

# Systems of Linear Equations

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# Chapter 1

## Introduction

### Definition 1.0.1: Linear Equation

An equation in the form

$$a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + \dots + a_nx_n = b$$

where the constant  $b$  and coefficients  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  are real or complex numbers.

### Definition 1.0.2: System of Linear Equations

A collection of one or more linear equations involving the same set of variables. When a system of linear equations is written in the form

$$\begin{aligned}a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + a_3x_3 &= b_1 \\a_4x_1 + a_6x_3 &= b_2\end{aligned}$$

The set of variables takes on the longest subscript in the system. In this case, the variables are  $x_1, x_2, x_3$ .

### Definition 1.0.3: Solution of a System of Linear Equations

The *solution* of a system of linear equations is a list of values,  $(s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n)$  that makes each equation in the system a true statement when the values are substituted for the variables, i.e.  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  and  $s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n$ , where  $s_n$  is substituted for  $x_n$

### Definition 1.0.4: Solution Set

The set of all possible solutions of a system of linear equations.

### Definition 1.0.5: Equivalence

Two linear systems are said to be *equivalent* if they have the same solution set.

### Definition 1.0.6: Consistency

A system of linear equations is said to be *consistent* if it has at least one solution, and *inconsistent* if it has no solution.

A system of linear equations can either have:

- No solution - Equations do not intersect
- Exactly one / Unique solution - Equations intersect at a single point
- Infinitely many solutions - Equations are the same

## 1.1 Matrix Notation

A system of linear equations can be represented in matrix form two ways:

- Coefficient Matrix
- Augmented Matrix

### 1.1.1 Coefficient Matrix

#### Definition 1.1.1: Coefficient Matrix

Denoted by  $A$ , the coefficient matrix is a matrix that contains the coefficients of the variables in the system of linear equations with the coefficients of each equation making up each row.

#### Example 1.1.1

For the system of linear equations:

$$a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + a_3x_3 = b_1$$

$$a_4x_1 + a_5x_2 + a_6x_3 = b_2$$

$$a_7x_1 + a_8x_2 + a_9x_3 = b_3$$

The coefficient matrix is:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ a_4 & a_5 & a_6 \\ a_7 & a_8 & a_9 \end{bmatrix}$$

### 1.1.2 Augmented Matrix

#### Definition 1.1.2: Augmented Matrix

Denoted by  $[A|B]$ , the augmented matrix is a matrix that contains the coefficients of the variables in the system of linear equations with the constant terms of each equation making up the last column.

#### Example 1.1.2

For the system of linear equations:

$$a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + a_3x_3 = b_1$$

$$a_4x_1 + a_5x_2 + a_6x_3 = b_2$$

$$a_7x_1 + a_8x_2 + a_9x_3 = b_3$$

The augmented matrix is:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 & b_1 \\ a_4 & a_5 & a_6 & b_2 \\ a_7 & a_8 & a_9 & b_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

### Definition 1.1.3: Size of a Matrix

The size of a matrix, denoted by  $m \times n$ , is the number of rows and columns in the matrix respectively. If  $n = m$  then the matrix is said to be square, if not, it is said to be rectangular.

## 1.2 Solving Linear Systems

### Definition 1.2.1: Pivot

Diagonal non-zero elements of a linear system

### Definition 1.2.2: Forward Elimination Process

The process used to change a system into an upper triangular matrix

### Definition 1.2.3: Backward Substitution Method

The process of deriving a solution from an upper triangular matrix

### Definition 1.2.4: Identity Matrix

A matrix containing all zeros with pivots of 1

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

One procedure used to solve linear systems is that of *simplification*. This involves replacing one linear system with a simpler equivalent system. This is done by applying the following operations to the system:

**Replacement** Replace one equation by the sum of itself and a multiple of another equation.

**Interchange** Interchange two equations.

**Scaling** Multiply all the terms in an equation by a non-zero constant.

### Example 1.2.1

#### Question 1

Solve the system

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 - 2x_2 + x_3 &= 0 \\ 2x_2 - 8x_3 &= 8 \\ 5x_1 - 5x_3 &= 10 \end{aligned}$$

**Solution:** Using the augmented matrix representation, we have:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & -8 & 8 \\ 5 & 0 & -5 & 10 \end{bmatrix}$$

Then we times the first equation through by  $-5$  and add it to the third equation to replace the third equation:

$$\begin{array}{r} -5x_1 + 10x_2 - 5x_3 = 0 \\ \quad 5x_1 - 5x_3 = 10 \\ \hline 10x_2 - 10x_3 = 10 \end{array}$$

Giving us:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & -8 & 8 \\ 0 & 10 & -10 & 10 \end{bmatrix}$$

