



Linear Alegbra MathNoteBook

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Tuesday

Introduction
Gaussian Elimination
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Thursday

Row-Echelon Form
Matrix Multiplication
Special Matrices

2 — Week 1

2.1 Thursday

2.1.1 Row-Echelon Form

Gaussian Elimination don't always derive unique solution

Let's discuss an example to introduce the concept for row-echelon form.

■ Example 2.1

We use Gaussian Elimination to try to transform an Augmented matrix:

Here in step one we choose the first row as pivot row (the first nonzero entry is the pivot):

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 \\ -2 & -2 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 3 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 4 & 1 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow[\text{Add } 1 \times \text{row 1 to row 2; Add } 2 \times \text{row 1 to row 3}]{\text{Add } (-1) \times \text{row 1 to row 5}}$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 5 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 3 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

And we choose second row as pivot row to continue elimination:

$$\xrightarrow[\text{Add } (-2) \times \text{row 2 to row 3; Add } (-1) \times \text{row 2 to row 4}]{\text{Add } (-1) \times \text{row 2 to row 5}} \left[\begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

And we choose the third row as pivot row to continue elimination:

$$\begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\text{Add } (-1) \times \text{row 3 to row 1; Add } (-1) \times \text{row 3 to row 4}} \\ \xrightarrow{\text{Add } (-1) \times \text{row 3 to row 5}} \end{array} \left[\begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -3 \end{array} \right] \quad (2.1)$$

And matrix (2.1) is of **Row Echlon form**. And we set second row as pivot row then set third row as pivot row to do elimination:

$$\begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\text{Add } (-1) \times \text{row 2 to row 1}} \\ \xrightarrow{\text{Add } 2 \times \text{row 3 to row 1; Add } (-2) \times \text{row 3 to row 2}} \end{array} \left[\begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & -6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -3 \end{array} \right] \quad (2.2)$$

The matrix (2.2) is of **Reduced Row Echelon form**. And it is *singular matrix*. (Don't worry, we will introduce the definition for singular matrix in the future.)

You may find there exist many solutions to this system of equation, which means Gaussian Elimination **don't** always derive **unique** solution. ■

So let's give the definition for Row-Echelon Form.

Definition 2.1 — Row Echelon Form.

A matrix is said to be in **row echelon form** if

- (i) The **first nonzero entry** in each **nonzero row** is 1.
- (ii) If row k does not consist entirely of zeros, the number of leading zero entries in row $k + 1$ is greater than the number of leading zero entries in row k .
- (iii) If there are rows whose entries are all zero, they are below the rows having nonzero entries.

R You should notice that the matrix $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ is also of *Row Echelon Form*! Moreover, it is of *Reduced Row Echelon Form*.

Definition 2.2 — Reduced Row Echelon Form.

A matrix is said to be in **Reduced row echelon form** if

- (i) The matrix is in *row echelon form*.
- (ii) The **first nonzero entry** in each row is the **only** nonzero entry in its column.

2.1.2 Matrix Multiplication

Matrix Multiplied by Vector

Here we give the definition for inner product of vector:

Definition 2.3 — inner product. Given two vectors $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ and $y = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)$, the inner product between x and y is given by

$$\langle x, y \rangle = x_1 y_1 + x_2 y_2 + \dots + x_n y_n$$

And the notation can also be written as $x^T y$ or $x \cdot y$. ■

R Pro. Tom Luo [highly recommends](#) you to write *inner product* as $\langle x, y \rangle$. For myself, I also try to avoid using notation $x \cdot y$ to avoid misunderstanding.

