

# Linear equations 1

## Linear algebra basics

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# Today's outline

- Introduction
- Matrix inversion
- Solving a linear system
- Towards larger systems
- Summary

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# Overview

## Goals

- Different ways of looking at a system of linear equations
- Determination of the inverse, determinant and the rank of a matrix
- The existence of a solution to a set of linear equations

# Different views of linear systems

- Separate equations:

$$x + y + z = 4$$

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

$$3x + y + 6z = 5$$

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- Linear combination:

$$x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + y \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + z \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 7 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

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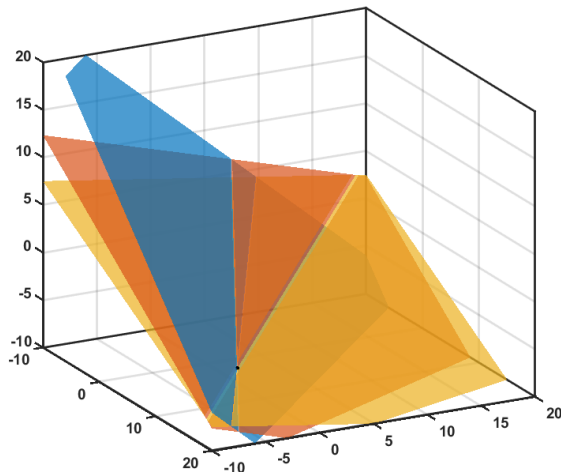
$$3x + y + 6z = 5$$

- Matrix mapping  $Mx = b$ :

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# Inverse of a matrix

- The inverse  $M^{-1}$  is defined such that:

$$MM^{-1} = I \quad \text{and} \quad M^{-1}M = I$$

- Use the inverse to solve a set of linear equations:

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

$$M^{-1}M\mathbf{x} = M^{-1}\mathbf{b}$$

$$I\mathbf{x} = M^{-1}\mathbf{b}$$

$$\mathbf{x} = M^{-1}\mathbf{b}$$

# How to calculate the inverse?

- The inverse of an  $N \times N$  matrix can be calculated using the co-factors of each element of the matrix:

$$M^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det|M|} \begin{bmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} & C_{13} \\ C_{21} & C_{22} & C_{23} \\ C_{31} & C_{32} & C_{33} \end{bmatrix}^T$$

- $\det|M|$  is the *determinant* of matrix  $M$ .
- $C_{ij}$  is the *co-factor* of the  $ij^{\text{th}}$  element in  $M$ .

# Computing the co-factors

Consider the following example matrix:  $M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$

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$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & \times & \times \\ \times & 1 & 3 \\ \times & 1 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$\begin{bmatrix} + & - & + \\ - & + & - \\ + & - & + \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$C_{11} = +1 \cdot \det \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 6 \end{vmatrix} \\ = 6 \times 1 - 3 \times 1 = 3$$

# Computing the co-factors

Back to our example:

$$M^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 6 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det|M|} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -3 & -1 \\ -5 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}^T$$



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- The determinant is very important
- If  $\det|M| = 0$ , the inverse does not exist (singular matrix)

# Calculating the determinant

Compute the determinant by multiplication of each element on a row (or column) by its cofactor and adding the results:

$$\det \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 6 \end{vmatrix} = +\det \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 6 \end{vmatrix} - \det \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 6 \end{vmatrix} + \det \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = -1$$

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Compute the determinant by multiplication of each element on a row (or column) by its cofactor and adding the results:

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

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# Solving a linear system

- Our example:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 7 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

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- The solution is:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = M^{-1}b = \frac{1}{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -5 & 2 \\ -3 & 3 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 7 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{-1} \begin{bmatrix} -13 \\ 4 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 13 \\ -4 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}$$

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- The inverse exists, because  $\det|M| = -1$ .

# Solving a linear system in Python using the inverse

- Create the matrix:

```
1 >>> A = np.array([[1, 1, 1], [2, 1, 3], [3, 1, 6]])
```



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- Python's internal direct solver:

```
1 >>> x = np.linalg.solve(A, b)
```

- These are black boxes! We are going over some methods later!

## Exercise: performance of inverse computation

Create a script that generates matrices with random elements of various sizes  $N \times N$  (e.g. values of  $N \in \{10, 20, 50, 100, 200, \dots, 5000, 10000\}$ ). Compute the inverse of each matrix, and use `import time` and `time.time()` to see the computing time for each inversion. Plot the time as a function of the matrix size  $N$ .

