

8. Linear equations

8.1. Linear and affine functions

Matrix-vector product function. Let's define an instance of the matrix-vector product function, and then numerically check that superposition holds.

```
In [ ]: A = np.array([[-0.1, 2.8, -1.6], [2.3, -0.6, -3.6]]) #2 by 3 matrix A
f = lambda x: A @ x
#Let's check superposition
x = np.array([1, 2, 3])
y = np.array([-3, -1, 2])
alpha = 0.5
beta = -1.6
LHS = f(alpha*x + beta*y)
print('LHS:', LHS)
RHS = alpha*f(x) + beta*f(y)
print('RHS:', RHS)
print(np.linalg.norm(LHS - RHS))

LHS: [ 9.47 16.75]
RHS: [ 9.47 16.75]
1.7763568394002505e-15
```

```
In [ ]: f(np.array([0, 1, 0])) #Should be second column of A

Out[ ]: array([ 2.8, -0.6])
```

De-meaning matrix. Let's create a de-meaning matrix, and check that it works on a vector.

```
In [ ]: de_mean = lambda n: np.identity(n) - (1/n)
x = np.array([0.2, 2.3, 1.0])
de_mean(len(x)) @ x #De-mean using matrix multiplication

Out[ ]: array([-0.96666667,  1.13333333, -0.16666667])
```

```
In [ ]: x - sum(x)/len(x)
```

```
Out[ ]: array([-0.96666667,  1.13333333, -0.16666667])
```

Examples of functions that are not linear. The componentwise absolute value and the sort function are examples of nonlinear functions. These functions are easily computed by `abs` and `sorted`. By default, the `sorted` function sorts in increasing order, but this can be changed by adding an optional keyword argument.

```
In [ ]: f = lambda x: abs(x) #componentwise absolute value
x = np.array([1,0])
y = np.array([0,1])
alpha = -1
beta = 2
f(alpha*x + beta*y)
```

```
Out[ ]: array([1, 2])
```

```
In [ ]: alpha*f(x) + beta*f(y)
```

```
Out[ ]: array([-1,  2])
```

```
In [ ]: f = lambda x: np.array(sorted(x, reverse = True))
f(alpha*x + beta*y)
```

```
Out[ ]: array([ 2, -1])
```

```
In [ ]: alpha*f(x) + beta*f(y)
```

```
Out[ ]: array([1, 0])
```

8.2. Linear function models

Price elasticity of demand. Let's use a price elasticity of demand matrix to predict the demand for three products when the prices are changed a bit. Using this we can predict the change in total profit, given the manufacturing costs.

```
In [ ]: p = np.array([10, 20, 15]) #Current prices
d = np.array([5.6, 1.5, 8.6]) #Current demand (say in thousands)
c = np.array([6.5, 11.2, 9.8]) #Cost to manufacture
profit = (p - c) @ d #Current total profit
```