



UNIVERSITY  
OF MANITOBA

# Matrix Solution Methods and Sparsity Implications

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# Outline

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## 1 Introduction

## 2 Matrix Solution Methods

### 2.1 Graphical method

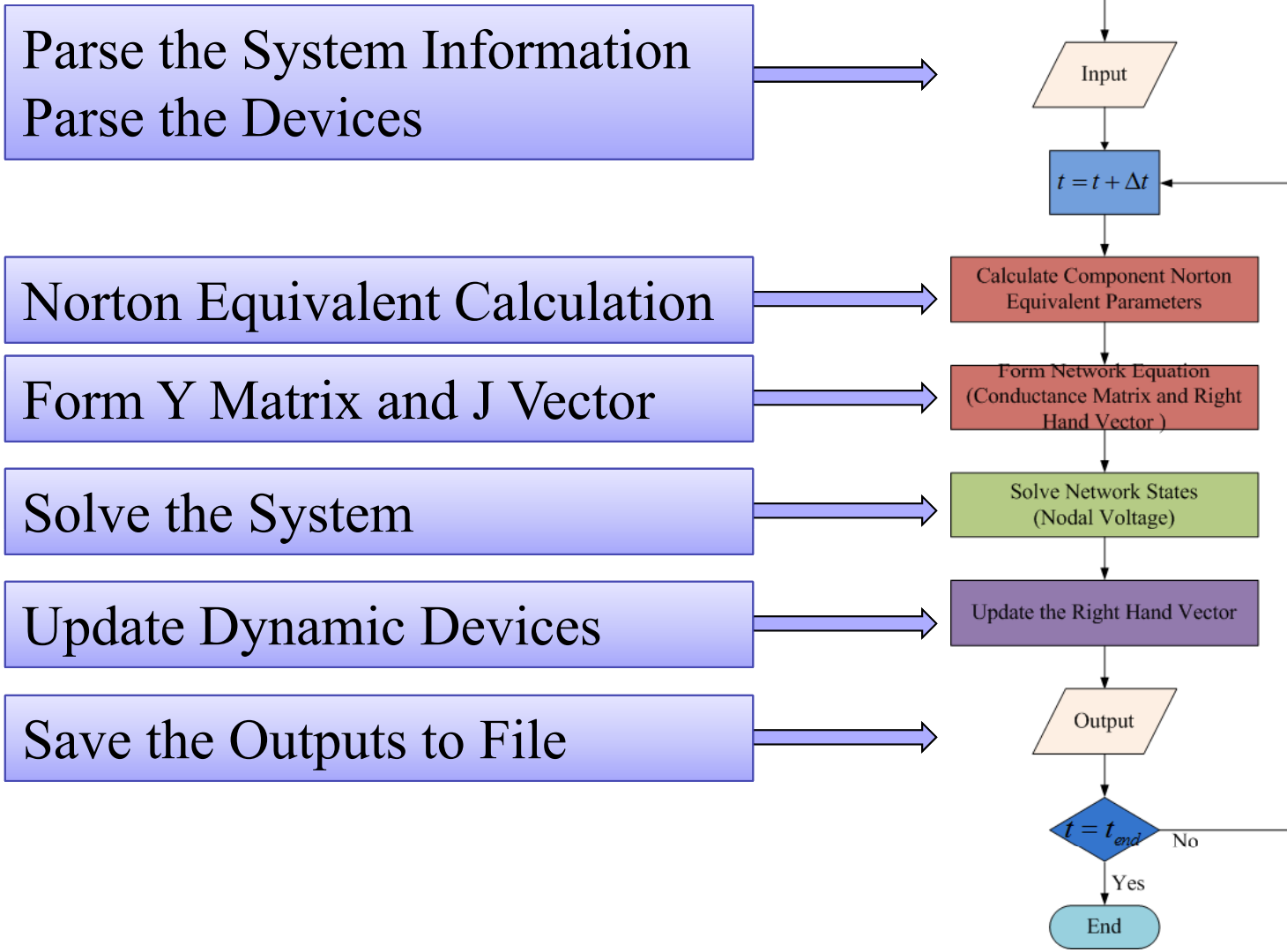
### 2.2 Cramer's rule

### 2.3 Gaussian Elimination

### 2.4 LU Factorization

## 3 Sparsity Implication

# 1 Introduction (EMT)





# 1 Introduction (Reference Books)

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## **EMT Reference:**

- 1) H.W. Dommel, EMTP Theory Book (2nd edition) ,  
Microtran Power System Analysis Corporation,  
Vancouver, BC. 1992
- 2) N. Watson and J. Arrillaga, Power Systems  
Electromagnetic Transients Simulation, IEE Power  
and Energy Series, No. 39, IEE Press, 2003, UK,



# 1 Introduction (Matlab Solver)

 [INV is slow and inaccurate. Use  \$A \setminus b\$  for  \$INV\(A\) \* b\$ , and  \$b / A\$  for  \$b \* inv\(A\)\$ .](#)

## Explanation

M-Lint has detected a call to [inv](#) in a multiplication operation.

The inverse of a matrix is primarily of theoretical value, and rarely finds any use in practical computations. Never use the inverse of a matrix to solve a linear system  $Ax=b$  with  $x=inv(A) * b$ , because it is slow and inaccurate.

## Suggested Action

Instead of multiplying by the inverse, use matrix right division (/) or matrix left division (\). That is:

- Replace  $inv(A) * b$  with  $A \setminus b$
- Replace  $b * inv(A)$  with  $b / A$

Frequently, an application needs to solve a series of related linear systems  $Ax=b$ , where  $A$  does not change, but  $b$  does. In this case, use [lu](#), [chol](#), or [qr](#) instead of [inv](#), depending on the matrix type.



# 1 Introduction (Matrix Solution Methods)

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- Nowadays, easy access to computers makes the solution of large sets of linear algebraic equations possible and practical.
  - Direct Method
    - By taking the advantage of “**sparsity**”
  - Iterative Method
    - often the only choice for nonlinear equations, also useful even for linear problems involving a large number of variables
- Direct solution methods were often preferred to iterative methods in real applications because of their robustness and predictable behavior.



# 1 Introduction (Reference Books)

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## Direct Methods Reference:

- 1) Davis, T.A., **Direct methods for sparse linear systems**. Vol. 2. 2006: Society for Industrial Mathematics.
- 2) George, A., J. Liu, and E. Ng, Computer Solution of Sparse Linear Systems. 1994.
- 3) Duff, I., A. Erisman, and J. Reid, Direct Methods for Sparse Matrices, 1986, Oxford: Clarendon Press.
- 4) Østerby, O. and Z. Zlatev, Direct methods for sparse matrices. DAIMI PB, 1980. 9(123).

## Iterative Methods Reference:

- 5) Saad, Y., Iterative methods for sparse linear systems. 2003: Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics.



