(alpha,2) - 4*beta; // discriminant
10     if(D < 0) throw "no real zeros";
11     else{
12         double wD = std::sqrt(D);
13         // Use discriminant formula only for zero far away from 0
14         // in order to avoid cancellation. For the other zero
15         // use Vieta's formula.
16         if(alpha >= 0){
17             double t = 0.5*(-alpha-wD); //
18             z << t, beta/t;
19         }
20         else{
21             double t = 0.5*(-alpha+wD); //
22             z << beta/t, t;
23         }
24     }
25     return z;
26 }

```

Example: Difference quotients

$$f'(x) \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{approximation}}}{\approx} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

Analysis: if f is suff. smooth e.g. $f \in C^2$

$$f'(x) = \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} + \mathcal{O}(h)$$

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

(approximation error tends to 0 as $h \rightarrow 0$)

BUT: $f(x+h) - f(x)$: subtraction of 2 close-by numbers

→ cancellation happens + amplified by $\frac{1}{h}$ (large)

Ex: $f(x) = e^x$

C++11-code 1.5.48: Difference quotient approximation of the derivative of exp → [GITLAB](#)

```
2 ///! Difference quotient approximation
3 ///! of the derivative of exp
4 void diffq(){
5     double h = 0.1, x = 0.0;
6     for(int i = 1; i <= 16; ++i){
7         double df = (exp(x+h)-exp(x))/h;
8         cout << setprecision(14) << fixed;
9         cout << setw(5) << -i
10            << setw(20) << df-1 << endl;
11         h /= 10;
12     }
13 }
```

Measured relative errors ▷

$\log_{10}(h)$	relative error
-1	0.05170918075648
-2	0.00501670841679
-3	0.00050016670838
-4	0.00005000166714
-5	0.00000500000696
-6	0.00000049996218
-7	0.00000004943368
-8	-0.00000000607747
-9	0.00000008274037
-10	0.00000008274037
-11	0.00000008274037
-12	0.00008890058234
-13	-0.00079927783736
