



# Linear Algebra

CSCI 2820

Lecture 15

Prof. Alexandra Kolla

[Alexandra.Kolla@Colorado.edu](mailto:Alexandra.Kolla@Colorado.edu)  
ECES 122

# Today

- Linear and affine vector valued functions,  
revisited
- Linear systems

# Linear Functions

, Vector valued functions (of vectors)

$$f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$$

$$f(\vec{x}) = (f_1(\vec{x}), \dots, f_m(\vec{x}))$$

scalar-valued function  
of  $\vec{x}$

- Matrix-vector product  
function:

A  $m \times n$  matrix .  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$

( $f(\vec{x}) = \langle \vec{x}, \vec{y} \rangle$ ) special case  $m = 1$

$$f(\vec{x}) = \vec{A}\vec{x} \quad (1)$$

- Superposition and linearity :  $\left\{ f(a\vec{x} + b\vec{y}) = af(\vec{x}) + bf(\vec{y}) \right.$

$$\begin{aligned} f(a\vec{x} + b\vec{y}) &= A(a\vec{x} + b\vec{y}) = A(a\vec{x}) + A(b\vec{y}) = \\ &= aA\vec{x} + bA\vec{y} \\ &= af(\vec{x}) + bf(\vec{y}) \end{aligned}$$

# Linear Functions

This is the only linear function!

Suppose  $f: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  linear.

We will show there is a matrix  $A$

such that  $f(\vec{v}) = A\vec{v}$  for all  $\vec{v}$ .

Pf.  $\vec{v} = x_1 \vec{e}_1 + x_2 \vec{e}_2 + \dots + x_n \vec{e}_n$

standard basis of  $\mathbb{R}^m$   $\{\vec{e}_1, \dots, \vec{e}_n\}$

$$f(\vec{v}) = \underbrace{(x_1 f(\vec{e}_1) + x_2 f(\vec{e}_2) + \dots + x_n f(\vec{e}_n))}_{\text{linearity}} = A\vec{v}$$

can be written as matrix-vector product

$$A = [f(\vec{e}_1) \dots f(\vec{e}_n)]$$

$m$ -vectors

ex: This representation  
is unique

# Linear Functions

Example:  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$

(1) Negation:  $f$  changes the sign of  $\vec{x}$

$$f(\vec{x}) = -\vec{x} \text{ . What is } A? \quad f(\vec{x}) = -I \cdot \vec{x}$$

(2) Reversal .  $f$  reverses the order of elements

$$\text{of } \vec{x}. \quad f(\vec{x}) = (x_n, x_{n-1}, \dots, x_1)$$

what is  $A$ ?  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & \dots & 1 & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & \dots & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  (reverser matrix)

(3) Running sum.

$$f(\vec{x}) = (x_1, x_1+x_2, \dots, x_1+x_2+\dots+x_n)$$

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

# Linear Functions

Affine functions  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$

$$f(\vec{x}) = A\vec{x} + \vec{b}$$

$f$  is affine if

$$f(\alpha\vec{x} + \beta\vec{y}) = \alpha f(\vec{x}) + \beta f(\vec{y})$$

(restricted superposition)

for all  $n$ -vectors  $\vec{x}, \vec{y}$ , all scalars

$$\alpha, \beta, \quad \alpha + \beta = 1.$$

$$A = [f(\vec{e}_1) - f(\vec{0}) \quad f(\vec{e}_2) - f(\vec{0}) \quad \dots \quad f(\vec{e}_n) - f(\vec{0})]$$

$$\vec{b} = f(\vec{0}) \quad (\text{exercise})$$

# Linear Functions

(4) De-meaning .  $f(\vec{x}) = \vec{x} - \text{avg}(\vec{x}) \cdot \vec{1}$

what is A?

$$A = I - \frac{1}{n} \cdot J = \begin{bmatrix} 1-\frac{1}{n} & -\frac{1}{n} & -\frac{1}{n} \\ -\frac{1}{n} & 1-\frac{1}{n} & -\frac{1}{n} \\ -\frac{1}{n} & -\frac{1}{n} & 1-\frac{1}{n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

$J$  = all 1's matrix

Not all functions are linear.

• eg absolute value.  $f(\vec{x}) = (|x_1|, |x_2|, \dots, |x_n|)$

e.g.  $n=1$ ,  $x=1$ ,  $y=0$ ,  $\alpha=-1$ ,  $\beta=0$

$$f(\alpha x + \beta y) = f(-1) = 1$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \alpha f(x) = -1 \cdot f(1) = -1 \\ \beta f(y) = 0 \end{array} \right\} \alpha f(x) + \beta f(y) = -1 \neq 1$$

"Sort":  $f$  sorts the elements of  $\vec{x}$  in decreasing order.

$$\begin{aligned} n=2, \vec{x} = (1, 0), \vec{y} = (0, 1), \alpha = \beta = 1 \\ f(\alpha \vec{x} + \beta \vec{y}) = f((1, 1)) = (1, 1) \quad \text{while } \begin{cases} \alpha f(\vec{x}) = f(1, 0) = (1, 0) \\ \beta f(\vec{y}) = f(0, 1) = (0, 1) \end{cases} = (2, 0) \end{aligned}$$

