

Let us begin by introducing basic notation for matrices and vectors.

We'll use  $\mathbb{R}$  to denote the set of real-numbers and  $\mathbb{C}$  to denote the set of complex numbers.

We write the space of all  $m \times n$  real-valued matrices as  $\mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ . Each

$$\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \text{ is } \begin{bmatrix} A_{1,1} & \cdots & A_{1,n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ A_{m,1} & \cdots & A_{m,n} \end{bmatrix} \text{ where } A_{i,j} \in \mathbb{R}.$$

With only a few exceptions, matrices are written as *bold, capital* letters. Matrix elements are written as sub-scripted, *unbold* letters. When clear from context,

$$A_{i,j} \text{ is written } A_{ij}$$

instead, e.g.  $A_{11}$  instead of  $A_{1,1}$ .

An short-hand notation for  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  is

$$\mathbf{A} : n \times n.$$

**In class** I'll usually write matrices with just upper-case letters.

We write the set of length- $n$  real-valued vectors as  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Each

$$\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \text{ is } \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} \text{ where } x_i \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Vectors are denoted by *lowercase, bold* letters. As with matrices, elements are sub-scripted, *unbold* letters. Sometimes, we'll write vector elements as

$$x_i \text{ or } [x]_i \text{ or } x(i).$$

Usually, this choice is motivated by a particular application. *Throughout the class, vectors are **column** vectors.*

**In class** I'll usually write vectors with just lower-case letters. I may try and follow the convention of underlining vectors. We'll see.

## Operations

**Transpose** Let  $\mathbf{A} : m \times n$ , then

$$\mathbf{B} : n \times m = \mathbf{A}^T \implies B_{i,j} = A_{j,i}.$$

*Example*  $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 4 \\ 3 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$   $\mathbf{A}^T = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 4 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$

**Hermitian** Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ , then

$$\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times m} = \mathbf{A}^* = \mathbf{A}^H \implies B_{i,j} = \overline{A_{j,i}}.$$

*Example*  $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ i & 4 \\ 3 & -i \end{bmatrix}$   $\mathbf{A}^* = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -i & 3 \\ 3 & 4 & i \end{bmatrix}$

**Addition** Let  $\mathbf{A} : m \times n$  and  $\mathbf{B} : m \times n$ , then

$$\mathbf{C} : m \times n = \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B} \implies C_{i,j} = A_{i,j} + B_{i,j}.$$

*Example*  $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 4 \\ 3 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{B} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 2 & 3 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$   $\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -2 \\ 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .

**Scalar Multiplication** Let  $\mathbf{A} : m \times n$  and  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ , then

$$\mathbf{C} : m \times n = \alpha \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B} \implies C_{i,j} = \alpha A_{i,j}.$$

Example  $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 4 \\ 3 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $5\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 10 & 15 \\ 5 & 20 \\ 15 & -5 \end{bmatrix}$

**Matrix Multiplication** Let  $\mathbf{A} : m \times n$  and  $\mathbf{B} : n \times k$ , then

$$\mathbf{C} : m \times k = \mathbf{AB} \implies C_{i,j} = \sum_{r=1}^n A_{i,r} B_{r,j}.$$

**Matrix-vector Multiplication** Let  $\mathbf{A} : m \times n$  and  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , then

$$\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^m = \mathbf{Ax} \implies c_i = \sum_{j=1}^n A_{i,j} x_j.$$

This operation is just a special case of matrix multiplication that follows from treating  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{c}$  as  $n \times 1$  and  $m \times 1$  matrices, respectively.

**Vector addition, Scalar vector multiplication** These are just special cases of matrix addition and scalar matrix multiplication where vectors are viewed as  $n \times 1$  matrices.

## Partitioning

It is often useful to represent a matrix as a collection of vectors. In this case, we write

$$\mathbf{A} : m \times n = [\mathbf{a}_1 \quad \mathbf{a}_2 \quad \cdots \quad \mathbf{a}_n]$$

where each  $\mathbf{a}_j \in \mathbb{R}^m$ . This form corresponds to a partition into columns.

Alternatively, we may wish to partition a matrix into rows.

$$\mathbf{A} : m \times n = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{r}_1^T \\ \mathbf{r}_2^T \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{r}_m^T \end{bmatrix}.$$

Here, each  $\mathbf{r}_i \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

Using the column partitioning:

$$\mathbf{Ax} = [\mathbf{a}_1 \quad \mathbf{a}_2 \quad \cdots \quad \mathbf{a}_n] \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \sum_j x_j \mathbf{a}_j.$$

And with the row partitioning:

$$\mathbf{Ax} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{r}_1^T \\ \mathbf{r}_2^T \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{r}_m^T \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{r}_1^T \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{r}_2^T \mathbf{x} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{r}_m^T \mathbf{x} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Another useful partitioned representation of a matrix is into blocks:

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}_{1,1} & \mathbf{A}_{1,2} \\ \mathbf{A}_{2,1} & \mathbf{A}_{2,2} \end{bmatrix}$$

or

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}_{1,1} & \mathbf{A}_{1,2} & \mathbf{A}_{1,3} \\ \mathbf{A}_{2,1} & \mathbf{A}_{2,2} & \mathbf{A}_{2,3} \\ \mathbf{A}_{3,1} & \mathbf{A}_{3,2} & \mathbf{A}_{3,3} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Here, the sizes “just have to work out” in the vernacular. Formally, all  $\mathbf{A}_{i,\cdot}$  must have the same number of rows and all  $\mathbf{A}_{\cdot,j}$  must have the same number of columns. This means the diagonal blocks are always square, but the off-diagonal blocks may not be.