We then eliminate  $x_2$  by multiplying equation 2 by  $-5$  and add it again to the third equation again replacing it:

$$\begin{array}{r} -10x_2 + 40x_3 = -40 \\ 10x_2 - 10x_3 = 10 \\ \hline 30x_3 = -30 \end{array}$$

Giving us:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & -8 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 30 & -30 \end{bmatrix}$$

This new system has a triangular form, i.e.

$$\begin{array}{rcl} x_1 - 2x_2 + x_3 & = & 0 \\ 2x_2 - 8x_3 & = & 8 \\ 30x_3 & = & -30 \end{array}$$

We then continue eliminating variables until one remains in each equation:

$$\begin{array}{r} -x_3 = 1 \\ x_1 - 2x_2 + x_3 = 0 \\ \hline x_1 - 2x_2 = 1 \end{array}$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & -8 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 30 & -30 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 8x_3 = -8 \\ 2x_2 - 8x_3 = 8 \\ \hline 2x_2 = 0 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 30 & -30 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x_2 = 0 \\ x_1 - 2x_2 = 1 \\ \hline x_1 = 1 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 30 & -30 \end{bmatrix}$$

Giving us the system:

$$\begin{array}{rcl} x_1 & = & 1 \\ 2x_2 & = & 0 \\ 30x_3 & = & -30 \end{array}$$

Which simplifies into:

$$x_1 = 1$$

$$x_2 = 0$$

$$x_3 = -1$$

#### Definition 1.2.5: Row Equivalence

Two matrices are row equivalent if there is a sequence of elementary row operations that transforms one matrix into the other

#### Theorem 1.2.1

If the augmented matrices of two linear systems are row equivalent, then the two equations have the same solution set.

## 1.3 Identifying Existence and Uniqueness

To determine the nature of a linear system we must answer two fundamental questions:

- Is the system consistent? / Does a solution exist?
- If a solution exists, is it the only one? / Is the solution unique

#### Example 1.3.1

##### Question 2

Determine if the following system is consistent:

$$x_1 - 2x_2 + x_3 = 0$$

$$2x_2 - 8x_3 = 8$$

$$5x_1 - 5x_3 = 10$$

**Solution:** Having already found the solution for this system:

$$x_1 = 1$$

$$x_2 = 0$$

$$x_3 = -1$$

We can determine that a solution exists, and due to the fact  $x_2$  is uniquely determined by equation two,  $x_3$  has only one possible value, and  $x_1$  is also uniquely determined by equation one, we can also conclude this solution is unique.

#### Example 1.3.2

### Question 3

Determine if the following system is consistent:

$$\begin{aligned}x_2 - 4x_3 &= 8 \\2x_1 - 3x_2 + 2x_3 &= 1 \\4x_1 - 8x_2 + 12x_3 &= 1\end{aligned}$$

**Solution:** The augmented matrix is:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & -4 & 8 \\ 2 & -3 & 2 & 1 \\ 4 & -8 & 12 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

We interchange equations 1 and 2:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -3 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -4 & 8 \\ 4 & -8 & 12 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned}-4x_1 + 6x_2 - 4x_3 &= -2 \\4x_1 - 8x_2 + 12x_3 &= 1 \\ \hline -2x_2 + 8x_3 &= -1\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -3 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -4 & 8 \\ 0 & -2 & 8 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned}2x_2 - 8x_3 &= 16 \\-2x_2 + 8x_3 &= -1 \\ \hline 0 &= 15\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -3 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -4 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 15 \end{bmatrix}$$

Now in its triangular form, we can determine the existence and uniqueness of the solutions:

$$\begin{aligned}2x_1 - 3x_2 + 2x_3 &= 1 \\x_2 - 4x_3 &= 8 \\0 &= 15\end{aligned}$$

Since there are no coefficients for  $x_1$ ,  $x_2$ , and  $x_3$  in equation 3 equation 3 has no solution. This makes the solution set for this linear system  $\{1, 8\}$ . Because this set is the same as the solution set for the original linear system,  $\{8, 1, 1\}$ , the original system is inconsistent



## 1.4 Exercises

### Question 4

Determine if the linear system represented by the augmented matrix below is consistent:

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 5 & 2 & -6 \\ 0 & 4 & -7 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

**Solution:**

$$x_1 + 5x_2 + 2x_3 = -6$$

$$4x_2 - 7x_3 = 2$$

$$5x_3 = 0$$

$$x_3 = 0$$

$$x_1 + 5x_2 = -6$$

$$x_1 = -6 - 5x_2$$

$$4x_2 = 2$$

$$x_2 = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$x_1 = -6 - 5\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$$

$$x_1 = -\frac{17}{2}$$

### Question 5

Solve the following systems:

1.

$$x_2 + 4x_3 = -5$$

$$x_1 + 3x_2 + 5x_3 = -2$$

$$3x_1 + 7x_2 + 7x_3 = 6$$

2.

$$x_1 - 2x_4 = -3$$

$$2x_2 + 2x_3 = 0$$

$$x_3 + 3x_4 = 1$$

$$-2x_1 + 3x_2 + 2x_3 + x_4 = 5$$

**Solution:**

1.

