

# LECTURE 1

Eivind Erksen

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GRA 6035

MATHEMATICS

## Plan:

- ① Overview of GRA 6035
- ② Linear systems
- ③ Gaussian elimination
- ④ Rank of a matrix

## Readings:

[MEJ] 6.1, (6.2), 7.1-7.4,  
(7.5)

[LS6E] 1-3

## ① Overview

See Syllabus for short summary of the course.

## ② Linear systems:

Ex:

$$\begin{cases} x + y + z = 3 \\ x + 2y + 3z = 7 \\ x + 3y + 9z = 13 \end{cases}$$

- 3 equations  
in 3 variables

- linear equations

A linear equation in  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$   
has the form

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

where  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  and  $b$  are given numbers.

Ex: not linear

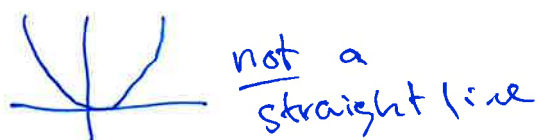
$$x^2 + y^2 = 1$$

$$e^x = y - 2$$

$$xy = 1$$

Fact: The graph of a linear equation is a straight line ( $n=2$ ), a plane ( $n=3$ ), hyperplane ( $n>3$ ).

Ex:  $y = x^2$  not linear



$$(x_1 + x_2 = 10) \quad (x_2 = 10 - x_1)$$

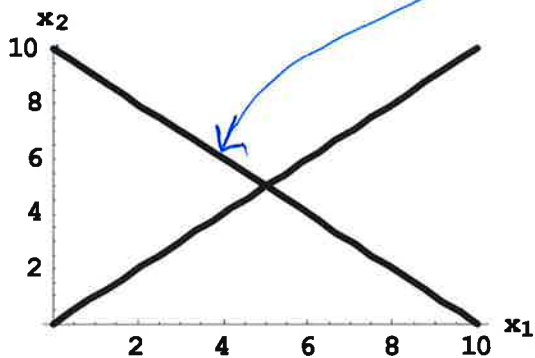
$$x + y = 10 \Rightarrow y = 10 - x$$

**EXAMPLE** Two equations in two variables:

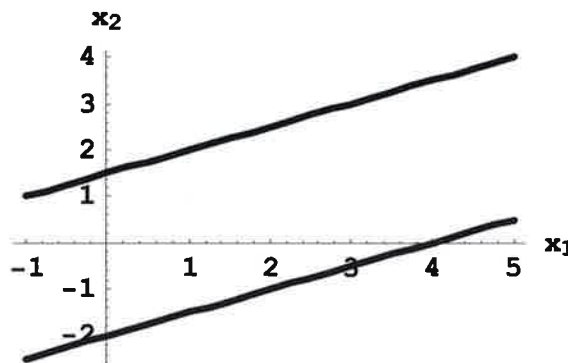
$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + x_2 &= 10 \\ -x_1 + x_2 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$x_1 - 2x_2 = -3$$

$$2x_1 - 4x_2 = 8$$

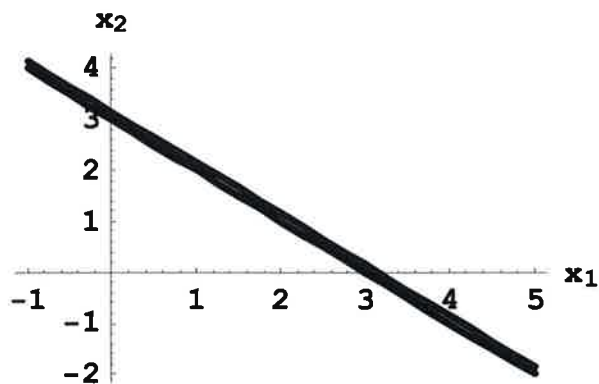


**one unique solution**



**no solution**

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + x_2 &= 3 \\ -2x_1 - 2x_2 &= -6 \end{aligned}$$



