1.2 Gaussian Elimination

In this section we will develop a systematic procedure for solving systems of linear equations. The procedure is based on the idea of performing certain operations on the rows of the augmented matrix that simplify it to a form from which the solution of the system can be ascertained by inspection.

Considerations in Solving Linear Systems

When considering methods for solving systems of linear equations, it is important to distinguish between large systems that must be solved by computer and small systems that can be solved by hand. For example, there are many applications that lead to linear systems in thousands or even millions of unknowns. Large systems require special techniques to deal with issues of memory size, roundoff errors, solution time, and so forth. Such techniques are studied in the field of ***numerical analysis*** and will only be touched on in this text. However, almost all of the methods that are used for large systems are based on the ideas that we will develop in this section.

Echelon Forms

In Example 6 of the last section, we solved a linear system in the unknowns x, y, and z by reducing the augmented matrix to the form

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

from which the solution $x = 1$, $y = 2$, $z = 3$ became evident. This is an example of a matrix that is in ***reduced row echelon form***. To be of this form, a matrix must have the following properties:

1. If a row does not consist entirely of zeros, then the first nonzero number in the row is a 1. We call this a ***leading 1***.
2. If there are any rows that consist entirely of zeros, then they are grouped together at the bottom of the matrix.
3. In any two successive rows that do not consist entirely of zeros, the leading 1 in the lower row occurs farther to the right than the leading 1 in the higher row.
4. Each column that contains a leading 1 has zeros everywhere else in that column.

A matrix that has the first three properties is said to be in ***row echelon form***. (Thus, a matrix in reduced row echelon form is of necessity in row echelon form, but not conversely.)

▶ EXAMPLE 1 Row Echelon and Reduced Row Echelon Form

The following matrices are in reduced row echelon form.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & -2 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The following matrices are in row echelon form but not reduced row echelon form.

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

EXAMPLE 2 More on Row Echelon and Reduced Row Echelon Form

As Example 1 illustrates, a matrix in row echelon form has zeros below each leading 1, whereas a matrix in reduced row echelon form has zeros below *and above* each leading 1. Thus, with any real numbers substituted for the $*$'s, all matrices of the following types are in row echelon form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & * & * & * \\ 0 & 1 & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & * & * & * \\ 0 & 1 & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & * & * & * \\ 0 & 1 & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & * & * & * & * & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & * & * & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & * & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & * \end{bmatrix}$$

All matrices of the following types are in reduced row echelon form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & * \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & * \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & * & * \\ 0 & 1 & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & * & 0 & 0 & 0 & * & * & 0 & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & * & * & 0 & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & * & * & 0 & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & * & * & 0 & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & * \end{bmatrix}$$

If, by a sequence of elementary row operations, the augmented matrix for a system of linear equations is put in *reduced* row echelon form, then the solution set can be obtained either by inspection or by converting certain linear equations to parametric form. Here are some examples.

EXAMPLE 3 Unique Solution

Suppose that the augmented matrix for a linear system in the unknowns x_1, x_2, x_3, and x_4 has been reduced by elementary row operations to

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

This matrix is in reduced row echelon form and corresponds to the equations

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 \qquad\qquad\qquad &= 3 \\ x_2 \qquad\qquad &= -1 \\ x_3 \qquad &= 0 \\ x_4 &= 5 \end{aligned}$$

In Example 3 we could, if desired, express the solution more succinctly as the 4-tuple $(3, -1, 0, 5)$.

Thus, the system has a unique solution, namely, $x_1 = 3$, $x_2 = -1$, $x_3 = 0$, $x_4 = 5$.

EXAMPLE 4 Linear Systems in Three Unknowns

In each part, suppose that the augmented matrix for a linear system in the unknowns x, y, and z has been reduced by elementary row operations to the given reduced row echelon form. Solve the system.

$$\text{(a)} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \text{(b)} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -4 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \text{(c)} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -5 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solution (a) The equation that corresponds to the last row of the augmented matrix is

$$0x + 0y + 0z = 1$$

Since this equation is not satisfied by any values of x, y, and z, the system is inconsistent.

Solution (b) The equation that corresponds to the last row of the augmented matrix is

$$0x + 0y + 0z = 0$$

This equation can be omitted since it imposes no restrictions on x, y, and z; hence, the linear system corresponding to the augmented matrix is

$$\begin{aligned} x \qquad + 3z &= -1 \\ y - 4z &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

Since x and y correspond to the leading 1's in the augmented matrix, we call these the ***leading variables***. The remaining variables (in this case z) are called ***free variables***. Solving for the leading variables in terms of the free variables gives

$$\begin{aligned} x &= -1 - 3z \\ y &= 2 + 4z \end{aligned}$$

From these equations we see that the free variable z can be treated as a parameter and assigned an arbitrary value t, which then determines values for x and y. Thus, the solution set can be represented by the parametric equations

$$x = -1 - 3t, \quad y = 2 + 4t, \quad z = t$$

By substituting various values for t in these equations we can obtain various solutions of the system. For example, setting $t = 0$ yields the solution

$$x = -1, \quad y = 2, \quad z = 0$$

and setting $t = 1$ yields the solution

$$x = -4, \quad y = 6, \quad z = 1$$

Solution (c) As explained in part (b), we can omit the equations corresponding to the zero rows, in which case the linear system associated with the augmented matrix consists of the single equation

$$x - 5y + z = 4 \tag{1}$$

from which we see that the solution set is a plane in three-dimensional space. Although (1) is a valid form of the solution set, there are many applications in which it is preferable to express the solution set in parametric form. We can convert (1) to parametric form by solving for the leading variable x in terms of the free variables y and z to obtain

$$x = 4 + 5y - z$$

From this equation we see that the free variables can be assigned arbitrary values, say $y = s$ and $z = t$, which then determine the value of x. Thus, the solution set can be expressed parametrically as

$$x = 4 + 5s - t, \quad y = s, \quad z = t \quad ◀ \tag{2}$$

> We will usually denote parameters in a general solution by the letters $r, s, t, \ldots,$ but any letters that do not conflict with the names of the unknowns can be used. For systems with more than three unknowns, subscripted letters such as $t_1, t_2, t_3, \ldots$ are convenient.

Formulas, such as (2), that express the solution set of a linear system parametrically have some associated terminology.

DEFINITION 1 If a linear system has infinitely many solutions, then a set of parametric equations from which all solutions can be obtained by assigning numerical values to the parameters is called a ***general solution*** of the system.

Elimination Methods

We have just seen how easy it is to solve a system of linear equations once its augmented matrix is in reduced row echelon form. Now we will give a step-by-step ***elimination procedure*** that can be used to reduce any matrix to reduced row echelon form. As we state each step in the procedure, we illustrate the idea by reducing the following matrix to reduced row echelon form.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & -2 & 0 & 7 & 12 \\ 2 & 4 & -10 & 6 & 12 & 28 \\ 2 & 4 & -5 & 6 & -5 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Step 1. Locate the leftmost column that does not consist entirely of zeros.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & -2 & 0 & 7 & 12 \\ 2 & 4 & -10 & 6 & 12 & 28 \\ 2 & 4 & -5 & 6 & -5 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Leftmost nonzero column

Step 2. Interchange the top row with another row, if necessary, to bring a nonzero entry to the top of the column found in Step 1.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & -10 & 6 & 12 & 28 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 & 0 & 7 & 12 \\ 2 & 4 & -5 & 6 & -5 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

The first and second rows in the preceding matrix were interchanged.

Step 3. If the entry that is now at the top of the column found in Step 1 is a, multiply the first row by $1/a$ in order to introduce a leading 1.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -5 & 3 & 6 & 14 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 & 0 & 7 & 12 \\ 2 & 4 & -5 & 6 & -5 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

The first row of the preceding matrix was multiplied by $\frac{1}{2}$.

Step 4. Add suitable multiples of the top row to the rows below so that all entries below the leading 1 become zeros.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -5 & 3 & 6 & 14 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 & 0 & 7 & 12 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 & 0 & -17 & -29 \end{bmatrix}$$

-2 times the first row of the preceding matrix was added to the third row.

Step 5. Now cover the top row in the matrix and begin again with Step 1 applied to the submatrix that remains. Continue in this way until the *entire* matrix is in row echelon form.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -5 & 3 & 6 & 14 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 & 0 & 7 & 12 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 & 0 & -17 & -29 \end{bmatrix}$$

Leftmost nonzero column in the submatrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -5 & 3 & 6 & 14 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -\frac{7}{2} & -6 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 & 0 & -17 & -29 \end{bmatrix}$$

The first row in the submatrix was multiplied by $-\frac{1}{2}$ to introduce a leading 1.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -5 & 3 & 6 & 14 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -\frac{7}{2} & -6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

–5 times the first row of the submatrix was added to the second row of the submatrix to introduce a zero below the leading 1.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -5 & 3 & 6 & 14 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -\frac{7}{2} & -6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

The top row in the submatrix was covered, and we returned again to Step 1.

Leftmost nonzero column in the new submatrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -5 & 3 & 6 & 14 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -\frac{7}{2} & -6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

The first (and only) row in the new submatrix was multiplied by 2 to introduce a leading 1.

The *entire* matrix is now in row echelon form. To find the reduced row echelon form we need the following additional step.

Step 6. Beginning with the last nonzero row and working upward, add suitable multiples of each row to the rows above to introduce zeros above the leading 1's.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -5 & 3 & 6 & 14 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\frac{7}{2}$ times the third row of the preceding matrix was added to the second row.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -5 & 3 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

-6 times the third row was added to the first row.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

5 times the second row was added to the first row.

The last matrix is in reduced row echelon form.