Let's see an example of matrix multiply a vector:

■ **Example 2.2**

For the system of equation
$$\begin{cases} 2x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 5 \\ 4x_1 - 6x_2 = -2 \\ -2x_2 + 7x_2 + 2x_3 = 9 \end{cases}$$
, we define

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 4 & -6 & 0 \\ -2 & 7 & 2 \end{pmatrix} = (a_1 \ a_2 \ a_3), \mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -2 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Here \mathbf{x} and a_1, a_2, a_3 are all column vector (3×1 matrix). More specifically,

$$a_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}, a_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -6 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}, a_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then we multiple matrix \mathbf{A} with vector \mathbf{x} :

$$\mathbf{Ax} = \begin{pmatrix} 2x_1 + x_2 + x_3 \\ 4x_1 - 6x_2 \\ -2x_1 + 7x_2 + 2x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \langle a_1, \mathbf{x} \rangle \\ \langle a_2, \mathbf{x} \rangle \\ \langle a_3, \mathbf{x} \rangle \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Hence we finally write the system equation as:

$$\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b} \quad (\text{Compact matrix form})$$

And also, if we regard \mathbf{x} as a scalar, we can also write:

$$\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{Ax} = (a_1 \ a_2 \ a_3) \mathbf{x} = a_1 \mathbf{x} + a_2 \mathbf{x} + a_3 \mathbf{x}$$
■

Matrix Multiply Matrix

R Note that an $m \times n$ matrix \mathbf{A} can be written as (a_{ij}) , where a_{ij} is the entry of i th row, j th column of \mathbf{A} .

Notice that matrix \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} can do multiplication operatr if and only if the # for column of \mathbf{A} equal to the # for row of \mathbf{B} . And moreover, for $m \times n$ matrix \mathbf{A} and $n \times k$ matrix \mathbf{B} , we can do multiplication as follows:

$$\mathbf{AB} = \mathbf{A} (b_1 \ b_2 \ \dots \ b_k) = (\mathbf{Ab}_1 \ \mathbf{Ab}_2 \ \dots \ \mathbf{Ab}_k)$$

And the result is the $m \times k$ matrix. Then we only need to calculate matrix multiplied by vector.

■ **Example 2.3** We want to calculate the result for $m \times n$ matrix \mathbf{A} multiply $n \times k$ matrix \mathbf{B} , which is written as

$$\mathbf{AB} = \mathbf{C} = (\mathbf{Ab}_1 \quad \mathbf{Ab}_2 \quad \dots \quad \mathbf{Ab}_k)$$

Hence for the the entry of i th row, j th column of \mathbf{C} is given by

$$c_{ij} = \sum_{l=1}^n a_{il}b_{lj} = \langle \mathbf{a}_i^T \mathbf{b}_j \rangle$$

You should understand this result, this means the i th row, j th column entry of \mathbf{C} is given by the i th row of \mathbf{A} multiply the j th row of \mathbf{B} . ■

Time Complexity Analysis

- To Calculate the single entry of \mathbf{C} you need to do n times multiplication.
- There exists n^2 entries in \mathbf{C}
- Hence it takes $n \times n^2 \sim O(n^3)$ operations to compute \mathbf{C} . (Moreover, using Strassen Algorithm, the time complexity is reduced to $O(n^{\log_2 7})$)

2.1.3 Special Matrices

Here we introduce several special matrices:

Definition 2.4 — Identity Matrix. The $n \times n$ identity matrix is the matrix $\mathbf{I} = (m_{ij})$, where

$$m_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } i = j; \\ 0, & \text{if } i \neq j. \end{cases}$$

Proposition 2.1 — Identity. It has the properties:

$$\mathbf{IB} = \mathbf{B}$$

$$\mathbf{AI} = \mathbf{A}$$

where \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} are all matrix.

Definition 2.5 — Elementary Matrix of type III. An elementary matrix \mathbf{E}_{ij} of type III is a matrix that its diagonal entries are all 1 and the i th row j th column is a scalar, and the remaining entries are all zero. ■

For example, the matrix $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 4 & -6 & 0 \\ -2 & 7 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ is elementary matrix of type III

Proposition 2.2 If \mathbf{A} is a matrix, postmultiplying \mathbf{E}_{ij} has the same effect of performing row operation on a matrix. For example, \mathbf{E}_{21} is elementary matrix of type III and \mathbf{A} is a matrix given by:

Then the effect of $\mathbf{E}\mathbf{A}$ has the same effect of adding $(-2) \times$ row 1 to row 2:

$$\mathbf{E}_{21}\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -8 & -2 \\ -2 & 7 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

And if define $\mathbf{E} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$, then postmultiplying \mathbf{E}_{31} is just like do Gaussian Elimination:

