

Linear Maps and Matrices

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1 Linear mappings

The vector mapping $f : E \rightarrow F$, (where E and F are vector spaces over \mathbb{K}) is said to be linear if the following conditions hold :

1. $\forall u, v \in E : f(u + v) = f(u) + f(v)$.
2. $\forall u \in E, \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{K}, f(\lambda u) = \lambda f(u)$.

This definition is equivalent to :

$$\forall u, v \in E, \forall \lambda, \beta \in \mathbb{K}, f(\lambda u + \beta v) = \lambda f(u) + \beta f(v).$$

Example 1.0.1 1. The identity map on E , which sends each $u \in E$ to u , is denoted I_E , or just I if the vector space E is clear from context.

Note that all linear maps (not just the identity) send zero to zero.

Proof 1.0.1 For any $u \in E$ we have $f(u) = f(u + 0_E) = f(u) + f(0_E)$. so by subtracting $f(u)$ from both sides we obtain $f(0_E) = 0_F$.

2. Let $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ a map defined by $f(x, y) = (x + y, x - y)$. f is linear. Indeed, let $u = (x, y), v = (x_0, y_0) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ and let $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$:

$$\begin{aligned} f(\alpha u + \beta v) &= f(\alpha(x, y) + \beta(x_0, y_0)) \\ &= f((\alpha x + \beta x_0, \alpha y + \beta y_0)) \\ &= (\alpha x + \beta x_0 + \alpha y + \beta y_0, \alpha x + \beta x_0 - \alpha y - \beta y_0) \\ &= (\alpha(x + y) + \beta(x_0 + y_0), \alpha(x - y) + \beta(x_0 - y_0)) \\ &= \alpha(x + y, x - y) + \beta(x_0 + y_0, x_0 - y_0) \\ &= \alpha f((x, y)) + \beta f((x_0, y_0)) \end{aligned}$$

3. $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$, defined by $f(x, y) = x^2 - y^2$ is nonlinear because $f((1, 0)) + f((-1, 0)) = 1 + 1 = 2 \neq f((1, 0) + (-1, 0)) = f((0, 0)) = 0$.

4. The mapping $f(x, y) = (x^2 \sin y - \cos(x^2 - 1), x^2 + y^2 + 1)$ is nonlinear. To see this, we computed that

$$f((3, 0)) = (-\cos 8, 10) \neq 3f((1, 0)) = (-3, 6). \text{ Then } f \text{ is not linear.}$$

Remark 1.0.1 One useful fact regarding linear maps is that they are uniquely determined by their action on a basis. Let $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ be a basis for a vector space E . Then

$$\forall u \in E : u = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i v_i \text{ et } f(u) = f\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i v_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i f(v_i),$$

1.1 Isomorphisms

Observe that the definition of a linear map is suited to reflect the structure of vector spaces, since it preserves vector spaces two main operations, addition and scalar multiplication. In algebraic terms, a linear map is said to be a **homomorphism** of vector spaces. An invertible homomorphism where the inverse is also a homomorphism is called an **isomorphism**. If there exists an isomorphism from E to F , then E and F are said to be **isomorphic**, and we write $E \cong F$. Isomorphic vector spaces are essentially "the same" in terms of their algebraic structure. It is an interesting fact that finite-dimensional vector spaces of the same dimension over the same field are always isomorphic.

Operations on linear mappings

Definition 1.1.1 *The set of linear mappings from E into F is denoted $\mathcal{L}(E, F)$. Let's equip $\mathcal{L}(E, F)$ with the addition of mappings ($f + g$) and multiplication by a scalar ($\alpha \cdot f$) as follows :*

1. $\forall x \in E : (f + g)(x) = f(x) + g(x)$,
2. $\forall x \in E, \forall \alpha \in \mathbb{R} : (\alpha \cdot f)(x) = \alpha f(x)$.

Proposition 1.1.1 *$\mathcal{L}(E, F)$ with addition and multiplication has a vector space structure on \mathbb{R} .*

Linear maps can be added and scaled to produce new linear maps. That is, if f and g are linear maps from E into F , and $\alpha \in \mathbb{K}$, it is straightforward to verify that $f + g$ and $\alpha \cdot f$ are linear maps from E into F . Since addition and scaling of functions satisfy the usual commutativity/associativity/distributivity rules, the set of linear maps from E into F is also a vector space over \mathbb{K} . The additive identity here is the zero map which sends every $u \in E$ to 0_F .