The procedure (or algorithm) we have just described for reducing a matrix to reduced row echelon form is called ***Gauss–Jordan elimination***. This algorithm consists of two parts, a ***forward phase*** in which zeros are introduced below the leading 1's and a ***backward phase*** in which zeros are introduced above the leading 1's. If only theforward phase is

Carl Friedrich Gauss (1777–1855)

Wilhelm Jordan (1842–1899)

Historical Note Although versions of Gaussian elimination were known much earlier, its importance in scientific computation became clear when the great German mathematician Carl Friedrich Gauss used it to help compute the orbit of the asteroid Ceres from limited data. What happened was this: On January 1, 1801 the Sicilian astronomer and Catholic priest Giuseppe Piazzi (1746–1826) noticed a dim celestial object that he believed might be a "missing planet." He named the object Ceres and made a limited number of positional observations but then lost the object as it neared the Sun. Gauss, then only 24 years old, undertook the problem of computing the orbit of Ceres from the limited data using a technique called "least squares," the equations of which he solved by the method that we now call "Gaussian elimination." The work of Gauss created a sensation when Ceres reappeared a year later in the constellation Virgo at almost the precise position that he predicted! The basic idea of the method was further popularized by the German engineer Wilhelm Jordan in his book on geodesy (the science of measuring Earth shapes) entitled *Handbuch der Vermessungskunde* and published in 1888.

[*Images: Photo Inc/Photo Researchers/Getty Images* (*Gauss*); *Leemage/Universal Images Group/Getty Images* (*Jordan*)] used, then the procedure produces a row echelon form and is called ***Gaussian elimination***. For example, in the preceding computations a row echelon form was obtained at the end of Step 5.

EXAMPLE 5 Gauss–Jordan Elimination

Solve by Gauss–Jordan elimination.

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + 3x_2 - 2x_3 + 2x_5 &= 0 \\ 2x_1 + 6x_2 - 5x_3 - 2x_4 + 4x_5 - 3x_6 &= -1 \\ 5x_3 + 10x_4 + 15x_6 &= 5 \\ 2x_1 + 6x_2 + 8x_4 + 4x_5 + 18x_6 &= 6 \end{aligned}$$

Solution The augmented matrix for the system is

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & -2 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 6 & -5 & -2 & 4 & -3 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 & 10 & 0 & 15 & 5 \\ 2 & 6 & 0 & 8 & 4 & 18 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

Adding -2 times the first row to the second and fourth rows gives

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & -2 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & -2 & 0 & -3 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 & 10 & 0 & 15 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 8 & 0 & 18 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

Multiplying the second row by -1 and then adding -5 times the new second row to the third row and -4 times the new second row to the fourth row gives

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & -2 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 6 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Interchanging the third and fourth rows and then multiplying the third row of the resulting matrix by $\frac{1}{6}$ gives the row echelon form

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & -2 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{3} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

This completes the forward phase since there are zeros below the leading 1's.

Adding -3 times the third row to the second row and then adding 2 times the second row of the resulting matrix to the first row yields the reduced row echelon form

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

This completes the backward phase since there are zeros above the leading 1's.

Note that in constructing the linear system in (3) we ignored the row of zeros in the corresponding augmented matrix. Why is this justified?

The corresponding system of equations is

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + 3x_2 + 4x_4 + 2x_5 &= 0 \\ x_3 + 2x_4 &= 0 \\ x_6 &= \tfrac{1}{3} \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

Solving for the leading variables, we obtain

$$x_1 = -3x_2 - 4x_4 - 2x_5$$
$$x_3 = -2x_4$$
$$x_6 = \tfrac{1}{3}$$

Finally, we express the general solution of the system parametrically by assigning the free variables x_2, x_4, and x_5 arbitrary values r, s, and t, respectively. This yields

$$x_1 = -3r - 4s - 2t, \quad x_2 = r, \quad x_3 = -2s, \quad x_4 = s, \quad x_5 = t, \quad x_6 = \tfrac{1}{3}$$ ◀

Homogeneous Linear Systems

A system of linear equations is said to be ***homogeneous*** if the constant terms are all zero; that is, the system has the form

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

Every homogeneous system of linear equations is consistent because all such systems have $x_1 = 0, x_2 = 0, \ldots, x_n = 0$ as a solution. This solution is called the ***trivial solution***; if there are other solutions, they are called ***nontrivial solutions***.

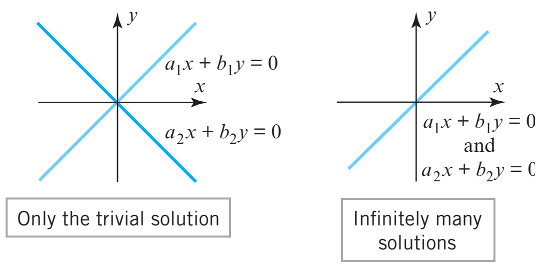
Because a homogeneous linear system always has the trivial solution, there are only two possibilities for its solutions:

- The system has only the trivial solution.
- The system has infinitely many solutions in addition to the trivial solution.

In the special case of a homogeneous linear system of two equations in two unknowns, say

$$a_1x + b_1y = 0 \quad (a_1, b_1 \text{ not both zero})$$
$$a_2x + b_2y = 0 \quad (a_2, b_2 \text{ not both zero})$$

the graphs of the equations are lines through the origin, and the trivial solution corresponds to the point of intersection at the origin (Figure 1.2.1).



▶ Figure 1.2.1

There is one case in which a homogeneous system is assured of having nontrivial solutions—namely, whenever the system involves more unknowns than equations. To see why, consider the following example of four equations in six unknowns.

EXAMPLE 6 A Homogeneous System

Use Gauss–Jordan elimination to solve the homogeneous linear system

$$\begin{aligned}
x_1 + 3x_2 - 2x_3 \phantom{{}- 2x_4} + 2x_5 \phantom{{}- 3x_6} &= 0\\
2x_1 + 6x_2 - 5x_3 - 2x_4 + 4x_5 - 3x_6 &= 0\\
5x_3 + 10x_4 \phantom{{}+ 4x_5} + 15x_6 &= 0\\
2x_1 + 6x_2 \phantom{{}- 5x_3} + 8x_4 + 4x_5 + 18x_6 &= 0
\end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

Solution Observe first that the coefficients of the unknowns in this system are the same as those in Example 5; that is, the two systems differ only in the constants on the right side. The augmented matrix for the given homogeneous system is

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & -2 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0\\ 2 & 6 & -5 & -2 & 4 & -3 & 0\\ 0 & 0 & 5 & 10 & 0 & 15 & 0\\ 2 & 6 & 0 & 8 & 4 & 18 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \tag{5}$$

which is the same as the augmented matrix for the system in Example 5, except for zeros in the last column. Thus, the reduced row echelon form of this matrix will be the same as that of the augmented matrix in Example 5, except for the last column. However, a moment's reflection will make it evident that a column of zeros is not changed by an elementary row operation, so the reduced row echelon form of (5) is

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & 4 & 2 & 0 & 0\\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0\\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0\\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \tag{6}$$

The corresponding system of equations is

$$\begin{aligned}
x_1 + 3x_2 \phantom{{}+ x_3} + 4x_4 + 2x_5 \phantom{{}+ x_6} &= 0\\
x_3 + 2x_4 &= 0\\
x_6 &= 0
\end{aligned}$$

Solving for the leading variables, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
x_1 &= -3x_2 - 4x_4 - 2x_5\\
x_3 &= -2x_4\\
x_6 &= 0
\end{aligned} \tag{7}$$

If we now assign the free variables x_2, x_4, and x_5 arbitrary values r, s, and t, respectively, then we can express the solution set parametrically as

$$x_1 = -3r - 4s - 2t, \quad x_2 = r, \quad x_3 = -2s, \quad x_4 = s, \quad x_5 = t, \quad x_6 = 0$$

Note that the trivial solution results when $r = s = t = 0$. ◀

Free Variables in Homogeneous Linear Systems

Example 6 illustrates two important points about solving homogeneous linear systems:

1. Elementary row operations do not alter columns of zeros in a matrix, so the reduced row echelon form of the augmented matrix for a homogeneous linear system has a final column of zeros. This implies that the linear system corresponding to the reduced row echelon form is homogeneous, just like the original system.

2. When we constructed the homogeneous linear system corresponding to augmented matrix (6), we ignored the row of zeros because the corresponding equation

$$0x_1 + 0x_2 + 0x_3 + 0x_4 + 0x_5 + 0x_6 = 0$$

does not impose any conditions on the unknowns. Thus, depending on whether or not the reduced row echelon form of the augmented matrix for a homogeneous linear system has any rows of zero, the linear system corresponding to that reduced row echelon form will either have the same number of equations as the original system or it will have fewer.

Now consider a general homogeneous linear system with n unknowns, and suppose that the reduced row echelon form of the augmented matrix has r nonzero rows. Since each nonzero row has a leading 1, and since each leading 1 corresponds to a leading variable, the homogeneous system corresponding to the reduced row echelon form of the augmented matrix must have r leading variables and $n - r$ free variables. Thus, this system is of the form

$$\begin{array}{llll} x_{k_1} & & & + \sum(\ ) = 0 \\ & x_{k_2} & & + \sum(\ ) = 0 \\ & & \ddots & \quad \vdots \\ & & x_{k_r} & + \sum(\ ) = 0 \end{array} \tag{8}$$

where in each equation the expression $\sum(\ )$ denotes a sum that involves the free variables, if any [see (7), for example]. In summary, we have the following result.

THEOREM 1.2.1 Free Variable Theorem for Homogeneous Systems

If a homogeneous linear system has n unknowns, and if the reduced row echelon form of its augmented matrix has r nonzero rows, then the system has $n - r$ free variables.

Note that Theorem 1.2.2 applies only to homogeneous systems—a *nonhomogeneous* system with more unknowns than equations need not be consistent. However, we will prove later that if a nonhomogeneous system with more unknowns then equations is consistent, then it has infinitely many solutions.

