

System of linear equations :

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n = b_1 \\ a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n = b_2 \\ \dots \dots \dots \\ a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + \dots + a_{mn}x_n = b_m \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \\ \\ \\ \end{array} m \text{ equations}$$

n variables.

• A is an $m \times n$ matrix :

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{pmatrix} \begin{array}{l} \rightarrow \text{row 1} \\ \rightarrow \text{row 2} \\ \vdots \\ \rightarrow \text{row m} \end{array} \left. \begin{array}{l} \\ \\ \\ \end{array} \right\} m \text{ rows}$$

$\downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \dots \quad \downarrow$
column 1 column 2 ... column n

n columns.

• $x = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}_{n \times 1}$ - the column vector (variable)

• $b = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_m \end{pmatrix}_{m \times 1}$ - the RHS column vector.

The above linear system can be written by:

$$Ax = b$$

← coefficient matrix ← variable vector ← RHS vector.

↪ The augmented matrix of the linear system is $(A | b)$

ex: Solve

$$x_1 + 2x_2 + x_3 = 3 \quad (1)$$

$$3x_1 - x_2 - 3x_3 = -1 \quad (2)$$

$$2x_1 + 3x_2 + x_3 = 4 \quad (3)$$

→ Write the augmented matrix $(A | b)$

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & -1 & -3 & -1 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 & 4 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow[\substack{R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - 3R_1 \\ R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - 2R_1}]{\text{(row 1)}} \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & -7 & -6 & -10 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 & -2 \end{array} \right)$$

$$R_2 \leftrightarrow R_3 \xrightarrow{A} \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & -7 & -6 & -10 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - 7R_2} \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 \end{array} \right)$$

Back substitution:

• R_3 means : $0x_1 + 0x_2 + 1 \cdot x_3 = 4$
 $x_3 = 4.$

• R_2 means : $0 - x_2 - x_3 = -2$
 $-x_2 - 4 = -2 \rightarrow x_2 = -2.$

• R_1 means : $x_1 + 2x_2 + x_3 = 3$
 $x_1 - 4 + 4 = 3$
 $x_1 = 3$

So $x = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$ is the solution.

* We have 3 kinds of row operations:

- ① Interchange 2 rows
- ② Multiply one row by a nonzero number
(Divide)
- ③ Add a multiple of one row to another row.
(Subtract)

1.2 Row Echelon Form.

Def : An $m \times n$ matrix A is called a row-echelon matrix if

- ① The first nonzero entry in each nonzero row is 1.
- ② If row k does not consist entirely of zeros, the first nonzero element (from left to right) lies strictly to the right of the first nonzero element in the preceding row.
- ③ If there are rows of all zeros, they are below the rows having nonzero elements.

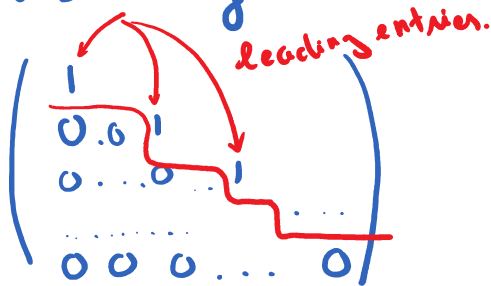


Diagram illustrating the structure of a matrix in row echelon form. The matrix is shown with leading ones (1) in each row, and the first nonzero element in each row is 1. Red arrows point to the leading ones, labeled "leading entries".

ex :

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix};$$

row-echelon.

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix};$$

not row-echelon

$R_2 \leftrightarrow R_3$

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

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix};$$

not row-echelon.

$R_2 \cdot \frac{1}{2}$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & \frac{5}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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

(row-echelon)

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 & \frac{5}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

(row-echelon)

* Given $m \times n$ matrix A and let E be its row-echelon reduction.

The first non-zero entry in E is called the leading entry.

If we consider $Ax = b$ or $(A|b)$, the variable corresponding to the leading entries are called the leading variables. Other variables are called the free variables.

ex:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \overset{x_1}{1} & 2 & 1 & 1 & | & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \overset{x_3}{1} & 2 & | & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \overset{x_4}{1} & | & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Variables: x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4

Leading variables: x_1, x_3, x_4 .

Free variable: x_2 .

Back substitution:

From R_3 : $x_4 = 1$

From R_2 : $x_3 + 2x_4 = -3$

$$x_3 + 2 = -3 \rightarrow x_3 = -5$$

From R_1 : $x_1 + 2x_2 + x_3 + x_4 = 1$

$$x_1 + 2x_2 - 5 + 1 = 1$$

$$x_1 + 2x_2 = 5$$

Set $x_2 = s$ (parameter)

$A^{1 \times 2} L^{2 \times 2}$ Set $x_2 = s$ (parameter)

$$x_1 = 5 - 2s$$

$$\rightarrow x = \begin{pmatrix} 5 - 2s \\ s \\ -5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad s = \text{parameter}.$$

* Remark: Free variables are just parameters (t, s, u, v, ...)
in the linear system

ex: Turn the matrix

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

to the row-echelon form by using only row operations!.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 & 4 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[\substack{R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - R_1 \\ R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - 2R_1}]{\substack{R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - R_1 \\ R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - 2R_1}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - R_2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\xrightarrow{R_3 \rightarrow R_3/2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

row-echelon.