# Unit I: Ax = b and the Four Subspaces

## Session 1.1: The Geometry of Linear Equations

We have a system of equations:

$$\begin{cases} 2x - y = 0 \\ -x + 2y = 3 \end{cases}$$

## Row Picture

Line 2x - y = 0 and line -x + 2y = 0 intersects at the point (1, 2), so (1, 2) is the solution of the system of equations.

Maybe I should draw a X-Y coordinates here...

#### Column Picture

We rewrite the system of linear equations as a single equation:

$$x \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} + y \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

We see x and y as scalars of column vectors:  $\mathbf{v_1} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{v_2} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ , and the sum  $x\mathbf{v_1} + y\mathbf{v_2}$  is called a *linear combination* of  $\mathbf{v_1}$  and  $\mathbf{v_2}$ .

Geometrically, we can find one copy of  $v_1$  added to two copies of  $v_2$  just equals the vector  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ . Then the solution should be x=1,y=2.

I will add a figure when time is available  $> \_>$ 

#### **Matrx Picture**

We rewrite the equations in our example as a compact form,

$$Ax = b$$
,

that is

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Matrix Multiplication

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = 1 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} + 2 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

A matrix times by a vector is just a linear combination of the column vectors of the matrix.

## Session 1.2: An Overview of Key Ideas

## Vectors

Let us take linear combinations of vectors.

## Matrices

The product of a matrix and a vector is a combination of the columns of the matrix.

## Subspaces

All combinations of column vectors creates a subspace. The subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  are:

- the origin,
- a line through the origin,
- a plane through the origin,
- all of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

## Conclusion

- A is invertible
  - $\Leftrightarrow Ax = b$  has the unique solution x for each b
  - $\Leftrightarrow A \boldsymbol{x} = 0$  has no non-zero solution  $\boldsymbol{x}$
  - $\Leftrightarrow$  The columns of A are independent

 $\Leftrightarrow$  All vectors Ax cover the whole vector space

Example: 
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

• A is not invertible

 $\Leftrightarrow Ax = b$  has a solution x only for some of b in the vector space

 $\Leftrightarrow Ax = 0$  has non-zero solutions x

 $\Leftrightarrow$  The columns of A are dependent

 $\Leftrightarrow$  All vectors Ax lies in only a subspace of the vector space

Example: 
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Session 1.3 Elimination with Matrices

## Method of Elimination

We have an example Ax = b,

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 8 & 1 \\ 0 & 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \boldsymbol{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 12 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Steps of Elimination:

• Step 1: subtract 3 times row 1 from row 2;

• Step 2: subtract 2 times row 2 from row 3.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 8 & 1 \\ 0 & 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow U = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\boldsymbol{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 12 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \to \cdots \to \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \\ -10 \end{bmatrix}$$

Thus, we can easily solve the systems of equations,  $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$ .

#### **Elimination Matrices**

The product of a matrix (3x3) and a column vector (3x1) is a column vector (3x1) that is a linear combination of the columns of the matrix.

The product of a row vector (1x3) and a matrix (3x3) is a row vector (1x3) that is a linear combination of the rows of the matrix.

For example,

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -3 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 8 & 1 \\ 0 & 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Multiplying on the left by a permutation matrix exchanges the rows of a matrix, while multiplying on the right exchanges the columns. For example,

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

P is a *permutation matrix* and the first and second rows of the matrix PA are the second and first rows of the matrix A.

Note, matrix multiplication is associative but not commutative.

## **Inverses**

We have a matrix:

$$E_{21} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -3 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

which subtracts 3 times row 1 from row 2. To "**undo**" this operation we must add 3 times row 1 to row 2 using the inverse matrix:

$$E_{21}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

In fact,  $E_{21}^{-1}E_{21} = I$ .

## Session 1.4: : Multiplication and Inverse Matrices

## Four and a half ways we see matrix multiplication

We have AB = C. A is an  $m\ddot{O}n$  matrix and B is an  $n\ddot{O}p$  matrix, then C is an  $m\ddot{O}p$  matrix. We use  $c_{ij}$  to denote the entry in row i and column j of matrix C and the same denotion applys to  $a_{ij}$  and  $b_{ij}$ .

## 1. Row times colum

$$c_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^{n} a_{ik} b_{kj}$$

## 2. Columns

The product of matrix A and column j of matrix B equals column j of matrix C. This tells us that the columns of C are combinations of columns of A.

$$A \left[ \begin{array}{c|cccc} & & & & & & & & \\ column1 & column2 & column3 & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ \end{array} \right] = \left[ \begin{array}{c|cccc} & & & & & & \\ A(column1) & A(column2) & A(column3) \\ & & & & & \\ \end{array} \right]$$

## 3.Rows

The product of row i of matrix A and matrix B equals row i of matrix C. So the rows of C are combinations of rows of B.

$$\begin{bmatrix} --- & row1 & --- \\ --- & row2 & --- \\ --- & row3 & --- \end{bmatrix} B = \begin{bmatrix} --- & (row1)B & --- \\ --- & (row2)B & --- \\ --- & (row3)B & --- \end{bmatrix}$$

#### 4. Column times row

$$AB = \sum_{k=1} n \begin{bmatrix} a_{1k} \\ \vdots \\ a_{mk} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b_{k1} & \vdots & b_{kp} \end{bmatrix}$$

note: a typo in the MIT's lecture summary here:  $b_{kp}$ , not  $b_{kn}$ .

## 5. Blocks

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_1 & A_2 \\ A_3 & A_4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} B_1 & B_2 \\ B_3 & B_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A_1B_1 + A_2B_3 & A_1B_2 + A_2B_4 \\ A_3B_1 + A_4B_3 & A_3B_2 + A_4B_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Inverses

If A is singular or not invertible,

then A does not have an inverse,

and we can find some non-zero vector  $\boldsymbol{x}$  for which  $A\boldsymbol{x}=0$ 

# Gauss-Jordan Elimination

$$E \left[ A \mid I \right] = \left[ I \mid E \right]$$

 $E\left[\begin{array}{c|c}A\mid I\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{c|c}I\mid E\end{array}\right]$  If EA=I, then  $E=A^{-1}.$