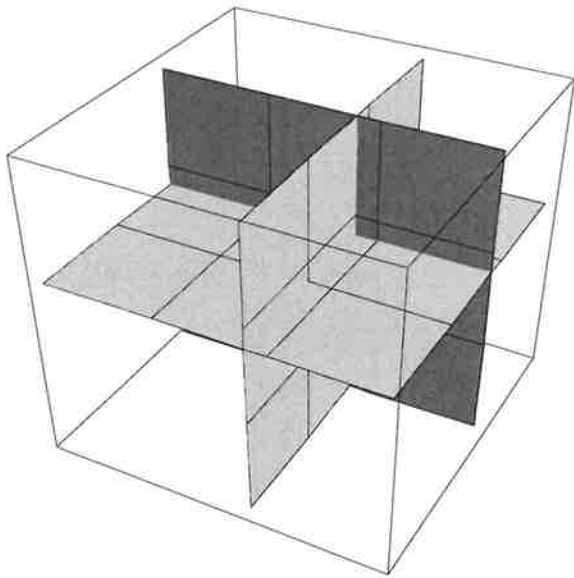
**infinitely many solutions**

**BASIC FACT:** A system of linear equations has either

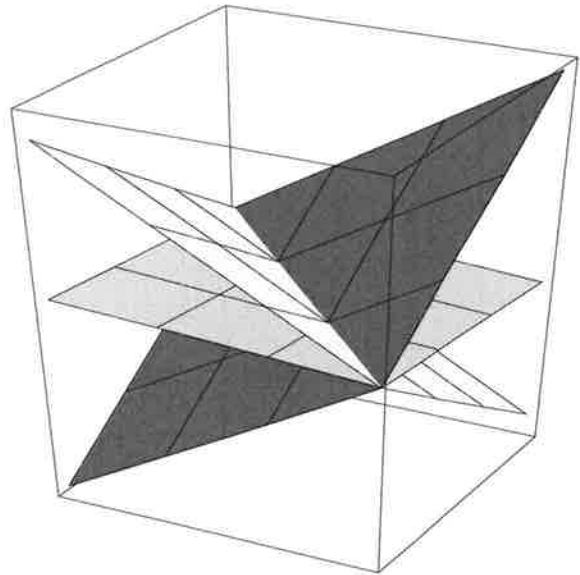
- (i) exactly one solution (*consistent*) or
- (ii) infinitely many solutions (*consistent*) or
- (iii) no solution (*inconsistent*).

**EXAMPLE:** Three equations in three variables. Each equation determines a plane in 3-space.

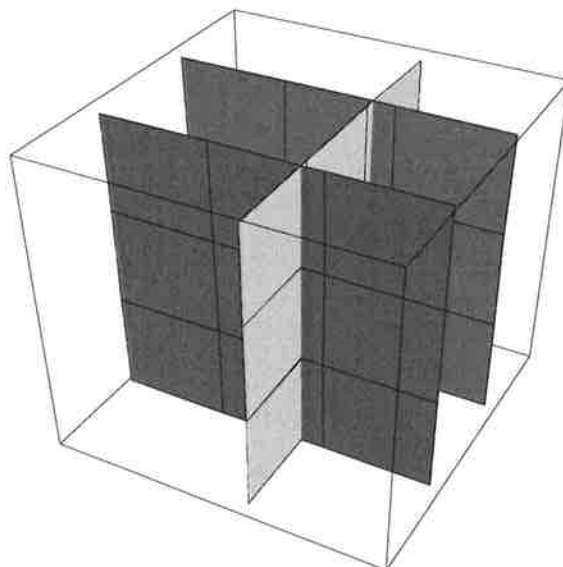
i) The planes intersect in one point. (*one solution*)



ii) The planes intersect in one line. (*infinitely many solutions*)



iii) There is not point in common to all three planes. (*no solution*)



