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Recap :

Linear system

Solution set

Equivalence

3 possibilities

no solution

exactly one solution

infinitely many solutions

Consistency

Matrix notation

Coefficient matrix

augmented matrix

Strategy for solving a linear system

Transform it to a new system

*) that has the triangular form

*) and that is equivalent ~~to~~ to
the original system.

Elementary Row Operations (EROs)

(2)

*) Add a multiple of row j to row k , $j \neq k$

*) Interchange two rows

*) Multiply a row by a non-zero constant

All EROs are reversible.

The linear systems before and after EROs are equivalent.

Row equivalence of two matrices.

Augmented matrices are row equivalent

\implies Linear systems are equivalent.

Row reduction and echelon forms

Terminology

*) a non-zero row

*) a row of all zeros

*) the leading entry of a non-zero row.

*) "row reduce" = "transform using EROs"

Def. Echelon form and reduced echelon form (3)

We say a matrix is in echelon form if it satisfies properties 1, 2 and 3.

1. All non-zero rows are above rows of all zeros.
2. The leading entry of each non-zero row is in a column to the right of the leading entry of the row above it.
3. All entries below a leading entry are zeros.

We say it is in reduced echelon form if it also satisfies properties 4 and 5

4. Each leading entry is 1
5. Each leading entry is the only non-zero in its column.

EX.
$$\begin{pmatrix} \textcircled{4} & 7 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & \textcircled{5} & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

it is in echelon form

not reduced echelon form

$$\begin{pmatrix} \textcircled{1} & 7 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & \textcircled{1} & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

it is in reduced echelon form

$$\begin{pmatrix} 4 & 7 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

not echelon form

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 5 & 2 \\ 4 & 7 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

not echelon form

Echelon matrix

Reduced echelon matrix

Theorem 1: A matrix is row equivalent to one and only one reduced echelon matrix

The row reduction algorithm:

Forward phase:

Goal: ^{row} reduce the matrix to an echelon form. Start with row 1, then move ~~row~~ onto row 2, ...

For row k, we have 3 steps.

Step 1: Look at the submatrix consisting of row k and all rows below it.

Find the left most non-zero column of the submatrix \leftarrow pivot column

Step 2: look at the intersection of row k
and the pivot column.

pivot position

We need a non-zero entry
at the pivot position
(interchange two rows if necessary)

Step 3: Use EROs to eliminate entries
below the pivot position.

Repeat Steps 1, 2 and 3 for next row.

Summary of the forward phase

- Step 1. identify the pivot column
- Step 2. make the entry at the pivot position non-zero.
- Step 3. Use ERO's to create zeros below the pivot position.

Backward phase:

Goal: row reduce it to the reduced echelon form.

For each non-zero row starting from bottom,

- * Make the leading entry 1 by scaling.
- Create zeros above the leading entry, using EROs

Def: pivot position = position of a leading entry ⁽¹⁾
in echelon form

pivot column = a column containing
a pivot position.

Ex

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & -3 & -6 & 4 & 9 \\ -1 & -1 & -2 & -1 & 3 & 1 \\ -2 & -2 & -3 & 0 & 3 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & 4 & 5 & -9 & -7 \end{pmatrix}$$

Forward phase.

Row 1

Step 1. identify pivot column

Step 2. make the pivot non-zero

$$\begin{pmatrix} \textcircled{1} & 1 & 4 & 5 & -9 & -7 \\ \boxed{-1} & -1 & -2 & -1 & 3 & 1 \\ \boxed{-2} & -2 & -3 & 0 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 & -6 & 4 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

Step 3

Add row 1 to row 2

Add 2 x (row 1) to row 3

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 4 & 5 & -9 & -7 \\ 0 & 0 & \textcircled{2} & 4 & -6 & -6 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{5} & 10 & -15 & -15 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{-3} & -6 & 4 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

Row 2

Step 1:

Step 2:

Step 3:

