

Lecture 19: Inverse Matrices

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Chapter 17.3 Motivation

From the row and column space algorithms we can see:

- $\dim(\text{Row}(A)) = \#$ of leading 1s in any REF of A
 - $\dim(\text{Col}(A)) = \#$ of leading 1s in any REF of A
- } = $\text{rank}(A)$

We also know:

- 1) Let A be an $m \times n$ matrix.
 $Ax = b$ is consistent for every $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$:
 $\Leftrightarrow \text{Col}(A) = \mathbb{R}^m$ (the columns span \mathbb{R}^m)
 $\Leftrightarrow \text{rank}(A) = m$ (# of rows)
- 2) Let $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$ such that $Ax = b$ is consistent
 $Ax = b$ has a unique solution:
 \Leftrightarrow "the columns are linearly independent"
 $\Leftrightarrow \text{rank}(A) = n$ (# of columns) (ie. no free parameters)

Now, consider matrices A of size $n \times n$ (square matrices).

Then,

$\text{rank}(A) = n$ (# of rows and # of columns)

\Leftrightarrow "the columns form a basis of \mathbb{R}^n "

$\Leftrightarrow Ax = b$ is consistent (because $\text{rank}(A) = n$) and has a unique solution for every $b \in \mathbb{R}^n$ (because $\text{rank}(A) = n = m$)

These matrices will be called **invertible**.

Chapter 18: Matrix Inverses

Let A be an $n \times n$ matrix (a square matrix).

Definition

If B is also an $n \times n$ matrix such that $AB = I$ and $BA = I$, then B is called an inverse of A, and A is called invertible.

Example

$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$, $B = ?$ such that $AB = I$ (AB is the identity matrix)

Let's guess

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

A B = I

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \checkmark$$

But we still need to check that $BA = I$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \checkmark$$

If B is an inverse of A, we simply write A^{-1} .

$$A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

But how did we find B?

Chapter 18.1 Finding an inverse for 2×2 matrices

Lemma: Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$, then:

- 1) if $ad - bc \neq 0$, then $A^{-1} = \frac{1}{ad-bc} \begin{bmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{bmatrix}$
- 2) if $ad - bc = 0$, then A is not invertible.
- ie. first check if $ad-bc=0$, and if so then use the formula.

Lemma: Suppose A is an invertible matrix. Then, any linear system $Ax = b$ is consistent and has a unique solution.

PROOF:

Consistent?

Pick the solution $x = A^{-1}b$. This works:

$$Ax = A * (A^{-1}b) = (AA^{-1})b = Ib = b$$

identity matrix

Unique?

Let $Ax = b$ and $Ay = b$.

$$b = Ax \Rightarrow A^{-1}b = A^{-1}Ax = Ix = x$$

$$b = Ay \Rightarrow A^{-1}b = A^{-1}Ay = Iy = y$$

so $x = A^{-1}b = y$

18.2 Algebraic properties of invertible matrices:

Let $k \neq 0$ be a scalar, p an integer, A and C invertible $n \times n$ matrices. Then, the following are also invertible:

- 1) A^{-1} $(A^{-1})^{-1} = A$
- 2) A^p $(A^p)^{-1} = (A^{-1})^p$
- 3) A^T $(A^T)^{-1} = (A^{-1})^T$
- 4) kA $(kA)^{-1} = \frac{1}{k}A^{-1}$
- 5) AC $(AC)^{-1} = C^{-1}A^{-1}$

Trick to remember:
Put on socks (A),
then shoes (C). Take
off shoes (C) first
then socks (A)

PROOF:

$$5) \quad (AC)(C^{-1}A^{-1}) = A(CC^{-1})A^{-1} = AIA^{-1} = AA^{-1} = I$$

$$(C^{-1}A^{-1})(AC) = C^{-1}(A^{-1}A)C = C^{-1}IC = C^{-1}C = I$$

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18.3 Finding the inverse

Let A be a $n \times n$ matrix.

We would like to construct a B such that:

$$A \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

B

So, $A * \text{first column of } B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

The first column of B is the unique solution to $Ax = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

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Similarly, the k th column of B is the unique solution to $Ax = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ k \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ← k th entry

Example

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \boxed{3} & \cdot \\ -2 & \cdot \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solve the system:

$$Ax = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 & 0 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 \end{array} \right]$$

$$Ax = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

Therefore, $B = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

This method works, but it's rather long, so we need a shortcut:

Write a super-matrix:

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 3 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 1 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 0 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

Keep row reducing until the identity matrix is on the left, and matrix B is on the right.

I ← $\text{matrix } B$
 $AB = I$ ✨

Lemma

If $AB = I$, then $BA = I$.