

Row Reduction

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Linear Equations

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} a_{11} x_1 + a_{12} x_2 + \cdots + a_{1n} x_n & = & b_1 \\ a_{21} x_1 + a_{22} x_2 + \cdots + a_{2n} x_n & = & b_2 \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{m1} x_1 + a_{m2} x_2 + \cdots + a_{mn} x_n & = & b_m \end{array}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \cdots & a_{mn} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_m \end{pmatrix}$$

Linear Equations

$$\begin{aligned} a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \cdots + a_{1n}x_n &= b_1 \\ a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \cdots + a_{2n}x_n &= b_2 \\ \vdots & \\ a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + \cdots + a_{mn}x_n &= b_m \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \cdots & a_{mn} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_m \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\sum_{j=1}^n a_{1j} \cdot x_j = b_1$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b_2 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\sum_{j=1}^n a_{2j} \cdot x_j = b_2$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \cdots & a_{mn} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b_m \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\sum_{j=1}^n a_{mj} \cdot x_j = b_m$$

Example

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} a_{11} x_1 + a_{12} x_2 + \cdots + a_{1n} x_n & = & b_1 \\ a_{21} x_1 + a_{22} x_2 + \cdots + a_{2n} x_n & = & b_2 \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{m1} x_1 + a_{m2} x_2 + \cdots + a_{mn} x_n & = & b_m \end{array}$$

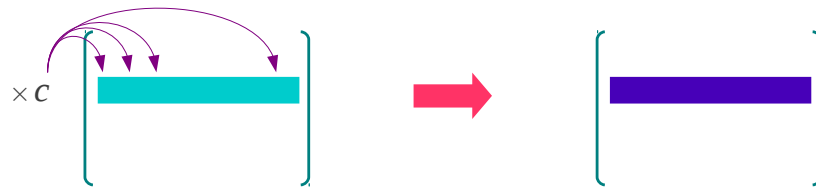
$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 2 x_1 + 1 x_2 - 1 x_3 & = & +8 \\ -3 x_1 - 1 x_2 + 2 x_3 & = & -11 \\ -2 x_1 + 1 x_2 + 2 x_3 & = & -3 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \cdots & a_{mn} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_m \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} +2 & +1 & -1 \\ -3 & -1 & +2 \\ -2 & +1 & +2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} +8 \\ -11 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Gauss-Jordan Elimination

$$\begin{pmatrix} +2 & +1 & -1 \\ -3 & -1 & +2 \\ -2 & +1 & +2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} +8 \\ -11 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} * \\ * \\ * \end{pmatrix}$$



Gauss-Jordan Elimination – Step 1

$$\begin{array}{rcl} +2x_1 + x_2 - x_3 = 8 & (L_1) & \\ -3x_1 - x_2 + 2x_3 = -11 & (L_2) & \\ -2x_1 + x_2 + 2x_3 = -3 & (L_3) & \end{array} \quad \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} \textcircled{+2} & +1 & -1 & +8 \\ -3 & -1 & +2 & -11 \\ -2 & +1 & +2 & -3 \end{array} \right]$$

$$+1x_1 + \frac{1}{2}x_2 - \frac{1}{2}x_3 = 4 \quad \left(\frac{1}{2} \times L_1\right) \quad +2/2 \quad +1/2 \quad -1/2 \quad +8/2$$

$$\begin{array}{rcl} +1x_1 + \frac{1}{2}x_2 - \frac{1}{2}x_3 = 4 & \left(\frac{1}{2} \times L_1\right) & \\ -3x_1 - x_2 + 2x_3 = -11 & (L_2) & \\ -2x_1 + x_2 + 2x_3 = -3 & (L_3) & \end{array} \quad \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} \textcircled{+1} & +1/2 & -1/2 & +4 \\ -3 & -1 & +2 & -11 \\ -2 & +1 & +2 & -3 \end{array} \right]$$

Gauss-Jordan Elimination – Step 2

$$+1x_1 + \frac{1}{2}x_2 - \frac{1}{2}x_3 = +4 \quad (L_1)$$

$$-3x_1 - x_2 + 2x_3 = -11 \quad (L_2)$$

$$-2x_1 + x_2 + 2x_3 = -3 \quad (L_3)$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} +1 & +1/2 & -1/2 & +4 \\ -3 & -1 & +2 & -11 \\ -2 & +1 & +2 & -3 \end{array} \right]$$

$$+3x_1 + \frac{3}{2}x_2 - \frac{3}{2}x_3 = +12 \quad (3 \times L_1)$$

$$-3x_1 - x_2 + 2x_3 = -11 \quad (L_2)$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc|c} +3 & +3/2 & -3/2 & +12 \\ -3 & -1 & +2 & -11 \end{array}$$

$$+2x_1 + \frac{2}{2}x_2 - \frac{2}{2}x_3 = +8 \quad (2 \times L_1)$$

$$-2x_1 + x_2 + 2x_3 = -3 \quad (L_3)$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc|c} +2 & +2/2 & -2/2 & +8 \\ -2 & +1 & +2 & -3 \end{array}$$

$$+1x_1 + \frac{1}{2}x_2 - \frac{1}{2}x_3 = +4 \quad (L_1)$$

$$0x_1 + \frac{1}{2}x_2 + \frac{1}{2}x_3 = +1 \quad (3 \times L_1 + L_2)$$

$$0x_1 + 2x_2 + 1x_3 = +5 \quad (2 \times L_1 + L_3)$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} +1 & +1/2 & -1/2 & +4 \\ 0 & +1/2 & +1/2 & +1 \\ 0 & +2 & +1 & +5 \end{array} \right]$$

