

Lecture 4 Matrix Operations

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Strang Sections 2.3 – Elimination Using Matrices and 2.4 – Rules for Matrix Operations

Course notes adapted from *Introduction to Linear Algebra* by Strang (5th ed), N. Hammoud's NYU lecture notes, and *Interactive Linear Algebra* by Margalit and Rabinoff, in addition to our text



Recall

Suppose we are given a system of m equations in n unknowns:

$$a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n = b_1$$
 $a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n = b_2$
 \vdots
 $a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + \dots + a_{mn}x_n = b_m$

This system can be written in matrix form as:

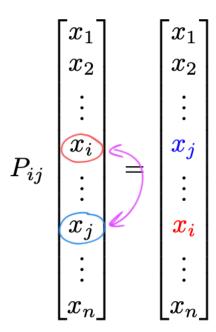
$$\left[egin{array}{ccccc} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \ dots & & & & \ \vdots & & & & \ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{array}
ight] \left[egin{array}{c} x_1 \ x_2 \ dots \ x_n \end{array}
ight] = \left[egin{array}{c} b_1 \ b_2 \ dots \ b_m \end{array}
ight]$$

$$egin{bmatrix} ext{in augmented form} & egin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} & b_1 \ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} & b_2 \ dots & dots & dots & dots \ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} & b_m \end{bmatrix}$$

Recall

$$I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & \ddots & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{I\vec{x}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & \ddots & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P_{ij} = egin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \ dots & & & & & & \ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 1 & \dots & 0 \ dots & & & & & & \ 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \ dots & & & & & & \ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



$$P_{ij} = egin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \ dots & & & & & & & \ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 1 & \dots & 0 \ dots & & & & & & & \ 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \ dots & & & & & & \ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P_{ij}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_i \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_j \\ \vdots \\ x_i \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P_{31} = egin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \ 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \ 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \ dots & \ddots & & & \ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P_{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & & & & & \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & & & & & \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & & & & & \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P_{ij} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_i \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_j \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P_{ij} egin{bmatrix} x_1 \ x_2 \ dots \ x_i \ dots \ x_j \ dots \ x_n \end{bmatrix} egin{bmatrix} x_1 \ x_2 \ dots \ x_j \ dots \ x_i \ dots \ x_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P_{31} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & \ddots & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{P_{31} \vec{x}} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & \ddots & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & \ddots & & & & & \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & \ddots & & & & \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & & \ddots & & & \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & \ddots & & & & & \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & \ddots & & & & \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & & \ddots & & \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

An elimination matrix is an $n \times n$ matrix which takes the $n \times n$ identity matrix and changes one of the zeros in the lower triangular or the upper triangular part of the identity matrix to some nonzero entry.

$$I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & \ddots & & & & & & \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & \ddots & & & & & \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & & \ddots & & & \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$E_{ji} = egin{bmatrix} ext{Col}\,i & ext{Col}\,j \ 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \ dots & \ddots & & & & & & \ 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \ dots & & \ddots & & & & & \ 0 & 0 & \dots & \star & \dots & 1 & \dots & 0 \ dots & & & \ddots & & & \ 0 & 0 & \dots & \star & \dots & 1 & \dots & 0 \ dots & & & \ddots & & & \ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 1 \ \end{bmatrix}$$

$$E_{ji} = egin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \ dots & \ddots & & & & & & \ 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \ dots & & \ddots & & & & & \ 0 & 0 & \dots & \star & \dots & 1 & \dots & 0 \ dots & & & \ddots & & & \ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$egin{bmatrix} x_1 \ x_2 \ dots \ x_2 \ dots \ x_i \ dots \ x_j \ dots \ x_j \ dots \ x_n \ dots \ x_n \ \end{pmatrix} = egin{bmatrix} x_1 \ x_2 \ dots \ x_i \ x_i \ dots \ x_j + (\star \cdot x_i) \ dots \ x_n \ \end{pmatrix}$$

$$E_{31} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \star & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & \ddots & & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

When this matrix acts on a vector in \mathbb{R}^n , it adds \star copies of the first row to the third row.

$$E_{31} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \star & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$E_{31} = egin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \ 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \ \star & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \ dots & & \ddots & & \ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \ \end{pmatrix}$$

When this matrix acts on a vector in \mathbb{R}^n , it adds \star copies of the first row to the third row.

$$E_{31} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \star & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & \ddots & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{E_{31} \vec{x}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \star & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & \ddots & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 + (\star \cdot x_1) \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$E_{32} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \star & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & \ddots & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{E_{32}\vec{x}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \star & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & \ddots & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 + (\star \cdot x_2) \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$$

What does the matrix
$$E_{21}=\left[\begin{array}{ccc}1&0&0\\-2&1&0\\0&0&1\end{array}\right]$$
 do to the vector $\vec{x}=\left[\begin{array}{ccc}2\\8\\10\end{array}\right]$ when

it acts on it?

