

# Linear Algebra 1: Tutorial 3

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$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & \blacksquare & * & * & * & * & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \blacksquare & * & * & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \blacksquare & * & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \blacksquare & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & * & 0 & 0 & * & * & 0 & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & * & * & 0 & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & * & * & 0 & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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**Exercise 1.** Consider the matrix and vector below, with entries understood to be in  $\mathbb{Z}_3$ .

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solve the matrix-vector equation  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ . How many solutions does this equation have?

**Exercise 2.** Consider the matrix and vector below, with entries understood to be in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & 0 \\ -1 & 3 & 2 \\ -2 & 6 & -2 \\ 3 & -9 & 0 \\ 1 & -3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solve the matrix-vector equation  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ . How many solutions does this equation have?

**Exercise 3.** Consider the matrix and vector below, with entries understood to be in  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ .

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solve the matrix-vector equation  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ . How many solutions does this equation have?

**Exercise 4.** Either construct a matrix  $A$  and vectors  $\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}$  that satisfy the given specifications, or explain why such  $A, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}$  do not exist. In each case, the entries of  $A, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}$  should be from the same field, and the number of rows of  $A$  should be the same as the number of entries in each of the vectors  $\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}$ .

- (a)  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  has no solutions, whereas  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{c}$  has a unique solution.
- (b)  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  has no solutions, whereas  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{c}$  has more than one solution.
- (c)  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  has a unique solution, whereas  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{c}$  has more than one solution.

(**Hint:** Think about rank, pivot/non-pivot columns, and free variables.)

**Exercise 5.** Consider the following vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ :

$$\mathbf{a}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{a}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{a}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Determine whether  $\mathbf{b} \in \text{Span}(\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3)$ . If so, express  $\mathbf{b}$  as a linear combination of the vectors  $\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3$ , and explain whether your answer is unique.

**Exercise 6.** Consider the following vectors in  $\mathbb{Z}_2^4$ :

$$\mathbf{a}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{a}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{a}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{a}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{c} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{d} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

For each of the vectors  $\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{d}$ , determine if it can be expressed as a linear combination of the vectors  $\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3, \mathbf{a}_4$  (that is, if it belongs to  $\text{Span}(\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3, \mathbf{a}_4)$ ), and if so, express it as such a linear combination, and explain whether your answer is unique.