Add $(-\frac{5}{2}) \times \text{row 2}$ to row 3

Add $(\frac{3}{2}) \times \text{row 2}$ to row 4

$$\left(\begin{array}{cccc|cc} 1 & 1 & 4 & 5 & -9 & -7 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 4 & -6 & -6 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \text{circled } -5 & \text{circled } 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -5 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

Row 3

Step 1, Step 2

$$\left(\begin{array}{cccc|cc} \boxed{1} & 1 & 4 & 5 & \text{circled } -9 & -7 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{2} & 4 & \text{circled } -6 & -6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \text{circled } 0 & \boxed{-5} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \boxed{0} & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

← Echelon form

Row 4:

done with the forward phase

Backward phase:

Row 3

Multiply row 3 by $\frac{-1}{5}$

(8)

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 4 & 5 & 0 & -7 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 4 & 0 & -6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Add } 6 \times (\text{row } 3) \text{ to } (\text{row } 2) \\ \text{Add } 9 \times (\text{row } 3) \text{ to } (\text{row } 1) \end{array} \right.$

Row 2 Multiply (row 2) by $\frac{1}{2}$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & -3 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

← Reduced echelon form

Add $(-4) \times (\text{row } 2)$ to (row 1)

Row 1

Done with the backward phase.

Solving a linear system using row reduction algorithm.

Ex.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & -3 & -6 & 4 & 9 \\ -1 & -1 & -2 & -1 & 3 & 1 \\ -2 & -2 & -3 & 0 & 3 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & 4 & 5 & -9 & -7 \end{pmatrix}$$

Row reduction algorithm.

Def: Basic variables and free variables.

(9)

"basic variables" = variables corresponding to pivot positions.

"free variables" = rest of variables.

Back to example

basic variables = x_1, x_3, x_5

free variables = x_2, x_4

Move all free variables to the RHS

Express basic variables in terms of free variables.

row 1. $x_1 + x_2 - 3x_4 = 5$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 = 5 - x_2 + 3x_4.$$

row 2. $x_3 + 2x_4 = -3$

$$\Rightarrow x_3 = -3 - 2x_4.$$

row 3. $x_5 = 0.$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} x_1 = 5 - x_2 + 3x_4. \\ x_2 = \text{free} \\ x_3 = -3 - 2x_4 \\ x_4 = \text{free} \\ x_5 = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

← solution set,
general solution.

Q: What happens if the last column of the augmented matrix contains a pivot position. (10)

Ex.

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} \boxed{1} & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & \boxed{1} & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \boxed{1} \end{array} \right)$$

Row 3:

$$0 = 1$$

\Rightarrow no solution, inconsistent.

Theorem 2. (existence and uniqueness).

- *). A linear system is consistent if and only if the right most column of its augmented matrix is not a pivot column.
- *). If it is consistent and there is no free variables, then the solution is unique.
(solution set = exactly one solution)
- *). If it is consistent and there is at least one free variable, then solution set = infinitely many solutions.

Ex. Augmented matrix

(11)

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} \boxed{1} & 0 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & \boxed{1} & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{1} & 4 \end{array} \right)$$

Right most column is not a pivot column.

\Rightarrow it is consistent.

Basic variables: x_1, x_2, x_3 .

No free variable.

Row 3 : $x_3 = 4$.

Row 2 : $x_2 = 2$

Row 1 : $x_1 = 3$.

$$\text{solution set} = \begin{cases} x_1 = 3 \\ x_2 = 2 \\ x_3 = 4 \end{cases}$$

Ex. Augmented matrix.

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} \boxed{1} & 0 & 4 & 3 \\ 0 & \boxed{1} & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

Right most column is not a pivot column
 \implies consistency.

Basic variables: x_1, x_2

Free variable: x_3 .

Row 2: $x_2 = 2 - x_3$

Row 1: $x_1 = 3 - 4x_3$.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} x_1 = 3 - 4x_3 \\ x_2 = 2 - x_3 \\ x_3 = \text{free} \end{array} \right. \quad \text{Solution set}$$