

## Lecture 3b

# Matrices and Vectors: matrix-vector multiplication

Upcoming:

Reading HW 3b

## Last Time

- Matrices and vectors
- Matrix addition
- Scalar multiplication
- Linear combinations (combinations of the operations above)
- Transposes

## Plan

- Zero matrices
- Matrix multiplication : *multiplying a matrix & a vector*
- Identity matrices

# Zero matrices

## Zero matrices

A **zero matrix** is a matrix whose entries are all zero.

Confusingly, people usually denote these by **0** and hope the size is clear.

## Example

$$\text{If } A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ then } A + 0 \text{ means } \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1+0, 2+0, 3+0 \\ 4+0, 5+0, 6+0 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Adding zero doesn't change anything

As long as  $A$  and  $0$  have the same size,  $A + 0 = A$ .

# Multiplying a matrix and a vector: Motivation

Next up:

Multiplying a **matrix** and a **vector**.

Motivating question

How can we check a potential solution of a linear system, directly from the **augmented matrix**?

Let's recap a familiar computation.

## Recap: checking a solution

Consider the linear system

$$2x - 3y + 4z = -3$$

$$-2x + 2y - 3z = 1$$

$$-3x + 4y + 2z = -4$$

To check whether  $x = 2$ ,  $y = 1$ ,  $z = -1$  is a solution, we plug in:

$$2 \cdot 2 - 3 \cdot 1 + 4 \cdot (-1) = -3 \quad \checkmark$$

$$-2 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 1 - 3 \cdot (-1) = 1 \quad \checkmark$$

$$-3 \cdot 2 + 4 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot (-1) = -4 \quad \checkmark$$

Let's recap a familiar computation.

## Recap: checking a solution

Consider the linear system

$$2x - 3y + 4z = -3$$

$$-2x + 2y - 3z = 1$$

$$-3x + 4y + 2z = -4$$

To check whether  $x = 2$ ,  $y = 1$ ,  $z = -1$  is a solution, we plug in:

$$2 \cdot 2 - 3 \cdot 1 + 4 \cdot (-1) = 4 - 3 - 4 = -3 \quad \checkmark$$

$$-2 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 1 - 3 \cdot (-1) = -4 + 2 + 3 = 1 \quad \checkmark$$

$$-3 \cdot 2 + 4 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot (-1) = -6 + 4 - 2 = -4 \quad \checkmark$$

Therefore,  $(x, y, z) = (2, 1, -1)$  is a solution.

To check a solution, it will be helpful to split the **augmented matrix**

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x - 3y + 4z = -3 \\ -2x + 2y - 3z = 1 \\ -3x + 4y + 2z = -4 \end{array} \mapsto \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 2 & -3 & 4 & -3 \\ -2 & 2 & -3 & 1 \\ -3 & 4 & 2 & -4 \end{array} \right]$$

...into a **matrix A** of coefficients and a **vector b** of constants:

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{matrix of} \\ \text{coefficients} \end{array} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -3 & 4 \\ -2 & 2 & -3 \\ -3 & 4 & 2 \end{bmatrix}}_A, \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{vector of} \\ \text{constants} \end{array} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}}_b$$

The potential solution can also be collected into a **vector**:

Potential Solution  $x=2, y=1, z=-1$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

matrix of  
coefficients

$$= \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -3 & 4 \\ -2 & 2 & -3 \\ -3 & 4 & 2 \end{bmatrix}}_A,$$

vector of  
constants

$$= \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}}_h$$

Each row of  $A$  represents one equation. Let's focus on the first row.

### Plugging into a single formula

Plugging  $x = 2, y = 1, z = -1$  into the first formula

$$2x - 3y + 4z \quad (= 2 \cdot 2 - 3 \cdot 1 + 4 \cdot (-1))$$

becomes the following

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = 2 \cdot 2 + (-3) \cdot 1 + 4 \cdot (-1) = -3$$



We can plug into all three equations at the same time.

## Plugging into several formulas

Plugging  $x = 2, y = 1, z = -1$  into the formulas

$$2x - 3y + 4z$$

$$-2x + 2y - 3z$$

$$-3x + 4y + 2z$$

can be translated into the following computation.

$$\begin{bmatrix} \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \phantom{0} + \phantom{0} + \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} + \phantom{0} - \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} + \phantom{0} + \phantom{0} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} \end{bmatrix}$$

We can plug into all three equations at the same time.

