

Unit one: Matrices

1.1 Basic Definitions:

A **matrix** is a rectangular array of numbers (or functions) enclosed in brackets. These numbers (or functions) are called the **entries** (or sometimes the *elements*) of the matrix. For example,

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0.3 & 1 & -5 \\ 0 & -0.2 & 16 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix}, \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} e^{-x} & 2x^2 \\ e^{6x} & 4x \end{bmatrix}, \quad [a_1 \ a_2 \ a_3], \quad \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

The first matrix has two **rows** (horizontal lines of entries) and three **columns** (vertical lines). The second and third matrices are square matrices. Matrices having just a single row or column are called vectors. Thus the fourth and last matrices are called **row** and **column** vectors, respectively.

We shall denote matrices by capital letters **A**, **B**, **C**, ..., or $\mathbf{A} = [a_{ij}]$

$m \times n$ is called the size of the matrix.

$$\mathbf{A} \equiv [a_{ij}] = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & a_{1m} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & a_{2m} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & a_{nm} \end{bmatrix}$$

If $m = n$, we call **A** an $n \times n$ **square matrix**. A matrix that is not square is called a **rectangular matrix**.

1.2 Equality of Matrices:

Two matrices $\mathbf{A} = [a_{jk}]$ and $\mathbf{B} = [b_{jk}]$ are equal (written $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{B}$) if and only if they have the same size, and the corresponding elements are equal, that is, $a_{11} = b_{11}$, $a_{12} = b_{12}$, and so on. Matrices that are not equal are called **different**.

Example: **Equality of Matrices**

Let

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{B} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 \\ 3 & -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Then

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{B} \quad \text{if and only if} \quad \begin{array}{l} a_{11} = 4, \quad a_{12} = 0, \\ a_{21} = 3, \quad a_{22} = -1. \end{array}$$

1.3 Addition of Matrices

The sum of two matrices $\mathbf{A} = [a_{ij}]$ and $\mathbf{B} = [b_{ij}]$ of the same size is written $\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}$ and has the entries $a_{ij} + b_{ij}$ obtained by adding the corresponding entries of \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} . Matrices of different sizes cannot be added.

Example:

$$\text{If } \mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} -4 & 6 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \mathbf{B} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -1 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ then } \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

1.4 Scalar Multiplication (Multiplication by a Number)

The product of any $m \times n$ matrix $\mathbf{A} = [a_{ij}]$ and any scalar c (number c) is written $c\mathbf{A}$ and is the $m \times n$ matrix $c\mathbf{A} = [ca_{jk}]$ obtained by multiplying each entry of \mathbf{A} by c .

Example:

$$\text{If } \mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 2.7 & -1.8 \\ 0 & 0.9 \\ 9.0 & -4.5 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ then } -\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} -2.7 & 1.8 \\ 0 & -0.9 \\ -9.0 & 4.5 \end{bmatrix}, \frac{10}{9}\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 10 & -5 \end{bmatrix}, 0\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Rules for Matrix Addition and Scalar Multiplication:

- (a) $\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{A}$
- (b) $(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}) + \mathbf{C} = \mathbf{A} + (\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{C})$
- (c) $\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{0} = \mathbf{A}$
- (d) $\mathbf{A} + (-\mathbf{A}) = \mathbf{0}$
- (a) $c(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}) = c\mathbf{A} + c\mathbf{B}$
- (b) $(c + k)\mathbf{A} = c\mathbf{A} + k\mathbf{A}$
- (c) $c(k\mathbf{A}) = (ck)\mathbf{A}$
- (d) $\mathbf{I}\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A}$

1.4 Matrix multiplication

The product $\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{AB}$ (in this order) of an $m \times n$ matrix $\mathbf{A} = [a_{ij}]$ times an $r \times p$ matrix $\mathbf{B} = [b_{ij}]$ is defined if and only if $r = n$ and is then the $m \times p$ matrix $\mathbf{C} = [c_{ij}]$ with entries

$$c_{ij} = \sum_{l=1}^n a_{il} b_{lj} = a_{i1}b_{1j} + a_{i2}b_{2j} + \cdots + a_{in}b_{nj} \quad i = 1, \dots, m$$

$$j = 1, \dots, p$$

$$\begin{matrix} \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{B} & = & \mathbf{C} \\ [m \times n] & [n \times p] & & [m \times p] \end{matrix}$$

Example:

$$\mathbf{AB} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 5 & -1 \\ 4 & 0 & 2 \\ -6 & -3 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -2 & 3 & 1 \\ 5 & 0 & 7 & 8 \\ 9 & -4 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 22 & -2 & 43 & 42 \\ 26 & -16 & 14 & 6 \\ -9 & 4 & -37 & -28 \end{bmatrix}$$

Here $c_{11} = 3 \cdot 2 + 5 \cdot 5 + (-1) \cdot 9 = 22$, and so on. The entry in the box is $c_{23} = 4 \cdot 3 + 0 \cdot 7 + 2 \cdot 1 = 14$.
The product \mathbf{BA} is not defined. ■

Note: Matrix Multiplication is Not Commutative, $\mathbf{AB} \neq \mathbf{BA}$ in general.