Gauss-Jordan Elimination – Step 3

$$+1x_1 + \frac{1}{2}x_2 - \frac{1}{2}x_3 = +4 \quad (L_1)$$

$$0x_1 + \frac{1}{2}x_2 + \frac{1}{2}x_3 = +1 \quad (L_2)$$

$$0x_1 + 2x_2 + 1x_3 = +5 \quad (L_3)$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} +1 & +1/2 & -1/2 & +4 \\ 0 & +1/2 & +1/2 & +1 \\ 0 & +2 & +1 & +5 \end{array} \right]$$

$$0x_1 + 1x_2 + 1x_3 = +2 \quad (2 \times L_2)$$

$$0 \quad +1 \quad +1 \quad +2$$

$$+1x_1 + \frac{1}{2}x_2 - \frac{1}{2}x_3 = +4 \quad (L_1)$$

$$0x_1 + 1x_2 + 1x_3 = +2 \quad (2 \times L_2)$$

$$0x_1 + 2x_2 + 1x_3 = +5 \quad (L_3)$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} +1 & +1/2 & -1/2 & +4 \\ 0 & +1 & +1 & +2 \\ 0 & +2 & +1 & +5 \end{array} \right]$$

Gauss-Jordan Elimination – Step 4

$$\begin{array}{lcl} +1x_1 + \frac{1}{2}x_2 - \frac{1}{2}x_3 = +4 & (L_1) & \\ 0x_1 + 1x_2 + 1x_3 = +2 & (L_2) & \\ 0x_1 + 2x_2 + 1x_3 = +5 & (L_3) & \end{array} \quad \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} +1 & +1/2 & -1/2 & +4 \\ 0 & +1 & +1 & +2 \\ 0 & +2 & +1 & +5 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\begin{array}{lcl} 0x_1 - 2x_2 - 2x_3 = -4 & (-2 \times L_2) & \\ 0x_1 + 2x_2 + 1x_3 = +5 & (L_3) & \end{array}$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 0 & -2 & -2 & -4 \\ 0 & +2 & +1 & +5 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\begin{array}{lcl} +1x_1 + \frac{1}{2}x_2 - \frac{1}{2}x_3 = +4 & (L_1) & \\ 0x_1 + 1x_2 + 1x_3 = +2 & (L_2) & \\ 0x_1 + 0x_2 - 1x_3 = +1 & (-2 \times L_2 + L_3) & \end{array} \quad \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} +1 & +1/2 & -1/2 & +4 \\ 0 & +1 & +1 & +2 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & +1 \end{array} \right]$$

Gauss-Jordan Elimination – Step 5

$$+1x_1 + \frac{1}{2}x_2 - \frac{1}{2}x_3 = +4 \quad (L_1)$$

$$0x_1 + 1x_2 + 1x_3 = +2 \quad (L_2)$$

$$0x_1 + 0x_2 - 1x_3 = +1 \quad (L_3)$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} +1 & +1/2 & -1/2 & +4 \\ 0 & +1 & +1 & +2 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & +1 \end{array} \right]$$

$$0x_1 - 0x_2 + 1x_3 = -1 \quad (-1 \times L_3)$$

$$0 \quad 0 \quad +1 \quad -1$$

$$+1x_1 + \frac{1}{2}x_2 - \frac{1}{2}x_3 = +4 \quad (L_1)$$

$$0x_1 + 1x_2 + 1x_3 = +2 \quad (L_2)$$

$$0x_1 + 0x_2 + 1x_3 = -1 \quad (-1 \times L_3)$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} +1 & +1/2 & -1/2 & +4 \\ 0 & +1 & +1 & +2 \\ 0 & 0 & +1 & -1 \end{array} \right]$$

Forward Phase

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c}
 \textcircled{+2} & +1 & -1 & +8 \\
 -3 & -1 & +2 & -11 \\
 -2 & +1 & +2 & -3
 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c}
 \textcircled{+1} & +1/2 & -1/2 & +4 \\
 -3 & -1 & +2 & -11 \\
 -2 & +1 & +2 & -3
 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c}
 +1 & +1/2 & -1/2 & +4 \\
 \boxed{0} & +1/2 & +1/2 & +1 \\
 \boxed{0} & +2 & +1 & +5
 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \\
 \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c}
 +1 & +1/2 & -1/2 & +4 \\
 0 & \textcircled{+1} & +1 & +2 \\
 0 & +2 & +1 & +5
 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c}
 +1 & +1/2 & -1/2 & +4 \\
 0 & +1 & +1 & +2 \\
 0 & \boxed{0} & -1 & +1
 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c}
 +1 & +1/2 & -1/2 & +4 \\
 0 & +1 & +1 & +2 \\
 0 & 0 & \textcircled{+1} & -1
 \end{array} \right)
 \end{array}$$

