

# Linear Algebra Cheat Sheet

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## 1 Vector and Matrix

### Vectors

$$\vec{a} = \begin{bmatrix} A_x \\ A_y \\ A_z \end{bmatrix}, \vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} B_x \\ B_y \\ B_z \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Vector Addition: } \vec{a} + \vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} A_x + B_x \\ A_y + B_y \\ A_z + B_z \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Vector Scalar Multiplication: } c\vec{A} = \begin{bmatrix} cA_x \\ cA_y \\ cA_z \end{bmatrix}$$

Dot Product:  $\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = A_x \cdot B_x + A_y \cdot B_y + A_z \cdot B_z$  (Dot Product is a linear combination,  $\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = \vec{A}^\top \vec{B}$  in lecture 3)

$$\text{Length: } \|\vec{A}\| = \sqrt{A_x^2 + A_y^2 + A_z^2}$$

$$\text{Angle Between Two Vectors: } \theta = \arccos\left(\frac{\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B}}{\|\vec{A}\| \cdot \|\vec{B}\|}\right)$$

**Span** *by ChatGPT* The "span" of a set of vectors is the set of all possible linear combinations of those vectors. In other words, it's the space formed by stretching, shrinking, or combining the vectors using scalar multiplication and addition. Geometrically, the span of vectors in 2D or 3D space forms a plane or a subspace. In higher-dimensional spaces, it forms a hyperplane or a subspace.

**Matrix** Examples see <https://2prime.github.io/files/linear/matrixvector.pdf>

Matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  means  $m$  rows and  $n$  columns matrix.

Matrix  $A$  can be multiply with a vector  $v$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$

- **Row Representation**

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} r_1^\top \\ r_2^\top \\ \vdots \\ r_m^\top \end{bmatrix}, r_i \in \mathbb{R}^n, Av = \begin{bmatrix} r_1 \cdot v \\ r_2 \cdot v \\ \vdots \\ r_m \cdot v \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} r_1^\top v \\ r_2^\top v \\ \vdots \\ r_m^\top v \end{bmatrix}$$

- **Column Representation**

$$A = [\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n], \vec{v}_i \in \mathbb{R}^m, \vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \dots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} \quad A\vec{x} = \underbrace{x_1}_{\text{scalar}} \underbrace{\vec{v}_1}_{\text{vector}} + x_2 \vec{v}_2 + \dots + x_n \vec{v}_n$$

**Linear Systems** For a linear system

$$\begin{cases} a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n = b_1 \\ a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n = b_2 \\ \dots \\ a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + \dots + a_{mn}x_n = b_m \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

We can understand it as

- a linear combination problem: if vector  $\vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \dots \\ b_m \end{bmatrix}$  lies in the span of

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} \\ a_{21} \\ \dots \\ a_{m1} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} a_{12} \\ a_{22} \\ \dots \\ a_{m2} \end{bmatrix}, \dots, \begin{bmatrix} a_{1n} \\ a_{2n} \\ \dots \\ a_{mn} \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{column vectors of matrix } A}$$

- a matrix equation  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ ,  $\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \dots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$  ( $n$  unknown),  $\vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \dots \\ b_m \end{bmatrix}$  (right hand side of  $m$  equations)

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$$

Linear dependent and linear independent:

- $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n$  are linear **dependent** if there exists  $c_1, \dots, c_n$  which are not all zero such that  $c_1\vec{v}_1 + c_2\vec{v}_2 + \dots + c_n\vec{v}_n = \vec{0}$
- $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n$  are linear **independent** if only  $c_1 = c_2 = \dots = c_n = 0$  can make  $c_1\vec{v}_1 + c_2\vec{v}_2 + \dots + c_n\vec{v}_n = \vec{0}$

Linear system  $Ax = b$  (NOT Required! Only need to know what's the inverse and not all matrix have an inverse)

- $A$  don't have an inverse:
  - have solution if and only if  $b \in \text{span}\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n\}$  where  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n$  are column vectors of matrix  $A$
  - In this case  $A$  is not invertible, the linear system have 0 solutions or infinite solutions.
- have a unique solution if and only if matrix  $A$  have an inverse matrix  $A^{-1}$ . The unique solution is  $x = A^{-1}b$ . In this case, (*important*)  $A$  must be a square matrix and  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n$  are linear independent.

