

"Linear Algebra" - Systems of Linear Equations  
and Matrices.

$$\begin{cases} 3x - 7y = 6 \\ 2x + y = 7 \end{cases} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -7 & : & 6 \\ 2 & 1 & : & 7 \end{bmatrix}$$

"augmented coefficient matrix"

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & -7 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \text{"coefficient matrix"}$$

A Matrix is an arranged array of elements with  $r$  rows and  $c$  columns.

The "size" or "shape" of the augmented coefficient matrix above is  $2 \times 3$ .  
(rows  $\times$  cols).

Matrix — singular  
Matrices — plural

$$\begin{cases} 3x - 7y = 6 \\ 2x + y = 7 \end{cases} \quad \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 3 & -7 & 6 \\ 2 & 1 & 7 \end{array} \right]$$

We use "elementary row operations."

- ① Add a constant multiple of one row to another row
- ② Multiply a row by a non-zero constant
- ③ Swap rows

$$\begin{cases} 3x - 7y = 6 \\ 2x + y = 7 \end{cases} \xrightarrow{\text{eq 2} \cdot 7} \begin{cases} 3x - 7y = 6 \\ 14x + 7y = 49 \end{cases} \xrightarrow{\text{eq 1} + \text{eq 2}}$$

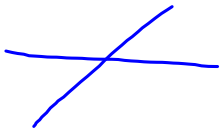
$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 3 & -7 & 6 \\ 2 & 1 & 7 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\text{(prop 2)}} \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 3 & -7 & 6 \\ 14 & 7 & 49 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\begin{cases} 17x + 0y = 55 \\ 14x + 7y = 49 \end{cases} \Rightarrow x = \frac{55}{17}$$

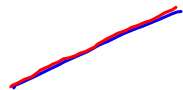
$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 17 & 0 & 55 \\ 14 & 7 & 49 \end{array} \right] \quad \text{and } y = 7 - 2\left(\frac{55}{17}\right) = \frac{9}{17}$$

$\therefore \left(\frac{55}{17}, \frac{9}{17}\right)$  is a solution.

Possibilities (for linear systems):

 ← two lines cross once...  
(one soln)

 ← do not cross  
(no soln)

 ← coincident lines  
(infinitely many soln)

$$\begin{cases} 2x + 6y = 4 \\ 3x + 9y = 7 \end{cases} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 6 & : & 4 \\ 3 & 9 & : & 7 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\cdot \frac{1}{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & : & 2 \\ 3 & 9 & : & 7 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{-3R_1}$$

$$\rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & : & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & : & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{not possible (} 0x + 0y = 1 \text{)}$$

algebraically: (no solution)

$$0 \cdot \text{variables} = \text{non-zero } \#$$

geometrically: parallel lines

(we say the system is "inconsistent.")

$$\begin{cases} 2x + 6y = 4 \\ 3x + 9y = 6 \end{cases} \xrightarrow{\text{eg } 2 - \frac{3}{2} = 6} \begin{cases} 2x + 6y = 4 \\ 0x + 0y = 0 \end{cases} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 6 & | & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} y = \frac{4-2x}{6} \\ y = \frac{6-3x}{9} \end{cases}$

0 variables = 0

row of zeros in augmented coeff. matrix.

algebraically: any (all) ordered pairs would work (infinitely many solutions) (as long as they still satisfy the equation  $2x + 6y = 4$ ).

geometrically: same (coincident) lines.

In cases where we have infinitely many sols, we often "parameterize" in terms of some other independent variable.

Since  $2x + 6y = 4$ , let  $y = t$ .

then  $x = \frac{4-6t}{2}$

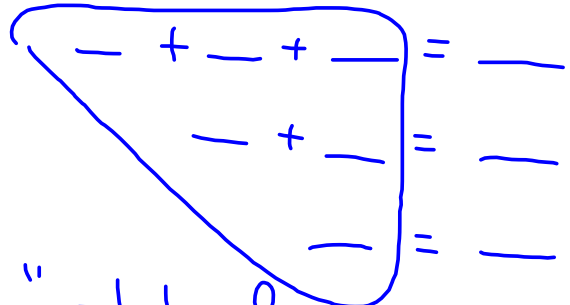
i.e.  $(x, y) = (2-3t, t)$

leading variable ... "pivot"

$$\begin{cases} \textcircled{1} x + 2y + z = 4 \\ \textcircled{2} 3x + 8y + 7z = 20 \quad -3\text{eq1} \\ \textcircled{3} 2x + 7y + 9z = 23 \quad -2\text{eq1} \end{cases}$$

"Gaussian Elimination" goal is to obtain triangular form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & \vdots & 4 \\ 3 & 8 & 7 & \vdots & 20 \\ 2 & 7 & 9 & \vdots & 23 \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} \\ -3R_1 \\ -2R_1 \end{matrix}$$



or "echelon form"

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & \vdots & 4 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 & \vdots & 8 \\ 0 & 3 & 7 & \vdots & 15 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & \vdots & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & \vdots & 4 \\ 0 & 3 & 7 & \vdots & 15 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{-3R_2}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & \vdots & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & \vdots & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \vdots & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

leading entries

(pivots) are all 1 ... this can be helpful

→ We now see that  $z=3$ . We "back-substitute" to get the rest ...

