

Linear algebra

Session 02: Inner product, solving systems of linear equations

Gerhard Jäger

November 2, 2023

The inner product of vectors

- the **inner product** of two vectors is a scalar

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y} &\doteq x_1 y_1 + x_2 y_2 + \cdots + x_n y_n \\ &= \sum_i x_i y_i\end{aligned}$$

(Sometimes the inner product is written $\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle$.)

- the inner product is commutative

$$\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{x}$$

- Furthermore, the inner product is **linear** in both arguments

$$\begin{aligned}(a\mathbf{x}) \cdot (b\mathbf{y}) &= ab(\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y}) \\ \mathbf{x} \cdot (\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{z}) &= \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{z} \\ (\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) \cdot \mathbf{z} &= \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{z} + \mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{z}\end{aligned}$$

norm of a vector

The **norm** (=length) of a vector is defined as

$$\begin{aligned}\|\mathbf{x}\| &\doteq \sqrt{\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{x}} \\ &= \sqrt{\sum_i x_i^2}\end{aligned}$$

properties of the norm

- for all vectors \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} and scalars a :

$$\begin{aligned}\|\mathbf{x}\| &\geq 0 \\ \|\mathbf{x}\| &= 0 \text{ if and only if } \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0} \ (\forall i. x_i = 0) \\ \|a\mathbf{x}\| &= |a|\|\mathbf{x}\| \\ \|\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}\| &\leq \|\mathbf{x}\| + \|\mathbf{y}\|\end{aligned}$$

unit vectors

A **unit vector** is a vector of length 1.

Examples:

Out[4]: $\begin{bmatrix} 0.6 \\ 0.8 \end{bmatrix}$

Out[5]: $\begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{2}{3} \\ \frac{2}{3} \end{bmatrix}$

Out[6]: $\begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$

Out[7]: $\begin{bmatrix} \sin(x) \\ \cos(x) \end{bmatrix}$

Out[8]: $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

We can always shrink or stretch a vector into a unit vector of the same direction by dividing it by its norm.

$\frac{\mathbf{u}}{\|\mathbf{u}\|}$ is always a unit vector, provided $\mathbf{u} \neq \mathbf{0}$.

angle between vectors

For unit vectors, the dot product has a simple geometric interpretation:

If

$$\|\mathbf{u}\| = \|\mathbf{v}\| = 1,$$

then

$$\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = \cos \theta,$$

where θ is the angle between \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} .

Proof: https://proofwiki.org/wiki/Cosine_Formula_for_Dot_Product (https://proofwiki.org/wiki/Cosine_Formula_for_Dot_Product)

From this it follows

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{u} &= \|\mathbf{u}\| \frac{\mathbf{u}}{\|\mathbf{u}\|} \\ \mathbf{v} &= \|\mathbf{v}\| \frac{\mathbf{v}}{\|\mathbf{v}\|} \\ \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} &= \left(\|\mathbf{u}\| \frac{\mathbf{u}}{\|\mathbf{u}\|}\right) \cdot \left(\|\mathbf{v}\| \frac{\mathbf{v}}{\|\mathbf{v}\|}\right) \\ &= \|\mathbf{u}\| \|\mathbf{v}\| \left(\frac{\mathbf{u}}{\|\mathbf{u}\|} \cdot \frac{\mathbf{v}}{\|\mathbf{v}\|}\right) \\ &= \|\mathbf{u}\| \|\mathbf{v}\| \cos \theta \\ \cos \theta &= \frac{\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v}}{\|\mathbf{u}\| \|\mathbf{v}\|} \end{aligned}$$

This is how the cosine is defined in analytical geometry. (Note that this only holds if $\mathbf{u} \neq \mathbf{0}$, $\mathbf{v} \neq \mathbf{0}$.)

Since the cosine is always ≤ 1 , it follows (“Scharz Inequality”):

$$\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} \leq \|\mathbf{u}\| \|\mathbf{v}\|$$

triangle inequality

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}\| &= \sqrt{(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) \cdot (\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v})} \\ &= \sqrt{\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u} + 2\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v}} \\ &= \sqrt{\|\mathbf{u}\|^2 + 2\|\mathbf{u}\| \|\mathbf{v}\| \cos \theta + \|\mathbf{v}\|^2} \\ &\leq \sqrt{\|\mathbf{u}\|^2 + 2\|\mathbf{u}\| \|\mathbf{v}\| + \|\mathbf{v}\|^2} \\ &\leq \|\mathbf{u}\| + \|\mathbf{v}\| \end{aligned}$$

orthogonal vectors

The inner product of two vectors can be 0. Examples

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -8 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

Matrices

A $m \times n$ matrix is a sequence of m row-vectors, each of length n or, equivalently, a sequence of n column vectors, each of length m .

