

Solving linear systems

Def: Elementary operations (change the augmented matrix without changing the set of solutions):

- 1) Multiply a row by a non-zero number
- 2) Interchange two rows
- 3) Add to a row a multiple of an other row

Gaussian elimination

Do elementary operations to change the augmented matrix into RRE form

Example $2x_1 + 6x_2 + x_3 = 7$

$$x_1 + 2x_2 - x_3 = -1$$

$$5x_1 + 7x_2 - 4x_3 = 9$$

First write down the augmented matrix

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} \boxed{2} & 6 & 1 & 7 \\ 1 & 2 & -1 & -1 \\ 5 & 7 & -4 & 9 \end{array} \right] \quad \begin{array}{l} R_2 - R_1 \\ R_3 - 5R_1 \end{array} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} \boxed{1} & 3 & 1/2 & 7/2 \\ 0 & \boxed{-1} & -3/2 & -9/2 \\ 0 & -8 & -13/2 & -17/2 \end{array} \right]$$

$$R_1/2 \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} \boxed{1} & 3 & 1/2 & 7/2 \\ 1 & 2 & -1 & -1 \\ 5 & 7 & -4 & 9 \end{array} \right] \quad R_2/(-1) \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} \boxed{1} & 3 & 1/2 & 7/2 \\ 0 & \boxed{1} & 3/2 & 9/2 \\ 0 & -8 & -13/2 & -17/2 \end{array} \right]$$

$$R_3 + 8R_2 \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} \boxed{1} & 3 & 1/2 & 7/2 \\ 0 & \boxed{1} & 3/2 & 9/2 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{11/2} & 55/2 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\begin{array}{l} R_1 - \frac{1}{2} R_3 \\ R_2 - \frac{3}{2} R_3 \end{array} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} \boxed{1} & 3 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & \boxed{1} & 0 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{1} & 5 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\begin{array}{l} x_1 = 10 \\ x_2 = -3 \\ x_3 = 5 \end{array}$$

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ -3 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_3 / (11/2) \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} \boxed{1} & 3 & 1/2 & 7/2 \\ 0 & \boxed{1} & 3/2 & 9/2 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{1} & 5 \end{array} \right]$$

$$R_1 - 3R_2 \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 10 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 5 \end{array} \right]$$

Example

$$\begin{array}{l} x_1 + x_2 - x_3 + x_4 = 0 \\ 2x_1 + 2x_2 + x_3 + x_4 = 1 \\ x_3 + 2x_4 = -1 \end{array}$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} \boxed{1} & 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & -1 \end{array} \right]$$

$$R_2 - 2R_1 \left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} \boxed{1} & 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{3} & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & -1 \end{array} \right]$$

$$R_2/3 \left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} \boxed{1} & 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{1} & -1/3 & 1/3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & -1 \end{array} \right]$$

$$R_3/(7/3) \left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} \boxed{1} & 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{1} & -1/3 & 1/3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \boxed{1} & -4/7 \end{array} \right]$$

$$R_3 - R_2 \left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} \boxed{1} & 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{1} & -1/3 & 1/3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \boxed{7/3} & -4/3 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\begin{array}{l} R_1 - R_3 \\ R_2 + \frac{1}{3}R_3 \end{array} \left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} \boxed{1} & 1 & -1 & 0 & 4/7 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{1} & 0 & 1/7 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \boxed{1} & -4/7 \end{array} \right]$$

$$R_1 + R_2 \left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} \boxed{1} & 1 & 0 & 0 & 5/7 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{1} & 0 & 1/7 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \boxed{1} & -4/7 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\begin{array}{l} x_1 = 5/7 - t \\ x_2 = t \\ x_3 = 1/7 \\ x_4 = -4/7 \end{array}$$

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} 5/7 \\ 0 \\ 1/7 \\ -4/7 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Example $x_1 + x_2 = 1$
 $-x_1 - x_2 = 2$

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|c} \boxed{1} & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 & 2 \end{array} \right] \quad R_2 + R_1 \rightarrow \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} \boxed{1} & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{3} \end{array} \right]$$

The last column is a pivot column, thus there are no solutions

Rank of a matrix

Def: The rank of a matrix A , denoted by $\text{rank}(A)$, is the maximum number of linearly independent rows in A .

