

Linear systems

Last time we saw that every homogeneous system with more variables than equations has infinitely many solutions

Example The system

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 0$$

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 1$$

is inconsistent

Result Every nonhomogeneous system with more variables than equations either has no solution or has infinitely many solutions

Consider

$$a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n = 0$$

$$a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n = 0$$

\vdots

$$a_{n1}x_1 + a_{n2}x_2 + \dots + a_{nn}x_n = 0$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{square matrix}$$

$a_{11}, a_{22}, \dots, a_{nn}$ form the principal diagonal of A

An identity matrix, denoted by I , is a square matrix that has ones on its principal diagonal and zero elsewhere

Example $I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, I_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

Example solve

$$x_1 + x_2 = 0$$

$$x_1 + 2x_2 + x_3 = 0$$

$$x_2 + 3x_3 = 0$$

The augmented matrix of the system is

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{[-1/R_1 + R_2]}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{[-1/R_2 + R_3]} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\xrightarrow{(\frac{1}{2})R_3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{[-1/R_2 + R_1]} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\xrightarrow{[(1)R_3 + R_1]} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{[-1/R_3 + R_2]}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ reduced echelon}$$

$$x_1 = 0$$

$$x_2 = 0$$

$$x_3 = 0$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \text{ is row}$$

$$\text{equivalent to } \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = I$$

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Theorem Let A be an $n \times n$

matrix. Then the homogeneous

system with coefficient matrix A

has only the trivial solution if

and only if A is row equivalent

to the $n \times n$ identity matrix

Exercise Determine For what values of k the system

$$3x_1 + 2x_2 = 1$$

$$6x_1 + 4x_2 = k$$

has (a) a unique solution
(b) no solution
(c) infinitely many solutions

Solution The augmented matrix of the system is

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & 1 \\ 6 & 4 & k \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{(-2)R_1 + R_2} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & k-2 \end{bmatrix}$$

There are 2 cases:

(1) $k \neq 2$ Then $k-2 \neq 0$ and therefore the system is inconsistent

(2) $k = 2$. Then

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & 1 \\ 6 & 4 & k \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{(-2)R_1 + R_2} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

x_1 is the leading variable and x_2 is a free variable

$$x_2 = 5$$

$$x_1 = \frac{1}{3} - \frac{25}{3}$$

In this case the system has infinitely many solutions

Note that the system does not have unique solution for any k

Matrix Operations

- (1) write a linear system of m equations with n unknowns in the form $A \cdot X = b$
(2) solve $A \cdot X = b$ by using the inverse A^{-1} (here $m=n$).

Recall that an $m \times n$ matrix is a rectangular array of the form

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix}$$

Shorthand notation $A = [a_{ij}]$

IF $m=n$, then $A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$

is a square matrix and $a_{11}, a_{22}, \dots, a_{nn}$ form the principal diagonal of A

Example $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$ • square

Definition Two $m \times n$ matrices $A = [a_{ij}]$ and $B = [b_{ij}]$ are equal IF they agree entry by entry, namely $a_{ij} = b_{ij}$ for $1 \leq i \leq m$ and $1 \leq j \leq n$. In this case we write $A = B$

Example $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 5 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$, $B = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 5 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$,

$C = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 & 7 \\ 5 & 6 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$. (clearly $A \neq B$ and also $A \neq C$)

Definition Let $A = [a_{ij}]$ and $B = [b_{ij}]$ be two $m \times n$ matrices. Then the sum $A + B$ is the matrix

$$A + B = [a_{ij} + b_{ij}]$$

Example $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & -1 \\ 2 & -7 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$,

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -3 & 6 \\ 9 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A + B = \begin{bmatrix} 7 & -3 & 5 \\ 11 & -7 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Definition If $A = [a_{ij}]$ is a matrix and c is a number, then $cA = [ca_{ij}]$

$$(-1)A = -A, \quad A + (-B) = A - B$$

Example $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & -1 \\ 2 & -7 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$

$$2A = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 0 & -2 \\ 4 & -14 & 10 \end{bmatrix}, \quad -A = \begin{bmatrix} -3 & 0 & 1 \\ -2 & 7 & -5 \end{bmatrix}$$

Definition A column vector (or vector) is an $n \times 1$ matrix of the form

$$a = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Alternative notation $a = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_n \end{bmatrix} = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$

Definition A row vector is a $1 \times n$ matrix of the form $a = [a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n]$

Definition Let $a = [a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n]$ be a row vector and $b = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_n \end{bmatrix}$ be a column vector (both of them have n elements)