# Outline

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1 Introduction

**2 Matrix Solution Methods**

2.1 Graphical method

2.2 Cramer's rule

2.3 Gaussian Elimination

2.4 LU Factorization

3 Sparsity Implication





## 2 Matrix Solution Methods

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- For small number of equations ( $n \leq 3$ ) can be solved readily by simple techniques.
  - Graphical method
  - Cramer's rule
- For large number of equations ( $n > 3$ ) can be solved readily by other techniques.
  - Elimination method
  - LU method



## 2.1 Graphical method

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- For two equations:

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

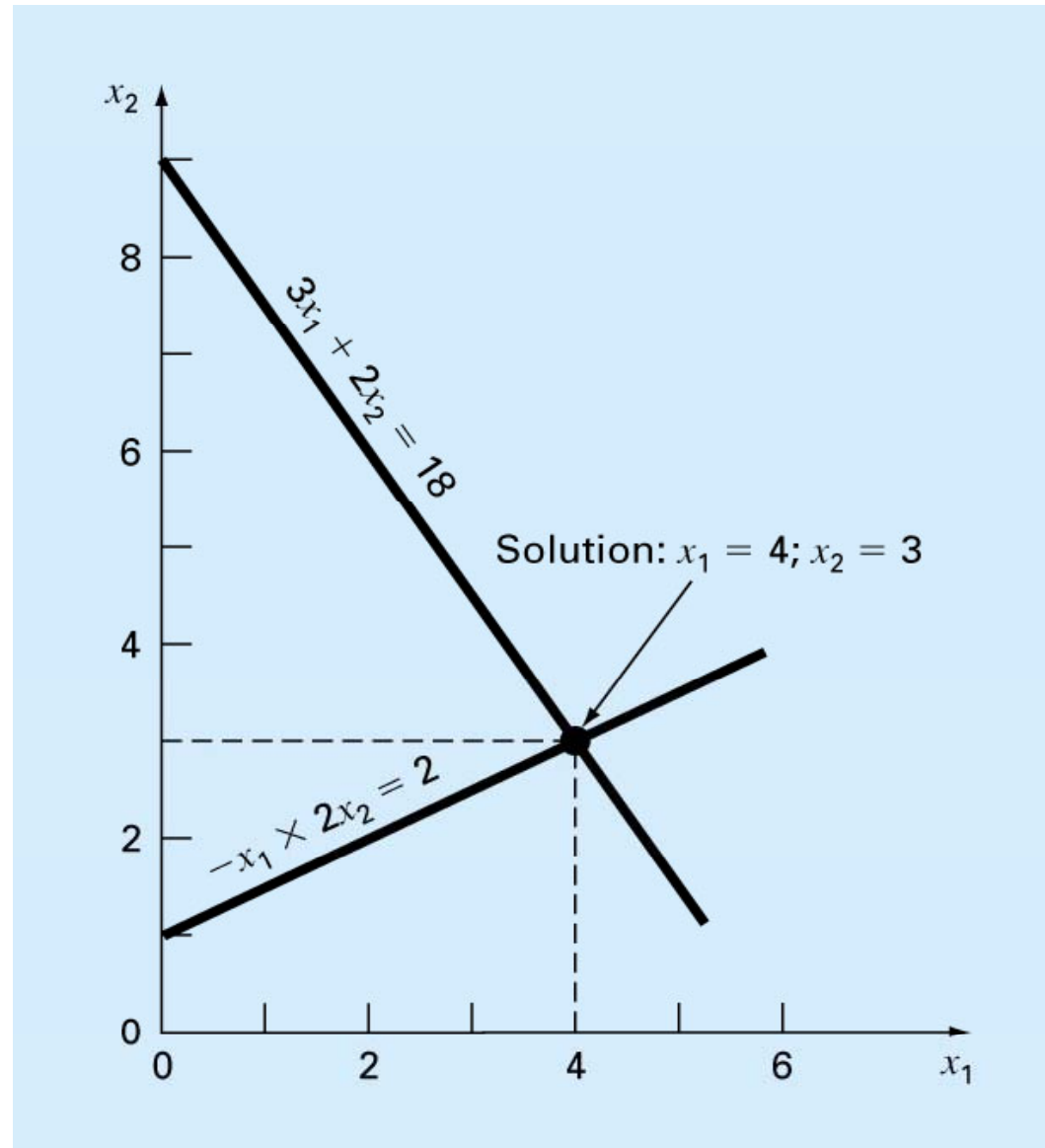
$$a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 = b_2$$

- Solve both equations for  $x_2$ :

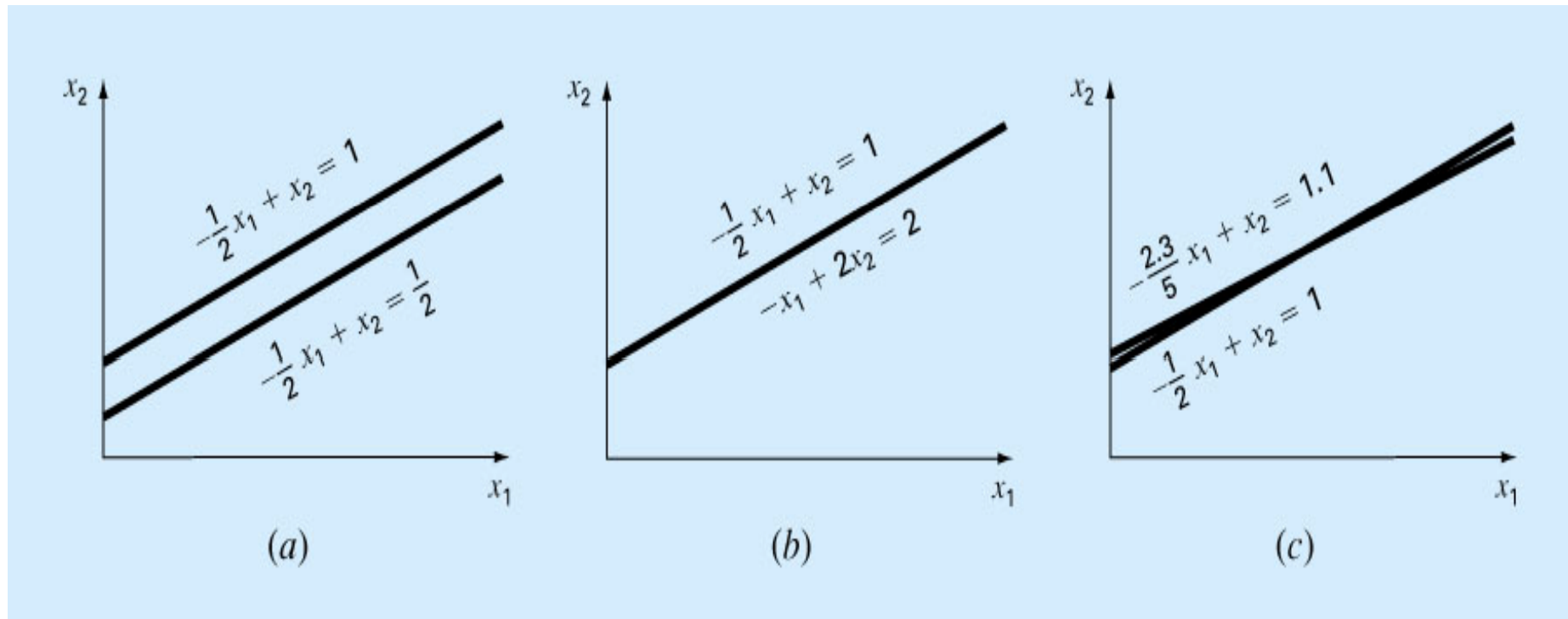
$$\left. \begin{aligned} x_2 &= -\left(\frac{a_{11}}{a_{12}}\right)x_1 + \frac{b_1}{a_{12}} \\ x_2 &= -\left(\frac{a_{21}}{a_{22}}\right)x_1 + \frac{b_2}{a_{22}} \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow x_2 = (\text{slope})x_1 + \text{intercept}$$