Theoreme 1.1.1 (Composition) *Let E, F and G be vector spaces over a common field \mathbb{K} , and suppose f be a linear map from E to F and g a linear map from F to G . Then $g \circ f$ is a linear map from E to G .*

Theoreme 1.1.2 *Let f be an isomorphism from E to F . Then f^{-1} is an isomorphism from F to E .*

Proposition 1.1.2 *Let f be an automorphism of E (isomorphism from E to E). Then f^{-1} is an automorphism of E . Let f and g be two automorphisms of E , then $g \circ f$ is an automorphism of E and we have $(g \circ f)^{-1} = f^{-1} \circ g^{-1}$.*

Proposition 1.1.3 *If f from E to F is a linear map then :*

1. $\forall u \in E : f(-u) = -f(u)$.
2. $f(0_E) = 0_F$.

1.2 Nullspace and Range

1.2.1 Nullspace

Definition 1.2.1 If $f : E \rightarrow F$ is a linear map, the nullspace of f is the set of all vectors in E that get mapped to zero :

$$\text{null}(f) = \{u \in E, f(u) = 0_F\} = f^{-1}(\{0_F\}).$$

Proposition 1.2.1 If $f : E \rightarrow F$ is a linear map, then $\text{null}(f)$ is a subspace of E .

Proof 1.2.1 1. We have already seen that $f(0_E) = 0_F$. So $0_E \in \text{null}(f)$.

2. If $u, v \in \text{null}(f)$, then $f(\alpha u + v) = \alpha f(u) + f(v) = 0_F + 0_F = 0_F$. So $\alpha u + v \in \text{null}(f)$.

Proposition 1.2.2 A linear map $f : E \rightarrow F$ is injective if and only if $\text{null}(f) = \{0_E\}$.

Proof 1.2.2 Assume f is injective. We have seen that $f(0_E) = 0_F$, so $0_E \in \text{null}(f)$, and moreover if $f(v) = 0_F = f(0_E)$ the injectivity of f implies $v = 0_E$, so $\text{null}(f) = \{0_E\}$.

Conversely, assume $\text{null}(f) = \{0_E\}$, and suppose $f(u) = f(v)$ for some $u, v \in E$.

Then $0 = f(u) - f(v) = f(u - v)$, so $u - v \in \text{null}(f)$, which by assumption implies $u - v = 0_E$, i.e. $u = v$. Hence f is injective.

1.2.2 Range

Definition 1.2.2 The range of f is the set of all possible outputs of f :

$$\text{range}(f) = \{f(u) : u \in E\} = f(E)$$

Proposition 1.2.3 If $f : E \rightarrow F$ is a linear map, then $\text{range}(f)$ is a subspace of F .

Proof 1.2.3 1. We have already seen that $f(0_E) = 0_F$, so $0_F \in \text{range}(f)$.

2. If $w, z \in \text{range}(f)$, there exist $u, v \in E$ such that $w = f(u)$ and $z = f(v)$. Then $f(u + v) = f(u) + f(v) = w + z$ so $w + z \in \text{range}(f)$.

3. If $v \in \text{range}(f)$, $\alpha \in \mathbb{K}$, $\exists u \in E$ such that $v = f(u)$. Then $f(\alpha u) = \alpha f(u) = \alpha v$ so $\alpha v \in \text{range}(f)$. Thus $\text{range}(f)$ is a subspace of F .

Theorem 1.2.1 Let $f : E \rightarrow F$ be a linear map. So :

1. f is injective $\Leftrightarrow \text{null}(f) = \{0_E\}$.

2. f is surjective $\Leftrightarrow \text{range}(f) = F$.

Example 1.2.1 Determine the image and the nullspace of the map f from \mathbb{R}^3 to \mathbb{R}^2 defined by :

$$f(x, y, z) = (x - y - z, x + y + z), \quad \text{for all } (x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3.$$

Deduce that f is not injective and that f is surjective. We have :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{null}(f) &= \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3, f((x, y, z)) = (0, 0)\} \\ &= \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3, (x - y - z, x + y + z) = (0, 0)\} \\ &= \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3, x = 0 \text{ et } z = -y\} \\ &= \{(0, y, -y) \in \mathbb{R}^3, y \in \mathbb{R}\} \\ &= \text{span}\{(0, 1, -1)\} \end{aligned}$$

$\text{null}(f) \neq \{(0, 0, 0)\}$, therefore f is not injective.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{range}(f) &= \{f(x, y, z) : (x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3\} \\ &= \{(x - y - z, x + y + z) : x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}\} \\ &= \{x(1, 1) + y(-1, 1) + z(-1, 1) : x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}\} \\ &= \text{span} \{(1, 1), (-1, 1), (-1, 1)\} \\ &= \text{span} \{(1, 1), (-1, 1)\} \end{aligned}$$

$\text{range}(f) = \text{span} \{(1, 1), (-1, 1)\} = \mathbb{R}^2$, so f is surjective.

