

MATH 223: Linear Algebra

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January 5th, 2026

Abstract

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1 Introduction

2 Prerequisite knowledge

2.1 Notation

2.1.1 Sets

Sets are a grouping of objects.

- \mathbb{N} is the set of natural numbers: $(0, 1, 2, 3, \dots)$.
- \mathbb{Z} is the set of integers: $(\dots, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots)$.
- \mathbb{Q} is the set of rational numbers (numbers that can be expressed as a fraction of two integers): $\mathbb{Q} = \frac{a}{b} | a, b \in \mathbb{Z}, b \neq 0$.
- \mathbb{R} = all rational + all irrational numbers.
- $\mathbb{C} = \{x + iy | x, y \in \mathbb{R}\}$, basically: $\mathbb{C} = \text{all real } (\mathbb{R}) + \text{all imaginary numbers } (i)$, where i is defined to be a root of $x^2 + 1$, which is $i \subseteq \sqrt{-1}$.

We have the following relationships between sets:

$$\mathbb{N} \subseteq \mathbb{Z} \subseteq \mathbb{Q} \subseteq \mathbb{R} \subseteq \mathbb{C}$$

2.1.2 Symbols

We will be using the following symbols:

- \subseteq means "is a subset of or equal to".
- \subset means "is a subset of" or "is contained in", it could also mean the same thing as \subseteq , but not all the time.
- \forall means "for all".
- \exists means "there exists".

2.2 Complex Algebra

2.2.1 Complex Numbers

A complex number is of the form: $z = x + iy$ where $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ and i is the imaginary unit such that $i^2 + 1 = 0$.

Theorem 1 (Fundamental Theorem of Algebra). *Any polynomial¹ f (except constant functions) has a root in \mathbb{C} .*

¹Polynomial is a function such as: $f = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$ where $a_i \in \mathbb{R}$ or \mathbb{C} and $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Remark 1. If we have a polynomial f of degree n , then it has n roots, where each root can have a multiplicity². For example, if we have a polynomial $(x-1)^2$, it has a degree of 2 but only one root, which is 1, with a multiplicity of 2. This means that the root 1 appears twice in the polynomial.

We can factorize a polynomial in the form of $f = a_n x^n + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$ into a linear factor: $f = a(x - z_1)(x - z_2)\dots(x - z_n)$ where z_i are the roots of f in \mathbb{C} .

Using the FTA for a function such as $f = a_n x^n + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$, we can say that the FTA implies that f has a root $f(z) = 0$.

2.2.2 Complex Operations

We can define operations on complex numbers as follows:

- Addition: $z + z' = (x + x') + i(y + y')$, where $x, x', y, y' \in \mathbb{R}$.
- Multiplication: $zz' = (x + iy)(x' + iy') = (xx' - yy') + i(xy' + yx')$.
- Inverse: $\frac{1}{z} = \frac{\bar{z}}{z\bar{z}} = \frac{x-iy}{x^2+y^2} = \frac{x}{x^2+y^2} + i\frac{-y}{x^2+y^2}$

From the definition of inverse, we can see that for any complex number z , its inverse $\frac{1}{z}$ is also a complex number. For example, take $z = 1 + i$, where $x = y = 1$, from the definition of inverse, we can conclude that:

$$\frac{1}{1+i} \in \mathbb{C}$$

2.2.3 Complex Conjugate

A complex conjugate is a way to "flip" the imaginary part of a complex number. For example, if we have a complex number $z = x + iy$, then the complex conjugate of z is $\bar{z} = x - iy$. Some basic properties of complex conjugates are:

- $\bar{\bar{z}} = z$
- $\overline{z + z'} = \bar{z} + \bar{z'}$
- $\overline{z \cdot z'} = \bar{z} \cdot \bar{z'}$

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Draw a unit circle $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ and have a horizontal line coming from the y-axis to end at an intersection with a vertical line where the point is $x + iy$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{C} &= \{x + iy | x, y \in \mathbb{R}\} \\ S' &= \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x^2 + y^2 = 1\}\end{aligned}$$

²The multiplicity of a root represents how many times the root occurs in the polynomial.

$$= \{z \in \mathbb{C}, |z| = 1\}$$

$$S' = \{z \in \mathbb{C}, |z| = 1\}$$

Where $|z| = \sqrt{z\bar{z}}$.

k	0	1	2	3	4	5
i^k	1	i	-1	-i	1	i

Multiplying by $z = \begin{cases} \text{rotating by some angle } \theta \\ \text{rescaling by } |z| \end{cases}$

Polar coordinates:

Draw a graph with horizontal line from the +y axis and vertical line from the +x axis intersecting at point (x,y), and a diagonal line from origin to (x,y) with angle theta between the diagonal line and the x-axis. The point (x,y) is the $z = x + iy$

$$x = r \cos(\theta)$$

$$y = r \sin(\theta)$$

$$z = x + iy = r \cos(\theta) + ir \sin(\theta) = r(\cos(\theta) + i \sin(\theta)) = re^{i\theta}$$

Euler's formula: $e^{i\theta} = \cos(\theta) + i \sin(\theta)$ To compute:

$$z = re^{i\theta}$$

$$z' = r'e^{i\theta'}$$

$$zz' = rr'e^{i(\theta+\theta')}$$

an example is $(1+i)^{32}$ we can rewrite it as $(\sqrt{2}e^{i\pi/4})^{32} = (\sqrt{2})^{32}e^{i8\pi} = 2^{16}(\cos(8\pi) + i \sin(8\pi)) = 2^{16}$

n^{th} root $\sqrt[n]{z}$. An n^{th} root is a number w such that $w^n = z$.