## 2 Matrix Operations

$A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $B \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k}$  then  $C = AB \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times k}$ .

$$AB = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{r}_1^\top \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \vec{r}_m^\top \end{bmatrix} [\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k] = \begin{bmatrix} \underbrace{\vec{r}_1^\top \vec{v}_1}_{\text{scalar}} & \vec{r}_1^\top \vec{v}_2 & \dots & \vec{r}_1^\top \vec{v}_k \\ \vec{r}_2^\top \vec{v}_1 & \vec{r}_2^\top \vec{v}_2 & \dots & \vec{r}_2^\top \vec{v}_k \\ \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ \vec{r}_m^\top \vec{v}_1 & \vec{r}_m^\top \vec{v}_2 & \dots & \vec{r}_m^\top \vec{v}_k \end{bmatrix} \quad (2)$$

- $(AB)C = A(BC)$ ,  $A(B + C) = AB + AC$ ,  $c(AB) = A(cB)$
- $AB \neq BA$
- $A[\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k] = [A\vec{v}_1, \dots, A\vec{v}_k]$
- $\begin{bmatrix} \vec{r}_1^\top \\ \vec{r}_2^\top \\ \dots \\ \vec{r}_k^\top \end{bmatrix} A = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{r}_1^\top A \\ \vec{r}_2^\top A \\ \dots \\ \vec{r}_k^\top A \end{bmatrix}$
- $AI_n = A$ ,  $I_m A = A$
- For a square matrix  $A$ ,  $AA^{-1} = A^{-1}A = I$
- $(AB)^\top = B^\top A^\top$
- *A upper triangular matrix times a upper triangular matrix is a upper triangular matrix. A Lower triangular matrix times a lower triangular matrix is a upper triangular matrix.*

### 3 Elimination

The Augmentation matrix of linear system  $Ax = b$  is  $[A|b]$ . Operations you can choose to simplify the system:

- Scalar multiply a row
- Replace row  $(j)$  by  $* \text{row}(i) + \text{row}(j)$ .
- switch two row

**First Way** Eliminate to **Upper Triangular Form** and then solve the upper triangular form.

**Second Way** (Easier to implement) These transformations provides equivalent systems.

**Solving the equation equivalent to transform augmented matrix  $[A|b]$  to  $[I|x]$** , we do it column by column

**Example:**

- Change the first column to  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

-2 means replace Row 2 by  $(-2) * \text{Row 1} + \text{Row 2}$

-20 means replace Row 3 by  $(-20) * \text{Row 1} + \text{Row 3}$

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 4 & 6 & 4 \\ 20 & 26 & 28 & 4 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{\begin{array}{l} \text{Row 2} \leftarrow \text{Row 2} - 2 \cdot \text{Row 1} \\ \text{Row 3} \leftarrow \text{Row 3} - 20 \cdot \text{Row 1} \end{array}} \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 & -2 \\ 0 & 6 & 8 & -56 \end{array} \right) \times \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\sim \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 6 & 8 & -56 \end{array} \right)$$

- Change the second column to  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  by using the second row as **pivot**

-1 means replace Row 1 by  $(-1) * \text{Row 2} + \text{Row 1}$

-6 means replace Row 3 by (-6) \* Row 2 + Row 3

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 6 & 8 & -56 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{\begin{array}{l} \text{Row 3} \leftarrow \text{Row 3} - 6 \times \text{Row 2} \\ \text{Row 1} \leftarrow \text{Row 1} - \text{Row 2} \end{array}} \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -1 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & -4 & -62 \end{array} \right)$$

- Change the third column to  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  by using the third row as **pivot**.

*do it by yourself*

**Elimination as Matrix Operation** We can write the operations to change equivalent linear system by  $[A|b] \rightarrow [E_{ji}A|E_{ji}b]$  and  $[P_{ij}A|P_{ij}b]$ .

