

Lecture 6: Row echelon and Gaussian elimination. ①

[§ RREF of B]

Last time:

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Linear sys} \\ \text{with } n \text{ vars} \\ \text{and } m \text{ eqns} \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \xrightarrow{\text{Augmented}} \\ \text{matrix} \\ \xleftarrow{\text{Lol}} \end{array} \text{Mat}_{m \times (n+1)}(\mathbb{R})$

$$\begin{array}{l} 3x_1 + 2x_2 = 1 \\ -2x_1 - x_2 = 0 \end{array} \longleftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 & 1 \\ -2 & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Row ops: ① $R_i \leftrightarrow R_j$ ② Scale row by $c \neq 0$.
③ Replace R_j with $cR_i + R_j$.

Thm: If M and N are row equivalent, then
 $LS(M)$ and $LS(N)$ have the same sol'ns.

Reduced Row Echelon Form: A matrix where

- ① Rows of zeros are at the bottom
- ② The first nonzero entry in any row is a 1 (leading 1).
- ③ A leading 1 is the only nonzero entry in its column.
- ④ Suppose (i, j) and (s, t) are indices of leading 1's. If $i > s$ then $j > t$.

Ex:
$$\begin{pmatrix} \boxed{1} & 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{1} & 3 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \boxed{1} & 4 \end{pmatrix} = M$$

$(s,t) = (2,3)$ $(i,j) = (3,5)$

Non ex:
$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \boxed{1} & 4 \\ \boxed{1} & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$
 This violates all ④ conditions!

Why useful: Can easily solve the linear system for the vars assoc to the leading 1's.

Ex:
$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}S(M) &= x_1 + 2x_2 + x_4 = 2 \\ &= x_3 + 3x_4 = 3 \\ &= x_5 = 4 \end{aligned}$$

So
$$\left. \begin{aligned} x_1 &= 2 - 2x_2 - x_4 \\ x_3 &= 3 - 3x_4 \\ x_5 &= 4 \end{aligned} \right\} \text{Key: No } x_1, x_3, \text{ or } x_5 \text{ over here, because of } \textcircled{3}.$$

Thus all sol'n are
$$\left\{ (2 - 2s - t, s, 3 - 3t, t, 4) \mid s, t \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

← "where"
 ← "in"

Thm: Any matrix M is row equivalent to one in reduced row echelon form. ③

Gauss-Jordan Elimination: M an $m \times n$ matrix.

Denote rows by R_i and columns by C_j .

① Set $r=0, j=0$.

② If $j \geq n$ stop and return current matrix. Otherwise, set $j=j+1$.

③ If C_j is 0 below row r , go to ②.

④ Set $r=r+1$. Arrange that j^{th} entry of R_r is nonzero by swapping R_r with one R_{r+1}, \dots, R_m if necessary.

⑤ Scale R_r so that j^{th} entry is 1.

⑥ For i in $[1, \dots, m]$, $i \neq r$ clear the j^{th} entry of R_i by setting $R_i = -cR_r + R_i$ where c is the j^{th} entry of R_i .

⑦ Go to ②.

$$\text{Ex: } \overset{j=1, r=1}{\left(\begin{array}{cccc} 0 & 4 & 6 & 8 \\ 2 & 0 & -2 & 4 \\ -3 & 0 & 3 & 5 \end{array} \right)} \xrightarrow{R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2} \left(\begin{array}{cccc} 2 & 0 & -2 & 4 \\ 0 & 4 & 6 & 8 \\ -3 & 0 & 3 & 5 \end{array} \right) \quad (4)$$

$$\xrightarrow{\frac{1}{2}R_1} \left(\begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 0 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 4 & 6 & 8 \\ -3 & 0 & 3 & 5 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{3R_1 + R_3} \overset{j=2, r=2}{\left(\begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 0 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 4 & 6 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 11 \end{array} \right)}$$

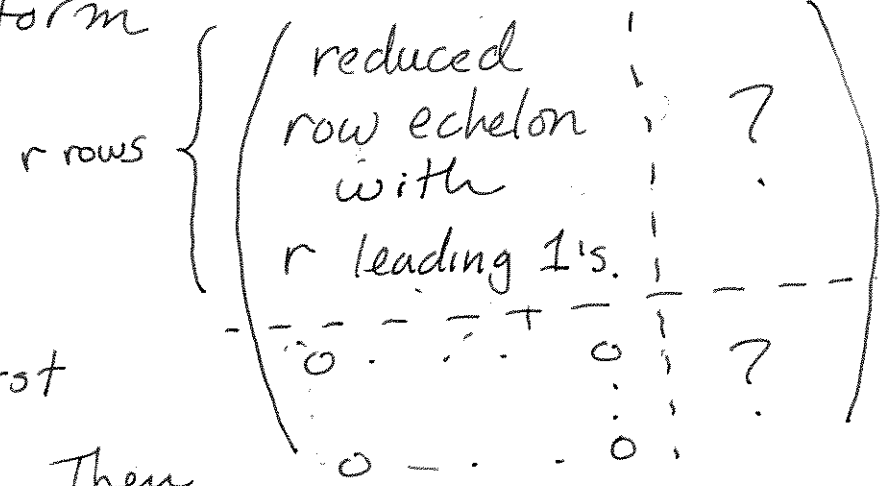
$$\xrightarrow{\frac{1}{4}R_2} \overset{j=3, r=2}{\left(\begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 0 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 3/2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 11 \end{array} \right)} \xrightarrow{\overset{j=4, r=3}{\left(\begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 0 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 3/2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 11 \end{array} \right)}}$$

$$\xrightarrow{\frac{1}{11}R_3} \left(\begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 0 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 3/2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{-2R_3 + R_1} \left(\begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 3/2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right)$$

$$\xrightarrow{-2R_3 + R_2} \left(\begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 3/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right) \quad \text{Done!}$$