1.3 Linear mappings in finite dimension

Proposition 1.3.1 Let f be a linear map of E into F and $B = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$ be a base of E . Then the image by f of B is a generating family of $\text{range}(f)$, that is to say

$$\text{range}(f) = \text{span} \{f(e_1), f(e_2), \dots, f(e_n)\}$$

Remark 1.3.1 The family $\{f(e_1), f(e_2), \dots, f(e_n)\}$ is not necessarily free, so the family $\{f(e_1), f(e_2), \dots, f(e_n)\}$ is therefore not a basis of $\text{range}(f)$

Theoreme 1.3.1 Let $f : E \rightarrow F$ be a linear map with $\dim(E) = n$ (finite). So :

$$\dim(E) = \dim(\text{null}(f)) + \dim(\text{range}(f)).$$

Proposition 1.3.2 Let $f : E \rightarrow F$ be a linear map, if $\dim(E) = \dim(F) = n$, then the following properties are equivalent :

1. f is bijective.
2. f is injective.
3. f is surjective.

1.4 Rank of a linear map

Definition 1.4.1 Let $f : E \rightarrow F$ be a linear map. We call **rank** of f the dimension of $\text{range}(f)$, $\text{rank}(f) = \dim(\text{Im}(f)) = \dim(f(E))$.

$$\dim E = \text{rank}(f) + \text{nullity}(f)$$

such that $\text{nullity}(f) = \text{dimension of its nullspace } \text{Null}(f)$.

Remark 1.4.1 If B is a basis of E then the rank of f is the number of linearly independent vectors in $f(B)$, the image by f of the basis B .

Exercice 1.4.1 Let n be a natural number and let f be a linear map defined by $f(P) = P'$, $\forall P \in \mathbb{R}_n[X]$.

1. Show that f is an endomorphism of $\mathbb{R}_n[X]$.
2. Determine the nullspace of f .
3. Deduce the dimension of $\text{range}(f)$.
4. Check that $\text{range}(f) = \mathbb{R}_{n-1}[X]$.

2 Matrices

Definition 2.0.1 A matrix is a two-dimensional array of numbers. An m -rows-by- n -columns (abbreviated $m \times n$) matrix A is represented with a block of numbers :

$$A = (a_{ij})_{m \times n} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{1,1} & a_{1,2} & \cdots & a_{1,n} \\ a_{2,1} & a_{2,2} & \cdots & a_{2,n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m,1} & a_{m,2} & \cdots & a_{m,n} \end{pmatrix}$$

where a_{ij} is the entry in the i -th row and the j -th column of A .

Example 2.0.1 $n = 2, p = 3$:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & -1 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$a_{12} = 2, \quad a_{23} = 5$$

Definition 2.0.2 1. Two matrices are equal when they have the same size and the corresponding coefficients are equal.

2. The set of n row and p column matrices with coefficients in \mathbb{K} is denoted $M_{n,p}(\mathbb{K})$. The elements of $M_{n,p}(\mathbb{R})$ are called real matrices.

2.1 Types of matrices

Different types of matrices are given below :

1. **Row Matrix** : A Matrix having only one row is called a **Row Matrix**, E.g. $(a_{11}, a_{12}, \dots, a_{1p})$.

2. **Column Matrix** : A Matrix having only one Column is called a **Column Matrix**, E.g.

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} \\ a_{21} \\ \vdots \\ a_{n1} \end{pmatrix}$$

3. **Null Matrix** : $A = (a_{ij})_{m \times n}$ such that $a_{ij} = 0, \forall i$ and j . Then A is called a **Zero Matrix** and it is denoted by $0_{m \times n}$.

4. **Rectangular Matrix** : If $A = (a_{ij})_{m \times n}$, and $m \neq n$ then the matrix A is called a **Rectangular Matrix**.

