

MAT 211

L 1

Mon Aug 24

Admin stuff: (see syllabus)

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Office hours: MW 2:30-3:30pm

Course web page: Tue 5-6 pm (MLC)

math.Stonybrook.edu/~jasplund/mat211_fall26

Textbook: Linear Algebra with
Applications (5th ed), Otto Bretscher

Quizzes:

Almost weekly (see course webpage for dates), we will have an in-class quiz.

- 15 minutes (end of lecture)
 - 1-2 problems
 - Worst score dropped at the end of the course.
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Important dates:

- Midterm 1: Wed Oct 7
- Midterm 2: Wed Nov 11

- Final exam: Mon Dec 14
 - Quizzes: First one Mon Aug 31,
see syllabus/course schedule for all dates
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Final grade:

Quiz: 15%

Midterms: 25% each

Final: 35%.

§1.1 Systems of linear equations

Solving linear systems of equations such as

$$\begin{cases} x-2y=3 \\ 2x-3y=6 \end{cases} \quad \text{or} \quad \begin{cases} x+y+3z=3 \\ x+3y+2z=3 \\ 3x+y+z=0 \end{cases}$$

is ubiquitous and important not only in mathematics, but also in physics, chemistry, computer science, economics, etc.

Ex. $\begin{cases} x-2y=3 \\ 2x-3y=6 \end{cases}$ can be solved

by solving for one variable in one of the equations, and substituting it into the other one:

Eq 1: $x-2y=3 \Leftrightarrow x=3+2y$.

Sub into eq 2:

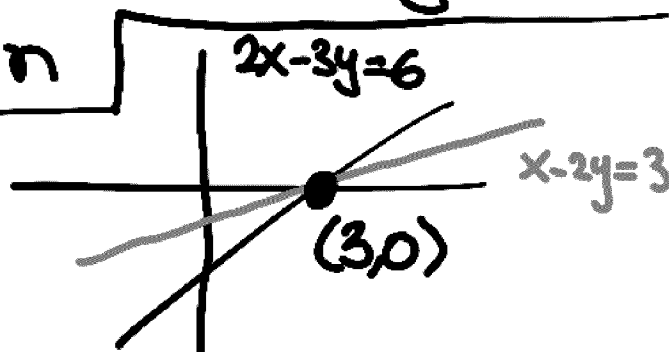
$$2x-3y=6 \Leftrightarrow 2(3+2y)-3y=6$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 6 + 4y - 3y = 6 \Leftrightarrow \boxed{y = 0}.$$

Then $x = 3 + 2y = 3$. So the system has a single solution

$$\begin{cases} x = 3 \\ y = 0 \end{cases}$$

Geometrically:



Ex: Let's consider instead

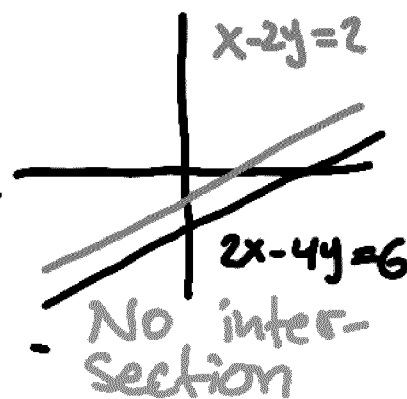
$$\begin{cases} x - 2y = 2 \\ 2x - 4y = 6 \end{cases} \quad \text{Eq 1: } x = 2 + 2y$$

Sub into eq 2: $2(2 + 2y) - 4y = 6$

$$\Leftrightarrow 4 + 4y - 4y = 6 \Leftrightarrow 4 = 6.$$

But this equation is not true

→ The system has no solution
System is inconsistent.