## Definition:

A linear system is a collection of  $m$  linear equations in  $n$  variables ( $m \times n$ ):

$$\begin{array}{l} m \\ \text{eqn's} \end{array} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n = b_1 \\ a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n = b_2 \\ \vdots \\ a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + \dots + a_{mn}x_n = b_m \end{array} \right.$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{15em}}_{n \text{ var's}}$

Ex:

1)  $x + y = 4$   
 $x - y = 2$

$x = 3, y = 1$

2)  $x + y + z = 3$   
 $x + 2y + 4z = 7$   
 $x + 3y + 9z = 13$

$x = 1, y = 1, z = 1$

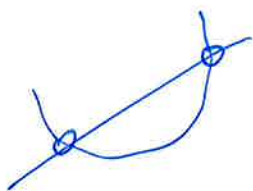
A solution of a linear system is an  $n$ -tuple  $(s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n)$  s.t.  $x_1 = s_1, x_2 = s_2, \dots, x_n = s_n$  satisfies all  $m$  equations.

Result A:

Any linear system has either

- i) no solutions (inconsistent)
- ii) one unique solution (consistent)
- iii) infinitely many solutions (consistent, degrees of freedom)

Two solutions



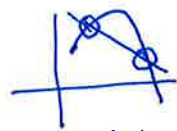
this cannot happen in linear systems

## Result (A):

Any  $m \times n$  linear system has either

- i) one unique solution (consistent)
- ii) no solutions (inconsistent)
- iii) infinitely many solutions (consistent)

Non-linear case:



two solutions possible

## Proof of A:

If there are two different solutions

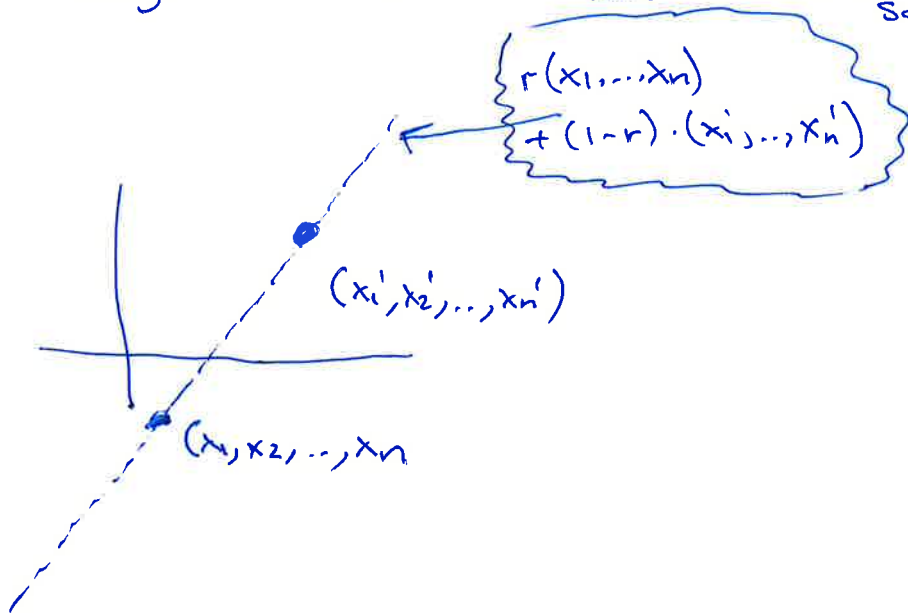
$$(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \neq (x'_1, x'_2, \dots, x'_n)$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} & r(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) + (1-r) \cdot (x'_1, x'_2, \dots, x'_n) \\ &= (rx_1 + (1-r)x'_1, rx_2 + (1-r)x'_2, \dots, rx_n + (1-r)x'_n) \end{aligned}$$

is a solution for any number  $r$ . There are therefore infinitely many solutions

line through the two solutions.