5. **Square Matrix** : If $A = (a_{ij})_{m \times n}$, and $m = n$ then the matrix A is called a **Square Matrix**.

6. **Identity Matrix or Unit matrix**

$$I_n = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

n is the dimension of the matrix.

7. Lower triangular matrix, L

$$L = \begin{pmatrix} L_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ L_{21} & L_{22} & 0 \\ L_{31} & L_{32} & L_{33} \end{pmatrix}$$

8. Upper triangular matrix, U

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} U_{11} & U_{12} & U_{13} \\ 0 & U_{22} & U_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & U_{33} \end{pmatrix}$$

9. **Diagonal matrix** : A Square Matrix is said to be diagonal matrix, if $a_{ij} = 0$ for $i \neq j$ i.e. all the elements except the principal diagonal elements are zeros.

Note :

a/ Diagonal matrix is both lower and upper triangular.

b/ If d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n are the diagonal elements in a diagonal matrix it can be represented as

$$\text{diag}(d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n) \quad . \text{ E.g. } \text{diag}(3, 2, -1) = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

10. A square matrix A is said to be symmetrical if : $a_{ij} = a_{ji}$ for all i different from j

3 Operations on matrices

3.1 Transpose of a Matrix

The transpose of an $m \times n$ matrix $A = (a_{ij})$ is defined as the $n \times m$ matrix $B = (b_{ij})$, with $b_{ij} = a_{ji}$ for $1 \leq i \leq n$ and $1 \leq j \leq m$. The transpose of A is denoted by A^T .

Definition 3.1.1 *That is, by the transpose of an $m \times n$ matrix A , we mean a matrix of order $n \times m$ having the rows of A as its columns and the columns of A as its rows.*

For example, if $A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -2 & 5 \\ 1 & 7 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ then $A^T = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ -2 & 7 \\ 5 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ Thus, the transpose of a row vector

is a column vector and vice-versa.

Theoreme 3.1.1 *For any matrix A , we have $(A^T)^T = A$.*

3.2 Addition of Matrices

Definition 3.2.1 *Let A and B be two matrices of the same size $n \times p$. Then the sum $A + B$ is defined to be the matrix $C = A + B$ of size $n \times p$ with $c_{ij} = a_{ij} + b_{ij}$.*

In other words, we sum coefficient by coefficient.

Example 3.2.1 *If*

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -2 \\ 1 & 7 \end{pmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 5 \\ 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad C = \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then

$$A + B = \begin{pmatrix} 3 + 0 & -2 + 5 = 3 \\ 1 + 2 = 3 & 7 - 1 = 6 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$A + C$ is not defined.

3.3 Multiplying a Scalar to a Matrix

Let $A = (a_{ij})$ of $M_{np}(\mathbb{K})$, for a scalar α , we define αA by the matrix (αa_{ij}) .

Example 3.3.1 If

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & -4 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

and $\alpha = -3$. Then

$$\alpha A = -3A = \begin{pmatrix} -9 & -3 & -6 \\ 0 & 12 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

The matrix $(-1)A$ is the opposite of A and is denoted $-A$. The difference $A - B$ is defined by $A + (-B)$.

Below are some basic algebraic properties of matrix addition/scalar multiplication.

Theorem 3.3.1 Let A, B, C be matrices of the same size and let α, β be scalars. Then

- (a) $A + B = B + A$,
- (d) $\alpha(A + B) = \alpha A + \alpha B$
- (b) $(A + B) + C = A + (B + C)$,
- (e) $(\alpha + \beta)A = \alpha A + \beta A$,
- (c) $A + 0 = A$,
- (f) $\alpha(\beta A) = (\alpha\beta)A$

3.4 Multiplication of matrices / Product

Matrices can be multiplied only if the number of columns of the left matrix equals the number of rows of the right matrix. In other words, an n -by- p matrix on the left can only be multiplied by an p -by- q matrix on the right. The resulting matrix will be n -by- q .

In general, an element in the resulting product matrix, say in row i and column j , is obtained by multiplying and summing the elements in row i of the left matrix with the elements in column j of the right matrix.

