

Tues 30 Aug.

§1.3 Consider the linear system

$$(LS) \begin{cases} a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n = b_1 \\ a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n = b_2 \\ \vdots \\ a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + \dots + a_{mn}x_n = b_m \end{cases}$$

$$A_{m \times n} := \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & & & \vdots \\ \vdots & & & \\ a_{m1} & & & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{b} := \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_m \end{bmatrix}$$

\uparrow #rows \uparrow #cols

We solve this system by computing the reduced row echelon form of A augmented by b (the "augmented" matrix)

$$\text{rref} \left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1n} & & b_1 \\ a_{21} & & & & b_2 \\ \vdots & & & & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & & & & b_m \end{array} \right] = \text{rref} (A | \vec{b})$$

Let's think about the universe of possibilities for the solution set, in terms of

#rows (A) (m)

#cols (A) (n)

non-zero rows in $\text{rref}(A)$ \rightarrow called the rank of A , $\text{rank}(A)$

(maybe also consider $\text{rank}(A | \vec{b})$ in this discussion.)

Example :

$$[A|b]$$

$$\text{rref}[A|b]$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccccc|c} 3 & 6 & 7 & 2 & 5 & 10 \\ 2 & 4 & 2 & 4 & 2 & 4 \\ 2 & 4 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 4 \\ 3 & 6 & 6 & 3 & 6 & 6 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & 2 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

- What is the general solution?
(Call the unknowns x_1, x_2, \dots, x_5)

- How many "free variables" appear in the general solution?
(i.e. free parameters)

General Case Questions:

- If the system has no sol'ns it's called inconsistent.
How is this reflected in $\text{rref}(A|b)$?

(over)

- What must $\text{rref}(A|b)$ look like in order that the system have a unique (single) solution?
Express this in terms of m, n and $\text{rank}(A)$, $\text{rank}(A|b)$

- Under exactly what conditions will the system have ∞ 'ly many sol's?
(in terms of m, n , $\text{rank}(A)$, $\text{rank}(A|b)$)

- If the system is consistent, express the number of free variables in terms of m, n , $\text{rank}(A)$.

Note: to test your reasoning ability further, check out T-F questions, page 38-40

Matrix, vector algebra intro.

Recall, you know how to scalar multiply and add vectors:

$$t \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{bmatrix} := \begin{bmatrix} tv_1 \\ tv_2 \\ \vdots \\ tv_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \\ \vdots \\ w_n \end{bmatrix} := \begin{bmatrix} v_1 + w_1 \\ v_2 + w_2 \\ \vdots \\ v_n + w_n \end{bmatrix}$$

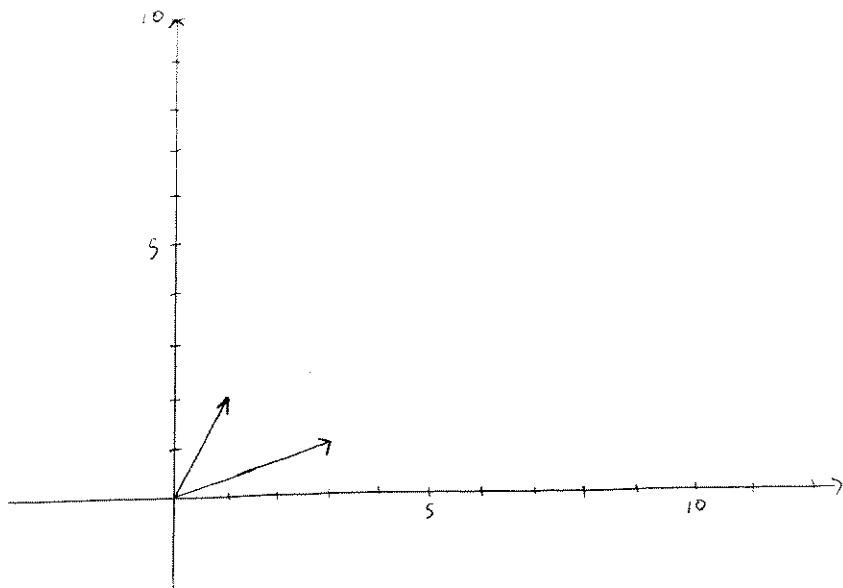
As well, recall that n-vectors can represent displacements in \mathbb{R}^n (which is why we use the arrow notation \vec{v})

and that scalar multiplication of a vector yields (represents) a parallel displacement, in the same dir if scalar > 0 in opposite dir if scalar < 0

and that the abs value of the scalar is the length-scaling factor

and that vector addition corresponds to net displacement after doing \vec{v} and \vec{w}