## 2.1 Graphical method

- Plot  $x_2$  vs.  $x_1$  on rectilinear paper, the intersection of the lines present the solution.



## 2.1 Graphical method



- (a) No solution
- (b) Infinite solutions
- (c) Ill-conditioned (Slopes are too close)



## 2.2 Cramer's rule

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- If  $[A]$  is order 1, then  $[A]$  has one element:

$$A=[a_{11}]$$

the determinant is  $D=a_{11}$

- For a square matrix of order 2

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

the determinant is  $D= a_{11} a_{22}-a_{21} a_{12}$



## 2.2 Cramer's rule

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- For a square matrix of order 3

$$D = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} = a_{11}D_{11} - a_{12}D_{12} + a_{13}D_{13}$$

$$D_{11} = \begin{vmatrix} a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} = a_{22}a_{33} - a_{32}a_{23}$$

$$D_{12} = \begin{vmatrix} a_{21} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} = a_{21}a_{33} - a_{31}a_{23}$$

$$D_{13} = \begin{vmatrix} a_{21} & a_{22} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{vmatrix} = a_{21}a_{32} - a_{31}a_{22}$$



## 2.2 Cramer's rule

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- For a square matrix of order 3

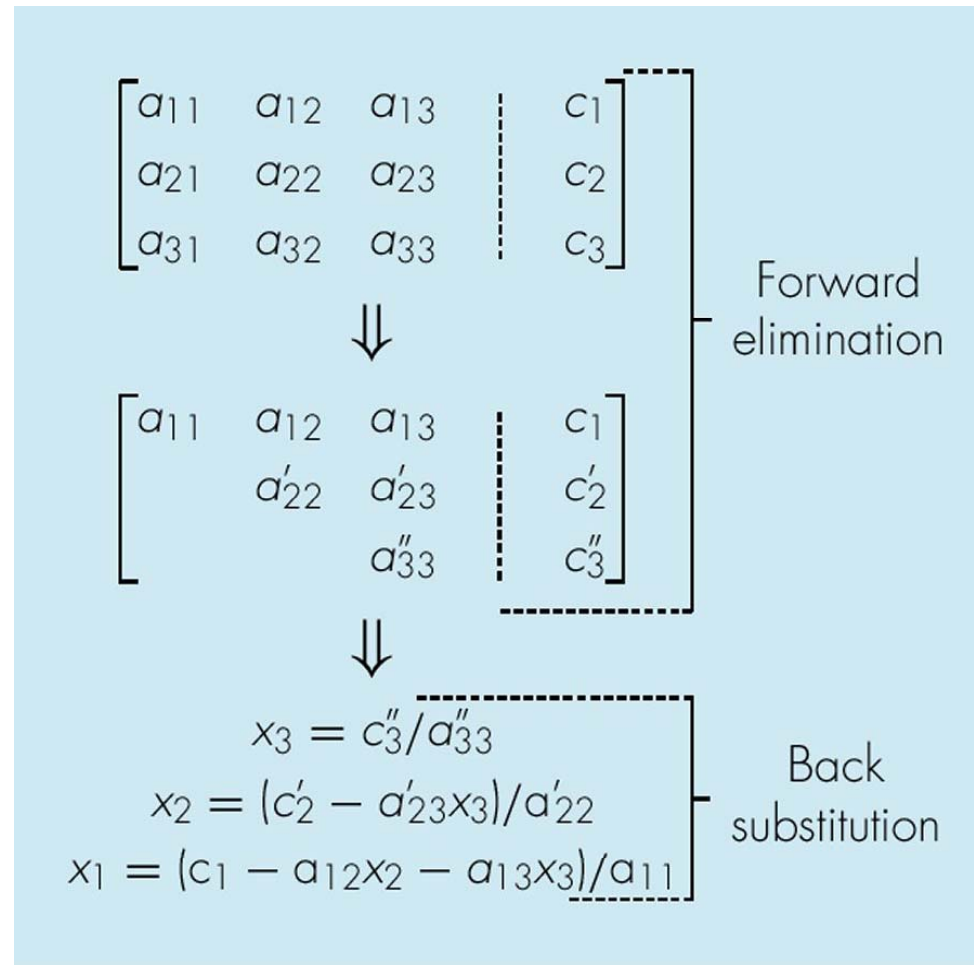
$$x_1 = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} b_1 & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ b_2 & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ b_3 & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix}} = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} b_1 & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ b_2 & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ b_3 & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix}}{D}$$

$$x_2 = \dots$$

$$x_3 = \dots$$

## 2.3 Gaussian Elimination

- the technique for  $n$  equations consists of two phases:
  - Forward elimination of unknowns
  - Back substitution







## 2.3 Gaussian Elimination

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$$\begin{cases} 2x + y - z = 8 & \text{(L1)} \\ -3x - y + 2z = -11 & \text{(L2)} \\ -2x + y + 2z = -3 & \text{(L3)} \end{cases}$$

$$(1) \begin{cases} L_2 + \frac{3}{2}L_1 \rightarrow L_2 \\ L_3 + L_1 \rightarrow L_3 \end{cases} \rightarrow \begin{cases} 2x + y - z = 8 & \text{(L1)} \\ 0 + \frac{1}{2}y + \frac{1}{2}z = 1 & \text{(L2)} \\ 0 + 2y + z = 5 & \text{(L3)} \end{cases}$$

$$(2) L_3 + (-4)L_2 \rightarrow L_3 \rightarrow \begin{cases} 2x + y - z = 8 & \text{(L1)} \\ 0 + \frac{1}{2}y + \frac{1}{2}z = 1 & \text{(L2)} \\ 0 + 0 + -z = 1 & \text{(L3)} \end{cases}$$



