```
[ 0.06402464, -0.0154395 , 1.51759022]])
```

## 11.3. Solving linear equations

**Back substitution.** Let's first implement back substitution (VMLS Algorithm 11.1) in Python, and check it.

```
In []: def back_subst(R,b_tilde):
    n = R.shape[0]
    x = np.zeros(n)
    for i in reversed(range(n)):
        x[i] = b_tilde[i]
        for j in range(i+1,n):
            x[i] = x[i] - R[i,j]*x[j]
        x[i] = x[i]/R[i,i]
        return x
    R = np.triu(np.random.random((4,4)))
    b = np.random.random(4)
    x = back_subst(R,b)
    np.linalg.norm(R @ x - b)
Out[]: 1.1102230246251565e-16
```

The function np.triu() gives the upper triangular part of a matrix, *i.e.*, it zeros out the entries below the diagonal.

**Solving system of linear equations.** Using the gram\_schmidt, QR\_factorization and back\_subst functions that we have defined in the previous section, we can define our own function to solve a system of linear equations. This function implements the algorithm 12.1 in VMLS.

```
In [ ]: def solve_via_backsub(A,b):
    Q,R = QR_factorization(A)
    b_tilde = Q.T @ b
    x = back_subst(R,b_tilde)
    return x
```

This requires you to include the other functions in your code as well.

## 11. Matrix inverses

Alternatively, we can use the numpy function np.linalg.solve(A,b) to solve a set of linear equations

$$Ax = b$$
.

This is faster than x = np.linalg.inv(A)@b, which first computes the inverse of A and then multiplies it with b. However, this function computes the exact solution of a well-determined system.

```
In []: import time
        n = 5000
         A = np.random.normal(size = (n,n))
         b = np.random.normal(size = n)
         start = time.time()
         x1 = np.linalg.solve(A,b)
         end = time.time()
         print(np.linalg.norm(b - A @ x1))
         print(end - start)
         4.033331000615254e-09
         1.2627429962158203
In [ ]: start = time.time()
        x2 = np.linalg.inv(A) @ b
         end = time.time()
         print(np.linalg.norm(b - A @ x2))
         print(end - start)
         8.855382050136278e-10
         4.3922741413116455
```

## 11.4. Pseudo-inverse

In Python the pseudo-inverse of a matrix A is obtained with np.linalg.pinv(). We compute the pseudo-inverse for the example of page 216 of VMLS using the np.linalg.pinv() function and via the formula  $A^{\dagger} = R^{-1}Q^{T}$ , where A = QR is the QR factorization of A.