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccc} 0 & 1 & 4 & -5 \\ 1 & 3 & 5 & -2 \\ 3 & 7 & 7 & 6 \end{array} \right]$$

$$R_1 \leftrightarrow R_3$$

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

$$\frac{1}{3}R_1 - R_2 \rightarrow R_2$$

$$x_1 + \frac{7}{3}x_2 + \frac{7}{3}x_3 = 2$$

$$\frac{x_1 + 3x_2 + 5x_3 = -2}{\frac{2}{3}x_2 - \frac{8}{3}x_3 = 4}$$

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

$$3R_2$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 7 & 7 & 6 \\ 0 & -2 & -8 & 12 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 & -5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$-\frac{1}{2}R_2 - R_3 \rightarrow R_3$$

$$x_2 + 4x_3 = -6$$

$$\frac{x_2 + 4x_3 = -5}{0 = -1}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 7 & 7 & 6 \\ 0 & -2 & -8 & 12 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Because the system has a contradiction in row 3,  $0x_1 + 0x_2 + 0x_3 = -1$ , the system has no solution and is therefore inconsistent.

2.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & -2 & -3 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 & 1 \\ -2 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_1 \leftrightarrow R_4$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -2 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & -2 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$-\frac{1}{2}R_1 - R_4 \rightarrow R_4$$

$$x_1 - \frac{3}{2}x_2 - x_3 - \frac{1}{2}x_4 = -\frac{5}{2}$$

$$\frac{x_1 + 0 + 0 - 2x_4 = -3}{-\frac{3}{2}x_2 - x_3 + \frac{3}{2}x_4 = \frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -2 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & -\frac{3}{2} & -1 & \frac{3}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$-\frac{3}{4}R_2 - R_4 \rightarrow R_4$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 0 - \frac{3}{2}x_2 - \frac{3}{2}x_3 + 0 = 0 \\ 0 - \frac{3}{2}x_2 - x_3 + \frac{3}{2}x_4 = \frac{1}{2} \\ \hline -\frac{1}{2}x_3 - \frac{3}{2}x_4 = -\frac{1}{2} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -2 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{3}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$-\frac{1}{2}R_3 - R_4 \rightarrow R_4$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 0 + 0 - \frac{1}{2}x_3 - \frac{3}{2}x_4 = -\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 + 0 - \frac{1}{2}x_3 - \frac{3}{2}x_4 = -\frac{1}{2} \\ \hline 0x_1 + 0x_2 + 0x_3 + 0x_4 = 0 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -2 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{3}{2}R_2 - R_1 \rightarrow R_1$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 0 + 3x_2 + 3x_3 + 0 = 0 \\ -2x_1 + 3x_2 + 2x_3 + x_4 = 5 \\ \hline 2x_1 + 0 + x_3 - x_4 = -5 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 1 & -1 & -5 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_3 - R_1 \rightarrow R_1$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 0 + 0 + x_3 + 3x_4 = 1 \\ 2x_1 + 0 + x_3 - x_4 = -5 \\ \hline -2x_1 + 0 + 0 + 4x_4 = 6 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -2 & 0 & 0 & 4 & 6 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$2R_3 - R_2 \rightarrow R_2$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 0 + 0 + 2x_3 + 6x_4 = 2 \\ 0 + 2x_2 + 2x_3 + 0 = 0 \\ \hline -2x_2 + 6x_4 = 2 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -2 & 0 & 0 & 4 & 6 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 & 6 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{R_1}{-2}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & -2 & -3 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 & 6 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{R_2}{-2}$$

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

$$x_1 + -2x_4 = -3$$

$$x_2 - 3x_4 = -1$$

$$x_3 + 3x_4 = 1$$

$$0 = 0$$

$$x_4 = \frac{1}{2}x_1 + \frac{3}{2}$$

$$x_2 = -1 + 3x_4$$

$$x_3 = 1 - 3x_4$$

$$x_1 = -3 + 2x_4$$

### Question 6

For the following matrices find the elementary row operation that transforms the first matrix into the second, and then find the reverse row operation that transforms the second matrix into the first

1.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & -2 & 6 \\ 0 & -5 & 9 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & -4 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 \\ 0 & -5 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

2.

