

## ENG EK 103: Computational Linear Algebra: Problem set 3

**problem 1:** Some mini-drill exercises on using row reductions to solve  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  problems !

**Section A:** Suppose you were given these 3 systems:

| <u>System #1</u> | <u>System 2</u>  | <u>System 3</u>  |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| $x_1 + x_2 = 5$  | $x_1 + x_2 = 1$  | $x_1 - x_2 = -2$ |
| $x_1 - x_2 = 1$  | $x_1 - x_2 = 3$  | $x_1 + x_2 = 2$  |
|                  | $x_1 - 3x_2 = 5$ | $x_1 + 3x_2 = 0$ |

| Tasks | System  | System 2  | System 3  |
|-------|---|---|---|
| (a)   | Draw out the 2 lines on graph paper (or on a gridded page in your tablet's app)   | Same, but now you have to sketch out 3 lines...   | Same, but now you have to sketch out 3 lines...   |
| (b)   | Do you expect the system to have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A unique solution ?</li> <li>Infinite # of solutions?</li> <li>No solutions ??</li> </ul>  | Same  | Same  |
| (c)   | Write it in matrix form:<br>$A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  | Same  | Same  |
| (d)   | Rewrite it in augmented matrix form:<br>$[A \mid \mathbf{b}]$   | Same  | Same  |
| (e)   | Reduce the system down to its upper-triangle form $U\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{c}$ . Write out all row-reduction steps !!<br><br>In augmented matrix notation, this means we want to see these row reduction steps:<br><br>$[A \mid \mathbf{b}] \xrightarrow{\text{show work}} [U \mid \mathbf{c}]$ | Reduce the system down to its <b>REF form</b> $(REF)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{c}$ . Write out all row-reduction steps !!<br><br>In augmented matrix notation, this means we want to see these row reduction steps:<br><br>$[A \mid \mathbf{b}] \xrightarrow{\text{show work}} [REF \mid \mathbf{c}]$ | Reduce the system down to its <b>REF form</b> $(REF)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{c}$ . Write out all row-reduction steps !!<br><br>In augmented matrix notation, this means we want to see these row reduction steps:<br><br>$[A \mid \mathbf{b}] \xrightarrow{\text{show work}} [REF \mid \mathbf{c}]$ |
| (f)   | Using your results from $[U \mid \mathbf{c}]$ , solve for the solution vector $\mathbf{x}$  | Using your results from $[REF \mid \mathbf{c}]$ , solve for the solution vector $\mathbf{x}$ if you can. If not, explain why not.   | Using your results from $[REF \mid \mathbf{c}]$ , solve for the solution vector $\mathbf{x}$ if you can. If not, explain why not.   |

**Section B:** Suppose you were given these 3 systems:

System #4

$$x_1 + x_2 = 2$$

$$x_1 + x_2 = -1$$

System 5

$$x_1 + x_2 = 3$$

$$x_1 - x_2 = 3$$

$$x_1 - 7x_2 = 3$$

$$x_1 + 4x_2 = 3$$

System 6

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 = 4$$

$$-x_1 + x_2 - x_3 + x_4 + x_5 = 2$$

$$2x_1 + 2x_2 - x_4 + x_5 = 4$$

| Tasks | System 4  | System 5  | System 6                                    |
|-------|---|---|---|
| (a)   | Draw out the 2 lines on graph paper (or on a gridded page in your tablet's app)   | Same, but now you have to sketch out 4 lines... | ** <u>No need</u> to sketch this guy out =) |
| (b)   | Do you expect the system to have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A unique solution ?</li> <li>• Infinite # of solutions?</li> <li>• No solutions ??</li> </ul>  | Same  | Same  |
| (c)   | Reduce the system down to its full <b>RREF form</b> $R\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{d}$ . Write out all row-reduction steps !!<br><br>In augmented matrix notation, this means we want to see these row reduction steps:<br><br>$[A \mid \mathbf{b}] \xrightarrow{\text{show work}} [R \mid \mathbf{d}]$ | Same<br><br>(get it into RREF form)             | Same<br><br>(get it into RREF form)         |
| (d)   | Using matlab, check your answer for matrix $R$ using this command (no need to turn this in):<br><br>$\text{rref}(A)$  | Same<br><br>(no need to turn this in)           | Same<br><br>(no need to turn this in)       |
| (e)   | You can also check your answer for $[R \mid \mathbf{d}]$ using this command:<br><br>$\text{rref}([A \mid \mathbf{b}])$  | Same<br><br>(no need to turn this in)           | Same<br><br>(no need to turn this in)       |
| (f)   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Circle all pivots in your <math>R</math>-matrix</li> <li>• Identify all pivot columns and free columns of <math>R</math></li> </ul>  | Same  | Same  |
| (g)   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does your results for <math>[R \mid \mathbf{d}]</math> support what you claimed in Part (b) (where <math>\mathbf{x}</math> = unique, infinite, or no solutions) ? Justify your results in 2 – 3 sentences</li> </ul>                                   | Same  | Same  |

