

1.11.22

Solving Systems of Linear Equations with Elimination

$$x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 6$$

$$2x_1 - 3x_2 + 2x_3 = 14$$

$$3x_1 + x_2 - x_3 = -2$$

How to solve it?

Substitution: solve 1 eq. for x_1 ,
plug into 2nd + 3rd eq. simplify + continue

Elimination: combine equations to eliminate variables.

↑ We focus on this b/c it scales better
to lots of eqs. + variables.

Example:

$$x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 6$$

$$2x_1 - 3x_2 + 2x_3 = 14$$

$$3x_1 + x_2 - x_3 = -2$$

← replace R_2 by $R_2 - 2R_1$

$$R_2 \leftarrow 2R_1$$

→

↑ means row operation

$$x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 6$$

$$0 - 7x_2 - 4x_3 = 2$$

$$3x_1 + x_2 - x_3 = -2$$

$$R_3 \leftarrow 3R_1$$

→

$$x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 6$$

$$-7x_2 - 4x_3 = 2$$

$$-5x_2 - 10x_3 = -20$$

We've eliminated x_1 from eqs. 2 & 3!

$$R_3 \leftarrow \frac{5}{7}R_2$$

$$x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 6$$

$$-7x_2 - 4x_3 = 2$$

$$0 - \frac{50}{7}x_3 = -\frac{150}{7}$$

Now easy to solve for x_3 ,

$$x_3 = 3$$

$$-7x_2 - 4 \cdot 3 = 2, \quad x_2 = -2$$

$$x_1 + 2(-2) + 3(3) = 6$$

$$x_1 - 4 + 9 = 6, \quad x_1 = 1$$

$$\text{Solution is } x = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Check $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$ satisfies original system

$$x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 6$$

$$2x_1 - 3x_2 + 2x_3 = 14$$

$$3x_1 + x_2 - x_3 = -2$$

$$1 - 4 + 9 = 6$$

$$2 + 6 + 6 = 14$$

$$3 - 2 - 3 = -2$$

Aside:

$$Ax = b$$

Example: R_1

$$4x_2 + 3x_3 = 2$$

$$R_2 \quad x_1 + x_2 - x_3 = 3$$

$$R_3 \quad 2x_1 - 3x_2 - 6x_3 = -3$$

x_1 is readily eliminated from R_1

so swap with R_2 .

↙ swap
 $R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2$
 \leadsto

$$x_1 + x_2 - x_3 = 3$$

$$4x_2 + 3x_3 = 2$$

$$2x_1 - 3x_2 - 6x_3 = -3$$

$R_3 - 2R_1$
 \leadsto

$$x_1 + x_2 - x_3 = 3$$

$$4x_2 + 3x_3 = 2$$

$$0 \quad -5x_2 - 4x_3 = -9$$

$R_3 + \frac{5}{4}R_2$
 \leadsto

$$x_1 + x_2 - x_3 = 3$$

$$4x_2 + 3x_3 = 2$$

$$0 \quad -\frac{1}{4}x_3 = -\frac{13}{2}$$

Solve via backsubstitution:

$$x_3 = 26$$

$$4x_2 + 3(26) = 2, \quad x_2 = -19$$

$$x_1 - 19 - 26 = 3, \quad x_1 = 48$$

So $x = \begin{pmatrix} 48 \\ -19 \\ 26 \end{pmatrix}$

Example:

$$\begin{cases} x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 1 \\ 4x_1 + 5x_2 + 6x_3 = 0 \\ 7x_1 + 8x_2 + 9x_3 = -1 \end{cases} \quad R_2 \leftarrow 4R_1 \rightsquigarrow$$

$R_3 \leftarrow 7R_1$
 \rightsquigarrow

$$x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 1$$

$$\begin{cases} -3x_2 - 6x_3 = -4 \\ -6x_2 - 12x_3 = -8 \end{cases}$$

$R_3 \leftarrow 2R_2$
 \rightsquigarrow

$$\begin{cases} x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 1 \\ -3x_2 - 6x_3 = -4 \end{cases}$$

$0 = 0$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & -3 & -6 & -4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

We're done!

Can choose any value for x_3 and solve for x_1, x_2 :

$$x_2 = \frac{4}{3} - 2x_3$$

$$x_1 = 1 - 3x_3 - 2x_2 = -\frac{5}{3} + x_3$$

Solutions: $\begin{pmatrix} -\frac{5}{3} + t \\ \frac{4}{3} - 2t \\ t \end{pmatrix}, t \in \mathbb{R}$

for instance, $\begin{pmatrix} -2/3 \\ -2/3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ when $t=1$

So there are infinitely many sol.
(intersection of 3 planes, two of which are identical)

