

Review for Midterm 1

Selected Topics

Linear Equations

We have *four* equivalent ways of writing (and thinking about) linear systems:

1. As a system of equations:

$$2x_1 + 3x_2 = 7$$

$$x_1 - x_2 = 5$$

2. As an augmented matrix:

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 2 & 3 & 7 \\ 1 & -1 & 5 \end{array} \right)$$

3. As a vector equation ($x_1 v_1 + \cdots + x_n v_n = b$):

$$x_1 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + x_2 \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

4. As a matrix equation ($Ax = b$):

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

In particular, *all four have the same solution set.*

Number of Solutions

There are *three possibilities* for the reduced row echelon form of the augmented matrix of a linear system.

1. The last column is a pivot column.

There are *zero* solutions, i.e. the solution set is *empty*. In this case, the system is called **inconsistent**. Picture:

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right)$$

2. Every column except the last column is a pivot column.

In this case, the system has a *unique solution*. Picture:

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & \star \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \star \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \star \end{array} \right)$$

3. The last column is not a pivot column, and some other column isn't either.

In this case, the system has *infinitely many* solutions, corresponding to the infinitely many possible values of the free variable(s). Picture:

$$\left(\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & \star & 0 & \star & \star \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \star & \star \end{array} \right)$$

Span

The **span** of vectors v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n is the set of all linear combinations of these vectors:

$$\text{Span}\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\} = \{a_1 v_1 + a_2 v_2 + \dots + a_n v_n \mid a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \text{ in } \mathbf{R}\}.$$

Theorem

Let v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n , and b be vectors in \mathbf{R}^m , and let A be the $m \times n$ matrix with columns v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n . The following are equivalent:

either they're all true,
or they're all false, for
the given vectors

1. $Ax = b$ is consistent.
2. $(A \mid b)$ does not have a pivot in the last column.
3. b is in $\text{Span}\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ (the span of the columns of A).

In this case, a solution to the matrix equation

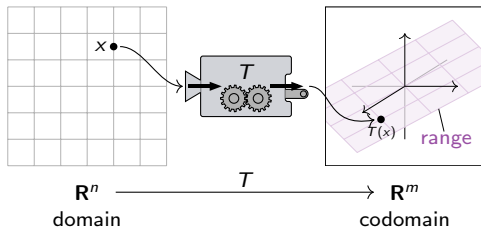
$$A \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} = b \quad \text{gives the linear combination} \quad x_1 v_1 + x_2 v_2 + \dots + x_n v_n = b.$$

Transformations

Definition

A **transformation** (or **function** or **map**) from \mathbf{R}^n to \mathbf{R}^m is a rule T that assigns to each vector x in \mathbf{R}^n a vector $T(x)$ in \mathbf{R}^m .

Picture and vocabulary words:



It is **one-to-one** if different vectors in the domain go to different vectors in the codomain: $x \neq y \implies T(x) \neq T(y)$.

It is **onto** if every vector in the codomain is $T(x)$ for some x . In other words, the range equals the codomain.

Linear Transformations

A transformation $T: \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^m$ is **linear** if it satisfies:

$$T(u + v) = T(u) + T(v) \quad \text{and} \quad T(cu) = cT(u)$$

for every u, v in \mathbf{R}^n and every c in \mathbf{R} .

Linear transformations are the same as matrix transformations.

Dictionary

Linear transformation $T: \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^m$ \rightsquigarrow $m \times n$ matrix $A = \begin{pmatrix} | & | & & | \\ T(e_1) & T(e_2) & \cdots & T(e_n) \\ | & | & & | \end{pmatrix}$

$T(x) = Ax$
 $T: \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^m$ \longleftarrow $m \times n$ matrix A

As always, e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n are the **unit coordinate vectors**

$$e_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad e_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \dots, \quad e_{n-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad e_n = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Linear Transformations and Matrices

Let A be an $m \times n$ matrix and let T be the linear transformation $T(x) = Ax$.

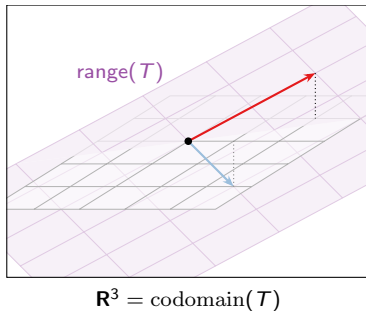
- ▶ The domain of T is \mathbf{R}^n . (Inputs are vectors with n entries.)
- ▶ The codomain of T is \mathbf{R}^m . (Outputs are vectors with m entries.)
- ▶ The range of T is span of the columns of A .
(This is the set of all b in \mathbf{R}^m such that $Ax = b$ has a solution.)

Example

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad T(x) = Ax$$

- ▶ The domain of T is \mathbf{R}^2 .
- ▶ The codomain of T is \mathbf{R}^3 .
- ▶ The range of T is

$$\text{Span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}.$$



When the Span is Everything

Theorem

Let A be an $m \times n$ matrix, and let $T: \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^m$ be the linear transformation $T(x) = Ax$. The following are equivalent:

1. T is onto.
2. $T(x) = b$ has a solution for every b in \mathbf{R}^m .
3. $Ax = b$ is consistent for every b in \mathbf{R}^m .
4. The columns of A span \mathbf{R}^m .
5. A has a pivot in each row.