## 2.4 LU Factorization

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} l_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ l_{21} & l_{22} & 0 \\ l_{31} & l_{32} & l_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_{11} & u_{12} & u_{13} \\ 0 & u_{22} & u_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & u_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

*Case:*

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 3 \\ 6 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} l_{11} & 0 \\ l_{21} & l_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_{11} & u_{12} \\ 0 & u_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{cases} l_{11} \cdot u_{11} + 0 \cdot 0 = 4 \\ l_{11} \cdot u_{12} + 0 \cdot u_{22} = 3 \\ l_{21} \cdot u_{11} + l_{22} \cdot 0 = 6 \\ l_{21} \cdot u_{12} + l_{22} \cdot u_{22} = 3 \end{cases}$$



## 2.4 LU Factorization

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} l_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ l_{21} & l_{22} & 0 \\ l_{31} & l_{32} & l_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_{11} & u_{12} & u_{13} \\ 0 & u_{22} & u_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & u_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$\begin{cases} l_{11} \cdot u_{11} + 0 \cdot 0 = 4 \\ l_{11} \cdot u_{12} + 0 \cdot u_{22} = 3 \\ l_{21} \cdot u_{11} + l_{22} \cdot 0 = 6 \\ l_{21} \cdot u_{12} + l_{22} \cdot u_{22} = 3 \end{cases} \text{ if } \begin{cases} l_{11} = 1 \\ l_{22} = 1 \end{cases} \rightarrow \begin{cases} u_{11} + 0 \cdot 0 = 4 \\ u_{12} + 0 \cdot u_{22} = 3 \\ l_{21} \cdot u_{11} + 0 = 6 \\ l_{21} \cdot u_{12} + u_{22} = 3 \end{cases}$$



## 2.4 LU Solver

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$$\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b} \rightarrow \mathbf{LUx} = \mathbf{b} \rightarrow \begin{cases} \mathbf{Ly} = \mathbf{b} \\ \mathbf{Ux} = \mathbf{y} \end{cases}$$

## 2.4 Gaussian Elimination & LU Factorization

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} \times & \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times & \times \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\mathbf{E}_1} \begin{bmatrix} \times & \times & \times & \times \\ 0 & \times & \times & \times \\ 0 & \times & \times & \times \\ 0 & \times & \times & \times \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\mathbf{E}_2} \begin{bmatrix} \times & \times & \times & \times \\ 0 & \times & \times & \times \\ 0 & 0 & \times & \times \\ 0 & 0 & \times & \times \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\mathbf{E}_3} \begin{bmatrix} \times & \times & \times & \times \\ 0 & \times & \times & \times \\ 0 & 0 & \times & \times \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \times \end{bmatrix}$$

$\mathbf{A}$                        $\mathbf{E}_1\mathbf{A}$                        $\mathbf{E}_2\mathbf{E}_1\mathbf{A}$                        $\mathbf{E}_3\mathbf{E}_2\mathbf{E}_1\mathbf{A}$

Each  $\mathbf{E}_i$  introduces zeros below diagonal of column  $i$ :

$$\mathbf{E}_3\mathbf{E}_2\mathbf{E}_1\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{U} \longrightarrow \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{LU} \quad \text{where} \quad \mathbf{L} = (\mathbf{E}_3\mathbf{E}_2\mathbf{E}_1)^{-1} = \mathbf{E}_1^{-1}\mathbf{E}_2^{-1}\mathbf{E}_3^{-1}$$



## 2.4 Gaussian Elimination & LU Factorization

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$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{E}_n \mathbf{E}_{n-1} \cdots \mathbf{E}_2 \mathbf{E}_1 \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{E}_n \mathbf{E}_{n-1} \cdots \mathbf{E}_2 \mathbf{E}_1 \mathbf{b} & \longleftrightarrow & \mathbf{U} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{E}_n \mathbf{E}_{n-1} \cdots \mathbf{E}_2 \mathbf{E}_1 \mathbf{b} \\ \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b} & & \longleftrightarrow & \mathbf{L} \mathbf{U} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \text{For Gaussian Elimination: } \mathbf{U} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{E}_n \mathbf{E}_{n-1} \cdots \mathbf{E}_2 \mathbf{E}_1 \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{L}^{-1} \mathbf{b} \\ \text{For LU :} & \mathbf{L} \mathbf{U} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b} \end{cases}$$

if vector  $\mathbf{b}$  varies each simulation step,

For Gaussian Elimination we should store  $\mathbf{U}$  and  $\mathbf{L}^{-1}$  and calculate  $\mathbf{L}^{-1} \mathbf{b}$ .

For LU *method*, we should store  $\mathbf{L}$  and  $\mathbf{U}$ . As  $\mathbf{L}^{-1}$  is a dense matrix, so Gaussian Elimination method is less efficient than LU method.



## 2.4 Arithmetic Complexity Analysis

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- Gaussian elimination to solve a system of  $n$  equations for  $n$  unknowns requires
  - Divisions:  $n(n-1) / 2$
  - multiplications:  $(2n^3 + 3n^2 - 5n)/6$
  - Subtractions:  $(2n^3 + 3n^2 - 5n)/6$
  - Total of approximately:  $2n^3 / 3$  operations.
  - Thus it has **arithmetic complexity** of  $O(n^3)$ .
- LU decomposition requires  $2n^3 / 3$  floating point operations, if neglecting lower order terms



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2.3 Gaussian Elimination

2.4 LU Factorization

**3 Sparsity Implication**





## 3.1 contents

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- Sparse linear equation system
- Storage of sparse linear equation
- LU factorization considering sparsity
- Typical sparse solver



## 3.2 Sparse linear equation system

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- A sparse matrix is a matrix populated primarily with zeros.
- Why the coefficient matrix of linear equation system is sparse?
- Sparsity comes from the loose coupling of systems.



## 3.2 How to utilize the sparsity

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- The required memory will be greatly reduced, if proper data structure is used to avoid storing of the zero elements.
- The number of operations is also greatly reduced, if the operations involved zero elements are avoided.
- Without sparse techniques, it is impractical to solve some very large systems with direct method.

## 3.3 Storage of sparse linear equation

- Static or dynamic structures can be used to store sparse matrix.
- The triplet form and compressed-column form / compressed-row form are widely used.