-14	-0.00079927783736
-15	0.11022302462516
-16	-1.00000000000000

We observe an initial decrease of the relative approximation error followed by a steep increase when h drops below 10^{-8} .

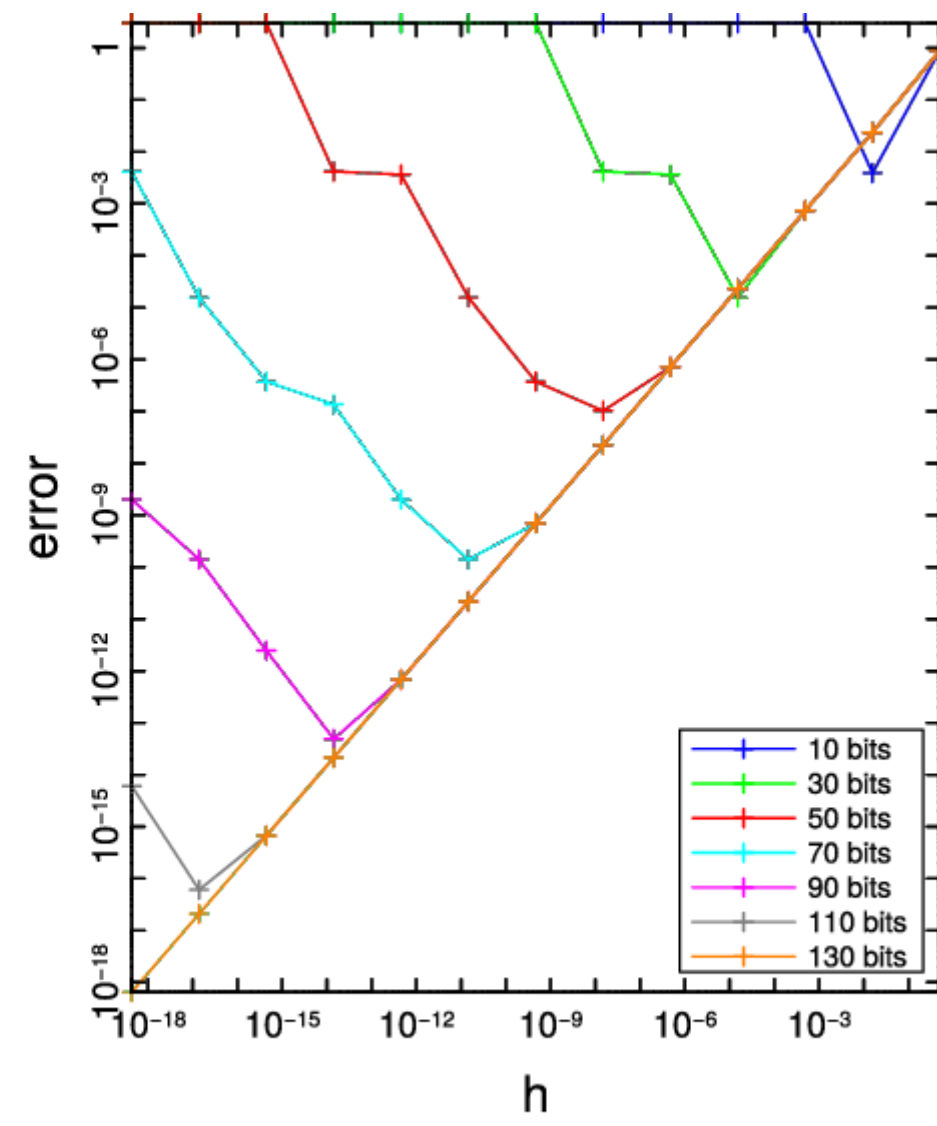


Fig. 42

Use the axiom of roundoff analysis (to compute choice of h):

$$\text{difference quotient } dq = \frac{e^{x+h}(1+\delta_1) - e^x(1+\delta_2)}{h} \quad |\delta_1|, |\delta_2| \leq \text{EPS}$$

Choose h s.t. relative error $\left| \frac{e^x - dq}{e^x} \right|$ is minimized

$$dq = e^x \left(\frac{e^h - 1}{h} + \frac{\delta_1 e^h - \delta_2}{h} \right)$$

$$\frac{dq - e^x}{e^x} = \frac{e^h - 1}{h} - 1 + \frac{\delta_1 e^h - \delta_2}{h} \leq \frac{2\text{EPS}}{h}$$

Use $\frac{e^{x+h} - e^x}{h} - e^x = \frac{1}{2} h e^\xi$ for some $\xi \in [x, x+h]$

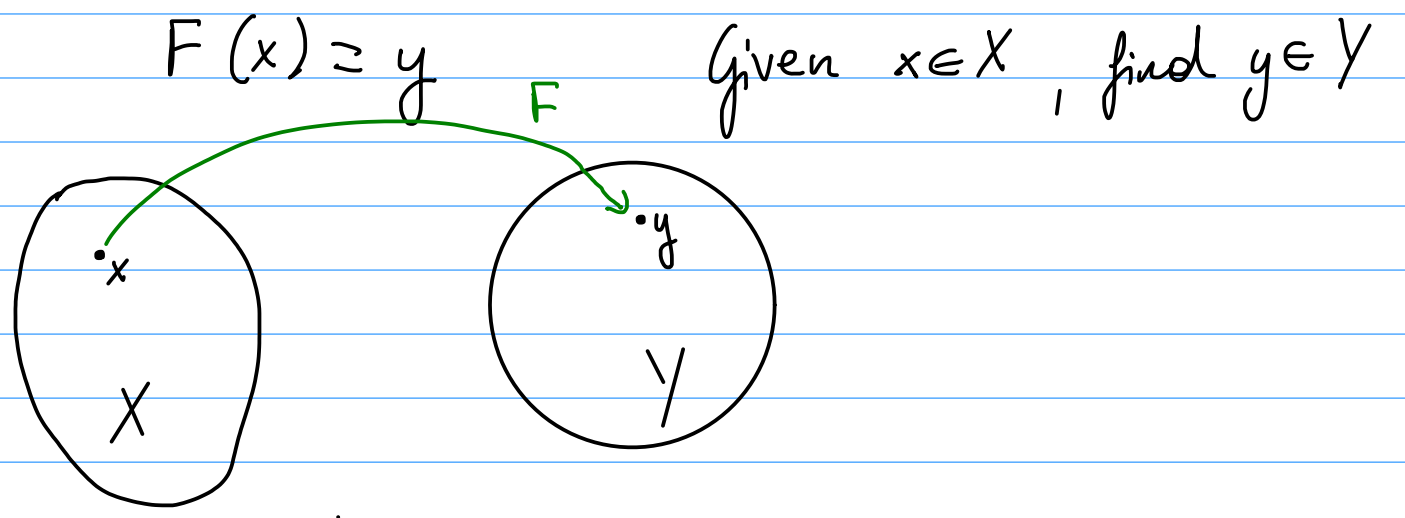
with $x=0$: $\frac{e^h - 1}{h} - 1 = \frac{1}{2} h e^\xi \quad \xi \in [0, h]$

$$\left| \frac{dq - e^x}{e^x} \right| \approx \frac{h}{2} + \frac{2EPS}{h} \quad \leftarrow \text{minimize}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{2EPS}{h^2} \approx 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad h \approx 2\sqrt{EPS}$$

1.5.5. Numerical stability

Mathematical problem: data space X with $\|\cdot\|_X$
 solution space Y with $\|\cdot\|_Y$
 mapping $F: X \rightarrow Y$



F is well-defined: for any $x \in X$ there exists a solution $y \in Y$

Problem	Algorithm
$F: X \rightarrow Y$	$\tilde{F}: X \rightarrow \tilde{Y} \subset M^m$

Example: Solving a linear system (LSE)

$$F: \begin{cases} X = \mathbb{R}_{reg}^{n,n} \times \mathbb{R}^n & \longrightarrow & Y = \mathbb{R}^n \\ (A, b) & \longmapsto & x \end{cases}$$

well-defined? Need to restrict to set of regular matrices $\mathbb{R}_{reg}^{n,n}$

Given problem F and an algorithm \tilde{F}

$$\tilde{F} : X \rightarrow \tilde{Y} \subseteq M^m$$

When is \tilde{F} numerically stable?