Forward Phase - Gaussian Elimination

Gauss-Jordan Elimination – Step 6

$$+1x_1 + \frac{1}{2}x_2 - \frac{1}{2}x_3 = +4 \quad (L_1)$$

$$0x_1 + 1x_2 + 1x_3 = +2 \quad (L_2)$$

$$0x_1 + 0x_2 + 1x_3 = -1 \quad (L_3)$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} +1 & +1/2 & -1/2 & +4 \\ 0 & +1 & +1 & +2 \\ 0 & 0 & +1 & -1 \end{array} \right]$$

$$0x_1 + 0x_2 + \frac{1}{2}x_3 = -\frac{1}{2} \quad \left[+\frac{1}{2} \times L_3 \right]$$

$$+1x_1 + \frac{1}{2}x_2 - \frac{1}{2}x_3 = +4 \quad (L_1)$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 0 & 0 & +1/2 & -1/2 \\ +1 & +1/2 & -1/2 & +4 \end{array} \right]$$

$$0x_1 + 0x_2 - 1x_3 = +1 \quad \left[-1 \times L_3 \right]$$

$$0x_1 + 1x_2 + 1x_3 = +2 \quad (L_2)$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 0 & 0 & -1 & +1 \\ 0 & +1 & +1 & +2 \end{array} \right]$$

$$+1x_1 + \frac{1}{2}x_2 + 0x_3 = +\frac{7}{2} \quad \left(+\frac{1}{2} \times L_3 + L_1 \right)$$

$$0x_1 + 1x_2 + 0x_3 = +3 \quad \left(-1 \times L_3 + L_2 \right)$$

$$0x_1 + 0x_2 + 1x_3 = -1 \quad (L_3)$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} +1 & +1/2 & 0 & +7/2 \\ 0 & +1 & 0 & +3 \\ 0 & 0 & +1 & -1 \end{array} \right]$$

Gauss-Jordan Elimination - Step 7

$$+1x_1 + \frac{1}{2}x_2 + 0x_3 = +\frac{7}{2} \quad (L_1)$$

$$0x_1 + 1x_2 + 0x_3 = +3 \quad (L_2)$$

$$0x_1 + 0x_2 + 1x_3 = -1 \quad (L_3)$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} +1 & +1/2 & 0 & +7/2 \\ 0 & +1 & 0 & +3 \\ 0 & 0 & +1 & -1 \end{array} \right]$$

$$0x_1 - \frac{1}{2}x_2 + 0x_3 = -\frac{3}{2} \quad \left(-\frac{1}{2} \times L_2\right)$$

$$+1x_1 + 0x_2 - 0x_3 = +2 \quad (L_1)$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 0 & -1/2 & 0 & -3/2 \\ +1 & +1/2 & 0 & +7/2 \end{array} \right]$$

$$+1x_1 + 0x_2 - 0x_3 = +2 \quad \left(-\frac{1}{2} \times L_2 + L_1\right)$$

$$0x_1 + 1x_2 + 0x_3 = +3 \quad (L_2)$$

$$0x_1 + 0x_2 + 1x_3 = -1 \quad (L_3)$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} +1 & 0 & 0 & +2 \\ 0 & +1 & 0 & +3 \\ 0 & 0 & +1 & -1 \end{array} \right]$$

Backward Phase

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} +1 & +1/2 & -1/2 & +4 \\ 0 & +1 & +1 & +2 \\ 0 & 0 & +1 & -1 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} +1 & +1/2 & 0 & +7/2 \\ 0 & +1 & 0 & +3 \\ 0 & 0 & +1 & -1 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} +1 & 0 & 0 & +2 \\ 0 & +1 & 0 & +3 \\ 0 & 0 & +1 & -1 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow$$

Gauss-Jordan Elimination

Forward Phase - Gaussian Elimination

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} \textcircled{+2} & +1 & -1 & +8 \\ -3 & -1 & +2 & -11 \\ -2 & +1 & +2 & -3 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} \textcircled{+1} & +1/2 & -1/2 & +4 \\ -3 & -1 & +2 & -11 \\ -2 & +1 & +2 & -3 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} +1 & +1/2 & -1/2 & +4 \\ \boxed{0} & +1/2 & +1/2 & +1 \\ \boxed{0} & +2 & +1 & +5 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} +1 & +1/2 & -1/2 & +4 \\ 0 & \textcircled{+1} & +1 & +2 \\ 0 & +2 & +1 & +5 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} +1 & +1/2 & -1/2 & +4 \\ 0 & +1 & +1 & +2 \\ 0 & \boxed{0} & -1 & +1 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} +1 & +1/2 & -1/2 & +4 \\ 0 & +1 & +1 & +2 \\ 0 & 0 & \textcircled{+1} & -1 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow$$

Backward Phase

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} +1 & +1/2 & \boxed{-1/2} & +4 \\ 0 & +1 & \boxed{+1} & +2 \\ 0 & 0 & +1 & -1 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} +1 & +1/2 & \boxed{0} & +7/2 \\ 0 & +1 & \boxed{0} & +3 \\ 0 & 0 & +1 & -1 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} +1 & \boxed{0} & \boxed{0} & +2 \\ 0 & +1 & \boxed{0} & +3 \\ 0 & 0 & +1 & -1 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow$$