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1.0 & 0 & 5.0 & 7.0 \\ 0 & 3.0 & 0 & 0 \\ 2.0 & 0 & 6.0 & 8.0 \\ 0 & 4.0 & 0 & 9.0 \end{bmatrix}$$

```
int n = 4;
int nnz = 9;
int i[] = { 0, 2, 1, 3, 0, 2, 0, 2, 3 };
int j[] = { 0, 0, 1, 1, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3 };
int x[] = { 1.0, 2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0, 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0 };
```

```
int n = 4;
int p = { 0, 2, 4, 6, 9 };
int i[] = { 0, 2, 1, 3, 0, 2, 0, 2, 3 };
double x[] = { 1.0, 2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0, 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0 };
```

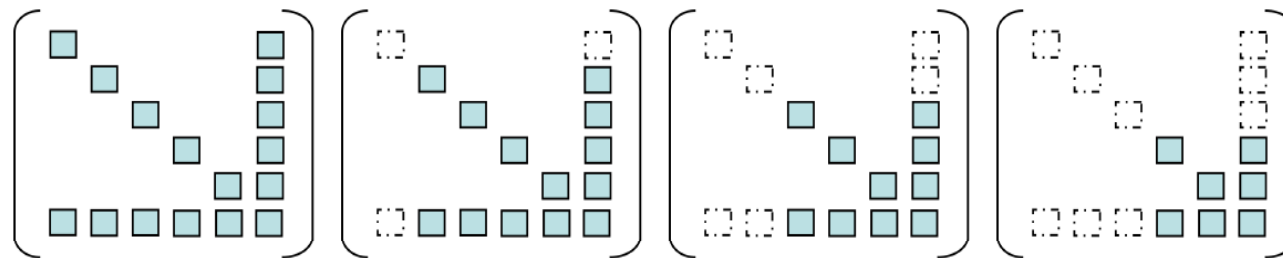
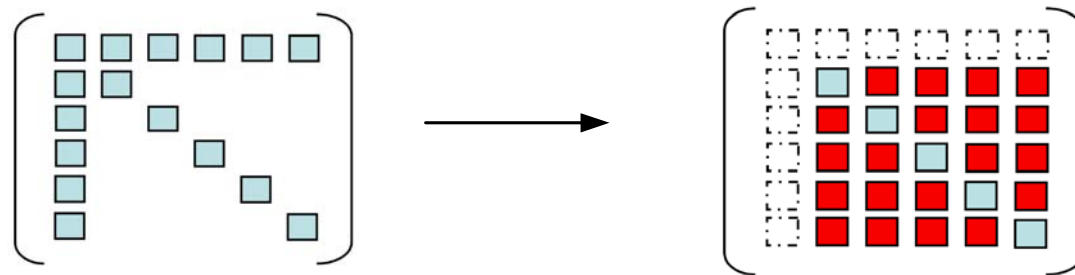
## 3.4 LU factorization considering sparsity

- Apply the gauss elimination process to matrix represented with sparse storage structure.
- The main step of Gauss Elimination or LU factorization is multiplying one row with a number and then adding it to another row.

non-zero		non-zero	
		↓	
non-zero	→	fill-in	

## 3.4 LU factorization

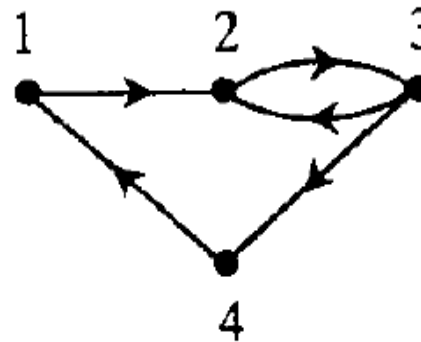
- Investigation shows that the number of fill-ins in Gauss Elimination process is greatly affected by ordering of the matrix.



## 3.4 LU factorization

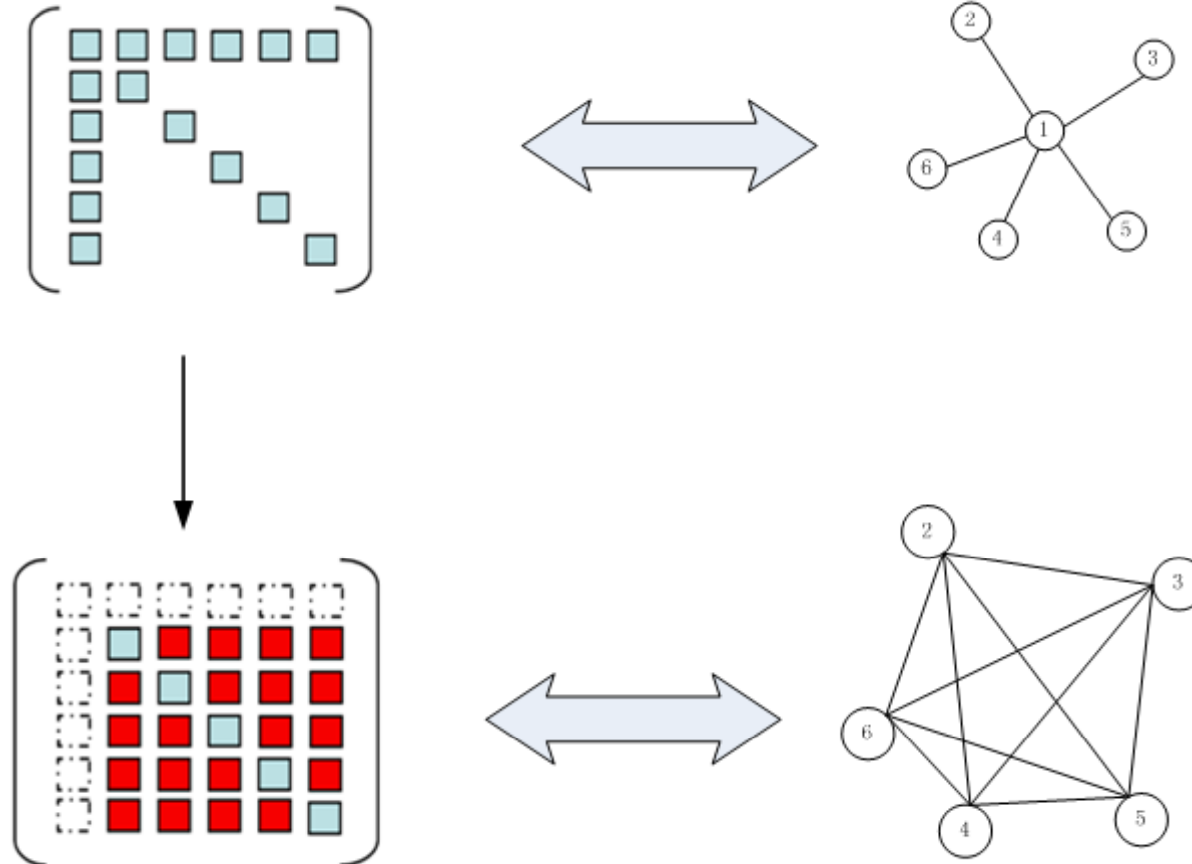
- The non-zero pattern of a square sparse matrix can be represented by a graph.
- For any square sparse matrix, the number of vertices in the graph equals to the order of the matrix.
- If  $a_{ij}$  is a non-zero entry, there is an edge from node  $i$  to node  $j$  in the directed graph.

$$\begin{pmatrix} \times & \times & & & \\ & \times & \times & & \\ & \times & \times & \times & \\ \times & & & & \\ & & & & \times \end{pmatrix}$$



## 3.4 LU factorization

- For a symmetric matrix, a connection from node  $i$  to node  $j$  implies there must be a connection from node  $j$  to node  $i$ . So, the arrows may be dropped.







