11. Matrix inverses

11.1. Left and right inverses

We'll see later how to find a left or right inverse, when one exists.

11.2. Inverse

If A is invertible, its inverse is given by np.linalg.inv(A). You'll get an error if A is not invertible, or not square.

11. Matrix inverses

Dual basis. The next example illustrates the dual basis provided by the rows of the inverse of $B = A^{-1}$. We calculate the expansion

$$x = (b_1^T x)a_1 + \dots + (b_n^T x)a_n$$

for a 3×3 example (see page 205 of VMLS).

Inverse via QR factorization. The inverse of a matrix A can be computed from its QR factorization A = QR via the formula $A^{-1} = R^{-1}Q^{T}$.

```
[ 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.