Example of a 3×2 matrix:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \\ 5 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

Individual cells are referred to with two indices (first: row, second: column), often using the lowercase version of the name of the matrix.

$$\begin{aligned} a_{1,1} &= 1 \\ a_{3,2} &= 6 \\ &\vdots \end{aligned}$$

The **transpose** of a matrix (written with T as an exponent) is the result of flipping rows and columns.

$$A^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 5 \\ 2 & 4 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

Obviously, the transpose of a $m \times n$ matrix is an $n \times m$ matrix.

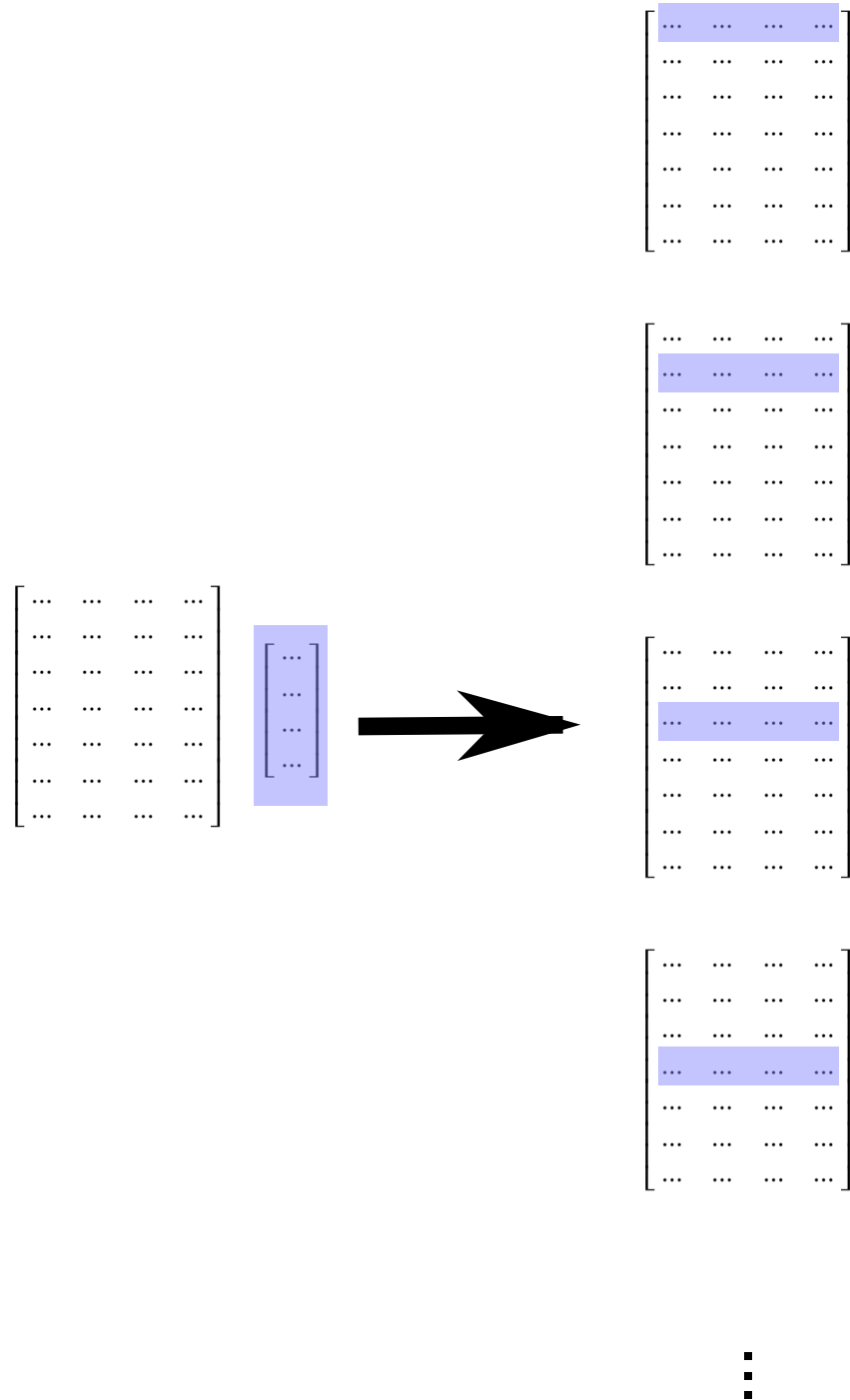
Matrix operations

Applying a matrix to a vector

A $m \times n$ matrix can be seen as a function from \mathbb{R}^n into \mathbb{R}^m . (Note that the number of columns reflects the input size and the number of rows the output size.)