The product

$$ab = a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2 + \dots + a_n b_n$$

Example

$$a = [3 \ 0 \ -1 \ 7]$$

$$b = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 2 \\ -3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$a \cdot b = 3 \cdot 5 + 0 \cdot 2 + (-1)(-3) + 7 \cdot 4 = 46$$

Definition

Let $A = [a_{ij}]$ be an $m \times n$ matrix and $B = [b_{ij}]$ be an $n \times r$ matrix. The product of A and B , denoted $A \cdot B$, is the $m \times r$ matrix $C = [c_{ij}]$ defined by

$$c_{ij} = a_{i1}b_{1j} + a_{i2}b_{2j} + \dots + a_{in}b_{nj} = \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik}b_{kj}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m, \quad 1 \leq j \leq r$$

i -row

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{i1} & a_{i2} & \dots & a_{in} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b_{11} & \dots & b_{1j} & \dots & b_{1r} \\ b_{21} & \dots & b_{2j} & \dots & b_{2r} \\ \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ b_{n1} & \dots & b_{nj} & \dots & b_{nr} \end{bmatrix}$$

j -column

$$c_j = [a_{1j} \ a_{2j} \ \dots \ a_{nj}] \begin{bmatrix} b_{1j} \\ b_{2j} \\ \vdots \\ b_{nj} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{matrix} A & B & = & A \cdot B \\ m \times n & n \times r & & m \times r \end{matrix}$$

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Remark let $A = [a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n]$ where

$a_i = \begin{bmatrix} a_{1i} \\ a_{2i} \\ \vdots \\ a_{mi} \end{bmatrix}$ is the i^{th} column of A

Then $A \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{bmatrix} = v_1 a_1 + v_2 a_2 + \dots + v_n a_n$

Example $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 \end{bmatrix} \quad 2 \times 4$

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \\ 10 & 11 & 12 \end{bmatrix} \quad 4 \times 3$$

$$AB = \begin{bmatrix} 70 & 80 & 90 \\ 158 & 184 & 210 \end{bmatrix}$$

Remark In general $AB \neq BA$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$AB = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$BA = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \neq AB$$

A zero matrix, denoted by O , is a matrix whose entries are all 0

Example $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Theorem Let A, B and C be matrices of appropriate sizes to make the indicated operations possible and a, b be real numbers. Then

(1) $A + B = B + A$

(2) $A + (B + C) = (A + B) + C$

(3) $A + O = O + A = A$

(4) $a(A + B) = aA + aB$

(5) $(a + b)A = aA + bA$

(6) $a(bA) = (ab)A$

(7) $A(BC) = (AB)C$

(8) $A(B + C) = AB + AC$

(9) $(A + B)C = AC + BC$

(10) $AO = OA = O$

Proof (8) $A = [a_{ij}]_{m \times n}$

$$B = [b_{ij}]_{n \times r}, C = [c_{ij}]_{n \times r}$$

$$B + C = [b_{ij} + c_{ij}]$$

The j^{th} element of $A(B+C)$ is

$$\sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik} (b_{kj} + c_{kj}) = \sum_{k=1}^n (a_{ik} b_{kj} + a_{ik} c_{kj})$$

The j^{th} element of $AB + AC$ is

$$\sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik} b_{kj} + \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik} c_{kj} = \sum_{k=1}^n (a_{ik} b_{kj} + a_{ik} c_{kj})$$

Fact If A is square matrix, then

$$AI = IA = A$$

Example

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ -1 & 7 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$AI = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ -1 & 7 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ -1 & 7 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$IA = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ -1 & 7 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ -1 & 7 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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Consider the linear system

$$\begin{aligned}a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n &= b_1 \\a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n &= b_2 \\&\vdots \\a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + \dots + a_{mn}x_n &= b_m\end{aligned}$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix}, \quad X = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix},$$

$$b = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_m \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned}AX &= \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} \\&= \begin{bmatrix} a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n \\ a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n \\ \vdots \\ a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + \dots + a_{mn}x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_m \end{bmatrix} = b\end{aligned}$$

So the system can be written in the form $AX = b$

A solution of this system is a vector $X = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$

such that $AX = b$

we call x an n -vector

Example The system

$$3x_1 - 4x_2 + x_3 + 7x_4 = 10$$

$$4x_1 - 5x_3 + 2x_4 = 0$$

$$x_1 + 9x_2 + 2x_3 - 6x_4 = 5$$

is equivalent to

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & -4 & 1 & 7 \\ 4 & 0 & -5 & 2 \\ 1 & 9 & 2 & -6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 0 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$