REF: Row Echelon Forms (1)

zero rows



Should be grouped at the bottom

non-zero row



A leading **1**

The 1st non-zero element should be one

Any successive
non-zero rows



The leading **1** of the **lower row**
should be farther to the **right** than
the leading **1** of the **higher row**

REF: Row Echelon Forms (2)

zero rows



Should be grouped at the bottom

0	0	0	0	•	•	•	0
0	0	0	0	•	•	•	0

0	0	0	0	•	•	•	0
0	0	0	0	•	•	•	0

REF: Row Echelon Forms (3)

non-zero row



A leading one

The 1st non-zero element should be one

$$0 \quad \textcircled{9} \quad * \quad * \quad \dots \quad *$$

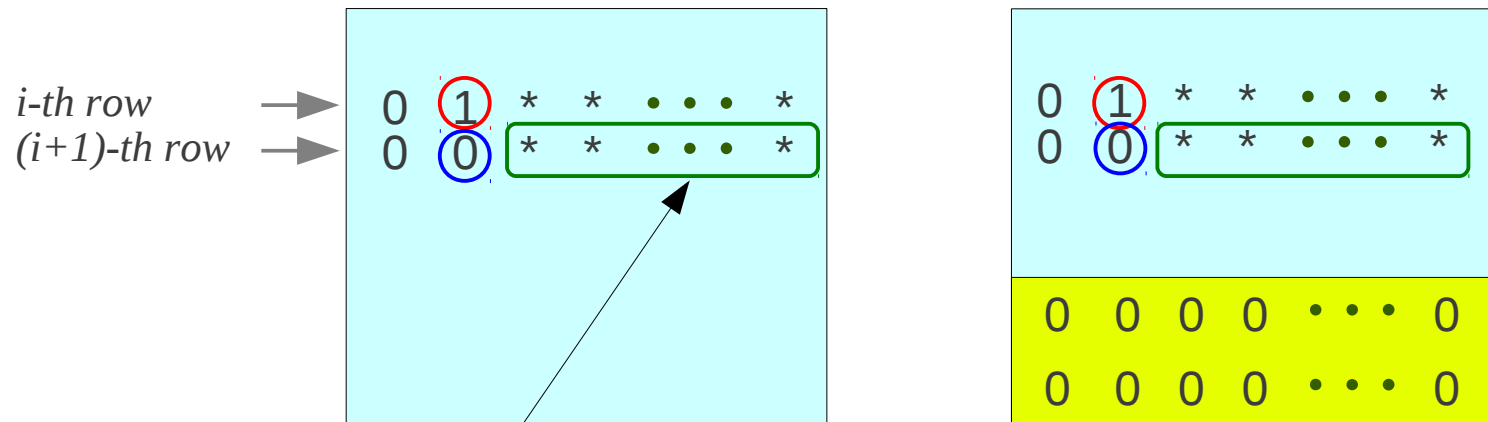
$$0 \quad \textcircled{1} \quad * \quad * \quad \dots \quad *$$
$$0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad \dots \quad 0$$
$$0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad \dots \quad 0$$

REF: Row Echelon Forms (4)

Any successive
non-zero rows



The leading **1** of the **lower row**
should be farther to the **right** than
the leading **1** of the **higher row**



The possible location of the leading one

Could be like this $0 \quad \textcircled{0} \quad \textcircled{1} \quad * \quad \dots \quad *$

Or like this $0 \quad \textcircled{0} \quad \textcircled{0} \quad \textcircled{1} \quad \dots \quad *$

Or like this $0 \quad \textcircled{0} \quad \textcircled{0} \quad \textcircled{0} \quad \textcircled{\dots} \quad \textcircled{1}$

RREF: Reduced Row Echelon Forms (1)

zero rows



Should be grouped at the bottom

non-zero row



A leading **1**

The 1st non-zero element should be one

Any successive
non-zero rows




The leading **1** of the **lower row**
should be farther to the **right** than
the leading **1** of the **higher row**

Any column
that contains a
leading **1**



All other elements except the leading
one are **all zeros**

RREF: Reduced Row Echelon Forms (2)

Any column that contains a leading one 

All other elements except the leading one are **all zeros**

	9					
0	1	*	*	•	•	*
	0					
	0					
	•					
	•					
	•					
	0					

	0					
0	1	*	*	•	•	*
	0					
	0					
0	0	0	0	•	•	0
0	0	0	0	•	•	0

Examples

Row Echelon Form

Zero / Non-zero

1													
0	1												
0	0	1											
0	0	0	1										
0	0	0	0	1									
0	0	0	0	0	1								
0	0	0	0	0	0	1							
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1						
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1					
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1				



Zero / Non-zero

1													
0	1												
0	0	0	1										
0	0	0	0	0	1								
0	0	0	0	0	0	1							
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1						
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1					
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1				
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			



zero rows

Reduced Row Echelon Form

1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0				
0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0				
0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0				
0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0				
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0				
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0				
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1				

1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0				
0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0				
0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0				
0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0				
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0				
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0				
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				