**problem 2:** When you have a unique solution for an  $Ax = b$  problem

Suppose you have this system of equations, where each equation represents a 2D plane residing in 3D space:

$$\begin{array}{rclcl} x_1 & + & x_2 & + & x_3 & = & 2 & (\text{Plane \#1}) \\ x_1 & - & 3x_2 & & & = & 1 & (\text{Plane \#2}) \\ -x_1 & + & 2x_2 & + & 6x_3 & = & 5 & (\text{Plane \#3}) \end{array}$$

Before you attempt this problem, let's think about the overall geometry:

- If these 3 planes intersect only at 1 single point in 3D space
- Then, we will have a **unique** (single) solution for our  $Ax = b$  problem, right ?? =)

Your job is to prove that this is the case, and then, you will prove it graphically by plotting them in matlab !!

(a) Rewrite the above in matrix form:  $Ax = b$ . Then, rewrite the system in augmented form, where it looks like this:

$$[A \mid b]$$

(b) Using row reductions (in augmented form), please reduce the system  $Ax = b$  down into an upper-triangle form, where the equation becomes  $Ux = c$ . When expressed in augmented matrix form, it looks like this:

$$[A \mid b] \xrightarrow{\text{row reductions}} [U \mid c]$$

where the upper-triangle matrix  $U$  should look something like this:

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} \blacksquare & \blacksquare & \blacksquare \\ 0 & \blacksquare & \blacksquare \\ 0 & 0 & \blacksquare \end{bmatrix}, \quad \blacksquare = \text{some numbers}$$

(c) Circle the pivots in your  $U$ -matrix

(d) Using your results for  $Ux = c$ , find the unique solution for  $Ax = b$ .

(e) Using matlab's `\` command, check to see if your complete solution for  $x$  was correct (you don't have to turn this in).



For EK 103: You should always use matlab to check your answers !!  
If you don't, you're literally throwing away points on your homeworks.... =\

It's time for some matlab!! Open up the file:

Problem2\_2Dplanes\_unique.m

Briefly scan through the code to see what it entails. You might find some of the plotting commands useful for your other classes, such as how to "auto-construct" legend strings using the `num2str()` command, plotting polygons in 3D space using the `patch` command, etc.

Then, run the code. It will generate Figure 1 below, where it will plot the 3 intersecting planes defined by our  $Ax = b$  equation. Now, hover your mouse cursor over the upper-right corner of the figure. Then, click on the "Rotate 3D" button to manually rotate the 3D plot.... and you should try to get a feel for the overall geometry of the problem.

Next, you will also notice a lone black dot. Your job is to move the black dot to the intersection of the 3 planes (the unique solution vector  $x$ ).