Theorem 1.2.1 has an important implication for homogeneous linear systems with more unknowns than equations. Specifically, if a homogeneous linear system has m equations in n unknowns, and if $m < n$, then it must also be true that $r < n$ (why?). This being the case, the theorem implies that there is at least one free variable, and this implies that the system has infinitely many solutions. Thus, we have the following result.

THEOREM 1.2.2 *A homogeneous linear system with more unknowns than equations has infinitely many solutions.*

In retrospect, we could have anticipated that the homogeneous system in Example 6 would have infinitely many solutions since it has four equations in six unknowns.

Gaussian Elimination and Back-Substitution

For small linear systems that are solved by hand (such as most of those in this text), Gauss–Jordan elimination (reduction to reduced row echelon form) is a good procedure to use. However, for large linear systems that require a computer solution, it is generally more efficient to use Gaussian elimination (reduction to row echelon form) followed by a technique known as ***back-substitution*** to complete the process of solving the system. The next example illustrates this technique.

EXAMPLE 7 Example 5 Solved by Back-Substitution

From the computations in Example 5, a row echelon form of the augmented matrix is

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & -2 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{3} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

To solve the corresponding system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + 3x_2 - 2x_3 + 2x_5 &= 0 \\ x_3 + 2x_4 + 3x_6 &= 1 \\ x_6 &= \tfrac{1}{3} \end{aligned}$$

we proceed as follows:

Step 1. Solve the equations for the leading variables.

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= -3x_2 + 2x_3 - 2x_5 \\ x_3 &= 1 - 2x_4 - 3x_6 \\ x_6 &= \tfrac{1}{3} \end{aligned}$$

Step 2. Beginning with the bottom equation and working upward, successively substitute each equation into all the equations above it.

Substituting $x_6 = \frac{1}{3}$ into the second equation yields

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= -3x_2 + 2x_3 - 2x_5 \\ x_3 &= -2x_4 \\ x_6 &= \tfrac{1}{3} \end{aligned}$$

Substituting $x_3 = -2x_4$ into the first equation yields

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= -3x_2 - 4x_4 - 2x_5 \\ x_3 &= -2x_4 \\ x_6 &= \tfrac{1}{3} \end{aligned}$$

Step 3. Assign arbitrary values to the free variables, if any.

If we now assign x_2, x_4, and x_5 the arbitrary values r, s, and t, respectively, the general solution is given by the formulas

$$x_1 = -3r - 4s - 2t, \quad x_2 = r, \quad x_3 = -2s, \quad x_4 = s, \quad x_5 = t, \quad x_6 = \tfrac{1}{3}$$

This agrees with the solution obtained in Example 5.

EXAMPLE 8

Suppose that the matrices below are augmented matrices for linear systems in the unknowns x_1, x_2, x_3, and x_4. These matrices are all in row echelon form but not reduced row echelon form. Discuss the existence and uniqueness of solutions to the corresponding linear systems

$$\text{(a)} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & 7 & 2 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & -4 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 6 & 9 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{(b)} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & 7 & 2 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & -4 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 6 & 9 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{(c)} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & 7 & 2 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & -4 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 6 & 9 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solution (a) The last row corresponds to the equation

$$0x_1 + 0x_2 + 0x_3 + 0x_4 = 1$$

from which it is evident that the system is inconsistent.

Solution (b) The last row corresponds to the equation

$$0x_1 + 0x_2 + 0x_3 + 0x_4 = 0$$

which has no effect on the solution set. In the remaining three equations the variables x_1, x_2, and x_3 correspond to leading 1's and hence are leading variables. The variable x_4 is a free variable. With a little algebra, the leading variables can be expressed in terms of the free variable, and the free variable can be assigned an arbitrary value. Thus, the system must have infinitely many solutions.

Solution (c) The last row corresponds to the equation

$$x_4 = 0$$

which gives us a numerical value for x_4. If we substitute this value into the third equation, namely,

$$x_3 + 6x_4 = 9$$

we obtain $x_3 = 9$. You should now be able to see that if we continue this process and substitute the known values of x_3 and x_4 into the equation corresponding to the second row, we will obtain a unique numerical value for x_2; and if, finally, we substitute the known values of x_4, x_3, and x_2 into the equation corresponding to the first row, we will produce a unique numerical value for x_1. Thus, the system has a unique solution. ◀

Some Facts About Echelon Forms

There are three facts about row echelon forms and reduced row echelon forms that are important to know but we will not prove:

1. Every matrix has a unique reduced row echelon form; that is, regardless of whether you use Gauss–Jordan elimination or some other sequence of elementary row operations, the same reduced row echelon form will result in the end.[*]
2. Row echelon forms are not unique; that is, different sequences of elementary row operations can result in different row echelon forms.
3. Although row echelon forms are not unique, the reduced row echelon form and all row echelon forms of a matrix A have the same number of zero rows, and the leading 1's always occur in the same positions. Those are called the ***pivot positions*** of A. A column that contains a pivot position is called a ***pivot column*** of A.

[*] A proof of this result can be found in the article "The Reduced Row Echelon Form of a Matrix Is Unique: A Simple Proof," by Thomas Yuster, *Mathematics Magazine*, Vol. 57, No. 2, 1984, pp. 93–94.

EXAMPLE 9 Pivot Positions and Columns

Earlier in this section (immediately after Definition 1) we found a row echelon form of

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & -2 & 0 & 7 & 12 \\ 2 & 4 & -10 & 6 & 12 & 28 \\ 2 & 4 & -5 & 6 & -5 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

to be

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -5 & 3 & 6 & 14 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -\frac{7}{2} & -6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

The leading 1's occur in positions (row 1, column 1), (row 2, column 3), and (row 3, column 5). These are the pivot positions. The pivot columns are columns 1, 3, and 5.

If A is the augmented matrix for a linear system, then the pivot columns identify the leading variables. As an illustration, in Example 5 the pivot columns are 1, 3, and 6, and the leading variables are x_1, x_3, and x_6.

Roundoff Error and Instability

There is often a gap between mathematical theory and its practical implementation—Gauss–Jordan elimination and Gaussian elimination being good examples. The problem is that computers generally approximate numbers, thereby introducing ***roundoff*** errors, so unless precautions are taken, successive calculations may degrade an answer to a degree that makes it useless. Algorithms (procedures) in which this happens are called ***unstable***. There are various techniques for minimizing roundoff error and instability. For example, it can be shown that for large linear systems Gauss–Jordan elimination involves roughly 50% more operations than Gaussian elimination, so most computer algorithms are based on the latter method. Some of these matters will be considered in Chapter 9.

Exercise Set 1.2

In Exercises 1–2, determine whether the matrix is in row echelon form, reduced row echelon form, both, or neither.

1. (a) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ (b) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ (c) $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

(d) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$ (e) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

(f) $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ (g) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -7 & 5 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

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

(d) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ (e) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

(f) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 1 & 0 & 7 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ (g) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$

In Exercises 3–4, suppose that the augmented matrix for a linear system has been reduced by row operations to the given row echelon form. Solve the system.

3. (a) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & 4 & 7 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$

(b) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 8 & -5 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 & -9 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

(c) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 7 & -2 & 0 & -8 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 6 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 & 9 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

(d) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & 7 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

4. (a) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$

(b) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & -7 & 8 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & -5 \end{bmatrix}$

(c) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -6 & 0 & 0 & 3 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 4 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 5 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

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

In Exercises 5–8, solve the linear system by Gaussian elimination.

5. $\begin{aligned} x_1 + x_2 + 2x_3 &= 8 \\ -x_1 - 2x_2 + 3x_3 &= 1 \\ 3x_1 - 7x_2 + 4x_3 &= 10 \end{aligned}$

6. $\begin{aligned} 2x_1 + 2x_2 + 2x_3 &= 0 \\ -2x_1 + 5x_2 + 2x_3 &= 1 \\ 8x_1 + x_2 + 4x_3 &= -1 \end{aligned}$

7. $\begin{aligned} x - y + 2z - w &= -1 \\ 2x + y - 2z - 2w &= -2 \\ -x + 2y - 4z + w &= 1 \\ 3x \phantom{{}+ 2y - 4z} - 3w &= -3 \end{aligned}$

8. $\begin{aligned} - 2b + 3c &= 1 \\ 3a + 6b - 3c &= -2 \\ 6a + 6b + 3c &= 5 \end{aligned}$

In Exercises 9–12, solve the linear system by Gauss–Jordan elimination.

9. Exercise 5

10. Exercise 6

11. Exercise 7

12. Exercise 8

In Exercises 13–14, determine whether the homogeneous system has nontrivial solutions by inspection (without pencil and paper).

13. $\begin{aligned} 2x_1 - 3x_2 + 4x_3 - x_4 &= 0 \\ 7x_1 + x_2 - 8x_3 + 9x_4 &= 0 \\ 2x_1 + 8x_2 + x_3 - x_4 &= 0 \end{aligned}$

14. $\begin{aligned} x_1 + 3x_2 - x_3 &= 0 \\ x_2 - 8x_3 &= 0 \\ 4x_3 &= 0 \end{aligned}$

In Exercises 15–22, solve the given linear system by any method.