- Elimination matrix  $E_{ji}$ : (be carefull about the index)
  - Replace row ( $j$ ) by  $\ast \times \text{row}(i) + \text{row}(j)$
  - Identity matrix except  $a_{ji} = \ast$
- Permutation matrix  $P_{ij}$ :
  - Swtich Row ( $i$ ) with Row ( $j$ )
  - Identity matrix except  $a_{ij} = a_{ji} = 1, a_{ii} = a_{jj} = 0$

### Solving Linear System

- The linear system have a single solution:  $n$  non-zero pivots
- The linear system have no solution: There exists a line is

$$[0, 0, 0 \cdots, 0|x]$$

where  $x \neq 0$

- The linear system have infinite solutions: **all** rows with  $0, 0, 0, \cdots, 0$ , the right hand side is also 0 (*i.e.*  $[0, 0, \cdots, 0|0]$ ).

### Matrix Inverse

- $AA^{-1} = A^{-1}A = I_n$
- ways to calculate the inverse matrix: change  $[A|I]$  to  $[I|A^{-1}]$
- $(AB)^{-1} = B^{-1}A^{-1}$

- The inverse of a upper triangular matrix is a upper triangular matrix.
- $(A^\top)^{-1} = (A^{-1})^\top$
- **Inverse of a elimination matrix:** change  $a_{ji}$  of  $E_{ji}$  to  $-a_{ji}$
- Inverse of a permutation matrix: its transpose
- $AB = AC$  doesn't mean  $B = C$ . ( $A, B, C$  are both matrices) This is true only when  $A$  is invertible

## 4 LU Decomposition

- **LU decomposition:**  $A = LU$ ,  $L$  is a lower triangular matrix,  $U$  is a upper triangular matrix
  - LU decomposition can be derived from eliminate a linear system to a upper triangular form.
  - We can represent eliminate process using eliminate matrix  $E_{ij}$ : Replace row  $(i)$  by  $*\text{row}(i) + \text{row}(j)$
  -

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \underbrace{E_{n,n-1}} & & \underbrace{E_{n,n-2}E_{n-1,n-2}} & & \cdots & & \\
 \text{eliminate column } n-1 \text{ using row } n-1 & \text{eliminate column } n-2 \text{ using row } n-2 & & & & & \\
 & & \underbrace{E_{n,1}E_{n-1,1} \cdots E_{2,1}} & & A = U & & \\
 & & \text{eliminate column 1 using row 1} & & & & 
 \end{array} \quad (3)$$

- $L^{-1} = (E_{n,n-1})(E_{n,n-2}E_{n-1,n-2}) \cdots (E_{n,1}E_{n-1,1} \cdots E_{2,1})$  is the elimination process and  $U$  is the upper triangular form
- **Example for  $3 \times 3$ :** <https://2prime.github.io/files/linear/LU.pdf>
- Using LU Decomposition to solve linear system  $Ax = b$ . We can change the equation to  $L \underbrace{Ux}_y = b$ 
  - \* Solve the lower triangular system  $Ly = b$  (one by one from top to bottom)
  - \* Solve the upper triangular system  $Ux = y$  (one by one from bottom to top)
- **LDU decomposition:**  $A = LDU$ ,  $L$  is a lower triangular matrix with all 1 diagonal elements,  $D$  is a diagonal matrix,  $U$  is a upper triangular matrix with all 1 diagonal elements
- **LDL decomposition** If  $A$  is symmetric,  $A = LDL^\top$

- $A$  is symmetric matrix means  $A = A^\top$  ( $a_{ij} = a_{ji}$ ,  $A$  is symmetric according to the diagonal)
- $A$  is symmetric then  $A^{-1}$  is symmetric
- $A^\top A$  and  $A A^\top$  are symmetric square matrix even if  $A$  is not square.

## 5 Vector Space

- Vector space  $V$  means if  $v_1, \dots, v_n \in V$  then **all** linear combination of them  $c_1 v_1 + \dots + c_n v_n \in V$  also lies in  $V$ . (This should hold for all  $c_1, \dots, c_n$ )

(checking VS1-VS8 only needed for problem set)

- $\{x | Ax = 0\}$  (Null space) is a vector space,  $\{x | Ax = b\}$  ( $b \neq 0$ ) is not a vector space
- a vector space is a line/plane/...(generalization of line and plane) that go through the origin

$\{x | \text{condition}\}$  means all the possible  $x$  satisfies the condition

- $\text{Col}(A) := \{Ax | x \in \mathbb{R}^n\} = \text{span}(\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n) \left( := \{x | c_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + c_n \vec{v}_n\} \right)$   
( $:=$  means definition) is a vector space

$\{Ax | x \in \mathbb{R}^n\}$  means  $\{b | b = Ax, x \in \mathbb{R}^n\}$ , i.e. all the possible  $b$  that can be represented as  $Ax$

Complete Solutions = Special Solution + element in the null space  
**Row Echelon Form**

- All nonzero rows are above any rows of all zeros.
- The leading entry of each nonzero row (**pivot**) occurs to the right of the pivot of the previous row.

