

# Matrices and Matrix Operations

Brian D. Fitzpatrick

[1, §1.2]

DEF. A matrix of size  $m \times n$  is an object of the form

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \cdots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix} \qquad \underbrace{m}_{\text{\#rows}} \times \underbrace{n}_{\text{\#columns}}$$

where  $a_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Ex.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 4 & 1 \\ 16 & -\frac{3}{4} \end{bmatrix} \qquad 3 \times 2 \qquad a_{21} = 4$$
$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 8 & 1 & 2 \\ 7 & -\frac{1}{2} & 3 & 2 & 10 \\ 32 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \qquad 3 \times 5 \qquad b_{32} = 1$$

NOTATION. The entries of  $A = [a_{ij}]$  are often denoted by

$$a_{ij} = [A]_{ij} = \text{ent}_{ij}(A)$$

DEF. The collection of all  $m \times n$  matrices is denoted by  $M_{m \times n}(\mathbb{R})$ .

DEF. Matrices in  $M_{1 \times n}(\mathbb{R})$  are called row vectors. Matrices in  $M_{m \times 1}(\mathbb{R})$  are called column vectors.

Ex. We have the identifications

$$M_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{R}) = \left\{ \left[ \begin{array}{cc} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{array} \right] \middle| a_{ij} \in \mathbb{R} \right\} \quad \mathbb{R}^n = M_{n \times 1} = \left\{ \left[ \begin{array}{c} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ \vdots \\ a_n \end{array} \right] \middle| a_i \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

## MATRIX ADDITION

DEF. The sum of two  $m \times n$  matrices  $A$  and  $B$  is the  $m \times n$  matrix  $A+B$  whose entries are  $[A+B]_{ij} = a_{ij} + b_{ij}$ .

Ex. 
$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & 8 \\ 2 & 4 & -1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -3 & -4 \\ 1 & 2 & -7 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -2 & 4 \\ 3 & 6 & -8 \end{bmatrix}$$

NOTE.  $A+B$  is only defined when  $A$  and  $B$  have the same size

## SCALAR MULTIPLICATION

DEF. The scalar product of  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $A \in M_{m \times n}(\mathbb{R})$  is the  $m \times n$  matrix  $\lambda A$  whose entries are  $[\lambda A]_{ij} = \lambda a_{ij}$ .

Ex. 
$$6 \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & 8 \\ 2 & 4 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 18 & 6 & 48 \\ 12 & 24 & -6 \end{bmatrix}$$

THM (Theorem 1.2 in [1]). Let  $A, B, C \in M_{m \times n}(\mathbb{R})$  and let  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ .  
Then

1.  $A + B = B + A$
2.  $A + (B + C) = (A + B) + C$
3.  $\alpha(\beta A) = (\alpha\beta)A$
4.  $\alpha(A + B) = \alpha A + \alpha B$
5.  $(\alpha + \beta)A = \alpha A + \beta A$

DEF. The  $m \times n$  zero matrix is the  $m \times n$  matrix  $0_{m \times n}$  whose entries are  $[0_{m \times n}]_{ij} = 0$ .

EX.  $0_{3 \times 4} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

THM. Let  $A \in M_{m \times n}(\mathbb{R})$ . Then

1.  $A + 0_{m \times n} = A$
2.  $0 \cdot A = 0_{m \times n}$
3.  $A - A = 0_{m \times n}$

## MATRIX MULTIPLICATION

DEF. Let  $A \in M_{l \times m}(\mathbb{R})$  and  $B \in M_{m \times n}(\mathbb{R})$ . The product of  $A$  and  $B$  is the  $l \times n$  matrix  $AB$  whose entries are

$$[AB]_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^m a_{ik}b_{kj}$$

NOTE. The product  $AB$  is only defined when

$$\# \text{ columns of } A = \# \text{ rows of } B$$

IDEA. The  $(i, j)$  entry of  $AB$  is given by the dot-product

$$\begin{aligned} [AB]_{ij} &= (i^{\text{th}} \text{ row of } A) \cdot (j^{\text{th}} \text{ column of } B) \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} a_{i1} & a_{i2} & \cdots & a_{in} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b_{1j} \\ b_{2j} \\ \vdots \\ b_{mj} \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

EX. Find  $AB$  and  $BA$  where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 1 & -8 \end{bmatrix} \qquad B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

SOL. Note that  $A$  is  $2 \times 2$  and  $B$  is  $3 \times 2$ . Since  $2 \neq 3$ ,  $AB$  is not defined.

However,  $BA$  is defined and

$$BA = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 1 & -8 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 6 & 8 \\ 10 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

THM (Theorem 1.3 in [1]). Let  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  be matrices and let  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then

$$1. A(BC) = (AB)C$$

$$2. A(B + C) = AB + AC$$

$$3. (A + B)C = AC + BC$$

$$4. \lambda(AB) = (\lambda A)B = A(\lambda B)$$

DEF. The  $n \times n$  identity matrix is the  $n \times n$  matrix  $I_n$  whose entries are

$$[I_n]_{ij} = \delta_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & i = j \\ 0 & i \neq j \end{cases}$$

EX.

$$I_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$I_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$I_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

THM. Let  $A \in M_{m \times n}(\mathbb{R})$ . Then

$$1. \ 0_{l \times m} A = 0_{l \times n} \text{ and } A 0_{n \times l} = 0_{m \times l}$$

$$2. \ I_m A = A I_n = A$$

Proof. To prove that  $I_m A = A$ , note that

$$[I_m A]_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^m [I_m]_{ik} a_{kj} = \sum_{k=1}^m \delta_{ik} a_{kj} = a_{ij}$$

Proving that  $A I_n = A$  is similar. □

The previous two theorems show that matrix arithmetic is similar to "usual" arithmetic. However, there are some key differences.

Ex. Find  $AB$  and  $BA$  where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \qquad B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

SOL. Compute

$$AB = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \qquad BA = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

So  $AB \neq BA$ . Furthermore,  $AB = 0_{2 \times 2}$  even though  $A \neq 0_{2 \times 2}$  and  $B \neq 0_{2 \times 2}$ .

## MOTIVATION

The system

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} a_{11}x_1 & + & a_{12}x_2 & + & \cdots & + & a_{1n}x_n & = & b_1 \\ a_{21}x_1 & + & a_{22}x_2 & + & \cdots & + & a_{2n}x_n & = & b_2 \\ \vdots & & \vdots & & \ddots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{m1}x_1 & + & a_{m2}x_2 & + & \cdots & + & a_{mn}x_n & = & b_m \end{array}$$

may be written as  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \cdots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_m \end{bmatrix}$$

Ex. The system

$$\begin{array}{cccc} 2x & - & y & + & 4z & = & 1 \\ x & - & 7y & + & z & = & 3 \\ -x & + & 2y & + & z & = & 2 \end{array}$$

may be written as

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 4 \\ 1 & -7 & 1 \\ -1 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

## REFERENCES

- [1] G.L. Peterson and J.S. Sochacki. Linear Algebra and Differential Equations. Addison-Wesley, 2002.