

# Math 2130. Lecture 4.

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So far: — elt. row ops, echelon forms

— using row ops to get Echelon forms.

The following picture is almost completed

given L.E.S

encode

matrix  $A$ , the so-called augmented matrix.

$$= \left[ \begin{array}{c|c} \text{coeff. matrix} & \text{scalar column} \\ \hline C & \vec{b} \end{array} \right]$$

⋮  
↓  
the soln

decide/read off

Gaussian elimination

E.F or R.E.F. of  $A$ .

Today: — Soln sets of L.E.S. from (reduced) echelon forms  
— parametric vector forms.

# 1. Number of solns from echelon form (Is the system consistent? If so, how many solns?)

## Definitions and observations.

1. Def. (Pivot columns, pivot positions, basic variables, free variables)

Let  $A$  be a matrix and  $B$  be any echelon form of  $A$ .

$$\text{(e.g. } A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 \\ 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{)}$$

A pivot position in  $A$  is a position where there's a row-leading entry in  $B$ .

Such positions are independent of the choice of  $B$ .

A pivot row or column in  $A$  is a row or column in  $A$  with a pivot position.

For a L.E.S with augmented matrix  $A = [C | \vec{b}]$ , a variable is called

a basic variable if its column is pivot and a free variable if its column is not pivot

Examples. (all from the last lecture)

$$(2) \begin{cases} x + 2y + 3z = 4 \\ 5x + 6y + 7z = 8 \\ 9x + 10y + 11z = 9 \end{cases} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 \\ 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$b$     $b$     $f$

$$\text{Soln set} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} : \begin{array}{l} x - z = -2 \\ y + 2z = 3 \end{array}, z \in \mathbb{R} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} z - 2 \\ 3 - 2z \\ z \end{bmatrix} : z \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

Note: There's at least one soln since there's no "nonsense rows" ( $[0 \ 0 \ 0 \ b]$   $b \neq 0$ ).

ie, the L.E.S is consistent.

The L.E.S actually has inf. many solns since the variable  $z$  is free.

Rough idea: consistency question  $\leftrightarrow$  existence of nonsense rows; uniqueness  $\leftrightarrow$  existence of free variables when consistent

Suppose these are aug.

↓ mat. of L.E.S.'s.

More examples.

(a)  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 7 \\ 2 & 2 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 7 \\ 0 & -4 & -8 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 7 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

Recall the last matrices are the R.E.F.s.   
| : pivot   
| : not pivot

(b)  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 7 \\ 2 & 6 & 14 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \{x+3y=7\} \exists \text{ free var.}$

no bad row   
 $\begin{cases} x=1 \\ y=2 \end{cases}$  no free var.   
 "bad"   
 no nonsense row

(c)  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 3 & 7 \\ 2 & 6 & 10 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 6 & 10 \\ 0 & 3 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{2}{3} \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\substack{R1 \\ R1-3R2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{2}{3} \end{bmatrix}$

$\begin{cases} x=-2 \\ y=\frac{2}{3} \end{cases}$    
 no bad row   
 no free var.

(d)  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 7 \\ 2 & 6 & 10 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

inconsistent,  $\exists$  bad row   
 no soln

Prop 1. (Consistency via E.F.)

Let  $A$  be the aug. matrix of a L.E.S., and let  $B$  be any echelon form of  $A$ . Then the L.E.S is consistent

if and only if  $B$  has no row of the form  $\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 0 & \dots & 0 & b \end{array} \right]$

where  $b$  is a nonzero number.

Note: To tell if an L.E.S. is consistent, it suffices to get just any

echelon form of its augmented matrix and not necessarily the R.E.F.

e.g.  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 3 & 7 \\ 2 & 6 & 10 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 6 & 10 \\ 0 & 3 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$  by elt. row ops, the corr. L.E.S is consistent (and has a unique soln).  
E.F.

### 3. Prop 2. (Number of solns from E.F.)

Say a L.E.S. has aug. matrix  $A$ . and assume that the L.E.S is consistent. Then the L.E.S has a unique soln iff all variables are basic, i.e., iff all variable columns in  $A$  are piv.

Note: As before, here we don't need a R.G.F to tell the number of solns.

$\square$  stands for a nonzero number

E.g.

$$A \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \square & * & * & * \\ 0 & \square & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

↓  
inconsistent

$$A \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \square & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & \square & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \square & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

↓

→ consistent.  
inf. many solns.

E.g. Transform the matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 & -2 \\ 4 & -1 & 3 & 1 \\ 4 & -3 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$  into Echelon form.

determine if the L.E.S. encoded by  $A$  is consistent, then

find the soln set of the L.E.S.

3 unique soln  
 $\uparrow$   
 $b \quad b \quad b_{j_i}$   
 $B$

Soln:  $A \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \textcircled{4} & -1 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & -2 \\ 4 & -3 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -1 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & \textcircled{1} & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & -2 & -3 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -1 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & \textcircled{1} & -2 \end{bmatrix}$

✓

E.F.

$B$  is an E.F. of  $A$  and has no row of the form  $[0 \ 0 \ \dots \ 0 \ b]$  with  $b \neq 0$ , so the L.E.S. is consistent. To find the

Soln, we need the R.E.F. .... E.x: find the unique soln.

## 2. Parametric Vector Forms.

### Vectors.

→ just like numbers, but multiple numbers at a time.

• Def: A vector is a list of numbers arranged in a column, eg.  $\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

• Operations on vectors:

(addition) We can add two vectors of the same size, entry-wise.

$$\text{eg. } \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3+4 \\ 2-1 \\ 1+0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

(scalar mult.) We can scale a vector by a number:

$$c \cdot \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} ca_1 \\ ca_2 \\ \vdots \\ ca_n \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{eg. } 5 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 15 \\ 10 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}.$$



Def. Given vectors  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k$  of the same size and numbers  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k$ , a vector of the form

$$\vec{v} = c_1 \vec{v}_1 + c_2 \vec{v}_2 + \dots + c_n \vec{v}_n$$

i) called a linear combination of  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k$ .

eg.

$$3 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} - 2 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \cdot 5 - 2 \cdot 1 \\ 3 \cdot 1 - 2 \cdot 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 13 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

So  $\begin{bmatrix} 13 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$  is a lin. comb of  $\begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Next time:  
new language for LFS.  
in terms of vectors  
and matrices.