



Row and Column pictures

A geometric view of 2D and 3D systems of equations

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Bachelor's Degree in Video Game Design
and Development



- 1 Understanding linear systems of equations: 2D case
- 2 Understanding linear systems of equations: 3D case



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- 2 Understanding linear systems of equations: 3D case



Returning to linear equations

Understanding 2D LSE

Solving a linear system of equations $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$ means that \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{b} are known, so we might be focusing on finding \mathbf{x} . However, since the 2D and 3D systems of equations will be arising too often and they admit graphic representation, it is interesting to give those linear systems a geometric meaning.

Row picture
Understanding 2D LSE

$$\left. \begin{aligned} a_{11}x + a_{12}y &= b_1 \\ a_{21}x + a_{22}y &= b_2 \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (1)$$

Each equation in Eq. (1) represents a line in a plane and we are looking for the points that both lines have in common.

In the plane there are 3 possible solutions:

- Both lines are the same, and therefore the solution is achieved for all $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$
- Both lines are parallel and don't share any point. Therefore it does not exist the solution that we want
- The common case, both lines intersect on a unique point which is the solution.



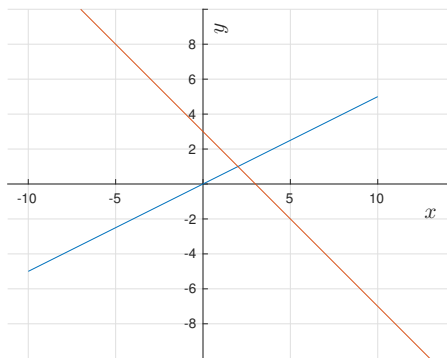
Example

Understanding 2D LSE

$$\left. \begin{aligned} x - 2y &= 0 \\ x + y &= 3 \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (2)$$

Line 1:

x	y
0	0
2	1



Line 2:

x	y
0	3
3	0



Column picture

Understanding 2D LSE

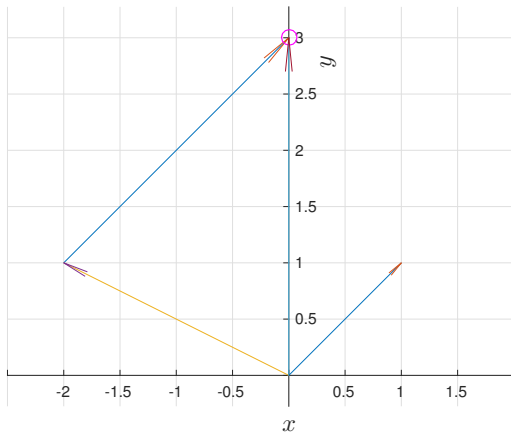
The column picture is based on the vector representation. The past system in Eq. (2) can be then written as:

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

So our purpose now is to find the scalars x and y such that the sum of the result vectors gives the right hand side term.

Example
Understanding 2D LSE

By selecting $x = 2$ and $y = 1$





- 1 Understanding linear systems of equations: 2D case
- 2 Understanding linear systems of equations: 3D case



Row picture

Understanding 3D LSE

In the 3D case we are dealing with linear systems of equations of the form:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} a_{11}x + a_{12}y + a_{13}z &= b_1 \\ a_{21}x + a_{22}y + a_{23}z &= b_2 \\ a_{31}x + a_{32}y + a_{33}z &= b_3 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

Now we are seeking for the points x, y, z contained on the past three equations. **And every linear equation in 3D represents a plane**

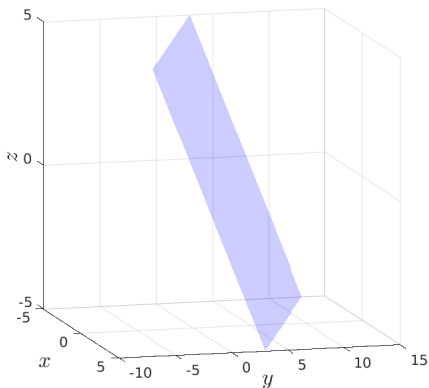
- Infinite solutions
 - The intersection between three planes is a plane or a line
- No solutions
 - The planes do not intersect or they intersect one-to-one
- The general case. The planes intersection results in one point



Example

Understanding 3D LSE

$$\left. \begin{aligned} x + y + z &= 3 \\ x - y &= 0 \\ x + z &= 1 \end{aligned} \right\}$$



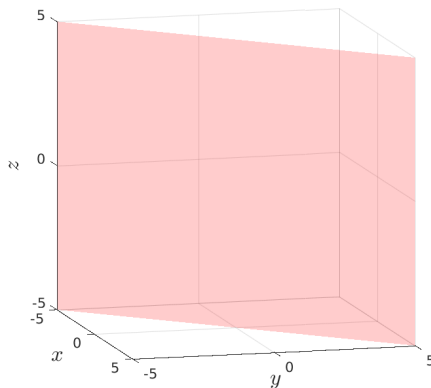
Plane $x + y + z = 3$



Example

Understanding 3D LSE

$$\left. \begin{aligned} x + y + z &= 3 \\ x - y &= 0 \\ x + z &= 1 \end{aligned} \right\}$$



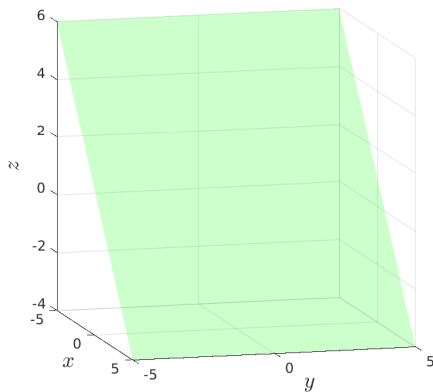
Plane $x - y = 0$



Example

Understanding 3D LSE

$$\left. \begin{aligned} x + y + z &= 3 \\ x - y &= 0 \\ x + z &= 1 \end{aligned} \right\}$$



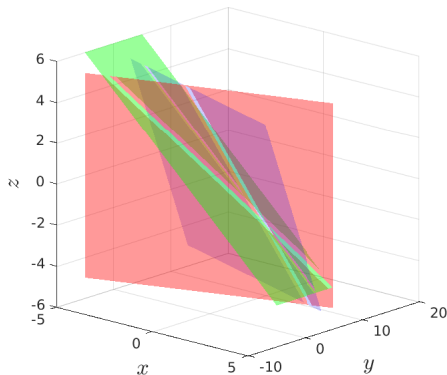
Plane $x + z = 1$



Example

Understanding 3D LSE

$$\left. \begin{aligned} x + y + z &= 3 \\ x - y &= 0 \\ x + z &= 1 \end{aligned} \right\}$$



The three planes intersect at point:

$$x = 2, y = 2, z = -1$$



Column picture

Understanding 3D LSE

The column picture by contrast wants to find the scalars x , y and z that fulfill the equation

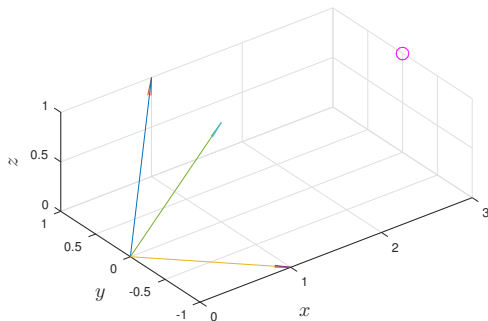
$$x \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + y \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + z \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



Example

Understanding 3D LSE

$$x \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + y \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + z \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$





Example

Understanding 3D LSE

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