General definition

$$A\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{1 \leq i \leq n} a_{1,i} x_i \\ \sum_{1 \leq i \leq n} a_{2,i} x_i \\ \vdots \\ \sum_{1 \leq i \leq n} a_{m,i} x_i \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A_{1,-} \cdot \mathbf{x} \\ A_{2,-} \cdot \mathbf{x} \\ \vdots \\ A_{m,-} \cdot \mathbf{x} \end{bmatrix}$$



Example

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \\ 5 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Column picture

So far we focused on rows. Equivalently, this can be conceived as a column operation:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \\ 5 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = -1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} + 1 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

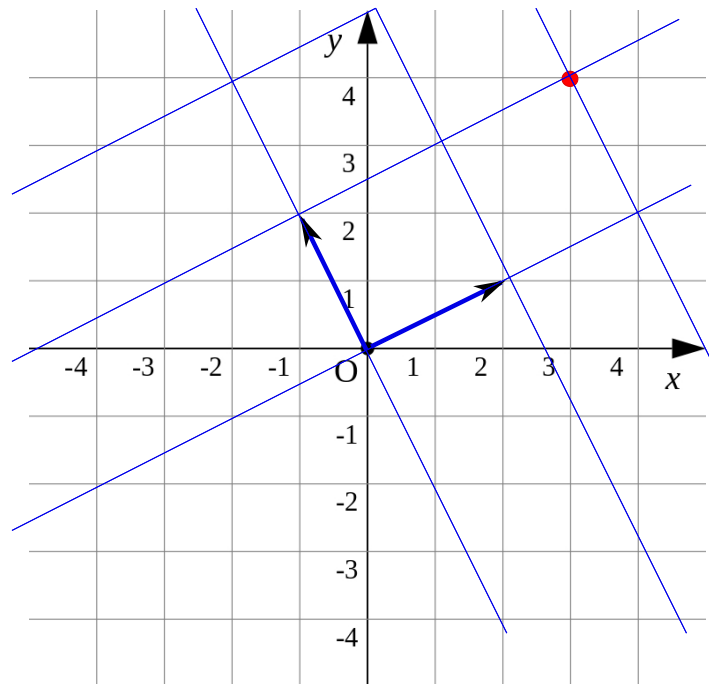
When computing $A\mathbf{x}$, each column of A can be seen as the axis of some (possibly squewed or degenerate) **coordinate system**. Applying A to \mathbf{x} means:

- \mathbf{x} is a vector in the coordinate system defined by the columns of A
- $A\mathbf{x}$ is the translation of \mathbf{x} into the “objective” coordinate system.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A\mathbf{x} = 2 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + 1 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

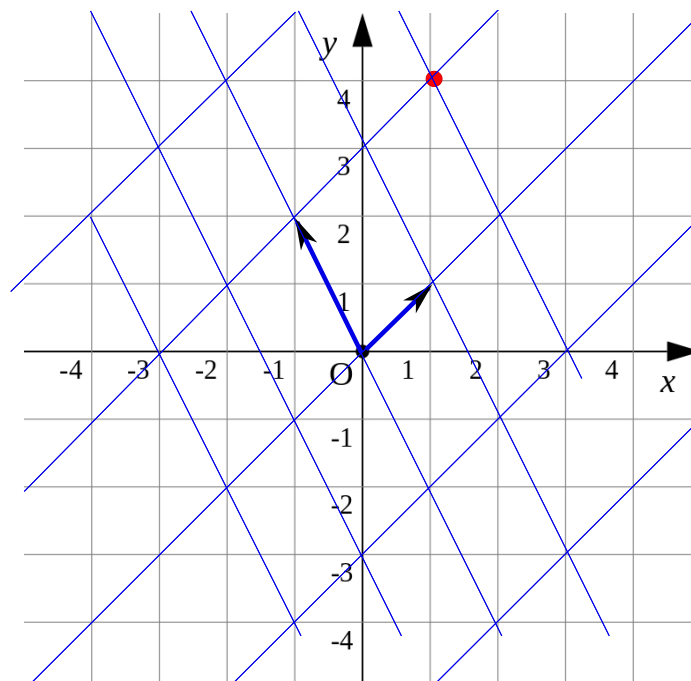


The columns of A need not be perpendicular.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A\mathbf{x} = 2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + 1 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