Rules of Matrix Multiplication:

- (a) $(k\mathbf{A})\mathbf{B} = k(\mathbf{AB}) = \mathbf{A}(k\mathbf{B})$
- (b) $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{BC}) = (\mathbf{AB})\mathbf{C}$
- (c) $(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B})\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{AC} + \mathbf{BC}$
- (d) $\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}) = \mathbf{CA} + \mathbf{CB}$

1.5 Transpose of a Matrix

Given any $m \times n$ matrix $\mathbf{A} = [a_{ij}]$, we define the transpose of \mathbf{A} , denoted as \mathbf{A}^T and read as “ \mathbf{A} -transpose” as

$$\mathbf{A}^T = [a_{ij}]^T = [a_{ji}] = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{21} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & a_{m1} \\ a_{12} & a_{22} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & a_{m2} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ a_{1n} & a_{2n} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix}$$

Example: $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \\ 5 & 6 \end{bmatrix}^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 5 \\ 2 & 4 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$

1.6 Types of Matrices:

Type of Matrix	Details	Example
Row Matrix	$\mathbf{A} = [a_{ij}]_{1 \times n}$	$[0 \ 1 \ 1 \ -2]$
Column Matrix	$\mathbf{A} = [a_{ij}]_{m \times 1}$	$\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ -4 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$
Zero or Null Matrix	$\mathbf{A} = [a_{ij}]_{m \times n}$ where, $a_{ij} = 0$	$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$
Singleton Matrix	$\mathbf{A} = [a_{ij}]_{m \times n}$ where, $m = n = 1$	$[2]$
Horizontal Matrix	$[a_{ij}]_{m \times n}$ where $n > m$	$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 2 & 5 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$
Vertical Matrix	$[a_{ij}]_{m \times n}$ where, $m > n$	$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 5 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 3 & 6 \\ 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$
Square Matrix	$[a_{ij}]_{m \times n}$ where, $m = n$	$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 7 \\ 9 & 13 \end{bmatrix}$
Diagonal Matrix	$\mathbf{A} = [a_{ij}]$, $a_{ij} = 0$, when $i \neq j$	$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$
Identity (Unit) Matrix (I)	$\mathbf{A} = [a_{ij}]_{m \times n}$ where, $a_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1, & i = j \\ 0, & i \neq j \end{cases}$	$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$
Triangular Matrix	Can be either upper triangular ($a_{ij} = 0$, when $i > j$) or lower triangular ($a_{ij} = 0$ when $i < j$)	$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 4 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$ $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 3 & 0 \\ 4 & 5 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ Upper Matrix Lower Matrix
Singular Matrix	$ \mathbf{A} = 0$	
Non-Singular Matrix	$ \mathbf{A} \neq 0$	
Symmetric Matrix	$\mathbf{A} = [a_{ij}]$ where, $a_{ij} = a_{ji}$ or $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A}^T$ (\mathbf{A} is a square matrix)	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 4 & 5 \\ 3 & 5 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$
Skew-Symmetric Matrix	$\mathbf{A} = [a_{ij}]$ where, $a_{ij} = -a_{ji}$ or $\mathbf{A} = -\mathbf{A}^T$ (\mathbf{A} is a square matrix)	$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 & 1 \\ -2 & 0 & -3 \\ -1 & 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

1.7 Determinants

The scalar quantity associated with a square matrix, is called “determinant”. We denote the determinant of an $n \times n$ matrix $\mathbf{A}=[a_{ij}]$ as

$$\det \mathbf{A} = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & a_{2n} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & a_{nn} \end{vmatrix} = \sum_1^n a_{ij} C_{ij}$$

$$|\mathbf{A}| = a_{i1} A_{i1} + a_{i2} A_{i2} + \dots + a_{in} A_{in} = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} C_{ij} \quad (\text{row definition})$$

$$|\mathbf{A}| = a_{1j} A_{1j} + a_{2j} A_{2j} + \dots + a_{nj} A_{nj} = \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ij} C_{ij} \quad (\text{column definition})$$

where C_{ij} is called the cofactor of the a_{ij} element and is defined as

$$C_{ij} \equiv (-1)^{i+j} M_{ij}$$

where M_{ij} is called the minor of a_{ij} , namely the determinant of $(n-1) \times (n-1)$ matrix that survives when the row and column containing a_{ij} are struck out.

