

§ 6.4 - Solving Systems by Row operations

Goal: To solve system of linear equations by using elementary row operations on matrices.

1 - Augmented Matrix

Example 1: consider the system of linear equations

$$2x - y = 5$$

$$x + 3y = -1$$

The augmented matrix of this system is

$$\begin{array}{cc|c} \begin{array}{c} x \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} y \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} 5 \\ -1 \end{array} \end{array}$$

2 - Elementary row operations

1 - Interchanging any two rows ($R_i \leftrightarrow R_j$)

2 - ^(dividing) Multiplying a row by non-zero number ($R_i \xrightarrow{\text{"becomes"}} cR_i$)

3 - Add a multiply of a row to another row ($R_i \xrightarrow{\text{"becomes"}} R_i + cR_j$)

Example 2: $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 2 & 5 & 1 \\ 3 & 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$, $R_3 \rightarrow R_3 + 2R_1$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 2 & 5 & 1 \\ 3+2(1) & 0+2(0) & -2+2(2) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 2 & 5 & 1 \\ 5 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \square$$

Goal of elementary row operations

We want to reach a reduced matrix, which is a matrix

- 1- All zero-rows are at the bottom.
- 2- Each non-zero row has a leading 1's (Pivot) and all other entries in the pivot column is zero.
- 3- The pivots start from left to right.

Examples: There are in the reduced forms

$$\begin{pmatrix} \textcircled{1} & 3 & 0 & 5 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \textcircled{1} & 2 & 6 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \textcircled{1} & 0 \\ 0 & \textcircled{1} \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \textcircled{1} & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & \textcircled{1} & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \textcircled{1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Not!

Example 3: Reduce the matrix

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

Solution

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -3 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 5 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}, R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \textcircled{1} & 5 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & -3 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}, R_2 \rightarrow -\frac{1}{3} R_2$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \textcircled{1} & 5 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & \textcircled{1} & 0 & \frac{2}{3} \end{pmatrix}, R_1 \rightarrow R_1 - 5R_2$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1-5(0) & 5-5(1) & 0-5(0) & 2-5\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right) \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -\frac{2}{3} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \frac{16}{3} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -\frac{2}{3} \end{pmatrix}$$

which is a reduced matrix.

3 - Solving System of linear equation by row operations

Example 4: Solve

$$2x - 7y = -1$$

$$x + 3y = 6$$

Solution:

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 2 & -7 & -1 \\ 1 & 3 & 6 \end{array} \right), R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2$$

make it zero $\rightarrow \left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 3 & 6 \\ 2 & -7 & -1 \end{array} \right), R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - \frac{2}{1} R_1$

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 3 & 6 \\ 2-2(1) & -7-2(3) & -1-2(6) \end{array} \right)$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 3 & 6 \\ 0 & -13 & -13 \end{array} \right), R_2 \rightarrow \frac{-1}{-13} R_2$$

make this zero $\rightarrow \left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 3 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right), R_1 \rightarrow R_1 - \frac{3}{1} R_2$

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 1-3(0) & 3-3(1) & 6-3(1) \\ 0 & \textcircled{1} & 1 \end{array} \right)$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc|c} \textcircled{1} & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & \textcircled{1} & 1 \end{array} \right)$$

$$x = 3$$

$$y = 1$$

\Rightarrow Solution Set = $\{(3, 1)\}$.

Example 5:

$$x + 4y = 9$$

$$3x - y = 6$$

$$2x - 2y = 4$$

Solution:

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{make it} \\ \text{zero} \end{array} \left(\begin{array}{cc|c} \textcircled{1} & 4 & 9 \\ 3 & -1 & 6 \\ 2 & -2 & 4 \end{array} \right), \begin{array}{l} R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - 3R_1 \\ R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - 2R_1 \end{array}$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc|c} \textcircled{1} & 4 & 9 \\ 3-3(1) & -1-3(4) & 6-3(9) \\ 2-2(1) & -2-2(4) & 4-2(9) \end{array} \right)$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc|c} \textcircled{1} & 4 & 9 \\ 0 & -13 & -21 \\ 0 & -10 & -14 \end{array} \right), R_2 \rightarrow \frac{-1}{13} R_2$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{make it} \\ \text{zero} \end{array} \left(\begin{array}{cc|c} \textcircled{1} & 4 & 9 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{21}{13} \\ 0 & -10 & -14 \end{array} \right), R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - (-10)R_2$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 4 & 9 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{21}{13} \\ 0 & 0 & 76 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow 0 = 76 \text{ false!}$$

No solution.

