

## 1.1 System of Linear Equations

①

\* A linear equation with  $n$  unknowns has the form

$$a_1 x_1 + a_2 x_2 + \dots + a_n x_n = b$$

where the coefficients  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  are real numbers and  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  are the variables.

\* A linear system of  $m$  equations and  $n$  unknowns is denoted by  $m \times n$  linear system given by:

$$\begin{aligned} a_{11} x_1 + a_{12} x_2 + \dots + a_{1n} x_n &= b_1 \\ a_{21} x_1 + a_{22} x_2 + \dots + a_{2n} x_n &= b_2 \\ &\vdots \\ a_{m1} x_1 + a_{m2} x_2 + \dots + a_{mn} x_n &= b_m \end{aligned}$$

$a_{ij}'s \in \mathbb{R}$   
 $b_i's \in \mathbb{R}$

$AX = b$

EXP [a]  $x_1 + 2x_2 = 5$   
 $2x_1 + 3x_2 = 8$

• is  $2 \times 2$  linear system

• The solution set is  $\{(1, 2)\}$

Thus, the system is consistent "has at least one solution"

[b]  $x_1 - x_2 + x_3 = 2$

$2x_1 + x_2 - x_3 = 4$

•  $2 \times 3$  linear system

• The solution set is  $\{(2, \alpha, \alpha) : \alpha \in \mathbb{R}\}$   
"Infinitely many solution"

Thus, the system is consistent.

[c]  $x_1 + x_2 = 2$

$x_1 - x_2 = 1$

$x_1 = 4$

• is  $3 \times 2$  linear system

• The solution set is  $\emptyset$  "The system has no solution".

Thus, the system is inconsistent.

Notes \* If a linear system has no solution, then the system is **inconsistent**.

\* If a linear system has at least one solution, then the system is **consistent**.

\* The set of solutions of a linear system is called the **solution set**.

### 2x2 Systems

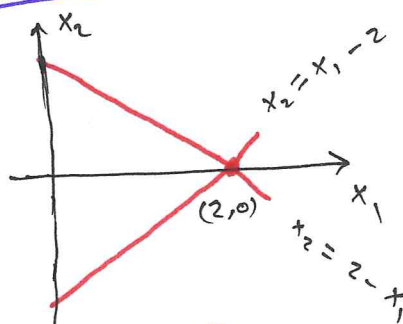
$$a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 = b_1$$

$$a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 = b_2$$

Each equation is a line in the  $x_1x_2$ -plane.

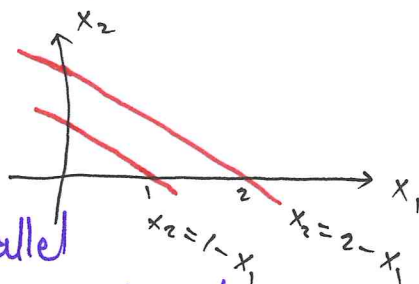
The pair  $(x_1, x_2)$  will be a solution of this system iff  $(x_1, x_2)$  lies on both lines.

Exp [a]  $x_1 + x_2 = 2$   
 $x_1 - x_2 = 2$



- The solution set is  $\{(2, 0)\}$
- The two lines intersect at the point  $(2, 0)$
- The system is consistent.

[b]  $x_1 + x_2 = 2$   
 $x_1 + x_2 = 1$

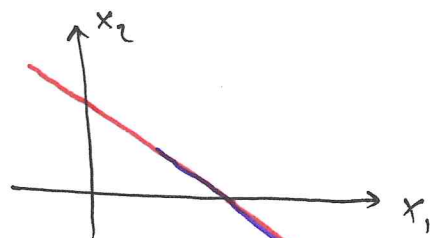


- The two lines are parallel
- The solution set is the empty set.
- The system is inconsistent.

③

□  $x_1 + x_2 = 2$

$-x_1 - x_2 = -2$



- The two equations represent the same line.
- Any point on this line will be a solution.
- The solution set has infinitely many solutions.
- The system is consistent.

### Equivalent Systems

Def Two systems of equations involving the same variables are **equivalent** if they have the same solution set.