# Systems of Linear Equations

$n$ -variables  $x_1, \dots, x_n$

$m$  linear equations

$$A_{11}x_1 + A_{12}x_2 + \dots + A_{1n}x_n = b_1$$

$$A_{21}x_1 + A_{22}x_2 + \dots + A_{2n}x_n = b_2$$

:

$$A_{m1}x_1 + A_{m2}x_2 + \dots + A_{mn}x_n = b_m$$

$A_{ij}$  coefficients

$b_i$  "right hand sides"

e.g.:  $x_1 + x_2 = 1$

$$x_1 = -1$$

$$x_1 - x_2 = 0$$

No sol

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

$$\vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\vec{x}$  is solution if  
 $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$

$$A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$$

$$\vec{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix}$$
 potential sol

$$\begin{array}{l} x_1 = x_2 = -1 \\ x_1 + x_2 = 1 \end{array} \quad ] \text{impossible}$$

# Systems of Linear Equations

• eg 2 :  $\begin{array}{l} x_1 + x_2 = 1 \\ x_2 + x_3 = 2 \end{array} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} x_1 + x_2 = 1 \\ x_2 + x_3 = 2 \end{array} \right\} A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Infinite # Sol. eg  $(1, 0, 2)$   
 $(0, 1, 1)$

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 + x_2 = 1 \\ x_2 + x_3 = 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} x_1 + x_2 = 1 \\ x_2 + x_3 = 2 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 + x_2 = 1 \\ x_2 + x_3 = 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} x_1 + x_2 = 1 \\ x_2 + x_3 = 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

- System of linear equations is
  - (a) over-determined if  $m > n \Leftrightarrow$
  - (b) under-determined if  $m < n \Leftrightarrow$
  - (c) square is  $m = n$
  - (d)  $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ , homogeneous, always  $\vec{x} = \vec{0}$  is solution

coeff. matrix  
tall  
wide  
square

# Systems of Linear Equations

(a) Polynomial Interpolation:

Poly  $p_1$  degree  $\leq n-1$  that interpolates  
m given points  $(t_i, y_i)$   $i = (1, \dots, m)$   
 $(p(t_i) = y_i)$ .

$$p(t) = c_0 + c_1 t + c_2 t^2 + \dots + c_{n-1} t^{n-1}$$

$$\vec{Ac} = \vec{y}, \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & t_1 & \dots & t_1^{n-2} & t_1^{n-1} \\ 1 & t_2 & \dots & t_2^{n-2} & t_2^{n-1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & t_m & \dots & t_m^{n-2} & t_m^{n-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{c} = \begin{pmatrix} c_0 \\ \vdots \\ c_{n-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

# Systems of Linear Equations

Balancing chemical reactions



water electrolysis

balancing atoms  $\rightarrow m$  equations (m is # of different atoms)

$m \times p$  matrix  $R$ .  $R_{ij} = \# \text{ atoms of type } i \text{ in } R_j$

$$\vec{a} = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_p \end{pmatrix} \quad \vec{b} = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ \vdots \\ b_q \end{pmatrix} \quad (R\vec{a})_i = \text{total number of atoms of type } i \text{ appearing in the reactants.}$$

$m \times q$  matrix  $P$  (similarly)

$(P\vec{b})_i = \text{total number of atoms of type } i \text{ in products.}$

$$\vec{R}\vec{a} = \vec{P}\vec{b} \Rightarrow$$

$$[R \quad -P] \begin{bmatrix} \vec{a} \\ \vec{b} \end{bmatrix} = \vec{0}$$

# Examples

enforce a non-zero sol. by taking

$$a_1 = 1 :$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} R & -P \\ e_i^T & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \vec{a} \\ \vec{b} \end{bmatrix} = \vec{e}_{m+1}$$

m+1 eq, p+q var.

e.g. electrolysis,  $p=1$  reactant  
 $q=2$  products  
 $m=2$  atoms

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad P = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -2 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ v_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Examples

# Examples

# Practice Problems

*Cross-product.* The cross product of two 3-vectors  $a = (a_1, a_2, a_3)$  and  $x = (x_1, x_2, x_3)$  is defined as the vector

$$a \times x = \begin{bmatrix} a_2 x_3 - a_3 x_2 \\ a_3 x_1 - a_1 x_3 \\ a_1 x_2 - a_2 x_1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The cross product comes up in physics, for example in electricity and magnetism, and in dynamics of mechanical systems like robots or satellites. (You do not need to know this for this exercise.)

Assume  $a$  is fixed. Show that the function  $f(x) = a \times x$  is a linear function of  $x$ , by giving a matrix  $A$  that satisfies  $f(x) = Ax$  for all  $x$ .

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -a_3 & a_2 \\ a_3 & 0 & -a_1 \\ -a_2 & a_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_2 x_3 - a_3 x_2 \\ a_3 x_1 - a_1 x_3 \\ a_1 x_2 - a_2 x_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Practice Problems

# Practice Problems