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Chapter 1

Linear Equation

1.1 Fields

The set \mathbb{F} together with two operation $+$, addition, and \cdot , multiplication, that satisfy the follwings is called a **field**. For all $x, y, z \in \mathbb{F}$

1. Addition and multiplication are *commutative*

$$x + y = y + x \qquad x \cdot y = y \cdot x$$

2. Addition and multiplication are *associative*

$$x + (y + z) = (x + y) + z \qquad x \cdot (y \cdot z) = (x \cdot y) \cdot z$$

3. Multiplication distributes over addition

$$x \cdot (y + z) = x \cdot y + x \cdot z$$

4. There exists an element 0 , zero, in \mathbb{F} such that $x + 0 = x$.

5. There exists an element 1 , one, in \mathbb{F} such that $x \cdot 1 = x$.

6. For each element $x \in \mathbb{F}$ there corresponds a unique element $y \in \mathbb{F}$ such that $x + y = 0$. y is commonly denoted as $-x$.

7. For each non-zero element $x \in \mathbb{F}$ there corresponds a unique element $y \in \mathbb{F}$ such that $x \cdot y = 1$. y is commonly denoted as x^{-1} or $\frac{1}{x}$.

8. \mathbb{F} is closed under addition and multiplication.

$$x + y \in \mathbb{F} \qquad x \cdot y \in \mathbb{F}$$

Definition (Characteristics): Let n be the least number such that

$$\underbrace{1 + 1 + \dots + 1}_n = 0 \tag{1.1}$$

then n is the **characteristics** of \mathbb{F} . If for a field there exists no such n , then its characteristics is 0 .

Theorem 1.1. *If \mathbb{F} is a finite field, then the number of elements of \mathbb{F} must be in form of p^k where p is a prime number and $k \in \mathbb{N}$. Also for every number in such form there exists a unique \mathbb{F} with p^k elements.*

If \mathbb{F} is a field then the set of all polynomials with the coefficients in \mathbb{F} is denoted by $\mathbb{F}[x]$, that is

$$\mathbb{F}[x] = \left\{ \sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i \mid a_i \in \mathbb{F} \forall i, n \in \mathbb{N} \right\}$$

Clearly $\mathbb{F}[x]$ does not have a multiplicative inverse for some of its non-zero elements. Define $\mathbb{F}(x)$ as follow

$$\mathbb{F}(x) = \left\{ \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \mid f(x), g(x) \in \mathbb{F}[x], g(x) \neq 0 \right\}$$

which is a field. Also, note that $\mathbb{F} \subset \mathbb{F}[x] \subset \mathbb{F}(x)$.

1.2 Matrices

Let us denote the set of all matrices of size $m \times n$ with elements in \mathbb{F} by $\mathcal{M}_{m \times n}(\mathbb{F})$ and if $m = n$ then it is equivalently denoted as $\mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{F})$.

Matrix $A \in \mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{F})$ is said to be **invertible** or **singular** if there exists a matrix $B \in \mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{F})$ such that $AB = BA = \mathbb{I}_n$.

Consider the following system of linear equations:

$$\begin{cases} a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n = y_1 \\ a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n = y_2 \\ \vdots \\ a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + \dots + a_{mn}x_n = y_m \end{cases} \quad (1.2)$$

with all $a_{ij} \in \mathbb{F}$. Then if $c_k \in \mathbb{F}$, $k = 1, \dots, n$:

$$(c_1 a_{11} + c_2 a_{21} + \dots + c_m a_{m1})x_1 + \dots + (c_1 a_{1n} + c_2 a_{2n} + \dots + c_m a_{mn})x_n = c_1 y_1 + \dots + c_m y_m$$

is **linear combination** of the Equation (1.2).

Definition (Equivalent Systems): Two systems are considered equivalent if each equation in one system is a linear combination of the other system.

Proposition 1.2. *Equivalent systems of linear equations have exactly the same solution.*

The linear system, Equation (1.2), can be represented in form of matrices $AX = Y$ where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathcal{M}_{m \times n}(\mathbb{F}) \text{ and } X = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}, Y = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_m \end{bmatrix}$$

then the solutions of Equation (1.2) are exactly the same as $AX = Y$.