

May 20 (Lecture 5)

Overview: We will define the reduced row echelon form (RREF) and the rank of a matrix and see how those two concepts can help us solve SLEs! We'll then use SLEs to discuss the concepts of spanning sets and linear independence.

Learning Goals:

- Precisely define “RREF” and determine whether or not a matrix is in RREF.
- Precisely define and compute the rank of a matrix.
- Define “span” and “linear independence” in the context of \mathbb{R}^n .

As you're getting settled:

- No class on May 24! (statutory holiday in Canada)
Office hours to be held on Tuesday, 1:00-2:00 pm.
- Homework 2 is out! Due next Tuesday, 11:30 pm Pacific.
- Reflection available after class, due Friday night, 11:30 pm!
- Homework 1 Solutions posted to Brightspace
- `\rop` right arrow command to stacks.

Example continued.

These last few examples foreshadow this theorem: "System-Rank Thm."

Theorem (2.1.3, 2.2.2). Let $[A|\vec{b}]$ represent a system of m linear equations in n variables. $n = \#$ columns of A .

1. The system is consistent if and only if $\text{rank}(A) = \text{rank}[A|\vec{b}]$.
(or: ... is inconsistent if and only if the RREF of $[A|\vec{b}]$ has a row of $[0 \dots 0 | 1]$!).
2. If the system is consistent, then the number of free variables (parameters) is $n - \text{rank}(A)$. (unique solution $\Leftrightarrow n = \text{rank}(A)$).
3. We have $\text{rank}(A) = n$ if and only if the system represented by $[A|\vec{b}]$ is consistent for every $\vec{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$.

Example. Suppose that the augmented matrix $[A|\vec{b}]$ for a system of linear equations has RREF equal to

$$\begin{array}{l}
 m=4 \\
 \text{"Rows or \#} \\
 \text{of linear eq."}
 \end{array}
 \left[\begin{array}{ccccc|c}
 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 2 & 1 \\
 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & -3 & -1 \\
 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 3 \\
 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0
 \end{array} \right]
 \begin{array}{l}
 n=5 \text{ ex. } (x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5) \\
 \text{rank}[A|\vec{b}] = 3 \\
 \text{rank}(A) = 3 \text{ also (same row ops} \\
 \text{will get } A \text{ to RREF).}
 \end{array}$$

Is the system consistent? If so, how many parameters/free variables are there in the solution?

Solution. $\text{rank}(A) = \text{rank}[A|\vec{b}]$, so yes consistent!

$$\# \text{ of free variables: } n - \text{rank}(A) = 5 - 3 = \boxed{2}$$

x_3, x_5

$$x_1 + x_2 + 3x_3 = 0$$

p.109 **Definition.** A linear equation is *homogeneous* when the constant term is 0. A system of linear equations is *homogeneous* when each EQ in the system is homogeneous. ($\vec{b} = \vec{0}$).

Example. Consider the SLEs represented by augmented matrices

$$M_1 = \left[\begin{array}{ccccc|c} \boxed{1} & 0 & -1 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & \boxed{1} & 1 & 0 & -3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \boxed{1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right], \quad M_2 = \left[\begin{array}{ccccc|c} \boxed{1} & 0 & -1 & 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & \boxed{1} & 1 & 0 & -3 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \boxed{1} & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right].$$

A A

Is there a relationship between the solution sets for these systems?

- M_1 represents a homogeneous system w/ coefficient matrix A ;
- M_2 represents a non-homogeneous system w/ coefficient matrix A ; and vector of constants $\vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$.

→ Both M_1 and M_2 are in RREF!

$M_1: x_1 - x_3 + 2x_5 = 0$
 $x_2 + x_3 - 3x_5 = 0$
 $x_4 = 0$
 $0 = 0$

→ solution vector $\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_3 - 2x_5 \\ -x_3 + 3x_5 \\ x_3 \\ 0 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} = x_3 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_5 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$.

Solution set = $\left\{ x_3 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_5 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, x_3, x_5 \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$

$M_2: \vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} = \dots = x_3 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_5 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Solutions to a non-homogeneous system are equal to a "particular" solution + the "homogeneous" solution.

p.61 **Definition.** For a homogeneous SLE, the zero vector is the trivial solution to the system.