15. $\begin{aligned} 2x_1 + x_2 + 3x_3 &= 0 \\ x_1 + 2x_2 \phantom{{}+ x_3} &= 0 \\ x_2 + x_3 &= 0 \end{aligned}$

16. $\begin{aligned} 2x - y - 3z &= 0 \\ -x + 2y - 3z &= 0 \\ x + y + 4z &= 0 \end{aligned}$

17. $\begin{aligned} 3x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 &= 0 \\ 5x_1 - x_2 + x_3 - x_4 &= 0 \end{aligned}$

18. $\begin{aligned} v + 3w - 2x &= 0 \\ 2u + v - 4w + 3x &= 0 \\ 2u + 3v + 2w - x &= 0 \\ -4u - 3v + 5w - 4x &= 0 \end{aligned}$

19. $\begin{aligned} 2x + 2y + 4z &= 0 \\ w \phantom{{}+ 2x} - y - 3z &= 0 \\ 2w + 3x + y + z &= 0 \\ -2w + x + 3y - 2z &= 0 \end{aligned}$

20. $\begin{aligned} x_1 + 3x_2 \phantom{{}+ 2x_3} + x_4 &= 0 \\ x_1 + 4x_2 + 2x_3 \phantom{{}+ x_4} &= 0 \\ - 2x_2 - 2x_3 - x_4 &= 0 \\ 2x_1 - 4x_2 + x_3 + x_4 &= 0 \\ x_1 - 2x_2 - x_3 + x_4 &= 0 \end{aligned}$

21. $\begin{aligned} 2I_1 - I_2 + 3I_3 + 4I_4 &= 9 \\ I_1 \phantom{{}- I_2} - 2I_3 + 7I_4 &= 11 \\ 3I_1 - 3I_2 + I_3 + 5I_4 &= 8 \\ 2I_1 + I_2 + 4I_3 + 4I_4 &= 10 \end{aligned}$

22. $\begin{aligned} Z_3 + Z_4 + Z_5 &= 0 \\ -Z_1 - Z_2 + 2Z_3 - 3Z_4 + Z_5 &= 0 \\ Z_1 + Z_2 - 2Z_3 \phantom{{}- 3Z_4} - Z_5 &= 0 \\ 2Z_1 + 2Z_2 - Z_3 \phantom{{}- 3Z_4} + Z_5 &= 0 \end{aligned}$

In each part of Exercises 23–24, the augmented matrix for a linear system is given in which the asterisk represents an unspecified real number. Determine whether the system is consistent, and if so whether the solution is unique. Answer "inconclusive" if there is not enough information to make a decision.

23. (a) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & * & * & * \\ 0 & 1 & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & * \end{bmatrix}$ (b) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & * & * & * \\ 0 & 1 & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

(c) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & * & * & * \\ 0 & 1 & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ (d) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & * & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & * \end{bmatrix}$

24. (a) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & * & * & * \\ 0 & 1 & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ (b) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & * \\ * & 1 & 0 & * \\ * & * & 1 & * \end{bmatrix}$

(c) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & * & * & * \end{bmatrix}$ (d) $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & * & * & * \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

In Exercises 25–26, determine the values of a for which the system has no solutions, exactly one solution, or infinitely many solutions.

25. $\begin{aligned} x + 2y - 3z &= 4 \\ 3x - y + 5z &= 2 \\ 4x + y + (a^2 - 14)z &= a + 2 \end{aligned}$

26.
$$\begin{aligned} x + 2y + z &= 2 \\ 2x - 2y + 3z &= 1 \\ x + 2y - (a^2 - 3)z &= a \end{aligned}$$

▶ In Exercises 27–28, what condition, if any, must a, b, and c satisfy for the linear system to be consistent? ◀

27.
$$\begin{aligned} x + 3y - z &= a \\ x + y + 2z &= b \\ 2y - 3z &= c \end{aligned}$$

28.
$$\begin{aligned} x + 3y + z &= a \\ -x - 2y + z &= b \\ 3x + 7y - z &= c \end{aligned}$$

▶ In Exercises 29–30, solve the following systems, where a, b, and c are constants. ◀

29.
$$\begin{aligned} 2x + y &= a \\ 3x + 6y &= b \end{aligned}$$

30.
$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + x_2 + x_3 &= a \\ 2x_1 + 2x_3 &= b \\ 3x_2 + 3x_3 &= c \end{aligned}$$

31. Find two different row echelon forms of

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$$

This exercise shows that a matrix can have multiple row echelon forms.

32. Reduce

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & -2 & -29 \\ 3 & 4 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

to reduced row echelon form without introducing fractions at any intermediate stage.

33. Show that the following nonlinear system has 18 solutions if $0 \le \alpha \le 2\pi$, $0 \le \beta \le 2\pi$, and $0 \le \gamma \le 2\pi$.

$$\begin{aligned} \sin\alpha + 2\cos\beta + 3\tan\gamma &= 0 \\ 2\sin\alpha + 5\cos\beta + 3\tan\gamma &= 0 \\ -\sin\alpha - 5\cos\beta + 5\tan\gamma &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

[*Hint:* Begin by making the substitutions $x = \sin\alpha$, $y = \cos\beta$, and $z = \tan\gamma$.]

34. Solve the following system of nonlinear equations for the unknown angles α, β, and γ, where $0 \le \alpha \le 2\pi$, $0 \le \beta \le 2\pi$, and $0 \le \gamma < \pi$.

$$\begin{aligned} 2\sin\alpha - \cos\beta + 3\tan\gamma &= 3 \\ 4\sin\alpha + 2\cos\beta - 2\tan\gamma &= 2 \\ 6\sin\alpha - 3\cos\beta + \tan\gamma &= 9 \end{aligned}$$

35. Solve the following system of nonlinear equations for x, y, and z.

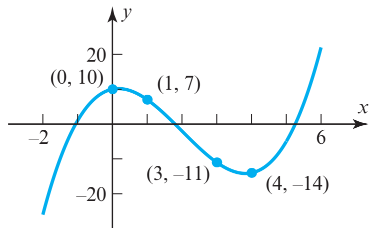
$$\begin{aligned} x^2 + y^2 + z^2 &= 6 \\ x^2 - y^2 + 2z^2 &= 2 \\ 2x^2 + y^2 - z^2 &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

[*Hint:* Begin by making the substitutions $X = x^2$, $Y = y^2$, $Z = z^2$.]

36. Solve the following system for x, y, and z.

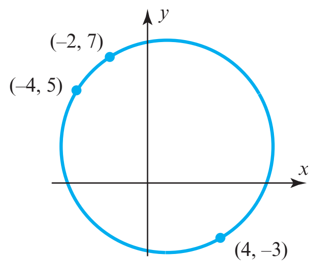
$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{x} + \frac{2}{y} - \frac{4}{z} &= 1 \\ \frac{2}{x} + \frac{3}{y} + \frac{8}{z} &= 0 \\ -\frac{1}{x} + \frac{9}{y} + \frac{10}{z} &= 5 \end{aligned}$$

37. Find the coefficients $a, b, c,$ and d so that the curve shown in the accompanying figure is the graph of the equation $y = ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d$.



◀ Figure Ex-37

38. Find the coefficients $a, b, c,$ and d so that the circle shown in the accompanying figure is given by the equation $ax^2 + ay^2 + bx + cy + d = 0$.



◀ Figure Ex-38

39. If the linear system

$$\begin{aligned} a_1x + b_1y + c_1z &= 0 \\ a_2x - b_2y + c_2z &= 0 \\ a_3x + b_3y - c_3z &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

has only the trivial solution, what can be said about the solutions of the following system?

$$\begin{aligned} a_1x + b_1y + c_1z &= 3 \\ a_2x - b_2y + c_2z &= 7 \\ a_3x + b_3y - c_3z &= 11 \end{aligned}$$

40. (a) If A is a matrix with three rows and five columns, then what is the maximum possible number of leading 1's in its reduced row echelon form?

(b) If B is a matrix with three rows and six columns, then what is the maximum possible number of parameters in the general solution of the linear system with augmented matrix B?

(c) If C is a matrix with five rows and three columns, then what is the minimum possible number of rows of zeros in any row echelon form of C?

41. Describe all possible reduced row echelon forms of

(a) $\begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{bmatrix}$ (b) $\begin{bmatrix} a & b & c & d \\ e & f & g & h \\ i & j & k & l \\ m & n & p & q \end{bmatrix}$

42. Consider the system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} ax + by &= 0 \\ cx + dy &= 0 \\ ex + fy &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Discuss the relative positions of the lines $ax + by = 0$, $cx + dy = 0$, and $ex + fy = 0$ when the system has only the trivial solution and when it has nontrivial solutions.

Working with Proofs

43. (a) Prove that if $ad - bc \neq 0$, then the reduced row echelon form of

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \text{ is } \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

(b) Use the result in part (a) to prove that if $ad - bc \neq 0$, then the linear system

$$\begin{aligned} ax + by &= k \\ cx + dy &= l \end{aligned}$$

has exactly one solution.

True-False Exercises

TF. In parts (a)–(i) determine whether the statement is true or false, and justify your answer.

(a) If a matrix is in reduced row echelon form, then it is also in row echelon form.

(b) If an elementary row operation is applied to a matrix that is in row echelon form, the resulting matrix will still be in row echelon form.

(c) Every matrix has a unique row echelon form.

(d) A homogeneous linear system in n unknowns whose corresponding augmented matrix has a reduced row echelon form with r leading 1's has $n - r$ free variables.

(e) All leading 1's in a matrix in row echelon form must occur in different columns.

(f) If every column of a matrix in row echelon form has a leading 1, then all entries that are not leading 1's are zero.

(g) If a homogeneous linear system of n equations in n unknowns has a corresponding augmented matrix with a reduced row echelon form containing n leading 1's, then the linear system has only the trivial solution.

(h) If the reduced row echelon form of the augmented matrix for a linear system has a row of zeros, then the system must have infinitely many solutions.

(i) If a linear system has more unknowns than equations, then it must have infinitely many solutions.

Working with Technology

T1. Find the reduced row echelon form of the augmented matrix for the linear system:

$$\begin{aligned} 6x_1 + x_2 \phantom{{}+3x_3} + 4x_4 &= -3 \\ -9x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 - 8x_4 &= 1 \\ 7x_1 \phantom{{}+2x_2} - 4x_3 + 5x_4 &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

Use your result to determine whether the system is consistent and, if so, find its solution.

