

SECTION ONE.I.1: GAUSS'S METHOD

Goals:

- Know Terminology: linear combination, linear equation, coefficients, constant, a system of linear equations, a solution to a system of linear equations, elementary row operations
- Understand an algorithm: Gauss's Method (or Gaussian Elimination). Understanding an algorithm means knowing *when* to apply it, *how* to apply it and correctly *interpreting* the results.

1. linear combination

ex:  $x_1 + \sqrt{5}x_2 - \frac{1}{\pi}x_3$

NOT linear

$x_1 + x_2^2 + x_3$  or  $x_1 + 5x_1x_2 + x_2$

general:  $a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + a_3x_3 + \dots + a_nx_n$

2. linear equation

ex:  $x_1 + \sqrt{5}x_2 - \frac{1}{\pi}x_3 = 8$

general:  $a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + a_3x_3 + \dots + a_nx_n = b$

← coefficient

← variable

← constant

3. system of linear equations

**A**  $x + y = 5$   
 $x - y = 8$

or **B**  $x_1 - 2x_2 + x_3 = 0$   
 $2x_2 - 8x_3 = 8$   
 $5x_1 - 5x_3 = 10$

4. a solutions to a system of linear equations

Claim

**A**  $x = \frac{13}{2}, y = -\frac{3}{2}$   
is a solution. (check!)

for **B**  $x=1, y=0, z=-1$  is a solution  
(Also, easily checked!)

5. elementary row operations

- multiply equ. (row) by a constant
- re order rows/ equations
- add a multiple of one row to another.

6. Gauss's Method

Goal: Find all solutions (if any exist!) to a system of equations.

Steps: Change one system of equations into a new system of equations using only elementary row operations such that the new system is easy to solve. In particular, try eliminating leading coefficients one by one.

Interpretation: The solution to the new system is the same as the solution of the original system. Solve the (easier) new system.

"e" pronounced "rho" or "row"

$$-10x_2 + 40x_3 = -40$$

7. Example 1:

$$\begin{array}{rcl} e_1 & x_1 & -2x_2 + x_3 = 0 \\ e_2 & & 2x_2 - 8x_3 = 8 \\ e_3 & 5x_1 & -5x_3 = 10 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{rcl} x_1 & -2x_2 + x_3 & = 0 \quad e_1 \\ & 2x_2 - 8x_3 & = 8 \quad e_2 \\ & 10x_2 - 10x_3 & = 10 \quad e_3 \end{array}$$

$e_3 - 5e_1 \mapsto e_3$

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$$\begin{array}{l} x_1 - 2x_2 + x_3 = 0 \\ 2x_2 - 8x_3 = 8 \\ 30x_3 = -30 \end{array}$$

Solve:

$$x_3 = -1$$

$$2x_2 + 8 = 8 \text{ or } 2x_2 = 0 \Rightarrow x_2 = 0$$

$$x_1 - 0 - 1 = 0 \Rightarrow x_1 = 1$$

TWO crucial properties

- ① same soln as starter system    ② easy to solve.

8. Example 2:

$$\begin{array}{rcl} & x_2 & -4x_3 = 8 \\ -2(2x_1 - 3x_2 + 2x_3 = 1) & & \\ 4x_1 - 8x_2 + 12x_3 = 1 & & \\ -4x_1 + 6x_2 - 4x_3 = 2 & & \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{rcl} e_3 - 2e_2 \mapsto e_3 & 2x_1 - 3x_2 + 2x_3 = 1 \\ e_2 \leftrightarrow e_1 & (x_2 - 4x_3 = 8) \cdot 2 \\ & -2x_2 + 8x_3 = -1 \\ & 2x_2 - 8x_3 = 16 \end{array}$$

$e_3 + 2e_2 \mapsto e_3$

$$\begin{array}{l} 2x_1 - 3x_2 + 2x_3 = 1 \\ x_2 - 4x_3 = 8 \end{array}$$

$$0 = 15 \leftarrow \text{No solution}$$

No solution.

AM: No solution.

9. Example 3:

$$\begin{array}{rcl} & x_2 & -4x_3 = 8 \\ 2x_1 - 3x_2 + 2x_3 = 1 & & \\ 2x_1 - 2x_2 - 2x_3 = 9 & & \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{rcl} e_3 - e_2 \mapsto e_3 & 2x_1 - 3x_2 + 2x_3 = 1 \\ e_2 \leftrightarrow e_1 & x_2 - 4x_3 = 8 \\ & x_2 - 4x_3 = 8 \end{array}$$

$e_3 - e_2 \mapsto e_3$

$$\begin{array}{l} 2x_1 - 3x_2 + 2x_3 = 1 \\ x_2 - 4x_3 = 8 \\ 0 = 0 \end{array}$$

→ Pick  $x_3 = 0$ , then  $x_2 = 8$ ,  $x_1 = \frac{25}{2}$

Pick  $x_3 = -1$ , then  $x_2 = 4$ ,  $x_1 = \frac{15}{2}$

etc...

Many solutions

Given  $x_3$ ,

$$x_2 = 8 + 4x_3$$

$$x_1 = 1 + 3x_2 - 2x_3$$