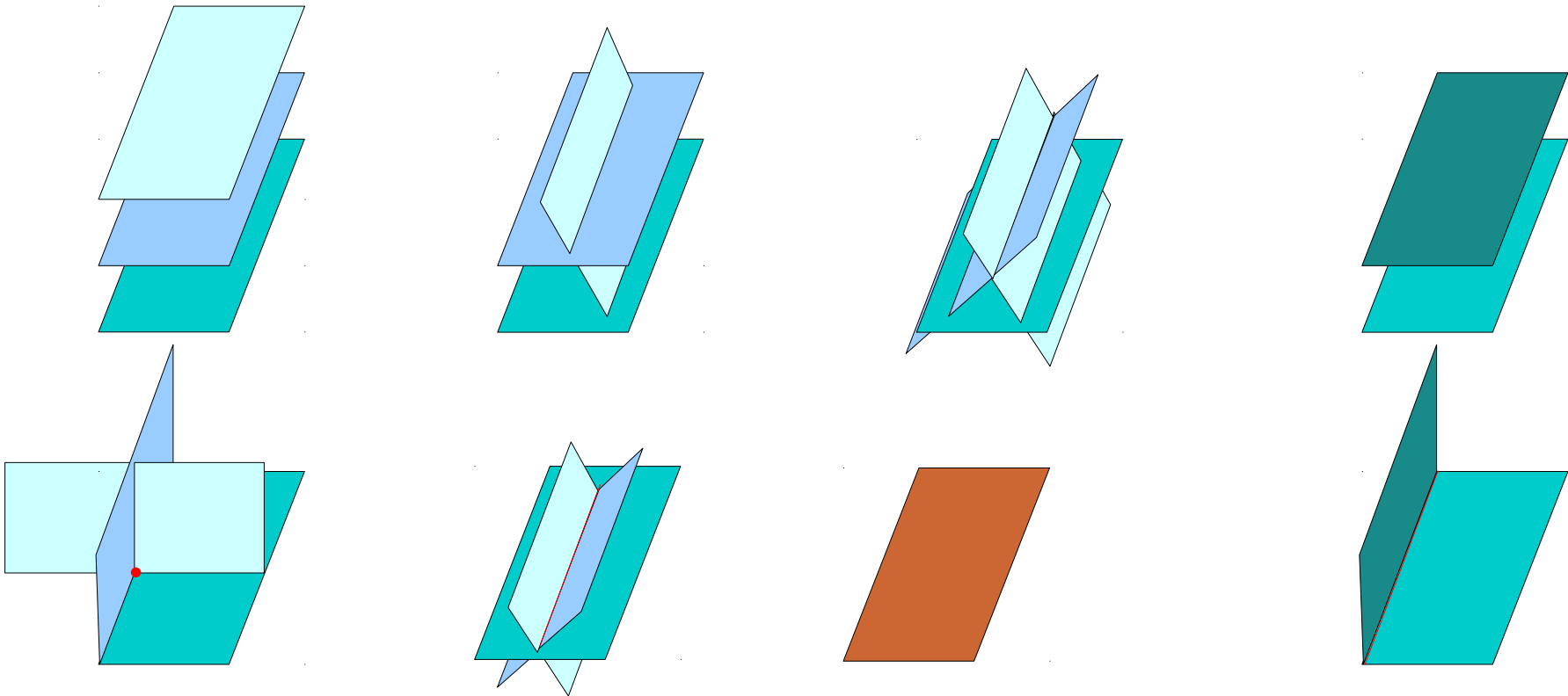
zero rows

Linear Systems of 3 Unknowns

$$\text{(Eq 1)} \rightarrow a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + a_{13}x_3 = b_1$$

$$\text{(Eq 2)} \rightarrow a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + a_{23}x_3 = b_2$$

$$\text{(Eq 3)} \rightarrow a_{31}x_1 + a_{32}x_2 + a_{33}x_3 = b_3$$



Leading and Free Variables

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right)$$

$$0 \cdot x_1 + 0 \cdot x_2 + 0 \cdot x_3 = 1$$

$$0 = 1$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -4 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$1 \cdot x_1 + 3 \cdot x_3 = -1$$

$$1 \cdot x_2 - 4 \cdot x_3 = 2$$

with a leading **1**
leading variables

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -5 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$1 \cdot x_1 - 5 \cdot x_2 + 1 \cdot x_3 = 4$$

Other remaining variable
free variables

Free Variables as Parameters (1)

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right)$$

$$0 \cdot x_1 + 0 \cdot x_2 + 0 \cdot x_3 = 1$$

$$0 = 1$$

Solve for a leading variable

Treat a free variable as a parameter

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -4 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$1 \cdot x_1 + 3 \cdot x_3 = -1$$

$$1 \cdot x_2 - 4 \cdot x_3 = 2$$

$$x_1 = -1 - 3 \cdot x_3$$

$$x_2 = 2 + 4 \cdot x_3$$

$$x_3 = t$$

$$\begin{cases} x_1 = -1 - 3t \\ x_2 = 2 + 4t \\ x_3 = t \end{cases}$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -5 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$1 \cdot x_1 - 5 \cdot x_2 + 1 \cdot x_3 = 4$$

$$x_1 = 4 + 5 \cdot x_2 - 1 \cdot x_3$$

$$x_2 = s \quad x_3 = t$$

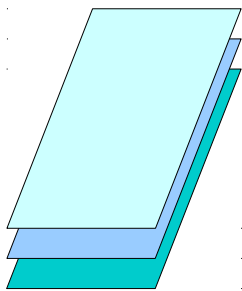
$$\begin{cases} x_1 = 4 + 5 \cdot x_2 - 1 \cdot x_3 \\ x_2 = s \\ x_3 = t \end{cases}$$