T2. Find values of the constants A, B, C, and D that make the following equation an identity (i.e., true for all values of x).

$$\frac{3x^3 + 4x^2 - 6x}{(x^2 + 2x + 2)(x^2 - 1)} = \frac{Ax + B}{x^2 + 2x + 2} + \frac{C}{x - 1} + \frac{D}{x + 1}$$

[*Hint:* Obtain a common denominator on the right, and then equate corresponding coefficients of the various powers of x in the two numerators. Students of calculus will recognize this as a problem in partial fractions.]

1.3 Matrices and Matrix Operations

Rectangular arrays of real numbers arise in contexts other than as augmented matrices for linear systems. In this section we will begin to study matrices as objects in their own right by defining operations of addition, subtraction, and multiplication on them.

Matrix Notation and Terminology

In Section 1.2 we used rectangular arrays of numbers, called *augmented matrices*, to abbreviate systems of linear equations. However, rectangular arrays of numbers occur in other contexts as well. For example, the following rectangular array with three rows and seven columns might describe the number of hours that a student spent studying three subjects during a certain week:

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
Math	2	3	2	4	1	4	2
History	0	3	1	4	3	2	2
Language	4	1	3	1	0	0	2

If we suppress the headings, then we are left with the following rectangular array of numbers with three rows and seven columns, called a "matrix":

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

More generally, we make the following definition.

DEFINITION 1 A ***matrix*** is a rectangular array of numbers. The numbers in the array are called the ***entries*** in the matrix.

EXAMPLE 1 Examples of Matrices

Some examples of matrices are

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 0 \\ -1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}, \quad [2 \quad 1 \quad 0 \quad -3], \quad \begin{bmatrix} e & \pi & -\sqrt{2} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad [4]$$

Matrix brackets are often omitted from 1×1 matrices, making it impossible to tell, for example, whether the symbol 4 denotes the number "four" or the matrix [4]. This rarely causes problems because it is usually possible to tell which is meant from the context.

The ***size*** of a matrix is described in terms of the number of rows (horizontal lines) and columns (vertical lines) it contains. For example, the first matrix in Example 1 has three rows and two columns, so its size is 3 by 2 (written 3×2). In a size description, the first number always denotes the number of rows, and the second denotes the number of columns. The remaining matrices in Example 1 have sizes 1×4, 3×3, 2×1, and 1×1, respectively.

A matrix with only one row, such as the second in Example 1, is called a ***row vector*** (or a ***row matrix***), and a matrix with only one column, such as the fourth in that example, is called a ***column vector*** (or a ***column matrix***). The fifth matrix in that example is both a row vector and a column vector.

We will use capital letters to denote matrices and lowercase letters to denote numerical quantities; thus we might write

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 7 \\ 3 & 4 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{or} \quad C = \begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \end{bmatrix}$$

When discussing matrices, it is common to refer to numerical quantities as ***scalars***. Unless stated otherwise, *scalars will be real numbers*; complex scalars will be considered later in the text.

The entry that occurs in row i and column j of a matrix A will be denoted by a_{ij}. Thus a general 3×4 matrix might be written as

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & a_{14} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & a_{24} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & a_{34} \end{bmatrix}$$

and a general $m \times n$ matrix as

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \cdots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix} \tag{1}$$

A matrix with n rows and n columns is said to be a ***square matrix of order n***.

When a compact notation is desired, the preceding matrix can be written as

$$[a_{ij}]_{m\times n} \quad \text{or} \quad [a_{ij}]$$

the first notation being used when it is important in the discussion to know the size, and the second when the size need not be emphasized. Usually, we will match the letter denoting a matrix with the letter denoting its entries; thus, for a matrix B we would generally use b_{ij} for the entry in row i and column j, and for a matrix C we would use the notation c_{ij}.

The entry in row i and column j of a matrix A is also commonly denoted by the symbol $(A)_{ij}$. Thus, for matrix (1) above, we have

$$(A)_{ij} = a_{ij}$$

and for the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ 7 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

we have $(A)_{11} = 2$, $(A)_{12} = -3$, $(A)_{21} = 7$, and $(A)_{22} = 0$.

Row and column vectors are of special importance, and it is common practice to denote them by boldface lowercase letters rather than capital letters. For such matrices, double subscripting of the entries is unnecessary. Thus a general $1 \times n$ row vector **a** and a general $m \times 1$ column vector **b** would be written as

$$\mathbf{a} = [a_1 \quad a_2 \quad \cdots \quad a_n] \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_m \end{bmatrix}$$

A matrix A with n rows and n columns is called a ***square matrix of order n***, and the shaded entries $a_{11}, a_{22}, \ldots, a_{nn}$ in (2) are said to be on the ***main diagonal*** of A.

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \tag{2}$$

Operations on Matrices

So far, we have used matrices to abbreviate the work in solving systems of linear equations. For other applications, however, it is desirable to develop an "arithmetic of matrices" in which matrices can be added, subtracted, and multiplied in a useful way. The remainder of this section will be devoted to developing this arithmetic.

DEFINITION 2 Two matrices are defined to be ***equal*** if they have the same size and their corresponding entries are equal.

The equality of two matrices

$$A = [a_{ij}] \quad \text{and} \quad B = [b_{ij}]$$

of the same size can be expressed either by writing

$$(A)_{ij} = (B)_{ij}$$

or by writing

$$a_{ij} = b_{ij}$$

where it is understood that the equalities hold for all values of i and j.

EXAMPLE 2 Equality of Matrices

Consider the matrices

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

If $x = 5$, then $A = B$, but for all other values of x the matrices A and B are not equal, since not all of their corresponding entries are equal. There is no value of x for which $A = C$ since A and C have different sizes. ◀

DEFINITION 3 If A and B are matrices of the same size, then the ***sum*** $A + B$ is the matrix obtained by adding the entries of B to the corresponding entries of A, and the ***difference*** $A - B$ is the matrix obtained by subtracting the entries of B from the corresponding entries of A. Matrices of different sizes cannot be added or subtracted.

In matrix notation, if $A = [a_{ij}]$ and $B = [b_{ij}]$ have the same size, then

$$(A + B)_{ij} = (A)_{ij} + (B)_{ij} = a_{ij} + b_{ij} \quad \text{and} \quad (A - B)_{ij} = (A)_{ij} - (B)_{ij} = a_{ij} - b_{ij}$$

EXAMPLE 3 Addition and Subtraction

Consider the matrices

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

Then

$$A + B = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 4 & 5 & 4 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 & 3 \\ 7 & 0 & 3 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad A - B = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & -2 & -5 & 2 \\ -3 & -2 & 2 & 5 \\ 1 & -4 & 11 & -5 \end{bmatrix}$$

The expressions $A + C$, $B + C$, $A - C$, and $B - C$ are undefined. ◀

DEFINITION 4 If A is any matrix and c is any scalar, then the ***product*** cA is the matrix obtained by multiplying each entry of the matrix A by c. The matrix cA is said to be a ***scalar multiple*** of A.

In matrix notation, if $A = [a_{ij}]$, then

$$(cA)_{ij} = c(A)_{ij} = ca_{ij}$$

EXAMPLE 4 Scalar Multiples

For the matrices

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 & 7 \\ -1 & 3 & -5 \end{bmatrix}, \quad C = \begin{bmatrix} 9 & -6 & 3 \\ 3 & 0 & 12 \end{bmatrix}$$

we have

$$2A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 6 & 8 \\ 2 & 6 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (-1)B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -2 & -7 \\ 1 & -3 & 5 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \tfrac{1}{3}C = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -2 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

It is common practice to denote $(-1)B$ by $-B$. ◀

Thus far we have defined multiplication of a matrix by a scalar but not the multiplication of two matrices. Since matrices are added by adding corresponding entries and subtracted by subtracting corresponding entries, it would seem natural to define multiplication of matrices by multiplying corresponding entries. However, it turns out that such a definition would not be very useful for most problems. Experience has led mathematicians to the following more useful definition of matrix multiplication.

DEFINITION 5 If A is an $m \times r$ matrix and B is an $r \times n$ matrix, then the ***product*** AB is the $m \times n$ matrix whose entries are determined as follows: To find the entry in row i and column j of AB, single out row i from the matrix A and column j from the matrix B. Multiply the corresponding entries from the row and column together, and then add up the resulting products.

EXAMPLE 5 Multiplying Matrices

Consider the matrices

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

Since A is a 2×3 matrix and B is a 3×4 matrix, the product AB is a 2×4 matrix. To determine, for example, the entry in row 2 and column 3 of AB, we single out row 2 from A and column 3 from B. Then, as illustrated below, we multiply corresponding entries together and add up these products.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 2 & 6 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 & 4 & 3 \\ 0 & -1 & 3 & 1 \\ 2 & 7 & 5 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \square & \square & \square & \square \\ \square & \square & \boxed{26} & \square \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(2 \cdot 4) + (6 \cdot 3) + (0 \cdot 5) = 26$$

The entry in row 1 and column 4 of AB is computed as follows:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 2 & 6 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 & 4 & 3 \\ 0 & -1 & 3 & 1 \\ 2 & 7 & 5 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \square & \square & \square & \boxed{13} \\ \square & \square & \square & \square \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(1 \cdot 3) + (2 \cdot 1) + (4 \cdot 2) = 13$$

The computations for the remaining entries are

$$\begin{aligned}
(1 \cdot 4) + (2 \cdot 0) + (4 \cdot 2) &= 12 \\
(1 \cdot 1) - (2 \cdot 1) + (4 \cdot 7) &= 27 \\
(1 \cdot 4) + (2 \cdot 3) + (4 \cdot 5) &= 30 \\
(2 \cdot 4) + (6 \cdot 0) + (0 \cdot 2) &= 8 \\
(2 \cdot 1) - (6 \cdot 1) + (0 \cdot 7) &= -4 \\
(2 \cdot 3) + (6 \cdot 1) + (0 \cdot 2) &= 12
\end{aligned}
\qquad AB = \begin{bmatrix} 12 & 27 & 30 & 13 \\ 8 & -4 & 26 & 12 \end{bmatrix}$$