Exp Consider the two systems

□  $3x_1 + 2x_2 - x_3 = -2$   
 $x_2 = 3$   
 $2x_3 = 4$

□  $3x_1 + 2x_2 - x_3 = -2$   
 $-3x_1 - x_2 + x_3 = 5$   
 $3x_1 + 2x_2 + x_3 = 2$

system a  $x_3 = 2, x_2 = 3 \Rightarrow 3x_1 + 2(3) - (2) = -2$   
 $\Rightarrow x_1 = -2$

The solution set is  $\{(-2, 3, 2)\}$

system b  $R_1 + R_2 \Rightarrow x_2 = 3$

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$R_1 - R_3 \Rightarrow -2x_3 = -4 \Rightarrow x_3 = 2$

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$3x_1 + 2x_2 - x_3 = -2 \Leftrightarrow 3x_1 + 6 - 2 = -2 \Leftrightarrow x_1 = -2$

The solution set is  $\{(-2, 3, 2)\}$

Hence, system □ and system □ are equivalent.

\* There are 3 operations that can be used on a system to obtain an equivalent system:

(4)

[1] The order in which any two equations are written may be interchanged.

Exp

$$\begin{array}{lcl} x_1 + 2x_2 = 4 & & 4x_1 + x_2 = 6 \\ 3x_1 - x_2 = 2 & \text{and} & 3x_1 - x_2 = 2 \\ 4x_1 + x_2 = 6 & & x_1 + 2x_2 = 4 \end{array}$$

are equivalent.

[2] Both sides of an equation may be multiplied by the same nonzero real number.

Exp

$$\begin{array}{lcl} x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 3 & & 2x_1 + 2x_2 + 2x_3 = 6 \\ -2x_1 - x_2 + 4x_3 = 1 & \text{and} & -2x_1 - x_2 + 4x_3 = 1 \end{array}$$

are equivalent

[3] A multiple of one equation may be added to (or subtracted from) another.

Exp

$$\begin{array}{lcl} x_1 + x_2 = 4 & & x_1 + x_2 = 4 \\ 2x_1 - 3x_2 = 3 & \text{and} & 4x_1 - x_2 = 11 \end{array}$$

are equivalent. Because  $2(x_1 + x_2 = 4)$  is  $2x_1 + 2x_2 = 8$   
 $\{(3,1)\}$  is the solution set.

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x_1 + 2x_2 = 8 \\ 2x_1 - 3x_2 = 3 \\ \hline 4x_1 - x_2 = 11 \end{array}$$

See the green page 6 "easier"



## $n \times n$ Systems

(5)

Def A system is said to be in strict triangular form if in the  $k^{\text{th}}$  equation, the coefficients of the first  $k-1$  variables are all zero and the coefficient of  $x_k$  is nonzero, where  $k=1, \dots, n$ .

Exp The system 
$$\begin{aligned} 3x_1 + 2x_2 + x_3 &= 1 \\ x_2 - x_3 &= 2 \\ 2x_3 &= 4 \end{aligned}$$
 is in strict triangular form.

Because in  $2^{\text{nd}}$  equation, the coefficients are 0, 1, -1  
in  $3^{\text{rd}}$  equation, the coefficients are 0, 0, 2

\* If the system is in strict triangular form, then it is easy to solve by back substitution. That is,

$$x_3 = 2 \Rightarrow x_2 - (2) = 2 \Rightarrow x_2 = 4 \Rightarrow 3x_1 + 2(4) + (2) = 1 \Rightarrow x_1 = -3$$

$\Rightarrow$  The solution set is  $\{(-3, 4, 2)\}$

Exp Solve the system 
$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + 2x_2 + 2x_3 + x_4 &= 5 \\ 3x_2 + x_3 - 2x_4 &= 1 \\ -x_3 + 2x_4 &= -1 \\ 4x_4 &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

Using back substitution  $\Rightarrow 4x_4 = 4 \Rightarrow x_4 = 1$

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$$-x_3 + 2(1) = -1 \Rightarrow x_3 = 3$$

$$3x_2 + (3) - 2(1) = 1 \Rightarrow x_2 = 0$$

$$x_1 + 0 + 6 + 1 = 5 \Rightarrow x_1 = -2$$

The solution is  $(-2, 0, 3, 1)$

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Exp Solve the system

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + 2x_2 + x_3 &= 3 \\ 3x_1 - x_2 - 3x_3 &= -1 \\ 2x_1 + 3x_2 + x_3 &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

(6)

• We can write the system in the form  $AX = B$

$\begin{matrix} 3 \times 3 & 3 \times 1 & 3 \times 1 \end{matrix}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 3 & -1 & -3 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

The Coefficient Matrix      variable Matrix      constant Matrix

• The augmented matrix has the form  $A|B$ :

pivot  $a_{11}=1$  →  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & | & 3 \\ 3 & -1 & -3 & | & -1 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 & | & 4 \end{bmatrix}$  → pivotal row

entries to be eliminated  $a_{21}=3, a_{31}=2$

$3R_1 - R_2 \quad \frac{3}{1} = 3$   
 $2R_1 - R_3 \quad \frac{2}{1} = 2$  > quotients

• Now we apply the Elementary Row Operation on the augmented matrix to obtain an equivalent system:

- I. Interchange two rows
- II. Multiply a row by a nonzero real number
- III. Replace a row by its sum with a multiple of another row.

