

Linear Algebra

A Comprehensive list of all Definitions

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1 Linear System

Definition 1.1. *General solution of a linear system*

If a linear system has infinitely many solutions, then a set of parametric equations from which all solutions can be obtained by assigning numerical values to the parameters is called a **general solution** of the system.

2 Matrix

Definition 2.1. *Matrix*

A **matrix** is a rectangular array of numbers. The numbers in the array are called the **entries** in the matrix.

Definition 2.2. *Equality of Matrices*

Two matrices are defined to be **equal** if they have the same size and their corresponding entries are equal.

Definition 2.3. *Sum and difference of Matrices*

If A and B are matrices of the same size, then the **sum** $A + B$ is the matrix obtained by adding the entries of B to the corresponding entries of A , and the **difference** $A - B$ is the matrix obtained by subtracting the entries of B from the corresponding entries of A . **Matrices of different sizes cannot be added or subtracted.**

In matrix notation, if $A = [a_{ij}]$ and $B = [b_{ij}]$ have the same size, then

$$(A + B)_{ij} = (A)_{ij} + (B)_{ij} = a_{ij} + b_{ij} \text{ and } (A - B)_{ij} = (A)_{ij} - (B)_{ij} = a_{ij} - b_{ij}$$

Definition 2.4. *Scalar Multiple of a Matrix*

If A is any matrix and c is any scalar, then the **product** cA is the matrix obtained by multiplying each entry of the matrix A by c . The matrix cA is said to be a **scalar multiple of A** .

In matrix notation, if $A = [a_{ij}]$, then

$$(cA)_{ij} = c(A)_{ij} = ca_{ij}$$

Definition 2.5. *Multiplication of Matrices*

If A is an $m \times r$ matrix and B is an $r \times n$ matrix, then the **product** AB is the $m \times n$ matrix whose entries are determined as follows: To find the entry in row i and column j of AB , single out row i from the matrix A and column j from the matrix B . Multiply the corresponding entries from the row and column together, and then add up the resulting products.

In matrix notation, if $A = [a_{ij}]_{m \times r}$ and $B = [b_{ij}]_{r \times n}$ matrix, then,

$$AB = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1r} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2r} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{i1} & a_{i2} & \dots & a_{ir} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mr} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b_{11} & b_{12} & \dots & b_{1j} & \dots & b_{1n} \\ b_{21} & b_{22} & \dots & b_{2j} & \dots & b_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ b_{r1} & b_{r2} & \dots & b_{rj} & \dots & b_{rn} \end{bmatrix}$$

the entry $(AB)_{ij}$ in row i and column j of AB is given by

$$(AB)_{ij} = a_{i1}b_{1j} + a_{i2}b_{2j} + \dots + a_{ir}b_{rj}$$

Definition 2.6. Linear combination of Matrices

If A_1, A_2, \dots, A_r are matrices of the same size, and if c_1, c_2, \dots, c_r are scalars, then an expression of the form

$$c_1A_1 + c_2A_2 + \dots + c_rA_r$$

is called a **linear combination** of A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n with **coefficients** c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n .

Definition 2.7. Transpose of a Matrix

If A is any $m \times n$ matrix, then the **transpose of A** , denoted by A^T , is defined to be the $n \times m$ matrix that results by interchanging the rows and columns of A . In matrix notation

$$(A^T)_{ij} = (A)_{ji}$$

Definition 2.8. Trace of a Matrix

If A is a square matrix, then the **trace of A** , denoted by $\text{tr}(A)$, is defined to be the sum of the entries on the main diagonal of A . **The trace of a matrix is undefined if it is not a square matrix.**

Definition 2.9. Inverse of a Matrix

If A is a **square matrix**, and if a matrix B of the same size can be found such that $AB = BA = I$, then A is said to be **invertible** (or **nonsingular**) and B is called an **inverse** of A . If no such matrix B can be found, then A is said to be **singular**.

