

Lecture 3: §1.2 Echelon forms & Gauss Jordan Elimination

Last time:

System of m Linear Eqs in n variables

\rightsquigarrow

$m \times (n+1)$ Matrix

$$\begin{cases} \text{Eqn 1: } a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n = b_1 \\ \text{Eqn 2: } a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n = b_2 \\ \vdots \\ \text{Eqn } m: a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + \dots + a_{mn}x_n = b_m \end{cases} \rightsquigarrow B = \begin{array}{c|c} A & \\ \hline a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} & | & b_1 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} & | & b_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & | & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} & | & b_m \end{array}$$

$[x_1] [x_2] \dots [x_n]$ const

3 Elementary Operations to simplify systems / put matrices in Echelon form

EQUATIONS

- ① Interchange 2 Equations $[E_i \leftrightarrow E_j] \quad i \neq j$
- ② Replace an Equation by a non-zero constant multiple α $[E_i \rightarrow \alpha E_i]$
- ③ Replace an equation by adding to it a constant multiple of a different equation $[E_i \rightarrow E_i + \alpha E_j] \quad i \neq j$

MATRICES

- ① Interchange 2 Rows $[R_i \leftrightarrow R_j] \quad i \neq j$
- ② Replace a Row by a non-zero constant multiple α $[R_i \rightarrow \alpha R_i]$
- ③ Replace a Row by adding to it a constant multiple of a different Row $[R_i \rightarrow R_i + \alpha R_j] \quad i \neq j$

Main result: Elementary operations preserve solution sets (Equiv Systems, Row equiv Matrices)

Def An $m \times n$ matrix A is in reduced echelon form (REF) if

(1) A is in EF (staircase shape + start with 1 each nonzero row)

(2) The first nonzero entry in a row is the ONLY nonzero entry on the corresponding column

Ex:
$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{R_1 \rightarrow R_1 - 4R_2} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & -6 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

↓ issue

E, F, not REF REF ↑

Ex:
$$\begin{cases} x_1 + x_2 = -6 \\ x_3 = 3/2 \\ 0 = 0 \end{cases}$$

implies
$$\begin{cases} x_1 = -6 - x_2 \\ x_3 = 3/2 \end{cases}$$
 x_2 any

Q: Why do we care about REF matrices?

A: They give the simplest systems to solve.

$(x_1, x_2, x_3) = (-6 - x_2, x_2, 3/2)$
 $= (-6, 0, 3/2) + x_2(-1, 1, 0)$

- x_2 indep var
- x_1, x_3 dependent var

Algorithm:

System $\rightsquigarrow B = [A | b]$

↓ Same Solutions!

↓ Row operations

New System easy to solve

$\rightsquigarrow B' = [A' | b']$ with A' in REF

- dependent vars
- indep vars

Example 1:

$$\begin{cases} x_2 + x_3 - x_4 = 3 \\ x_1 + 2x_2 - x_3 + x_4 = 1 \\ -x_1 + x_2 + 7x_3 - x_4 = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\rightsquigarrow B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & 7 & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\xrightarrow{R_3 \rightarrow R_3 + R_2} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 3 & 6 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\xrightarrow{R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & 3 & 6 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

don't use R until we get EF matrix

$$\xrightarrow{R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - 3R_2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 3 & -8 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\xrightarrow{R_3 \rightarrow \frac{R_3}{3}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & -8/3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Use 1 to make a row entries = 0.

FIXED

must become a 1

EF

$$\xrightarrow{R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - R_3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -2 & 17/3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & -8/3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\xrightarrow{R_1 \rightarrow R_1 + R_3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & 2 & 5/3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -2 & 17/3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & -8/3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Next: Fix col 2

$$\xrightarrow{R_1 \rightarrow R_1 - 2R_2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 6 & -29/3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -2 & 17/3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & -8/3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\rightsquigarrow \text{System: } \begin{cases} x_1 + 6x_4 = -13 \\ x_2 - 2x_4 = 17/3 \\ x_3 + x_4 = -8/3 \end{cases}$$

$$\text{So: } x_1 = -13 - 6x_4, \quad x_2 = 17/3 + 2x_4, \quad x_3 = -8/3 - x_4$$

$$\rightsquigarrow (x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) = (-13 - 6x_4, 17/3 + 2x_4, -8/3 - x_4, x_4) = (-13, 17/3, -8/3, 0) + x_4(-6, 2, -1, 1)$$

So infinitely many solutions!

x_4 ANY

Obs: We can check these are solutions of the original system

How? Substitute the values for x_1, x_2, x_3 in the equations!

