Matrices

A matrix is in **echelon form** if:

1. All nonzero rows are above any rows of all zeros
2. Each leading entry of a row is in a column to the right of the leading entry of the row above it
3. All entries in a column below a leading entry are zeros

A matrix is in **reduced echelon form** if:

1. It is in echelon form
2. The leading entry in each nonzero row is 1

A linear system is consistent if and only if the rightmost column of the augmented matrix is not a pivot column. That is, if and only if an echelon form of the augmented matrix has no row of the form $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & \cdots & 0 & b \end{bmatrix}$ with b being nonzero.