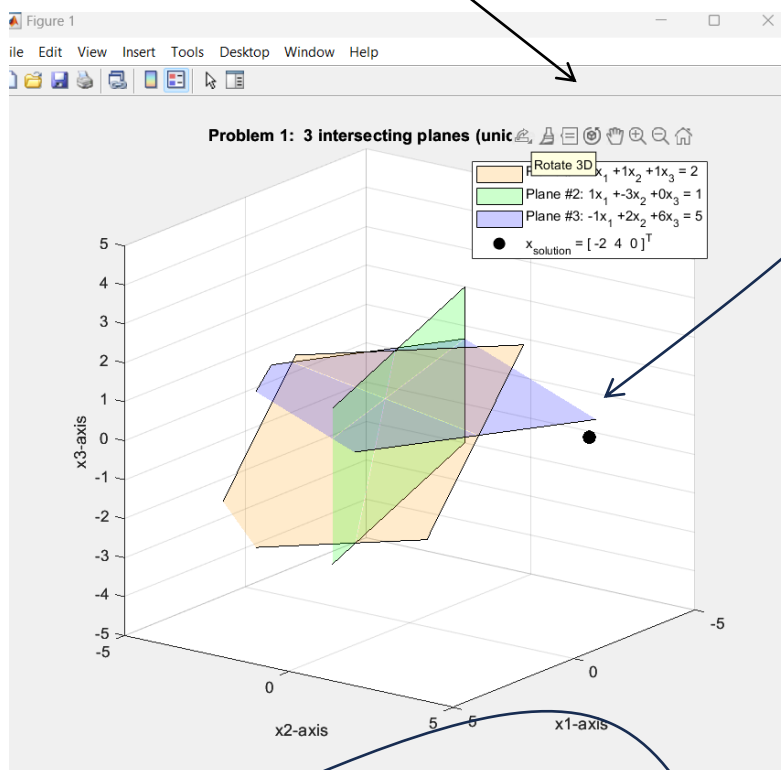


Figure 1: You will edit the matlab code to move the black dot towards the correct solution location for  $x$

(f) Edit Line 159 of the code so that the solution vector  $x$  (the black dot) will be moved to the unique intersection of the 3 planes.

(g) Re-run your code, rotate the 3D figure again, and make sure the plot makes sense geometrically (ie. The black dot should be at the intersection of the 3 planes !!). Then, **publish your code** into a PDF, and combine it with your handwritten work.

```

148 %%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%
149 %
150 % Task #2: Plot the solution vector x (the answer) as a
151 % big black dot
152 %
153 % ** You will have to change the "my_x" vector to have it
154 % plotted correctly !!
155 %
156 %%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%
157
158 % -- Define solution vector
159 x_solution = [-2 4 0]'; % <--- you need to change this !!
160
161
162 % -- Plot it as a black dot using the "plot3" command:
163
164 x_solution_plothandle = plot3( x_solution(1), x_solution(2), x_solution(3), '.');
165 set(x_solution_plothandle, 'Color', 'black', 'Markersize', 30);
166

```

**problem 3:** When you have an infinite # of solutions for an  $Ax = b$  problem (and practice with RREF)

Suppose you have this system of equations, where each equation represents a 2D plane residing in 3D space:

$$2x_1 - x_2 + x_3 = 2 \quad (\text{Plane \#1})$$

$$x_1 + x_2 - 2x_3 = 0 \quad (\text{Plane \#2})$$

Before you attempt this problem, let's think about the overall geometry:

- Can these 2 planes intersect only at 1 point in 3D space? Probably not, right ??..... = \ (unique solution is not possible for  $x$ ). We can also see this from another perspective: We have 3 unknowns  $x_1$ ,  $x_2$ , and  $x_3$  in our system, but we only have 2 equations to work with.
- Can these 2 planes not intersect each other at all? Possibly !! (no solutions for  $x$ )
- Can these 2 planes intersect at an infinite # of points? Possibly !! (infinite # of solutions for  $x$ )

Your job is to prove that we have an infinite # of solutions for  $x$ , and then, you will prove it graphically by plotting them in matlab !!

(a) Rewrite the above in matrix form:  $Ax = b$ . Then, rewrite the system in augmented form, where it looks like this:

$$[A \mid b]$$

(b) Using row reductions (in augmented form), please reduce the system  $Ax = b$  down into its reduced row-echelon (RREF) equivalent  $Rx = d$ . When expressed in augmented matrix form, this means:

$$[A \mid b] \xrightarrow{\text{row reductions}} [R \mid d]$$

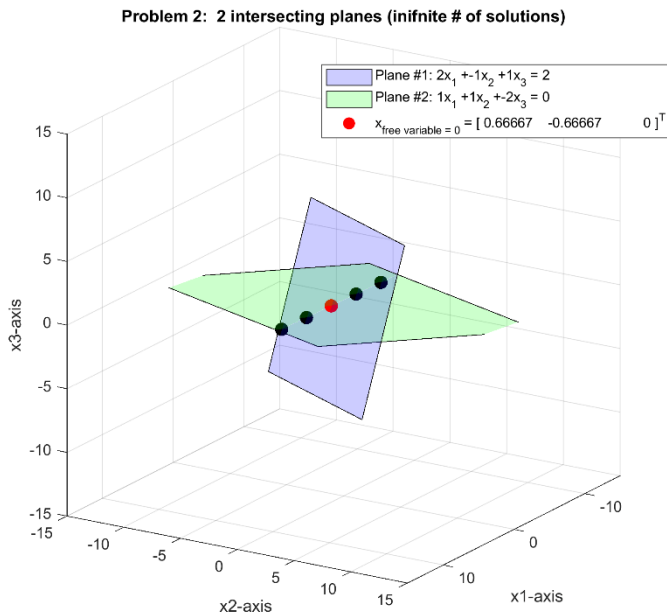
(c) Using matlab's *rref* command, check your handwritten answers (you don't have to turn this in). Type in this command to check for the values of  $[R \mid d]$ :

`rref( [A b] )`

Very useful command for all of your future homeworks !!