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

**Solution:**

1. Let the first matrix be  $M_1$  and the second be  $M_2$

$$M_1 \rightarrow M_2 = -\frac{1}{2}R_2$$

$$M_2 \rightarrow M_1 = \frac{R_2}{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

2. Let the first matrix be  $M_1$  and the second be  $M_2$

$$M_1 \rightarrow M_2 = -4R_1 + R_3 \rightarrow R_3$$

$$M_2 \rightarrow M_1 = R_3 - 4R_1$$

## Chapter 2

# Row Reduction and Echelon Forms

### Definition 2.0.1: Leading Entry

The leftmost entry in a non-zero row

### Definition 2.0.2: Upper triangular matrix / Echelon Form

A rectangular matrix is in *echelon form* / *row echelon form* if it has the following proprieties:

- All non-zero rows are above any rows of all zeros
- Each leading entry of a row is in a column to the right of the leading entry of the row above it
- All entries in a column below a leading entry are zeros

### Definition 2.0.3: Reduced Row Echelon Form

A matrix is in *reduced row echelon form* if it meets all the conditions of a matrix in echelon form and:

- The leading entry in each non-zero row is 1
- Each leading 1 is the only non-zero entry in its column

### Definition 2.0.4: Echelon Matrix

A matrix that is in echelon form

### Definition 2.0.5: Reduced Echelon Matrix

A matrix that is in reduced row echelon form

### Theorem 2.0.1 Uniqueness of a Row Reduced Echelon Form

Each matrix is row equivalent to one and only one reduced row echelon form

Therefore if matrix  $A$  is row equivalent to an echelon matrix  $U$ ,  $U$  is the **echelon form of  $A$** , and if  $A$  is row equivalent to a reduced echelon matrix  $R$ ,  $R$  is the **reduced echelon form of  $A$** .

## 2.1 Pivot Positions

### Definition 2.1.1: Pivot Position

A *pivot position* in matrix  $A$  is a location in  $A$  that corresponds to a leading 1 in the reduced echelon form of  $A$ .

**Definition 2.1.2: Pivot Column**

A column of a matrix  $A$  that contains a pivot position.

A pivot cannot be 0 and a pivot column cannot contain any other non-zero entries. Therefore when identifying pivot positions we look for the first non-zero entry in each row, that is not in a column that already contains a pivot.

**Example 2.1.1**

For the reduced echelon matrix:

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

The pivots positions are  $(1, 1)$ ,  $(2, 2)$ ,  $(3, 4)$  and values are  $(1, 2, -5)$

## 2.2 The Row Reduction Algorithm

The row Reduction Algorithm reduces a matrix to its echelon form in four steps with the fifth reducing the echelon matrix to a reduced echelon matrix. These steps are:

1. Start with the leftmost non-zero column, this is the first pivot column, with its pivot position at the top of the column
2. Select a non-zero entry in the pivot column as a pivot, interchanging rows if necessary
3. Use row replacement operations to create all zeros below the pivot.
4. Cover the row containing the pivot and repeat the process for the submatrix that remains.
5. Beginning with the rightmost pivot and working upward to the left, create zeros above each pivot. If the pivot is not 1 make it 1 via a scaling operation

**Example 2.2.1**

Given the matrix:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 3 & -6 & 6 & 4 & 5 \\ 3 & -7 & 8 & -5 & 8 & 9 \\ 3 & -9 & 12 & -9 & 6 & 15 \end{bmatrix}$$

We interchange the first and second rows to have the first item in the leftmost column be non-zero:

$$R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & -7 & 8 & -5 & 8 & 9 \\ 0 & 3 & -6 & 6 & 4 & 5 \\ 3 & -9 & 12 & -9 & 6 & 15 \end{bmatrix}$$

We then select the non-zero entry in the first column, 3, as the pivot for the first column, and use it to render zeros in the first column below the pivot  $R_1 - R_3 \rightarrow R_3$

$$\begin{array}{r} 3x_1 - 7x_2 + 8x_3 - 5x_4 + 8x_5 = 9 \\ 3x_1 - 9x_2 + 12x_3 - 9x_4 + 6x_5 = 15 \\ \hline 2x_2 - 4x_3 + 4x_4 + 2x_5 = -6 \end{array}$$

