

* Using Elementary Row Operations to Solve a system of Linear Equations -Q: solve the following system using elementary row operations

$$x + y + 2z = 9$$

$$2x + 4y - 3z = 1$$

$$3x + 6y - 5z = 0$$

Sol: The augmented matrix is \Rightarrow

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 2 & 9 \\ 2 & 4 & -3 & 1 \\ 3 & 6 & -5 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

NB: our target is to convert the augmented matrix into $\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & * \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & * \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & * \end{array} \right)$ by row operations

We perform the following row operations -

$$\sim \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 2 & 9 \\ 0 & 2 & -7 & -17 \\ 3 & 6 & -5 & 0 \end{array} \right) \quad R_2' = R_2 - 2R_1$$

$$\sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & | & 9 \\ 0 & 2 & -7 & | & -17 \\ 0 & 3 & -11 & | & -27 \end{pmatrix}; \quad r'_3 = r_3 - 3r_1$$

$$\sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & | & 9 \\ 0 & 1 & -7/2 & | & -17/2 \\ 0 & 3 & -11 & | & -27 \end{pmatrix}; \quad r'_2 = \frac{1}{2}r_2$$

$$\sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & | & 9 \\ 0 & 1 & -7/2 & | & -17/2 \\ 0 & 0 & -1/2 & | & -3/2 \end{pmatrix}; \quad r'_3 = r_3 - 3r_2$$

$$\sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & | & 9 \\ 0 & 1 & -7/2 & | & -17/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & | & 3 \end{pmatrix}; \quad \begin{aligned} r'_3 &= \cancel{(-2)}r_3 \\ r'_2 &= (-2)r_3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & | & 9 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & | & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & | & 3 \end{pmatrix}; \quad r'_2 = r_2 + 7/2 r_3$$

$$\sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & | & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & | & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & | & 3 \end{pmatrix}; \quad r'_1 = r_1 - 2r_3$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right); \quad r_4' = r_4 - r_2$$

hence, we get,

$$x = 1$$

$$y = 2$$

$$z = 3$$

(Ans)

Section 1.2 (Gaussian Elimination)

A matrix is ~~called~~ said to be in reduced row

echelon form if the following properties hold \Rightarrow

The first non-zero element of each row is 1 (called leading 1)

1. ~~Each row~~ starts with 1
2. If a row consists of only zero's then it is placed at the last row.
3. In any two successive rows, the leading 1 is the lower row occurs to the right than the upper row.
4. Each column containing a leading 1 has zeros everywhere else in that column.

A matrix which satisfies only the first 3 properties is said to be in row echelon form.

Example of reduced row echelon form -

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Ex: of row echelon form but not reduced row echelon form -

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

→ here, the 2nd column contains a leading 1 but it has not 0 everywhere else in that column. So, doesn't satisfy the 4th property.

Different cases of solⁿ → case 1: Unique solⁿ
case 2: No solⁿ (inconsistent)
case 3: many solⁿ &

Unique solⁿ:

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 5 \end{array} \right)$$

Unique solⁿ exists if all the columns have a leading 1

$$x = 3$$

$$y = 6$$

$$z = 5$$

So, the system has unique solⁿ.

No solⁿ.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

→ Constant vertical line $\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$

Here, from the last row, we see that -

$$0 \cdot x + 0 \cdot y + 0 \cdot z = 1$$

which is not possible for any values of x, y, z . So, the system has no solⁿ or, we say that the system is inconsistent.

many solⁿ.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -4 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

[NB: many solⁿ occurs when 1 or more rows consists entirely of zeros.]

The corresponding system \Rightarrow

$$x + 3z = -1$$

$$y - 4z = 2$$

So, there are 2 eqⁿs in 3 unknowns. So, we have $(3-2) = 1$ free variable. ~~Let z be~~ We see that z can be treated as free variable.

[NB: ~~not~~ leading 1 in $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ (for free variable z)

So let $z = t ; t \in \mathbb{R}$

$$y = 2 + 4z$$

$$= 2 + 4t$$

$$x = -1 + 3z$$

$$= -1 + 3t$$

Assigning specific values to t , we can get various solⁿs. For eg,

$$t = 0 \Rightarrow x = -1, y = 2, z = 0$$

$$t = 1 \Rightarrow x = -1, y = 6, z = 1$$

Another eg. of many solⁿ.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -5 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

→ There is no leading 1 in 2nd & 3rd column so y & z are free variables.

The corresponding system is

$$x - 5y + z = 4$$

$$\text{So } (3-1) = 2$$

There is 1 eqⁿ in 3 unknowns, free variable. let y & z be free variables. let $y = s, z = t$ then,

$$x = 4 + 5s - t$$