

# Random Matrices Generating Large Growth in LU Factorization With Pivoting

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**Joint work with  
Nick Higham and Desmond Higham**

**Slides Available at – [https://bit.ly/AN21\\_Sri](https://bit.ly/AN21_Sri)**

# Introduction

Type	bits Signif(t)	Exp	Range	$u = 2^{-t}$
bfloat16	8	8	$10^{\pm 38}$	$3.9 \times 10^{-3}$
fp16	11	5	$10^{\pm 5}$	$4.9 \times 10^{-4}$
tf32	11	8	$10^{\pm 38}$	$4.9 \times 10^{-4}$
fp32	24	8	$10^{\pm 38}$	$6.0 \times 10^{-8}$
fp64	53	11	$10^{\pm 308}$	$1.1 \times 10^{-16}$
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- Speed, energy, communication benefits.
- ▲ We need algorithms ....
  - that use low precision.
  - that are provably robust.
- ▲ **Mixed Precision Algorithms**  
**[Abdelfattah et.al, 2021].**

# GMRES-IR [Carson, Higham 2018]

Given  $A$  and  $b$  in precision  $u$ , and  $u_f \geq u \geq u_r$

solve  $Ax_0 = b$  using the LU factors of precision  $u_f > u$

- $r = b - Ax_0$ , in  $u_r < u$ .
- Solve  $\tilde{A}d \equiv \hat{U}^{-1}\hat{L}^{-1}A = \hat{U}^{-1}\hat{L}^{-1}r$ , at precision  $u$  using GMRES.
- Update  $x_1 = \text{fl}(x_0 + d)$  in precision  $u$ .

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- For a GPU implementation **Four times** speedup, and **80%** reduction in energy consumption. [Haidar et.al, 2018]
- Vendor and open source implementations available.
- Extension to SPD systems [Higham, P, 2021], and least squares problems [Carson, Higham, P, 2020].
- Algorithmic basis for the new **HPL-AI** benchmark.

# Overflow in fp16 and its remedy

fp16 has narrow range:

	$u$	$x_{\min}^S$	$x_{\min}$	$x_{\max}$
fp16	$4.88 \times 10^{-4}$	$5.96 \times 10^{-8}$	$6.10 \times 10^{-5}$	$6.55 \times 10^4$

Can be remedied using two sided diagonal scaling for  $Ax = b$ . (Higham, P, Zounon 2019).

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**2DS** Rounds  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  to the fp16 matrix  $A^{(h)}$ , scaling all elements to avoid overflow.  $\theta \in (0, 1]$  is a parameter.

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- 1: Apply any two-sided diagonal scaling algorithm to  $A$ , to obtain diagonal matrices  $R, S$ .  
%squeeze entries between  $-1 \leq (RAS)_{ij} \leq 1$
  - 2:  $\mu = \theta x_{\max}$  % make full use of the range
  - 3:  $A^{(h)} = \text{fl}_h(\mu(RAS))$
- 

How to choose  $\theta$ ?

# Choice of $\theta$

- $\theta$  – headroom for further computation.
- In  $PA = LU$ ,

$$|\ell_{ij}| \leq 1, \quad |u_{ij}| \leq \rho_n(\mathbf{A}) \max_{ij} |a_{ij}|,$$

$\rho_n(\mathbf{A})$  is the growth factor.

- In practice,  $\rho_n$  is **almost always small** ( $< 10$ ) for partial pivoting. *Open problem to explain why!*
- **Usually**  $\theta = 0.1$  is sufficient.



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  - **Usually**  $\theta = 0.1$  is sufficient.
- Rest of the talk –

When is  $\theta = 0.1$  not sufficient?

# The Growth Factor

Gaussian elimination on  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  produces  $A = LU$ .

With  $A^{(1)} = A$ ,  $A^{(n)} = U$ ,  $A^{(k)} = (a_{ij}^{(k)})$  matrix at  $k$ th stage of Gaussian elimination,

$$\rho_n(A) = \frac{\max_{i,j,k} |a_{ij}^{(k)}|}{\max_{i,j} |a_{ij}|} \geq 1.$$

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**Theorem (Wilkinson, 1961)**

*GE produces a computed solution  $\hat{x}$  to  $Ax = b$  satisfying  
Then*

$$(A + \Delta A)\hat{x} = b, \quad \|\Delta A\|_\infty \leq p(n)\rho_n u \|A\|_\infty,$$

*where  $u$  is unit roundoff and  $p$  a low degree polynomial.*

# What We Know About the Growth Factor

- Without pivoting,  $\rho_n$  can be arbitrarily large.
- With **partial pivoting**,  $\rho_n \leq 2^{n-1}$ , attained for

$$A_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

- **Wright (1993)** and **Foster (1994)** found applications where partial pivoting suffers exponential growth.
- **Higham & Higham (1989)** found orthogonal matrices with  $\rho_n \gtrsim n/2$  for *any* pivoting strategy.