Example $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ $2 \text{ row } 1 - \text{row } 2 = 0$, then $\text{rank}(A) = 1$

Obs: 1) Doing Gaussian elimination on a matrix does not change its rank

2) If A is in RRE form, then $\text{rank}(A) = \# \text{ of pivots} = \# \text{ of leading ones}$

Example: Find $\text{rank}(A)$, where $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & -1 & 3 \\ 2 & -2 & 6 & 8 \\ 3 & 5 & -7 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\begin{array}{l} R_2 - 2R_1 \\ R_3 - 3R_1 \end{array} \left[\begin{array}{cccc} \boxed{1} & 1 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & \boxed{-4} & 8 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & -4 & -1 \end{array} \right] \quad R_2(-1/4) \left[\begin{array}{cccc} \boxed{1} & 1 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & \boxed{1} & -2 & -1/2 \\ 0 & 2 & -4 & -1 \end{array} \right] \quad R_3 - 2R_2 \left[\begin{array}{cccc} \boxed{1} & 1 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & \boxed{1} & -2 & -1/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\text{rank}(A) = 2$$

Obs: The system $Ax = b$ is consistent if and only if

$$\text{rank}(A) = \text{rank}([A|b])$$

Obs: Assume $Ax = b$ is consistent. $A = \mathbb{R}^{k \times n}$. Let $r = \text{rank}(A)$.

- Then:
- 1) $r = \#$ of leading variables
 - 2) $n - r = \#$ of free variables
 - 3) $n - r = \#$ of parameters in the set of solutions

Determinants

Def: The determinant of a 2 by 2 matrix is

$$\det A = \det \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix} = a_{11} a_{22} - a_{21} a_{12}$$

Def: $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$. We denote by A_{ij} the $(n-1)$ by $(n-1)$ matrix that we get when we remove the i^{th} row and j^{th} column from the matrix A

Def: $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$

$$\det A = a_{11} \det A_{11} - a_{12} \det A_{12} + a_{13} \det A_{13} + \dots + (-1)^{n+1} a_{1n} \det A_{1n}$$

Example $\det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = 1 \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} - (-1) \det \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + 2 \det \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$
 $= (-11) + (-6) + 2(-2) = -21$

Properties

1) $\det A^T = \det A$

2) $\det(A B) = \det A \det B$

3) If A is triangular, then $\det A = a_{11} a_{22} \dots a_{nn}$

Inverse of matrices

Def: Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, we say that A has an inverse if there exists $B \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ such that $A B = B A = I$, where

$I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ is the identity

B is called the inverse of A and it is denoted by $B = A^{-1}$

Def: $e_i = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ \leftarrow i^{\text{th}} \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ $e_i \in \mathbb{R}^n$

Note: $I = [e_1 \ e_2 \ \dots \ e_n]$ e_i is the i^{th} column of I .

Obs: $AB = I$ $B = [b_1 \ b_2 \ \dots \ b_n]$ b_i is the i^{th} column of B

$$AB = [Ab_1 \quad Ab_2 \quad \dots \quad Ab_n] = I = [e_1 \quad e_2 \quad \dots \quad e_n]$$

then $Ab_i = e_i$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n$

↑
this is a linear system

To find b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n , solve

$$[A | e_1 \quad e_2 \quad \dots \quad e_n] = [A | I]$$

Do Gaussian elimination on $[A | I]$

Case 1: No free variables, then the RREF form we get after Gaussian elimination is

$$\left[I \mid A^{-1} \right]$$

Case 2: There are some free variables. In this case A has no inverse

Example $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 2 & 10 \end{bmatrix}$ Find A^{-1}

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 4 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 10 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] \quad R_1 - 4R_2 \quad \left[\begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 0 & 5 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 1/2 \end{array} \right]$$

$$R_2 - 2R_1 \quad \left[\begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 4 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & -2 & 1 \end{array} \right] \quad A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -2 \\ -1 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{Check } \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 2 & 10 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -2 \\ -1 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_2/2 \quad \left[\begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 4 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 1/2 \end{array} \right]$$

Facts: 1) $(A^{-1})^{-1} = A$

2) $(AB)^{-1} = B^{-1}A^{-1}$

3) $(A^T)^{-1} = (A^{-1})^T$

4) A has an inverse if and only if $\det A \neq 0$

Def: We say that A is invertible or non-singular, if A has an inverse