Additional properties

- **free columns**  $\in \text{span}\{\text{pivot columns}\}$
- **pivot columns** are linear independent.

**Rank**

- Rank  $r$  is number of pivots means the true size of the matrix
- $r \leq m, r \leq n$
- Number of free Variables:  $n - r$
- **full row rank:**
  - $r = m$  means column space is  $\mathbb{R}^m$
  - all row columns are linear independent

– a linear system have **at least one** solution.

- **full column rank:**

–  $r = n$  means no free variable, which means null space is  $\{\vec{0}\}$ . So linear system have **at most one solution**

– column vectors are linear dependent (because they are all pivot columns)

- $m < n$  means  $r < n$  (because  $r \leq m$ ),  $n < m$  means  $r < n$  (because  $r \leq n$ )

*The four possibilities for linear equations depend on the rank  $r$ :*

$r = m$	and	$r = n$	<i>Square and invertible</i>	$Ax = b$	has 1 solution
$r = m$	and	$r < n$	<i>Short and wide</i>	$Ax = b$	has $\infty$ solutions
$r < m$	and	$r = n$	<i>Tall and thin</i>	$Ax = b$	has 0 or 1 solution
$r < m$	and	$r < n$	<i>Not full rank</i>	$Ax = b$	has 0 or $\infty$ solutions

**Basis:** A basis of a vector space is a set of vectors in the subspace that are linearly independent and span the entire vector space

**Dimension:** The dimension of a subspace is the number of vectors in every basis for the subspace

**Four Subspaces**

- elimination will not change the row space but will change the column space
- elimination will not change the null space
- $\dim(\text{Col}(A)) = \dim(\text{Row}(A)) = \dim(\text{Col}(A^\top)) = \dim(\text{Row}(A^\top)) = \text{rank}(A)$
- $\dim(\text{Nul}(A)) = n - \text{rank}(A)$ ,  $\dim(\text{Nul}(A^\top)) = m - \text{rank}(A)$
- $\text{rank}(A) = \text{rank}(A^\top)$
- **$\text{rank}(AB) \leq \text{rank}(A)$ ,  $\text{rank}(AB) \leq \text{rank}(B)$**

**How to calculate the four subspaces**

- **Row Space:** Reduce to REF and pivot rows are the basis
- **Column Space:**  $\text{Col}(A) = \text{Row}(A^\top)$
- **Null space** Reduce to REF and find the free variable. Use pivot rows to solve the pivot variables.



## 6 Important properties

- A upper triangular matrix times a upper triangular matrix is a upper triangular matrix. The inverse of a upper triangular matrix is a upper triangular matrix
- $A^T A$  and  $A A^T$  are symmetric square matrix even if  $A$  is not square.
- $\text{rank} = \text{number of variable} - \text{number of free variables}$
- Full row rank means the linear system at least have one solution. (and why?)
- Full column rank means the linear system at most have one solution. (and why?)
- $r < n$  ( $\text{rank} < \text{number of variables}$ ) then the linear system have 0 or infinite solutions. (and why?)
- $\dim(\text{Col}(A)) = \dim(\text{Row}(A)) = \dim(\text{Col}(A^T)) = \dim(\text{Row}(A^T)) = \text{rank}(A)$
- $\dim(\text{Nul}(A)) = n - \text{rank}(A), \dim(\text{Nul}(A^T)) = m - \text{rank}(A)$
- $A$  is invertible equals to  $A$  is a square matrix and  $A$  is full column/row rank.
- $\text{rank}(A) = \text{rank}(A^T)$
- $\text{rank}(AB) \leq \text{rank}(A), \text{rank}(AB) \leq \text{rank}(B)$