

HW 4 due tomorrow before class.

Today: Invertibility of Matrices.

A function  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  between sets is invertible if there exists a function  $g: Y \rightarrow X$  in the opposite direction such that

$g \circ f: X \rightarrow X$  is the identity function  
and

$f \circ g: Y \rightarrow Y$  is the identity function.

In other words, we require

$$g(f(x)) = x \text{ for all } x \in X$$

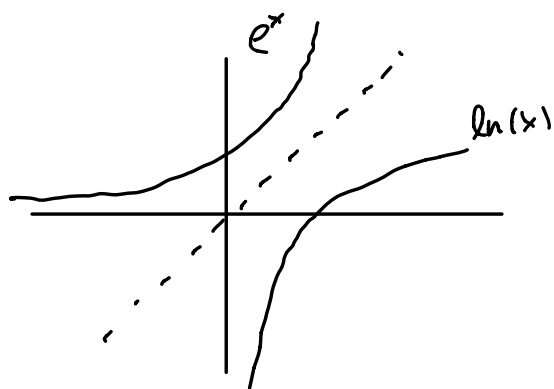
$$f(g(y)) = y \text{ for all } y \in Y.$$

In this case the function  $g$  is unique  
and we write

$$\begin{aligned} g &= "f^{-1}" \\ &= "the inverse of f" \end{aligned}$$

Example :  $f(x) = e^x$ ,  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ .

$g(x) = \ln(x)$ ,  $g: \mathbb{R}_{>0} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .



Non Example :  $\sin: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [-1, 1]$

is not invertible, but  $\sin: [0, 2\pi) \rightarrow [-1, 1]$

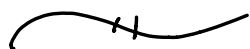
is invertible :  $\sin^{-1}: [-1, 1] \rightarrow [0, 2\pi)$ .

Theorem :  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is invertible  
if and only if :

- it is "one-to-one", meaning that

$$x_1 \neq x_2 \implies f(x_1) \neq f(x_2).$$

- it is "onto", meaning that for any  $y \in Y$  there exists some  $x \in X$  such that  $f(x) = y$ .



Special Case: Let  $A$  be  $m \times n$  matrix and consider the linear function

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

① When is  $A$  "one-to-one"?

② When is  $A$  "onto"?

Suppose $r = \text{rank}(A)$
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Theorem:

①  $A$  is "one-to-one"

$$\iff N(A) = \{ \vec{0} \}$$

$$\iff \dim N(A) = 0$$

$$\iff n - r = 0$$

$$\iff r = n$$

$\iff$  the columns of  $A$  are independent.

$\iff$  there exists at least one matrix  $C$  such that

$$\begin{matrix} CA = I \\ n \times m \quad m \times n \quad n \times n. \end{matrix}$$

②  $A$  is "onto"

$$\iff C(A) = \mathbb{R}^m$$

$$\iff \dim C(A) = m$$

$$\iff r = m.$$

$\iff$  the rows of  $A$  are independent

$\iff$  there exists at least one matrix  $B$  such that

$$AB = I$$

$m \times n \quad n \times m \quad m \times m$

///

Example:  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$ . ( $r=2$ )

Since rank = # rows, we know that  $A$  has at least one right inverse.

$$AB = I$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a & d \\ b & e \\ c & f \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$



$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \Bigg| \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} d \\ e \\ f \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1+2c \\ 3c \\ c \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} d \\ e \\ f \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2f \\ 1+3f \\ f \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow B = \begin{pmatrix} 1+2c & 2f \\ 3c & 1+3f \\ c & f \end{pmatrix}$$

Infinitely many solutions!

e.g., take  $c=f=0$ :

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

Next, since rank  $\neq$  # columns, I claim that  $A$  has NO left inverse.

