

# Lecture 09: Matrix Equations

## Multiplying a Matrix by a Vector

given an  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$   
with columns  $\vec{a}_1, \vec{a}_2, \dots, \vec{a}_n \in \mathbb{R}^m$   
and if  $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  then  $a_i$  represents  
the product of  $A$  and  $\vec{x}$

$$A\vec{x} = [a_1 \ a_2 \ \dots \ a_n] \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= x_1 a_1 + x_2 a_2 + \dots + x_n a_n$$

Example

Multiply  $\xrightarrow{\text{columns #}}$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & -5 & 3 \end{array} \right] \left[ \begin{array}{c} 4 \\ 5 \\ 7 \end{array} \right] \quad \left. \right\} \text{entries #}$$

$$= 4[1] + 3[-5] + 7[3]$$

$$= [4] + [-15] + [21]$$

$$= [3] \quad \text{answer}$$

# Three Forms

Linear Equation

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 + 2x_2 - x_3 &= 4 \\-5x_2 + 3x_3 &= 1\end{aligned}$$

Vector equation

$$x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix} + x_3 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Matrix equation

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & -5 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Given a matrix equation

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

this equation has the same solutions as the subsystem of linear equations whose aug matrix is

$$[a_1 \ a_2 \dots a_n \ b]$$

or

$$[\vec{A} \ \vec{b}]$$

## Existence of Solutions

- $Ax = b$  has a solution if  $b$  is a linear combination of the columns of  $A$
- We have considered the question: is  $b \in \text{Span}\{A\}$
- Is  $Ax = b$  consistent ~

# Theorem

Let  $A$  be a  $n \times n$  matrix  
The following statements  
are logically equivalent

- ① For each  $\vec{b}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , the equation  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  has a solution
- ② Each  $\vec{b}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is a linear combination of the columns of  $A$
- ③ The columns of  $A$  span  $\mathbb{R}^n$
- ④ The matrix  $A$  has a pivot in every row

if you prove one is true,  
all are true  
if one is false,  
all are false

# The Row-Vector Rule

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 5 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & -4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 4 \cdot 2 + -1 \cdot -1 + 0 \cdot 0 + 1 \cdot 5 \\ 2 \cdot 2 + 5 \cdot -1 + -2 \cdot 0 + 0 \cdot 5 \\ 0 \cdot 2 + 3 \cdot -1 + -4 \cdot 0 + 1 \cdot 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 8 + 1 + 0 + 5 \\ 4 + -5 + -2 + 0 \\ 0 + -3 + -4 + 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 14 \\ -3 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} ? \quad \text{did something wrong}$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} 14 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Algebraic Properties

$A$  is a  $m \times n$  matrix

$\vec{u}, \vec{v}$  are vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^m$

$c$  is a scalar

$$\textcircled{1} \quad A(\vec{u} + \vec{v}) = A\vec{u} + A\vec{v} \quad \text{distributive}$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad A(c\vec{u}) = c(A\vec{u})$$

$$A = [\vec{a}_1 \quad \vec{a}_2 \quad \vec{a}_3]$$

(1) Proof

$$\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A(\vec{u} + \vec{v}) = A \begin{bmatrix} u_1 + v_1 \\ u_2 + v_2 \\ u_3 + v_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= (u_1 + v_1)\vec{a}_1 + (u_2 + v_2)\vec{a}_2 \\ + (u_3 + v_3)\vec{a}_3$$

$$= u_1\vec{a}_1 + v_1\vec{a}_1 + u_2\vec{a}_2 + v_2\vec{a}_2 \\ + u_3\vec{a}_3 + v_3\vec{a}_3 \\ = A\vec{u} + A\vec{v}$$