The definition of matrix multiplication requires that the number of columns of the first factor A be the same as the number of rows of the second factor B in order to form the product AB. If this condition is not satisfied, the product is undefined. A convenient way to determine whether a product of two matrices is defined is to write down the size of the first factor and, to the right of it, write down the size of the second factor. If, as in (3), the inside numbers are the same, then the product is defined. The outside numbers then give the size of the product.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & B & AB \\ m \times r & r \times n & = \quad m \times n \end{array} \tag{3}$$

Inside

Outside

▶ EXAMPLE 6 Determining Whether a Product Is Defined

Suppose that A, B, and C are matrices with the following sizes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & B & C \\ 3 \times 4 & 4 \times 7 & 7 \times 3 \end{array}$$

Then by (3), AB is defined and is a 3×7 matrix; BC is defined and is a 4×3 matrix; and CA is defined and is a 7×4 matrix. The products AC, CB, and BA are all undefined. ◀

In general, if $A = [a_{ij}]$ is an $m \times r$ matrix and $B = [b_{ij}]$ is an $r \times n$ matrix, then, as illustrated by the shading in the following display,

$$AB = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1r} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2r} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{i1} & a_{i2} & \cdots & a_{ir} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \cdots & a_{mr} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b_{11} & b_{12} & \cdots & b_{1j} & \cdots & b_{1n} \\ b_{21} & b_{22} & \cdots & b_{2j} & \cdots & b_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ b_{r1} & b_{r2} & \cdots & b_{rj} & \cdots & b_{rn} \end{bmatrix} \tag{4}$$

the entry $(AB)_{ij}$ in row i and column j of AB is given by

$$\boxed{(AB)_{ij} = a_{i1}b_{1j} + a_{i2}b_{2j} + a_{i3}b_{3j} + \cdots + a_{ir}b_{rj}} \tag{5}$$

Formula (5) is called the ***row-column rule*** for matrix multiplication.

Partitioned Matrices

A matrix can be subdivided or ***partitioned*** into smaller matrices by inserting horizontal and vertical rules between selected rows and columns. For example, the following are three possible partitions of a general 3×4 matrix A—the first is a partition of A into

Gotthold Eisenstein (1823–1852)

Historical Note The concept of matrix multiplication is due to the German mathematician Gotthold Eisenstein, who introduced the idea around 1844 to simplify the process of making substitutions in linear systems. The idea was then expanded on and formalized by Cayley in his *Memoir on the Theory of Matrices* that was published in 1858. Eisenstein was a pupil of Gauss, who ranked him as the equal of Isaac Newton and Archimedes. However, Eisenstein, suffering from bad health his entire life, died at age 30, so his potential was never realized.

[*Image: http://www-history.mcs.st-andrews.ac.uk/Biographies/Eisenstein.html*] four ***submatrices*** A_{11}, A_{12}, A_{21}, and A_{22}; the second is a partition of A into its row vectors $\mathbf{r}_1$, $\mathbf{r}_2$, and $\mathbf{r}_3$; and the third is a partition of A into its column vectors $\mathbf{c}_1$, $\mathbf{c}_2$, $\mathbf{c}_3$, and $\mathbf{c}_4$:

$$A = \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & a_{14} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & a_{24} \\ \hline a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & a_{34} \end{array}\right] = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A = \left[\begin{array}{cccc} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & a_{14} \\ \hline a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & a_{24} \\ \hline a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & a_{34} \end{array}\right] = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{r}_1 \\ \mathbf{r}_2 \\ \mathbf{r}_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A = \left[\begin{array}{c|c|c|c} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & a_{14} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & a_{24} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & a_{34} \end{array}\right] = [\mathbf{c}_1 \quad \mathbf{c}_2 \quad \mathbf{c}_3 \quad \mathbf{c}_4]$$

Matrix Multiplication by Columns and by Rows

Partitioning has many uses, one of which is for finding particular rows or columns of a matrix product AB without computing the entire product. Specifically, the following formulas, whose proofs are left as exercises, show how individual column vectors of AB can be obtained by partitioning B into column vectors and how individual row vectors of AB can be obtained by partitioning A into row vectors.

$$AB = A[\mathbf{b}_1 \quad \mathbf{b}_2 \quad \cdots \quad \mathbf{b}_n] = [A\mathbf{b}_1 \quad A\mathbf{b}_2 \quad \cdots \quad A\mathbf{b}_n] \tag{6}$$

(AB computed column by column)

$$AB = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a}_1 \\ \mathbf{a}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{a}_m \end{bmatrix} B = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a}_1 B \\ \mathbf{a}_2 B \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{a}_m B \end{bmatrix} \tag{7}$$

(AB computed row by row)

We now have three methods for computing a product of two matrices, entry by entry using Definition 5, column by column using Formula (8), and row by row using Formula (9). We will call these the ***entry method***, the ***row method***, and the ***column method***, respectively.

In words, these formulas state that

$$j\text{th column vector of } AB = A[j\text{th column vector of } B] \tag{8}$$

$$i\text{th row vector of } AB = [i\text{th row vector of } A]B \tag{9}$$

EXAMPLE 7 Example 5 Revisited

If A and B are the matrices in Example 5, then from (8) the second column vector of AB can be obtained by the computation

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 2 & 6 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}}_{\substack{\text{Second column} \\ \text{of } B}} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 27 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}}_{\substack{\text{Second column} \\ \text{of } AB}}$$

and from (9) the first row vector of AB can be obtained by the computation

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 & 4 & 3 \\ 0 & -1 & 3 & 1 \\ 2 & 7 & 5 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 12 & 27 & 30 & 13 \end{bmatrix}$$

First row of A First row of AB ◀

Matrix Products as Linear Combinations

The following definition provides yet another way of thinking about matrix multiplication.

> Definition 6 is applicable, in particular, to row and column vectors. Thus, for example, a *linear combination* of column vectors $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \ldots, \mathbf{x}_r$ of the same size is an expression of the form
>
> $$c_1\mathbf{x}_1 + c_2\mathbf{x}_2 + \cdots + c_r\mathbf{x}_r$$

DEFINITION 6 If $A_1, A_2, \ldots, A_r$ are matrices of the same size, and if $c_1, c_2, \ldots, c_r$ are scalars, then an expression of the form

$$c_1A_1 + c_2A_2 + \cdots + c_rA_r$$

is called a ***linear combination*** of $A_1, A_2, \ldots, A_r$ with ***coefficients*** $c_1, c_2, \ldots, c_r$.

To see how matrix products can be viewed as linear combinations, let A be an $m \times n$ matrix and $\mathbf{x}$ an $n \times 1$ column vector, say

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \cdots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Then

$$A\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \cdots + a_{1n}x_n \\ a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \cdots + a_{2n}x_n \\ \vdots \\ a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + \cdots + a_{mn}x_n \end{bmatrix} = x_1\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} \\ a_{21} \\ \vdots \\ a_{m1} \end{bmatrix} + x_2\begin{bmatrix} a_{12} \\ a_{22} \\ \vdots \\ a_{m2} \end{bmatrix} + \cdots + x_n\begin{bmatrix} a_{1n} \\ a_{2n} \\ \vdots \\ a_{mn} \end{bmatrix} \tag{10}$$

This proves the following theorem.

THEOREM 1.3.1 *If A is an $m \times n$ matrix, and if $\mathbf{x}$ is an $n \times 1$ column vector, then the product $A\mathbf{x}$ can be expressed as a linear combination of the column vectors of A in which the coefficients are the entries of $\mathbf{x}$.*

▶ EXAMPLE 8 Matrix Products as Linear Combinations

The matrix product

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & -3 \\ 2 & 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -9 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

can be written as the following linear combination of column vectors:

$$2\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} - 1\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + 3\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -9 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

EXAMPLE 9 Columns of a Product AB as Linear Combinations

We showed in Example 5 that

$$AB = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 2 & 6 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 & 4 & 3 \\ 0 & -1 & 3 & 1 \\ 2 & 7 & 5 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 12 & 27 & 30 & 13 \\ 8 & -4 & 26 & 12 \end{bmatrix}$$

It follows from Formula (6) and Theorem 1.3.1 that the jth column vector of AB can be expressed as a linear combination of the column vectors of A in which the coefficients in the linear combination are the entries from the jth column of B. The computations are as follows:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 12 \\ 8 \end{bmatrix} = 4\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + 0\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} + 2\begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 27 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} + 7\begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 30 \\ 26 \end{bmatrix} = 4\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + 3\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} + 5\begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 13 \\ 12 \end{bmatrix} = 3\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} + 2\begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Column-Row Expansion

Partitioning provides yet another way to view matrix multiplication. Specifically, suppose that an $m \times r$ matrix A is partitioned into its r column vectors $\mathbf{c}_1, \mathbf{c}_2, \ldots, \mathbf{c}_r$ (each of size $m \times 1$) and an $r \times n$ matrix B is partitioned into its r row vectors $\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \ldots, \mathbf{r}_r$ (each of size $1 \times n$). Each term in the sum

$$\mathbf{c}_1\mathbf{r}_1 + \mathbf{c}_2\mathbf{r}_2 + \cdots + \mathbf{c}_r\mathbf{r}_r$$

has size $m \times n$ so the sum itself is an $m \times n$ matrix. We leave it as an exercise for you to verify that the entry in row i and column j of the sum is given by the expression on the right side of Formula (5), from which it follows that

$$AB = \mathbf{c}_1\mathbf{r}_1 + \mathbf{c}_2\mathbf{r}_2 + \cdots + \mathbf{c}_r\mathbf{r}_r \tag{11}$$

We call (11) the ***column-row expansion*** of AB.