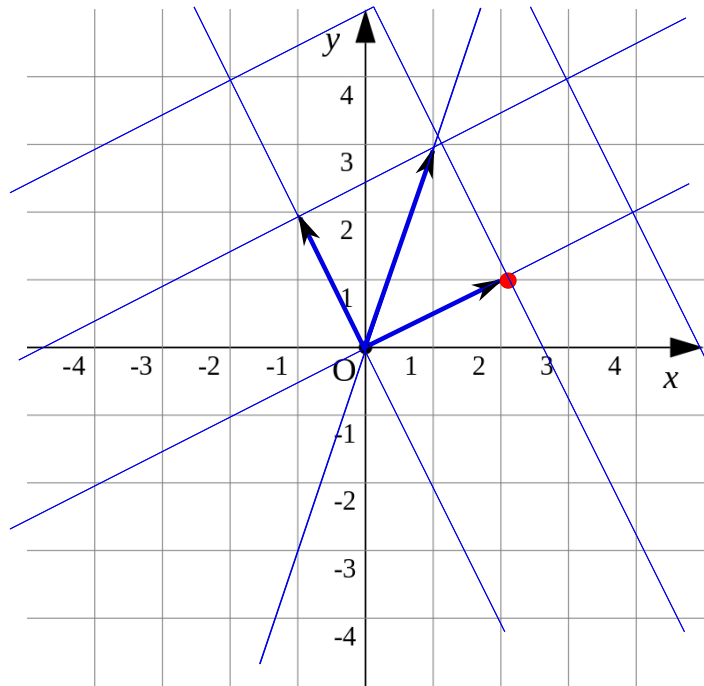


We can also have degenerate cases where the columns of A are not independent.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A\mathbf{x} = 2 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + 1 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} - 1 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



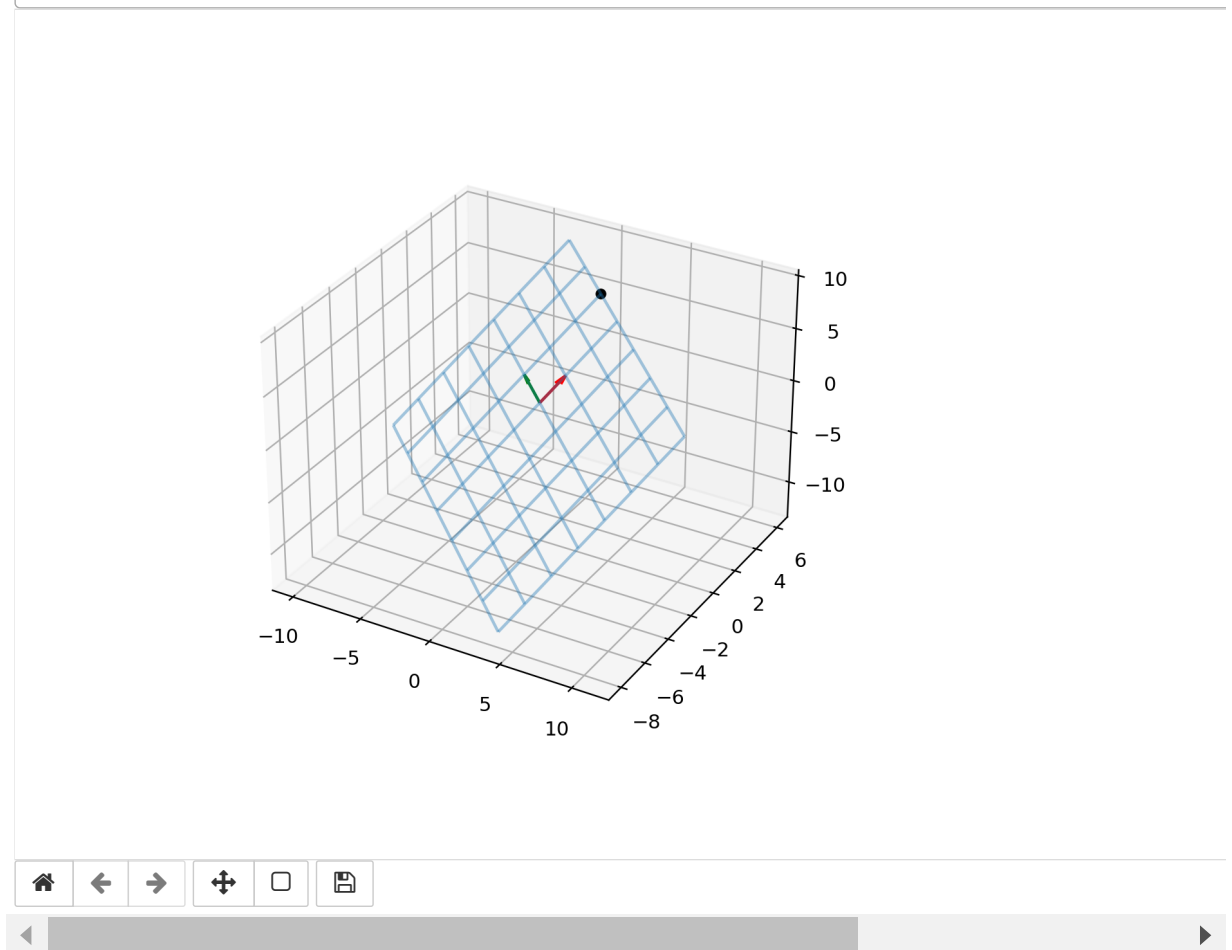
Conversely, A may project a low-dimensional vector into a higher-dimensional space.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A\mathbf{x} = 3 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + 1 \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}$$