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

And repeat the process for the remaining columns:

$$\frac{2}{3}R_2 - R_3 \rightarrow R_3$$

$$0 + 2x_2 - 4x_3 + 4x_4 + \frac{8}{3}x_5 = \frac{10}{3}$$

$$\frac{0 + 2x_2 - 4x_3 + 4x_4 + 2x_5 = -6}{0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + \frac{2}{3}x_5 = \frac{28}{3}}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & -7 & 8 & -5 & 8 & 9 \\ 0 & 3 & -6 & 6 & 4 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{2}{3} & \frac{28}{3} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$6R_3 - R_2 \rightarrow R_2$$

$$0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 4x_5 = 56$$

$$\frac{0 + 3x_2 - 6x_3 + 6x_4 + 4x_5 = 5}{-3x_2 + 6x_3 - 6x_4 = 51}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & -7 & 8 & -5 & 8 & 9 \\ 0 & -3 & 6 & -6 & 0 & 51 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{2}{3} & \frac{28}{3} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$12R_3 - R_1 \rightarrow R_1$$

$$0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 8x_5 = 612$$

$$\frac{3x_1 - 7x_2 + 8x_3 - 5x_4 + 8x_5 = 9}{-3x_1 + 7x_2 - 8x_3 + 5x_4 = 603}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -3 & 7 & -8 & 5 & 0 & 603 \\ 0 & -3 & 6 & -6 & 0 & 51 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{2}{3} & \frac{28}{3} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$-\frac{7}{3}R_2 - R_1 \rightarrow R_1$$

$$0 + 7x_2 - 14x_3 + 14x_4 + 0 = -119$$

$$\frac{-3x_1 + 7x_2 - 8x_3 + 5x_4 + 0 = 603}{3x_1 + 0 - 6x_3 + 9x_4 = -722}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & -6 & 9 & 0 & -722 \\ 0 & -3 & 6 & -6 & 0 & 51 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{2}{3} & \frac{28}{3} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{3}{2}R_3 \rightarrow R_3$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & -6 & 9 & 0 & -722 \\ 0 & -3 & 6 & -6 & 0 & 51 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 14 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$-\frac{1}{3}R_2 \rightarrow R_2$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & -6 & 9 & 0 & -722 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 2 & 0 & -17 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 14 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{3}R_1 \rightarrow R_1$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2 & 3 & 0 & -\frac{722}{3} \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 2 & 0 & -17 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 14 \end{bmatrix}$$



## 2.3 Solutions of Linear Systems

### Definition 2.3.1: Free Variable

A variable that does not exist in a row of a matrix

### Definition 2.3.2: Parametric Equations

Any equation that expresses the variables in a system of linear equations in terms of a free variable.

### Definition 2.3.3: Basic Variable

A variable that exists in a row of a matrix

In deriving a reduced echelon matrix we can determine the consistency of a system of linear equations, and thereby describe the solution set. For example in the case below we have the reduced echelon matrix:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -5 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 - 5x_3 &= 1 \\ x_2 + x_3 &= 4 \\ 0 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

There are three variables  $x_1$ ,  $x_2$ , and  $x_3$ , as there are four columns in this augmented matrix. The variables  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  are referred to as basic variables as they have pivots in their columns, and  $x_3$  is a free variable as it does not have a pivot in its column, thus this system is consistent and has infinitely many solutions. Describing the solution set of this equation we can say:

$$\begin{cases} x_1 = 1 + 5x_3 \\ x_2 = 4 - x_3 \\ x_3 \text{ is free} \end{cases}$$

The statement " $x_3$  is free" means that  $x_3$  can take on any value, and by extension the values of  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  are determined by the value  $x_3$  takes on.

### Example 2.3.1

#### Question 7

Find the general solution of the linear system whose augmented matrix has been reduced to:

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

**Solution:**

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

$$-1R_3 - R_2 \rightarrow R_2$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
0 + 0 + 0 + 0 - 1 = -7 \\
0 + 0 + 2 - 8 - 1 = -3 \\
\hline
0 + 0 + -2 + 8 + 0 = -10
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 6 & 2 & -5 & -2 & -4 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 & 8 & 0 & -10 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$-2R_3 - R_1 \rightarrow R_1$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
0 + 0 + 0 + 0 - 2 = -14 \\
1 + 6 + 2 - 5 - 2 = -4 \\
\hline
-1 - 6 - 2 + 5 + 0 = -10
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & -6 & -2 & 5 & 0 & -10 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 & 8 & 0 & -10 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_2 - R_1 \rightarrow R_1$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
0 + 0 - 2 + 8 + 0 = -10 \\
-1 - 6 - 2 + 5 + 0 = -10 \\
\hline
1 + 6 + 0 + 3 + 0 = 0
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 6 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 & 8 & 0 & -10 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$-\frac{1}{2}R_2 \rightarrow R_2$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 6 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -4 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_1 + 6x_2 + 3x_4 = 0$$

$$x_3 - 4x_4 = 5$$

$$x_5 = 7$$

$$x_1 = -6x_2 - 3x_4 = 5 + 4x_4$$

$$x_5 = 7$$

$\therefore$

$$\begin{cases} x_1 = -6x_2 - 3x_4 \\ x_2 \text{ is free} \\ x_3 = 5 + 4x_4 \\ x_4 \text{ is free} \\ x_5 = 7 \end{cases}$$

### 2.3.1 Parametric Description of Solution Sets

#### Definition 2.3.4: Parametric Description

A description of the solution set of a system of linear equations in terms of a free variable.