Definition 1.5.85. Stable algorithm [backward stable]

An algorithm \tilde{F} for solving a problem $F : X \mapsto Y$ is **numerically stable** if for all $x \in X$ its result $\tilde{F}(x)$ (possibly affected by roundoff) is the exact result for "slightly perturbed" data:

$$\exists C \approx 1: \forall x \in X: \exists \tilde{x} \in X: \|x - \tilde{x}\|_X \leq C \omega(x) \text{EPS} \|x\|_X \wedge \tilde{F}(x) = F(\tilde{x})$$

comp. effort machine precision

$$\frac{\|x - \tilde{x}\|_X}{\|x\|_X} \leq C \omega(x) \text{EPS}$$

$\tilde{F}(x) = F(\tilde{x})$ \tilde{F} is outputting the exact solution to nearly the right question

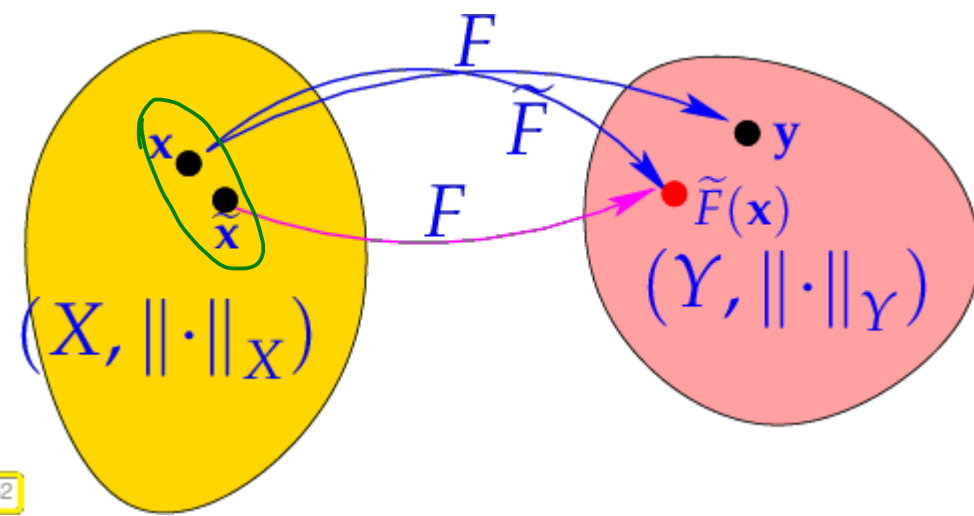


Fig. 52

Sloppily speaking, the impact of roundoff (*) on a *stable algorithm* is of the same order of magnitude as the effect of the inevitable perturbations due to rounding the input data.

More general: (mixed) stability

there is \tilde{x} with $\frac{\|x - \tilde{x}\|}{\|x\|} \leq \Theta(\text{EPS})$ s.t.

$$\frac{\|\tilde{F}(x) - F(\tilde{x})\|}{\|F(\tilde{x})\|} \leq \Theta(\text{EPS})$$

backward stability \Rightarrow mixed stability

Q: How close is $\tilde{F}(x)$ to $F(x)$?

Recall toy example 3×3 :

$$\frac{\|b - b^\delta\|_2}{\|b\|_2} \text{ small } \sim 10^{-4}$$

$$\frac{\|x - x^\delta\|_2}{\|x\|_2} \text{ large } \sim 10^2$$

Condition number of F :

$$F: X \rightarrow Y$$

$$C_F(x) = \sup_{\Delta x} \left(\frac{\|F(x + \Delta x) - F(x)\|}{\|F(x)\|} / \frac{\|\Delta x\|}{\|x\|} \right)$$

\rightarrow sensitivity of the output to changes in the input

Condition number of a matrix

$$C_A(x) = \sup_{\Delta x} \left(\frac{\|A \Delta x\|}{\|Ax\|} / \frac{\|\Delta x\|}{\|x\|} \right)$$

$$C_A(x) = \sup_{\Delta x} \left(\frac{\|A \Delta x\|}{\|\Delta x\|} \cdot \frac{\|x\|}{\|Ax\|} \right)$$

$$= \|A\| \cdot \frac{\|x\|}{\|Ax\|} \quad \|A\| := \sup_x \frac{\|Ax\|}{\|x\|}$$

$$= \sup_{\|x\|=1} \|Ax\|$$

$$C_A := \|A\| \cdot \|A^{-1}\|$$

$$= \frac{\sigma_{\max}}{\sigma_{\min}}$$

\leftarrow if small: well-conditioned
 \leftarrow if large: ill-cond.