## 3.4 LU factorization

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- The fill-in will greatly affect the operation numbers needed to perform Gauss Elimination and Forward/Backward substitution.
- Therefore, we need to find the best ordering to generate the least fill-ins.
- However, the bad news is that: Determining the best ordering in the elimination process which results in the minimum number of fill-ins is NP-Hard .



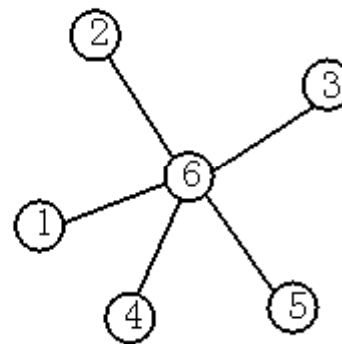
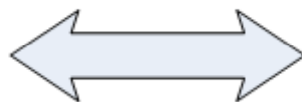
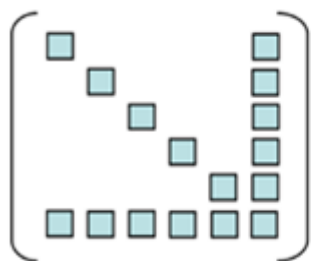
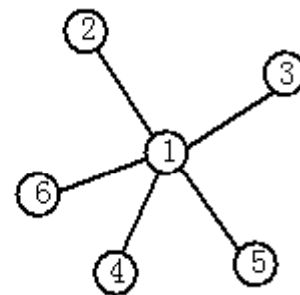
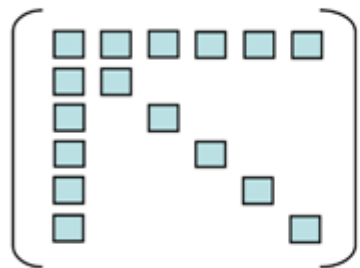
## 3.4 LU factorization

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- This implies that minimizing the work of performing Gauss Elimination is more costly than itself, which is a P-Hard problem.
- The good news is that we can approximate this minimum using graph-based heuristics.
- One such heuristic is to always select the vertex with minimum degree.

# 3.4 LU factorization

- For example:





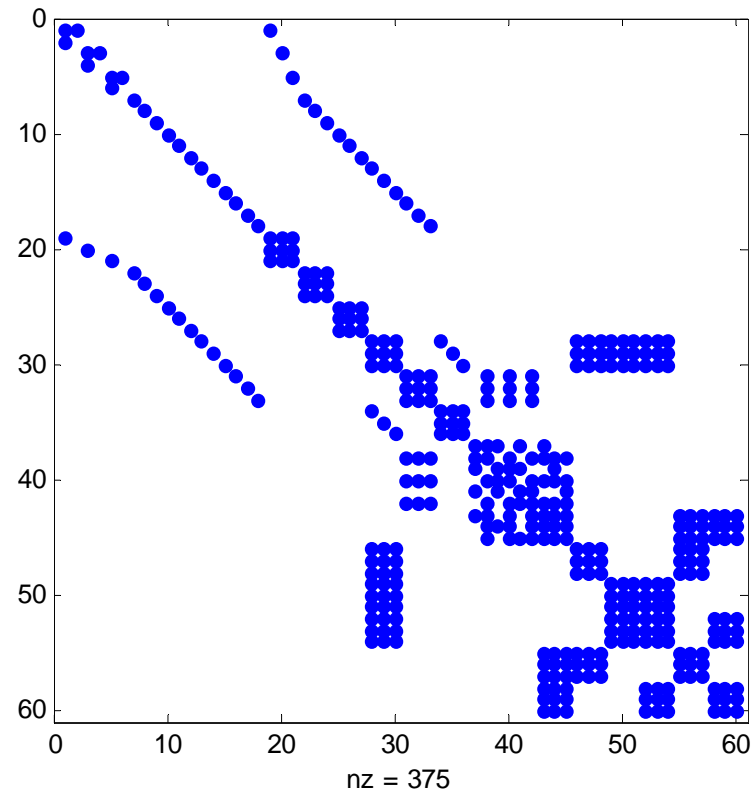
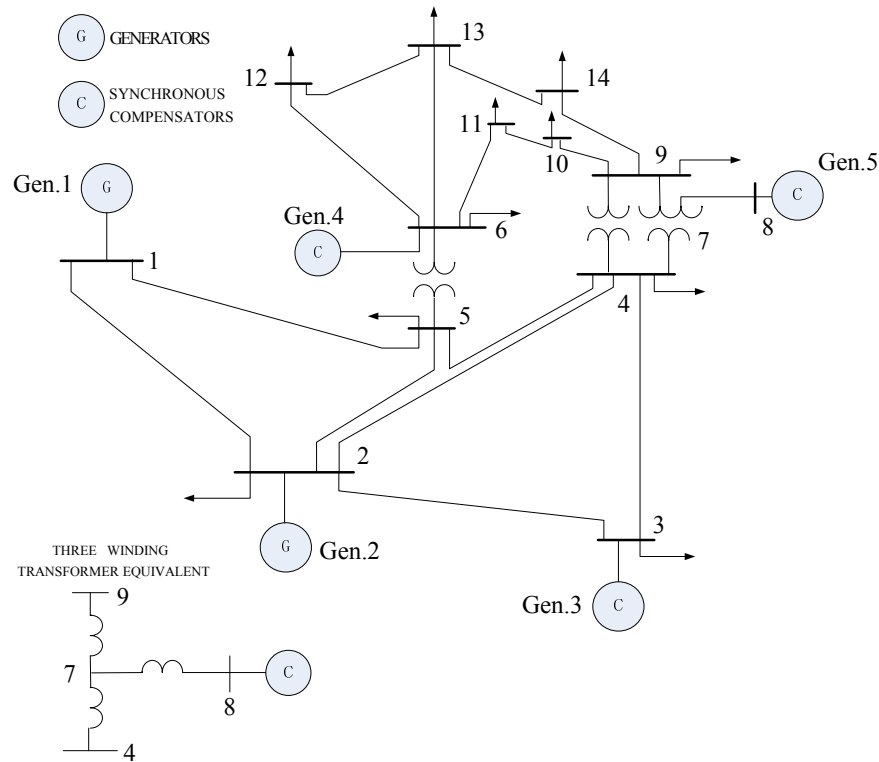
## 3.5 Typical sparse solver

