# How many solutions? Hung-yi Lee

### Reference

• Textbook: Chapter 1.7

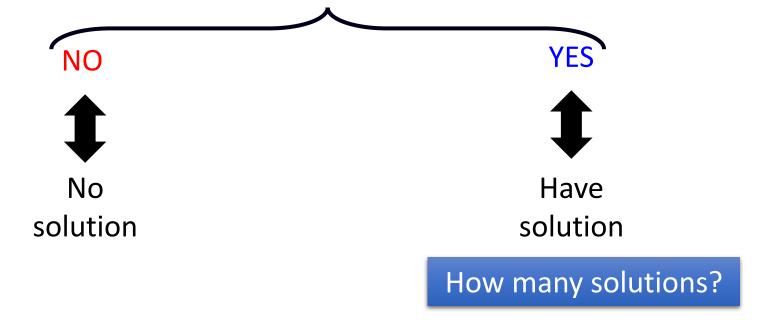
Review

Given a system of linear equations with m equations and n variables

$$A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$$
  $A: m \times n$   $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$   $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$ 

Is b a linear combination of columns of A?

Is *b* in the span of the columns of *A*?



Today

Given a system of linear equations with m equations and n variables

$$A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$$
  $A: m \times n$   $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$   $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$ 

Is b a linear combination of columns of A?

Is *b* in the span of the columns of *A*?

NO YES



No solution

Other cases?

The columns of *A* are *independent*.

Rank A = n

Nullity A = 0

Unique solution

The columns of A are *dependent*.

Rank A < n

Nullity A > 0

Infinite solution

(依賴的、不獨立的)

# Dependent and Independent

(獨立的、自主的)

#### Definition

- A set of n vectors  $\{a_1, a_2, \cdots, a_n\}$  is linear dependent Find one Obtain many
  - If there exist scalars  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ , **not all zero**, such that

$$x_1 \boldsymbol{a}_1 + x_2 \boldsymbol{a}_2 + \dots + x_n \boldsymbol{a}_n = \mathbf{0}$$

• A set of n vectors  $\{a_1, a_2, \cdots, a_n\}$  is linear independent

$$x_1 \boldsymbol{a}_1 + x_2 \boldsymbol{a}_2 + \dots + x_n \boldsymbol{a}_n = \mathbf{0}$$

Only if 
$$x_1 = x_2 = \cdots = x_n = 0$$
 unique

# Dependent and Independent

#### Linear Dependent

Given a vector set,  $\{a_1, a_2, ..., a_n\}$ , if there exists any **a**<sub>i</sub> that is a linear combination of other vectors

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -4\\12\\6 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -10\\30\\15 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$
 Dependent or Independent?

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 8 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 11 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$
 Dependent or Independent?

## Dependent and Independent

#### Linear Dependent

Given a vector set,  $\{a_1, a_2, ..., a_n\}$ , if there exists any  $a_i$  that is a linear combination of other vectors

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 5 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$
 Dependent or Independent?

Zero vector is the linear combination of any other vectors Any set contains zero vector would be linear dependent How about a set with only one vector?

## Dependent and Independent

#### Linear Dependent

Given a vector set,  $\{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, ..., \mathbf{a}_n\}$ , if there exists any  $\mathbf{a}_i$  that is a linear combination of other vectors

$$2a_{i} + a_{j} + 3a_{k} = 0$$

$$2a_{i} + a_{j} = -3a_{k}$$

$$\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)a_{i} + \left(-\frac{1}{3}\right)a_{j} = a_{k}$$

$$a_{i'} = 3a_{j'} + 4a_{k'}$$

$$a_{i'} - 3a_{j'} - 4a_{k'} = 0$$

Given a vector set,  $\{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, ..., \mathbf{a}_n\}$ , there exists scalars  $x_1, x_2, ..., x_n$ , that are **not all zero**, such that  $x_1\mathbf{a}_1 + x_2\mathbf{a}_2 + \cdots + x_n\mathbf{a}_n = \mathbf{0}$ .