$$\frac{\|\tilde{F}(x) - F(x)\|_y}{\|F(x)\|_y} \leq \mathcal{O}(c_F(x) \cdot \text{EPS})$$

If the problem is well-conditioned:

backward stability guarantees accurate results

No guarantee when c_F is large

We can't expect $\frac{\|\tilde{F}(x) - F(x)\|}{\|F(x)\|} \leq \mathcal{O}(\text{EPS})$

II. Direct Methods for Solving LSE

Solve an LSE $Ax = b$ $A \in \mathbb{K}^{n,n}, b \in \mathbb{K}^n$
}
given

solve for x

If A is regular/invertible:

existence & uniqueness of a solution x

A invertible: $\exists B \in \mathbb{K}^n$ s.t. $AB = I_n = BA$

$\Leftrightarrow \text{rank}(A) = n \Leftrightarrow \det(A) \neq 0$

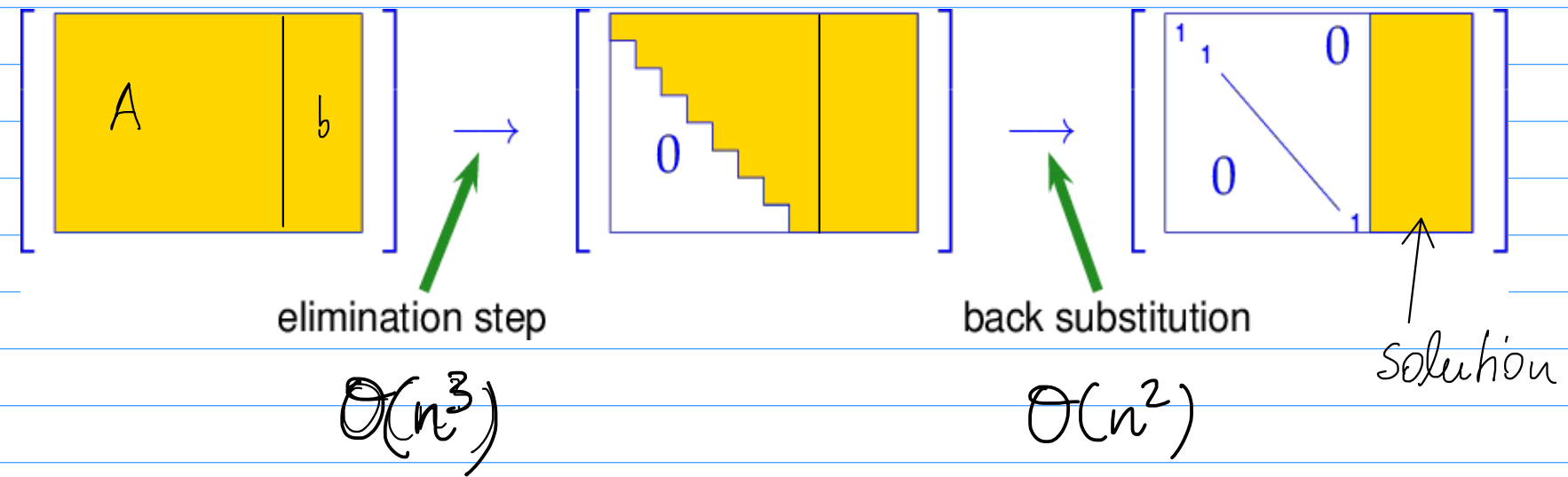
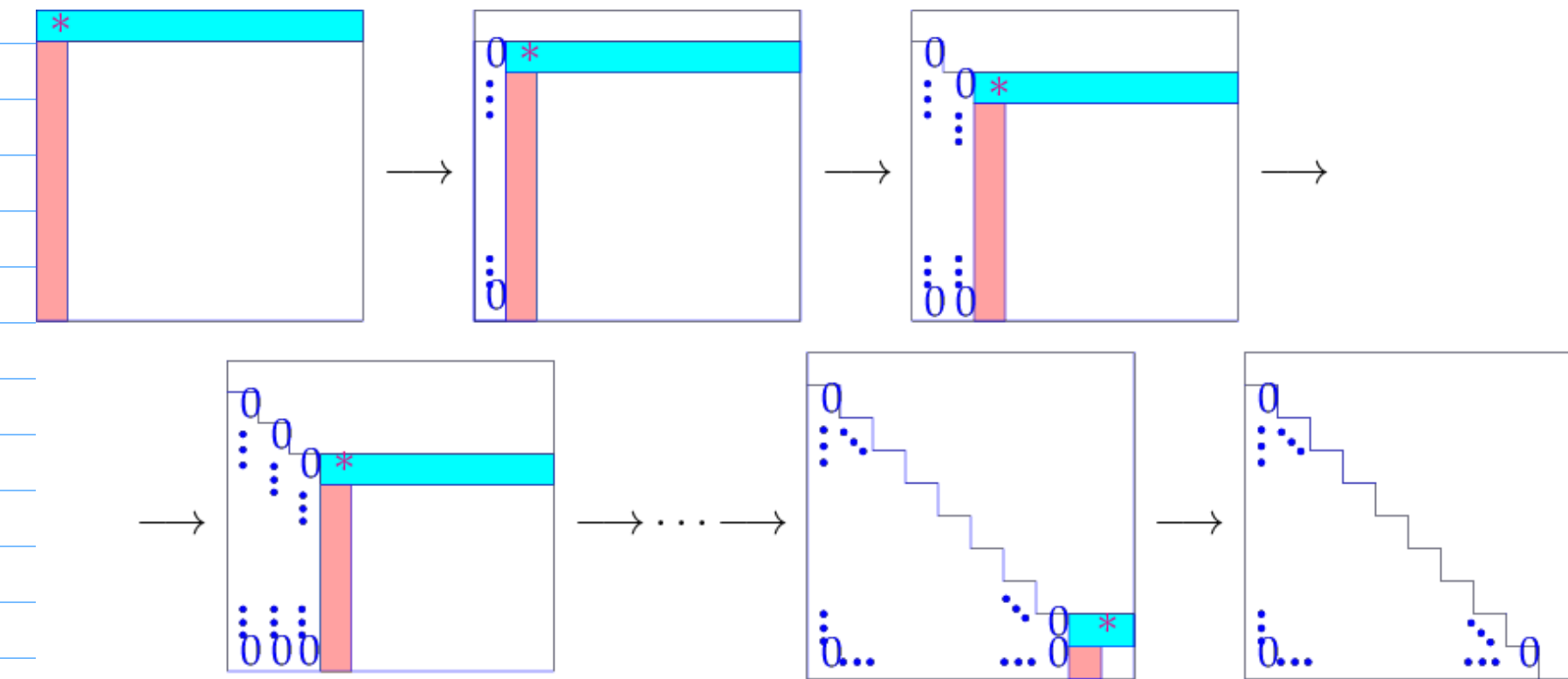
$\Leftrightarrow \mathcal{N}(A) = \{x : Ax = 0\} = \{0\}$

2.3 Gauss elimination