Special Cases in Determinants:

1- Determinant of order 1: The determinant of a matrix of the first order ($n=1$) is the element itself.

Example: If $\mathbf{A}=[-1]$, then $\det \mathbf{A} = -1$.

2- Determinant of order 2:

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{bmatrix} = (a)(d) - (b)(c)$$

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 5 \\ 4 & 6 \end{bmatrix} = (3)(6) - (4)(5) = 18 - 20 = -2$$

3- Determinant of order 3:

(a) The Leibniz formula:

$$\begin{vmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{vmatrix} = a(ei - fh) - b(di - fg) + c(dh - eg)$$

$$= aei + bfg + cdh - ceg - bdi - afh.$$

(b) The rule of Sarrus:

$\det(\mathbf{A}) = a_{11}a_{22}a_{33} + a_{12}a_{23}a_{31} + a_{13}a_{21}a_{32} - a_{31}a_{22}a_{13} - a_{32}a_{23}a_{11} - a_{33}a_{21}a_{12}$

Notes:

- i. The scheme of Sarrus for calculating the determinant of a 3×3 matrix does not carry over into higher dimensions.
- ii. The Leibniz formula expresses the determinant of an $n \times n$ -matrix in a manner which is consistent across higher dimensions.

4- If the matrix is upper or lower triangular matrix, the determinant of the matrix is the product of the elements on the main diagonal.

Some Properties of determinants:

- 1- If any row or column of a determinant $\det \mathbf{A}$ only contains zero elements, then $\det \mathbf{A} = 0$.
- 2- If \mathbf{A} is a square matrix with the transpose \mathbf{A}^T , then $\det \mathbf{A} = \det \mathbf{A}^T$.
- 3- If each element of a row or column of a square matrix \mathbf{A} is multiplied by a constant k , then the value of the determinant is $k \det \mathbf{A}$.
- 4- If two rows (or columns) of a square matrix are interchanged, the sign of the determinant is changed.
- 5- If any two rows or columns of a square matrix \mathbf{A} are proportional, then $\det \mathbf{A} = 0$.

Example 1: Evaluate the determinant of the given matrix by cofactor expansion.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 5 & 0 & 4 \\ 1 & 6 & 1 & 0 \\ 5 & -1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Solution: $|\mathbf{A}| = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 5 & 0 & 4 \\ 1 & 6 & 1 & 0 \\ 5 & -1 & 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 5 \begin{vmatrix} 2 & -2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 5 & 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} + 4 \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 1 & -2 \\ 1 & 6 & 1 \\ 5 & -1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 5(0) + 4(80) = 320$

Example 2: Explain the following results:

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 2 & 5 & 7 & 3 \\ 4 & 10 & 14 & 6 \\ 3 & 4 & 2 & 7 \end{vmatrix} = 0, \quad \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 6 & 6 \\ 4 & 7 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 & 9 \end{vmatrix} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 6 & 7 & 6 & 9 \\ 0 & 6 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & 4 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

1.8 Matrix Partitioning:

The idea of matrix partitioning is that any matrix \mathbf{A} (which is larger than 1×1) may be partitioned into a number of smaller matrices called *blocks*.

Example: The matrix

$$A = \left[\begin{array}{ccc|cc|c} 3 & 0 & -1 & 5 & 9 & -2 \\ -5 & 2 & 4 & 0 & -3 & 1 \\ \hline -8 & -6 & 3 & 1 & 7 & -4 \end{array} \right]$$

- Can also be written as the 2×3 **partitioned** (or **block**) **matrix**

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & A_{23} \end{bmatrix}$$

- Whose entries are the *blocks* (or *submatrices*)

$$A_{11} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & -1 \\ -5 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A_{12} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 9 \\ 0 & -3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A_{13} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A_{21} = [-8 \quad -6 \quad 3], \quad A_{22} = [1 \quad 7], \quad A_{23} = [-4]$$

