



Matrices

Background mathematics review

David Miller



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Matrix notation

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Matrix notation

A matrix is, first of all, a rectangular array of numbers

An $M \times N$ matrix has

M rows (here 2)

Rows are horizontal

N columns (here 3)

Columns are vertical

The array is enclosed in square brackets

$$\hat{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & -3 \\ 6 & -5 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

This is a 2×3
rectangular
matrix

Symbol for a matrix

As a symbol for a matrix

we could just use a capital letter, like A

Here, we need to distinguish matrices
and other linear operators

from numbers and simple variables

so we put a "hat" over a symbol \hat{A}
representing a matrix

which distinguishes a matrix
symbol when we write it by
hand

$$\hat{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & -3 \\ 6 & -5 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Rectangular and square matrices

Because all matrices are, by definition, rectangular

when we say a matrix is rectangular

we almost always mean it is not a *square* matrix

one with equal numbers of rows and columns

$$\hat{B} = \begin{bmatrix} 1.5 & -0.5i \\ 0.5i & 1.5 \end{bmatrix}$$

This is a 2×2
square
matrix

Rectangular and square matrices

The numbers or “elements” in a matrix can be

real, imaginary, or complex

The elements are indexed in “row-column” order

B_{12} is the element (value $-0.5i$) in the first row and second column

We often use the same letter, here B , for the matrix and for its elements

or the lower case version, e.g., b_{12}

$$\hat{B} = \begin{bmatrix} 1.5 & -0.5i \\ 0.5i & 1.5 \end{bmatrix}$$

This is a 2×2
square
matrix

Diagonal elements

The “leading diagonal” of a matrix
or just the “diagonal”
is the diagonal from top left to
bottom right

Elements on the diagonal
here those with value 1.5
are called diagonal elements

Elements not on the diagonal
here those with value $0.5i$ and $-0.5i$
are called off-diagonal elements

$$\hat{B} = \begin{bmatrix} 1.5 & -0.5i \\ 0.5i & 1.5 \end{bmatrix}$$

This is a 2×2
square
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Vectors

In the matrix algebra version of vectors
which are matrices of size 1 in one of
their directions

we must specify whether a vector is a
row vector

a matrix with one row
or a column vector

a matrix with one column

$$c = [4, -2, 5, 7]$$

$$d = \begin{bmatrix} 2 + 3i \\ -5 + 2i \\ 4 - i \\ -7 - 6i \end{bmatrix}$$

Transpose

An important manipulation for matrices and vectors is

the transpose

denoted by a superscript " T "

a reflection about a diagonal line

from top left to bottom right for
a matrix

$$\hat{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & -3 \\ 6 & -5 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\hat{A}^T = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 6 \\ 1 & -5 \\ -3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Algebraically

$$\left(\hat{A}^T \right)_{mn} = \hat{A}_{nm}$$

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Transpose

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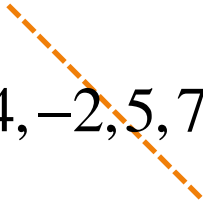
the transpose

denoted by a superscript " T "

a reflection about a diagonal line

from top left to bottom right for
a matrix

or at 45° for a vector


$$c = [4, -2, 5, 7]$$

$$c^T = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -2 \\ 5 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}$$

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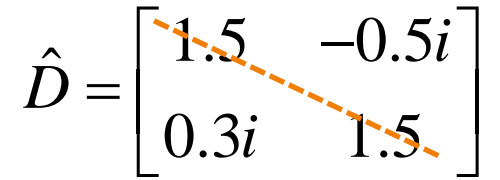
or at 45° for a vector

$$d = \begin{bmatrix} 2+3i \\ -5+2i \\ 4-i \\ -7-6i \end{bmatrix}$$

$$d^T = [2+3i \quad -5+2i \quad 4-i \quad -7-6i]$$

Hermitian transpose or adjoint

Another common manipulation is the
"Hermitian adjoint", "Hermitian
transpose", or "conjugate transpose"
denoted by a superscript " \dagger "
pronounced "dagger"
a reflection about a diagonal line
from top left to bottom right for a
matrix or at 45° for a vector
and taking the complex
conjugate of all the elements

$$\hat{D} = \begin{bmatrix} 1.5 & -0.5i \\ 0.3i & 1.5 \end{bmatrix}$$


$$\hat{D}^\dagger = \begin{bmatrix} 1.5 & -0.3i \\ 0.5i & 1.5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\left(\hat{D}^\dagger\right)_{mn} = \hat{D}_{nm}^*$$

Hermitian transpose or adjoint

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"Hermitian adjoint", "Hermitian transpose", or "conjugate transpose"

