

# Linear Algebra I

18/12/2015, Friday, 9:00 – 11:00

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You are **NOT** allowed to use any type of calculators.

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1 (2 + 4 + 2 + (4 + 4 + 4) = 20 pts)

Linear equations

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Consider the following linear system of equations in the unknowns  $a, b, c, d,$  and  $e$ .

$$\begin{aligned}2b + 4c + 2d + 2e &= 0 \\4a + 4b + 4c + 8d &= 4 \\8a + 2b + 10d + 2e &= 8 \\6a + 3b + 2c + 9d + e &= q.\end{aligned}$$

- Write down the augmented matrix.
  - By performing row operations, put the augmented matrix into row echelon form.
  - Determine all values of  $q$  so that the system is consistent.
  - For the values of  $q$  found above,
    - determine the *lead* and *free* variables.
    - put the augmented matrix into row *reduced* echelon form by performing row operations.
    - find the solution set.
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**REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE: Gauss-elimination, row operations, notions of lead/free variables.**

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SOLUTION:

1a: Augmented matrix is given by:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 & 4 & 2 & 2 & \vdots & 0 \\ 4 & 4 & 4 & 8 & 0 & \vdots & 4 \\ 8 & 2 & 0 & 10 & 2 & \vdots & 8 \\ 6 & 3 & 2 & 9 & 1 & \vdots & q \end{bmatrix}.$$

1b:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 & 4 & 2 & 2 & \vdots & 0 \\ 4 & 4 & 4 & 8 & 0 & \vdots & 4 \\ 8 & 2 & 0 & 10 & 2 & \vdots & 8 \\ 6 & 3 & 2 & 9 & 1 & \vdots & q \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\substack{\mathbf{1st = 2nd} \\ \mathbf{2nd = 1st}}} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 4 & 4 & 8 & 0 & \vdots & 4 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 & 2 & 2 & \vdots & 0 \\ 8 & 2 & 0 & 10 & 2 & \vdots & 8 \\ 6 & 3 & 2 & 9 & 1 & \vdots & q \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 4 & 4 & 8 & 0 & \vdots & 4 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 & 2 & 2 & \vdots & 0 \\ 8 & 2 & 0 & 10 & 2 & \vdots & 8 \\ 6 & 3 & 2 & 9 & 1 & \vdots & q \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\mathbf{1st} = \frac{1}{4} \times \mathbf{1st}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 & \vdots & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 & 2 & 2 & \vdots & 0 \\ 8 & 2 & 0 & 10 & 2 & \vdots & 8 \\ 6 & 3 & 2 & 9 & 1 & \vdots & q \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 & \vdots & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 & 2 & 2 & \vdots & 0 \\ 8 & 2 & 0 & 10 & 2 & \vdots & 8 \\ 6 & 3 & 2 & 9 & 1 & \vdots & q \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\begin{array}{l} \mathbf{3rd} = \mathbf{3rd} - 8 \times \mathbf{1st} \\ \mathbf{4th} = \mathbf{4th} - 6 \times \mathbf{1st} \end{array}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 & \vdots & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 & 2 & 2 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & -6 & -8 & -6 & 2 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & -3 & -4 & -3 & 1 & \vdots & q-6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 & \vdots & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 & 2 & 2 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & -6 & -8 & -6 & 2 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & -3 & -4 & -3 & 1 & \vdots & q-6 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\mathbf{2nd} = \frac{1}{2} \times \mathbf{2nd}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 & \vdots & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & -6 & -8 & -6 & 2 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & -3 & -4 & -3 & 1 & \vdots & q-6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 & \vdots & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & -6 & -8 & -6 & 2 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & -3 & -4 & -3 & 1 & \vdots & q-6 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\begin{array}{l} \mathbf{3rd} = \mathbf{3rd} + 6 \times \mathbf{2nd} \\ \mathbf{4th} = \mathbf{4th} + 3 \times \mathbf{2nd} \end{array}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 & \vdots & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 0 & 8 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 4 & \vdots & q-6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 & \vdots & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 0 & 8 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 4 & \vdots & q-6 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\mathbf{3rd} = \frac{1}{4} \times \mathbf{3rd}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 & \vdots & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 4 & \vdots & q-6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 & \vdots & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 4 & \vdots & q-6 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\mathbf{4th} = \mathbf{4th} - 2 \times \mathbf{3rd}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 & \vdots & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \vdots & q-6 \end{bmatrix}$$

**1c:** It is consistent if and only if  $q = 6$ .

**1d:** If  $q = 6$ , then we have

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 & \vdots & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \vdots & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

(i): Lead variables are  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  whereas  $d$  and  $e$  are free variables.