Ex: Now consider

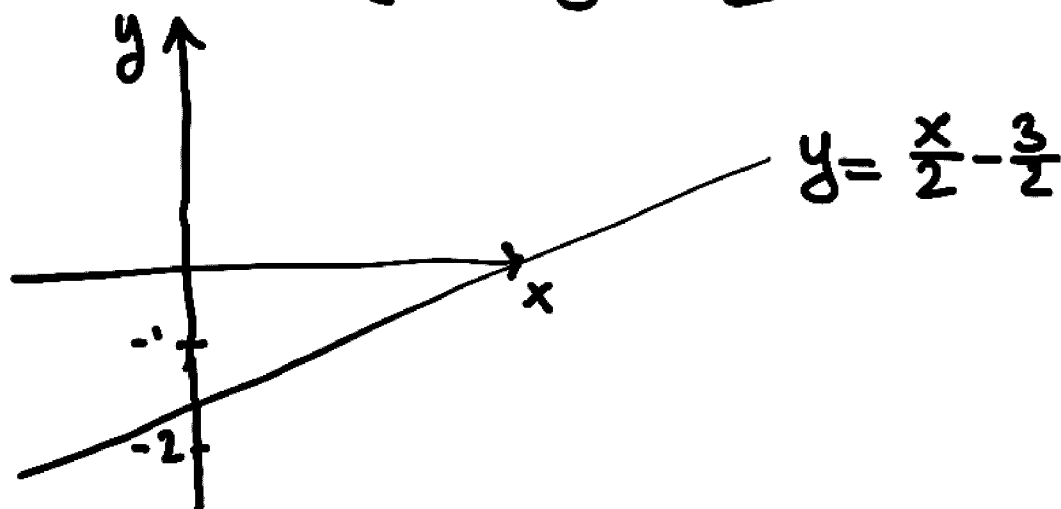
$$\begin{cases} x - 2y = 3 \\ 2x - 4y = 6 \end{cases} \quad \text{Eq 1: } x = 3 + 2y$$

$$2(3 + 2y) - 4y = 6 \Leftrightarrow 6 + 4y - 4y = 6$$

$\Leftrightarrow 6=6$. This equation is true for all values of y .

Conclusion: All values of (x,y) so that $x=3+2y$ (e.g. $(x,y)=(3,0), (5,1), (1,-1), \dots$) are solutions. There's an infinite number of solutions, and they all lie on the line

$$x=3+2y \Leftrightarrow y = \frac{x}{2} - \frac{3}{2} \text{ in the plane}$$



The system $\begin{cases} x+y+3z=3 \\ x+3y+2z=3 \\ 3x+y+z=0 \end{cases}$ can be

studied similarly, but it's more laborious. A better way to solve the system is by adding entire equations

together to eliminate variables.

Ex: $\begin{cases} x-2y=3 \\ 2x-3y=6 \end{cases}$ We will use the first equation to eliminate $2x$ from the second one.

1. Multiply eq 1 by -2 .

2. Add eq 1 to eq 2.

$$\begin{cases} x-2y=3 \\ 2x-3y=6 \end{cases} \xrightarrow{1.} \begin{cases} -2x+4y=-6 \\ 2x-3y=6 \end{cases}$$

$$\xrightarrow{2.} \begin{cases} -2x+4y=-6 \\ y=0 \end{cases}$$

All in one go would be to add $(-2) \cdot \text{Eq 1}$ to Eq 2:

$$\textcircled{-2} \begin{cases} x-2y=3 \\ 2x-3y=6 \end{cases} \rightsquigarrow \begin{cases} -2x+4y=-6 \\ y=0 \end{cases}$$

Finally read off $y=0$ & sub into first eq to arrive at $x=3$.

Ex: Now let's solve

$$\begin{cases} x+y+3z=3 \\ x+3y+2z=3 \\ 3x+y+z=2 \end{cases} \text{ using this method.}$$

We first use eq 1 to eliminate x & $3x$ from eqs 2 and 3:

$$\begin{array}{l} \xrightarrow{-3} \xrightarrow{-1} \begin{cases} x+y+3z=3 \\ x+3y+2z=3 \\ 3x+y+z=0 \end{cases} \end{array}$$

$$\longrightarrow \begin{cases} x+y+3z=3 \\ 2y-z=0 \\ -2y-8z=-9 \end{cases}$$

Then add eq 2 to eq 3

$$\begin{cases} x+y+3z=3 \\ 2y-z=0 \\ -2y-8z=-9 \end{cases} \rightarrow \begin{cases} x+y+3z=3 \\ 2y-z=0 \\ -9z=-9 \end{cases}$$

Read off $\boxed{z=1}$ sub into eq 2
gives $y=1/2$, and subbing into eq 1

gives $x = 3 - y - 3z = 3 - \frac{1}{2} - 3 = -1/2$

Solution is
$$\begin{cases} x = -1/2 \\ y = 1/2 \\ z = 1 \end{cases}$$

Geometrically, each of the eqns

$$x + y + 3z = 3$$

$$x + 3y + 2z = 3$$

$$3x + y + z = 2$$

describe a plane in 3d space, and they

have a common intersection point at $(x, y, z) = (-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, 1)$.