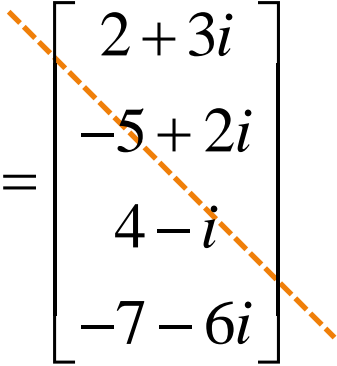
denoted by a superscript " \dagger "

pronounced "dagger" $d^\dagger = \begin{bmatrix} 2-3i & -5-2i & 4+i & -7+6i \end{bmatrix}$

a reflection about a diagonal line

from top left to bottom right for a matrix or at 45° for a vector

and taking the complex conjugate of all the elements


$$d = \begin{bmatrix} 2+3i \\ -5+2i \\ 4-i \\ -7-6i \end{bmatrix}$$

Hermitian matrix

A matrix is said to be

Hermitian

if it is equal to its own Hermitian
adjoint

i.e.,

$$\hat{B}^\dagger = \hat{B}$$

or, element by element

$$\left(\hat{B}^\dagger\right)_{nm} = \left(\hat{B}\right)_{nm}$$

$$\hat{B} = \begin{bmatrix} 1.5 & -0.5i \\ 0.5i & 1.5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\hat{B}^\dagger = \begin{bmatrix} 1.5 & -0.5i \\ 0.5i & 1.5 \end{bmatrix} = \hat{B}$$





Matrices



Matrix algebra

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Adding and subtracting matrices

If two matrices are the same size

i.e., the same numbers of rows and columns

we can add or subtract them by

adding or subtracting the individual matrix elements

one by one

$$\hat{F} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & i \\ 2 & 1-3i \end{bmatrix} \quad \hat{G} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 4i \\ -6 & 7+8i \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\hat{K} = \hat{F} + \hat{G}$$

Adding and subtracting matrices

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$$\begin{aligned} \hat{K} &= \hat{F} + \hat{G} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1+5 & i+4i \\ 2-6 & 1+7-3i+8i \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Adding and subtracting matrices

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$$\begin{aligned} \hat{K} &= \hat{F} + \hat{G} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1+5 & i+4i \\ 2-6 & 1+7-3i+8i \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 5i \\ -4 & 8+5i \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Multiplying a vector by a matrix

Suppose we want to multiply a column vector by a matrix

$$\begin{array}{cc} \text{matrix} & \text{vector} \\ \left[\begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \end{array} \right] & \left[\begin{array}{c} 7 \\ 8 \\ 9 \end{array} \right] \end{array}$$

The number of rows in the vector
must match the number of
columns in the matrix

This is generally true for matrix-matrix
multiplication

The number of rows in the matrix on
the right
must match the number of
columns in the matrix on the left

Multiplying a vector by a matrix

First we put the vector “sideways” on top of the matrix

then multiply element by element
and add to get the first element
of the resulting vector

Move down

and repeat for the next row

$$\begin{array}{cc} \text{matrix} & \text{vector} \\ \left[\begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \end{array} \right] & \left[\begin{array}{c} 7 \\ 8 \\ 9 \end{array} \right] \end{array}$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{c} 50 \end{array} \right] \leftarrow \begin{array}{ccc} & 7 & 8 & 9 \\ \times & \times & \times & \\ \left[\begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \end{array} \right] & & & \end{array}$$
$$\begin{aligned} & 1 \times 7 \\ & + 2 \times 8 \\ & + 3 \times 9 \\ & = 50 \end{aligned}$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{c} 50 \\ 122 \end{array} \right] \leftarrow \begin{array}{ccc} & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ & 7 & 8 & 9 \\ \times & \times & \times & \\ \left[\begin{array}{ccc} 4 & 5 & 6 \end{array} \right] & & & \end{array}$$
$$\begin{aligned} & 4 \times 7 \\ & + 5 \times 8 \\ & + 6 \times 9 \\ & = 122 \end{aligned}$$

Multiplying a vector by a matrix

First we put the vector “sideways” on top of the matrix

then multiply element by element
and add to get the first element
of the resulting vector

Move down

and repeat for the next row

We can also write this multiplication
with a sum over the repeated
index

$$\begin{array}{cc} \text{matrix} & \text{vector} \\ \left[\begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \end{array} \right] & \left[\begin{array}{c} 7 \\ 8 \\ 9 \end{array} \right] \end{array}$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{c} 50 \\ 122 \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{c} 7 \\ 8 \\ 9 \end{array} \right]$$

$$d = \hat{A} c$$

$$d_m = \sum_n A_{mn} c_n$$

Multiplying a matrix by a matrix

To multiply a matrix by a matrix
repeat this operation for each
column of the matrix on the
right

working from left to right

Write down the resulting
columns in the resulting matrix
also working from left to right