## Plugging into several formulas

Plugging  $x = 2, y = 1, z = -1$  into the formulas

$$2x - 3y + 4z$$

$$-2x + 2y - 3z$$

$$-3x + 4y + 2z$$

can be translated into the following computation.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -3 & 4 \\ -2 & 2 & -3 \\ -3 & 4 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \cdot 2 + (-3) \cdot 1 + 4 \cdot (-1) \\ -2 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 1 - 3 \cdot (-1) \\ -3 \cdot 2 + 4 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot (-1) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Multiplying a matrix and a vector: Definition

## Definition: Multiplying a matrix and a vector

A matrix  $A$  and vector  $v$  can be multiplied if

$$\text{width}(A) = \text{height}(v)$$

The product  $Av$  is a vector whose  $i$ th entry is the sum of the product of the entries of the  $i$ th row of  $A$  with the entries of  $v$ .

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{row } i \\ \left[ \begin{array}{cccc} \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{i,1} & a_{i,2} & \cdots & a_{i,n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{array} \right] \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{width} \\ \left[ \begin{array}{c} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{array} \right] \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{height of } v \\ = \\ \left[ \begin{array}{c} \vdots \\ a_{i,1}v_1 + a_{i,2}v_2 + \dots + a_{i,n}v_n \\ \vdots \end{array} \right] \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{K-th entry} \end{array}$$

If  $\text{width}(A) \neq \text{height}(v)$ , then the product  $Av$  **doesn't make sense!**  
(undefined)

### Exercise 3

Compute the following products.

$$\text{a) } \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{b) } \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

### Exercise 3 (solution)

Compute the following products.

$$\text{a) } \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot (-1) + 3 \cdot 1 \\ 4 \cdot 1 + 5 \cdot (-1) + 6 \cdot 1 \\ 7 \cdot 1 + 8 \cdot (-1) + 9 \cdot 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ 8 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{b) } \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \cdot 1 + (-1) \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 3 + (-2) \cdot 4 \\ 0 \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 3 + 0 \cdot 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 8 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Sizes in matrix-vector multiplication

The product of an  $m \times n$ -matrix and an  $n$ -vector is an  $m$ -vector.

height,  
# of rows

width,  
# of columns

must be  
the same  
as the  
width of  
the matrix

will always be  
the same as  
the height  
of the  
matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} \circ & \circ \\ \circ & \circ \\ \circ & \circ \\ \circ & \circ \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \square \\ \square \end{bmatrix}$$

=

$$\begin{bmatrix} \star \\ \star \\ \star \\ \star \end{bmatrix}$$

$4 \times 2$   
 $m \quad n$

$2 \times 1$   
 $n$

$4 \times 1$   
 $m$

Trick to remember:

$$4 \times \cancel{2} \quad \cancel{2} \times 1$$



$$4 \times 1$$

$$\frac{m \times \cancel{n} \quad \cancel{n} \times 1}{\Downarrow}$$

$$m \times 1$$

## Turning a linear system into a matrix equation

Consider a linear system, and let

- A be the **matrix of coefficients**,
- b be the **vector of constants**, and
- x be the **vector of variables**.

Then the linear system can be rewritten as the vector equation

$$Ax = b$$

### Example

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



$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -3 & 4 \\ -2 & 2 & -3 \\ -3 & 4 & 2 \end{bmatrix}}_A \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}}_x = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}}_b$$

## Exercise 4

Check that

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

is a solution to the matrix equation

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



## Exercise 4

Check that

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

is a solution to the matrix equation

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solution:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot (-2) + 3 \cdot 1 \\ 4 \cdot 1 + 5 \cdot (-2) + 6 \cdot 1 \\ 7 \cdot 1 + 8 \cdot (-2) + 9 \cdot 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \checkmark$$

The answer is Yes.

## Identity matrices

For a positive integer  $n$ , the  $n \times n$  **identity matrix** is the  $n \times n$  matrix whose diagonal entries are 1 and whose other entries are 0.

People often denote identity matrices by  $I_d$ , again hoping the size is clear.

Multiplying by an identity matrix doesn't change a vector (assuming the sizes are such that the product is defined).

### Example

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \cdot 4 + 0 \cdot (-1) + 0 \cdot 2 \\ 0 \cdot 4 + 1 \cdot (-1) + 0 \cdot 2 \\ 0 \cdot 4 + 0 \cdot (-1) + 1 \cdot 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Identity matrices must be **square**; that is, its height equals its width.

## Recap

- Zero matrices
- Matrix-vector multiplication
- Identity matrices

## Next time

How and why to multiply two matrices.