

Matrix Tricks

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1 Introduction

This document is my informal reference sheet for linear algebra topics that I should stop forgetting. Remember that the whole idea of this stuff is that $Ax = b$. Given linear equations of the form

$$ax + by = c \tag{1}$$

and

$$dx + ey = f \tag{2}$$

we construct matrices as a shorthand for their coefficients:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ d & e \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = x \begin{bmatrix} a \\ d \end{bmatrix} + y \begin{bmatrix} b \\ e \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} c \\ f \end{bmatrix}. \tag{3}$$

See [\[https://ocw.mit.edu/courses/mathematics/18-06-linear-algebra-spring-2010/videolectures/lecture-1-the-geometry-of-linear-equations/\]](https://ocw.mit.edu/courses/mathematics/18-06-linear-algebra-spring-2010/videolectures/lecture-1-the-geometry-of-linear-equations/).

```
[1]: v = [i for i=1:3]
```

```
[1]: 3-element Array{Int64,1}:  
 1  
 2  
 3
```

```
[2]: m = [3(i-1) + j for i=1:3, j=1:3]
```

```
[2]: 3×3 Array{Int64,2}:  
 1  2  3  
 4  5  6  
 7  8  9
```

```
[3]: ones{Int,1,3}
```

```
[3]: 1×3 Array{Int64,2}:  
 1  1  1
```

2 Rotate or transpose a matrix

According to [<https://math.stackexchange.com/questions/1945329/can-you-transpose-a-matrix-using-matrix-multiplication>] and [<https://math.stackexchange.com/questions/2816073/does-there-exist-2-matrices-such-that-they-can-be-used-to-transpose-any-n-by-n>] this cannot be done with a cross product. For this, you need the help of your programming language.

```
[4]: transpose(m)
```

```
[4]: 3×3 LinearAlgebra.Transpose{Int64,Array{Int64,2}}:  
 1  4  7  
 2  5  8  
 3  6  9
```

```
[5]: rot190(m)
```

```
[5]: 3×3 Array{Int64,2}:  
 3  6  9  
 2  5  8  
 1  4  7
```

```
[6]: rot190(rot190(m)) == rot180(m)
```

```
[6]: true
```

```
[7]: rot190(rot190(rot190(m))) == rotr90(m)
```

```
[7]: true
```

3 Copy vectors

3.1 Duplicate a vector as columns

```
[8]: v * ones{Int,1,3}
```

```
[8]: 3×3 Array{Int64,2}:  
 1  1  1  
 2  2  2  
 3  3  3
```

3.2 Duplicate a vector as rows

```
[9]: ones{Int,3,1} * transpose(v)
```

```
[9]: 3×3 Array{Int64,2}:  
 1  2  3  
 1  2  3
```

1 2 3

3.3 Extract column 1 from a matrix

```
[10]: m * [1, 0, 0]
```

```
[10]: 3-element Array{Int64,1}:  
      1  
      4  
      7
```

3.4 Extract row 2 from a matrix

```
[11]: [0 1 0;] * m
```

```
[11]: 1×3 Array{Int64,2}:  
      4 5 6
```

4 Substitutions

4.1 Swap x and y of a vector

```
[12]: [0 1 0; 1 0 0; 0 0 1] * v
```

```
[12]: 3-element Array{Int64,1}:  
      2  
      1  
      3
```

4.2 Swap rows 1 and 2 of a matrix

```
[13]: [0 1 0; 1 0 0; 0 0 1] * m
```

```
[13]: 3×3 Array{Int64,2}:  
      4 5 6  
      1 2 3  
      7 8 9
```

4.3 Reverse rows

```
[14]: r = [0 0 1; 0 1 0; 1 0 0]
```

```
[14]: 3×3 Array{Int64,2}:  
      0 0 1  
      0 1 0  
      1 0 0
```

```
[15]: r * m
```

```
[15]: 3×3 Array{Int64,2}:  
 7 8 9  
 4 5 6  
 1 2 3
```

4.4 Reverse columns

```
[16]: m * r
```

```
[16]: 3×3 Array{Int64,2}:  
 3 2 1  
 6 5 4  
 9 8 7
```

4.5 Swap columns 1 and 2 of a matrix

(Remember when they said matrix multiplication is not commutative?)

```
[17]: m * [0 1 0; 1 0 0; 0 0 1]
```

```
[17]: 3×3 Array{Int64,2}:  
 2 1 3  
 5 4 6  
 8 7 9
```

5 Permutations

Generically, all of the above exchanges are called *permutations*. For a $n \times n$ matrix there are $n!$ such permutation (“ P ”) matrices. For $n = 3$, these are:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

For all permutation matrices,

$$P^{-1} = P^T. \tag{4}$$

Also notice that these matrices compose to each other.

6 Insertions

6.1 Append an empty row to the bottom

```
[18]: [1 0 0; 0 1 0; 0 0 1; 0 0 0] * m
```

```
[18]: 4x3 Array{Int64,2}:
 1  2  3
 4  5  6
 7  8  9
 0  0  0
```

6.2 Insert an empty row to the top

```
[19]: [0 0 0; 1 0 0; 0 1 0; 0 0 1] * m
```

```
[19]: 4x3 Array{Int64,2}:
 0  0  0
 1  2  3
 4  5  6
 7  8  9
```

6.3 Append an empty column to the right

```
[20]: m * [1 0 0 0; 0 1 0 0; 0 0 1 0]
```

```
[20]: 3x4 Array{Int64,2}:
 1  2  3  0
 4  5  6  0
 7  8  9  0
```