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- One typical solver consists of the following steps:
  - Symbolic analysis
  - Numerical factorization
  - Forward and backward substitution

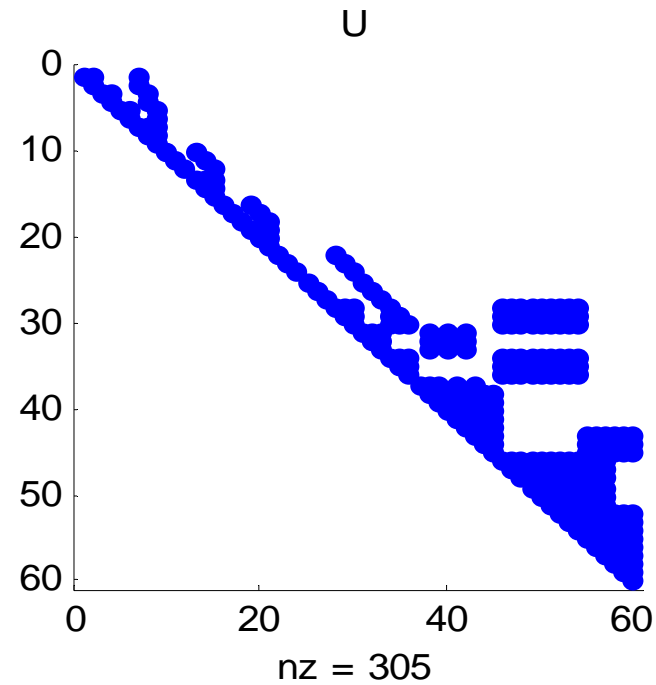
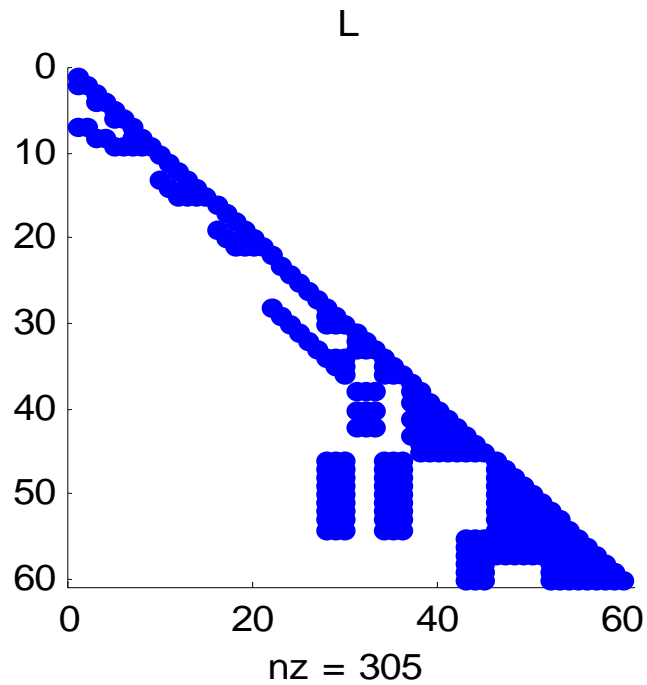
## 3.6 IEEE-14 system case

- The linear equation of the IEEE-14 system has 60 unknown variables.



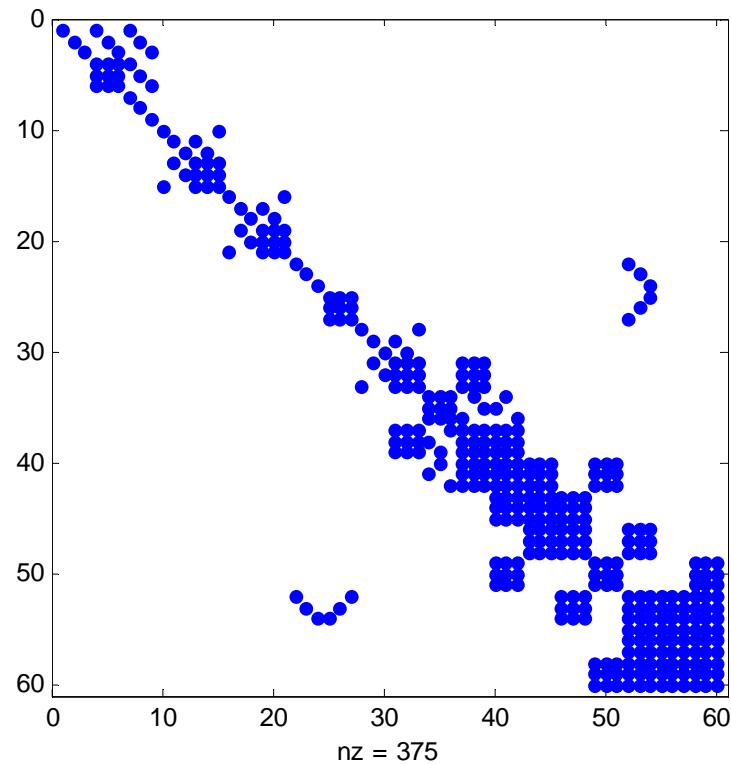
## 3.6 IEEE-14 system case

- LU factorization with natural ordering



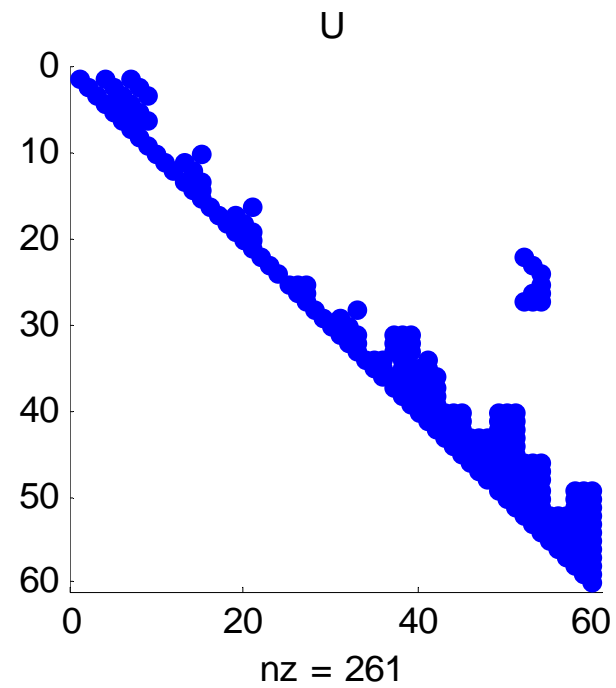
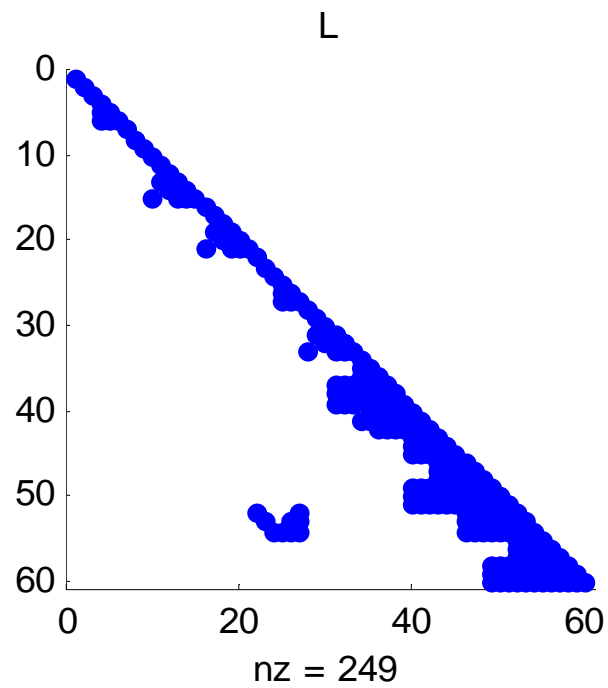
## 3.6 IEEE-14 system case