Example: Represent $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$, $\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$, $3 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$, $2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$, $3 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + 2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ geometrically as displacements:



The two basic ways to interpret a linear system. (Actually, a matrix times a vector) (5)

You've been taught (probably), that Matrix times vector is computed by:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n \\ a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n \\ \vdots \\ a_{m1}x_1 + \dots + a_{mn}x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \text{row}_1(A) \cdot \vec{x} \\ \text{row}_2(A) \cdot \vec{x} \\ \vdots \\ \text{row}_m(A) \cdot \vec{x} \end{bmatrix}$$

Thus we can write the page 1 (LS) more compactly as

$$(LS) \quad A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$$

Notice from the intermediate equality above, that we can also interpret $A\vec{x}$ as a linear combination of the columns of A !

sum of scalar multiples

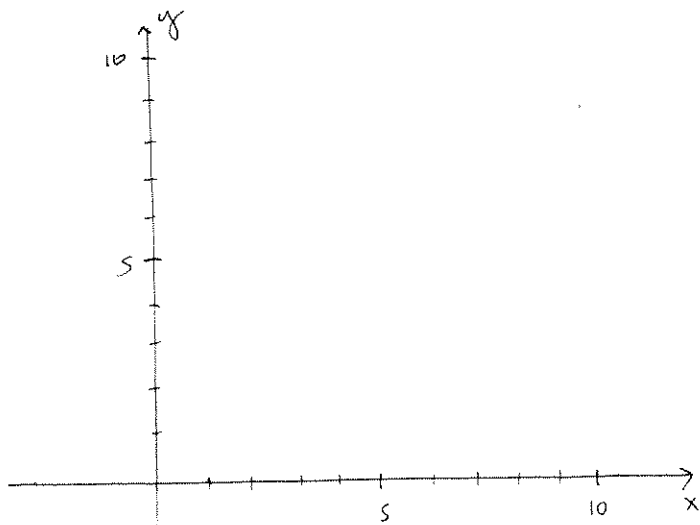
$$A\vec{x} = x_1 \text{col}_1(A) + x_2 \text{col}_2(A) + \dots + x_n \text{col}_n(A) = \begin{bmatrix} \text{row}_1(A) \cdot \vec{x} \\ \text{row}_2(A) \cdot \vec{x} \\ \vdots \\ \text{row}_m(A) \cdot \vec{x} \end{bmatrix}$$

Example: Interpret $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 11 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}$

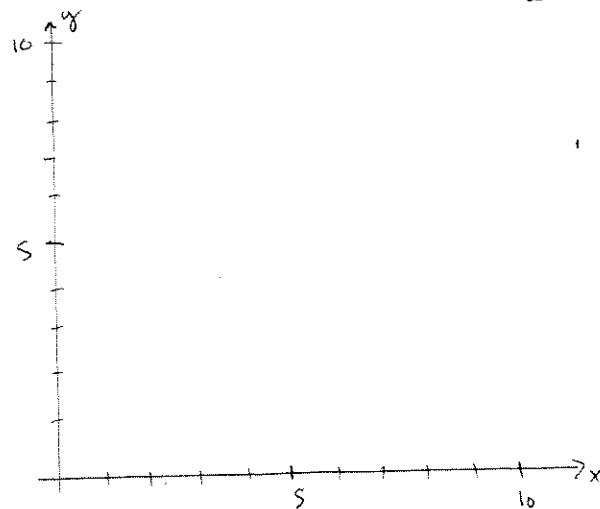
as an intersecting line problem

and as a linear combination problem

alg. ans is $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$



intersecting lines $\begin{cases} 3x + y = 11 \\ x + 2y = 7 \end{cases}$



linear combos. $x \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + y \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 11 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}$