Proof: The columns of  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$  are not independent. To be specific, we have a nontrivial relation:

$$2(\text{col } 1) + 3(\text{col } 2) + 1(\text{col } 3) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

In matrix language, this tells us a nonzero vector in the nullspace:

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

$$A \vec{x} = \vec{0}.$$

If we had a left inverse, say  $CA = I$ , then this would imply

$3 \times 2$   $2 \times 3$   $3 \times 3$

$$A \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$CA \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = C \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$I \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = C \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$3 \times 2$   $2 \times 1$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ NOPE!}$$

[ Remark:  $\begin{pmatrix} a & d \\ b & e \\ c & f \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}. ]$

HW 4.4b : If  $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$  and  $\vec{x} \neq \vec{0}$   
then  $A$  has no left inverse (hence also  
no two-sided inverse). Proof: If  
we had  $CA = I$  then we would have

$$\begin{aligned}A\vec{x} &= \vec{0} \\CA\vec{x} &= C\vec{0} \\I\vec{x} &= C\vec{0} \\ \vec{x} &= \vec{0} \\ \text{Contradiction!}\end{aligned}$$



## Two-Sided Inverse ?

Theorem: If  $AB = I$  &  $CA = I$   
then we must have

$$B = IB = (CA)B = C(AB) = CI = C$$

In other words, if  $A$  has both a  
left and a right inverse, then it  
has a unique two-sided inverse.

Call it  $A^{-1}$ .

- ① When does it exist?
- ② How can we compute it?

Theorem:

①  $A^{-1}$  exists

$\iff A$  is one-to-one & onto

$\iff r = n$  &  $r = m$  (hence  $m = n$ )

In other words,  $A^{-1}$  exists when

- $A$  is square, ( $m = n$ )
- Rows of  $A$  are independent, ( $r = m$ )
- Columns of  $A$  are independent. ( $r = n$ )

② To compute  $A^{-1}$  there is a GOOD TRICK. Form the augmented matrix  $(A | I)$ . Compute RREF:

$$(A | I) \xrightarrow{\text{RREF}} (I | A^{-1}).$$





Example:  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ .

SQUARE ✓

RANK = # ROWS = # COLS ✓

Compute the inverse  $A^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{pmatrix}$ .

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c \\ d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & | & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & | & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & | & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & | & 1 \\ 0 & -2 & | & -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & | & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & | & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & | & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & | & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & | & -1/2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & | & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & | & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & | & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & | & -1/2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{cases} a + 0b = -1 \\ 0a + b = 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} c + 0d = 1 \\ 0c + d = -1/2 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow A^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1/2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

[Remark: And the solution is unique!]

Check:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1/2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \checkmark$$

Do we need to check the other direction?  $\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1/2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} = ?$

NO. This is guaranteed to work out.

Theorem: If  $A, B$  are square then

$$AB = I \Leftrightarrow BA = I.$$

You only need to check one of these.

Proof: This is quite subtle, but it follows from the above theorems. //

Note that to find  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix}^{-1}$   
 we had to compute the RREF  
 of two very similar matrices:

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & 0 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{\text{RREF}} \left( \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right)$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & 1 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{\text{RREF}} \left( \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1/2 \end{array} \right)$$

The GOOD TRICK just tells us  
 to perform these computations  
simultaneously:

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right) \rightsquigarrow \left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 0 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -1/2 \end{array} \right)$$

If remove one of the vertical bars  
 then this becomes

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 0 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -1/2 \end{array} \right)$$

$$(A | I) \rightarrow (I | A^{-1}) \quad \text{NICE} \quad \ddot{\smile}$$

Another Example:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix}, \quad A^{-1} = ?$$

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

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

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

oops!

What Happened?

We just found out that

$$\text{rank}(A) = 2.$$

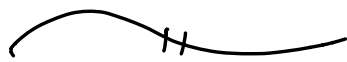
So the inverse does not exist!

Hint for HW 4.3 :

If  $A^{-1}$  exists, then the matrix equation  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  can be solved symbolically:

$$\begin{aligned}A\vec{x} &= \vec{b} \\A^{-1}A\vec{x} &= A^{-1}\vec{b} \\I\vec{x} &= A^{-1}\vec{b} \\ \vec{x} &= A^{-1}\vec{b} .\end{aligned}$$

This is the power of matrix arithmetic. It can turn complicated problems into simple algebra.



Preview for next week :

Suppose that the equation  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  has no solution. What can we do?

The "Least Squares Approximation"

tells us to multiply on the left by  $A^T$  to get

$$A^T A \vec{x} = A^T \vec{b}.$$

Under good conditions, the matrix  $A^T A$  is invertible, hence

$$\vec{x} = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T \vec{b}.$$

↗  
This is not an exact solution to the original  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  (because it has no exact solution) but it is a "best approximate solution" in some precise sense that we will discuss next week.