

Gauss Elimination Method to solve Simultaneous Linear Equations

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Matrix form of Simultaneous Linear Equations

- A system of m linear equations in n unknowns is of the form

$$a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n = k_1$$

$$a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n = k_2$$

.....

$$a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + \dots + a_{mn}x_n = k_m$$

- The matrix form of the system is $AX = K$ where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix} \quad X = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \dots \\ x_m \end{bmatrix} \quad K = \begin{bmatrix} k_1 \\ k_2 \\ \dots \\ k_m \end{bmatrix}$$

Consistency

- $AK = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} & k_1 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} & k_2 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} & k_m \end{bmatrix}$
- Here A is called the co-efficient matrix, AK is called the augmented matrix.
- If $R(A) \neq R(AK)$, the system is inconsistent, ie. have no solution.
- If $R(A) = R(AK) = n$, the system is consistent and have a unique solution.
- If $R(A) = R(AK) < n$, the system is consistent and have an infinite number of solutions.

Gauss Elimination Method- Working Rule

- Write the augmented matrix AK .
- Reduce it to an upper triangular matrix by elementary row operations.
- Find value of unknowns by back substitution

Problem

Apply Gauss elimination method to solve the system

$$x + 4y - z = -5$$

$$x + y - 6z = -12$$

$$3x - y - z = 4$$

Solution

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & -1 & -5 \\ 1 & 1 & -6 & -12 \\ 3 & -1 & -1 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \quad R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - R_1 \text{ and } R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - 3R_1$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & -1 & -5 \\ 0 & -3 & -5 & -7 \\ 0 & -13 & 2 & 19 \end{bmatrix} \quad R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - \frac{13}{3}R_2$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & -1 & -5 \\ 0 & -3 & -5 & -7 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{71}{3} & \frac{148}{3} \end{bmatrix}$$

By back substitution,

$$\frac{71}{3}z = \frac{148}{3}; z = 2.0845$$

$$3y = 7 - 5z; y = -1.1408$$

$$x = -5 - 4y + z; x = 1.6479$$

Problem

Apply Gauss elimination method to solve the system

$$2x + z = 3$$

$$x - y - z = 1$$

$$3x - y = 4$$

Solution

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ 3 & -1 & 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \quad R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - \frac{1}{2}R_1 \text{ and } R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - \frac{3}{2}R_1$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & -1 & -\frac{3}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & -1 & -\frac{3}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} \quad R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - R_2$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & -1 & -\frac{3}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Here $R(A) = R(AK) = 2 < \text{no. of unknowns}$. Hence there are infinite number of solutions.

By back substitution,

$$2x + z = 3$$

$$-y - \frac{3}{2}z = -\frac{1}{2}$$

$$z = t, \text{ an arbitrary value; } y = \frac{1-3t}{2}; x = \frac{3-t}{2}$$

Problem

Apply Gauss elimination method to solve the system

$$4y + 3z = 8$$

$$2x - z = 2$$

$$3x + 2y = 5$$

Solution

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 4 & 3 & 8 \\ 2 & 0 & -1 & 2 \\ 3 & 2 & 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \leftrightarrow R_1} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 4 & 3 & 8 \\ 3 & 2 & 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - \frac{3}{2}R_1} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 4 & 3 & 8 \\ 0 & 2 & \frac{3}{2} & 2 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - \frac{2}{4}R_2} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 4 & 3 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Here $R(A) \neq R(AK)$. Hence the system is inconsistent.

Assignment Problems

1. Apply Gauss elimination method to solve the system

$$10x - 7y + 3z + 5u = 6$$

$$-6x + 8y - z - 4u = 5$$

$$3x + y + 4z + 11u = 2$$

$$5x - 9y - 2z + 4u = 7$$

2. Apply Gauss elimination method to solve the system

$$x - 2y + 3z - u = 10$$

$$2x + 3y - 3z - u = 5$$

$$3x + 2y - 4z + 3u = 2$$

$$2x - y + 2z + 3u = 7$$

3. Apply Gauss elimination method to solve the system

$$x - 2y + 3z = -2$$

$$-x + y - 2z = 3$$

$$2x - y + 3z = 1$$

Thank You