What does the matrix
$$E_{31} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
 do to the vector $\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \\ 10 \end{bmatrix}$ when

it acts on it?



Matrix Operations

Recall

Let A be an $m \times n$ matrix.

We write a_{ij} for the entry in the *i*th row and the *j*th column. It is called the *ij*th entry of the matrix.

The entries $a_{11}, a_{22}, a_{33}, \ldots$ are the **diagonal entries**; they form the **main diagonal** of the matrix.

A diagonal matrix is a *square* matrix whose only nonzero entries are on the main diagonal.

The $n \times n$ identity matrix I_n is the diagonal matrix with all diagonal entries equal to 1. It is special because $I_n v = v$ for all v in \mathbf{R}^n .

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1j} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{i1} & \cdots & a_{ij} & \cdots & a_{in} \\ \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & \cdots & a_{mj} & \cdots & a_{mn} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$jth \ column$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix}
a_{11} & 0 & 0 \\
0 & a_{22} & 0 \\
0 & 0 & a_{33}
\end{pmatrix}$$

$$I_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Recall

The **zero matrix** (of size $m \times n$) is the $m \times n$ matrix 0 with all zero entries.

The **transpose** of an $m \times n$ matrix A is the $n \times m$ matrix A^T whose rows are the columns of A. In other words, the ij entry of A^T is a_{ji} .

$$0 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A^{T}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \end{pmatrix} \qquad \qquad \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{21} \\ a_{12} & a_{22} \\ a_{13} & a_{23} \end{pmatrix}$$

Matrix Addition and Scalar Multiplication

You add two matrices component by component, like with vectors.

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} b_{11} & b_{12} & b_{13} \\ b_{21} & b_{22} & b_{23} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} + b_{11} & a_{12} + b_{12} & a_{13} + b_{13} \\ a_{21} + b_{21} & a_{22} + b_{22} & a_{23} + b_{23} \end{pmatrix}$$

Note you can only add two matrices of the same size.

You multiply a matrix by a scalar by multiplying each component, like with vectors.

$$c \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} ca_{11} & ca_{12} & ca_{13} \\ ca_{21} & ca_{22} & ca_{23} \end{pmatrix}.$$

These satisfy the expected rules, like with vectors:

$$A + B = B + A$$

$$c(A + B) = cA + cB$$

$$(cd)A = c(dA)$$

$$(A + B) + C = A + (B + C)$$

$$(c + d)A = cA + dA$$

$$A + 0 = A$$

$$A = egin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1n} \ a_{21} & \dots & a_{2n} \ dots & & & \ \vdots & & & \ a_{m1} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix} \quad B = egin{bmatrix} b_{11} & \dots & b_{1m} \ b_{21} & \dots & b_{2m} \ dots & & \ \vdots & & \ b_{l1} & \dots & b_{lm} \end{bmatrix} \quad C = egin{bmatrix} c_{11} & \dots & c_{1k} \ c_{21} & \dots & c_{2k} \ dots & & \ \vdots & & \ c_{n1} & \dots & c_{nk} \end{bmatrix}$$

Beware: matrix multiplication is more subtle than addition and scalar multiplication.

must be equal

Let A be an $m \times n$ matrix and let B be an $n \times p$ matrix with columns v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_p :

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} | & | & | \\ v_1 & v_2 & \cdots & v_p \\ | & | & | \end{pmatrix}.$$

The **product** AB is the $m \times p$ matrix with columns Av_1, Av_2, \ldots, Av_p :

The equality is a definition
$$AB \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{pmatrix} | & | & | \\ Av_1 & Av_2 & \cdots & Av_p \\ | & | & | \end{pmatrix}$$
.

In order for Av_1, Av_2, \ldots, Av_p to make sense, the number of columns of A has to be the same as the number of rows of B.

Example
$$\begin{pmatrix}
1 & 2 & 3 \\
4 & 5 & 6
\end{pmatrix}
\begin{pmatrix}
1 & -3 \\
2 & -2 \\
3 & -1
\end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix}
1 & 2 & 3 \\
4 & 5 & 6
\end{pmatrix}
\cdot
\begin{pmatrix}
1 \\
2 \\
3
\end{pmatrix}
\quad
\begin{pmatrix}
1 & 2 & 3 \\
4 & 5 & 6
\end{pmatrix}
\cdot
\begin{pmatrix}
-3 \\
-2 \\
-1
\end{pmatrix}
\end{pmatrix}$$

A row vector of length n times a column vector of length n is a scalar:

$$(a_1 \quad \cdots \quad a_n) \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ \vdots \\ b_n \end{pmatrix} = a_1b_1 + \cdots + a_nb_n.$$