$$(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) = (-13 - 6x_4, \frac{17}{3} + 2x_4, -\frac{8}{3} - x_4, x_4)$$

$$\text{means } \begin{cases} x_1 = -13 - 6x_4 \\ x_2 = \frac{17}{3} + 2x_4 \\ x_3 = -\frac{8}{3} - x_4 \end{cases}$$

\implies substitute this in 3 equations & check that we get the expected value

$$\begin{cases} x_2 + x_3 - x_4 = 3 & \rightsquigarrow (\frac{17}{3} + 2x_4) + (-\frac{8}{3} - x_4) - x_4 = \frac{17}{3} - \frac{8}{3} + 2x_4 - 2x_4 = 3 \\ x_1 + 2x_2 - x_3 + x_4 = 1 & \rightsquigarrow (-13 - 6x_4) + 2(\frac{17}{3} + 2x_4) - (-\frac{8}{3} - x_4) + x_4 \\ -x_1 + x_2 + 7x_3 - x_4 = 0 & = (-13 + \frac{34}{3} + \frac{8}{3}) + (-6 + 4 + 1 + 1)x_4 = 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} -(-13 - 6x_4) + (\frac{17}{3} + 2x_4) + 7(-\frac{8}{3} - x_4) - x_4 = (13 + \frac{17}{3} - \frac{56}{3}) + (6 + 2 - 7 - 1)x_4 = 0 \end{cases}$$

This check does not help us verify we found all the solutions, but we can catch some arithmetic errors this way.

Example 2: $B = \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 8 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] = B'$ $\leadsto \begin{cases} x_1 + 8x_3 = 5 \\ x_2 + 4x_3 = 7 \\ 0 = 1 \end{cases}$

REF

$0 = 1$

NO solution!

Example 3 $B = \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] = B'$ $\leadsto \begin{cases} x_1 = 5 \\ x_2 + 4x_3 = 7 \\ 0 = 0 \end{cases} \leadsto \begin{cases} x_1 = 5 \\ x_2 = 7 - 4x_3 \end{cases}$

REF

Solution: $(x_1, x_2, x_3) = (5, 7 - 4x_3, x_3) = (5, 7, 0) + x_3(0, -4, 1)$
 (parametric form of a line in \mathbb{R}^3)

Theorem: Given a matrix $B = [A|b]$ of size $m \times (n+1)$, there is a unique matrix $B' = [A'|b']$ of size $m \times (n+1)$ that is row equivalent to B with A' in REF. We find B' using Gauss-Jordan Elimination Algorithm

Obs: We can get A' in many ways, but end result is the same.

Example 4: Solve

$$\begin{cases} x_2 - x_3 + x_4 - x_5 = 1 \\ x_1 - 3x_2 + x_3 - x_4 + x_5 = 3 \\ -2x_2 + 2x_3 + x_4 - x_5 = 2 \\ x_2 - x_3 + 7x_4 - 7x_5 = 9 \end{cases}$$

$$\leadsto B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & | & 1 \\ 1 & -3 & 1 & -1 & 1 & | & 3 \\ 0 & -2 & 2 & 1 & -1 & | & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 7 & -7 & | & 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\xrightarrow{R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & 1 & -1 & 1 & | & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & | & 1 \\ 0 & -2 & 2 & 1 & -1 & | & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 7 & -7 & | & 9 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_3 \rightarrow R_3 + 2R_2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & 1 & -1 & 1 & | & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & | & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & -3 & | & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 7 & -7 & | & 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

done with Col 1 ✓

$$\xrightarrow{R_4 \rightarrow R_4 - R_2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & 1 & -1 & 1 & | & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & | & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & -3 & | & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 6 & -6 & | & 8 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_3 \rightarrow \frac{R_3}{3}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & 1 & -1 & 1 & | & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & | & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & | & \frac{4}{3} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 6 & -6 & | & 8 \end{bmatrix}$$

done with Cols 1, 2, 3

$$\xrightarrow{R_4 \rightarrow R_4 - 6R_3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & 1 & -1 & 1 & | & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & | & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & | & \frac{4}{3} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

EF
 x_1, x_2, x_4 dependent vars
 x_3, x_5 independent vars

Echelon \rightarrow Red Echelon

- Fix each column from Bottom to Top
- Fix Cols from Right to Left

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & -3 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 4/3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - R_3} \left[\begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & -3 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & -1/3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 4/3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

EF, not REF

Col 2 & 4 need fixing

$$\xrightarrow{R_1 \rightarrow R_1 + R_3} \left[\begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & -3 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 13/3 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & -1/3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 4/3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{R_1 \rightarrow R_1 + 3R_2} \left[\begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & 0 & -2 & 0 & 0 & 10/3 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & -1/3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 4/3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

Col 4 is now fixed!