(d) Circle the pivots in your  $R$ -matrix, and indicate the locations of the "free columns," if they exist.

(e) Using your results for  $R\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{d}$ , give an 1 - 2 sentence explanation on why you think this system does indeed have an infinite number of solutions.



Now, let's visualize this system !! Open up the file:

`Problem3_2Dplanes_infinite.m`

Run the code, and you will see the 2 intersecting planes. You will also see 1 red dot and 4 black dots (see the attached figure to the left).

Manually-rotate the figure around to get a feel for the geometry at hand, and then, try to answer the following questions:

**\*\* You don't need to turn in any matlab publish files for Problem 3 !! This file is only for your viewing pleasure =)**



(f) In the context of our  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  problem what do you think those red and black dots represent? Explain your answer in 1 or 2 sentences.

(g) In the legend, you see that the red dot currently has the label:

$$\mathbf{x}_{\text{solution}} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2/3 \\ -2/3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Multiply this  $\mathbf{x}$  by matrix  $A$  on paper, and manually show that:

$$A \mathbf{x}_{\text{solution}} = \mathbf{b}$$

(ie. You have now proven that the red dot is one of many valid solutions for our  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  problem !! =)

**problem 4:** When you have no solutions for an  $Ax = b$  problem (and see how REF / RREF works)

Suppose you have this system of equations, where each equation represents a 2D plane residing in 3D space:

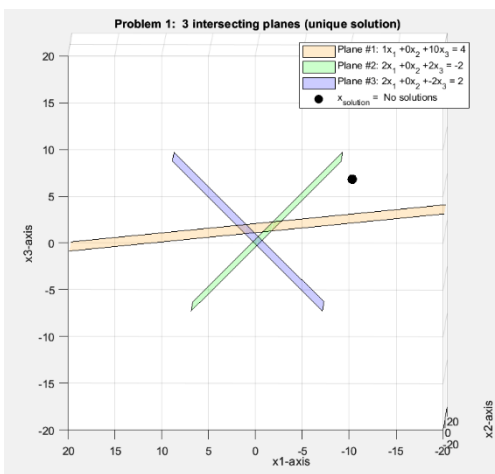
$$x_1 + 10x_3 = 4 \quad (\text{Plane \#1})$$

$$2x_1 + 2x_3 = -2 \quad (\text{Plane \#2})$$

$$2x_1 - 2x_3 = 2 \quad (\text{Plane \#3})$$

To begin with, run the code:

Problem4\_2Dplanes\_no\_intersection.m



You will see that that these 3 planes will not intersect each other at a single, common point in 3D space. This means our  $Ax = b$  problem will have no solutions.

Your job is: Mathematically prove that  $Ax = b$  has no solutions !! =)

**\*\* You don't need to turn in any matlab publish files for Problem 4 !!**  
This file is only for your viewing pleasure =)



(a) Rewrite the above in matrix form:  $Ax = b$ . Then, rewrite the system in augmented form, where it looks like this:

$$[A \mid b]$$

(b) Using row reductions (in augmented form), please reduce the system  $Ax = b$  down into an REF (not RREF), where the equation becomes (REF)  $x = c$ . When expressed in augmented matrix form, it looks like this:

$$[A \mid b] \xrightarrow{\text{row reductions}} [REF \mid c]$$

*Hint:* Since we expect no solutions for this problem, you will not be able to get matrix  $A$  into a pure upper-triangle form  $U$  because the last row will be all zeros. Instead, you will have to settle with REF on the left side of the augmented matrix.

$$[REF \mid c] = \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} \blacksquare & \blacksquare & \blacksquare & \blacksquare \\ 0 & \blacksquare & \blacksquare & \blacksquare \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \blacksquare \end{array} \right], \quad \blacksquare = \text{some numbers}$$

(c) In 2 or 3 sentences, explain why your answer for  $\begin{bmatrix} REF & | & c \end{bmatrix}$  suggests that there are no solutions for our  $Ax = b$  problem.

(d) You can also verify this using matlab. Type in the command:

```
rref( [A b] )
```

Write the answer down on paper.

(e) In 2 or 3 sentences, explain why the results from `rref( [A b] )` suggests that there are no solutions to our  $Ax = b$  problem.