

(6)

More formally ...

DEFIN: $M \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ is in row-echelon form if

- (a) its zero rows all come at the end ($\text{row } i \text{ zero} \Rightarrow \text{row } j \text{ is zero } \forall j > i$)
- (b) each nonzero row has its leftmost nonzero entry being 1 (called a pivot 1)
- (c) if rows i and $i+1$ are nonzero, the pivot 1 in row i is left of the pivot 1 in row $i+1$
- (d) pivot 1's are the only nonzero entry in their column.

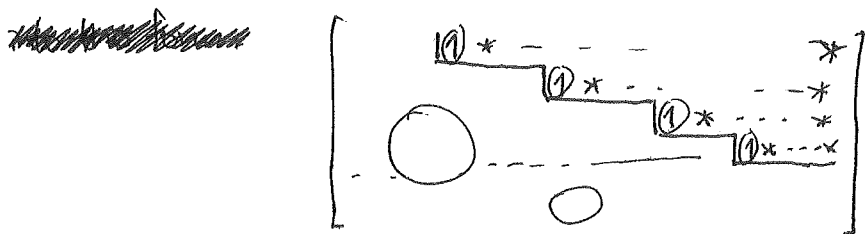
e.g.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{pivot columns} \\
 \downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\
 \left[\begin{array}{cccccccc}
 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & * & \dots & * & 0 & * & \dots & * \\
 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 1 & * & \dots & 0 & * & \dots & * \\
 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 1 & * & \dots & 0 & * & \dots & * \\
 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & * & \dots & * \\
 \vdots & \dots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\
 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \\
 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0
 \end{array} \right]
 \end{array}$$

PROPOSITION: Every matrix $M \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ can be brought to row-echelon form by a sequence of row ops of type (i), (ii), (iii)

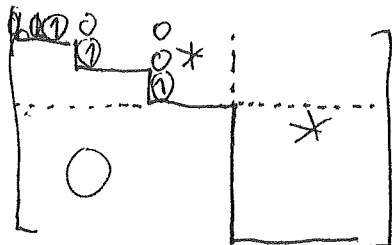
proof: Induct on the number of nonzero rows. ~~by induction on the number of nonzero rows~~

(sketch)



(Q: What does the base case of the induction look like?)

In the inductive step, one has it in this form



and one finds the leftmost nonzero entry below the dotted line, scales its row to make it a pivot 1, swaps rows until it is just below the dotted line, then uses the pivot 1 to eliminate entries ~~in the same column~~ in the same column.

REMARK: The row-echelon form for M is unique, but we won't need this.

(7) Another key point is that the 3 types of row ops ~~one~~ can apply to M are the same as multiplying M on the left by ~~the~~ 3 types of elementary matrices, all of which are invertible (with inverses also elementary matrices).

Type (i): $E = \begin{matrix} \text{row } i \rightarrow \\ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & \\ & \boxed{a} & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$ has $M \mapsto EM$ adding a times row i of M to row j

and $E^{-1} = \begin{matrix} \text{row } i \rightarrow \\ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & \\ & \boxed{-a} & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

e.g. $\begin{matrix} j=1 \\ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ a & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix} \begin{matrix} \text{row } i=2 \\ \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 6 & 7 \\ 8 & 9 & 10 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 6 & 7 \\ 8+5a & 9+6a & 10+7a \end{bmatrix}$

$E \quad M$

Type (ii): $E = \begin{matrix} \text{row } i \rightarrow \\ \text{row } j \rightarrow \\ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & \\ & \boxed{0} & \dots & \boxed{1} \\ & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ & \boxed{1} & \dots & \boxed{0} \\ & & & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$ has $M \mapsto EM$ swapping rows i & j of M

e.g. $\begin{matrix} \text{row } 1 \rightarrow \\ \text{row } 3 \rightarrow \\ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix} \begin{matrix} \text{row } 1 \rightarrow \\ \text{row } 3 \rightarrow \\ \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 \\ 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 \\ 13 & 14 & 15 & 16 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 13 & 14 & 15 & 16 \\ 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 \\ 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$

$E \quad M$

and $E^{-1} = E$

Type (iii): $E = \begin{matrix} \text{row } i \rightarrow \\ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & \\ & \boxed{c} & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$ has $M \mapsto EM$ scaling row i of M by c

for $c \neq 0$

e.g. $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & c \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 \\ 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 \\ 9c & 10c & 11c & 12c \end{bmatrix}$

and $E^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & \\ & \boxed{1/c} & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

Q: Does this make sense without parentheses?
E.g. is $A(B(CD)) = (AB)C)D$?