The descriptions given so far are all parametric, i.e., the free variables act as parameters that determine the values of the basic variables.

### 2.3.2 Uniqueness and Existence of Solutions

#### Theorem 2.3.1 Existence and Uniqueness Theorem

A linear system is consistent if and only if the rightmost column of the augmented matrix is not a pivot column, i.e., if and only if an echelon form of the augmented matrix has no row of the form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & b \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $b$  is a non-zero number.

If a linear system is consistent then the solution set contains either:

- A unique solution, when there are no free variables.
- Infinitely many solutions in the presence of at least one free variable.

## 2.4 Exercises

### Question 8

Find the general solutions of the systems whose augmented matrices are:

1.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 4 & 7 \\ 3 & 9 & 7 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

2.

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

3.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & 0 & -1 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & -4 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 9 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Solution:**

1.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 4 & 7 \\ 3 & 9 & 7 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$3R_1 - R_2 \rightarrow R_2$$

$$3 + 9 + 12 = 21$$

$$\frac{3 + 9 + 7 = 6}{0 + 0 + 5 = 15}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 4 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 & 15 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{4}{5}R_2 - R_1 \rightarrow R_1$$

$$0 + 0 + 4 = 12$$

$$\frac{1 + 3 + 4 = 7}{-1 - 3 + 0 = 5}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & -3 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 & 15 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{5}R_2$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & -3 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$-R_1$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & -5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_1 + 3x_2 = -5$$

$$x_3 = 3$$

$$\begin{cases} x_1 = -5 - 3x_2 \\ x_2 \text{ is free} \\ x_3 = 3 \end{cases}$$

2.

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

$$R_2 \leftrightarrow R_3$$

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

$$R_1 + R_2 \rightarrow R_2$$

$$1 - 7 + 0 + 6 = 5$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -1 + 7 - 4 + 2 = 7 \\ \hline 0 + 0 - 4 + 8 = 12 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -7 & 0 & 6 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & -4 & 8 & 12 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -2 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{4}R_2 + R_3 \rightarrow R_3$$

$$0 + 0 - 1 + 2 = 3$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 0 + 0 + 1 - 2 = -3 \\ \hline 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 = 0 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -7 & 0 & 6 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & -4 & 8 & 12 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$-\frac{1}{4}R_2 \rightarrow R_2$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -7 & 0 & 6 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -2 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_1 - 7x_2 + 6x_4 = 5$$

$$x_3 - 2x_4 = -3$$

$$0 = 0$$

$$x_1 = 5 - 7x_2 + 6x_4$$

$$x_3 = -3 + 2x_4$$

$$\begin{cases} x_1 = 5 - 7x_2 + 6x_4 \\ x_2 \text{ is free} \\ x_3 = -3 + 2x_4 \\ x_4 \text{ is free} \end{cases}$$

### Question 9

Find  $h$  and  $k$  such that the system has:

1. No solutions
2. A unique solution
3. Many solutions

1.

$$x_1 + hx_2 = 2$$

$$4x_1 + 8x_2 = k$$

2.

$$x_1 + 3x_2 = 2$$

$$3x_1 + hx_2 = k$$

**Solution:**

1.

$$x_1 + hx_2 = 2$$

$$4x_1 + 8x_2 = k$$

(a)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & h & 2 \\ 4 & 8 & k \end{bmatrix}$$

$$-4R_1 + R_2 \rightarrow R_2$$

$$-4 - 4h = 8$$

$$4 + 8 = k$$

$$0 + (-4h + 8) = (-8 + k)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & h & 2 \\ 0 & (-4h + 8) & (-8 + k) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$-4h + 8 = 0$$

$$h = 2$$

$$-8 + k \neq 0$$

$$k \neq 8$$

$\therefore h = 2$  and  $k \neq 8$

(b)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & h & 2 \\ 4 & 8 & k \end{bmatrix}$$
$$-4R_1 + R_2 \rightarrow R_2$$

$$-4 - 4h = 8$$

$$4 + 8 = k$$

$$0 + (-4h + 8) = (-8 + k)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & h & 2 \\ 0 & (-4h + 8) & (-8 + k) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$h \neq 2$$

$$\therefore h \neq 2$$

(c)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & h & 2 \\ 4 & 8 & k \end{bmatrix}$$
$$-4R_1 + R_2 \rightarrow R_2$$

$$-4 - 4h = 8$$

$$4 + 8 = k$$

$$0 + (-4h + 8) = (-8 + k)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & h & 2 \\ 0 & (-4h + 8) & (-8 + k) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$-4h + 8 = 0$$