idea: $Ax=b, T \in K^{n \times n}$ reg.

$$\Leftrightarrow TAX = Tb$$

$\hat{=}$ row transformations & permutations

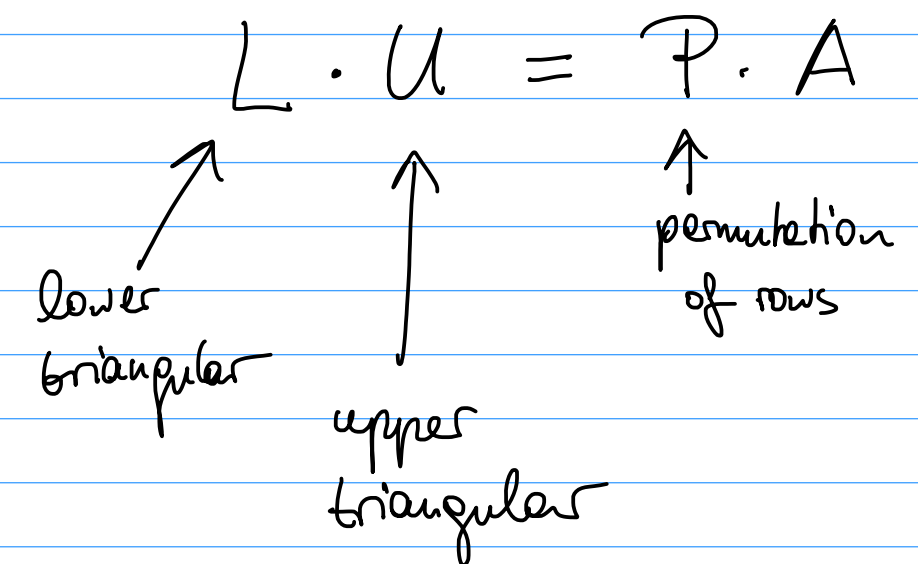


→ overall complexity: $\Theta(n^3)$

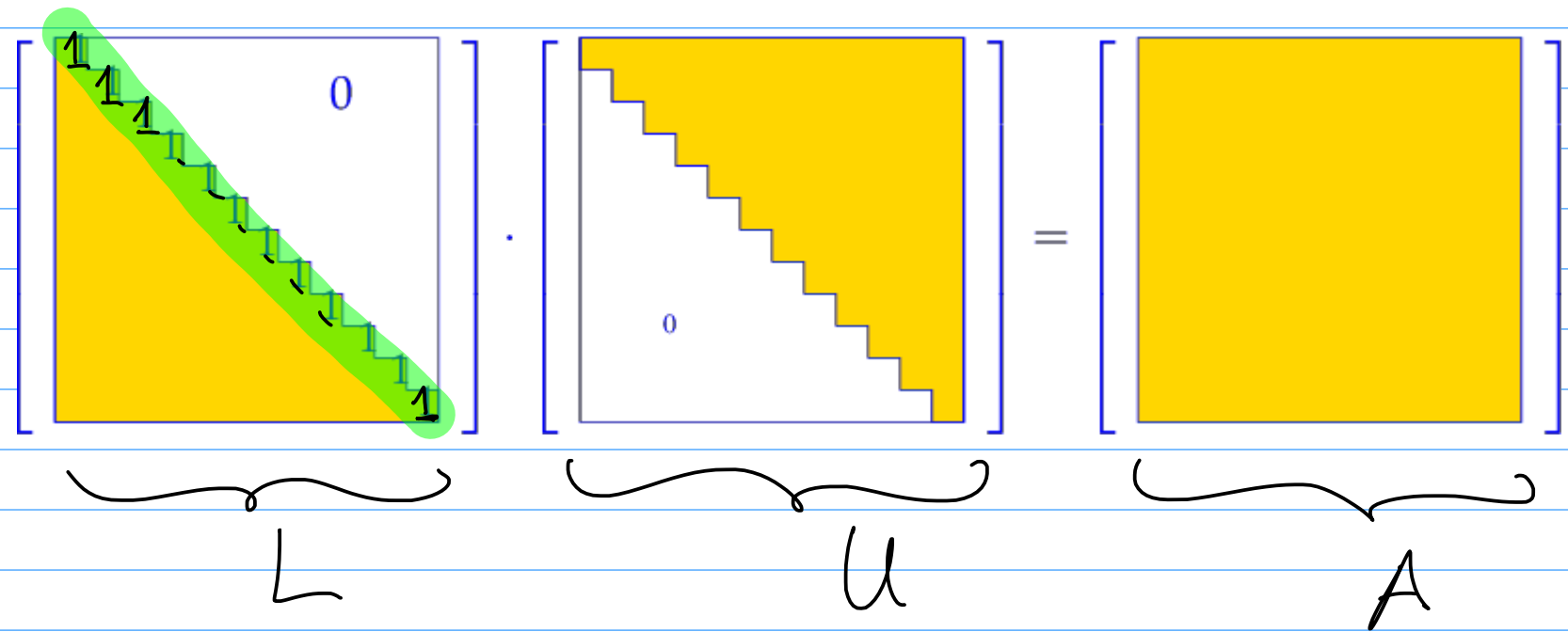
[solving LSE triangular matrix: $\Theta(n^2)$]

→ solving without computing A^{-1}
 avoid computing A^{-1}

Alternative way : LU-decomposition



$a_{11} = l_{11} u_{11}$
 if $a_{11} = 0$
 \rightarrow permutation needed



Solve for $Ax = B$ using

LU decomposition :

- $Ax = b$:
- ① LU-decomposition $A = LU$, #elementary operations $\frac{1}{3}n(n-1)(n+1)$ $\rightarrow \Theta(n^3)$
 - ② forward substitution, solve $Lz = b$, #elementary operations $\frac{1}{2}n(n-1)$ \leftarrow
 - ③ backward substitution, solve $Ux = z$, #elementary operations $\frac{1}{2}n(n+1)$ \uparrow

