Linear equations 1

Linear algebra basics

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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:

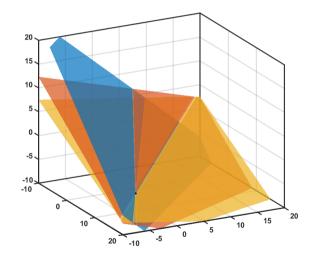
$$x+y+z=4$$
$$2x+y+3z=7$$
$$3x+y+6z=5$$

• Matrix mapping Mx = b:

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

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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Inverse of a matrix

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

$$MM^{-1} = I$$
 and $M^{-1}M = I$

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

$$Mx = b$$

$$M^{-1}Mx = M^{-1}b$$

$$Ix = M^{-1}b$$

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



How to calculate the inverse?

 The inverse of an N × 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^{th} element in M.



Computing the co-factors

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

A co-factor (e.g. C_{11}) is the determinant of the elements left over when you cover up the row and column of the element in question, multiplied by ± 1 , depending on the position.

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

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

= $6 \times 1 - 3 \times 1 = 3$



Computing the co-factors

Back to our example:

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

- 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:

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

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



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Solving a linear system

Our example:

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

• The solution is:

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

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



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Solving a linear system in Python using the inverse

Create the matrix:

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

Create solution vector:

```
>>> b = np.array([4, 7, 5])
```

Get the matrix inverse:

```
>>> Ainv = np.linalg.inv(A)
```

Compute the solution:

```
1 >>> x = np.dot(Ainv, b)
```

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 tic and toc to see the computing time for each inversion. Plot the time as a function of the matrix size N.

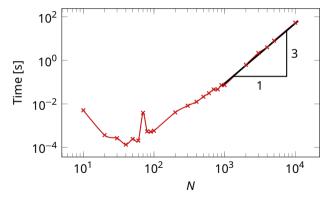
Hints:

- Create an array that contains the sizes of the systems n
- Loop over the array elements to:
 - Create a random matrix of size $n \times n$
 - Perform the matrix inversion
 - Record the time required
- Plot the time required for inversion vs size of the system on a double-log scale



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:

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

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.

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

- 3 independent columns
- In Python:

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

- $col 2 = 2 \times col 1$
- 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

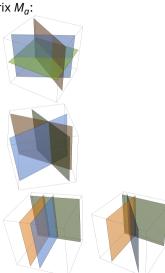
For a matrix M of size $n \times n$, and augmented matrix M_q :

Rank(M) = n:Unique solution

Rank(M) = Rank(M_a) < n:
 Infinite number of solutions

Rank(M) < n, Rank(M) < Rank(M_a):
 No solutions





Two examples

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

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

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

 $rank(M) = rank(M_a) = 2 < n \Rightarrow$ 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 N³
- A solution depends on the rank of a matrix