$$h = 2$$

$$-8 + k = 0$$

$$k = 8$$

$$\therefore h = 2 \text{ and } k = 8$$

# Chapter 3

## Vector Equations

Instead of matrix notation, we can represent a system of linear equations as a vector equation. For example, the system:

$$\begin{aligned}2x_1 + 4x_2 &= 3 \\ 3x_1 + 2x_2 &= 7\end{aligned}$$

Can be represented as:

$$x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}$$

### 3.0.1 Vectors in $\mathbb{R}^2$

#### Definition 3.0.1: Vector

A matrix with a single column

$\mathbb{R}^2$  refers to the set of all vectors with two real number entries this is also called the vector space. For example:

$$\mathbf{w} = \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

#### 3.0.1.1 Axioms of a Vector Space

**Commutativity**  $\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{w} + \mathbf{v}$ ,  $\forall \mathbf{v} \in V$

**Associativity**  $(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) + \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w})$  for all  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \in V$

**Zero Vector** there exists a special vector, denoted by  $\mathbf{0}$  such that  $\forall \mathbf{v} \in V$ ,  $\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{0} = \mathbf{v}$

**Additive Inverse** For every vector  $\mathbf{v} \in V$  there exists a vector  $\mathbf{w} \in V$  such that  $\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{0}$ . Such additive inverse is denoted by  $-\mathbf{v}$

**Multiplicative Identity**  $1\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}$ ,  $\forall \mathbf{v} \in V$

**Multiplicative Associativity**  $(\alpha\beta)\mathbf{v} = \alpha(\beta\mathbf{v})$ ,  $\forall \mathbf{v} \in V$  and all scalars  $\alpha, \beta$

**Distributive Property 1**  $\alpha(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) = \alpha\mathbf{u} + \alpha\mathbf{v}$ , for all  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in V$  and all scalars  $\alpha$

**Distributive Property 2**  $(\alpha + \beta)\mathbf{v} = \alpha\mathbf{v} + \beta\mathbf{v}$   $\forall \mathbf{v} \in V$  and all scalars  $\alpha, \beta$

#### Example 3.0.1



### Question 10

Given the  $\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}$ , find  $4\mathbf{u}$ ,  $(-3)\mathbf{v}$  and  $4\mathbf{u} + (-3)\mathbf{v}$

**Solution:**

1.

$$4\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -8 \end{bmatrix}$$

2.

$$-3\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} -6 \\ 15 \end{bmatrix}$$

3.

$$\begin{aligned} 4\mathbf{u} + (-3)\mathbf{v} &= \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -8 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -6 \\ 15 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

## 3.1 Linear Combinations

### Definition 3.1.1: Linear Combination

Given vectors  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and given scalars  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_p$ , then the vector  $\mathbf{y}$  defined by

$$\mathbf{y} = c_1\mathbf{v}_1 + c_2\mathbf{v}_2 + \dots + c_p\mathbf{v}_p$$

Is a linear combination of  $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p$ , with weights  $c_1, \dots, c_p$

### Definition 3.1.2: Mapping Function

A function in the form

$$f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow R$$

That takes in a vector as input,  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and returns a scalar,  $R$ .

### Example 3.1.1

#### Question 11

Let  $\mathbf{a}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{a}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$ , and  $\mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 4 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$ , Determine whether  $\mathbf{b}$  can be generated as a linear combination of  $\mathbf{a}_1$  and  $\mathbf{a}_2$ . That is determine whether weights  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  exist such that

$$x_1\mathbf{a}_1 + x_2\mathbf{a}_2 = \mathbf{b}$$

If such an equation has a solution find it.

**Solution:**

$$x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 4 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ -2x_1 \\ -5x_1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 2x_2 \\ 5x_2 \\ 6x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 4 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 + 2x_2 \\ -2x_1 + 5x_2 \\ -5x_1 + 6x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 4 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_1 + 2x_2 = 7$$

$$-2x_1 + 5x_2 = 4$$

$$-5x_1 + 6x_2 = -3$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 7 \\ -2 & 5 & 4 \\ -5 & 6 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Chapter 4

## Solution Sets of Linear systems

### 4.1 Homogeneous Linear Systems

#### Definition 4.1.1: Homogeneous Linear System

A system that can be expressed in the form

$$A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$$

Where  $A$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix and  $\mathbf{0}$  is the zero vector  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .

Such a system  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  always has at least one solution, namely  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ . This zero solution is also called the *trivial solution*. The question is then is whether there exists a *non-trivial solution* that satisfies  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ .

#### Definition 4.1.2: Trivial solution

A solution of zero

#### Definition 4.1.3: Non-Trivial solution

A solution that is not zero

#### Theorem 4.1.1

The homogeneous equation  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  has a non-trivial solution if and only if the equation has at least one free variable.