Figure 1



Matrix multiplication

If A is an $m \times n$ matrix and B is a $n \times o$ matrix, then the **matrix product** AB is an $m \times o$ matrix.

$$\begin{aligned}(AB)_{i,j} &= \sum_k a_{i,k} b_{k,j} \\ &= A_{i,-} \cdot B_{-,j}\end{aligned}$$

Multiplying Matrices

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ a_4 & a_5 & a_6 \\ a_7 & a_8 & a_9 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ b_4 & b_5 & b_6 \\ b_7 & b_8 & b_9 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \\ c_4 & c_5 & c_6 \\ c_7 & c_8 & c_9 \end{bmatrix}$$

properties of matrix multiplication

- matrix multiplication is **associative**

$$(AB)C = A(BC)$$

- matrix multiplication is **not commutative**. It is possible that

$$AB \neq BA$$

Example

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 5 & 6 & 4 \\ 8 & 9 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$$

special matrices

- a **diagonal matrix** is a matrix where all entries except the *main diagonal* (all $a_{i,i}$) are zero

Out[10]:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Out[11]:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Out[12]:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- square diagonal matrices have interesting properties
 - multiplying a matrix A from the *left* with a diagonal matrix multiplies each *row* of A with the corresponding diagonal entry
 - multiplying a matrix A from the *right* with a diagonal matrix multiplies each *column* of A with the corresponding diagonal entry

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 8 & 10 & 12 \\ 21 & 24 & 27 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 9 \\ 4 & 10 & 18 \\ 7 & 16 & 27 \end{bmatrix}$$

identity matrix

- a special case is \mathbf{I} , the diagonal matrix with only 1s at the diagonal. It is called the **identity matrix**

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

(NB: This is an example where commutativity happens to hold.)

- Strictly speaking, there is an $n \times n$ identity matrix for each number n of dimensions. In mathematical contexts, we usually rely that the value of n determined by the context. When programming, you have to be pedantic about these things, of course.

inverse matrix

- Given a square matrix A , the **inverse Matrix** A^{-1} – if it exists – reduces A to \mathbf{I} .

$$AA^{-1} = A^{-1}A = \mathbf{I}$$

- Note that A^{-1} is both the left and the right multiplicative inverse.
- example:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ \frac{3}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