Proof algorithm works: First note that it always terminates as we can visit step ① at most n times. The proof that the final matrix is in red. row echelon form is inductive.

Claim: When we arrive at step ① the matrix has the form

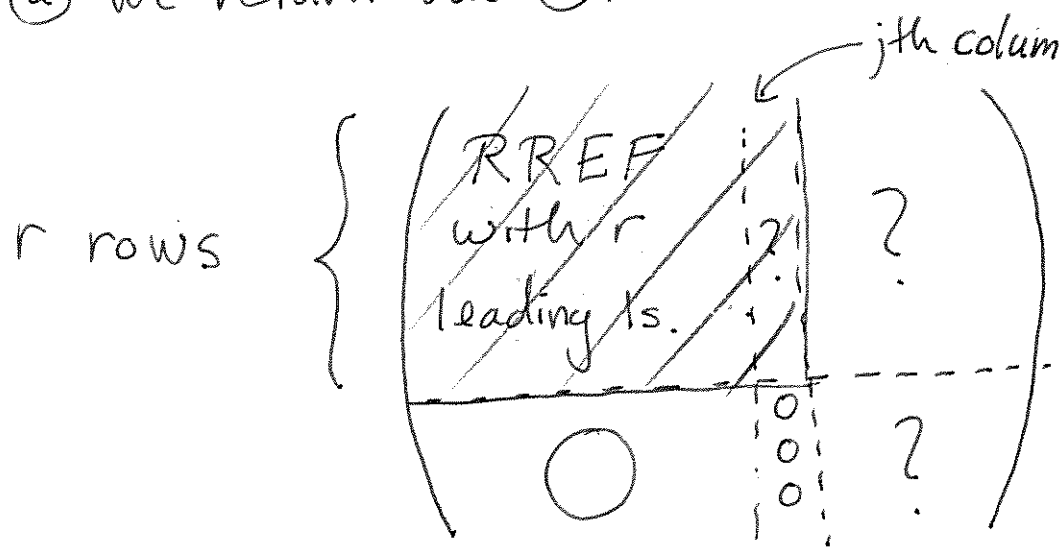


Base case: At the first visit, $r=0$ and $j=0$. Then the matrix cond holds vacuously.

Inductive step: Assume claim holds at step ①, show holds next time we return to step ①.

Two cases:

(a) We return via ②. In this case, we have

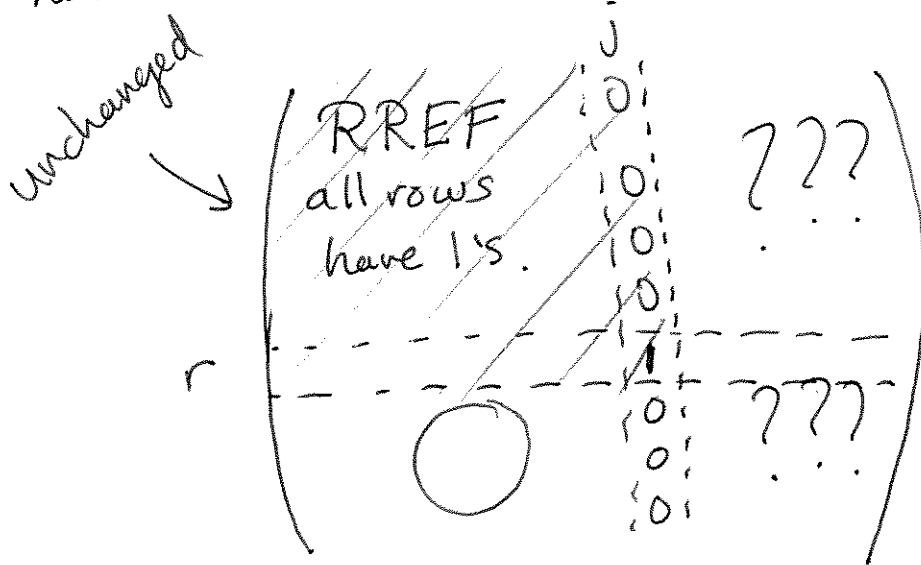


The new matrix is still in RREF (6)

because the smaller matrix had r leading 1's.

(Compare: $\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & & 9 \end{array} \right)$ } Not in RREF

(b) We return via step (6). In this case we have incremented both r and j .



and the new (r, j) submatrix is indeed in RREF with r leading 1's.

So by induction the claim holds for all visits to step (1), including the last one, which means the returned matrix is in RREF form. \square