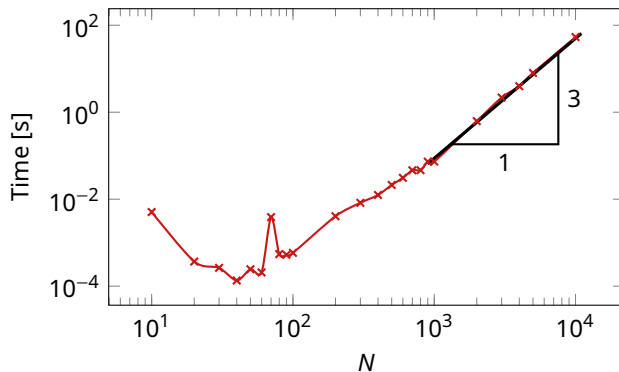
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```
1 import numpy as np
2 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
3 import time
4
5 # Generate random matrices of various sizes 's'.
6 # Invert the matrices and store the time required
7 # for the inversion. Plot the times vs 's'
8 s = np.array([10, 20, 50, 100, 200, 500, 1000, 2000, 5000, 10000])
9 t_inv = []
10 for n in s:
11     print(f'Working on size {n}')
12     A = np.random.rand(n, n)
13     start_time = time.time()
14     Ainv = np.linalg.inv(A)
15     t_inv.append(time.time() - start_time)
16
17 plt.loglog(s, t_inv)
18 plt.xlabel('N')
19 plt.ylabel('Time [s]')
20 plt.show()
```

## Exercise: sample results

Each computer produces slightly different results because of background tasks, different matrices, etc. This is especially noticable for small systems.



The time increases by 3 orders of magnitude, for every magnitude in  $N$ . The *computational complexity* of matrix inversion scales with  $\mathcal{O}(N^3)$ !

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# Towards larger systems

Computation of determinants and inverses of large matrices in this way is too difficult (slow), so we need other methods to solve large linear systems!

# Towards larger systems

- Determinant of upper triangular matrix:

$$\det |M_{\text{tri}}| = \prod_{i=1}^n a_{ii} \quad M = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 9 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \det |M| = 5 \times 9 \times 1 = 45$$

- Matrix multiplication:

$$\det |AM| = \det |A| \times \det |M|$$

- When  $A$  is an identity matrix ( $\det |A| = 1$ ):

$$\det |AM| = \det |A| \times \det |M| = 1 \times \det |M|$$

- With rules like this, we can use row-operations so that we can compute the determinant more cheaply.

# Solutions of linear systems

Rank of a matrix: the number of linearly independent columns (columns that can not be expressed as a linear combination of the other columns) of a matrix.

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 9 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- 3 independent columns
- In Python:

```
1 >>> numpy.linalg.matrix_rank(M)
```

- col 2 = 2 × col 1
- col 4 = col 3 - col 1
- 2 independent columns: rank = 2

# Solutions of linear systems

The solution of a system of linear equations may or may not exist, and it may or may not be unique. Existence of solutions can be determined by comparing the rank of the Matrix  $M$  with the rank of the augmented matrix  $M_a$ :

```
1 >>> numpy.linalg.matrix_rank(A)
2 >>> numpy.linalg.matrix_rank(np.column_stack((A,b))) # Concatenated matrices
```

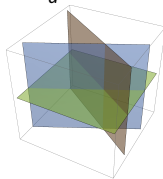
Our system:  $Mx = b$

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} M_{11} & M_{12} & M_{13} \\ M_{21} & M_{22} & M_{23} \\ M_{31} & M_{32} & M_{33} \end{bmatrix}, b = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow M_a = \begin{bmatrix} M_{11} & M_{12} & M_{13} & b_1 \\ M_{21} & M_{22} & M_{23} & b_2 \\ M_{31} & M_{32} & M_{33} & b_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Existence of solutions for linear systems

For a matrix  $M$  of size  $n \times n$ , and augmented matrix  $M_a$ :

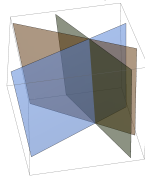
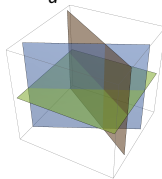
- $\text{Rank}(M) = n$ :  
Unique solution



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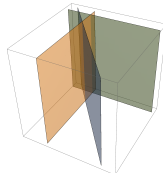
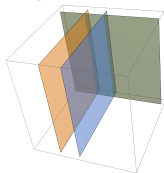
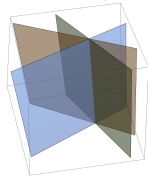
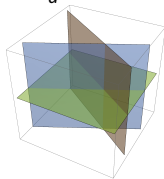
- $\text{Rank}(M) = n$ :  
Unique solution
- $\text{Rank}(M) = \text{Rank}(M_a) < n$ :  
Infinite number of solutions



# Existence of solutions for linear systems

For a matrix  $M$  of size  $n \times n$ , and augmented matrix  $M_a$ :

- $\text{Rank}(M) = n$ :  
Unique solution
- $\text{Rank}(M) = \text{Rank}(M_a) < n$ :  
Infinite number of solutions
- $\text{Rank}(M) < n, \text{Rank}(M) < \text{Rank}(M_a)$ :  
No solutions



## Two examples

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad b = \begin{bmatrix} 17 \\ 11 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow M_a = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & 17 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 & 11 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\text{rank}(M) = 3 = n \Rightarrow \text{Unique solution}$



## Two examples

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$\text{rank}(M) = 3 = n \Rightarrow$  Unique solution

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad b = \begin{bmatrix} 17 \\ 11 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow M_a = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & 17 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 & 11 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\text{rank}(M) = \text{rank}(M_a) = 2 < n \Rightarrow$  Infinite number of solutions

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# Summary

- Linear equations can be written as matrices
- Using the inverse, the solution can be determined
  - Inverse via cofactors
  - Inverse and solution in Python
- Introduced the concept of computational complexity: matrix inversion scales with  $N^3$
- A solution depends on the rank of a matrix