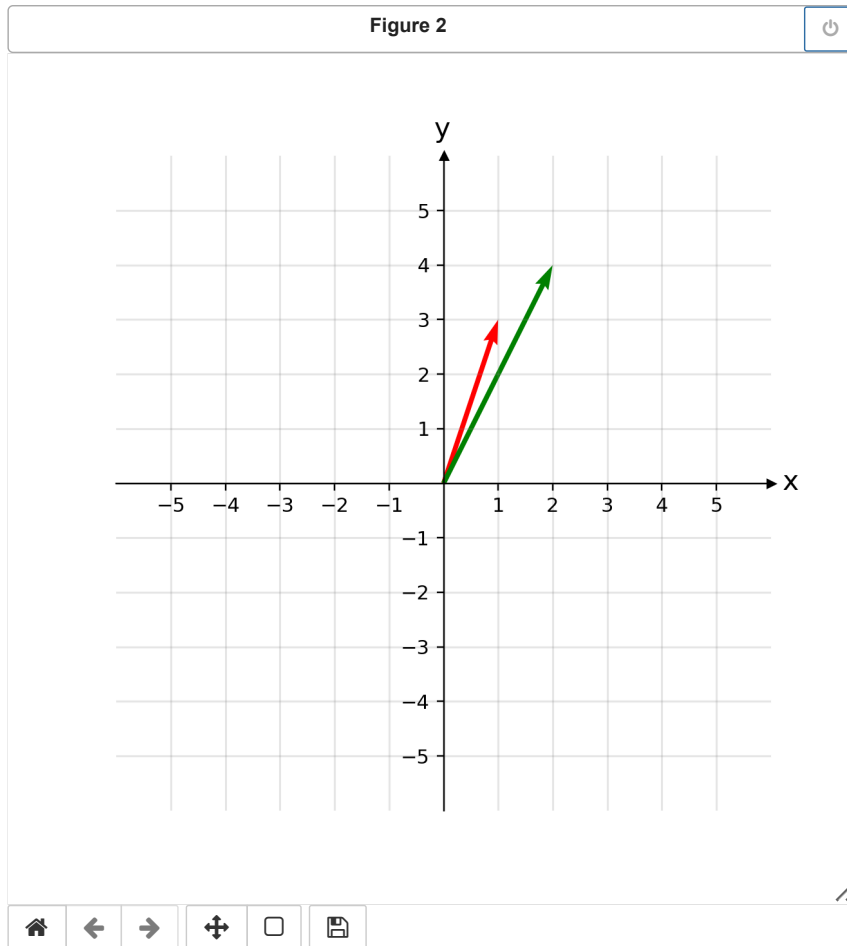
- example for a matrix without inverse:

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

B^{-1} is undefined

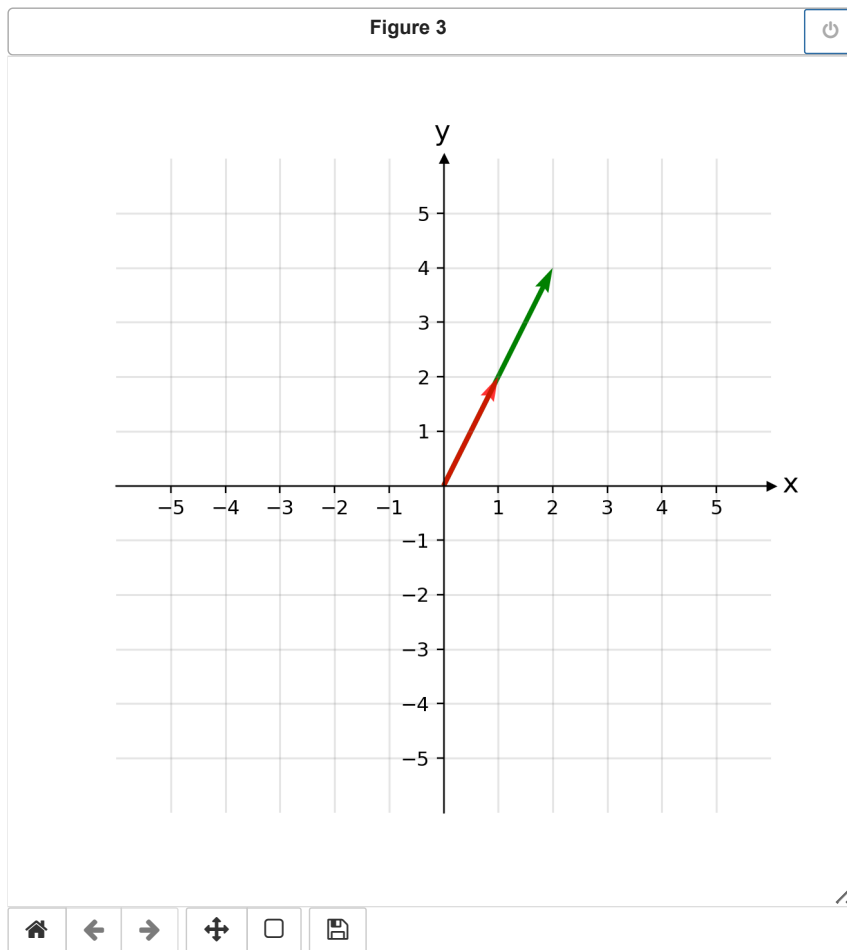
Why is this so?

