2B Concept formation according to APOS theory

Try to identify the individual A-P-O-S phases in the following sequence of steps to *form the concept of the inverse matrix* to an invertible matrix A:

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 \begin{bmatrix} 1x+2y=3\\4x+5y=6 \end{bmatrix} & \text{Row image} \\ 1 & \text{compression via concept of vector (addition)} \\ \begin{bmatrix} 1\\4 \end{bmatrix}x + \begin{bmatrix} 2\\5 \end{bmatrix}y = \begin{bmatrix} 3\\6 \end{bmatrix} & \text{Vector image} \\ 2 & \text{compression via concept of matrix (multiplication)} \\ \begin{bmatrix} 1\\4 & 2\\5 \end{bmatrix}. \begin{bmatrix} x\\y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3\\6 \end{bmatrix} & \text{Matrix image} \\ 3 & \text{compression via symbolisation} \\ A.X = B \\ \downarrow & \dots \text{problemsolving via concept of a nalogy } [1, p.10] \text{ using } CAS \\ X = A^{-1}.B = \begin{bmatrix} -1\\2 \end{bmatrix} \\ \downarrow & \dots \text{ and abstraction gives} \\ \bullet & \text{Concept image} \\ A^{-1} = \frac{1}{3} \begin{bmatrix} -5\\4 & -1 \end{bmatrix} & \text{of inverse } A^{-1}
```

Exercise:

a) First test and explain the following interactive EIGENMATH mini learning environment (LE) to support *the formation of the concept of the inverse matrix* as shown above:

```
# EIGENMATH

A = ((1,2), (4,5))

X = (x,y)

B = (3,6)
-- dot(.)=..*..

dot(A,X)

-- LHS of linear system A*X=B

X = dot(inv(A),B)

-- X = 1/A*B = A^{(-1)}*B

dot(A,X) == B

-- verify solution X = A^{-1}*B
```

Note: EIGENMATH use dot for the scalar/matrix product and inv(A) for the inverse matrix A-1.

- b) In your opinion, what exploration opportunities are offered to the student in the above CAS-LE? Which *phenomena* could be specifically observed? In what respect is this LE *interactive*? What additional didactical and methodological options are there compared to a CAS-free access to the formation of the concept ,inverse matrix'?
- c) Design a small A.C.E cycle based on the above CAS-LE to form the concept of the inverse matrix.
- d) Construct an A.C.E cycle within a suitable CAS-LE to create a concept for a self-chosen concept from linear algebra/analytic geometry or analysis.

Invoke Eigenmath here: https://georgeweigt.github.io/eigenmath-demo.html

References:

- [1] DUBINSKY, E., and McDonald, M.: APOS: A Constructivist Theory of Learning in UME Research. o. O., 2000
- [2] DUBINSKY, E., and TALL, D.: Advanced Mathematical Thinking and the Computer. In *Advanced Mathematical Thinking*, D. Tall, Ed., vol. 5. Kluwer, Dordrecht, 1991, pp. 231–250.
- [3] TALL, D., and VINNER, S.: Concept Images and Concept Definition in Mathematics with Particular reference to Limits and Continuity. *Educational Studies in Mathematics*, 12 (1991), 49–63

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