

MAT1341 - DGD2 - Solutions

January 24

1. Find the general solution to the following system of equations :

$$\begin{aligned}x + y + z &= 0 \\x - 2z &= 0 \\-x + 3y + 11z &= 0\end{aligned}$$

Solutions :

$$\begin{aligned}\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -2 & | & 0 \\ -1 & 3 & 11 & | & 0 \end{bmatrix} &\sim R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - R_1 \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & -3 & | & 0 \\ -1 & 3 & 11 & | & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ &\sim R_3 \rightarrow R_3 + R_1 \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & -3 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 12 & | & 0 \end{bmatrix} \sim R_2 \rightarrow -R_2 \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 12 & | & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ &\sim R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - 4R_2 \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{bmatrix} \sim R_1 \rightarrow R_1 - R_2 \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{bmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

The equations are now $x - 2z = 0$ and $y + 3z = 0$. z is the free variable, so we isolate the other variables from the equations : $x = 2z$ and $y = -3z$. We get the general solution :

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2z \\ -3z \\ z \end{bmatrix} = z \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

where $z \in \mathbb{R}$.

2. Consider the following augmented matrix :

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & | & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & | & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & k & | & k \end{bmatrix}$$

- a) For what values of k is the system inconsistent ?
- b) For what values of k does this system have a unique solution ?
- c) For what values of k does this system have infinitely many solutions ?

Solutions :

We first get the system to REF :

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & k & k \end{array} \right] \sim R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - 2R_2 \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & k-2 & k-4 \end{array} \right]$$

We now see that the system is inconsistent only if $k - 2 = 0$ and $k - 4 \neq 0$, which means that the the system is inconsistent when $k = 2$. If $k \neq 2$, then

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & k-2 & k-4 \end{array} \right] \sim R_3 \rightarrow \frac{1}{k-2}R_3 \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \frac{k-4}{k-2} \end{array} \right]$$

We see that this system has a unique solution (pivots in every column of the coefficient matrix, and no additional pivots in the augmented matrix). In conclusion,

- a) Inconsistent when $k = 2$.
- b) A unique solution when $k \neq 2$.
- c) No values of k gives the system infinitely many solutions.

3. Consider a linear system with 600 equations and 1000 variables. Determine if the following statements are true or false :

- a) Such a system is always consistent.
- b) Such a system always has a unique solution.
- c) Such a system can be inconsistent.
- d) If such a system is consistent, the it always has a unique solution.
- e) The general solution to such a system has exactly 400 non-leading variables.
- f) The general solution to such a system can have more than 400 non-leading variables.
- g) If the system is homogeneous, then it has infinitely many solutions.

Solutions :

- a) False. The system could have the equation $0 = 1$ as one of its 600 equations.
- b) False. See a), or see that since there are more equations than variables, there cannot be a pivot in every column.
- c) True, see a).
- d) False, if it is consistent, then there can only be at most 600 pivots, since there is only at most one pivot per row. Therefore, there will be free variables.
- e) False. This is the case only if every row has a pivot.
- f) True. The system could have only 1 pivot, leading to 999 free variables.
- g) True. Any homogeneous system is consistent. In this case, there cannot be a pivot in every column (not enough rows), so it will have infinitely many solutions.

4. Find the reduced row echelon form of the following matrix :

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

Solutions :

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 4 & -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} &\sim R_2 \leftrightarrow R_1 \sim \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \sim R_1 \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}R_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \sim R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - 4R_1 \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & -2 & -3 \end{bmatrix} \\ &\sim R_2 \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}R_2 \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 3/2 \\ 0 & -2 & -3 \end{bmatrix} \sim R_3 \rightarrow R_3 + 2R_2 \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 3/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$