EXAMPLE 10 Column-Row Expansion

Find the column-row expansion of the product

$$AB = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 4 \\ -3 & 5 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \tag{12}$$

Solution The column vectors of A and the row vectors of B are, respectively,

$$\mathbf{c}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{c}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}; \quad \mathbf{r}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{r}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -3 & 5 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Thus, it follows from (11) that the column-row expansion of AB is

$$\begin{aligned} AB &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -3 & 5 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 4 \\ 4 & 0 & 8 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -9 & 15 & 3 \\ 3 & -5 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned} \tag{13}$$

The main use of the column-row expansion is for developing theoretical results rather than for numerical computations.

As a check, we leave it for you to confirm that the product in (12) and the sum in (13) both yield

$$AB = \begin{bmatrix} -7 & 15 & 7 \\ 7 & -5 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \blacktriangleleft$$

Matrix Form of a Linear System

Matrix multiplication has an important application to systems of linear equations. Consider a system of m linear equations in n unknowns:

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

Since two matrices are equal if and only if their corresponding entries are equal, we can replace the m equations in this system by the single matrix equation

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

The $m \times 1$ matrix on the left side of this equation can be written as a product to give

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

If we designate these matrices by A, $\mathbf{x}$, and $\mathbf{b}$, respectively, then we can replace the original system of m equations in n unknowns by the single matrix equation

$$A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$$

The matrix A in this equation is called the ***coefficient matrix*** of the system. The augmented matrix for the system is obtained by adjoining $\mathbf{b}$ to A as the last column; thus the augmented matrix is

The vertical partition line in the augmented matrix $[A \mid \mathbf{b}]$ is optional, but is a useful way of visually separating the coefficient matrix A from the column vector $\mathbf{b}$.

$$[A \mid \mathbf{b}] = \left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} & b_1 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} & b_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \cdots & a_{mn} & b_m \end{array}\right]$$

Transpose of a Matrix

We conclude this section by defining two matrix operations that have no analogs in the arithmetic of real numbers.

DEFINITION 7 If A is any $m \times n$ matrix, then the ***transpose of A***, denoted by A^T, is defined to be the $n \times m$ matrix that results by interchanging the rows and columns of A; that is, the first column of A^T is the first row of A, the second column of A^T is the second row of A, and so forth.

EXAMPLE 11 Some Transposes

The following are some examples of matrices and their transposes.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & a_{14} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & a_{24} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & a_{34} \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 4 \\ 5 & 6 \end{bmatrix}, \quad C = [1 \quad 3 \quad 5], \quad D = [4]$$

$$A^T = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{21} & a_{31} \\ a_{12} & a_{22} & a_{32} \\ a_{13} & a_{23} & a_{33} \\ a_{14} & a_{24} & a_{34} \end{bmatrix}, \quad B^T = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 5 \\ 3 & 4 & 6 \end{bmatrix}, \quad C^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}, \quad D^T = [4]$$ ◀

Observe that not only are the columns of A^T the rows of A, but the rows of A^T are the columns of A. Thus the entry in row i and column j of A^T is the entry in row j and column i of A; that is,

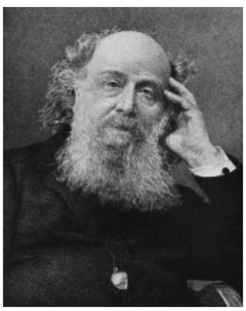
$$(A^T)_{ij} = (A)_{ji} \tag{14}$$

Note the reversal of the subscripts.

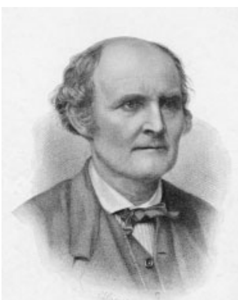
In the special case where A is a square matrix, the transpose of A can be obtained by interchanging entries that are symmetrically positioned about the main diagonal. In (15) we see that A^T can also be obtained by "reflecting" A about its main diagonal.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 4 \\ 3 & 7 & 0 \\ -5 & 8 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \to \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 4 \\ 3 & 7 & 0 \\ -5 & 8 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \to A^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & -5 \\ -2 & 7 & 8 \\ 4 & 0 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \tag{15}$$

Interchange entries that are symmetrically positioned about the main diagonal.



James Sylvester (1814–1897)



Arthur Cayley (1821–1895)

Historical Note The term *matrix* was first used by the English mathematician James Sylvester, who defined the term in 1850 to be an "oblong arrangement of terms." Sylvester communicated his work on matrices to a fellow English mathematician and lawyer named Arthur Cayley, who then introduced some of the basic operations on matrices in a book entitled *Memoir on the Theory of Matrices* that was published in 1858. As a matter of interest, Sylvester, who was Jewish, did not get his college degree because he refused to sign a required oath to the Church of England. He was appointed to a chair at the University of Virginia in the United States but resigned after swatting a student with a stick because he was reading a newspaper in class. Sylvester, thinking he had killed the student, fled back to England on the first available ship. Fortunately, the student was not dead, just in shock!

[*Images:* © *Bettmann/CORBIS* (*Sylvester*); *Photo Researchers/Getty Images* (*Cayley*)]

Trace of a Matrix

DEFINITION 8 If A is a square matrix, then the ***trace of A***, denoted by $\mathrm{tr}(A)$, is defined to be the sum of the entries on the main diagonal of A. The trace of A is undefined if A is not a square matrix.

EXAMPLE 12 Trace

The following are examples of matrices and their traces.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 & 7 & 0 \\ 3 & 5 & -8 & 4 \\ 1 & 2 & 7 & -3 \\ 4 & -2 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathrm{tr}(A) = a_{11} + a_{22} + a_{33} \qquad \mathrm{tr}(B) = -1 + 5 + 7 + 0 = 11$$

In the exercises you will have some practice working with the transpose and trace operations.

Exercise Set 1.3

In Exercises 1–2, suppose that A, B, C, D, and E are matrices with the following sizes:

A	B	C	D	E
(4×5)	(4×5)	(5×2)	(4×2)	(5×4)

In each part, determine whether the given matrix expression is defined. For those that are defined, give the size of the resulting matrix.

1. (a) BA (b) AB^T (c) $AC + D$
(d) $E(AC)$ (e) $A - 3E^T$ (f) $E(5B + A)$

2. (a) CD^T (b) DC (c) $BC - 3D$
(d) $D^T(BE)$ (e) $B^TD + ED$ (f) $BA^T + D$

In Exercises 3–6, use the following matrices to compute the indicated expression if it is defined.

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

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 & 2 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 3 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}, \quad E = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 1 & 3 \\ -1 & 1 & 2 \\ 4 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

3. (a) $D + E$ (b) $D - E$ (c) $5A$
(d) $-7C$ (e) $2B - C$ (f) $4E - 2D$
(g) $-3(D + 2E)$ (h) $A - A$ (i) $\mathrm{tr}(D)$
(j) $\mathrm{tr}(D - 3E)$ (k) $4\,\mathrm{tr}(7B)$ (l) $\mathrm{tr}(A)$

4. (a) $2A^T + C$ (b) $D^T - E^T$ (c) $(D - E)^T$
(d) $B^T + 5C^T$ (e) $\frac{1}{2}C^T - \frac{1}{4}A$ (f) $B - B^T$
(g) $2E^T - 3D^T$ (h) $(2E^T - 3D^T)^T$ (i) $(CD)E$
(j) $C(BA)$ (k) $\mathrm{tr}(DE^T)$ (l) $\mathrm{tr}(BC)$

5. (a) AB (b) BA (c) $(3E)D$
(d) $(AB)C$ (e) $A(BC)$ (f) CC^T
(g) $(DA)^T$ (h) $(C^TB)A^T$ (i) $\mathrm{tr}(DD^T)$
(j) $\mathrm{tr}(4E^T - D)$ (k) $\mathrm{tr}(C^TA^T + 2E^T)$ (l) $\mathrm{tr}((EC^T)^TA)$

6. (a) $(2D^T - E)A$ (b) $(4B)C + 2B$
(c) $(-AC)^T + 5D^T$ (d) $(BA^T - 2C)^T$
(e) $B^T(CC^T - A^TA)$ (f) $D^TE^T - (ED)^T$

In Exercises 7–8, use the following matrices and either the row method or the column method, as appropriate, to find the indicated row or column.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -2 & 7 \\ 6 & 5 & 4 \\ 0 & 4 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & -2 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 7 & 7 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

7. (a) the first row of AB (b) the third row of AB
(c) the second column of AB (d) the first column of BA
(e) the third row of AA (f) the third column of AA

8. (a) the first column of AB (b) the third column of BB

(c) the second row of BB (d) the first column of AA

(e) the third column of AB (f) the first row of BA

In Exercises 9–10, use matrices A and B from Exercises 7–8.

9. (a) Express each column vector of AA as a linear combination of the column vectors of A.

(b) Express each column vector of BB as a linear combination of the column vectors of B.

10. (a) Express each column vector of AB as a linear combination of the column vectors of A.

(b) Express each column vector of BA as a linear combination of the column vectors of B.

In each part of Exercises 11–12, find matrices A, $\mathbf{x}$, and $\mathbf{b}$ that express the given linear system as a single matrix equation $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$, and write out this matrix equation.

