

# Math136 - January 27'th, 2016

## Rank, Solution Theorem, Matrices

### Rank of a Matrix

Suppose  $A$  is a matrix with RREF  $R$ . The **rank** of  $A$  is the number of leading ones in  $R$ .

### Theorem 2.2.4

If  $A$  is a  $m \times n$  matrix, then  $\text{Rank } A \leq \min(m, n)$ .

### Theorem 2.2.5

Let  $A$  be the coefficient matrix of a system of  $m$  linear equations in  $n$  unknowns with augmented matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} A & | & \vec{b} \end{bmatrix}$ .

1. If the rank of  $A$  is less than the rank of the augmented matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} A & | & \vec{b} \end{bmatrix}$ , then the system is inconsistent.
2. If the system  $\begin{bmatrix} A & | & \vec{b} \end{bmatrix}$  is consistent, then the system contains  $(n - \text{rank } A)$  free variables.
3.  $\text{Rank } A = m$  iff the system is consistent for every  $\vec{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ .

This is the **System-Rank Theorem**

Note: Suppose that  $A$  is the coefficient matrix of a system of equations with augmented matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} A & | & \vec{b} \end{bmatrix}$ . Then if  $A$  has RREF  $R$ , then  $\begin{bmatrix} A & | & \vec{b} \end{bmatrix}$  will have RREF  $\begin{bmatrix} R & | & \vec{r} \end{bmatrix}$  for some  $\vec{r}$ .

### Theorem 2.2.6

Let  $\begin{bmatrix} A & | & \vec{b} \end{bmatrix}$  be a consistent system of  $m$  linear equations in  $n$  variables with RREF  $\begin{bmatrix} R & | & \vec{b} \end{bmatrix}$ . If  $\text{rank } A = k < n$ , then a vector equation of the solution set of  $\begin{bmatrix} A & | & \vec{b} \end{bmatrix}$  has the form  $\vec{x} = \vec{d} + t_1 \vec{v}_1 + \cdots + t_{n-k} \vec{v}_{n-k}$ ,  $t_1, \dots, t_{n-k} \in \mathbb{R}$  where  $\vec{d} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_{n-k}\}$  is a linearly independent set of vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . So the solution set is an  $(n - k)$ -flat in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

A system of linear equations is **homogeneous** if the right hand side is zero. The set of solutions to a homogeneous system is the solution space.

Note: A homogeneous system is always consistent since we get a solution by setting all vars = 0.

### Matrices

A  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$  is a rectangular array with  $m$  rows and  $n$  columns. We denote the entry in the  $i$ th row and  $j$ th column by  $a_{ij}$ , that is:

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

### Addition and Scalar Multiplication

Let  $A, B \in M_{m \times n}(\mathbb{R})$  and  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ . We define  $A + B$  and  $cA$  as:

$$(A + B)_{ij} = A_{ij} + B_{ij}$$

$$(cA)_{ij} = c(A)_{ij}$$

### Theorem 3.1.1

The set of matrices in  $M_{m \times n}(\mathbb{R})$  satisfy the properties analogous to those in theorem 1.1.1.