

Section 2.3

Characterizations of Invertible Matrices

The Invertible Matrix Theorem

Suppose $A = n \times n$ matrix, and $T_A : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is the associated linear transformation. The following are equivalent.

- a) A is invertible
- b) A is row equivalent to I_n
- c) A has n pivots
- d) $Ax = 0$ has only 0 solution
- e) columns of A are linearly independent
- f) T_A is one-to-one
- g) $Ax = b$ is consistent for all b in \mathbb{R}^n
- h) columns of A span \mathbb{R}^n
- i) T_A is onto
- j) A has a left inverse
- k) A has a right inverse
- l) A^T is invertible

$$b \leftrightarrow c$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \square & * & * \\ 0 & \square & * \\ 0 & 0 & \square \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} BA &= I_n \\ AB &= I_n \end{aligned}$$

The Invertible Matrix Theorem

There are two kinds of square matrices, invertible (or non-singular), and non-invertible (or singular) matrices.

For invertible matrices, all of the conditions in the IMT hold. And for a non-invertible matrix, all of them fail to hold.

The Invertible Matrix Theorem

Poll

Which of the following are equivalent to the statement that A is invertible?

- m) rows of A span \mathbb{R}^n
- n) rows of A are linearly independent
- o) $Ax = b$ has exactly one solution for all b in \mathbb{R}^n
- p) $\det(A) \neq 0$, where $\det(A)$ is the volume of the parallelepiped formed by the columns of A
- q) A^2 is invertible

Invertible Functions

A function $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ is **invertible** if there is a function $g : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, so

$$f \circ g = g \circ f =$$

That is,

Fact. Suppose $A = n \times n$ matrix. Then T_A is invertible *as a function* if and only if $\det A \neq 0$. And in this case,

$$(T_A)^{-1} = T_{A^{-1}}$$

Why?