$Ax = b$

- ① $L \underbrace{U}_z x = b$
- ② $Lz = b$ solve for z
- ③ $Ux = z$ solve for x

Remark: Overall complexity is $\Theta(n^3)$
 (same as Gauss elimination)

Q: What's the benefit?

Benefit if we solve for multiple
RHS!

Suppose A $n \times n$, N different RHS
complexity $\Theta(n^3 + Nn^2) \leftarrow$ LU decomp

Gauss elimination: $\Theta(Nn^3)$

C++11 code 2.5.11: Wasteful approach!
→ [GITLAB](#)

```

2 // Setting:  $N \gg 1$ ,
3 // large matrix  $A \in \mathbb{K}^{n,n}$ 
4 for(int j = 0; j < N; ++j){
5     x = A.lu().solve(b);
6     b = some_function(x);
7 }

```

computational effort $O(Nn^3)$

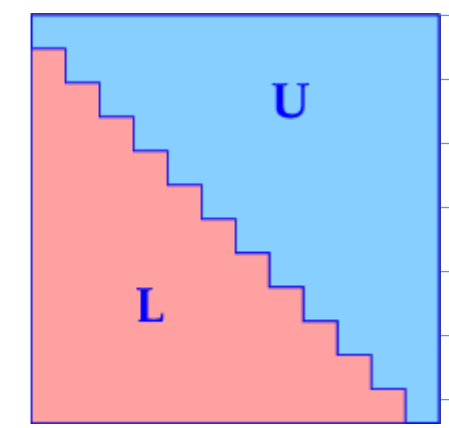
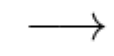
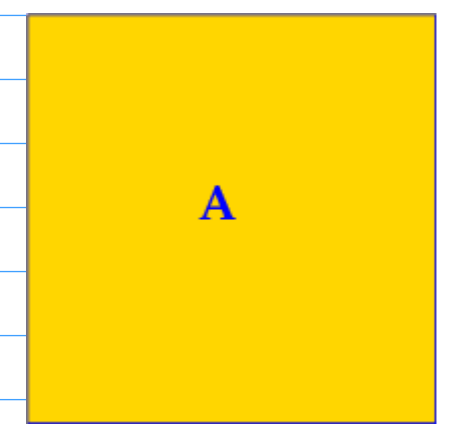
C++11 code 2.5.12: Smart approach!