Free Variables as Parameters (2)

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right)$$

$$0 \cdot x_1 + 0 \cdot x_2 + 0 \cdot x_3 = 1$$

$$0 = 1$$

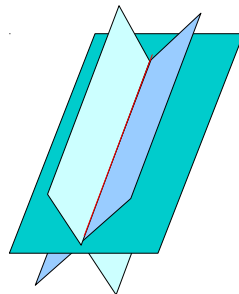


$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -4 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$1 \cdot x_1 + 3 \cdot x_3 = -1$$

$$1 \cdot x_2 - 4 \cdot x_3 = 2$$

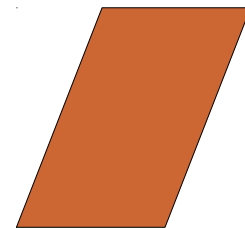
$$\begin{cases} x_1 = -1 - 3t \\ x_2 = 2 + 4t \\ x_3 = t \end{cases} \leftarrow \text{free variable}$$



$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -5 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$1 \cdot x_1 - 5 \cdot x_2 + 1 \cdot x_3 = 4$$

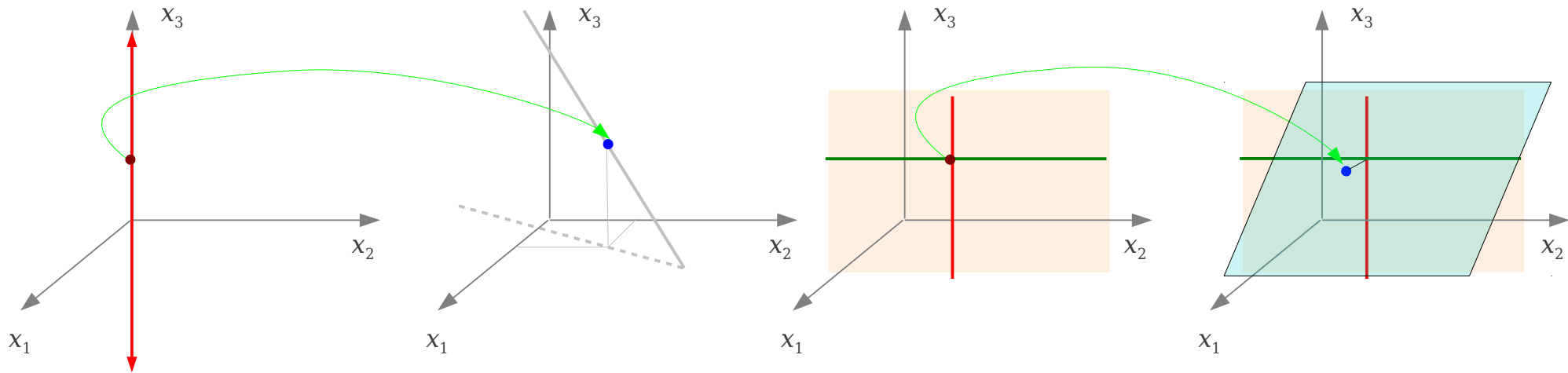
$$\begin{cases} x_1 = 4 + 5 \cdot x_2 - 1 \cdot x_3 \\ x_2 = s \leftarrow \text{free variable} \\ x_3 = t \leftarrow \text{free variable} \end{cases}$$



Free Variables as Parameters (3)

$$\begin{cases} x_1 = -1 - 3t \\ x_2 = 2 + 4t \\ x_3 = t \end{cases} \quad \leftarrow \text{free variable}$$

$$\begin{cases} x_1 = 4 + 5 \cdot x_2 - 1 \cdot x_3 \\ x_2 = s \quad \leftarrow \text{free variable} \\ x_3 = t \quad \leftarrow \text{free variable} \end{cases}$$



infinitely many solutions

infinitely many solutions

Consistent Linear System

A linear system with **at least one solution**

 A **Consistent Linear System**

A linear system with **no solutions**

 A **Inconsistent Linear System**

General Solution

A linear system with **infinitely many solutions**

Solve for a leading variable

Treat a free variable as a parameter

➡ A set of **parametric equations**

All solutions can be obtained
by assigning numerical values to those parameters

➡ Called **a general solution**

Homogeneous System

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n & = & 0 \\
 a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n & = & 0 \\
 \vdots & & \vdots \\
 a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + \dots + a_{mn}x_n & = & 0
 \end{array}$$

All constant terms are zero

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}
 =
 \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

All constant terms are zero

Solutions of a Homogeneous System

All homogeneous system passes through the origin



The homogeneous system has

* only the trivial solution

* many solutions in addition to the trivial solution

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 a_{11} x_1 + a_{12} x_2 + \dots + a_{1n} x_n & = & 0 \\
 a_{21} x_1 + a_{22} x_2 + \dots + a_{2n} x_n & = & 0 \\
 \vdots & & \vdots \\
 a_{m1} x_1 + a_{m2} x_2 + \dots + a_{mn} x_n & = & 0
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Trivial Solution