Example : Find AB , where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -3 & 1 & 0 & -4 \\ 1 & 5 & -2 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & -4 & -2 & 7 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, B = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 4 \\ -2 & 1 \\ -3 & 7 \\ -1 & 3 \\ 5 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solution:

$$A = \left[\begin{array}{ccc|cc} 2 & -3 & 1 & 0 & -4 \\ 1 & 5 & -2 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & -4 & -2 & 7 & -1 \end{array} \right] = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix}, B = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 4 \\ -2 & 1 \\ -3 & 7 \\ -1 & 3 \\ 5 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} B_1 \\ B_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} AB &= \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} B_1 \\ B_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11}B_1 + A_{12}B_2 \\ A_{21}B_1 + A_{22}B_2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} -5 & 4 \\ -6 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

1.9 Inverse of a Matrix

If \mathbf{A} is a non-singular square matrix, there is an existence of $n \times n$ matrix \mathbf{A}^{-1} , which is called the inverse matrix of \mathbf{A} , such that it satisfies the property:

$$\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \frac{1}{|\mathbf{A}|} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{I}$$

where \mathbf{I} is the Identity matrix. The inverse of a nonsingular $n \times n$ matrix $\mathbf{A}=[a_{ij}]$ is:

$$\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \frac{1}{|\mathbf{A}|} [\mathbf{C}_{ij}]^T = \frac{1}{|\mathbf{A}|} \begin{bmatrix} c_{11} & c_{21} & \dots & c_{n1} \\ c_{12} & c_{22} & \dots & c_{n2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ c_{1n} & c_{2n} & \dots & c_{nn} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{\text{adj}(\mathbf{A})}{|\mathbf{A}|}$$

where $[\mathbf{C}_{ij}]^T$ is the transpose of cofactors matrix of \mathbf{A} , $\text{adj}(\mathbf{A})$ is the adjoint matrix of \mathbf{A} .

Properties of the Inverse:

Let \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} be nonsingular matrices. Then

(i) $(\mathbf{A}^{-1})^{-1} = \mathbf{A}$

(ii) $(\mathbf{AB})^{-1} = \mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{A}^{-1}$

(iii) $(\mathbf{A}^T)^{-1} = (\mathbf{A}^{-1})^T$

Example: Find the inverse of $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 & 1 \\ 3 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$.

SOLUTION Since $\det \mathbf{A} = 12$, we can find \mathbf{A}^{-1} from (5). The cofactors corresponding to the entries in \mathbf{A} are

$$C_{11} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 1 \quad C_{12} = -\begin{vmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 5 \quad C_{13} = \begin{vmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ 3 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = -3$$

$$C_{21} = -\begin{vmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = -2 \quad C_{22} = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 2 \quad C_{23} = -\begin{vmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 3 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = 6$$

$$C_{31} = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 2 \quad C_{32} = -\begin{vmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = -2 \quad C_{33} = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ -2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 6.$$

From (5) we then obtain

$$\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \frac{1}{12} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 & 2 \\ 5 & 2 & -2 \\ -3 & 6 & 6 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{12} & -\frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} \\ \frac{5}{12} & \frac{1}{6} & -\frac{1}{6} \\ -\frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}.$$

1.10 Solution of linear simultaneous equations:

A system of m linear equations in n variables x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n ,

$$a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n = b_1$$

$$a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n = b_2 \tag{1}$$

$$\vdots \quad \quad \quad \vdots$$

$$a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + \dots + a_{mn}x_n = b_m$$

can be written completely as a matrix $\mathbf{AX}=\mathbf{B}$, where

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & a_{2n} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{B} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ b_m \end{bmatrix}$$

Let us suppose that $m = n$ in the equation above, so that the coefficient matrix \mathbf{A} is $n \times n$. In particular, if \mathbf{A} is nonsingular, then the system $\mathbf{AX} = \mathbf{B}$ can be solved by:

$$\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{B}$$

Where \mathbf{X} is variable matrix, \mathbf{A} coefficients matrix and \mathbf{B} constant matrix. (Note: if $\det \mathbf{A} = 0$, the system of linear equations is called **inconsistent**, i.e. there is no unique solution).

Example: Use the inverse of the coefficient matrix to solve the system

$$\begin{aligned} 2x_1 + \quad \quad x_3 &= 2 \\ -2x_1 + 3x_2 + 4x_3 &= 4 \\ -5x_1 + 5x_2 + 6x_3 &= -1 \end{aligned}$$

Solution:

$$\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 5 & -3 \\ -8 & 17 & -10 \\ 5 & -10 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{Home work !})$$

Thus

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 1 \\ -2 & 3 & 4 \\ -5 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 5 & -3 \\ -8 & 17 & -10 \\ 5 & -10 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 19 \\ 62 \\ -36 \end{pmatrix}$$

Consequently, $x_1 = 19$, $x_2 = 62$, and $x_3 = -36$.

