

Arrays: Vectors and Matrices

Vectors

Vectors are an efficient notational method for representing lists of numbers. They are equivalent to the arrays in the programming language "C".

A typical vector might represent the high temperature every day for a week. Such a vector would have seven elements and could be written as a row vector (a single row),

$$\mathbf{HighTemp} = [25 \ 32 \ 33 \ 38 \ 43 \ 45 \ 41]$$

or as a column vector (a single column),

$$\mathbf{HighTemp} = \begin{bmatrix} 25 \\ 32 \\ 33 \\ 38 \\ 43 \\ 45 \\ 41 \end{bmatrix}$$

Note, that I will use bold letters when referring to the entire vector (or matrix). In both cases above, the **HighTemp** vector has seven elements, representing Sunday through Saturday. To access the individual elements in the array we use an index. For example, the temperature Sunday would be accessed as $\mathbf{HighTemp}(1)$, and is equal to 25. Likewise $\mathbf{HighTemp}(4)=38$ is Wednesday's high temperature.

Matrices

A matrix (singular of matrices) is for our purposes a series of numbers listed in two dimensions. As an example, consider high temperatures collected over a 28 day period (4 weeks). We could write the matrix as a single list 28 elements long, or as a collection of numbers (a matrix) that has 4 rows and 7 columns.

$$\mathbf{HighTemp} = \begin{bmatrix} 25 & 32 & 33 & 38 & 43 & 45 & 41 \\ 42 & 43 & 45 & 46 & 48 & 41 & 39 \\ 39 & 41 & 43 & 47 & 48 & 48 & 47 \\ 50 & 49 & 45 & 48 & 50 & 51 & 53 \end{bmatrix}$$

Now we need two indices to represent the numbers, one for the row, and one for the column. For example the high temperature on the 3rd day of the 2nd week is $\mathbf{HighTemp}(2,3)$ and is equal to 45. Note that the index for the row comes first.

We could also write the matrix with rows and columns interchanged. This is referred to as taking the "transpose" of the matrix.

$$\mathbf{HighTemp} = \begin{bmatrix} 25 & 42 & 39 & 50 \\ 32 & 43 & 41 & 49 \\ 33 & 45 & 43 & 45 \\ 38 & 46 & 47 & 48 \\ 43 & 48 & 48 & 50 \\ 45 & 41 & 48 & 51 \\ 41 & 39 & 47 & 53 \end{bmatrix}$$

Note that a vector is the special case of a matrix, where there is only one row or column. Also note that the two vectors given are transposes of each other.

In general a matrix consisting of $m \cdot n$ elements can be arranged in m rows and n columns, yielding an $m \times n$ (read m by n) matrix, which we'll call \mathbf{A} .

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \cdots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix}$$

The symbol a_{ij} represents the number in the i^{th} row and the j^{th} column.

Matrix operations

For the ensuing discussion assume we have three matrices

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{B} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{C} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Equality

Two matrices are equal if they are the same size, and corresponding elements are equal. For example, $\mathbf{A}=\mathbf{B}$, but $\mathbf{A} \neq \mathbf{C}$.

Addition

Two matrices can be added if they are the same size. Their sum is given by a third matrix whose elements are the sum of the corresponding elements being added. of the two arrays If $\mathbf{D}=\mathbf{A}+\mathbf{C}$ then

$$\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{C} = \mathbf{D} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 7 \\ 3 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

Note that $\mathbf{A}+\mathbf{B}=\mathbf{B}+\mathbf{A}$.

Operations with a scalar

A matrix can be multiplied by a scalar (a scalar is a single number) by multiplying each element of the array by that number. The same can be done with addition, subtraction or division with a scalar. For example:

$$2 \cdot \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{D} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 8 \\ 4 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

To convert the temperatures from the first example to Celsius:

$$\mathbf{CalcTemp} = (\mathbf{HighTemp} - 32) * 5/9$$

Review - Vectors and Matrices

For the following problems let:

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{B} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \\ -\frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{I} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{U} = [1 \ 2], \quad \mathbf{V} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

1. What is a_{12} ?
2. What is a_{21} ?
3. What is $\mathbf{A}+\mathbf{B}$?
4. What is \mathbf{UV} ?
5. What is \mathbf{AB} ?
6. What is \mathbf{AI} ?
7. What is \mathbf{IA} ?
8. What is \mathbf{VU} ?
9. What is \mathbf{BA} ?
10. How could you use matrix multiplication to find the average of each row of the matrix \mathbf{A} ?
11. How could you use matrix multiplication to find the average of each column of the matrix \mathbf{A} ?

Answers - Vectors and Matrices

For the following problems let:

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{B} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \\ -\frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{I} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{U} = [1 \quad 2], \quad \mathbf{V} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

1. What is a_{12} ? **-1**

2. What is a_{21} ? **1**

3. What is $\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}$? $\begin{bmatrix} 1\frac{2}{3} & -\frac{2}{3} \\ \frac{2}{3} & 2\frac{1}{3} \end{bmatrix}$

4. What is \mathbf{UV} ? **11**

5. What is \mathbf{AB} ? $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

6. What is \mathbf{AI} ? $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

7. What is \mathbf{IA} ? (Note, in this case $\mathbf{IA} = \mathbf{AI}$, multiplication isn't generally commutative). $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

8. What is \mathbf{VU} ? (Note, in this case $\mathbf{UV} \neq \mathbf{VU}$, because multiplication isn't generally commutative).

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 6 \\ 4 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$$

9. What is \mathbf{BA} ? $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

10. How could you use matrix multiplication to find the average of each row of the matrix \mathbf{A} ?

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

11. How could you use matrix multiplication to find the average of each column of the matrix \mathbf{A} ?

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$