Spanning and Linear Independence in \mathbb{R}^n

p.52 **Definition.** Let $S = \{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k\}$ be a set of vectors in \mathbb{R}^n . The *span* of S , denoted $\text{span } S$ or $\text{span}(S)$, is the set of all linear combinations of vectors in S : $\text{span } S = \{c_1\vec{v}_1 + \dots + c_k\vec{v}_k : c_1, \dots, c_k \in \mathbb{R}\}$

If $W = \text{span } S$, then S is a spanning set for W , or S spans W .

Example. Is $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$ in the span of the set $S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$?

Solution. Check if $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = c_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

Rephrased: $c_1 - c_2 = 1$

$2c_1 + c_2 = 0$ • Easily solvable; c, we could use a matrix!
 $c_2 = -1$

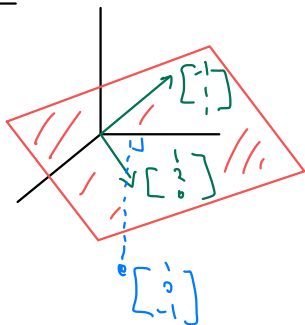
$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{R_2 - 2R_1} \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 3 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\substack{R_2 \leftrightarrow R_3 \\ R_1 - R_3}} \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{R_2 \leftrightarrow R_3} \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{R_2 + R_3} \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right].$$

RREF!

We have a row representing $0=1$, so the SLE is inconsistent.

Thus, $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$ is not in $\text{span } S$.

Picture



Example. What is the span of $S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$?

$$\text{Span } S = \left\{ c_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + c_3 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} : c_1, c_2, c_3 \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

From the last eg. we know the span contains a plane. Does it contain more vectors, thanks to $\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$.

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = c_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 2 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\text{Row ops}} \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

Solution to SLE \uparrow : $c_1 = 1$, so $1 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + 2 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$! $\infty \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ does not change $c_2 = 2$

the span i.e. $\text{span } S = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$.

p.53 **Definition.** Let $S = \{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k\}$ be a set of vectors in \mathbb{R}^n . The set S is *linearly dependent* when there exists real numbers, c_1, \dots, c_k not all zero such that $c_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + c_k \vec{v}_k = \vec{0}$.

S is linearly independent when S is not linearly dependent!

or: the only solution to $c_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + c_k \vec{v}_k = \vec{0}$ is $c_1 = \dots = c_k = 0$.

"the trivial solution".

Example continued. From $1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + 2 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$

$\rightarrow 1 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + 2 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + -1 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \vec{0}$, so S is linearly dependent.

"linear dependence relation on S ."

Example. Let $S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$. Is S linearly independent? If not, find a linearly independent subset S' of S such that $\text{span } S' = \text{span } S$.

Start w/ $c_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} + c_3 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} + c_4 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

SLE in c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4 ! Let's use a matrix to solve the SLE:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & -3 \\ 1 & 5 & 4 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{row ops}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3/2 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 1/2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{. Read off the solution:}$$

(No need to include the \vec{b} as it contains all zeros.)

$$\begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \\ c_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -3/2 c_3 + 2c_4 \\ 1/2 c_3 - c_4 \\ c_3 \\ c_4 \end{bmatrix} =$$

$$c_3 \begin{bmatrix} -3/2 \\ 1/2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + c_4 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, c_3, c_4 \in \mathbb{R}$$

There are non-trivial solutions to the vector EQ:

For example, choose $c_3=1=c_4$. $c_1 = -3/2 + 2 = 1/2$, $c_2 = 1/2 - 1 = -1/2$

Thus, $1/2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} - 1/2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} + 1 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} + 1 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$.

- $c_3=1, c_4=0$: $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$ is a LC of $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$.

- $c_3=0, c_4=1$: $\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ is a LC of $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$.

So if $S' = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$, the $\text{span } S' = \text{span } S$.

And S' is LI, by our above computation!