→ [GITLAB](#)

```

2 // Setting:  $N \gg 1$ ,
3 // large matrix  $A \in \mathbb{K}^{n,n}$ 
4 auto A_lu_dec = A.lu();
5 for(int j = 0; j < N; ++j){
6     x = A_lu_dec.solve(b);
7     b = some_function(x);
8 }

```

computational effort $O(n^3 + Nn^2)$



(EIGEN)
↑
one matrix
containing L & U
[without storing
 $\text{diag}(L)$]

Use existing general solvers (for LSE)
that are built-in

2.6 Exploiting structure when solving / LSE

some entries vanish

matrix entries fulfill some formula

simple example: LSE with triangular matrix $\mathcal{O}(n^3) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(n^2)$

2.6.2. Block elimination

Block matrix multiplication

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11}B_{11} + A_{12}B_{21} & A_{11}B_{12} + A_{12}B_{22} \\ A_{21}B_{11} + A_{22}B_{21} & A_{21}B_{12} + A_{22}B_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

Block elimination

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{matrix} A_{11} \in \mathbb{K}^{k,k}, A_{12} \in \mathbb{K}^{k,l}, A_{21} \in \mathbb{K}^{l,k}, A_{22} \in \mathbb{K}^{l,l}, \\ x_1 \in \mathbb{K}^k, x_2 \in \mathbb{K}^l, b_1 \in \mathbb{K}^k, b_2 \in \mathbb{K}^l. \end{matrix}$$

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

$$x_1 = A_{11}^{-1}(b_1 - A_{12}x_2)$$

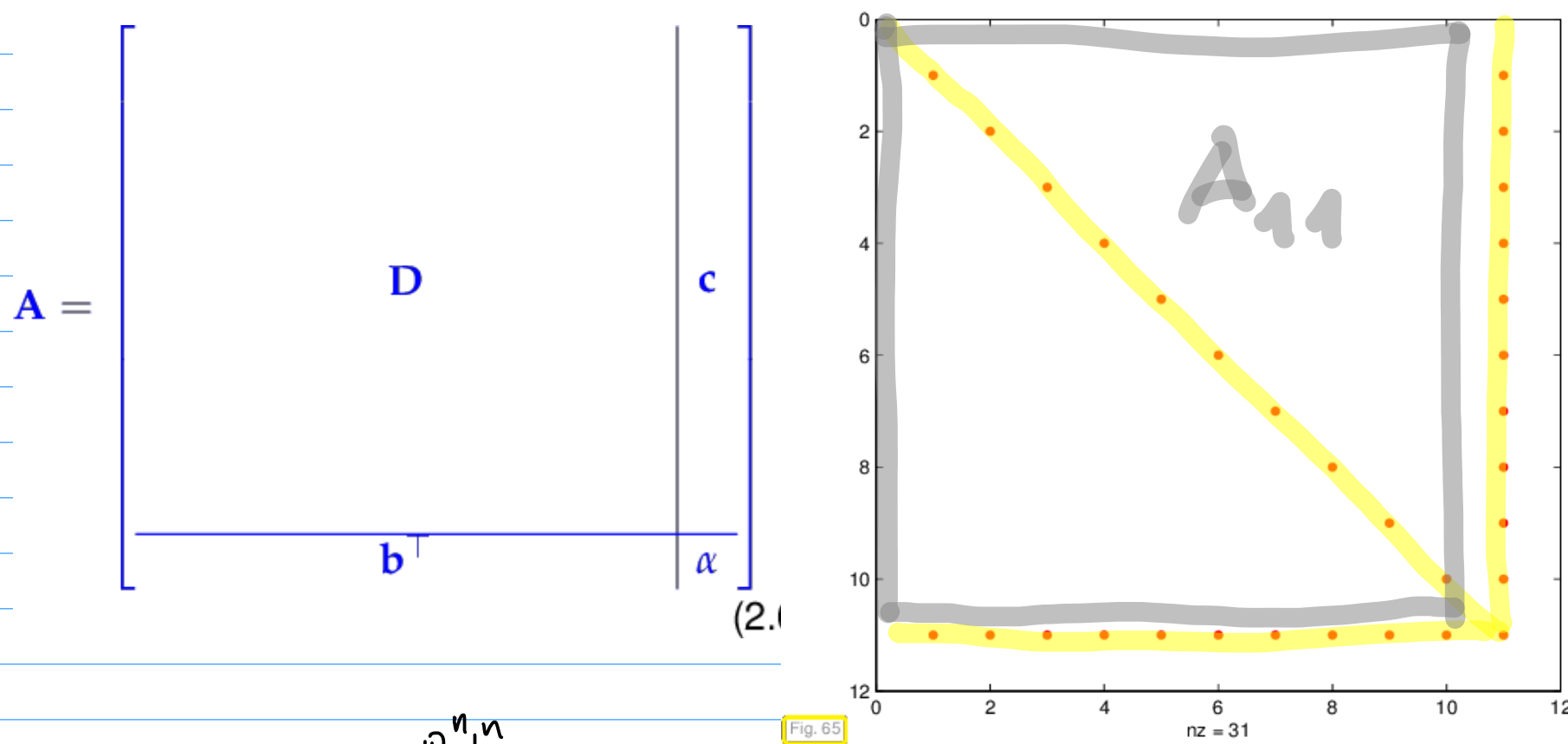
$$A_{21}x_1 + A_{22}x_2 = b_2$$

$$A_{21}A_{11}^{-1}(b_1 - A_{12}x_2) + A_{22}x_2 = b_2$$

$$(1.3.16) \quad \underbrace{(A_{22} - A_{21}A_{11}^{-1}A_{12})}_{\text{Schur complement}} x_2 = b_2 - A_{21}A_{11}^{-1}b_1$$

easy to solve if A_{11}^{-1} can be easily computed

Example: A_{11} is diagonal



