Matrix Theory (EE5609) Assignment 24

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Abstract—This document solves problem on ideals.

All the codes for the figure in this document can be found at

1 PROBLEM

Let
$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 & \alpha \end{pmatrix}$$
 and $\mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ \beta \end{pmatrix}$. Then the

system $AX = \mathbf{b}$ over the real numbers has

- 1) No solution when $\beta \neq 7$
- 2) Infinite number of solutions when $\alpha \neq 2$
- 3) Infinite number of solutions when $\alpha = 2$ and $\beta \neq 7$
- 4) A unique solution if $\alpha \neq 2$

2 Solution

First we derive the Row Reduced Echelon Form (RREF) of the augmented matrix of the system AX = b as follows,

$$\begin{pmatrix}
1 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\
1 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\
2 & 3 & \alpha & \beta
\end{pmatrix}
\xrightarrow{R_2 = R_2 - R_1}
\begin{pmatrix}
1 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\
0 & 2 & 0 & 2 \\
0 & 5 & \alpha - 2 & \beta - 2
\end{pmatrix}$$

$$(2.0.1)$$

$$\xrightarrow{R_2 = \frac{1}{2}R_2}
\begin{pmatrix}
1 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\
0 & 5 & \alpha - 2 & \beta - 2
\end{pmatrix}$$

$$(2.0.2)$$

$$\xrightarrow{R_1 = R_1 + R_2}
\begin{pmatrix}
1 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\
0 & 5 & \alpha - 2 & \beta - 2
\end{pmatrix}$$

$$(2.0.3)$$

$$\xrightarrow{R_3 = R_3 - 5R_2}
\begin{pmatrix}
1 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\
0 & 0 & \alpha - 2 & \beta - 7
\end{pmatrix}$$

From the RREF of the augmented matrix of the system $\mathbf{AX} = \mathbf{b}$ in (2.0.4) we make the following observations for different values of α and β ,

1

Values	Observations
	Then the existence of solution and
$\beta \neq 7$	the number of solutions will entirely
	depend on value of α
	Then RREF in (2.0.4) will contain
$\alpha = 7$	Zero Row in R_3 . Moreover solvability
$\beta \neq 7$	condition will not satisfy.
	⇒ system will have Zero solutions
	RREF in (2.0.4) will have all pivots
$\alpha \neq 2$	\implies RREF in (2.0.4) will be fullrank
	\implies AX = b have unique solution.

Hence, if $\alpha \neq 2$ then the system $\mathbf{AX} = \mathbf{b}$ has unique solution.