This can be checked directly. Equation # $i$  is satisfied since

$$\begin{aligned} & a_{i1} \cdot (rx_1 + (1-r)x'_1) + a_{i2} (rx_2 + (1-r)x'_2) + \dots + a_{in} \cdot (rx_n + (1-r)x'_n) \\ &= r \cdot (a_{i1}x_1 + \dots + a_{in}x_n) + (1-r) \cdot (a_{i1}x'_1 + \dots + a_{in}x'_n) \\ &= r \cdot b_i + (1-r)b_i = b_i \end{aligned}$$

Since  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  and  $(x'_1, \dots, x'_n)$  are solutions

So this equation holds for all  $i$ . Hence we have solution for all  $r$ .  $\square$

## How to solve linear systems:

Ex:  $x + y = 4$   
 $x - y = 2$

b) Elimination methods:

$$\begin{array}{r} x + y = 4 \\ x - y = 2 \\ \hline 2x = 6 \end{array}$$

$x = 3$   $\rightarrow$   $y = 1$

a) Substitution methods:

$$x + y = 4 \rightarrow y = 4 - x$$

$$x - y = 2$$

$$x - (4 - x) = 2$$

$$2x - 4 = 2$$

$$\underline{x = 3}$$

$$\underline{y = 1}$$

Gaussian elimination:

An elimination method that is

- efficient
- educational
- versatile



### ③ Gaussian elimination - method for solving linear systems

Ex:

$$\begin{aligned} x + y + z &= 3 \\ x + 2y + 4z &= 7 \\ x + 3y + 9z &= 13 \end{aligned} \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 & 7 \\ 1 & 3 & 9 & 13 \end{array} \right)$$

coefficient matrix

augmented matrix

Defn: Two linear systems are equivalent if they have the same solutions.

### Elementary row operations

- i) Interchange two rows
- ii) Multiply a row with  $c \neq 0$
- iii) Add a multiple of one row to another row

do not change the solution

add (-1) · row #1 to row #2

Ex:

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 & 7 \\ 1 & 3 & 9 & 13 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{-1} \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 3 & 9 & 13 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{-1}$$

$$\rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 2 & 8 & 10 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{-2} \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 2 \end{array} \right)$$

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

leading coefficient  
= first non-zero entry in a row

Defn:

An echelon form is a matrix s.t.

- i) All rows with only zeros are in the bottom of the matrix.
- ii) Each leading coefficient is further to the right than the leading coeff. above.

When the augmented matrix is reduced to an echelon form (using elem. row operations) you see what the solutions are:

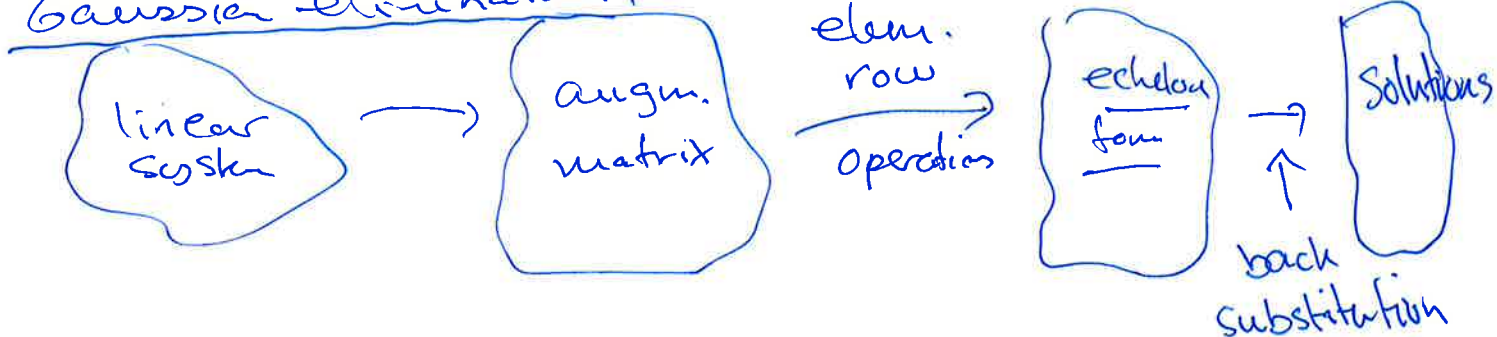
$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{x} + y + z &= 3 \\ \textcircled{y} + 3z &= 4 \\ \textcircled{2z} &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{x} &= 1 \\ \underline{y} &= 1 \\ \underline{z} &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

pivot: leading coeff. in the echelon form.  
pivot positions  
position of pivots

back substitution

Gaussian elimination:



# Cases with no solutions / infinitely many sol's:

Ex:

$$\begin{aligned} x + y + z &= 1 \\ x + 2y + 3z &= 2 \\ 2x + 3y + 4z &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

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

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

echelon form

$$0x + 0y + 0z = 1$$

no solutions

In general: no solutions  
 $\Updownarrow$   
 pivot position in the last col.

Ex:

$$\begin{aligned} x + y + z &= 3 \\ x + 2y + 4z &= 7 \end{aligned}$$

no pivot in z-col.  
 $\Rightarrow z$  is a free var.

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 & 7 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{-1} \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 4 \end{array} \right)$$

echelon form

$$\begin{aligned} x + y + z &= 3 \\ y + 3z &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

$$y = \underline{4 - 3z}$$

$$x + (4 - 3z) + z = 3 \Rightarrow x = \underline{2z - 1}$$

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

$x, y$ : basic variables (pivot col's)

$z$ : free variables (non-pivot col's)

degrees of freedom = # free var's  
(number of free var's)

$$= 1$$

It means that the solution set is one-dim.

Gauss-Jordan elimination:

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

echelon form

reduced echelon form  
= echelon form with:

- all pivots = 1
- only zeros over each pivot.

$$\textcircled{x} \quad -2z = -1$$

$$\textcircled{y} \quad +3z = 4$$

no back substitution,  
see sol's directly

$$x = 2z - 1$$

$$y = -3z + 4$$

$$z = \text{free}$$

Ex:

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 0 & 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 1 & 0 & 7 & 3 \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{2} \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 7 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 4 \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{array} \right)$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 3 & 7 & 14 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 7 & 1 \end{array} \right)$$

Result B:

Any matrix can be reduced to echelon form using elementary row operations.

An echelon form is not unique.

The ~~pivots (and pivot)~~ pivot positions

and the reduced echelon form is unique.

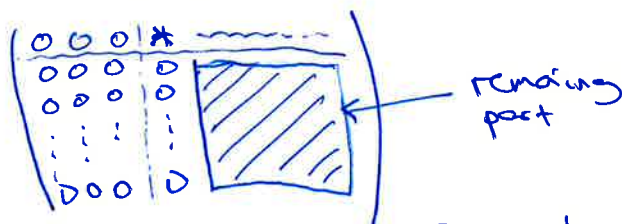
# Proof of Result B and more details of Gauss/Gauss-Jordan elimination:

i) Any matrix can be reduced to an echelon form using Elementary row operations.

Start with any matrix  $U$ . Move to the right of any columns with only zeros, if any. Look at the first non-zero column, switch two rows if necessary to get a non-zero entry in the top corner. This is a pivot. Use it to get zeros under it.

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \dots & \dots \\ \vdots & & \\ 0 & & \dots \end{pmatrix} \downarrow \begin{pmatrix} 0 & * & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots \end{pmatrix}$$

Now look away from the first row, and look at the remaining part of the matrix.



Repeat the steps above. Since the new matrix is smaller than the original (one row less), we sooner or later get an echelon form this way.

Multiply each row with  $\frac{1}{\text{pivot}}$  to set pivot = 1. Use each pivot to get zeros over it, starting from the rightmost.

You get a reduced echelon form.

ii) If a matrix  $A$  can be reduced to reduced echelon forms  $U, V$  using elementary row operations,  $U = V$ .

We have  $(A|0) \rightarrow (U|0)$  and  $(A|0) \rightarrow (V|0)$ , and elementary row operations do not change solutions of linear systems.