# MATLAB Function

```
function g = gf(A)
%GF      Approximate growth factor.
%  g = GF(A) is an approximation to the
%  growth factor for LU factorization
%  with partial pivoting.
[~,U] = lu(A);
g = max(abs(U), [], 'all') / max(abs(A), [], 'all');
```

- This is a lower bound on  $\rho_n(A)$ .
- Can get exact growth factor using `gef.m` from **Matrix Computation Toolbox**.

```
>> rng(1); gf(randn(10))
ans =
    1.5088e+00
>> gf(randn(100))
ans =
    4.4874e+00
>> gf(randn(1000))
ans =
    1.5997e+01
>> gf(randn(10000))
ans =
    5.0505e+01
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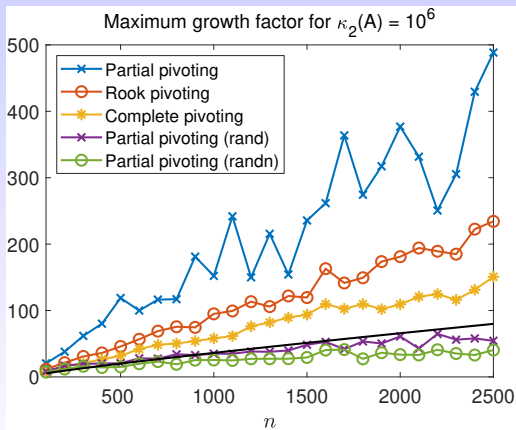
```
>> gf(gallery('randsvd', 1000, 1e8, 2, [], [], 1))
```

