

# Assignment 8

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**Abstract**—This is a simple document explaining how to determine the nullspace solution from the Row Reduced Echelon Form of a coefficient matrix.

Download all and latex-tikz codes from

svn co <https://github.com/gadepall/school/trunk/ncert/geometry/figs>

## 1 PROBLEM

Find all solutions to the following system of equations by row-reducing the co-efficient matrix:

$$\frac{1}{3}x_1 + 2x_2 - 6x_3 = 0 \quad (1.0.1)$$

$$-4x_1 + 5x_3 = 0 \quad (1.0.2)$$

$$-3x_1 + 6x_2 - 13x_3 = 0 \quad (1.0.3)$$

$$-\frac{7}{3}x_1 + 2x_2 - \frac{8}{3}x_3 = 0 \quad (1.0.4)$$

## 2 EXPLANATION

The coefficient matrix is:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{3} & 2 & -6 \\ -4 & 0 & 5 \\ -3 & 6 & -13 \\ -\frac{7}{3} & 2 & -\frac{8}{3} \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.1)$$

The number of rows of this coefficient matrix is  $m = 4$  and the number of columns is  $n = 3$ , So in this

case,  $n < m$ . Now the row operations are:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{3} & 2 & -6 \\ -4 & 0 & 5 \\ -3 & 6 & -13 \\ -\frac{7}{3} & 2 & -\frac{8}{3} \end{pmatrix} \xleftrightarrow[R_1 \leftarrow R_1 \times 3]{R_4 \leftarrow R_4 \times 3} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 6 & -18 \\ -4 & 0 & 5 \\ -3 & 6 & -13 \\ -7 & 6 & -8 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.2)$$

$$\xleftrightarrow{R_3 \leftarrow R_2 + R_3} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 6 & -18 \\ -4 & 0 & 5 \\ -7 & 6 & -8 \\ -7 & 6 & -8 \end{pmatrix} \xleftrightarrow{R_4 \leftarrow R_4 - R_3} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 6 & -18 \\ -4 & 0 & 5 \\ -7 & 6 & -8 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.3)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 6 & -18 \\ -4 & 0 & 5 \\ -7 & 6 & -8 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xleftrightarrow[R_3 \leftarrow R_3 + 7R_1]{R_2 \leftarrow R_2 + 4R_1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 6 & -18 \\ 0 & 24 & -67 \\ 0 & 48 & -138 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.4)$$

$$\xleftrightarrow{R_3 \leftarrow R_3 / 2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 6 & -18 \\ 0 & 24 & -67 \\ 0 & 24 & -69 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xleftrightarrow{R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - R_2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 6 & -18 \\ 0 & 24 & -67 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.5)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 6 & -18 \\ 0 & 24 & -67 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xleftrightarrow{R_3 \leftarrow \frac{R_3}{(-2)}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 6 & -18 \\ 0 & 24 & -67 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.6)$$

$$\xleftrightarrow{R_2 \leftarrow \frac{R_2}{24}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 6 & -18 \\ 0 & 6 & -\frac{67}{4} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xleftrightarrow{R_1 \leftarrow R_1 - R_2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 6 & -18 \\ 0 & 6 & -\frac{67}{4} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.7)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -\frac{5}{4} \\ 0 & 6 & -\frac{67}{4} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xleftrightarrow{R_2 \leftarrow \frac{R_2}{6}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -\frac{5}{4} \\ 0 & 1 & -\frac{67}{24} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.8)$$

$$\xleftrightarrow[R_1 \leftarrow R_1 + \frac{5R_3}{4}]{R_2 \leftarrow R_2 + \frac{67R_3}{24}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.9)$$

Now the coefficient matrix  $A$  can be written as row reduced matrix  $R$  and  $R$  can be expressed as:

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} I \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.10)$$

Now the rank of the matrix  $A$  is  $\rho = 3 = n$ , so the coefficient matrix has the full column rank.  $\rho =$

$3 = n$ , this implies that the solution may or may not exist. But as  $\rho = n < m$ , so if solution exists then it will be either 1 or 0.

Now,

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.11)$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 = 0 \quad (2.0.12)$$

$$x_2 = 0 \quad (2.0.13)$$

$$x_3 = 0 \quad (2.0.14)$$

$$(2.0.15)$$

As  $x_1, x_2$  and  $x_3$  all are pivot variables, but  $x_1 = x_2 = x_3 = 0$