§1.2 Matrices & Gauss-Jordan elimination

When solving the system
$$\begin{cases} x + y + 3z = 3 \\ x + 3y + 2z = 3 \\ 3x + y + z = 2 \end{cases}$$
 it's cumbersome to keep writing x, y and z all the time. It's more efficient to just keep track of the coefficients.

$$\begin{cases} x+y+3z=3 \\ x+3y+2z=3 \\ 3x+y+z=-2 \end{cases} \longleftrightarrow \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 3 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right]$$

dotted line just reminds us that the last column corresponds to the RHS of the equations

Def. A matrix is an array of real numbers.

Ex: $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ $\begin{matrix} \nearrow \text{3 rows} \\ \nwarrow \text{4 columns} \end{matrix}$ $\begin{matrix} \nearrow \\ \nwarrow \end{matrix}$ $\begin{matrix} \text{3x4 matrix} \\ \end{matrix}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \pi \\ 0.1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 4 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

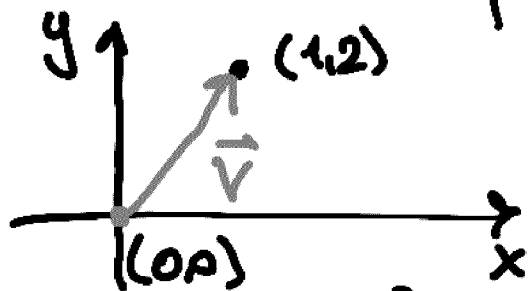
$\begin{matrix} 4 \times 1 & 1 \times 2 & 2 \times 2 & 1 \times 1 \end{matrix}$

Def. A $(n \times 1)$ -matrix (just 1 column)

$\begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_n \end{bmatrix}$ is called a Column vector or just vector.

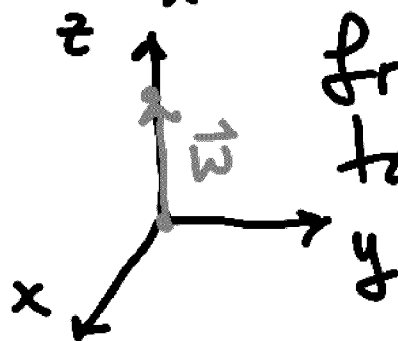
A $(1 \times m)$ -matrix (just 1 row)
 $[b_1 \dots b_m]$ is called a row vector
(but never just a vector! that term
is reserved for column vectors)

Ex: $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ represented as an
arrow in the plane:



Starts at $(0,0)$
& ends at $(1,2)$.

$$\vec{w} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



from $(0,0,0)$
to $(0,0,1)$.

We will later discuss how to visualize
matrices that are not vectors.

Let's go back to systems of linear equations:

$$\begin{cases} x+y+3z=3 \\ x+3y+2z=3 \\ 3x+y+z=0 \end{cases} \longleftrightarrow \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 3 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

We call this the "augmented matrix" associated with the system.

Performing row operations to the augmented matrix is now done similar as before:

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

$$\rightarrow \stackrel{1}{\leftarrow} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 3 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & -8 & -9 \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \stackrel{1}{\leftarrow} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 3 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -9 & -9 \end{array} \right]$$

We can either stop here & translate back to the system of linear eqns

$$\begin{cases} x+y+3z=3 \\ 2y-z=0 \\ -9z=-9 \end{cases} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{\& Solve the eqns} \\ \text{\textcircled{1} One at a time.} \end{array}$$

We can also continue:

$$\xrightarrow{-\frac{1}{9}} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 3 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -9 & -9 \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \xrightarrow{\frac{3}{9}} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 3 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -9 & -9 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\rightarrow \xrightarrow{-1/2} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -9 & -9 \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) \left(-\frac{1}{9} \right) \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & -1/2 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -9 & -9 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\rightarrow \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & -1/2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right] \quad \text{this gives the}$$

solution to the system directly:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1/2 \\ 1/2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Notice the shape:

A 3x4 matrix is shown with the following elements:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & -1/2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Annotations:

- Arrows point to the circled leading elements (1, 1, 1) with the label "Leading elements".
- A bracket under the first three columns is labeled "Staircase".
- Text to the right says "Zeros above leading elements", pointing to the zeros in the first column above the third row and the zero in the second column above the third row.

Staircase

- This form is called "row-reduced echelon form" (RREF).
 - The procedure we just performed is called Gauss-Jordan elimination.
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