### Intuition

#### Dependent: Once we have solution, we have infinite.

 Intuitive link between dependence and the number of solutions

$$\begin{bmatrix} 6 & 1 & 7 \\ 3 & 8 & 11 \\ 3 & 3 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 14 \\ 22 \\ 12 \end{bmatrix} \qquad 1 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + 1 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 8 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 11 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$1 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + 1 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 8 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + 1 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 11 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 14 \\ 22 \\ 12 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$2 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + 2 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 8 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 14 \\ 22 \\ 12 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
 Infinite Solution

#### Proof

 Columns of A are dependent → If Ax=b have solution, it will have Infinite Solutions

 If Ax=b have Infinite solutions → Columns of A are dependent

#### Proof

#### Homogeneous linear equations

$$Ax = \mathbf{0}$$
  $A = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & \cdots & a_n \end{bmatrix}$   $x = \begin{bmatrix} x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$  (always having  $\mathbf{0}$  as solution)

#### Based on the definition

A set of n vectors  $\{a_1, a_2, \cdots, a_n\}$ is linear dependent



Ax = 0 have nonzero solution infinite

A set of n vectors  $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$ is linear independent



Ax = 0 only have zero solution

#### Proof

 Columns of A are dependent → If Ax=b have solution, it will have Infinite solutions

We can find non-zero solution u such that 
$$Au = 0$$

There exists v such that  $Av = b$ 

$$A(u + v) = b$$

$$u + v \text{ is another solution different to } v$$

 If Ax=b have Infinite solutions → Columns of A are dependent

$$u \neq v$$

$$Au = b$$

$$Av = b$$

$$A(u - v) = 0$$
Non-zero

- The rank of a matrix is defined as the maximum number of linearly independent columns in the matrix.
- Nullity = Number of columns rank

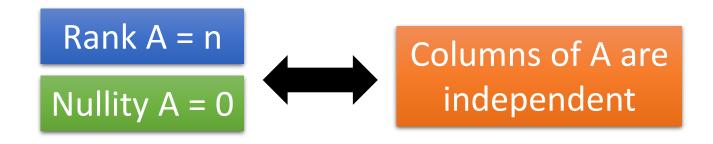
$$\begin{bmatrix} -3 & 2 & -1 \\ 7 & 9 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 10 \\ 2 & 6 & 20 \\ 3 & 9 & 30 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- The rank of a matrix is defined as the maximum number of linearly independent columns in the matrix.
- Nullity = Number of columns rank

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 4 \\ 2 & 6 & 8 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \qquad [6]$$

- The rank of a matrix is defined as the maximum number of linearly independent columns in the matrix.
- Nullity = Number of columns rank

If A is a mxn matrix:



#### Conclusion

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

$$A: m \times n \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n \quad b \in \mathbb{R}^m$$

$$x \in R^n$$

$$b \in R^m$$

Is b a linear combination of columns of *A*?

Is b in the span of the columns of A?

NO



No solution YES

The columns of A are **independent**.

Rank A = n

Nullity A = 0

Unique solution

The columns of A are **dependent**.

Rank A < n

Nullity A > 0

Infinite solution

#### Conclusion

The columns of *A* are **independent**.

Rank A = n

Nullity A = 0

 $A: m \times n$ 

 $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$   $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$ 

NO

YES

Is b a linear combination of columns of A?

Is b in the span of the columns of A?

Is b a linear combination of columns of A?

Is b in the span of the columns of A?

YES

Infinite

NO

No solution YES

Unique solution

No solution

solution

#### Question

#### True or False

- If the columns of A are linear independent, then Ax=b has unique solution.
- If the columns of A are linear independent, then Ax=b has at most one solution.
- If the columns of A are linear dependent, then Ax=b has infinite solution.
- If the columns of A are linear independent, then Ax=0 (homogeneous equation) has unique solution.
- If the columns of A are linear dependent, then Ax=0 (homogeneous equation) has infinite solution.