Definition 2.10. Row equivalent

Matrices A and B are said to be **row equivalent** if either can be obtained from the other by a sequence of elementary row operations.

Definition 2.11. Elementary Matrix

A matrix E is called an **elementary matrix** if it can be obtained from an identity matrix by performing a single elementary row operation.

Definition 2.12. Symmetric

A square matrix A is said to be **symmetric** if $A = A^T$

Definition 2.13. Matrix Transformation

If f is a function with domain R^n and codomain R^m , then we say that f is a **transformation** from R^n to R^m or that f **maps** from R^n to R^m , which is denoted by

$$f : R^n \rightarrow R^m$$

In the special case where $m = n$, a transformation is sometimes called an **operator** on R^n

3 Determinants

Definition 3.1. Minor and Cofactor

If A is a square matrix, then the **minor of entry** a_{ij} is denoted by M_{ij} and is defined to be the determinant of the submatrix that remains after the i_{th} row and j_{th} column are deleted from A . The number $(-1)^{i+j}M_{ij}$ is denoted by C_{ij} and is called the **cofactor of entry** a_{ij}

Definition 3.2. Determinant of a Matrix

If A is an $n \times n$ matrix, then the number obtained by multiplying the entries in any row or column of A by the corresponding cofactors and adding the resulting products is called the **determinant of A** , and the sums themselves are called **cofactor expansions of A** . That is,

$$\det(A) = a_{1j}C_{1j} + a_{2j}C_{2j} + \dots + a_{nj}C_{nj}$$

cofactor expansion along the j th column

Definition 3.3. Adjoint of a Matrix

If A is any $n \times n$ matrix and C_{ij} is the cofactor of a_{ij} , then the matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} & \dots & C_{1n} \\ C_{21} & C_{22} & \dots & C_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ C_{i1} & C_{i2} & \dots & C_{in} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ C_{n1} & C_{n2} & \dots & C_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

is called the **matrix of cofactors from A** . The transpose of this matrix is called the **adjoint of A** and is denoted by $\text{adj}(A)$.

4 Euclidean Vector Spaces

Definition 4.1. *Ordered n -tuple*

If n is a positive integer, then an **ordered n -tuple** is a sequence of n real numbers (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n) . The set of all ordered n -tuples is called **n -space** and is denoted by \mathbb{R}^n .

Definition 4.2. *Equality of Vectors*

Vector $\mathbf{v} = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n)$ and $\mathbf{w} = (w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n)$ in \mathbb{R}^n are said to be **equal** if

$$v_1 = w_1, v_2 = w_2, \dots, v_n = w_n$$

We indicate this by writing $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{w}$

Definition 4.3. *Linear combination of Vectors*

If \mathbf{w} is a vector in \mathbb{R}^n , then \mathbf{w} is said to be a **linear combination** of the vectors v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n in \mathbb{R}^n if it can be expressed in the form

$$\mathbf{w} = k_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + k_2 \mathbf{v}_2 + \dots + k_r \mathbf{v}_r$$

where k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n are scalars. These scalars are called the **coefficients** the linear combination.

Definition 4.4. *Norm of a Vector*

If $\mathbf{v} = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n)$ is a vector in \mathbb{R}^n , then the **norm** of \mathbf{v} (also called the **length** of \mathbf{v} or the **magnitude of \mathbf{v}**) is denoted by $\|\mathbf{v}\|$, and is defined by this formula

$$\|\mathbf{v}\| = \sqrt{v_1^2 + v_2^2 + \dots + v_n^2}$$

Definition 4.5. *Distance between Vectors*

If $\mathbf{u} = (u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)$ and $\mathbf{v} = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n)$ are points in \mathbb{R}^n , then we denote the **distance** between \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} by $d(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v})$ and define it to be

$$d(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = \|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\| = \sqrt{(u_1 - v_1)^2 + (u_2 - v_2)^2 + \dots + (u_n - v_n)^2}$$