- Non-zero pattern after Approximate Minimum Degree ordering.



## 3.6 IEEE-14 system case

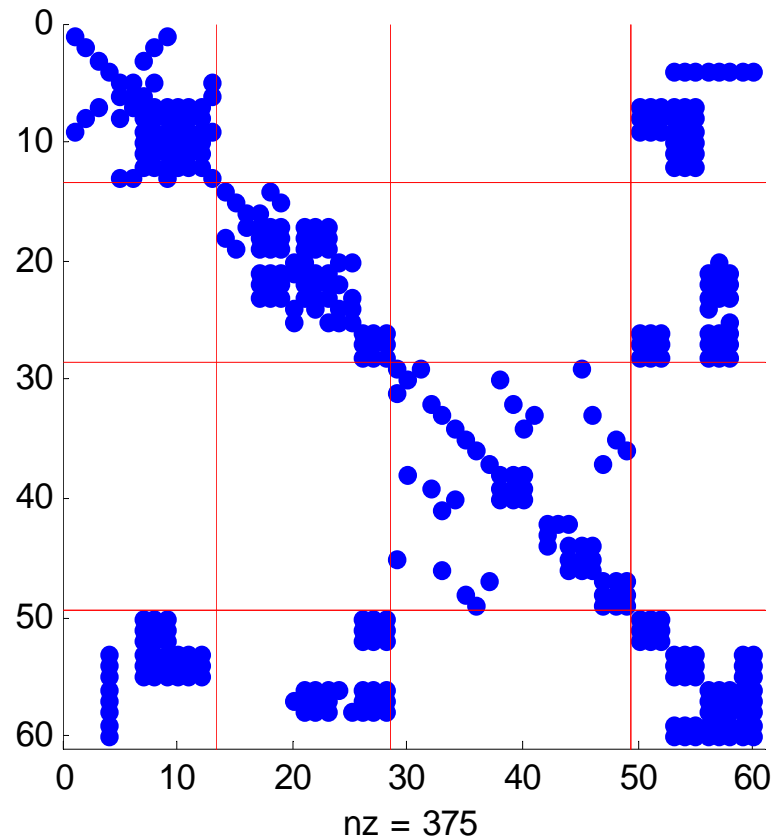
- LU factorization after AMD





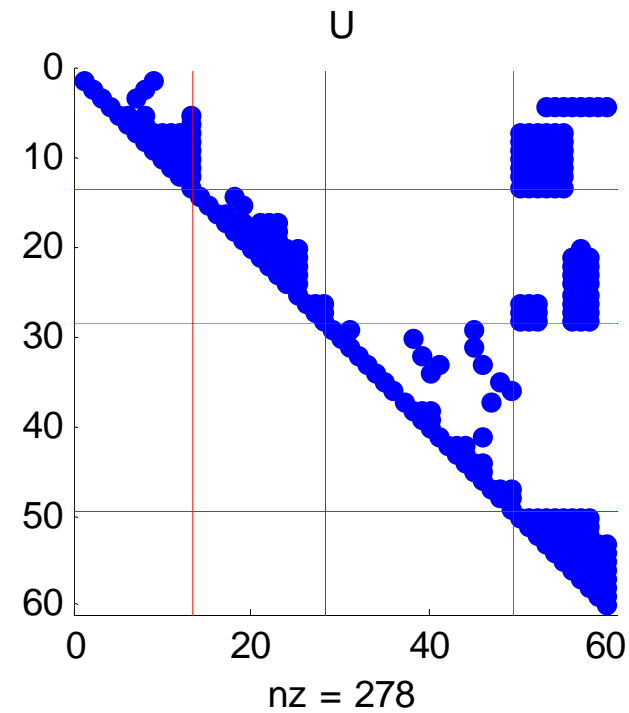
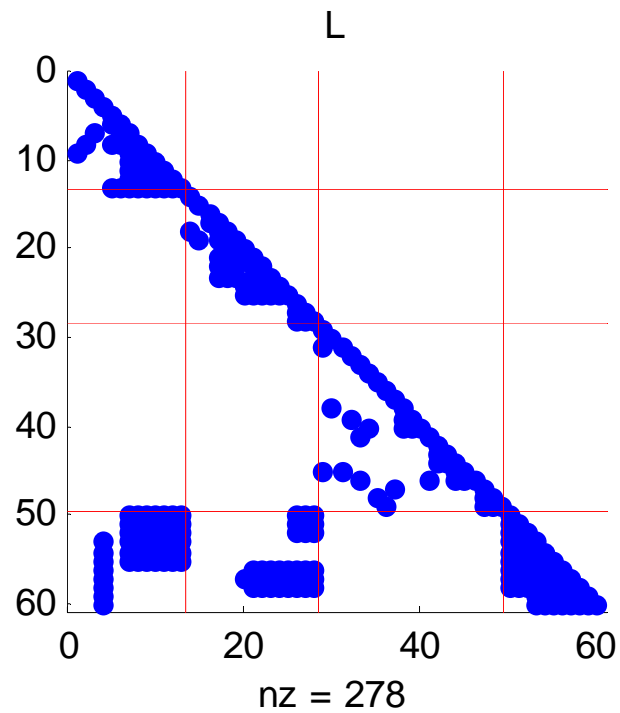
## 3.6 IEEE-14 system case

- Non-zero pattern of Bordered Block Diagonal (BBD) form.



## 3.6 IEEE-14 system case

- LU factorization of the BBD form





# Discussion and Suggestion

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**THANK  
YOU**