
Systems of Linear Equations and Row Reduction

1. For each augmented matrix, find all solutions to the system of linear equations that it represents.

$$(a) \quad \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -7 \end{array} \right] \quad (b) \quad \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -7 \end{array} \right] \quad (c) \quad \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 3 & 6 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 9 \end{array} \right]$$

2. Use row reduction to find solutions to each of the following systems of linear equations.

$$(a) \quad \begin{array}{rrcr} 3x_1 & + & 6x_2 & + & 3x_3 & = & -3 \\ 5x_1 & - & 3x_2 & + & 18x_3 & = & 8 \\ 7x_1 & + & 2x_2 & + & 19x_3 & = & 5 \end{array} \quad (b) \quad \begin{array}{rrcr} x_1 & + & 2x_2 & = & 3 \\ 3x_1 & - & 6x_2 & = & 9 \\ x_1 & + & x_2 & = & 10 \end{array}$$

3. For what values of h is the following system consistent?

$$\begin{array}{rrcr} x_1 & + & hx_2 & = & 1 \\ & & 2x_2 & = & 2 \\ 3x_1 & - & x_3 & = & 3 \end{array}$$

4. When doing row reduction, we are allowed to perform three types of operations: multiply any row by a nonzero scalar, swap two rows, and add a multiple of one row to another. In the first operation, why did we have to specify that the scalar is nonzero?
5. How many solutions does a system of linear equations have if the coefficient matrix in REF has:

- (a) A pivot in every row?
- (b) A pivot in every column?
- (c) A free variable (i.e. a column with no pivot)?
- (d) More columns than rows?
- (e) More rows than columns?

6. For what values of c are the following augmented matrices consistent?

$$(a) \quad \left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 2 & 0 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & c \end{array} \right] \quad (b) \quad \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ c & 3 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$