

Math 290 ELEMENTARY LINEAR ALGEBRA
REVIEW OF LECTURES – IV

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§4. MATRIX ARITHMETIC — II. MULTIPLICATIONS.

- With the knowledge you already have, you can solve a system of linear equations, of 2×2 type.

Example 1. Let's solve

$$\begin{cases} 2x - y = 3, \\ 6x + 7y = -5, \end{cases}$$

using the matrix trick. Here we go.

Step 1. Rewrite the system as

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 6 & 7 \end{bmatrix}}_{\parallel A} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}}_{\parallel \mathbf{x}} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}}_{\parallel \mathbf{b}}$$

So the equation is of the form

$\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}.$

Remember the golden rule:

$\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b} \quad \begin{array}{c} \implies \\ \text{can solve,} \\ \text{if } \det A \neq 0 \end{array} \quad \mathbf{x} = A^{-1}\mathbf{b}.$

Step 2. Find A^{-1} , as follows:

Step 2a. First calculate the determinant of $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 6 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$:

$$\begin{aligned}\det A &= \begin{vmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 6 & 7 \end{vmatrix} = 2 \cdot 7 - (-1) \cdot 6 \\ &= 20.\end{aligned}$$

Step 2b. Next, form the adjoint of $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 6 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$:

$$\operatorname{adj} A = \begin{bmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 & 1 \\ -6 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Step 2c. Use the results of Step 2a–b to construct A^{-1} :

$$\begin{aligned}A^{-1} &= \frac{1}{\det A} \operatorname{adj} A \\ &= \frac{1}{20} \begin{bmatrix} 7 & 1 \\ -6 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.\end{aligned}$$

Step 3 (Final step) (will have another look momentarily).

Use A^{-1} to find $A^{-1}\mathbf{b}$:

$$\begin{aligned}A^{-1}\mathbf{b} &= \frac{1}{20} \begin{bmatrix} 7 & 1 \\ -6 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{20} \begin{bmatrix} 7 \cdot 3 + 1 \cdot (-5) \\ (-6) \cdot 3 + 2 \cdot (-5) \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{20} \begin{bmatrix} 16 \\ -28 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{4}{5} \\ -\frac{7}{5} \end{bmatrix}.\end{aligned}$$

This is the answer \mathbf{x} . In sum:

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 6 & 7 \end{bmatrix}}_{\parallel A} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}}_{\parallel \mathbf{x}} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}}_{\parallel \mathbf{b}} \xRightarrow{\text{solve}} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{x} = A^{-1}\mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{4}{5} \\ -\frac{7}{5} \end{bmatrix}.$$

- Below let me give an abridged version of the solution:

Problem (same as above). Solve

$$\begin{cases} 2x - y = 3, \\ 6x + 7y = -5. \end{cases}$$

Solution. Let

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 6 & 7 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix},$$

so the given system is $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$. We may solve this as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x} = A^{-1}\mathbf{b} &= \frac{\overbrace{1}^{A^{-1}}}{\underbrace{2 \cdot 7 - (-1) \cdot 6}_{\parallel \frac{1}{\det A}}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 7 & 1 \\ -6 & 2 \end{bmatrix}}_{\parallel \text{adj } A} \overbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}}^{\parallel \mathbf{b}} \\ &= \frac{1}{20} \begin{bmatrix} 7 \cdot 3 + 1 \cdot (-5) \\ (-6) \cdot 3 + 2 \cdot (-5) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{4}{5} \\ -\frac{7}{5} \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

The above is a template . I want you to write up your solution this way.

- All that said, the last step warrants another look. We ‘instinctively’ converted the part

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

into

$$\begin{bmatrix} 7 \cdot 3 + 1 \cdot (-5) \\ (-6) \cdot 3 + 2 \cdot (-5) \end{bmatrix}.$$

And that’s the correct step. Actually this conversion is something we already ‘subconsciously’ knew. Indeed, at the very beginning we saw

$$(\textcircled{a}) \quad \begin{cases} 2x - y = 3, \\ 6x + 7y = -5 \end{cases}$$

(the original problem), and we immediately rewrote it as

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 6 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix},$$

which means that we knew that $\begin{bmatrix} 2x + (-1)y \\ 6x + 7y \end{bmatrix}$ (= the vector made out of

the left-hand sides of the two equations in (\textcircled{a})) and $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 6 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$ are one

and the same. Stated in other words, we knew that the correct conversion of

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 6 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \text{ is } \begin{bmatrix} 2x + (-1)y \\ 6x + 7y \end{bmatrix}. \quad \text{Repeat:}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 6 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2x + (-1)y \\ 6x + 7y \end{bmatrix}.$$