$$\begin{array}{c}
 \in \mathbb{R}^{n,n} \\
 \downarrow \\
 \left[\begin{array}{c} D \\ b^T \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{c} c \\ \alpha \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{c} x_1 \\ \zeta \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{c} b_1 \\ \beta \end{array} \right]
 \end{array}$$

\uparrow scalar \uparrow scalar

Solving with LU: $\Theta(n^3)$

$$Dx_1 + c\zeta = b_1$$

$$(I) \quad x_1 = D^{-1}(b_1 - c\zeta)$$

$$b^T x_1 + \alpha \zeta = \beta$$

$$b^T D^{-1}(b_1 - c\zeta) + \alpha \zeta = \beta$$

$$(II) \quad (\alpha - b^T D^{-1} c) \zeta = \beta - b^T D^{-1} b_1$$

$$z := D^{-1} c : \Theta(n)$$

$$w := D^{-1} b_1 : \Theta(n)$$

$$\text{computing } \zeta : \Theta(n)$$

$$\text{computing } x : \Theta(n)$$

overall: $\Theta(n)$

C++11 code 2.6.10: Solving an arrow system according to (2.6.8) → [GITLAB](#)

```

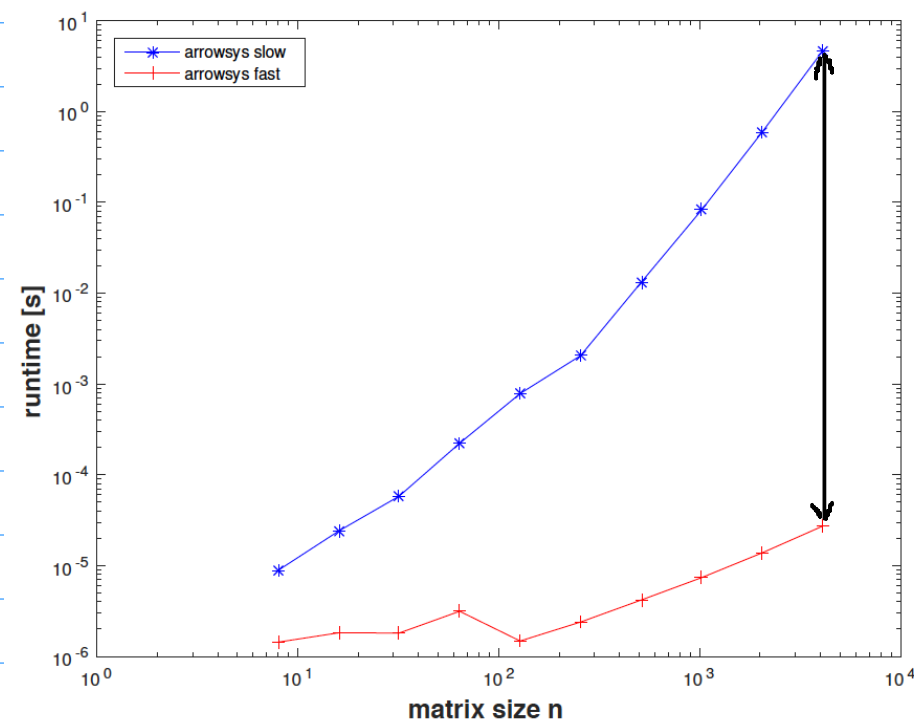
2 VectorXd arrowsys_fast(const VectorXd &d, const VectorXd &c, const
  VectorXd &b, const double alpha, const VectorXd &y){
3   int n = d.size();
4   VectorXd z = c.array() / d.array(); // z = D-1c
5   VectorXd w = y.head(n).array() / d.array(); // w = D-1b1
6   double xi = (y(n) - b.dot(w)) / (alpha - b.dot(z));
7   VectorXd x(n+1);
8   x << w - xi*z, xi;
9   return x;
10 }

```

warning: Block elimination can suffer from numerical instability [equivalent to Gauss elimination without pivoting]

roughly:

- stable for s.p.d. matrices
- stable for diagonally dominant matrices



~ 10⁶

$$\text{for all } i \in \{1, \dots, n\}: |A_{ii}| \geq \sum_{j \neq i} |A_{ij}|$$

Example: Low-rank modifications
of LSE