

MATH223 - Linear Algebra (class notes)

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1 January 7th 2019

Should know how to solve a linear system and calculate a determinant... things like that.

- Written assignments (5) : 10%
- Webwork assignments (5) : 5%
- Midterm : 20%
- Final : 65%

Textbook: **Schaum's Outline - Linear Algebra.**

1.1 Motivation

We have linear systems, with two equations, like such:

$$\begin{aligned}3x - 2y + z &= 2 \\ x - y + z &= 1\end{aligned}$$

There is an algebraic way of seeing this, but we can also see this, from the geometric standpoint, as the intersection of the two planes in R^3 . Linear algebra has to do with things that are "flat", like a plane. As soon as we add in exponents

to these equations, we get some curvature, and the techniques to solve these are different.

- Linear equations are the simplest kind, so you *must* understand them. Also, you *can* understand 'everything' about them.
- Theory used to describe solutions, etc.
- Linear equations are often used to approximate or model more complicated equations/situations.
- In applications, linear systems are often quite big (10000 equations/variables)

1.2 Complex numbers

Def: Let i be a symbol. We declare $i^2 = -1$.

Now, what we'd like to do is take this symbol i and combine it with the usual real numbers that we are familiar with. We set, for example,

$$\begin{aligned} 3i \\ i - 4 \\ 3i - \pi \\ \sqrt{i} + 21 \end{aligned}$$

Def: The field of complex numbers C consists of all expressions of the form $a + bi$, where $a, b \in R$.

Def: Addition (subtraction) and multiplication of complex numbers is defined by the following rules:

(i)

$$(a + bi) + (c + di) = (a + c) + (b + d)i$$

(ii)

$$\begin{aligned} (a + bi)(c + di) &= ac + adi + bci + bdi^2 \\ &= ac + adi + bci - bd \\ &= (ac - bd) + (ad + bc)i \end{aligned}$$

Notation:

- $0 + bi = bi$
- $a + 0i = a$ (a *real* number)
- $0 + 0i = 0$

Ex: If $z_1 = 2 - i$, $z_2 = 5i$, then

$$z_1 + z_2 = 2 + 4i$$

and

$$z_1 z_2 = (2 - i)(5i) = 10i - 5i^2 = 5 + 10i$$

Def: Let $z = a + bi \in C$

(i) $\bar{z} = a - bi$, called the *complex conjugate* of z

(ii) $|z| = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$, called the *absolute value* or *modulus*

Def: If $z = a + bi \in C$ and $z \neq 0$ (ie $z \neq 0 + 0i$), then the number

$$\begin{aligned} z^{-1} &= \frac{\bar{z}}{|z|^2} \\ &= \frac{a}{a^2 + b^2} - \frac{b}{a^2 + b^2}i \end{aligned}$$

is called the (multiplicative) inverse of z . It has the property $zz^{-1} = 1 = z^{-1}z$.

Proof. We have

$$\begin{aligned} zz^{-1} &= (a + bi)\left(\frac{a}{a^2 + b^2} - \frac{b}{a^2 + b^2}i\right) \\ &= \frac{a^2 - abi + abi - b^2i^2}{a^2 + b^2} \\ &= \frac{a^2 + 0 + b^2}{a^2 + b^2} \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

Note: Since $z \neq 0 + 0i$, $a^2 + b^2 \neq 0$

□

Def: If $z, w \in C$ and $z \neq 0$ then

$$\frac{w}{z} = wz^{-1}$$

Ex: If $z = 1 + 2i$, $w = 3 - i$ then

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{w}{z} &= wz^{-1} \\ &= (3 - i)\left(\frac{1}{5} - \frac{2}{5}i\right) \\ &= \frac{3}{5} - \frac{6}{5}i - \frac{i}{5} + \frac{2}{5}i^2 \\ &= \frac{3}{5} - \frac{2}{5} - \frac{7}{5}i \\ &= \frac{1}{5} - \frac{7}{5}i \end{aligned}$$

Or,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{3-i}{1+2i} \cdot \frac{(1-2i)}{(1-2i)} &= \frac{3-6i-i+2i^2}{1-2i+2i-4i^2} \\ &= \frac{1-7i}{5}\end{aligned}$$

2 January 9th 2019

2.1 Complex numbers as points in R^2

You can view $a+bi$ as a point $(a, b) \in R^2$. The usefulness of this is that we can consider, say, $(3+2i)$ and $(3-i)$ as vectors in R^2 , and they will conserve the same properties (addition of complex numbers corresponds to vector addition in R^2). For the interpretation of multiplication to make sense, it's necessary to use polar coordinates.