Definition 3.4.1 Product of two matrices Let $A = (a_{ij})$ be a matrix $n \times p$ and $B = (b_{ij})$ be a matrix $p \times q$. Then the product $C = AB$ is a $n \times q$ matrix whose coefficients c_{ij} are defined by :

$$c_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^p a_{ik} b_{kj}$$

The coefficient can be written in a more elaborate way :

$$c_{ij} = a_{i1}b_{1j} + a_{i2}b_{2j} + \cdots + a_{ik}b_{kj} + \cdots + a_{ip}b_{pj}.$$

It is convenient to arrange the calculations as follows :

$$A \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} & & & & \\ & & & & \\ a_{i1} & \times & \times & \times & \\ & & & & \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} b_{1j} \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow B$$

$$A \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} & & & & \\ & & & & \\ a_{i1} & \times & \times & \times & \\ & & & & \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ \times \\ c_{ij} \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow AB$$

Example 3.4.1 1.

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

A is an 2-by-3 matrix, B is an 3-by-2 matrix, then AB is an 2-by-2 matrix and we have :

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow B$$

$$A \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{11} & c_{12} \\ c_{21} & c_{22} \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow AB$$

$$c_{11} = 1 \times 1 + 2 \times (-1) + 3 \times 1 = 2, \quad c_{12} = 1 \times 2 + 2 \times 1 + 3 \times 1 = 7$$

$$c_{21} = 2 \times 1 + 3 \times (-1) + 4 \times 1 = 3, \quad c_{22} = 2 \times 2 + 3 \times 1 + 4 \times 1 = 11.$$

Then

$$AB = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 7 \\ 3 & 11 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$2. \quad u = (a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n), \quad v = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_n \end{pmatrix}$$

uv is a matrix of size 1 × 1 whose single coefficient is $a_1b_1 + a_2b_2 + \cdots + a_nb_n$. This number is called the scalar product of vectors u and v.

Remark 3.4.1 1. *AB = 0 does not imply A = 0 or B = 0. Let*

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Calculate AB.

2. $AB = AC$ does not imply $B = C$. Let

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -1 \\ 5 & 4 \end{pmatrix}, \quad C = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 5 \\ 5 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

Calculate AB and AC

Proposition 3.4.1 Let $A, B, C \in M_n(\mathbb{K})$, be square matrices of order n , then

1. $A(BC) = (AB)C$ (associativity)
2. $A(B + C) = AB + AC$ (left distributivity);
3. $(B + C)A = BA + CA$ (right-hand distributivity)
4. $\exists I_n \in M_n$ such that $AI = IA = A$
5. Matrix multiplication is generally not commutative.

Warning! If A and B don't switch, i.e. if $AB \neq BA$

$$(A + B)^2 = (A + B)(A + B) = A^2 + BA + AB + B^2 \neq A^2 + 2AB + B^2$$

4 Row echelon form

4.1 Elementary row operations

Elementary row operations are used to transform a system of linear equations into a new system that has the same solutions as the original one (i.e., into an equivalent system).

A system of n linear equations in m unknowns is written in matrix form as $Ax = b$, where A is the $n \times m$ matrix of coefficients; x is the $m \times 1$ vector of unknowns and b is the $n \times 1$ vector of constants.

Our goal is to begin with the matrix A and apply operations that respect row equivalence until we have a matrix in Reduced Row Echelon Form (RREF). The three elementary row operations are :

1. **(Row Swap)** Exchange any two rows.
2. **(Scalar Multiplication)** Multiply any row by a constant.
3. **(Row Sum)** Add a multiple of one row to another row.

4.1.1 Row echelon form

Definition 4.1.1 A matrix $A \in M_{m,n}(\mathbb{K})$, of order $m \times n$ and with coefficients in a field \mathbb{K} , is said to be in the row echelon form if the number of zero coefficients starting each row increases as we pass from a row R_i to a row R_j , for $i < j$.

The first non-zero coefficient in a row of a matrix is called **pivot**.

Example 4.1.1 Consider the following matrices

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -4 & 5 \end{pmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -4 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

1. In matrix A , row R_2 begins with 0, but row R_3 begins with -1 . So, going from row R_2 to row R_3 , the number of zeros is not increasing. Thus, the matrix A is not in (REF).
2. In matrix B , rows R_4 and R_5 begin with the same number of 0, which equals to 4. So, as we move from line R_4 to line R_5 , the number of zeros is constant, i.e. it is not increasing. Thus, the matrix B is not in (REF).
3. The number of zero coefficients starting the rows of matrix C is increasing, from row to row. Thus, matrix C is in (REF).