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n &= 0 \\ a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n &= 0 \\ \vdots & \\ a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + \dots + a_{mn}x_n &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

satisfies all
homogeneous
equation

All homogeneous
system passes
through the origin


$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Augmented Matrix

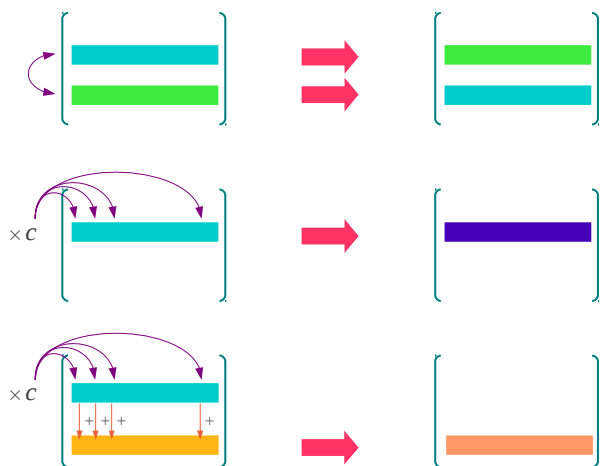
$$\begin{aligned} a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \cdots + a_{1n}x_n &= 0 \\ a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \cdots + a_{2n}x_n &= 0 \\ \vdots & \\ a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + \cdots + a_{mn}x_n &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \cdots & a_{mn} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Augmented matrix
of a homogeneous
system


$$\left(\begin{array}{cccc|c} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} & 0 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \cdots & a_{mn} & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

Reduced Row Echelon Form



Elementary row operations do not alter the zero column of a matrix

homogeneous system

The augmented zero column is preserved in the reduced row echelon form

Reduced Echelon Form

1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0

m leading variables

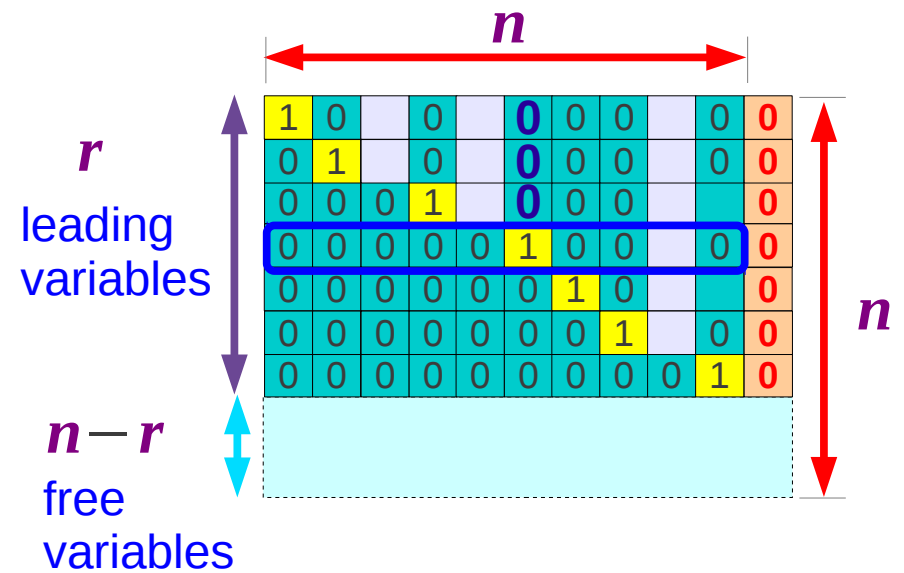
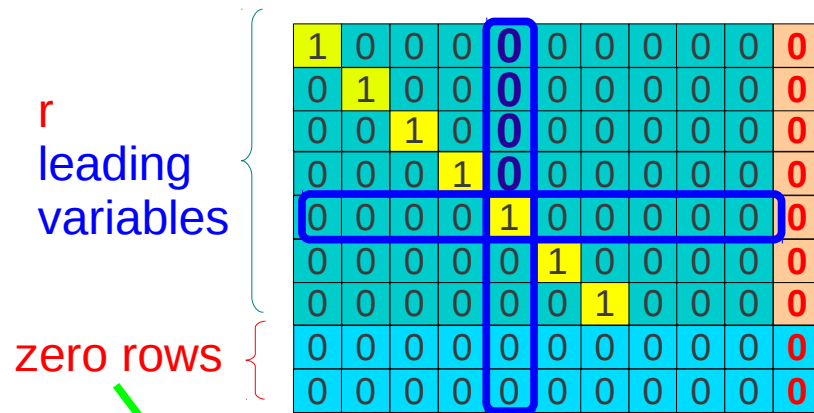
r leading variables

1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

zero rows

Free Variable Theorem

Reduced Echelon Form



zero rows

$$0x_1 + 0x_2 + \dots + 0x_n = 0$$

parameters s, t, u, \dots

A homogeneous linear system with n unknowns

If the reduced row echelon form of its augmented matrix has

r non-zero rows \Rightarrow $n-r$ free variables \Rightarrow infinitely many solutions