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Another way of multiplying a matrix by a vector is:

$$Ax = \begin{pmatrix} -r_1 - \\ \vdots \\ -r_m - \end{pmatrix} x = \begin{pmatrix} r_1 x \\ \vdots \\ r_m x \end{pmatrix}.$$

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On the other hand, you multiply two matrices by

$$AB = A \begin{pmatrix} | & & | \\ c_1 & \cdots & c_p \\ | & & | \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} | & & | \\ Ac_1 & \cdots & Ac_p \\ | & & | \end{pmatrix}.$$

A row vector of length n times a column vector of length n is a scalar:

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It follows that

$$AB = \begin{pmatrix} -r_1 - \\ \vdots \\ -r_m - \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} | & & | \\ c_1 & \cdots & c_p \\ | & & | \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} r_1c_1 & r_1c_2 & \cdots & r_1c_p \\ r_2c_1 & r_2c_2 & \cdots & r_2c_p \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ r_mc_1 & r_mc_2 & \cdots & r_mc_p \end{pmatrix}$$

The ij entry of C = AB is the ith row of A times the jth column of B:

$$c_{ij} = (AB)_{ij} = a_{i1}b_{1j} + a_{i2}b_{2j} + \dots + a_{in}b_{nj}.$$

This is how everybody on the planet actually computes AB. Diagram (AB = C):

$$\begin{pmatrix}
a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1k} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\
a_{i1} & \cdots & a_{ik} & \cdots & a_{in}
\end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix}
b_{11} & \cdots & b_{1j} & \cdots & b_{1p} \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\
b_{k1} & \cdots & b_{kj} & \cdots & b_{kp} \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\
b_{n1} & \cdots & b_{nj} & \cdots & b_{np}
\end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix}
c_{11} & \cdots & c_{1j} & \cdots & c_{1p} \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\
c_{i1} & \cdots & c_{ij} & \cdots & c_{ip} \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\
c_{m1} & \cdots & c_{mj} & \cdots & c_{mp}
\end{pmatrix}$$

$$jth column$$

$$ij \text{ entry}$$

The ij entry of C = AB is the ith row of A times the jth column of B:

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$$\begin{pmatrix}
a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1k} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\
a_{i1} & \cdots & a_{ik} & \cdots & a_{in}
\end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix}
b_{11} & \cdots & b_{1j} \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\
b_{k1} & \cdots & b_{kj} \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\
b_{n1} & \cdots & b_{nj}
\end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix}
c_{11} & \cdots & c_{1j} & \cdots & c_{1p} \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\
c_{i1} & \cdots & c_{ij} & \cdots & c_{ip} \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\
c_{m1} & \cdots & c_{mj} & \cdots & c_{mp}
\end{pmatrix}$$

$$jth column$$

$$jth column$$

$$ij entry$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -3 \\ 2 & -2 \\ 3 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot 2 + 3 \cdot 3 & \square \\ \square & \square \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 14 & \square \\ \square & \square \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -3 \\ 2 & -2 \\ 3 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \Box & \Box \\ 4 \cdot 1 + 5 \cdot 2 + 6 \cdot 3 & \Box \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \Box & \Box \\ 32 & \Box \end{pmatrix}$$

Matrix-Matrix and Matrix-Vector

Matrix vector multiplication is a Matrix Matrix multiplication

$$A[\vec{v}_1, \cdots, \vec{v}_k] = [A\vec{v}_1, \cdots, A\vec{v}_k]$$

$$egin{bmatrix} ec{r}_1^{ op} \ ec{r}_2^{ op} \ dots \ ec{r}_k^{ op} \end{bmatrix} A = egin{bmatrix} ec{r}_1^{ op} A \ ec{r}_2^{ op} A \ dots \ ec{r}_k^{ op} A \end{bmatrix}$$

Let
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 5 & 3 \\ 3 & -1 & 0 & -3 \\ 2 & -2 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
 and $B = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 4 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

Compute AB and BA (if possible).

Mostly matrix multiplication works like you'd expect. Suppose A has size $m \times n$, and that the other matrices below have the right size to make multiplication work.

$$A(BC) = (AB)C$$

$$(B+C)A = BA + CA$$

$$c(AB) = A(cB)$$

$$A(B+C) = (AB + AC)$$

$$c(AB) = (cA)B$$

$$I_nA = A$$

$$AI_m = A$$

Most of these are easy to verify.

Warnings!

ightharpoonup AB is usually not equal to BA.

In fact, AB may be defined when BA is not.

▶ AB = AC does not imply B = C, even if $A \neq 0$.

▶ AB = 0 does not imply A = 0 or B = 0.