

Linear Algebra I

Overview notes

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Lecture notes and exercises are available at: https://www.henrikbachmann.com/la1_2020.html

These notes serve as a compact overview of the definitions, propositions, lemmas, corollaries, and theorems given in the lectures. It will be updated regularly (This is Version 3 from October 17, 2020). The proofs, examples, and explanations are provided in the handwritten notes/lectures. The reference book for this course is [B], and we will probably cover Chapters 1,2,3 and 5 during this semester. (Chapter 4 will be part of Linear Algebra II)

If you find any typos in this note, please let me know!

Contents

1	Linear systems	2
2	Matrices & Vectors	2
3	Sets & Functions	4

References

[B] O. Bretscher: *Linear Algebra with Applications*, 4th edition, Pearson 2009.

1 Linear systems

By \mathbb{R} we will denote the set of real numbers. \mathbb{R} contains all numbers you usually considered in high school, such as $1, -1, 0, 2, 3, \frac{3}{8}, \pi, \sqrt{2}, e, \dots$. There are rigorous definitions of the real numbers, which would be part of a pure mathematics lecture (See for example https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Construction_of_the_real_numbers). But in this course, we just assume that they exist and that everyone is familiar with them.

Definition 1.1. *i) For real numbers $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, b \in \mathbb{R}$ an equation of the form*

$$a_1x_1 + \dots + a_nx_n = b$$

*is called a **linear equation**.*

*ii) A finite collection of linear equations is called a **linear system**.*

*iii) A **solution of a linear system** is a simultaneous solution to all of its equations.*

Definition 1.2. *The following operations on a linear system are called **elementary row operations**.*

(R1) Add a multiple of an equation to another.

(R2) Multiply an equation with a non-zero number.

(R3) Change the order of the equations.

Proposition 1.3. *Applying an elementary row operation to a linear system does not change the set of all solutions of this linear system.*

2 Matrices & Vectors

Definition 2.1. *i) A $m \times n$ -matrix is given by an array (m rows, n columns) of numbers $a_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}$*

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{pmatrix} = (a_{ij})_{\substack{1 \leq i \leq m \\ 1 \leq j \leq n}}.$$

Notation: We often just write $A = (a_{ij})$ if the size of A , i.e. m and n , are known from context. By $\mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ we denote the set all of all $m \times n$ -matrices.

*ii) A (column-) **vector** of size n is a $n \times 1$ -matrix*

$$v = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{pmatrix}$$

and the set of all vectors of size n is denoted by $\mathbb{R}^n = \mathbb{R}^{n \times 1}$.

Definition 2.2. For matrices $A = (a_{ij}), B = (b_{ij}) \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ and a real number $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ we define

$$\begin{aligned} A + B &= (a_{ij} + b_{ij}) \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} && \text{(Sum of two matrices),} \\ \lambda A &= (\lambda a_{ij}) \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} && \text{(Scalar multiplication).} \end{aligned}$$

In the case $\lambda = -1$ we write $(-1)A = -A$ and $A - B$ means $A + (-1)B$.

The matrices A and B need to be of the same size, otherwise the sum $A + B$ is not defined. A special case of the addition of matrices is given by the addition of vectors. For $u, v \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ we have

$$u = \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_n \end{pmatrix}, v = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{pmatrix}, \quad u + v = \begin{pmatrix} u_1 + v_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_n + v_n \end{pmatrix}, \quad \lambda v = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda v_1 \\ \vdots \\ \lambda v_n \end{pmatrix}.$$

Definition 2.3. The product of a matrix $A = (a_{ij}) \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ and a vector $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is defined by

$$Av = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & \cdots & a_{mn} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11}v_1 + a_{12}v_2 + \cdots + a_{1n}v_n \\ a_{21}v_1 + a_{22}v_2 + \cdots + a_{2n}v_n \\ \vdots \\ a_{m1}v_1 + a_{m2}v_2 + \cdots + a_{mn}v_n \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^m.$$

We have: $(m \times n\text{-matrix}) \cdot (\text{vector of size } n) = (\text{vector of size } m)$.

Proposition 2.4. We have for $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$

- i) $A(x + y) = Ax + Ay$,
- ii) $A(\lambda x) = \lambda(Ax)$.

Definition 2.5. For a matrix $A = (a_{ij}) \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ and a vector $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$ the matrix

$$(A | b) = \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1n} & b_1 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & \cdots & a_{mn} & b_m \end{array} \right) \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times (n+1)}$$

is called the **augmented matrix** of the linear system $Ax = b$.

The augmented matrix $(A | b)$ is just the matrix A where we append the vector b as a column. The line $|$ is a useful notation to distinguish between the left- and right-hand side of the corresponding linear system but it has no mathematical meaning. We will view $(A | b)$ as a usual matrix with m rows and $n + 1$ columns.

Definition 2.6. The following operations on a matrix are called **elementary row operations**.

- (R1) Add a multiple of one row to another row.
- (R2) Multiply a row with a non-zero number.
- (R3) Interchange two rows.

Applying a row operation to a linear system (Definition 1.2) corresponds to the same row operation (Definition 2.6) on the corresponding augmented matrix of this linear system.

Definition 2.7. Two matrices A and B are called **row equivalent**, if B can be obtained from A by elementary row operations. In this case we write

$$A \sim B.$$

Notice that if $A \sim B$, then also $B \sim A$, i.e. A can be obtained from B by elementary row operations.

Proposition 2.8. Let $A, B \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ and $b, c \in \mathbb{R}^m$. If $(A | b) \sim (B | c)$ then the linear systems $Ax = b$ and $Bx = c$ have the same solutions.

Definition 2.9. A matrix $A = (a_{ij}) \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ is on **row-reduced echelon form** if

- i) The first non-zero element on each row (if any) is equal to 1.
- ii) If there is a leading 1 in a row, then all rows above contain a leading 1 further to the left.
- iii) If a_{ij} is the first non-zero element in row i , then there are no other non-zero elements in the j -th column.

The first non-zero element in a row of a matrix in row-reduced echelon form is called **pivot element**.

Theorem 2.10. Every matrix A is row equivalent to a unique matrix B on row-reduced echelon form and we write

$$B = \text{rref}(A).$$

Definition 2.11. Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ be a matrix. The **rank** $\text{rk}(A)$ of A is the number of pivot elements in $\text{rref}(A)$.

3 Sets & Functions

Definition 3.1. Let X and Y be two sets.

- i) A **function** $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is a rule, assigning to each element $x \in X$ an element $f(x) \in Y$. This is also denoted by

$$\begin{aligned} f : X &\longrightarrow Y \\ x &\longmapsto f(x). \end{aligned}$$

- ii) For $f : X \rightarrow Y$ the set X is called the **domain of f** and Y is called the **codomain of f** .

A function is also sometimes called a **map**. These two names (for the exact same mathematical object) are used interchangeably in the literature.

Definition 3.2. For a function $f : X \rightarrow Y$ the **image of f** is defined by

$$\text{im}(f) = \{y \in Y \mid \exists x \in X : y = f(x)\}.$$

Another notation is $\text{im}(f) = f(X)$. The image is a subset of Y , i.e. $\text{im}(f) \subset Y$.

Definition 3.3. A function $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is called

- i) **injective** if $f(x_1) \neq f(x_2)$ whenever $x_1 \neq x_2$. ($x_1, x_2 \in X$)
- ii) **surjective** if $\text{im}(f) = Y$.
- iii) **bijective** if it is injective and surjective.