Basic Maths for Non-mathematicians

Peleg Bar Sapir

$$\int_{a}^{b} f(x) dx = \lim_{\Delta x \to 0} \sum_{k=1}^{N} f(x_{k}) \Delta x$$

$$(AB)^{\top} = B^{\top} A^{\top} \qquad \mathbb{R}^{n} \xrightarrow{T} \mathbb{R}^{m}$$

$$\vec{v} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha_{i} \hat{e}_{i}$$

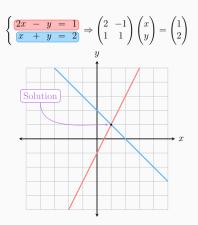
$$\frac{df}{dx} = \lim_{\Delta x \to 0} \frac{f(x + \Delta x) - f(x)}{\Delta x} \qquad A = Q^{\Lambda} Q^{-1}$$

$$\operatorname{Rot}(\theta) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\theta) & -\sin(\theta) \\ \sin(\theta) & \cos(\theta) \end{bmatrix} \int_{a}^{b} f(x) dx = F(b) - F(a)$$

$$T(\alpha \vec{u} + \beta \vec{v}) = \alpha T(\vec{u}) + \beta T(\vec{v}) \quad \langle \hat{e}_{i}, \hat{e}_{j} \rangle = \delta_{ij}$$



Chapter 5: Systems of Linear Equations



Definition

$$a_1 x_1 + a_2 x_2 + \cdots + a_n x_n = b$$

Definition

$$a_1 \underbrace{x_1} + a_2 \underbrace{x_2} + \dots + a_n \underbrace{x_n} = b$$



Definition

$$(a_1)x_1 + (a_2)x_2 + \dots + (a_n)x_n = b$$



Definition

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



Example

The following are three linear equations of the variables x,y and z:

$$2x - 7y + z = 26$$
$$-3x + y = -9$$
$$9y - 4z = -31$$

Note

In the second equation above the coefficient of z is zero, while in the last equation the coefficient of x is zero.

3

Definition

A **system of linear equation** is a set of linear equations of the same variables.

Example

The previous three equations can be combined together to form a system of three linear equations in three variables (x, y and z).

We can write systems of linear equations as product of a matrix (the coefficients) and a vector (the variables) equatling a vector (the free coefficients).

Example

The previous system can be written in matrix form as

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -7 & 1 \\ -3 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 9 & -4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 26 \\ -9 \\ -31 \end{pmatrix}.$$

5

A general system of m linear equations in n variables x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n can be written as

$$a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n = b_1$$

$$a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n = b_2$$

$$\vdots$$

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

A general system of m linear equations in n variables x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n can be written as

$$a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n = b_1$$

$$a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n = b_2$$

$$\vdots$$

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

In matrix form it is simply

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_m \end{pmatrix}.$$

Solution Set

Definition

A **solution** is an ordered set of values which correspond to the variables of the system, such that all of its equations are satisfied.

Solution Set

Definition

A **solution** is an ordered set of values which correspond to the variables of the system, such that all of its equations are satisfied.

Example

The only solution for the previous system is

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

which in vector form can be written as $\vec{u} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$.

7

Solution Set

Generally, a linear system might have any of the following:

- An **infinite** amount of distinct solutions.
- Only a single solution.
- No solutions.

The number of solutions depends on the properties of the system, which we will briefly explore in this chapter.

Geometric Interpretation of the Solution Set

A linear equation in two variables represents a line in \mathbb{R}^2 , a linear equation in three variables represents a plane in \mathbb{R}^3 , and so forth.

Thus, a solution of several linear equations represents a set of points where the respective shapes intersect.

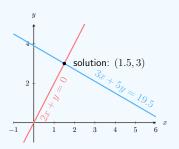
Geometric Interpretation of the Solution Set

Example

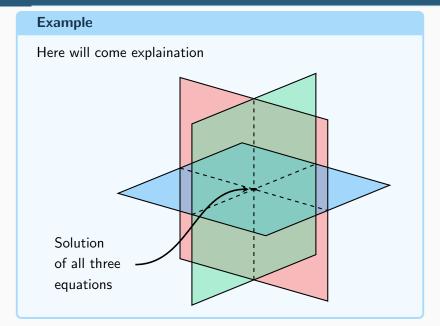
The equations

$$-2x + y = 0$$
$$3x + 5y = 19.5$$

represent the following two lines:



Geometric Interpretation of the Solution Set



We will now introduct the **Gaussian elimination method** for solving linear systems.

In matrix form, a system of linear equations looks as

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

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_m \end{pmatrix}.$$

We can "stick" A and \vec{b} together to form an augmented matrix:

$$\begin{pmatrix}
a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} & b_1 \\
a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} & b_2 \\
\vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\
a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} & b_m
\end{pmatrix}$$

We then apply to the matrix a sequence of **row operations**, untill the matrix is in a form which we will introduce in a moment.

$$\begin{pmatrix}
a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} & b_1 \\
a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} & b_2 \\
a_{31} & a_{32} & \dots & a_{3n} & b_3 \\
\vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\
a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} & b_m
\end{pmatrix}$$

- Exchange any two rows i and j.
- Multiply any row i by a scalar $0 \neq \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$.
- Subtract any γ -scaled row j from a different row $i \neq j$.

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} & b_1 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} & b_2 \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & \dots & a_{3n} & b_3 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} & b_m \end{pmatrix}$$

- Exchange any two rows 3 and 3.
- Multiply any row i by a scalar $0 \neq \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$.
- Subtract any γ -scaled row j from a different row $i \neq j$.

$$\begin{pmatrix}
a_{31} & a_{32} & \dots & a_{3n} & b_3 \\
a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} & b_2 \\
a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} & b_1 \\
\vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\
a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} & b_m
\end{pmatrix}$$

- Exchange any two rows and .
- Multiply any row i by a scalar $0 \neq \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$.
- Subtract any γ -scaled row j from a different row $i \neq j$.