Free Variable Theorem Example

Reduced Echelon Form

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

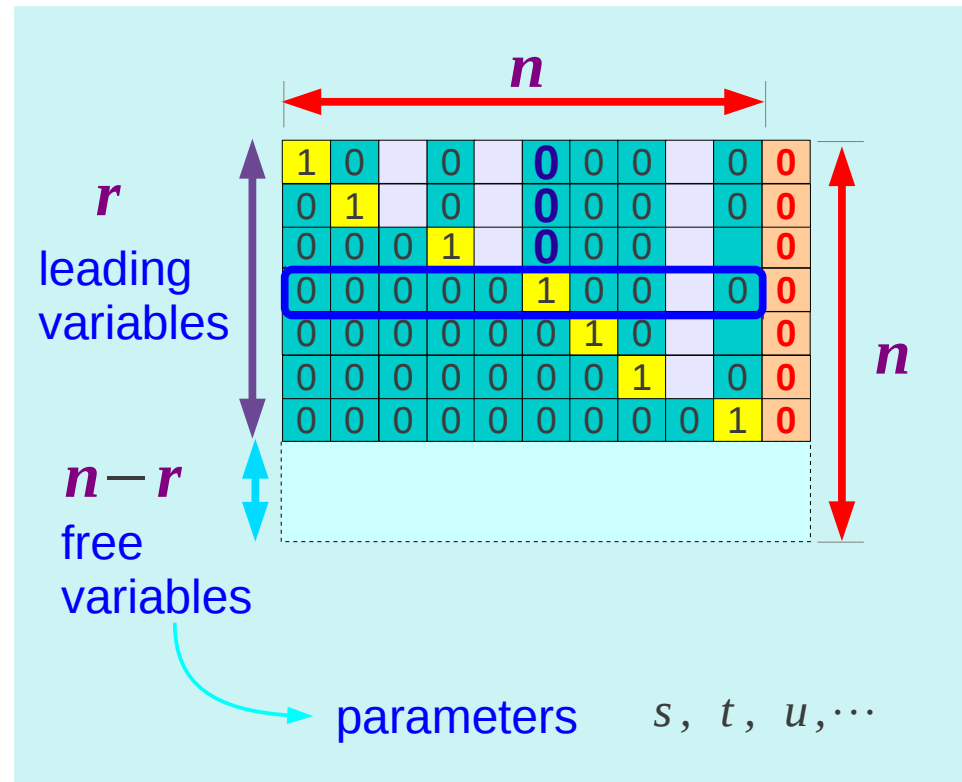
$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -5 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\begin{cases} 1 \cdot x_1 + 3 \cdot x_3 = -1 \\ 1 \cdot x_2 - 4 \cdot x_3 = 2 \end{cases}$$

$$1 \cdot x_1 - 5 \cdot x_2 + 1 \cdot x_3 = 4$$

$$\begin{cases} x_1 = -1 - 3t \\ x_2 = 2 + 4t \\ x_3 = t \quad \leftarrow \text{free variable} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} x_1 = 4 + 5 \cdot x_2 - 1 \cdot x_3 \\ x_2 = s \quad \leftarrow \text{free variable} \\ x_3 = t \quad \leftarrow \text{free variable} \end{cases}$$



A homogeneous linear system with n unknowns

If the reduced row echelon form of its augmented matrix has

r non-zero rows \Rightarrow $n - r$ free variables \Rightarrow infinitely many solutions

Linear System $Ax = B$

$$A x = 0$$

Always consistent

$$\text{rank}(A) = n$$

unique solution $x = 0$

$$\text{rank}(A) < n$$

Infinitely many solution
 $n - r$ parameters

$$A = [a_{ij}]_{m \times n}$$

m equations

n unknowns

$$A x = b$$

$$\text{rank}(A) = \text{rank}(A|b)$$

Consistent

$$\text{rank}(A) = n$$

unique solution $x = 0$

$$\text{rank}(A) < n$$

Infinitely many solution
 $n - r$ parameters

$$\text{rank}(A) < \text{rank}(A|b)$$

Inconsistent

Pivot Positions

Row Echelon Form



Not unique

Depend on the sequence of elementary row operations

1																			
0	1																		
0	0	1																	
0	0	0	1																
0	0	0	0	1															
0	0	0	0	0	1														
0	0	0	0	0	0	1													
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1												
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1											
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1										

Zero / Non-zero



The position of leading 1's
Pivot position is unique

1																			
0	1																		
0	0	0	1																
0	0	0	0	1															
0	0	0	0	0	1														
0	0	0	1																
0	0	0	0	1															
0	0	0	0	0	1														
0	0	0	0	0	0	1													
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1												
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1											
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1										
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1									

Zero / Non-zero



zero rows

Reduced Row Echelon Form



Unique

1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									
0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									
0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									
0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0									
0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0									
0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0									
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0									
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0									
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0									

1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									
0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									
0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0									
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0									
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0									
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0									
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1									
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1								
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1							

zero rows

References

- [1] <http://en.wikipedia.org/>
- [2] Anton & Busby, "Contemporary Linear Algebra"
- [3] Anton & Rorres, "Elementary Linear Algebra"