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$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & | & 3 \\ 0 & 7 & 6 & | & 10 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & | & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

→ pivotal row

$R_2 - 7R_3$

pivot = 7

quotient =  $-\frac{1}{7}$

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•  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & | & 3 \\ 0 & 7 & 6 & | & 10 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & | & -4 \end{bmatrix}$  Applying back substitution to this eq.

triangular system  $x_3 = 4$

$7x_2 + 6(4) = 10 \Rightarrow x_2 = -2$

$x_1 + 2(-2) + (4) = 3 \Rightarrow x_1 = 3$

Exp Solve this system :

$$x_2 + x_3 - x_4 = -3$$

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 = -1$$

$$2x_1 + 4x_2 + x_3 - 2x_4 = -5$$

$$3x_1 + x_2 - 2x_3 + 2x_4 = 3$$

7  
new

The augmented matrix is

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -3 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 2 & 4 & 1 & -2 & -5 \\ 3 & 1 & -2 & 2 & 3 \end{array} \right]$$

- The pivot = 0, so it is not possible to eliminate any entries. So we interchange the first two rows.
- If the first column is zeros, then this method fails.

$$\begin{array}{l} \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} \textcircled{1} & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -3 \\ 2 & 4 & 1 & -2 & -5 \\ 3 & 1 & -2 & 2 & 3 \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{l} R_3 - 2R_1 \\ R_4 - 3R_1 \end{array} \Rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & \textcircled{1} & 1 & -1 & -3 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 & -4 & -3 \\ 0 & -2 & -5 & -1 & 6 \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{l} R_3 - 2R_2 \\ R_4 + 2R_2 \end{array} \Rightarrow \end{array}$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & \textcircled{-3} & -2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 & -3 & 0 \end{array} \right] R_4 - R_3 \Rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 & -2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -3 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\begin{array}{|l} x_4 = 3 \\ x_3 = -3 \\ x_2 = 3 \\ x_1 = -4 \end{array}$$

$$-3x_3 - \boxed{6} = 3$$

$$x_2 - \boxed{3} - \boxed{3} = -3$$

$$x_1 + \boxed{3} - \boxed{3} + \boxed{3} = -1$$

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The solution set is  $\{(-4, 3, -3, 3)\}$

Exp Solve the system  $x_2 + x_3 - x_4 = 4$

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 = 6$$

$$2x_1 + 4x_2 + x_3 - 2x_4 = -1$$

$$3x_1 + x_2 - 2x_3 + 2x_4 = 3$$

7  
old

• The augmented matrix is

\*  
if the first column is 0  
then, this method fails

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 4 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 6 \\ 2 & 4 & 1 & -2 & -1 \\ 3 & 1 & -2 & 2 & 3 \end{array} \right]$$

The pivot = 0, so it is not possible to eliminate any entries. We then interchange the first two rows:

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 4 \\ 2 & 4 & 1 & -2 & -1 \\ 3 & 1 & -2 & 2 & 3 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow[R_4 - 3R_1]{R_3 - 2R_1} \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 4 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 & -4 & -13 \\ 0 & -2 & -5 & -1 & -15 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\xrightarrow[R_4 + 2R_2]{R_3 - 2R_2} \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 & -2 & -21 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 & -3 & -7 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{R_4 - R_3} \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 & -2 & -21 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 14 \end{array} \right]$$

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• Apply back substitution to this eq. triangular system:

$$x_4 = -14 \Rightarrow -3x_3 - 2(-14) = -21 \Rightarrow x_3 = \frac{49}{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow x_2 + \frac{49}{3} + 14 = 4 \Rightarrow x_2 = -\frac{79}{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 - \frac{79}{3} + \frac{49}{3} - 14 = 6 \Rightarrow x_1 = 30$$

The solution is  $(30, -\frac{79}{3}, \frac{49}{3}, -14)$