Col 2 still needs fixing

REF

$\begin{cases} x_1, x_2, x_3 \text{ dependent (d)} \\ x_3, x_5 \text{ indep. vars.} \end{cases}$

Solutions:

$$x_1 - 2x_3 = \frac{10}{3} \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad x_1 = \frac{10}{3} + 2x_3$$

$$x_2 - x_3 = -\frac{1}{3} \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad x_2 = -\frac{1}{3} + x_3$$

$$x_4 - x_5 = \frac{4}{3} \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad x_4 = \frac{4}{3} + x_5$$

$$(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5) = \left(\frac{10}{3} + 2x_3, -\frac{1}{3} + x_3, x_3, \frac{4}{3} + x_5, x_5 \right)$$

$$= \left(\frac{10}{3}, -\frac{1}{3}, 0, \frac{4}{3}, 0 \right) + x_3 (2, 1, 1, 0, 0)$$

[x_3, x_5 two free parameters]

$$+ x_5 (0, 0, 0, 1, 1)$$

Example 5: Solve
$$\begin{cases} 2x_1 + 3x_2 - 4x_3 = 3 \\ x_1 - 2x_2 - 2x_3 = -2 \\ -x_1 + 16x_2 + 2x_3 = \frac{33}{2} \end{cases} \rightsquigarrow B = \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} \boxed{2} & 3 & -4 & 3 \\ 1 & -2 & -2 & -2 \\ -1 & 16 & 2 & \frac{33}{2} \end{array} \right]$$

Turn 2 into a 1.

$$\xrightarrow{R_1 \rightarrow \frac{R_1}{2}} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} \boxed{1} & \frac{3}{2} & -2 & \frac{3}{2} \\ 1 & -2 & -2 & -2 \\ -1 & 16 & 2 & \frac{33}{2} \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\substack{R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - R_1 \\ R_3 \rightarrow R_3 + R_1}} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & \frac{3}{2} & -2 & \frac{3}{2} \\ 0 & \boxed{-\frac{7}{2}} & 0 & -\frac{7}{2} \\ 0 & \frac{35}{2} & 0 & 18 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\xrightarrow{R_2 \rightarrow -\frac{2}{7}R_2} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & \frac{3}{2} & -2 & \frac{3}{2} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & \frac{35}{2} & 0 & 18 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - \frac{35}{2}R_2} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & \frac{3}{2} & -2 & \frac{3}{2} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \end{array} \right]$$

EF

$$\xrightarrow{R_3 \rightarrow 2R_3} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & \frac{3}{2} & -2 & \frac{3}{2} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] \rightsquigarrow \begin{cases} x_1 + \frac{3}{2}x_2 - 2x_3 = \frac{3}{2} \\ x_2 = 1 \\ \boxed{0 = 1} \end{cases}$$

So no solutions!

Obs: Can solve many systems with the same coefficient matrix.

$(A \mid \begin{array}{c} b \text{ for} \\ \text{system 1} \end{array} \mid \begin{array}{c} b \text{ for} \\ \text{system 2} \end{array} \mid \dots)$ since operations are always dictated by A

GAUSS-JORDAN ELIMINATION

Input: $B = [A|b]$
 m rows, $n+1$ cols

Output: $B' = [A'|b']$ A REF
 $B \underset{\text{row}}{\sim} B'$.

STEP 0 If B has all zero entries, then $B' = B$

STEP 1 Pick the first (left-most) column with a nonzero entry (call it j)
 [Find 0]

STEP 2 Exchange Rows so that j^{th} column has $a_{1j} \neq 0$ (nonzero entry on row 1)
 [Swap Step]

STEP 3 If $\alpha = a_{1j}$ is first nonzero entry on row 1, do $R_1 \rightarrow \frac{1}{\alpha} R_1$
 [Rescale Step] (After this, new value of $a_{1j} = 1$)

STEP 4 Replace each row R_i with $i=2, 3, \dots, m$ with $R_i \rightarrow R_i - a_{ij} R_1$
 [Replacement Step]

\rightsquigarrow get

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & * & \dots & * \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & a_{2j} & * & \dots & * \\ \vdots & & & \vdots & & & \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & a_{mj} & * & \dots & * \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{Fix}} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & * & \dots & * \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & * & \dots & * \\ \vdots & & & \vdots & & & \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & * & \dots & * \end{bmatrix}$$

B_1 (bracketed around the second matrix)