Row 2 indicates  $y + 2z = 4$ , so  $y = 4 - 2(3) = -2$ .

Row 1 indicates  $x + 2y + z = 4$ , so  $x = 4 - 2(-2) - (3) = 5$ .

$$(x, y, z) = (5, -2, 3)$$

However, we can continue:

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{l} -R_3 \\ -2R_3 \end{array} \longrightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{l} -2R_2 \\ \end{array} \longrightarrow$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{l} \Rightarrow x=5 \\ \Rightarrow y=-2 \\ \Rightarrow z=3 \end{array}$$

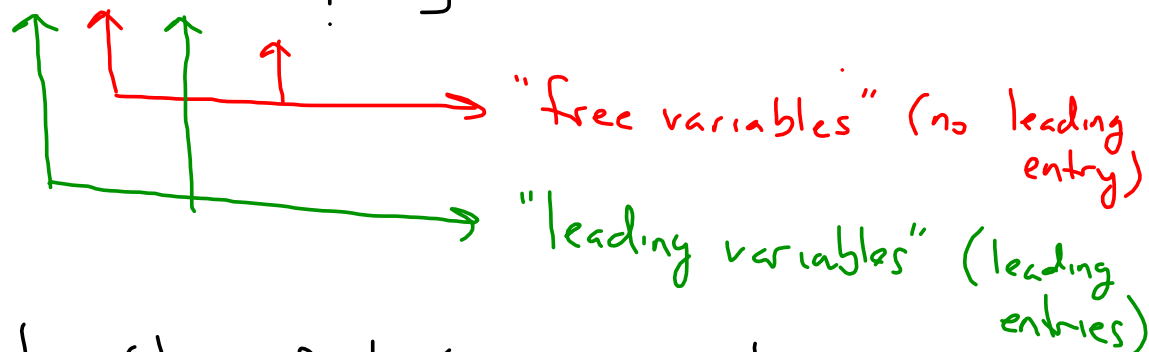
This is called "Gauss-Jordan elimination."

## ECHELON FORM

The above theorem is what allows us to solve a system of equations by using elementary row operations to get its coefficient matrix in a specific "triangular" form, called echelon form. An **echelon matrix**  $\mathbf{E}$  is one having the following two properties (and is sometimes called a **row-echelon matrix**):

1. Every row of  $\mathbf{E}$  that consists entirely of zeros (if any) lies beneath every row that contains a nonzero element.
2. In each row of  $\mathbf{E}$  that contains a nonzero element, the first nonzero element (called the **leading entry**) lies strictly to the right of the first nonzero element in the preceding row (if there is a preceding row).

$$\begin{matrix} w & x & y & z & = & \# \\ \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \end{matrix}$$



(When solving systems, we parameterize on free variables).

If matrix  $B$  can be obtained from matrix  $A$  via a finite number of elementary row operations,

(1)  $A$  and  $B$  are "row equivalent".

(2) If  $A$  and  $B$  are augmented coefficient matrices of linear systems, the two systems have the same solution set.

Try:

Reduce the augmented coefficient matrix of the system and use it to find the solution.

$$\begin{cases} x_1 - 2x_2 + 3x_3 + 2x_4 + x_5 = 10 \\ 2x_1 - 4x_2 + 8x_3 + 3x_4 + 10x_5 = 7 \\ 3x_1 - 6x_2 + 10x_3 + 6x_4 + 5x_5 = 27 \end{cases}$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & -2 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 10 \\ 2 & -4 & 8 & 3 & 10 & 7 \\ 3 & -6 & 10 & 6 & 5 & 27 \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{l} \\ -2R_1 \\ -3R_1 \end{array}$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & -2 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 10 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & -1 & 8 & -13 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & -3 \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{l} \\ -2R_3 \\ \end{array}$$

3 x 5 matrix  
eqns      variables

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & -2 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 10 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 4 & -7 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & -3 \end{array} \right] R_2 \leftrightarrow R_3$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & -2 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 10 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 4 & -7 \end{array} \right] \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{"echelon form"} \\ \dots \\ \text{back substitute.} \end{array}$$



leading vars. →  
free vars... let these be parameters and solve for the leading vars in terms of these parameters.

Let  $x_2 = r, x_5 = t$ .

$$-x_4 + 4x_5 = -7$$

$$\Rightarrow x_4 = 7 + 4x_5 = 7 + 4t \quad (\text{b/c } x_5 = t)$$

$$x_3 + 2x_5 = -3$$

$$\Rightarrow x_3 = -3 - 2t$$

$$x_1 - 2x_2 + 3x_3 + 2x_4 + x_5 = 10$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 = 10 + 2r - 3x_3 - 2x_4 - t$$

$$= 10 + 2r - 3(-3 - 2t) - 2(7 + 4t) - t$$

$$= 5 + 2r - 3t$$

Infinitely many solutions:

$$(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5) = (5 + 2r - 3t, r, -3 - 2t, 7 + 4t, t)$$

## Possible intersections of planes:

Image from [http://geomalgorithms.com/a05-\\_intersect-1.html](http://geomalgorithms.com/a05-_intersect-1.html)