This will have a lot of consequences, starting with a simple observation.

PROP: If A_1, A_2, \dots, A_r have (2-sided) inverses $A_1^{-1}, \dots, A_r^{-1}$ then so does

their product $A_1 A_2 \dots A_r$, namely $(A_1 A_2 \dots A_r)^{-1} = A_r^{-1} A_{r-1}^{-1} \dots A_1^{-1}$

In particular, a product ~~of~~ $E_1 E_2 \dots E_r$ of elementary matrices is always invertible.

Proof: Check $A_1 A_2 \dots A_r \cdot A_r^{-1} A_{r-1}^{-1} \dots A_1^{-1} = I$ and $A_r^{-1} A_{r-1}^{-1} \dots A_1^{-1} \cdot A_1 A_2 \dots A_r = I$
by induction on r

- $A(B(CD))$
- "
- $A(BC)D$
- "
- $(A(BC))D$
- "
- $((AB)C)D$

(8) COROLLARY:

(THM 1.2.16, PROP 1.2.20) For a matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$,

(i) A can never have a right-inverse $AR = I_m$ if $m > n$
(but might have a left-inverse)

(ii) A — " — left-inverse $LA = I_n$ if $m < n$
(but might have a right-inverse)

(iii) if $m=n$ so A is square $n \times n$, the following are equivalent:
(T.F.A.E.)

(a) A has I_n as a row-echelon form

(b) $A = E_1 E_2 \dots E_r$ for some elementary matrices E_i

(c) A has a (two-sided) inverse

(d) A has a right-inverse.

(e) A has a left-inverse

proof: (i): If $m > n$ then the echelon form A' for A definitely has some zero rows:

$$\begin{bmatrix} A \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{row-reduce}} \begin{bmatrix} \textcircled{1} & & & \\ & \textcircled{1} & & \\ & & \textcircled{1} & \\ \dots & & & \\ 0 & \dots & & 0 \\ \dots & & & \\ 0 & \dots & & 0 \end{bmatrix} = A' = \overbrace{E_1 E_2 \dots E_r}^{\text{elementary matrices}} A = PA$$

where $P = E_1 E_2 \dots E_r$ is invertible.

Then ~~if~~ if A had a right-inverse R ,

$$AR = I_m$$

\Downarrow

$$P(AR)P^{-1} = P I_m P^{-1} = I_m$$

\parallel
 $\underbrace{A'} \cdot \underbrace{RP^{-1}}_{\text{has no zero row}} = I_m$
has a zero row \leftarrow Contradiction

(9)

(ii) If $m < n$ and A had a left-inverse $LA = I_n$ (with $L \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$), then applying (i) to L gives a contradiction, since A is a right-inverse of L .

(iii) Let's prove $(d) \Rightarrow (a) \Rightarrow (b) \Rightarrow (c)$ first, assuming $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$.

(d) \Rightarrow (a): If the echelon form A' for A has $A' \neq I_n$,

then A' has a zero row: $A' = \begin{bmatrix} \textcircled{0} & & & \\ & \textcircled{0} & & \\ & & \textcircled{0} & \textcircled{0} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & \dots & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Then as above in (i), A cannot have a right inverse $AR = I_n$ or else since $A' = PA$ for some invertible P , one has

$$PARP^{-1} = PI_nP^{-1} = I_n$$

" $A'(RP^{-1})$ " has no zero row

has a zero row \leftarrow contradiction

(a) \Rightarrow (b): If $A' = I_n = E_r E_{r-1} \dots E_2 E_1 A$

then multiplying by $E_1^{-1} E_2^{-1} \dots E_r^{-1}$ gives $E_1^{-1} E_2^{-1} \dots E_r^{-1} = A$
a product of elementary matrices

(b) \Rightarrow (c): $A = E_1 \dots E_r \Rightarrow A^{-1} = E_r^{-1} \dots E_1^{-1}$ as shown earlier, is a 2-sided inverse for A .

(c) \Rightarrow (d): Obviously 2-sided inverses are right inverses.

Now let's check $(e) \Rightarrow (c)$, since $(c) \Rightarrow (e)$ is also obvious.

If A has a left-inverse $LA = I_n$, with $L \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ the L has A as a right-inverse, so L has a 2-sided inverse B by what we've shown already, but then $B(LA) = (BL)A = A$
 $B = B(LA) = (BL)A = A$ ■