The following is in a similar vein:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 7 & 1 \\ -6 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \cdot 3 + 1 \cdot (-5) \\ (-6) \cdot 3 + 2 \cdot (-5) \end{bmatrix}.$$

- More generally:

$$\underline{\underline{\text{“The correct conversion of”}}} \quad \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p \\ r \end{bmatrix} \quad \underline{\underline{\text{is}}} \quad \begin{bmatrix} ap + br \\ cp + dr \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{”}$$

Like last time, we must *officially* declare it to be the rule that is going to be enforced throughout. So, here we go:

- **Rule.**

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p \\ r \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} ap + br \\ cp + dr \end{bmatrix}.$$

Paraphrase:

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} p \\ r \end{bmatrix} \\ \implies \quad A\mathbf{x} &= \begin{bmatrix} ap + br \\ cp + dr \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

- I’m sure you got this. But just in case, I want to offer the following breakdown:

Break-down. We are going to do

$$\begin{bmatrix} \boxed{a \quad b} \\ \boxed{c \quad d} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \boxed{p} \\ \boxed{r} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \boxed{\diamond} \\ \boxed{\clubsuit} \end{bmatrix}.$$

(i) To find \diamond , observe

$$\begin{bmatrix} \boxed{a \quad b} \\ \boxed{c \quad d} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \boxed{p} \\ \boxed{r} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \boxed{ap + br} \\ \boxed{\clubsuit} \end{bmatrix}.$$

(ii) Next, to find \clubsuit , observe

$$\begin{bmatrix} \boxed{a \quad b} \\ \boxed{c \quad d} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \boxed{p} \\ \boxed{r} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \boxed{ap + br} \\ \boxed{cp + dr} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Example 2. For $A = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -2 \\ 8 & -9 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} A\mathbf{x} &= \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -2 \\ 8 & -9 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 5 \cdot 6 + (-2) \cdot 4 \\ 8 \cdot 6 + (-9) \cdot 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 22 \\ 12 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Exercise 1. Perform each of the following multiplications:

$$(1) \quad \begin{bmatrix} 3 & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{5}{2} & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (2) \quad A\mathbf{x}, \text{ where } A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} p \\ q \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$(3) \quad A\mathbf{x}, \quad \text{where} \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -6 & 8 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$(4) \quad A\mathbf{x}, \quad \text{where} \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ 4 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Exercise 2. Solve each of the following systems of equations using matrices:

$$(1) \quad \begin{cases} 3x + 6y = 4, \\ 7x + y = 1. \end{cases} \quad (2) \quad \begin{cases} \frac{1}{3}x + 4y = 4, \\ -\frac{2}{3}x + y = \frac{4}{3}. \end{cases}$$

- **Matrix multiplication.**

Now let's forget about solving systems of equations. The second topic of the day is completely something else. Well, that's not entirely true — it is actually a tweak of what you've just seen. Instead of multiplying a matrix with a vector, like

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p \\ r \end{bmatrix},$$

how about multiplying a matrix with a matrix, like

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ r & s \end{bmatrix} ?$$

Sure. Here is the rule that we hereby *officially* declare to permanently enforce:

- **Rule.**

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ r & s \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} ap + br & aq + bs \\ cp + dr & cq + ds \end{bmatrix}.$$

- Paraphrase:

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ r & s \end{bmatrix} \\ \implies AB &= \begin{bmatrix} ap + br & aq + bs \\ cp + dr & cq + ds \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Do you clearly see how it works? The following breakdown helps:

- **Break-down:** First and foremost, acknowledge the following:

A and B are both 2×2 matrices $\implies AB$ is a 2×2 matrix.

In other words:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ r & s \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \boxed{} & \boxed{} \\ \boxed{} & \boxed{} \end{bmatrix}.$$

(i) Let us find \diamond in

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ r & s \end{bmatrix} = \left[\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \diamond \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \\ \hline \end{array} \right].$$

Since \diamond is in the top-left, accordingly highlight the portion of A and B , like

$$\left[\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline a & b \\ \hline c & d \\ \hline \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{|c|} \hline p \\ \hline r \\ \hline \end{array} \quad q \right] = \left[\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \diamond \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \\ \hline \end{array} \right].$$

\diamond is $ap + br$:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ r & s \end{bmatrix} = \left[\begin{array}{|c|} \hline ap + br \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \\ \hline \end{array} \right].$$

(ii) Next, let us find \heartsuit in

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ r & s \end{bmatrix} = \left[\begin{array}{|c|} \hline ap + br \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \heartsuit \\ \hline \end{array} \right].$$