In addition to the *inverse matrix* method shown above, there are two another widely used important methods:

1- Cramer's Rule

Let \mathbf{A} be the coefficient matrix of system (1). If $\det \mathbf{A} \neq 0$, then the solution of (1) is given by

$$x_1 = \frac{\det \mathbf{A}_1}{\det \mathbf{A}}, \quad x_2 = \frac{\det \mathbf{A}_2}{\det \mathbf{A}}, \quad \dots, \quad x_n = \frac{\det \mathbf{A}_n}{\det \mathbf{A}}$$

where \mathbf{A}_k , $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$, is defined as:

$$\mathbf{A}_k = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1 \ k-1} & \overset{\text{kth column}}{\downarrow} b_1 & a_{1 \ k+1} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2 \ k-1} & b_2 & a_{2 \ k+1} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & & \vdots & & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \dots & a_{n \ k-1} & b_n & a_{n \ k+1} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

Example: Use Cramer's rule to solve the system

$$3x_1 + 2x_2 + x_3 = 7$$

$$x_1 - x_2 + 3x_3 = 3$$

$$5x_1 + 4x_2 - 2x_3 = 1.$$

SOLUTION The solution requires the evaluation of four determinants:

$$\det \mathbf{A} = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 3 \\ 5 & 4 & -2 \end{vmatrix} = 13, \quad \det \mathbf{A}_1 = \begin{vmatrix} 7 & 2 & 1 \\ 3 & -1 & 3 \\ 1 & 4 & -2 \end{vmatrix} = -39,$$

$$\det \mathbf{A}_2 = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 7 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 & 3 \\ 5 & 1 & -2 \end{vmatrix} = 78, \quad \det \mathbf{A}_3 = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 2 & 7 \\ 1 & -1 & 3 \\ 5 & 4 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 52.$$

Thus, (6) gives

$$x_1 = \frac{\det \mathbf{A}_1}{\det \mathbf{A}} = -3, \quad x_2 = \frac{\det \mathbf{A}_2}{\det \mathbf{A}} = 6, \quad x_3 = \frac{\det \mathbf{A}_3}{\det \mathbf{A}} = 4.$$

2- Gaussian Elimination Method:

There are three types of elementary row operations which may be performed on the rows of a matrix:

- 1- Swap the positions of two rows.
- 2- Multiply a row by a non-zero scalar.
- 3- Add to one row a scalar multiple of another.

The solution is then found by the process called **back-substitution**.

Example: Solve the following linear system using Gaussian elimination:

$$\begin{aligned}2x_1 + 6x_2 + x_3 &= 7 \\x_1 + 2x_2 - x_3 &= -1 \\5x_1 + 7x_2 - 4x_3 &= 9.\end{aligned}$$

Solution: Using row operations on the augmented matrix of the system, we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned}&\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c}2 & 6 & 1 & 7 \\1 & 2 & -1 & -1 \\5 & 7 & -4 & 9\end{array}\right) \xrightarrow{R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2} \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c}1 & 2 & -1 & -1 \\2 & 6 & 1 & 7 \\5 & 7 & -4 & 9\end{array}\right) \\&\xrightarrow{\substack{-2R_1 + R_2 \\ -5R_1 + R_3}} \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c}1 & 2 & -1 & -1 \\0 & 2 & 3 & 9 \\0 & -3 & 1 & 14\end{array}\right) \xrightarrow{\frac{1}{2}R_2} \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c}1 & 2 & -1 & -1 \\0 & 1 & \frac{3}{2} & \frac{9}{2} \\0 & -3 & 1 & 14\end{array}\right) \\&\xrightarrow{3R_2 + R_3} \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c}1 & 2 & -1 & -1 \\0 & 1 & \frac{3}{2} & \frac{9}{2} \\0 & 0 & \frac{11}{2} & \frac{55}{2}\end{array}\right) \xrightarrow{\frac{2}{11}R_3} \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c}1 & 2 & -1 & -1 \\0 & 1 & \frac{3}{2} & \frac{9}{2} \\0 & 0 & 1 & 5\end{array}\right).\end{aligned}$$

Substituting $x_3 = 5$ into the second equation gives $x_2 = -3$. Substituting both these values back into the first equation finally yields $x_1 = 10$.

Home Works:

Exercises 8.2: Problems 1-20 (Only use Gaussian elimination).

Exercises 8.4: All Problems.

Exercises 8.5: 1-16.

Exercises 8.7: Problems 1-11.