
EECS 16A Designing Information Devices and Systems I

Spring 2021 Discussion 1A

1. Gaussian Elimination

Use Gaussian elimination to solve the following systems. Does a solution exist? Is it unique?

(a)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ -3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

(b)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 8 \\ 1 & 3 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

(c)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

(d) True or False: A system of equations with more equations than unknowns will always have either infinite solutions or no solutions.

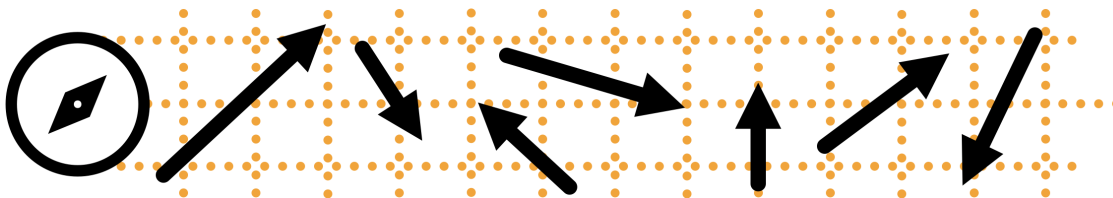
(e) **(Practice)**

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

(f) **(Practice)**

$$\begin{cases} 2x + 4y + 2z = 8 \\ x + y + z = 6 \\ x - y - z = 4 \end{cases}$$

2. Vectors



A vector is an ordered list of numbers. For instance, a point on a plane (x, y) is a vector! We label vectors using an arrow overhead \vec{v} , and since vectors can live in ANY dimension of space we'll need to leave our notation general $(x, y) \rightarrow \vec{v} = (v_1, v_2, \dots)$. Below are few more examples (the left-most form is the general definition):

$$\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^n \qquad \vec{a} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^3 \qquad \vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 2.4 \\ 5.3 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^2$$

Just to unpack this a bit more, $\vec{b} \in \mathbb{R}^3$ in english means "vector \vec{b} lives in 3-Dimensional space".

- The \in symbol literally means "in"
- The \mathbb{R} stands for "real numbers" (FUN FACT: \mathbb{Z} means "integers" like $-2, 4, 0, \dots$)

- The exponent $\mathbb{R}^n \leftarrow$ indicates the dimension of space, or the amount of numbers in the vector.

One last thing: it is standard to write vectors in column-form, like seen with $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{x}$ above. We call these *column vectors*, in contrast to horizontally written vectors which we call *row vectors*.

Okay, let's dig into a few examples:

- (a) Which of the following vectors live in \mathbb{R}^2 space?

$$i. \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} \quad ii. \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 0 \\ 3 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \quad iii. \begin{bmatrix} -4.76 \\ 1.32 \\ 0.01 \end{bmatrix} \quad iv. \begin{bmatrix} -20 \\ 100 \end{bmatrix}$$

- (b) Graphically show the vectors (either in a sketch with axes, or a plot on a computer):

$$i. \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \quad ii. \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

- (c) Compute the sum $\vec{a} + \vec{b} = \vec{c}$ from the vectors below, and then graphically sketch or plot these vectors. (show them in a way that forms a triangle; also is there only one possible triangle?)

$$\vec{a} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$