So  $U \cdot \underline{x} = \underline{0}$  and  $V \cdot \underline{x} = \underline{0}$  have the same solutions

Write  $U = (C_1 | C_2 | \dots | C_n)$  and  $V = (C'_1 | C'_2 | \dots | C'_n)$  in terms of their columns. We have

$$C_i = x_1 C_1 + x_2 C_2 + \dots + x_{i-1} C_{i-1} \Leftrightarrow C_i \text{ non-pivot column in } U$$

$$\Uparrow C'_i = x_1 C'_1 + x_2 C'_2 + \dots + x_{i-1} C'_{i-1} \Leftrightarrow C'_i \text{ non-pivot column in } V$$

So  $U$  and  $V$  have the same pivot columns; They are in the

positions, and the pivot columns are

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \dots, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

To show that  $U=V$ , we must show that non-pivot columns are equal. But each non-pivot column satisfy

$$\begin{cases} C_i = x_1 C_1 + \dots + x_r C_r & \text{(linear combination of pivot columns to the right)} \\ C_i' = x_1 C_1' + \dots + x_r C_r' \end{cases}$$

and the pivot columns are equal, and the coeff's  $x_i$  are equal.  
Hence  $U=V$ .

(ii) You can always get from an echelon matrix to a reduced echelon matrix, using elementary row operations, without changing the pivot positions.

This follows from the last steps in i).

□

## ④ Rank of a matrix

Defn: The rank of a matrix  $A$  is the number of pivots in the echelon form of  $A$ .

It is written:  $\text{rk}(A)$ .

Ex:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} \textcircled{1} & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 & 4 \\ -1 & -2 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{array}{l} \leftarrow -2 \\ \leftarrow -2 \end{array}$$

$$\rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \textcircled{1} & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & \textcircled{1} & 2 \\ 0 & -1 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{array}{l} \leftarrow -1 \\ \leftarrow -1 \end{array} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \textcircled{1} & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & \textcircled{1} & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\underline{\underline{\text{rk } A = 2}}$$

Rank and linear systems:

A  $m \times n$  linear system

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} a_{11}x_1 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n = b_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_{m1}x_1 + \dots + a_{mn}x_n = b_m \end{array} \right\}$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{pmatrix}$$

coeff. matrix

Compute  $\text{rk } A, \text{rk } \hat{A}$ :

$$\hat{A} = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1n} & b_1 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & \dots & a_{mn} & b_m \end{array} \right)$$

augmented matrix



## Result C:

For an  $m \times n$  linear system with coefficient matrix  $A$  and augmented matrix  $\hat{A}$ , we have

$\text{rk } A < \text{rk } \hat{A} \iff$  no solutions (no pivots in last col.)  
 $\text{rk } A = \text{rk } \hat{A} \iff$  at least one solution (no pivots in last col.)

Moreover, if  $\text{rk } A = \text{rk } \hat{A}$ , then there are

$n - \text{rk}(A)$  degrees of freedom  $\begin{cases} n - \text{rk } A = 0: \text{ one unique sol.} \\ n - \text{rk } A > 0: \text{ free var's, infinitely many sol's} \end{cases}$

A linear system is homogeneous if  $b_1 = b_2 = \dots = b_m = 0$ :

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} a_{11}x_1 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n = 0 \\ \vdots \\ a_{m1}x_1 + \dots + a_{mn}x_n = 0 \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{homogeneous} \\ m \times n \text{ linear system} \end{array}$$

In this case, there is always at least one solution  $x_1 = x_2 = \dots = x_n = 0$  (the trivial solution). That is, either this is the unique solution or there are inf. many sol's.

Ex: A  $3 \times 4$  linear system that is homogeneous has at least one free variable:

$$\left( \begin{array}{cccc|c} * & * & * & * & 0 \\ * & * & * & * & 0 \\ * & * & * & * & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

echelon form

← maximum 3 pivots (one for each row) but depending on coeff's in matrix

$$\boxed{n - \text{rk } A = 4 - \text{rk } A \geq 1}$$