Example of the “good” (invertable) matrix:



Out[13]: <matplotlib.quiver.Quiver at 0x7fdddf6e76a0>

Example of the “bad” (non-invertable) matrix:



Out[14]: <matplotlib.quiver.Quiver at 0x7fdddf60f430>

examples of an invertable and a non-invertable matrix in 3d

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -4 & 2 \\ -2 & 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 6 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{5}{63} & -\frac{22}{63} & \frac{1}{9} \\ -\frac{11}{63} & -\frac{2}{63} & \frac{1}{18} \\ \frac{1}{9} & \frac{1}{9} & \frac{1}{18} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -4 & 2 \\ -2 & 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 6 & -10 \end{bmatrix}$$

is undefined

Figure 4

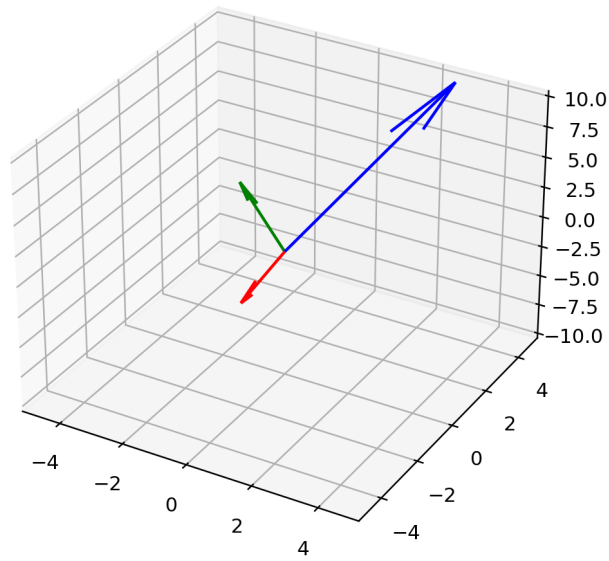
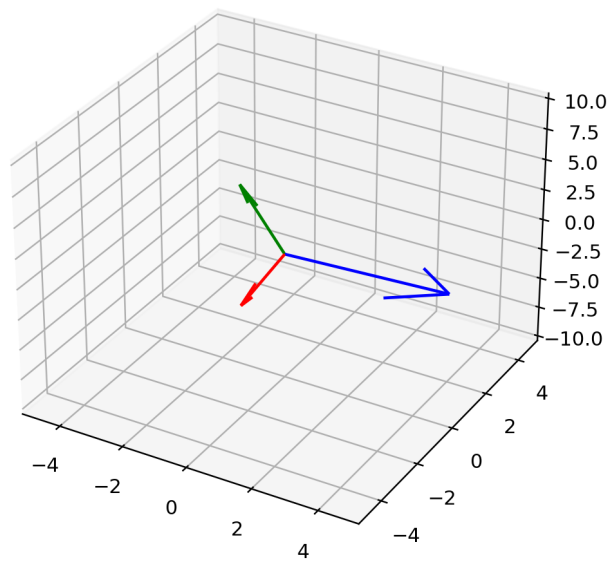


Figure 5



- a matrix is invertible if the **column space** has dimensionality n

- it is not invertible if the column space has dimensionality $< n$

Matrices with python and numpy

- vector

```
In [17]: import numpy as np
x = np.array([1,2,3])
x
```

```
Out[17]: array([1, 2, 3])
```

- matrix

```
In [18]: import numpy as np
A = np.array([
    [1,2,3],
    [4,5,6],
    [7,8,9]
])
A
```

```
Out[18]: array([[1, 2, 3],
                [4, 5, 6],
                [7, 8, 9]])
```

vector algebra

```
In [19]: import numpy as np
y = np.array([3,10,4])
x + y
```

```
Out[19]: array([ 4, 12,  7])
```

```
In [20]: 3*x
```

```
Out[20]: array([3, 6, 9])
```

```
In [21]: 2*x - 3*y
```

```
Out[21]: array([-7, -26, -6])
```

applying a matrix to a vector

```
In [22]: A, x
```

```
Out[22]: (array([[1, 2, 3],
                [4, 5, 6],
                [7, 8, 9]]),
         array([1, 2, 3]))
```

```
In [23]: A @ x
```

```
Out[23]: array([14, 32, 50])
```

matrix transposition

```
In [24]: A
```

```
Out[24]: array([[1, 2, 3],
                [4, 5, 6],
                [7, 8, 9]])
```

```
In [25]: A.T
```

```
Out[25]: array([[1, 4, 7],
                [2, 5, 8],
                [3, 6, 9]])
```

matrix multiplication

```
In [26]: ▾ B = np.array([
    [4,1,0],
    [1,0,2],
    [4,5,6]
])
```

```
In [27]: ▾ A, B
```

```
Out[27]: (array([[1, 2, 3],
    [4, 5, 6],
    [7, 8, 9]]),
    array([[4, 1, 0],
    [1, 0, 2],
    [4, 5, 6]]))
```

```
In [28]: ▾ A @ B
```

```
Out[28]: array([[18, 16, 22],
    [45, 34, 46],
    [72, 52, 70]])
```

