

Multivariable Calculus

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1 Linear Equations in Linear Algebra

1.1 Systems of Linear Equations

Definition 1.1. A *linear equation* is an equation of the form

$$a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + \cdots + a_nx_n = b$$

Definition 1.2. A *linear system* is a set of linear equations involving like variables.

Definition 1.3. A *solution* to a linear system is an ordered set that makes the linear system true.

Definition 1.4. A *solution set* is the set of all possible solutions to the linear system.

Remark. Two linear systems with like solution sets are *equivalent*.

Remark. A linear system is *consistent* if it has at least one solution, and *inconsistent* if it has no solutions.

Definition 1.5. A *coefficient matrix* is a matrix that consists of the coefficients of the variables of a linear system.

Remark. Each column of the coefficient matrix corresponds to a variable in the linear system.

Definition 1.6. An *augmented matrix* consists of the coefficient matrix with an added column containing the constants of the RHS of the linear system.

Definition 1.7. An $m \times n$ *matrix* is a rectangular array of elements with m rows and n columns.

1.1.1 Elementary Row Operations

- add the multiple of one row to another
- switch two rows
- scale a row by a nonzero constant

Remark. Row operations are reversible.

Definition 1.8. Two matrices are *row equivalent* if a sequence of row operations can transform one into the other.

Remark. All row equivalent augmented matrices have the same solution set.

1.1.2 Questions

- does a solution to the linear system exist?
- If it does, is it unique?

1.2 Row Reduction and Echelon Forms

Definition 1.9. The *leading entry* of a row is its left-most non-zero entry.

Definition 1.10. A matrix is in *echelon form* if:

- all non-zero rows are above any all-zero rows
- the leading entry of each row is in a column to the right of the leading entry of the row above it
- all entries in a column below a leading entry are zeros

Definition 1.11. A matrix is in *reduced row echelon form* if:

- it's in echelon form
- all leading entries are 1
- all leading entries are the only non-zero entries in their columns

Remark. A matrix can be row equivalent with many echelon forms but only one reduced echelon form.

Definition 1.12. A *pivot position* corresponds to the position of one of the leading entries of the reduced echelon form of a matrix.

Definition 1.13. A column of the coefficient matrix is a *free column* if it doesn't contain a pivot position.

Definition 1.14. A column of the augmented matrix is a *pivot column* if it contains a pivot position.

Remark. Variables corresponding to free columns are *free variables*. Variables corresponding to pivot columns of the coefficient matrix are *basic variables*.

Remark. The solution set of a consistent linear system has a *parametric representation* in which by convention free variables act as parameters. The solution set of an inconsistent linear system is empty and has **no** parametric representation.

Remark. Solving a system amounts to finding a parametric representation of the solution set or determining that the solution set is empty.

Remark. A linear system is consistent iff the right-most column of the augmented matrix is **not** a pivot column.

Theorem 1.1 (Existence and uniqueness theorem). *A linear system is consistent iff the right-most column of the augmented matrix is **not** a pivot column. A consistent linear system has either a unique solution, if it has no free variables, or infinitely many solutions if it has at least one free variable.*

1.3 Vector Equations

$$\mathbb{R}^n := \text{Set of ordered n-tuples } \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} \text{ where } x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\mathbb{R}^1 := \mathbb{R} = \text{Set of real numbers} = \text{Number line}$$

$$\mathbb{R}^2 := \text{Plane}$$

$$\mathbb{R}^3 := \text{Space}$$

Definition 1.15. A *vector* in \mathbb{R}^n is an element of \mathbb{R}^n .

Remark. Two vectors are equal iff their corresponding entries are equal.

1.3.1 Algebraic Properties of \mathbb{R}^n

$$\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^n \text{ and } c, d \in \mathbb{R} \tag{1}$$

- $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{u}$
- $(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) + \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w})$
- $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{0} = \mathbf{0} + \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}$
- $\mathbf{u} + (-\mathbf{u}) = -\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{0}$
- $c(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) = c\mathbf{u} + c\mathbf{v}$
- $(c + d)\mathbf{u} = c\mathbf{u} + d\mathbf{u}$
- $c(d\mathbf{u}) = (cd)\mathbf{u}$
- $1\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}$

Definition 1.16. If $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $c_1, \dots, c_p \in \mathbb{R}$, then

$$\mathbf{y} = c_1\mathbf{v}_1 + \dots + c_p\mathbf{v}_p$$

is a linear combination of $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p$.

Definition 1.17. $\text{Span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$ is the set of all linear combinations of $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p$.

1.4 The Matrix Equation $Ax = b$

Definition 1.18. If $A^{m \times n}$ and $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ then $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ is the linear combination of the columns of A using the corresponding entries of \mathbf{x} as weights

$$A\mathbf{x} = [\mathbf{a}_1 \ \cdots \ \mathbf{a}_n] \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = x_1\mathbf{a}_1 + \cdots + x_n\mathbf{a}_n$$

Remark. $A\mathbf{x}$ is defined iff the number of columns of A equals the number of entries in \mathbf{x} .