```
ans =
```

```
7.5329e+01
```

# Randsvd Matrices (Mode 2)

$$A = P\Sigma Q^T \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}, \quad P^T P = Q^T Q = I,$$
$$\Sigma = \text{diag}(1, \dots, 1, \sigma_n), \quad 1 \geq \sigma_n \geq 0.$$





# Randsvd Matrices

- $P$  and  $Q$  are random orthogonal matrices drawn from Haar distribution.
- $[Q, R] = \text{qr}(\text{randn}(n));$   
 $Q = Q * \text{diag}(\text{sign}(\text{diag}(R)));$
- More efficient method by **[Steward (1980)]**.
- **Demmel & McKenney (1989)**: LAPACK's test matrix generation suite.
- **H (1991, 1995)**: MATLAB function **randsvd**. Subsequently incorporated into **gallery('randsvd', ...)**.
- **H & Zhang (2016)**: Matrix Depot package for Julia.
- Cheaper implementation proposed by **[Higham, & Fasi (2021)]**.

# Growth Factor Lower Bound

## Theorem (H & H, 1989)

Let  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  be nonsingular,

$$\alpha = \max_{i,j} |a_{ij}|, \quad \beta = \max_{i,j} |(A^{-1})_{ij}|, \quad \theta = (\alpha\beta)^{-1}.$$

Then  $\theta \leq n$ , and for any permutation matrices  $\Pi_r$  and  $\Pi_c$  such that  $\Pi_r A \Pi_c$  has an LU factorization, the growth factor for **GE without pivoting** on  $\Pi_r A \Pi_c$  satisfies

$$\rho_n(A) \geq \theta.$$

# Growth for Random Orthogonal Matrices

Randsvd with  $\sigma_n = 1$  gives  $A = PQ^T$ : **random orthogonal matrix from Haar distribution.**

**Jiang (2005)** shows that

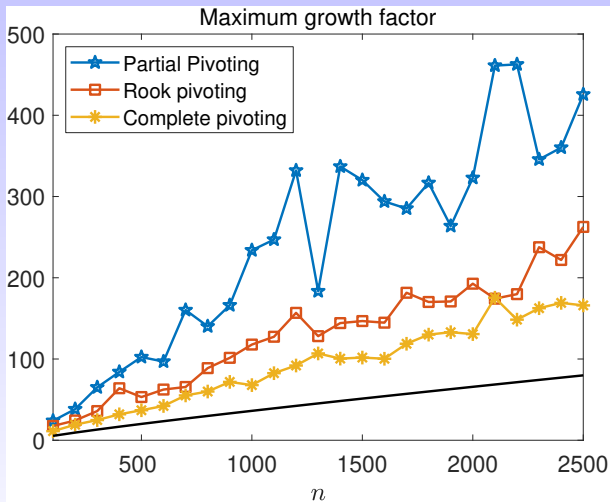
$$\Pr\left(\max_{i,j} |a_{ij}| > 2\sqrt{\frac{\log(n)}{n}}(1 + \epsilon)\right) \rightarrow 0$$

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  for any  $\epsilon > 0$ . Since  $A^{-1} = A^T$ , can take  $\alpha = \beta = 2\sqrt{\log(n)/n}$  in the theorem and conclude

$$\rho_n(\mathbf{A}) \gtrsim \frac{n}{4 \log n}$$

for large  $n$  with high probability for **any** pivoting strategy.

# Growth Factors for Random Orthogonal



# Proof of Large Growth for Randsvd

- The randsvd matrix is

$$A = PQ^T + (\sigma_n - 1)p_nq_n^T,$$

where  $p_n$  and  $q_n$  are the last columns of  $P$  and  $Q$ .

- If  $W$  is orthogonal and has large growth then a rank-1 perturbation of norm at most 1 *tends to preserve the large growth*.
- **Not particular** to  $W$  being Haar distributed.
- One approach is via **Sherman–Morrison formula**.

# Direct Approach

Let  $W$  be orthogonal and

$$A = W + xy^T.$$

The  $U$  factor of  $W$  is given explicitly by

$$u_{ij} = \frac{\det(W(1:i, [1:i-1, j]))}{\det(W_{i-1})}, \quad i \leq j,$$

where  $W_j = W(1:j, 1:j)$ . Find  $\tilde{U}$  factor of  $A$  satisfies

$$\frac{\tilde{u}_{ij}}{u_{ij}} = \frac{1 + y([1:i-1, j])^T W(1:i, [1:i-1, j])^{-1} x(1:i)}{1 + y(1:i-1)^T W_{i-1}^{-1} x(1:i-1)}.$$

# Effect of $O(n)$ Growth.

# Effect of $O(n)$ Growth.

- $n = 10^7$  for today's largest dense  $Ax = b$   
⇒ problems in single precision.
- For IEEE half precision and  $\max_{i,j} |a_{ij}| = 1$ , linear growth can cause overflow for  $n = 7 \times 10^4$ .
- For the previous example  $\theta = 0.1$  wont be enough.  
*(That's how these matrices were spotted.)*



# Numerical Experiments

# Numerical Experiments

- mode-2 `randsvd` matrix with  $\kappa_2(A) = 10^7$  and varying size.
- GMRES-IR and LU-IR are compared.
- (half,double,double) and (half, single, double) combinations are considered.
- `chop` by **[Higham, & P, 2019]** used for fp16 computation.

# Results

$n$	$\rho_n$	$\kappa_\infty(\widehat{U}^{-1}\widehat{L}^{-1}A)$	
		(H, D, D)	(S, D, D)
500	53.29	3.30e+10	2.32e+03
750	103.80	3.62e+10	3.33e+03
1000	90.27	9.07e+10	4.84e+03
1250	102.03	1.57e+11	1.72e+04
1500	178.48	1.23e+11	1.51e+04
1750	186.22	2.11e+11	3.31e+04
2000	321.61	2.50e+11	1.48e+04
2250	349.27	3.84e+11	3.28e+04
2500	188.25	3.97e+11	1.34e+05

# Results

$n$	(H, D, D)		(S, D, D)	
	LU-IR	GMRES-IR	LU-IR	GMRES-IR
500	–	3 (10)	12	3 (5)
750	–	3 (10)	–	3 (5)
1000	17	3 (13)	–	2 (4)
1250	–	4 (16)	16	3 (5)
1500	19	3 (12)	12	3 (5)
1750	–	3 (12)	19	3 (5)
2000	18	3 (12)	19	3 (5)
2250	–	2 (8)	–	3 (5)
2500	–	3 (13)	–	2 (4)

# Summary

New class of **random**, dense  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  (*randsvd mode 2*) for which

- $\rho_n \gtrsim n/(4 \log n)$  for large  $n$  with **any form of pivoting**,
- $\kappa_2(A)$  can be **arbitrarily chosen**.
- GMRES-IR performs well despite lower quality LU factors.

Have been part of MATLAB **gallery** for many years but their growth properties had not been recognized.

D. J. Higham, N. J. Higham, and S. Pranesh. **Random matrices generating large growth in LU factorization with pivoting**. SIMAX, 2021.