4.1.2 Row Reduced Form of a Matrix

Definition 4.1.2 A matrix A is said to be in the row reduced form if

1. the first non-zero entry in each row of A is 1;
 2. the column containing this 1 has all its other entries zero.
- A matrix in the row reduced form is also called a row reduced matrix.

Example 4.1.2

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad N = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

1. In the matrix M , the pivot of row 4 is $m_{4,6} = 1$, but it is not the only non-zero coefficient in its column, since $m_{3,6} = 1$. So matrix M is not reduced.
2. The matrix N is reduced, since all the pivots are the only non-zero coefficients in their respective columns.

Every matrix can be put in row echelon form by applying a sequence of elementary row operations.

4.1.3 Method to get the row-reduced echelon form of a given matrix

Let A be an $m \times n$ matrix. Then the following method is used to obtain the row-reduced echelon form of the matrix A .

1. **Step 1** : Consider the first column of the matrix A . If all the entries in the first column are zero, move to the second column.
Else, find a row, say i th row, which contains a non-zero entry in the first column. Now,

interchange the first row with the i th row. Suppose the non-zero entry in the $(1, 1)$ -position is $\alpha \neq 0$. Divide the whole row by α so that the $(1, 1)$ -entry of the new matrix is 1. Now, use the 1 to make all the entries below this 1 equal to 0.

2. **Step 2 :** Ignore the first row and first column. Start with the lower $(m - 1) \times (n - 1)$ submatrix of the matrix obtained in the first step and proceed as in step 1.
3. **Step 3 :** Keep repeating this process till we obtain an equivalent where all the entries below a particular row, say r , are zero.

The integer r is the largest integer such that $a_{rr} \neq 0$ and $a_{ij} = 0$ for $i \geq r + 1$.

The final matrix is the **row-reduced echelon form of the matrix A** .

Example 4.1.3 Let

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

Let's proceed with some elementary operations to produce matrix in the row echelon form

$$\begin{array}{lcl} R_2 \leftrightarrow R_1 & A & \sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & -1 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ \\ R_2 - 2R_1 & & \sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ \\ R_3 - R_2 & & \sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 & -4 \end{pmatrix} \\ \\ 2R_2, \quad 3R_3 & & \sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 6 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & -6 & -12 \end{pmatrix} \\ \\ R_3 + R_2 & \sim A_5 = & \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 6 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -4 \end{pmatrix} \end{array}$$

Note that the reduced form of a matrix in a row echelon form is obtained using the following steps :

1. Multiply rows R_i of non-zero pivots a_i by $\lambda = \frac{1}{a_i}$, giving pivots all equal to 1.
2. We proceed with elementary operations on the rows, starting from the bottom of the matrix, to eliminate the coefficients in the column of each pivot.
1. To obtain pivots equal to 1, we perform the elementary operation $-\frac{1}{4}R_3$ on A_5 .

$$A_5 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 6 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -4 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{-\frac{1}{4}R_3} A_6 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 6 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

2. Elimination of coefficients above the pivot in the pivot column. We then perform the following elementary operations : $R_2 - 8R_3$ and $R_1 + R_3$.

$$A_6 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 6 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{array}{l} R_2 - 8R_3 \\ R_1 + R_3 \end{array} \implies A_7 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 6 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

We then obtain the matrix A_7 , which is the **row reduced form** of the matrix A .

4.2 Rank of a Matrix

Definition 4.2.1 Row rank of a Matrix

The number of non-zero rows in the row reduced form of a matrix is called the row-rank of the matrix.

For a matrix A , we write 'row - rank(A)' to denote the row-rank of A .

Example 4.2.1 Find the rank of the matrix $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 & 7 \\ 3 & -2 & 4 \\ 1 & -3 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ by reducing it to Echelon form.

Solution : Applying row transformations on A .

$$\begin{array}{ll} R_1 \leftrightarrow R_3 & A \sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -3 & -1 \\ 3 & -2 & 4 \\ 2 & 3 & 7 \end{pmatrix} \\ R_2 = R_2 - 3R_1, \quad R_3 = R_3 - 2R_1 & A \sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -3 & -1 \\ 0 & 7 & 7 \\ 0 & 9 & 9 \end{pmatrix} \\ R_2 = R_2/7, \quad R_3 = R_3/9 & \sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -3 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ R_3 = R_3 - R_2 & \sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -3 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{array}$$

This is the Echelon form of matrix A . The rank of a matrix A = Number of non-zero rows = 2.