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} & b_1 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} & b_2 \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & \dots & a_{3n} & b_3 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} & b_m \end{pmatrix}$$

- ullet Exchange any two rows i and j.
- Multiply any row i by a scalar $0 \neq \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$.
- Subtract any γ -scaled row j from a different row $i \neq j$.

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} & b_1 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} & b_2 \\ ya_{31} & \gamma a_{32} & \dots & \gamma a_{3n} & \gamma b_3 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} & b_m \end{pmatrix}$$

- Exchange any two rows i and j.
- Multiply any row i by a scalar $0 \neq \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$.
- Subtract any γ -scaled row j from a different row $i \neq j$.

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} & b_1 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} & b_2 \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & \dots & a_{3n} & b_3 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} & b_m \end{pmatrix}$$

- Exchange any two rows i and j.
- Multiply any row i by a scalar $0 \neq \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$.
- Subtract any γ -scaled row j from a different row $\ell \neq j$.

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} - \gamma a_{31} & a_{12} - \gamma a_{21} & \dots & a_{1n} - \gamma a_{3n} & b_1 - \gamma b_3 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} & b_2 \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & \dots & a_{3n} & b_3 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} & b_m \end{pmatrix}$$

- Exchange any two rows i and j.
- Multiply any row i by a scalar $0 \neq \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$.
- Subtract any γ -scaled row j from a different row $\ell \neq j$.

The process proceeds until the matrix is in a **row echelon form**, which has the following properties:

- all nonzero rows are above any row of zeroes, and
- the first nonzero number from the left, called the
 leading coefficient, of a nonzero row is always strictly to
 the right of the leading coefficient of the row above it.

Example

Matrices in row echelon form:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 4 & -1 & 7 \\ 0 & -2 & 9 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 7 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 6 & 2 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 9 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Further steps can be taken to bring a matrix to a reduced row echelon form, which is a row echelon form in which

- the matrix is in a row echelon form,
- ullet the leading coefficients are all 1 (called a **leading 1**), and
- each column containing a leading 1 has only zeros in its other components.

Example

Matrices in reduced row echelon form:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 9 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

When a matrix is in its reduced row echelon form, the system can be solved more easily, starting from the bottom-most non-zero row.

Example

The following system is given:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 7 \\ -2 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 6 \\ 14 \end{pmatrix}.$$

When a matrix is in its reduced row echelon form, the system can be solved more easily, starting from the bottom-most non-zero row.

Example

Rearranging into an augemented matrix:

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c}
0 & 1 & 7 & -4 \\
-2 & 0 & 2 & -6 \\
0 & 1 & 5 & -14
\end{array}\right)$$

When a matrix is in its reduced row echelon form, the system can be solved more easily, starting from the bottom-most non-zero row.

Example

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c}
-2 & 0 & 2 & -6 \\
0 & 1 & 7 & -4 \\
0 & 1 & 5 & -14
\end{array}\right)$$

 $R_1 \longleftrightarrow R_2$

When a matrix is in its reduced row echelon form, the system can be solved more easily, starting from the bottom-most non-zero row.

Example

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c}
1 & 0 & -1 & 3 \\
0 & 1 & 7 & -4 \\
0 & 1 & 5 & -14
\end{array}\right)$$

 $R_1 \longrightarrow -\frac{1}{2}R_1$

When a matrix is in its reduced row echelon form, the system can be solved more easily, starting from the bottom-most non-zero row.

Example

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c}
1 & 0 & -1 & 3 \\
0 & 1 & 7 & -4 \\
0 & 0 & -2 & -10
\end{array}\right)$$

 $R_3 \longrightarrow R_3 - R_2$

When a matrix is in its reduced row echelon form, the system can be solved more easily, starting from the bottom-most non-zero row.

Example

$$R_3 \longrightarrow -\frac{1}{2}R_3$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c}
1 & 0 & -1 & 3 \\
0 & 1 & 7 & -4 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 5
\end{array}\right)$$

When a matrix is in its reduced row echelon form, the system can be solved more easily, starting from the bottom-most non-zero row.

Example

$$R_1 \longrightarrow R_1 + R_3$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & | & 8 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc|cc|c}
1 & 0 & 0 & 8 \\
0 & 1 & 7 & -4 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 5
\end{array}\right)$$

When a matrix is in its reduced row echelon form, the system can be solved more easily, starting from the bottom-most non-zero row.

Example

$$R_2 \longrightarrow R_2 - 7R_3$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c}
1 & 0 & 0 & 8 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & -39 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 5
\end{array}\right)$$

When a matrix is in its reduced row echelon form, the system can be solved more easily, starting from the bottom-most non-zero row.

Example

Thus the solution to this system is

$$x = 8,$$

$$y = -39,$$

$$z = 5.$$

Gaussian Elimination

The row operations introduced here do not change the rank and determinant of a matrix.

Thus, if the row echelon form of a matrix has one or more zero rows, then its determinant is zero, and in turn - the determinant of the original matrix is also zero.

$$\operatorname{rank}(A) < n \Leftrightarrow |A| = 0.$$

Gaussian Elimination

The difference between the number of rows in a matrix A and its rank, $n - \operatorname{rank}(A)$, is the number of free variables in the solution.

Example

The augmented matrix

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c}
1 & 0 & 0 & -3 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 6
\end{array}\right)$$

has three rows and one zero rows. Thus, ${\rm rank}(A)=2$, and the solution for the system it represents has d=3-2=1 free variables. In this case $x=-3,\ y=2$ and z can be chosen freely.