Since \heartsuit is in the top-right, accordingly highlight the portion of A and B , like

$$\left[\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline a & b \\ \hline c & d \\ \hline \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{|c|} \hline p \\ \hline r \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{|c|} \hline q \\ \hline s \\ \hline \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{|c|} \hline ap + br \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \heartsuit \\ \hline \end{array} \right].$$

\heartsuit is $aq + bs$:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ r & s \end{bmatrix} = \left[\begin{array}{|c|} \hline ap + br \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{|c|} \hline aq + bs \\ \hline \end{array} \right].$$

(iii) Similarly, we can find ♣ in

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ r & s \end{bmatrix} = \left[\begin{array}{c|c} ap + br & aq + bs \\ \hline & \end{array} \right]$$

by highlighting

$$\left[\begin{array}{c|c} a & b \\ \hline c & d \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{c|c} p & q \\ \hline r & s \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{c|c} ap + br & aq + bs \\ \hline & \end{array} \right].$$

♣ is $cp + dr$:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ r & s \end{bmatrix} = \left[\begin{array}{c|c} ap + br & aq + bs \\ \hline cp + dr & \end{array} \right].$$

(iv) Finally, we can find ♠ in

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ r & s \end{bmatrix} = \left[\begin{array}{c|c} ap + br & aq + bs \\ \hline cp + dr & \end{array} \right]$$

by highlighting

$$\left[\begin{array}{c|c} a & b \\ \hline c & d \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{c|c} p & q \\ \hline r & s \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{c|c} ap + br & aq + bs \\ \hline cp + dr & \end{array} \right].$$

♠ is $cq + ds$:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ r & s \end{bmatrix} = \left[\begin{array}{c|c} ap + br & aq + bs \\ \hline cp + dr & cq + ds \end{array} \right].$$

- In sum, calculating $\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ r & s \end{bmatrix}$ takes four steps :

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ r & s \end{bmatrix} = \left[\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \diamond \\ \hline \clubsuit \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \heartsuit \\ \hline \spadesuit \\ \hline \end{array} \right].$$

Those four steps : \diamond , \heartsuit , \clubsuit and \spadesuit , are performed independently.

- **Alternative perspective.** Below is another way to look at it.

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ r & s \end{bmatrix}$$

is like

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}}_{\parallel A} \left[\begin{array}{|c|} \hline p \\ \hline r \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{|c|} \hline q \\ \hline s \\ \hline \end{array} \right],$$

$$\qquad \qquad \qquad \parallel \qquad \parallel \qquad \parallel$$

$$\qquad \qquad \qquad A \qquad \mathbf{x} \qquad \mathbf{y}$$

which is basically

$$A \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} & \mathbf{y} \end{bmatrix}.$$

And this is going to be converted to

$$\begin{bmatrix} A\mathbf{x} & A\mathbf{y} \end{bmatrix},$$

where $A\mathbf{x}$ and $A\mathbf{y}$ are exactly as we defined earlier.

- **Paraphrase of ‘Rule’ on page 7.**

$$A \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} & \mathbf{y} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A\mathbf{x} & A\mathbf{y} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Example 3. For $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 4 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$, $B = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} AB &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 4 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 8 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot (-1) & 1 \cdot (-1) + 2 \cdot 8 \\ 4 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot (-1) & 4 \cdot (-1) + 2 \cdot 8 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 15 \\ 6 & 12 \end{bmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} BA &= \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 8 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 4 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 2 \cdot 1 + (-1) \cdot 4 & 2 \cdot 2 + (-1) \cdot 2 \\ (-1) \cdot 1 + 8 \cdot 4 & (-1) \cdot 2 + 8 \cdot 2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 2 \\ 31 & 14 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

• **Important (!)** As this example shows, AB and BA are usually not equal.

Exercise 3. Perform each of the following multiplications:

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

$$(3) \quad \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{3}{2} & 1 \\ 1 & \frac{-3}{2} \end{bmatrix}, \quad (4) \quad \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$(5) \quad AB, \quad \text{where} \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix},$$

$$(6) \quad AB, \quad \text{where} \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} & \frac{-1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{-\sqrt{3}}{2} \\ \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$(7) \quad AB, \quad \text{where} \quad A = B = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-1+\sqrt{5}}{4} & \frac{-\sqrt{10+2\sqrt{5}}}{4} \\ \frac{\sqrt{10+2\sqrt{5}}}{4} & \frac{-1+\sqrt{5}}{4} \end{bmatrix}.$$