Theorem 1.2. If $A^{m \times n}$ and $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$, then the matrix equation

$$A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$$

has the same solution set as the vector equation

$$x_1\mathbf{a}_1 + \cdots + x_n\mathbf{a}_n = \mathbf{b}$$

which in turn, has the same solution set as the system of linear equations whose augmented matrix is

$$[\mathbf{a}_1 \ \cdots \ \mathbf{a}_n \ \mathbf{b}]$$

Remark. The equation $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ has a solution iff \mathbf{b} is a linear combination of the columns of A .

Theorem 1.3. If $A^{m \times n}$, then the following statements are logically equivalent.

- $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ has a solution $\forall \mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$
- Each $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ is a linear combination of the columns of A
- $\text{Span}\{\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n\} = \mathbb{R}^m$
- A has a pivot position in every row

Remark. The i th entry of $A\mathbf{x}$ is the sum of the products of the entries of the i th row of A with the corresponding entries of \mathbf{x}

Definition 1.19. The *identity matrix*, denoted I_n , is an $n \times n$ matrix with 1's on the diagonal and 0's elsewhere.

$$I_n \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x} \ \forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

Theorem 1.4. If $A^{m \times n}$, \mathbf{u} and $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $c \in \mathbb{R}$, then

$$A(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) = A\mathbf{u} + A\mathbf{v}$$

$$A(c\mathbf{u}) = c(A\mathbf{u})$$

1.5 Solution Sets of Linear Systems

Definition 1.20. A system of linear equations is *homogeneous* if it can be written in the form

$$A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$$

where $A^{m \times n}$ and $\mathbf{0} \in \mathbb{R}^m$

Remark. All homogeneous linear systems, $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$, have a trivial solution.

It follows. From the existence and uniqueness theorem.

A homogeneous linear system has a non-trivial solution iff it has at least one free variable.

Definition 1.21. The parametric vector form of the solution set of the homogeneous linear system $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ with one free variable is

$$\mathbf{x} = t\mathbf{v} \quad \text{where } t \in \mathbb{R}$$

Remark. The solution set of a homogeneous linear system, $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$, with only one free variable is a line through the origin.

Definition 1.22. The parametric vector form of the solution set of the non-homogeneous linear system $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ is

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{p} + t\mathbf{v} \quad \text{where } t \in \mathbb{R}$$

Theorem 1.5. The solution set of a consistent non-homogeneous linear system $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ is obtained by translating the solution set of its corresponding homogeneous linear system $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ by any particular solution \mathbf{p} of $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$.

Definition 1.23. An indexed set of vectors $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is *linearly independent* if the vector equation

$$x_1\mathbf{v}_1 + \dots + x_p\mathbf{v}_p = \mathbf{0}$$

has only the trivial solution.

Definition 1.24. An indexed set of vectors $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is *linearly dependent* if \exists weights c_1, \dots, c_p , not all zero, such that

$$c_1\mathbf{v}_1 + \dots + c_p\mathbf{v}_p = \mathbf{0}$$

Remark. The columns of A are linearly independent iff the equation $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ has only the trivial solution.

Remark. An indexed set of vectors is linearly dependent iff at least one of the vectors in the set is a linear combination of the others.

Remark. A set containing a single vector is linearly independent iff its not the zero vector. It follows: the zero vector is linearly dependent.

Theorem 1.6. Any set $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is linearly dependent if $p > n$

Theorem 1.7. Any set $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ that contains the zero vector is linearly dependent.

1.6 Introduction to Linear Transformations

Definition 1.25. A transformation T from \mathbb{R}^n to \mathbb{R}^m , written $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$, is a rule that assigns to each vector $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ a vector $T(\mathbf{x}) \in \mathbb{R}^m$.

- \mathbb{R}^n is the *domain* of T and \mathbb{R}^m is its *codomain*.
- $\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ the vector $T(\mathbf{x}) \in \mathbb{R}^m$ is the *image* of \mathbf{x} .
- The set of all images $T(\mathbf{x})$ is the *range* of T .

Remark. The codomain is all the places the transformation could take you, the range is all the places it does.

Remark. $\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $T(\mathbf{x})$ is computed as $A\mathbf{x}$ and written as $\mathbf{x} \mapsto A\mathbf{x}$.

Remark. The range of T is the set of all linear combinations of the columns of A .

Definition 1.26. A transformation T is *linear* if:

- $T(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) = T(\mathbf{u}) + T(\mathbf{v}) \quad \forall \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}$ in the domain of T .
- $T(c\mathbf{u}) = cT(\mathbf{u}) \quad \forall c, \mathbf{u}$ in the domain of T .

Remark. Every matrix transformation is a linear transformation.

Remark. Linear Transformations preserve the operations of vector addition and scalar multiplication.

It follows. From linearity.

$$T(\mathbf{0}) = \mathbf{0}$$