2.2 Equations with complex numbers

Fact: Every real number $a \neq 0$ has two square roots:

- if $a > 0$, roots $\pm\sqrt{a}$
- if $a < 0$, two roots are $\pm i\sqrt{|a|}$, since:

$$\begin{aligned}(\pm i\sqrt{|a|}) &= i^2(\sqrt{|a|})^2 \\ &= -1 \cdot |a| \\ &= a\end{aligned}\quad (\text{since } a < 0)$$

Fact: Quadratic equation $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ has solution

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

which may be in C .

Ex: Solve $x^2 - 2x + 3 = 0$, and factor $x^2 - 2x + 3$.

Sol:

$$\begin{aligned}x &= \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{4 - 4(1)(3)}}{2} \\ &= \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{-8}}{2} \\ &= \frac{2 \pm i\sqrt{8}}{2} \\ &= \frac{2 \pm i2\sqrt{2}}{2} \\ &= 1 \pm i\sqrt{2}\end{aligned}$$

Note: If $ax^2 + bx + c$ has $a, b, c \in R$ has a non-real root, say z , its other root is \bar{z} ($z = a + bi$, $\bar{z} = a - bi$). This is not necessarily true if $a, b, c \in C$.

Back to problem. Factor $x^2 - 2x + 3 = (x - (1 + i\sqrt{2}))(x - (1 - i\sqrt{2}))$.

Caution: -1 has two roots, namely $\pm i$, so you may write $i = \sqrt{-1}$, but be careful:

$$\begin{aligned} -1 &= i^2 \\ &= i \cdot i \\ &= \sqrt{-1} \cdot \sqrt{-1} \\ &= \sqrt{(-1)(-1)} && \text{(this step doesn't quite work)} \\ &= \sqrt{1} \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

Theorem: (Fundamental Theorem of Algebra) If

$$p(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_0 x^0$$

is a polynomial with $a_n \neq 0$, and $a_n, a_{n-1}, \dots, a_0 \in C$, then $p(x)$ factors into linear factors,

$$p(x) = a_n \cdot (x - r_1) \cdot (x - r_2) \cdot \dots \cdot (x - r_n)$$

for some complex numbers r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n . Some r_i 's may be equal.

Corollary: Every such polynomial has at least one root, and at most n distinct roots.

Note: *Finding* the roots is, in general, quite difficult.

Ex: Factor $2x^3 + 2x$ (over C).

Sol:

$$\begin{aligned} 2(x^3 + x) &= 2(x - 0)(x^2 + 1) \\ &= 2(x - 0)(x^2 - i^2) \\ &= 2(x - 0)(x - i)(x + i) \end{aligned}$$

Ex: Solve $x^2 - i = 0$

Sol: $x^2 = i$ so $x = \pm\sqrt{i}$. Want \sqrt{i} in format $a + bi$, $a, b \in R$.

$$\begin{aligned}\sqrt{i} &= a + bi \\ i &= (a + bi)^2 \\ &= a^2 + 2abi + b^2i^2 \\ 0 + i &= (a^2 - b^2) + 2abi\end{aligned}$$

$$0 = a^2 - b^2$$

$$1 = 2ab$$

$$a = \pm b$$

$$ab = \frac{1}{2} \quad (\text{so } a=b \text{ both } + \text{ or both } -)$$

$$a^2 = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$a = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = b$$

Two solutions, $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}i$ and $-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}i$.

2.3 Vector spaces (Ch 4)

Def. The sets R and C (and also Q , rational numbers, although we won't go into details of this) are called *fields* (or *fields of scalars*). In this class, "a field of K " means that K is either R or C .