Root of unity: $\text{sqrt}[n]1$. Solution to $X^n = 1, w \in \mathbb{C}, w^n = 1$

Draw a unit circle with radius and the other end of the radius is $-w = 1$.

$$1 = e^{i2\pi k}, k \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$w_k = e^{i2\pi k/n}$$

$$w^n = (e^{i2\pi k/n})^n = e^{i2\pi k} = 1$$

3 Basic Algebraic structures

"Let V be a vector space over a field K"

3.1 Invertibility

Definition 1 (Condition for Invertibility). *Let $A \in M$ be an $n \times n$ matrix, and suppose that there exists an $n \times n$ matrix B such that $AB = I_n$ or $BA = I_n$.*

Where I_n is the $n \times n$ identity matrix³ $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$. Then A is invertible, and $B = A^{-1}$.

Remark 2. If A is invertible, then A^{-1} exists and is unique⁴.

To determine if an element A in a set with multiplication M is invertible, we can use the following examples:

Example. Let $M = \mathbb{Z} = \{\dots -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ and $A = 2$. Is A invertible in M ?

Solution: No, because $\frac{1}{2} \notin \mathbb{Z}$.

Example. Let $M = \mathbb{R}$ and $A = 2$, is A invertible in M ?

Solution: Yes, because $\frac{1}{2} \in \mathbb{R}$.

Example. Is $1 + i$ invertible in \mathbb{C} ?

Solution: Yes, using our previous definition of inverse (2.2.2), we get that

$$\frac{1}{1+i} = \frac{1-i}{2} \in \mathbb{C}.$$

3.2 Ring

Definition 2. A ring is a set R with the following properties:

1. R is an abelian group under addition.
2. R is a monoid under multiplication.
3. The distribution law holds: $a(b+c) = ab + ac$ for all $a, b, c \in R$.

More informally, a ring is a set with two operations (addition and multiplication) that satisfy certain properties.

The main example of a ring is the set of integers \mathbb{Z} .

3.3 Field

Definition 3. A field is a commutative ring in which every element is invertible.

³An identity matrix is a square matrix with 1s on its main diagonal and 0s everywhere else. It represents no change in linear transformations, and it's used in finding matrix inverses.

⁴Unique means there is exactly one such element.

The main example of a field is the real numbers \mathbb{R} or the complex numbers \mathbb{C} . Mathematically, $K = \mathbb{R}$ or \mathbb{C} , where K is the field.

In the following explanation, we will denote M to be a set with multiplication⁵. An example of a set with multiplication is the set of all 2×2 complex matrices: $M = M_2(\mathbb{C})$. Another example is the nonzero set of all real numbers \mathbb{R} with ordinary multiplication: $\mathbb{R}^* = \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$.

Problem 1. Construct a field with 2 elements.

Problem 2. Show that if an inverse of A in \mathbb{M} exists, then it is unique.

Problem 3. Let K be a field. Prove that this matrix $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in M_2(K)$ is not invertible.

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4 Vector Spaces

4.1 Cartesian space

$$\mathbb{R}^n = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} : x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

You can add two vectors:

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 + y_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n + y_n \end{pmatrix}$$

Scalar multiplication:

$$\lambda \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda x_1 \\ \vdots \\ \lambda x_n \end{pmatrix}$$

where $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$.

5 Appendix

6 Solutions

Solution 1. A field with 2 elements can be constructed as follows: Let $F = \{0, 1\}$ be a set with two elements. We define addition and multiplication operations on F as follows:

⁵A set of objects where you can multiply any two of them.

- $0 + 0 = 0$
- $0 + 1 = 1$
- $1 + 0 = 1$
- $1 + 1 = 0$
- $0 \times 0 = 0$
- $0 \times 1 = 0$
- $1 \times 0 = 0$
- $1 \times 1 = 1$

Solution 2. Suppose B and B' are both inverses of A . Then

$$B = BI = B(AB') = (BA)B' = IB' = B'.$$

Therefore, $B = B'$, so the inverse is unique.

Solution 3. We can answer this problem with proof by contradiction. Let's suppose this matrix is invertible. By definition there exists $B = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$ such that $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$. We can rewrite this equation into: $\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^{-1}$. The inverse of our matrix can be rewritten as $\frac{1}{0*0-1*0} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ⁶. But this is undefined since division by 0 is undefined. Therefore, our initial assumption that the matrix is invertible is false, and thus the matrix is not invertible.

7 Useful Links

⁶Recall that an inverse of a 2×2 matrix is equal to its determinant multiplied with its conjugate