Example: $x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 1$

$$4x_1 + 5x_2 + 6x_3 = 0$$

$$7x_1 + 8x_2 + 9x_3 = 0 \rightarrow \text{only change from prev. ex.}$$

$$R_2 \leftarrow 4R_1$$

\leadsto

$$R_3 \leftarrow 7R_1$$

$$x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 1 \quad \text{blue}$$

$$0 - 3x_2 - 6x_3 = -4 \quad \text{orange}$$

$$0 - 6x_2 - 12x_3 = -7 \quad \text{red}$$

$$R_3 \leftarrow 2R_2$$

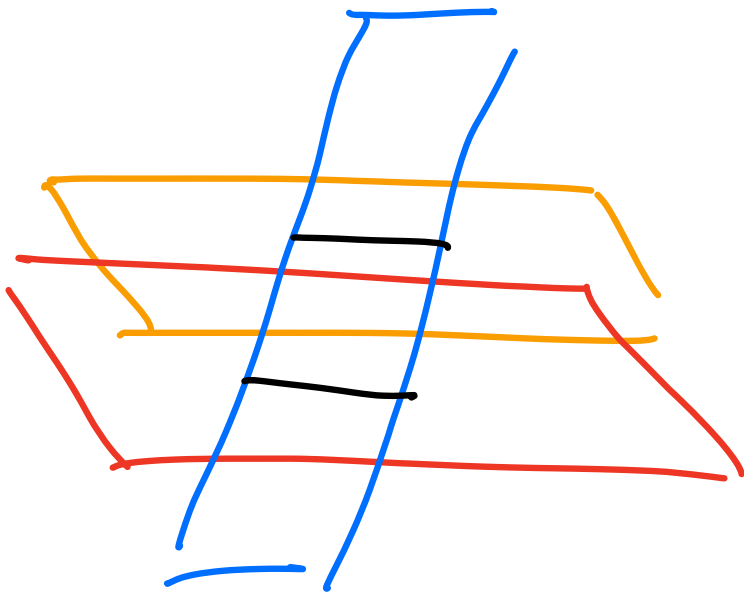
\leadsto

$$x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 1$$

$$-3x_2 - 6x_3 = -4$$

$$0 = 1$$

If our original equations were solvable then $0=1$, not true, so original system not solvable.



Row Operations

(1) Row Replacement

$$x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 6 \quad R_2 \leftarrow 2R_1$$

$$2x_1 - 3x_2 + 2x_3 = 14 \quad \rightsquigarrow$$

$$3x_1 + x_2 - x_3 = -2$$

$$x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 6$$

$$\textcircled{0} -7x_2 - 4x_3 = 2$$

$$3x_1 + x_2 - x_3 = -2$$

replaced R_2 by $R_2 - 2R_1$

(2) Row Swap

(3) Scalar Multiplication by
! nonzero scalar

$$x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 6 \quad R_1 \times 2$$

$$2x_1 - 3x_2 + 2x_3 = 14 \quad \rightsquigarrow$$

$$3x_1 + x_2 - x_3 = -2$$

$$2x_1 + 4x_2 + 6x_3 = 12$$

$$2x_1 - 3x_2 + 2x_3 = 14$$

$$3x_1 + x_2 - x_3 = -2$$

Fact: All these operations are reversible and do not change set of solutions.

Only non-obvious one is row replacement:

$$a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + \dots + a_nx_n = a_0$$

$$b_1x_1 + b_2x_2 + \dots + b_nx_n = b_0$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} R_2 + CR_1 \\ R_2 - CR_1 \end{array} \right.$$

$$a_1 x_1 + \dots + a_n x_n = a_0$$

$$(b_1 + ca_1)x_1 + \dots + (b_n + ca_n)x_n = b_0 + ca_0$$

Three Ways of Writing System of Lin Eqs.

① System of eqs.

$$x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 6$$

$$2x_1 - 3x_2 + 2x_3 = 14$$

② Matrix equation

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & -3 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 14 \end{bmatrix}$$

A
 x
 b

↖ the coefficient matrix A

simply comes from the coeff. of the
lin. system and if A has
 m rows and n columns then the
system has m equations and n
variables.

③ Augmented Matrix

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 3 & 6 \\ 2 & -3 & 2 & 14 \end{array} \right] = [A \mid b]$$

Augmented matrices are nice for row operations b/c row operations only change coefficients.

Example:

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 &= 6 \\ 2x_1 - 3x_2 + 2x_3 &= 14 \\ 3x_1 + x_2 - x_3 &= -2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 3 & 6 \\ 2 & -3 & 2 & 14 \\ 3 & 1 & -1 & -2 \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{l} R_2 \leftarrow 2R_1 \\ \leadsto \end{array}$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 3 & 6 \\ 0 & -7 & -4 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & -1 & -2 \end{array} \right]$$


What does it mean to be done with the algorithm?

Def: A matrix is in row echelon form (REF) if

- ① The first nonzero entry of each row is to the right of the first nonzero entry of the row above
- ② All zero rows at the bottom.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 12 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 6 \\ 0 & -7 & -4 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & -\frac{56}{7} & -\frac{156}{7} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & 4 \\ 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

 When checking if an augmented matrix is in REF, ignore augmentation line.

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & -1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 12 \end{array} \right], \quad \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & -1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 12 \end{array} \right] \quad \checkmark$$

Solving a linear system

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Putting the augmented matrix into REF using the 3 row operations.

Def: The pivot positions of a matrix are the 1st nonzero entries of each row when the matrix is in REF

Well defined?

The rank of a matrix is the # of pivot positions.