(ii):

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 & \vdots & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \vdots & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\substack{\mathbf{2nd} = \mathbf{2nd} - 2 \times \mathbf{3rd} \\ \mathbf{1st} = \mathbf{1st} - \mathbf{3rd}}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 & -2 & \vdots & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & -3 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \vdots & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 & -2 & \vdots & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & -3 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \vdots & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\mathbf{1st} = \mathbf{1st} - \mathbf{2nd}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & \vdots & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & -3 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & \vdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \vdots & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

(iii): The general solution is given by

$$a = 1 - d - e$$

$$b = -d + 3e$$

$$c = -2e$$

where  $d$  and  $e$  are free variables.

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Find all values of  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  such that the matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} a^2 & (a+1)^2 & (a+2)^2 \\ b^2 & (b+1)^2 & (b+2)^2 \\ c^2 & (c+1)^2 & (c+2)^2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

is nonsingular.

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REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE: **Determinants, nonsingular matrices.**

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SOLUTION:

**2a:** First we compute the determinant of this matrix. By applying row and column operations, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \det \left( \begin{bmatrix} a^2 & (a+1)^2 & (a+2)^2 \\ b^2 & (b+1)^2 & (b+2)^2 \\ c^2 & (c+1)^2 & (c+2)^2 \end{bmatrix} \right) &= \det \left( \begin{bmatrix} a^2 & 2a+1 & 4a+4 \\ b^2 & 2b+1 & 4b+4 \\ c^2 & 2c+1 & 4c+4 \end{bmatrix} \right) && \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{column operations} \\ \mathbf{2nd} = \mathbf{2nd} - \mathbf{1st} \\ \mathbf{3rd} = \mathbf{3rd} - \mathbf{1st} \end{array} \right\} \\ &= 4 \det \left( \begin{bmatrix} a^2 & 2a+1 & a+1 \\ b^2 & 2b+1 & b+1 \\ c^2 & 2c+1 & c+1 \end{bmatrix} \right) && \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{column operation} \\ \mathbf{3rd} = \frac{1}{4} \times \mathbf{3rd} \end{array} \right\} \\ &= 4 \det \left( \begin{bmatrix} a^2 & a & a+1 \\ b^2 & b & b+1 \\ c^2 & c & c+1 \end{bmatrix} \right) && \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{column operations} \\ \mathbf{2nd} = \mathbf{2nd} - \mathbf{3rd} \end{array} \right\} \\ &= 4 \det \left( \begin{bmatrix} a^2 & a & 1 \\ b^2 & b & 1 \\ c^2 & c & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) && \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{column operation} \\ \mathbf{3rd} = \mathbf{3rd} - \mathbf{2nd} \end{array} \right\} \\ &= 4 \det \left( \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ b^2 - a^2 & b - a & 1 \\ c^2 - a^2 & c - a & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) && \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{column operations} \\ \mathbf{2nd} = \mathbf{2nd} - a \times \mathbf{3rd} \\ \mathbf{1st} = \mathbf{1st} - a^2 \times \mathbf{3rd} \end{array} \right\} \\ &= 4 \det \left( \begin{bmatrix} b^2 - a^2 & b - a \\ c^2 - a^2 & c - a \end{bmatrix} \right) && \{ \text{Cofactor exp. w.r.t. 1st row} \} \\ &= 4(b-a)(c-a) \det \left( \begin{bmatrix} b+a & 1 \\ c+a & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) && \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{row operations} \\ \mathbf{1st} = \frac{1}{b-a} \times \mathbf{1st} \\ \mathbf{2nd} = \frac{1}{c-a} \times \mathbf{2nd} \end{array} \right\} \\ &= 4(b-a)(c-a)(b-c) \end{aligned}$$

A square matrix is nonsingular if and only if its determinant is nonzero. Therefore, the matrix we look at is nonsingular if and only if  $a \neq b$  and  $b \neq c$  and  $c \neq a$ .

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Let  $x, y$  be  $n$  vectors. Consider the matrix

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} I_n & x \\ y^T & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

(a) Show that

$$\det(M) = \det(I_n - xy^T) = 1 - y^T x.$$

(b) Assume that  $y^T x \neq 1$  and find the inverse of  $M$ .

**REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE: Partitioned matrices, nonsingular matrices, and inverse and the fact that there is no ethical consumption under capitalism**

SOLUTION:

**3a:** Note that

$$\begin{bmatrix} I_n & x \\ y^T & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I_n & 0_{n \times 1} \\ -y^T & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} I_n - xy^T & x \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

This corresponds to application of block column operations. Hence, we have

$$\det\left(\begin{bmatrix} I_n & x \\ y^T & 1 \end{bmatrix}\right) \underbrace{\det\left(\begin{bmatrix} I_n & 0_{n \times 1} \\ -y^T & 1 \end{bmatrix}\right)}_{=1} = \underbrace{\det\left(\begin{bmatrix} I_n - xy^T & x \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}\right)}_{=\det(I_n - xy^T)}.$$

Therefore,

$$\det\left(\begin{bmatrix} I_n & x \\ y^T & 1 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \det(I_n - xy^T).$$

Similarly, note that

$$\begin{bmatrix} I_n & 0_{n \times 1} \\ -y^T & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I_n & x \\ y^T & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} I_n & x \\ 0 & 1 - y^T x \end{bmatrix}.$$

This results in

$$\underbrace{\det\left(\begin{bmatrix} I_n & 0_{n \times 1} \\ -y^T & 1 \end{bmatrix}\right)}_{=1} \det\left(\begin{bmatrix} I_n & x \\ y^T & 1 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \underbrace{\det\left(\begin{bmatrix} I_n & x \\ 0 & 1 - y^T x \end{bmatrix}\right)}_{=1 - y^T x}.$$

Consequently we obtain

$$\det\left(\begin{bmatrix} I_n & x \\ y^T & 1 \end{bmatrix}\right) = 1 - y^T x.$$

**3b:** If  $y^T x \neq 1$ , then  $\det(M) \neq 0$ . In other words,  $M$  is nonsingular. To find its inverse, we first take

$$M^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} P & q \\ r^T & s \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $P$  is an  $n \times n$  matrix,  $q, r \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $s \in \mathbb{R}$ . Note that

$$\begin{bmatrix} I_n & x \\ y^T & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} P & q \\ r^T & s \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} I_n & 0_{n \times 1} \\ 0_{1 \times n} & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

This gives us

$$\begin{aligned} I_n &= P + xr^T \\ 0_{n \times 1} &= q + sx \\ 0_{1 \times n} &= y^T P + r^T \\ 1 &= y^T q + s. \end{aligned}$$

Solving  $r^T$  from the third and substituting it into the first result in

$$I_n = P - xy^T P = (I_n - xy^T)P.$$

Hence, we obtain

$$P = (I_n - xy^T)^{-1}$$

and

$$r^T = -y^T(I_n - xy^T)^{-1}.$$

Now, we first solve  $q$  from the second and substitute into the forth. This results in

$$1 = -sy^T x + s = s(1 - y^T x)$$

. Therefore,

$$s = (1 - y^T x)^{-1}$$

and

$$q = -(1 - y^T x)^{-1}x.$$

Consequently, we get

$$M^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} (I_n - xy^T)^{-1} & -(1 - y^T x)^{-1}x \\ -y^T(I_n - xy^T)^{-1} & (1 - y^T x)^{-1} \end{bmatrix}.$$

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Consider the vector space  $\mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ . Let  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ .

(a) Let

$$S_1 = \{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \mid AX + XA = 0_{n \times n}\}.$$

Is  $S_1$  a subspace? Justify your answer.

(b) Let

$$S_2 = \{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \mid AX + XA = A\}.$$

Is  $S_2$  a subspace? Justify your answer.

**REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE: Subspaces.**

**SOLUTION:**

**4a:** We begin with observing that  $0_{n \times n} \in S_1$ . Hence,  $S_1$  is nonempty. Let  $\alpha$  be a scalar and  $X \in S_1$ . Note that

$$A(\alpha X) + (\alpha X)A = \alpha(AX + XA) = 0_{n \times n}.$$

As such,  $\alpha X \in S_1$ , that is  $S_1$  is closed under scalar multiplication.

Now, let  $X, Y \in S_1$ . Note that

$$A(X + Y) + (X + Y)A = AX + XA + AY + YA = 0_{n \times n} + 0_{n \times n} = 0_{n \times n}.$$

Thus,  $X + Y \in S_1$ , that is  $S_1$  is closed under vector addition.

Consequently,  $S_1$  is a subspace.

**4b:** First, we note that  $\frac{1}{2}I_n \in S_2$  since

$$A\left(\frac{1}{2}I_n\right) + \left(\frac{1}{2}I_n\right)A = A.$$

As such,  $S_2$  is nonempty.

Let  $\alpha$  be a scalar and  $X \in S_2$ . Note that

$$A(\alpha X) + (\alpha X)A = \alpha(AX + XA) = \alpha A.$$

This means that  $\alpha X \in S_2$  if and only if  $\alpha A = A$  for all scalars  $\alpha$ . In other words,  $\alpha X \in S_2$  if and only if  $A = 0_{n \times n}$ .

Now, let  $X, Y \in S_2$ . Note that

$$A(X + Y) + (X + Y)A = AX + XA + AY + YA = 2A.$$

As such,  $X + Y \in S_2$  if and only if  $2A = A$ , that is  $A = 0_{n \times n}$ .

Consequently,  $S_2$  is a subspace if and only if  $A = 0_{n \times n}$ .