Example 6: solve

$$x + y - z = 7$$

$$4x + 6y - 4z = 8$$

$$x - y - 5z = 23$$

Solution:

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{make it zero} \\ \text{make it zero} \end{array} \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & -1 & 7 \\ 4 & 6 & -4 & 8 \\ 1 & -1 & -5 & 23 \end{array} \right) \begin{array}{l} R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - 4R_1 \\ R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - R_1 \end{array}$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & -1 & 7 \\ 4-4(1) & 6-4(1) & -4-4(-1) & 8-4(7) \\ 1-1(1) & -1-1(1) & -5-(-1) & 23-7 \end{array} \right)$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} \textcircled{1} & 1 & -1 & 7 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & -20 \\ 0 & -2 & -4 & 17 \end{array} \right) R_2 \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} R_2$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{make it zero} \\ \text{make it zero} \end{array} \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} \textcircled{1} & 1 & -1 & 7 \\ 0 & \textcircled{1} & 0 & -10 \\ 0 & -2 & -4 & 17 \end{array} \right) R_3 \rightarrow R_3 + 2R_2$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} \textcircled{1} & 1 & -1 & 7 \\ 0 & \textcircled{1} & 0 & -10 \\ 0 & 0 & -4 & -3 \end{array} \right) R_3 \rightarrow -\frac{1}{4} R_3$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & -1 & 7 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -10 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \frac{3}{4} \end{array} \right) \text{ , } R_1 \rightarrow R_1 + R_3$$

make this zero

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & \frac{31}{4} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -10 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \frac{3}{4} \end{array} \right) \text{ , } R_1 \rightarrow R_1 - R_2$$

make it zero

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & \frac{71}{4} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -10 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \frac{3}{4} \end{array} \right)$$

Example 7.5 (Infinitely many solutions)

$$3x + 2y - z = 5$$

$$6x - y = 3$$

Solution:

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 3 & 2 & -1 & 5 \\ 6 & -1 & 0 & 3 \end{array} \right) \text{ , } R_1 \rightarrow \frac{1}{3} R_1$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & \frac{2}{3} & -\frac{1}{3} & \frac{5}{3} \\ 6 & -1 & 0 & 3 \end{array} \right) \text{ , } R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - 6R_1$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & \frac{2}{3} & -\frac{1}{3} & \frac{5}{3} \\ 0 & -5 & 2 & -7 \end{array} \right) \text{ , } R_2 \rightarrow \frac{1}{-5} R_2$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & \frac{2}{3} & -\frac{1}{3} & \frac{5}{3} \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{2}{5} & \frac{7}{5} \end{array} \right) \text{ , } R_1 \rightarrow R_1 - \frac{2}{3} R_2$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} \textcircled{1} & 0 & \sim & \sim \\ 0 & \textcircled{1} & -\frac{2}{5} & \frac{7}{5} \end{array} \right)$$

$$x + \sim z = \sim$$

$$y - \frac{2}{5}z = \frac{7}{5}$$

So $z = t \rightarrow$

$$\begin{aligned} x &= -\sim t + \sim \\ y &= \frac{7}{5} + \frac{2}{5}t \end{aligned}$$

↑
parameter

Example 8 Solve

$$x + 3y = 2$$

$$2x + 7y = 4$$

$$3x + 15y + 3z = 15$$

Solution

make these zero \rightarrow $\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 3 & 0 & 2 \\ 2 & 7 & 0 & 4 \\ 3 & 15 & 3 & 15 \end{array} \right)$, $R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - 2R_1$
 $R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - 3R_1$

make this zero \rightarrow $\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} \textcircled{1} & 3 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & \textcircled{1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 & 3 & 9 \end{array} \right)$, $R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - 6R_2$

$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} \textcircled{1} & 3 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & \textcircled{1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 9 \end{array} \right)$, $R_3 \rightarrow \frac{1}{3}R_3$

make this zero

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} \textcircled{1} & 3 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & \textcircled{1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \textcircled{1} & 3 \end{array} \right), R_1 \rightarrow R_1 - 3R_2$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} \textcircled{1} & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & \textcircled{1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \textcircled{1} & 3 \end{array} \right)$$

$$X = 2, \quad y = 0, \quad z = 3$$

Exercise 2 (old Exam Question)

Solve the system

$$2x - 3y = 9$$

$$4x + y = 4$$