identity matrix

```
In [29]: ▾ np.eye(3)
```

```
Out[29]: array([[1., 0., 0.],
    [0., 1., 0.],
    [0., 0., 1.]])
```

diagonal matrix

```
In [30]: ▾ np.diag([2,3, 4])
```

```
Out[30]: array([[2, 0, 0],
    [0, 3, 0],
    [0, 0, 4]])
```

inverse matrix

```
In [31]: ▾ A = np.array(
    ▾ [
    [1, -4, 2],
    [-2, 1, 3],
    [2,6,8]
    ])
    A
```

```
Out[31]: array([[ 1, -4,  2],
    [-2,  1,  3],
    [ 2,  6,  8]])
```

```
In [32]: ▾ np.linalg.inv(A)
```

```
Out[32]: array([[ 0.07936508, -0.34920635,  0.11111111],
    [-0.17460317, -0.03174603,  0.05555556],
    [ 0.11111111,  0.11111111,  0.05555556]])
```

```
In [33]: ▾ B = np.array(
    ▾ [
    [1, -4, 2],
    [-2, 1, 3],
    [2,6,-10]
    ])
    B
```

```
In [34]: ▾ B
```

```
Out[34]: array([[ 1, -4,  2],
    [-2,  1,  3],
    [ 2,  6, -10]])
```

```
In [35]: from numpy.linalg import LinAlgError

try:
    np.linalg.inv(B)
except LinAlgError:
    print("matrix is not invertible")
```

matrix is not invertible

Python and SymPy

```
In [36]: import sympy
from sympy import Matrix
```

- creating a vector

```
In [37]: x = Matrix([1,2,3])
x
```

Out[37]: $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$

- creating a matrix

```
In [38]: A = Matrix(
[
    [1,2, 3],
    [4,5,6],
    [7,8,9]
])
A
```

Out[38]: $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$

vector algebra

```
In [39]: y = Matrix([3,10,4])
y
```

Out[39]: $\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 10 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$

```
In [40]: x+y
```

Out[40]: $\begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 12 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}$

```
In [41]: 3*x
```

Out[41]: $\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 6 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}$

```
In [42]: 2 * x - 3 * y
```

Out[42]: $\begin{bmatrix} -7 \\ -26 \\ -6 \end{bmatrix}$

applying a vector to a matrix

In [43]: $A \cdot x$

Out[43]:
$$\begin{bmatrix} 14 \\ 32 \\ 50 \end{bmatrix}$$

matrix transposition

In [44]: $A.T$

Out[44]:
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 7 \\ 2 & 5 & 8 \\ 3 & 6 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

matrix multiplication

In [45]: $B = \text{Matrix}(\begin{bmatrix} 4, 1, 0 \\ 1, 0, 2 \\ 4, 5, 6 \end{bmatrix})$
B

Out[45]:
$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

In [46]: $A \cdot B$

Out[46]:
$$\begin{bmatrix} 18 & 16 & 22 \\ 45 & 34 & 46 \\ 72 & 52 & 70 \end{bmatrix}$$

identity matrix

In [47]: $\text{sympy.eye}(3)$

Out[47]:
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

diagonal matrix

In [48]: $\text{sympy.diag}(1, 2, 3)$

Out[48]:
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

matrix inverse

In [49]: $A = \text{Matrix}(\begin{bmatrix} 1, -4, 2 \\ -2, 1, 3 \\ 2, 6, 8 \end{bmatrix})$

```
In [50]: A.inv()
```

```
Out[50]: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{5}{63} & -\frac{22}{63} & \frac{1}{9} \\ -\frac{11}{63} & -\frac{2}{63} & \frac{1}{18} \\ \frac{1}{9} & \frac{1}{9} & \frac{1}{18} \end{bmatrix}$$

```

```
In [51]: B = Matrix([
    [
        [1, -4, 2],
        [-2, 1, 3],
        [2, 6, -10]
    ]
])
```

```
In [52]: try:
    B.inv()
except ValueError:
    print("B is not invertible")
```

B is not invertible

Symbolic computation with SymPy

The real strength of SymPy is that it can calculate with variables as well as with numbers.

```
In [53]: from sympy import symbols
a,b,c,d = symbols('a b c d')
```

```
In [54]: A = Matrix([
    [a, b],
    [c, d]
])
A
```

```
Out[54]: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$$

```

```
In [55]: A.inv()
```

```
Out[55]: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{d}{ad-bc} & -\frac{b}{ad-bc} \\ -\frac{c}{ad-bc} & \frac{a}{ad-bc} \end{bmatrix}$$

```