Moral: If A has a pivot in each row then its reduced row echelon form looks like this:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \color{red}{1} & 0 & \star & 0 & \star \\ 0 & \color{red}{1} & \star & 0 & \star \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \color{red}{1} & \star \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and } (A \mid b) \quad \begin{pmatrix} \color{red}{1} & 0 & \star & 0 & \star & \mid & \star \\ 0 & \color{red}{1} & \star & 0 & \star & \mid & \star \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \color{red}{1} & \star & \mid & \star \end{pmatrix}.$$

reduces to this:

There's no b that makes it inconsistent, so there's always a solution.

Refer: slides for §1.4 and §1.9.

Linear Independence

A set of vectors $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ is **linearly independent** if

$$a_1 v_1 + a_2 v_2 + \dots + a_n v_n = 0 \quad \text{only when} \quad a_1 = a_2 = \dots = a_n = 0.$$

Otherwise they are **linearly dependent**, and an equation

$a_1 v_1 + a_2 v_2 + \dots + a_n v_n = 0$ with some $a_i \neq 0$ is a **linear dependence relation**.

Theorem

Let v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n be vectors in \mathbf{R}^m , and let A be the $m \times n$ matrix with columns v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n . The following are equivalent:

1. The set $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ is linearly independent.
2. For every i between 1 and n , v_i is not in $\text{Span}\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{i-1}\}$.
3. $Ax = 0$ only has the trivial solution.
4. A has a pivot in every column.

If the vectors are linearly dependent, a nontrivial solution to the matrix equation

$$A \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} = 0 \quad \text{gives the linear} \quad x_1 v_1 + x_2 v_2 + \dots + x_n v_n = 0.$$

dependence relation

More Criteria for Linear Independence

Theorem

Let A be an $m \times n$ matrix, and let $T: \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^m$ be the linear transformation $T(x) = Ax$. The following are equivalent:

1. T is one-to-one.
2. $T(x) = b$ has one or zero solutions for every b in \mathbf{R}^m .
3. $Ax = b$ has a unique solution or is inconsistent for every b in \mathbf{R}^m .
4. $Ax = 0$ has a unique solution.
5. The columns of A are linearly independent.
6. A has a pivot in each *column*.

Moral: If A has a pivot in each column then its reduced row echelon form looks like this:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \color{red}{1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \color{red}{1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \color{red}{1} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and } (A \mid b) \text{ reduces to this: } \begin{pmatrix} \color{red}{1} & 0 & 0 & \mid & \star \\ 0 & \color{red}{1} & 0 & \mid & \star \\ 0 & 0 & \color{red}{1} & \mid & \star \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \mid & \star \end{pmatrix}.$$

This can be inconsistent, but if it is consistent, it has a unique solution.

Refer: slides for §1.4, §1.8, §1.9.

Parametric Form of Solution Sets

To find the solution set to $Ax = b$, first form the augmented matrix $(A | b)$, then row reduce.

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & 3 & 0 & 4 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -7 \end{array} \right)$$

This translates into

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + 3x_2 + x_4 &= 2 \\ x_3 - x_4 &= 3 \\ x_5 &= -7 \end{aligned}$$

The variables correspond to the non-augmented columns of the matrix.

The *free variables* correspond to the non-augmented columns *without pivots*.

Move the free variables to the other side, get the *parametric form*:

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= 2 - 3x_2 - x_4 \\ x_3 &= 3 + x_4 \\ x_5 &= -7 \end{aligned}$$

This is a solution for every value of x_2 and x_4 .

Parametric Vector Form of Solution Sets

Parametric form:

$$\begin{array}{rcll} x_1 & = & 2 - 3x_2 - x_4 & \\ x_3 & = & 3 + x_4 & \\ x_5 & = & -7 & \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{add free variables} \\ \text{~~~~~} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{rcl} x_1 & = & 2 - 3x_2 - x_4 \\ x_2 & = & x_2 \\ x_3 & = & 3 + x_4 \\ x_4 & = & x_4 \\ x_5 & = & -7 \end{array}$$

Now collect all of the equations into a vector equation:

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ -7 \end{pmatrix} + x_2 \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + x_4 \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

This is the **parametric vector form** of the solution set. This means that the

$$(\text{solution set}) = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ -7 \end{pmatrix} + \text{Span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\}.$$

Homogeneous and Non-Homogeneous Equations

The equation $Ax = b$ is called **homogeneous** if $b = 0$, and **non-homogeneous** otherwise. A homogeneous equation always has the **trivial solution** $x = 0$:

$$A0 = 0.$$

The solution set to a homogeneous equation is always a span:

$$(\text{solutions to } Ax = 0) = \text{Span}\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_r\}$$

where r is the number of free variables. The solution set to a consistent non-homogeneous equation is

$$(\text{solutions to } Ax = b) = p + \text{Span}\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_r\}$$

where p is a **specific solution** (i.e. some vector such that $Ap = b$), and $\text{Span}\{v_1, \dots, v_r\}$ is the solution set to the homogeneous equation $Ax = 0$. This is a *translate of a span*.

Both expressions can be read off from the parametric vector form.