

Math 54: Week 2 Discussion

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Inconsistent Matrix

True or false? A system with fewer equations than unknowns is always consistent? Answer: False

Ex:

$$x + y + z = 2 \quad (1)$$

$$x + y + z = 3 \quad (2)$$

Theorem: A system of linear equations has no solutions, exactly 1 solution, or infinity solutions.

Proof. If any matrix reduces to:

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} x_1 & * & * & \dots & a \\ 0 & x_2 & & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & c \end{array}$$

Then the last row is the equation, $0 = c$, which is nonzero. Contradiction, no solution.

If any matrix reduces to:

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} x_1 & * & & \dots & a \\ 0 & x_2 & & \dots & b \\ 0 & 0 & x_3 & \dots & c \\ \dots & & & & \end{array}$$

Then the rows reduce to $\{x_1, x_2, x_3\} = \{a, b, c\}$ which is nonzero. There is no contradiction.

If any matrix reduces to:

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} x_1 & & & & & a \\ 0 & 0 & x_3 & & & b \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & x_4 & & c \\ \dots & & & & & \end{array}$$

Then the rows reduce to $\{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4\} = \{a, free, b, c\}$. There is no contradiction, but infinitely many solutions for x_2 .

□

Definition: The non-pivot columns are the free variables, the pivot columns are the basic variables

Definition: A matrix is $n \times m$ if it has n rows and m columns (so height by width). E.g.

$$\begin{array}{cc} 1 & 4 \\ 3 & 5 \\ 5 & 7 \end{array}$$

Is 3×2 .

Homework Review

Problem 20. Determine all h s.t. augmented matrix is consistent:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} 1 & h & -3 \\ -2 & 4 & 6 \end{array}$$

Solution:

We know it is consistent if and only if there is no pivot in last column.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} 1 & h & -3 \\ 0 & 4 + 2h & 0 \end{array}$$

There is never a pivot in last column.

Problem 28. Suppose a, b, c, d constants where $a \neq 0$, and below system is consistent for all f, g . What can we say about a, b, c, d ?

$$ax_1 + bx_2 = f \quad (3)$$

$$cx_1 + dx_2 = g \quad (4)$$

Solution:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} a & b & f \\ c & d & g \end{array}$$

Subtract c/a , Row 1 from Row 2, yielding:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} a & b & f \\ 0 & d - bc/a & g - fc/a \end{array}$$

We want this to be consistent for all f, g , but as f, g can be anything, so can $g - fc/a$. So for some f, g , $g - fc/a \neq 0$ (let $f = 0, g = 1$). So to be consistent for all f, g , we need:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} [a] & b & f \\ 0 & [d - bc/a] & g - f/ca \end{array}$$

pivots.

$$\therefore d - bc/a \neq 0 \implies d \neq bc/a$$

New Material

Definition: A vector in \mathbb{R}^n is a $n \times 1$ matrix. For instance:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\in \mathbb{R}^3$$

Definition: Vector Definition

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 & & x_1 \\
 & & \dots \\
 & & x_n \\
 + & & \\
 & & y_1 \\
 & & \dots \\
 & & y_n \\
 = & & \\
 & & x_1 + y_1 \\
 & & \dots \\
 & & x_n + y_n
 \end{array}$$

Definition: Scaling. Given scalar $c \in \mathbb{R}$, and vector $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \in \mathbb{R}^n$

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 c & & \\
 & & x_1 \\
 & & \dots \\
 & & x_n \\
 = & & \\
 & & cx_1 \\
 & & \dots \\
 & & cx_n
 \end{array}$$

Theorem: Vectors $u, v, w \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and scalars $c, d \in \mathbb{R}$ satisfy the following properties (which we will later call axioms defining a vector space):

1. Associative: $u + (v + w) = (u + v) + w$
2. Commutative: $u + v = v + u$
3. Distributive: $c(u+v) = cu + cv$
 $(c+d)u = cu + du$
4. Scalar Associative: $c(du) = (cd)u$
5. Zero vector, there is a zero vector 0 *at, s.t. $0 + v = v \forall v$.*
6. Multiplication identity: $1 \cdot v = v$