

Lesson 12

Colt Bradley

1 Introduction

The purpose of this lesson is to learn how to numerically solve systems of equations. The first step is to re-arrange systems of equations into matrix equations, like the example that follows:

$$2x + 7z = 26 \quad (1a)$$

$$3y + 5z = 45 \quad (1b)$$

$$x + 3y - z = 0 \quad (1c)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 7 \\ 0 & 3 & 5 \\ 1 & 3 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 26 \\ 45 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1d)$$

In this way, any system of n equations and variables can be represented as a $n \times n$ matrix equation. In python, there is a simple command that solves these systems. We'll demonstrate in both of the examples below.

2 Statics

The first example is a simple statics problem with a mass connected to a wall by a string. There are three unknowns, the x component of the force F_x , the y-component of the force F_y , and tension in the string T . We can write a system of equations for these forces as follows:

$$F_x - T \cos \theta = 0 \quad (2a)$$

$$T_y + T \sin \theta - mg = 0 \quad (2b)$$

$$(T \sin \theta)(l/2) - F_y(l/2) = 0 \quad (2c)$$

Next, we move constants to the left and identify which terms go with which variables. This will become our matrix equations.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -\cos\theta \\ 0 & 1 & \sin\theta \\ 0 & -\frac{l}{2} & \sin\theta\frac{l}{2} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} F_x \\ F_y \\ T \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ mg \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3)$$

Writing a code in python, we solve using the given constants. We let $m = 14$ kg, $l = 1.2$ m, $g = 9.8$ m/s, and $\theta = 35^\circ$. The answer we get for these values follows.

$$F_x = 144.8 \quad (4a)$$

$$F_y = 68.6 \quad (4b)$$

$$T = -1.3 \quad (4c)$$

3 Kirchoff's Laws

In this example, our system is solving a circuit using Kirchoff's laws. This yeilds four equations; one for each loop and one for conservation of current.

$$\mathcal{E}_1 - I_1 R_1 - I_3 R_3 = 0 \quad (5a)$$

$$\mathcal{E}_2 - I_2 R_2 - I_3 R_3 = 0 \quad (5b)$$

$$\mathcal{E}_2 - I_2 R_2 + I_1 R_1 - \mathcal{E}_1 = 0 \quad (5c)$$

$$I_1 + I_2 - I_3 = 0 \quad (5d)$$

We can quickly see that the conservation of current equation is essential, since looking at ?? we see that the matrix is singular. To avoid this, choose any two of the first three equations plus the current conservation equation.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & R_2 & R_3 \\ R_1 & 0 & R_3 \\ R_1 & -R_2 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (6)$$

We'll then solve these like we did in the previous example, moving anything that doesn't rely on our unknown currents (any \mathcal{E}) to the right hand side then building a matrix equation out of it.

$$\begin{pmatrix} R_1 & 0 & R_3 \\ 0 & R_2 & R_3 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} I_1 \\ I_2 \\ I_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{E}_1 \\ \mathcal{E}_2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (7)$$

This equation can be solved with almost identical code to the first, and when we solve we get.

$$I_1 = .062 \quad (8a)$$

$$I_2 = .025 \quad (8b)$$

$$I_3 = .088 \quad (8c)$$

4 Code

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#Colt Bradley
#2.25.16
#Homework 12

#import modules
import numpy as n

#define variables
m = 14
l = 1.2
g = 9.8
theta = 35

#Define the matrices
big = n.matrix([[1, 0 , -n.cos(theta)], [0, 1, n.sin(theta)], \
[0, -l/2., n.sin(theta)*l/2]])
col = n.matrix([[0], [m*g], [0]])

#use linear algebra package, print result
print n.linalg.solve(big,col)

#####
#Part 2
#####

#define variables, emf in Volts and r in ohms
emf_1 = 12
emf_2 = 9
r_1 = 100
r_2 = 130
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```
r_3 = 65

#define matrices
res = n.matrix([[r_1,0,r_3],[0,r_2,r_3],[1,1,-1]])
emfs = n.matrix([[emf_1],[emf_2],[0]])

#use linear algebra package, print result
print n.linalg.solve(res,emfs)
```