

# Row Echelon Form (REF)



Gauss Method

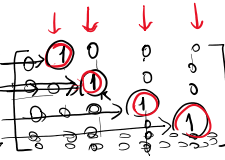
## Reduced Row Echelon Form (RREF)

Gauss-Jordan

system of lin. eqns.  $\rightarrow$  Augmented matrix  $\rightarrow$  REF  $\rightarrow$  RREF

REF

- \* Number of "leading zeroes" should get greater downside.
- \* The leading nonzero element in each row should be 1. "leading 1"
- \* If there is an all-zero row, it should be at the bottom.



for RREF:

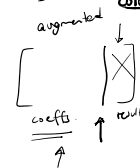
- \* leading 1's of each row, should be the only nonzero element in their columns.

1. Which of the matrices that follow are in row echelon form? Which are in reduced row echelon form?

(a)  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  REF ✓  
 (b)  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$  REF ✓  
 (c)  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  REF ✓  
 (d)  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$  REF ✓  
 (e)  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  REF ✓  
 (f)  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 6 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$  REF ✓  
 (g)  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$  REF ✓  
 (h)  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  REF ✓

REF

- \* Number of "leading zeroes" should get greater downside.
- \* The leading nonzero element in each row should be 1. "leading 1"
- \* If there is an all-zero row, it should be at the bottom.
- \* leading 1's of each row, should be the only nonzero element in their columns.



2. The augmented matrices that follow are in row echelon form. For each case, indicate whether the corresponding linear system is consistent. If the system has a unique solution, find it.

(a)  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$   $\rightarrow$  (b)  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

(c)  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 4 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

(d)  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$  unique soln

(e)  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  no solution!

$\Rightarrow$  1) unique solution  
 $\Rightarrow$  2) infinitely many solution  
 $\Rightarrow$  3) no solution.

In order to give a direct decision you should at least transform the system into REF!

a)  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$   $\rightarrow$   $\begin{cases} x_1 + 2x_2 = 4 \\ 0x_1 + 1x_2 = 3 \\ 0x_1 + 0x_2 = 1 \end{cases}$   $\rightarrow$   $0 = 1$  impossible!  
 $\Rightarrow$  NO solution!

First, look at the last row of the REF. (not all zero)

a')  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$   $\rightarrow$   $\begin{cases} x_1 + 2x_2 = 4 \\ 0x_1 + 1x_2 = 0 \\ 0x_1 + 0x_2 = 0 \end{cases}$   $\rightarrow$   $\begin{cases} x_1 = 4 \\ x_2 = 0 \end{cases}$   $\rightarrow$   $\{(4, 0)\}$  the solution set. unique soln. case

(b)  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$   $\rightarrow$   $\begin{cases} x_1 + 3x_2 = 1 \\ 0x_1 + 0x_2 = 0 \end{cases}$   $\rightarrow$   $x_2 = -1$   
 $x_1 + 3(-1) = 1 \Rightarrow x_1 = 4$   
 Solution set =  $\{(4, -1)\} \rightarrow$  unique solution.

(c)  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$   $\rightarrow$   $\begin{cases} x_1 - 2x_2 + 4x_3 = 1 \\ 0x_1 + 0x_2 + 1x_3 = 3 \end{cases}$   $\rightarrow$   $x_3 = 3$   
 $x_1 - 2x_2 + 4(3) = 1 \Rightarrow x_1 - 2x_2 = -11$   
 $x_2 = r \in \mathbb{R}$   
 $x_1 = -11 + 2r$   
 Solution set =  $\{(-11 + 2r, r, 3) : r \in \mathbb{R}\}$  infinitely many solutions

no leading 1 in the corresponding column for  $x_2 \rightarrow x_2$ : free variable.  $\rightarrow$  at least 1 free variable  $\rightarrow$  infinitely many solutions.

no leading 1  
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$$\begin{array}{ccc|c} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & \\ \hline (d) & \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} & & \end{array} \leftarrow \text{unique soln!}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 - 2x_2 + 2x_3 &= -2 \rightarrow x_1 - 10 + 4 = -2 \quad x_1 = 4 \\ x_2 - x_3 &= 3 \rightarrow x_2 = 5 \\ x_3 &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{soln set} = \{ (4, 5, 2) \} \rightarrow \text{unique soln.}$$

REF ✓

$$\begin{array}{ccccc|c} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & x_4 & x_5 & \\ \hline \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 & 3 & 1 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \end{array}$$

$x_2, x_3 \rightarrow$  free variables

$$x_2 = r \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$x_3 = s \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$x_1 + 2x_3 + 3x_4 + x_5 = 6 \rightarrow x_1 = -6 - 2s$$

$$x_4 = 5$$

$$x_5 = -3$$

$$\text{Solution set} = \{ (-6-2s, r, s, 5, -3) : r, s \in \mathbb{R} \}$$

infinitely many solutions ✓

EX

$$\begin{array}{cccccc|c} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & x_4 & x_5 & & \\ \hline \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{array}$$

$n = \#$  of variables

on REF  
you should at least have  $n$  not-all-zero rows, having leading 1's.

on REF  
at least one variable should not have a leading 1 on its corresponding column. ( $\Rightarrow$  at least one free variable)

on the REF!

- 1) unique soln.
- 2) inf. many soln.
- 3) no soln.  $\rightarrow 0 = \text{nonzero}$

(j)

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + 2x_2 - 3x_3 + x_4 &= 1 \\ -x_1 - x_2 + 4x_3 - x_4 &= 6 \\ -2x_1 - 4x_2 + 7x_3 - x_4 &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

augmented matrix

$$\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 2 & -3 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 & 4 & -1 & 6 \\ -2 & -4 & 7 & -1 & 1 \end{array}$$

not in REF

the only direct decision that we can give here;  $\Rightarrow$

$\rightarrow$  the system can not have a unique soln.

will have at most 3 not-all-zero rows. without 0 = 1 row

not enough for 4 variables.

$\Rightarrow$  at least 1 free variable.

EX

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + 2x_4 &= 5 \\ -x_1 - x_2 - x_3 - 2x_4 &= -5 \\ 2x_1 + 2x_2 + 2x_3 + 4x_4 &= 10 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 5 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 & -2 & -5 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 & 4 & 10 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned} r_1 + r_2 + r_3 &\rightarrow \\ -2r_1 + r_2 + r_3 &\rightarrow \end{aligned}$$

some row operations

$$\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array}$$

REF

$$\begin{aligned} x_2 &= r \in \mathbb{R} \\ x_3 &= s \in \mathbb{R} \\ x_4 &= t \in \mathbb{R} \\ x_1 &= 5 - r - s - 2t \end{aligned} \left. \vphantom{\begin{aligned} x_2 &= r \in \mathbb{R} \\ x_3 &= s \in \mathbb{R} \\ x_4 &= t \in \mathbb{R} \end{aligned}} \right\} \text{free variables}$$

$$\text{solution set} = \{ (5 - r - s - 2t, r, s, t) : r, s, t \in \mathbb{R} \}$$

inf. many soln.