Note

In the previous example we have $A \sim A_7$, Consequently, the rank of the matrix A is equal to 2.

5 The inverse of a matrix

An $n \times n$ matrix A is invertible if there is a matrix B such that $AB = BA = I_n$. In that case, B is the inverse of A and we write $A^{-1} = B$.

Theoreme 5.0.1 Suppose A and B are invertible. Then :

1. A^{-1} is invertible and $(A^{-1})^{-1} = A$.
2. A^T is invertible and $(A^T)^{-1} = (A^{-1})^T$.
3. AB is invertible and $(AB)^{-1} = B^{-1}A^{-1}$.

5.1 Solving systems using matrix inverse

1. To solve $Ax = b$, we do row reduction on $[A \mid b]$.
2. To solve $AX = I$, we do row reduction on $[A \mid I]$.
3. To compute A^{-1}
 - a/ Form the augmented matrix $[A \mid I]$.
 - b/ Compute the reduced echelon form.
 - c/ If A is invertible, the result is of the form $[I \mid A^{-1}]$.

Example 5.1.1 *Let the system :*

$$\begin{aligned} 3x_3 &= 9 \\ x_1 + 5x_2 - 2x_3 &= 2 \\ \frac{1}{3}x_1 + 2x_2 &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

First we write the system as an augmented matrix :

$$\begin{aligned} (A \mid b) &= \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 0 & 0 & 3 & 9 \\ 1 & 5 & -2 & 2 \\ \frac{1}{3} & 2 & 0 & 3 \end{array} \right) \\ R_1 \leftrightarrow R_3 & \quad (A \mid b) \sim \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} \frac{1}{3} & 2 & 0 & 3 \\ 1 & 5 & -2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 9 \end{array} \right) \\ 3R_1 & \quad \sim \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 6 & 0 & 9 \\ 1 & 5 & -2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 9 \end{array} \right) \\ R_2 = R_2 - R_1 & \quad \sim \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 6 & 0 & 9 \\ 0 & -1 & -2 & -7 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 9 \end{array} \right) \\ -R_2 & \quad \sim \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 6 & 0 & 9 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 9 \end{array} \right) \\ R_1 = R_1 - 6R_2 & \quad \sim \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -12 & -33 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 9 \end{array} \right) \\ \frac{1}{3}R_3 & \quad \sim \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -12 & -33 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right) \\ R_1 = R_1 + 12R_3 & \quad \sim \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right) \\ R_2 = R_2 - 2R_3 & \quad \sim \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Now we're in RREF and can see that the solution to the system is given by $x_1 = 3$, $x_2 = 1$ and $x_3 = 1$; it happens to be a unique solution. Notice that we kept track of the steps we were taking; this is important for checking work!

Example 5.1.2 Find the inverse of $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & -3 \\ -2 & 4 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$

Solution

$$\begin{aligned}
 (A | I_3) &= \left(\begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 2 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & -3 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -2 & 4 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right) \\
 R_3 &= R_3 + R_1 & (A | I_3) &\sim \left(\begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 2 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & -3 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 4 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right) \\
 R_3 &= R_3 + 4R_2 & &\sim \left(\begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 2 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & -3 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -8 & 1 & 4 & 1 \end{array} \right) \\
 R_2 &= 8R_2 - 3R_3 & &\sim \left(\begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 2 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -8 & 0 & -3 & -4 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & -8 & 1 & 4 & 1 \end{array} \right) \\
 R_1 &= 8R_1 + R_3 & &\sim \left(\begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 16 & 0 & 8 & 9 & 4 & 1 \\ 0 & -8 & 0 & -3 & -4 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & -8 & 1 & 4 & 1 \end{array} \right) \\
 R_1 = \frac{1}{16}8R_1, \quad R_2 = \frac{-1}{8}R_2, \quad R_3 = \frac{-1}{8}R_3 & & &\sim \left(\begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 1 & 0 & 8 & 9/16 & 1/4 & 1/16 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 3/8 & 1/2 & 3/8 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1/8 & -1/2 & -1/8 \end{array} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

The inverse is the right side.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 9/16 & 1/4 & 1/16 \\ 3/8 & 1/2 & 3/8 \\ -1/8 & -1/2 & -1/8 \end{pmatrix}$$