11. (a)
$$\begin{aligned} 2x_1 - 3x_2 + 5x_3 &= 7 \\ 9x_1 - x_2 + x_3 &= -1 \\ x_1 + 5x_2 + 4x_3 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

(b)
$$\begin{aligned} 4x_1 \quad\quad - 3x_3 + x_4 &= 1 \\ 5x_1 + x_2 \quad\quad - 8x_4 &= 3 \\ 2x_1 - 5x_2 + 9x_3 - x_4 &= 0 \\ 3x_2 - x_3 + 7x_4 &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

12. (a)
$$\begin{aligned} x_1 - 2x_2 + 3x_3 &= -3 \\ 2x_1 + x_2 \quad\quad &= 0 \\ -3x_2 + 4x_3 &= 1 \\ x_1 \quad\quad + x_3 &= 5 \end{aligned}$$

(b)
$$\begin{aligned} 3x_1 + 3x_2 + 3x_3 &= -3 \\ -x_1 - 5x_2 - 2x_3 &= 3 \\ -4x_2 + x_3 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

In each part of Exercises 13–14, express the matrix equation as a system of linear equations.

13. (a)
$$\begin{bmatrix} 5 & 6 & -7 \\ -1 & -2 & 3 \\ 0 & 4 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

(b)
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 & 0 \\ 5 & -3 & -6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ -9 \end{bmatrix}$$

14. (a)
$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 & 2 \\ 4 & 3 & 7 \\ -2 & 1 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

(b)
$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & -2 & 0 & 1 \\ 5 & 0 & 2 & -2 \\ 3 & 1 & 4 & 7 \\ -2 & 5 & 1 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} w \\ x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

In Exercises 15–16, find all values of k, if any, that satisfy the equation.

15.
$$\begin{bmatrix} k & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & -3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} k \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

16.
$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 & k \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ k \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

In Exercises 17–20, use the column-row expansion of AB to express this product as a sum of matrices.

17. $A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -3 \\ 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 \\ -2 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

18. $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -2 \\ 4 & -3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 1 \\ -3 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

19. $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \\ 5 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$

20. $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 4 & 2 \\ 1 & -2 & 5 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 4 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$

21. For the linear system in Example 5 of Section 1.2, express the general solution that we obtained in that example as a linear combination of column vectors that contain only numerical entries. [*Suggestion:* Rewrite the general solution as a single column vector, then write that column vector as a sum of column vectors each of which contains at most one parameter, and then factor out the parameters.]

22. Follow the directions of Exercise 21 for the linear system in Example 6 of Section 1.2.

In Exercises 23–24, solve the matrix equation for a, b, c, and d.

23.
$$\begin{bmatrix} a & 3 \\ -1 & a+b \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & d-2c \\ d+2c & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

24.
$$\begin{bmatrix} a-b & b+a \\ 3d+c & 2d-c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 8 & 1 \\ 7 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

25. (a) Show that if A has a row of zeros and B is any matrix for which AB is defined, then AB also has a row of zeros.

(b) Find a similar result involving a column of zeros.

26. In each part, find a 6×6 matrix $[a_{ij}]$ that satisfies the stated condition. Make your answers as general as possible by using letters rather than specific numbers for the nonzero entries.

(a) $a_{ij} = 0$ if $i \neq j$ (b) $a_{ij} = 0$ if $i > j$

(c) $a_{ij} = 0$ if $i < j$ (d) $a_{ij} = 0$ if $|i - j| > 1$

In Exercises 27–28, how many 3×3 matrices A can you find for which the equation is satisfied for all choices of x, y, and z?

27. $A\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x+y \\ x-y \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ **28.** $A\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} xy \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

29. A matrix B is said to be a ***square root*** of a matrix A if $BB = A$.

(a) Find two square roots of $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$.

(b) How many different square roots can you find of
$A = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$?

(c) Do you think that every 2×2 matrix has at least one square root? Explain your reasoning.

30. Let 0 denote a 2×2 matrix, each of whose entries is zero.

(a) Is there a 2×2 matrix A such that $A \neq 0$ and $AA = 0$? Justify your answer.

(b) Is there a 2×2 matrix A such that $A \neq 0$ and $AA = A$? Justify your answer.

31. Establish Formula (11) by using Formula (5) to show that

$$(AB)_{ij} = (\mathbf{c}_1\mathbf{r}_1 + \mathbf{c}_2\mathbf{r}_2 + \cdots + \mathbf{c}_r\mathbf{r}_r)_{ij}$$

32. Find a 4×4 matrix $A = [a_{ij}]$ whose entries satisfy the stated condition.

(a) $a_{ij} = i + j$ (b) $a_{ij} = i^{j-1}$

(c) $a_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if} \quad |i-j| > 1 \\ -1 & \text{if} \quad |i-j| \leq 1 \end{cases}$

33. Suppose that type I items cost \$1 each, type II items cost \$2 each, and type III items cost \$3 each. Also, suppose that the accompanying table describes the number of items of each type purchased during the first four months of the year.

Table Ex-33

	Type I	Type II	Type III
Jan.	3	4	3
Feb.	5	6	0
Mar.	2	9	4
Apr.	1	1	7

What information is represented by the following product?

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 & 3 \\ 5 & 6 & 0 \\ 2 & 9 & 4 \\ 1 & 1 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

34. The accompanying table shows a record of May and June unit sales for a clothing store. Let M denote the 4×3 matrix of May sales and J the 4×3 matrix of June sales.

(a) What does the matrix $M + J$ represent?

(b) What does the matrix $M - J$ represent?

(c) Find a column vector $\mathbf{x}$ for which $M\mathbf{x}$ provides a list of the number of shirts, jeans, suits, and raincoats sold in May.

(d) Find a row vector $\mathbf{y}$ for which $\mathbf{y}M$ provides a list of the number of small, medium, and large items sold in May.

(e) Using the matrices $\mathbf{x}$ and $\mathbf{y}$ that you found in parts (c) and (d), what does $\mathbf{y}M\mathbf{x}$ represent?

Table Ex-34

May Sales

	Small	Medium	Large
Shirts	45	60	75
Jeans	30	30	40
Suits	12	65	45
Raincoats	15	40	35

June Sales

	Small	Medium	Large
Shirts	30	33	40
Jeans	21	23	25
Suits	9	12	11
Raincoats	8	10	9

Working with Proofs

35. Prove: If A and B are $n \times n$ matrices, then

$$\operatorname{tr}(A + B) = \operatorname{tr}(A) + \operatorname{tr}(B)$$

36. (a) Prove: If AB and BA are both defined, then AB and BA are square matrices.

(b) Prove: If A is an $m \times n$ matrix and $A(BA)$ is defined, then B is an $n \times m$ matrix.

True-False Exercises

TF. In parts (a)–(o) determine whether the statement is true or false, and justify your answer.

(a) The matrix $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$ has no main diagonal.

(b) An $m \times n$ matrix has m column vectors and n row vectors.

(c) If A and B are 2×2 matrices, then $AB = BA$.

(d) The ith row vector of a matrix product AB can be computed by multiplying A by the ith row vector of B.

(e) For every matrix A, it is true that $(A^T)^T = A$.

(f) If A and B are square matrices of the same order, then
$$\mathrm{tr}(AB) = \mathrm{tr}(A)\mathrm{tr}(B)$$

(g) If A and B are square matrices of the same order, then
$$(AB)^T = A^T B^T$$

(h) For every square matrix A, it is true that $\mathrm{tr}(A^T) = \mathrm{tr}(A)$.

(i) If A is a 6×4 matrix and B is an $m \times n$ matrix such that $B^T A^T$ is a 2×6 matrix, then $m = 4$ and $n = 2$.

(j) If A is an $n \times n$ matrix and c is a scalar, then $\mathrm{tr}(cA) = c\,\mathrm{tr}(A)$.

(k) If A, B, and C are matrices of the same size such that $A - C = B - C$, then $A = B$.

(l) If A, B, and C are square matrices of the same order such that $AC = BC$, then $A = B$.

(m) If $AB + BA$ is defined, then A and B are square matrices of the same size.

(n) If B has a column of zeros, then so does AB if this product is defined.

(o) If B has a column of zeros, then so does BA if this product is defined.

Working with Technology

T1. (a) Compute the product AB of the matrices in Example 5, and compare your answer to that in the text.

(b) Use your technology utility to extract the columns of A and the rows of B, and then calculate the product AB by a column-row expansion.

T2. Suppose that a manufacturer uses Type I items at \$1.35 each, Type II items at \$2.15 each, and Type III items at \$3.95 each. Suppose also that the accompanying table describes the purchases of those items (in thousands of units) for the first quarter of the year. Write down a matrix product, the computation of which produces a matrix that lists the manufacturer's expenditure in each month of the first quarter. Compute that product.

	Type I	Type II	Type III
Jan.	3.1	4.2	3.5
Feb.	5.1	6.8	0
Mar.	2.2	9.5	4.0
Apr.	1.0	1.0	7.4

1.4 Inverses; Algebraic Properties of Matrices

In this section we will discuss some of the algebraic properties of matrix operations. We will see that many of the basic rules of arithmetic for real numbers hold for matrices, but we will also see that some do not.

Properties of Matrix Addition and Scalar Multiplication

The following theorem lists the basic algebraic properties of the matrix operations.

THEOREM 1.4.1 Properties of Matrix Arithmetic

Assuming that the sizes of the matrices are such that the indicated operations can be performed, the following rules of matrix arithmetic are valid.

(*a*) $A + B = B + A$ **[Commutative law for matrix addition]**

(*b*) $A + (B + C) = (A + B) + C$ **[Associative law for matrix addition]**

(*c*) $A(BC) = (AB)C$ **[Associative law for matrix multiplication]**

(*d*) $A(B + C) = AB + AC$ **[Left distributive law]**

(*e*) $(B + C)A = BA + CA$ **[Right distributive law]**

(*f*) $A(B - C) = AB - AC$

(*g*) $(B - C)A = BA - CA$

(*h*) $a(B + C) = aB + aC$

(*i*) $a(B - C) = aB - aC$

(*j*) $(a + b)C = aC + bC$

(*k*) $(a - b)C = aC - bC$

(*l*) $a(bC) = (ab)C$

(*m*) $a(BC) = (aB)C = B(aC)$