Summation notation

sums over the repeated index

$$\begin{bmatrix} 50 & 14 \\ 122 & 32 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 7 & 1 \\ 8 & 2 \\ 9 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\hat{R} = \hat{B} \hat{A}$$

$$R_{mp} = \sum_n B_{mn} A_{np}$$

Vector – vector products

An “inner” product

of a row and a column vector
collapses two vectors to a
number

analogous to geometrical
vector dot product

An “outer product”

of a column and a row vector
generates a square matrix

$$32 = [1 \quad 2 \quad 3] \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$f = \quad c \quad d$$

$$f = \sum_n c_n d_n$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 8 & 12 \\ 5 & 10 & 15 \\ 6 & 12 & 18 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} [1 \quad 2 \quad 3]$$

$$\hat{F} \quad = \quad d \quad c$$

$$F_{mp} = d_m c_p$$

Matrix algebra properties

Matrix algebra, like normal algebra
is associative
and has distributive properties
but matrix multiplication is
not in general commutative
as is easily proved by
example

$$\begin{aligned}(\hat{C}\hat{B})\hat{A} &= \hat{C}(\hat{B}\hat{A}) \\ \hat{A}(\hat{B} + \hat{C}) &= \hat{A}\hat{B} + \hat{A}\hat{C} \\ \hat{B}\hat{A} &\neq \hat{A}\hat{B} \text{ in general}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 19 & 22 \\ 43 & 50 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 23 & 34 \\ 31 & 46 \end{bmatrix}$$

Multiplying a matrix by a number

Multiplying a matrix by a number

means we multiply every element of the matrix by that number

$$2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ 6 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$$

Also, we can take out a common factor from every element

multiplying the matrix by that factor

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ 6 & 8 \end{bmatrix} = 2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Such results are easily proved in summation notation

e.g., for matrix vector multiplication

where $B_{mn} = \alpha A_{mn}$

$$\begin{aligned} d_m &= \alpha \sum_n A_{mn} c_n = \sum_n \alpha A_{mn} c_n \\ &= \sum_n (\alpha A_{mn}) c_n = \sum_n B_{mn} c_n \end{aligned}$$

Multiplying a matrix by a number

Since number multiplication is commutative

we can move simple factors around
arbitrarily in matrix products

e.g., for a number α and a vector c

$$\alpha \hat{A} \hat{B} c = \hat{A} \alpha \hat{B} c = \hat{A} \hat{B} \alpha c$$

This result is also easily proved using
summation notation

Hermitian adjoint of a product

The Hermitian adjoint of a product
is the reversed product of the Hermitian adjoints

$$\left(\hat{A}\hat{B}\right)^{\dagger} = \hat{B}^{\dagger}\hat{A}^{\dagger}$$

We can prove this using summation notation

Suppose $\hat{R} = \hat{A}\hat{B}$ so that $R_{mp} = \sum_n A_{mn} B_{np}$ and so

$$\begin{aligned}\left(\left(\hat{A}\hat{B}\right)^{\dagger}\right)_{pm} &= (\hat{R}^{\dagger})_{pm} = R_{mp}^* = \sum_n (A_{mn} B_{np})^* = \sum_n A_{mn}^* B_{np}^* \\ &= \sum_n (\hat{A}^{\dagger})_{nm} (\hat{B}^{\dagger})_{pn} = \sum_n (\hat{B}^{\dagger})_{pn} (\hat{A}^{\dagger})_{nm} = \left(\hat{B}^{\dagger}\hat{A}^{\dagger}\right)_{pm}\end{aligned}$$

Inverse of a matrix

For ordinary algebra, the reciprocal or inverse of a number or variable x is

$$1/x \text{ or } x^{-1}$$

which has the obvious property

$$x^{-1}x = \frac{x}{x} = 1$$

For a matrix, if it has an inverse \hat{A}^{-1}

it has the property

$$\hat{A}^{-1}\hat{A} = \hat{I}$$

where \hat{I} is called the identity matrix

which is the “diagonal” matrix with
“1” for all diagonal elements

and zeros for all other elements

Identity matrix

For example, the 3x3 identity matrix is

The identity matrix in a given multiplication has to be the right size

so we do not typically bother to state the size of the identity matrix

For any matrix \hat{A}

we can write $\hat{A}\hat{I} = \hat{I}\hat{A} = \hat{A}$

Like the number 1 in ordinary algebra

the identity matrix is almost trivial

but is very important

$$\hat{I} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