#### Example 4.1.1

##### Question 12

Determine if the following homogeneous system has a non-trivial solution. Then describe the solution set.

$$\begin{aligned}3x_1 + 5x_2 - 4x_3 &= 0 \\-3x_1 - 2x_2 + 4x_3 &= 0 \\6x_1 + x_2 - 8x_3 &= 0\end{aligned}$$

**Solution:**

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

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -\frac{4}{3} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_1 - \frac{4}{3}x_3 = 0$$

$$x_2 = 0$$

$$0 = 0$$

This gives us  $x_3$  as free. Due to the representation of a vector  $x_3 = x_3$

In vector notation we describe the solution

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{4}{3}x_3 \\ 0 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = x_3 \mathbf{v}$$

$$\text{Where } \mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{4}{3} \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

### Example 4.1.2

#### Question 13

A single linear equation can be treated as a very simple system of equations. Describe all solutions of the homogeneous system

$$10x_1 - 3x_2 - 2x_3 = 0$$

**Solution:**

$$\begin{bmatrix} 10 & -3 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_1 = \frac{3}{10}x_2 + \frac{1}{5}x_3$$

$$x_2 = x_2$$

$$x_3 = x_3$$

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{3}{10}x_2 + \frac{1}{5}x_3 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} \frac{3}{10} \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_3 \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{5} \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

## 4.2 Parametric Vector Form

### Definition 4.2.1: Parametric Vector Form

A description of the solution set of a system of linear equations in terms of a free variable. In the form:

$$\mathbf{x} = s\mathbf{u} + t\mathbf{v}, \text{ where } s, t \in \mathbb{R}$$

## 4.3 Non-Homogeneous Linear Systems

### Definition 4.3.1: Non-Homogeneous Linear System

A system that can be expressed in the form

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

Where  $A$  is a coefficient matrix,  $\mathbf{x}$  is a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $\mathbf{b}$  is a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .

When a non-homogeneous system has many solutions, the general solution can be written in parametric vector form as one vector plus an arbitrary linear combination of other vectors that satisfy the system.

### Example 4.3.1

#### Question 14

Describe all solutions of  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ , where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 5 & -4 \\ -3 & -2 & 4 \\ 6 & 1 & -8 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ -1 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Solution:**

### Theorem 4.3.1

Suppose the equation  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  is consistent for some given  $\mathbf{b}$ , and let  $\mathbf{p}$  be a solution. Then the solution set of  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  is the set of all vectors the form  $\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{p} + \mathbf{v}_h$ , where  $\mathbf{v}_h$  is any solution of the homogeneous equation  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ .

## Chapter 5

# Linear Independence

### Definition 5.0.1: Linear Independence

An indexed set of vectors  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is said to be *linearly independent* if the vector equation

$$x_1\mathbf{v}_1 + x_2\mathbf{v}_2 + x_3\mathbf{v}_3 + \dots + x_p\mathbf{v}_p = \mathbf{0}$$

has only the trivial solution.

### Definition 5.0.2: Linear Dependence

The set  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$  is said to be *linearly dependent* if there exist weights  $c_1, \dots, c_p$ , not all zero, such that

$$c_1\mathbf{v}_1 + c_2\mathbf{v}_2 + c_3\mathbf{v}_3 + \dots + c_p\mathbf{v}_p = \mathbf{0}$$

### Example 5.0.1

#### Question 15

Let  $\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

1. Determine if the set  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3\}$  is linearly independent
2. If possible find a linear dependence relationship between the vectors

**Solution:**

1.

$$\mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_2 + \mathbf{v}_3 = x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} + x_3 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

### 5.0.1 Linear Independence of Matrix Columns

#### Definition 5.0.3: Linear Independence of Matrix Columns

A matrix  $A$  is said to have linearly independent columns if the equation  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  has only the trivial solution.

#### Example 5.0.2

##### Question 16

Determine if the columns of the matrix are linearly independent

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 4 \\ 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 5 & 8 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Solution:**

$$\begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 8 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix} \neq \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Chapter 6

## Exercises

### Question 17

1. Suppose a  $3 \times 5$  coefficient matrix for a system has three pivot columns. Is the system consistent? Why or why not?
2. Suppose the coefficient matrix of a linear system of three equations in three variables has a pivot in each column. Explain why the system has a unique solution.

### **Solution:**

1. The system is consistent as if there are three pivot columns then there is a pivot in each row which means no row is of the form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Making the value of  $b$  irrelevant to the consistency of the system. Thus the system is consistent.

2. If the coefficient matrix has a pivot in each column then there is a pivot in each row, and no row is of the form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

As such the system is consistent and has a unique solution.