6.4 Insert an empty column to the left

```
[21]: m * [0 1 0 0; 0 0 1 0; 0 0 0 1]
```

```
[21]: 3×4 Array{Int64,2}:  
 0 1 2 3  
 0 4 5 6  
 0 7 8 9
```

7 Deletions

7.1 Clear rows 2 and 3 from a matrix

```
[22]: [1 0 0; 0 0 0; 0 0 0] * m
```

```
[22]: 3×3 Array{Int64,2}:  
 1 2 3  
 0 0 0  
 0 0 0
```

7.2 Clear columns 2 and 3 from a matrix

```
[23]: m * [1 0 0; 0 0 0; 0 0 0]
```

```
[23]: 3×3 Array{Int64,2}:  
 1 0 0  
 4 0 0  
 7 0 0
```

7.3 Drop the right column

```
[24]: m * [1 0; 0 1; 0 0]
```

```
[24]: 3×2 Array{Int64,2}:  
 1 2  
 4 5  
 7 8
```

7.4 Drop the center column

```
[25]: m * [1 0; 0 0; 0 1]
```

```
[25]: 3×2 Array{Int64,2}:  
 1 3  
 4 6  
 7 9
```

7.5 Drop the left column

```
[26]: m * [0 0; 1 0; 0 1]
```

```
[26]: 3×2 Array{Int64,2}:  
  2  3  
  5  6  
  8  9
```

7.6 Drop the bottom row

```
[27]: [1 0 0; 0 1 0] * m
```

```
[27]: 2×3 Array{Int64,2}:  
  1  2  3  
  4  5  6
```

7.7 Drop the center row

```
[28]: [1 0 0; 0 0 1] * m
```

```
[28]: 2×3 Array{Int64,2}:  
  1  2  3  
  7  8  9
```

7.8 Drop the top row

```
[29]: [0 1 0; 0 0 1] * m
```

```
[29]: 2×3 Array{Int64,2}:  
  4  5  6  
  7  8  9
```

You can achieve the same results by composing transposition with a single drop function. For example, transpose rows 2 and 3, then drop row 3. This has the same effect as dropping the center row. Remember, order of operations matters.

```
[30]: [1 0 0; 0 1 0] * [1 0 0; 0 0 1; 0 1 0] * m
```

```
[30]: 2×3 Array{Int64,2}:  
  1  2  3  
  7  8  9
```

Another way to think about this is that the “drop row 3” and “transpose rows 2 and 3” matrices compose, which is identical to the “drop row 2” matrix.

```
[31]: [1 0 0; 0 1 0] * [1 0 0; 0 0 1; 0 1 0]
```

[31]: 2×3 Array{Int64,2}:
1 0 0
0 0 1

8 Affine Transforms (2D)

Suppose you begin with Bv . Then an affine transform ABv occurs in global coordinate space, and an affine transform BCv occurs in the object's local coordinate space. See [<http://math.hws.edu/graphicsbook/c2/s3.html>].

8.1 Scaling

$$S_{a,b} = \begin{bmatrix} a & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (5)$$

8.2 Rotation

We use Ptolemy's Sum and Difference Formulae

$$\cos \alpha \pm \beta = \cos \alpha \cos \beta \mp \sin \alpha \sin \beta \quad (6)$$

$$\sin \alpha \pm \beta = \cos \alpha \sin \beta \pm \sin \alpha \cos \beta \quad (7)$$

in order to increase the rotation of a vector from some initial angle α by β :

$$R_\beta \begin{bmatrix} k \cdot \cos \alpha \\ k \cdot \sin \alpha \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = R_\beta k \begin{bmatrix} k \cdot \cos \alpha \\ k \cdot \sin \alpha \\ 1/k \end{bmatrix} = k \begin{bmatrix} \cos \alpha + \beta \\ \sin \alpha + \beta \\ 1/k \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} k \cdot \cos \alpha + \beta \\ k \cdot \sin \alpha + \beta \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (8)$$

The matrix which delivers this behavior is

$$R_\Theta = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \Theta & -\sin \Theta & 0 \\ \sin \Theta & \cos \Theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (9)$$

8.3 Translation

$$T_{a,b} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & a \\ 0 & 1 & b \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (10)$$

9 Gaussian Elimination

Augment the coefficient matrix with the b column vector.

$$Ax = b \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_m \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} & b_1 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} & b_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} & b_m \end{bmatrix} \quad (11)$$

Subtract rows from one another, rearranging rows as needed, until the matrix is in upper triangular form. See [<http://mathworld.wolfram.com/GaussianElimination.html>].

```
[32]: g = [9 3 4 7; 4 3 4 8; 1 1 1 3]
```

```
[32]: 3x4 Array{Int64,2}:
```

```
 9  3  4  7
 4  3  4  8
 1  1  1  3
```

The bottom row is very convenient, so switch the first and third rows.

```
[33]: [0 0 1; 0 1 0; 1 0 0] * g
```

```
[33]: 3x4 Array{Int64,2}:
```

```
 1  1  1  3
 4  3  4  8
 9  3  4  7
```

Subtract four times the first row from the second.

```
[34]: [1 0 0; -4 1 0; 0 0 1] * [0 0 1; 0 1 0; 1 0 0] * g
```

```
[34]: 3x4 Array{Int64,2}:
```

```
 1  1  1  3
 0 -1  0 -4
 9  3  4  7
```

This gives a “nice” result of one variable that we could have used to reduce our problem immediately, but we would still have to solve for x and z .

Subtract nine times the first row from the third.

```
[35]: [1 0 0; 0 1 0; -9 0 1] * [1 0 0; -4 1 0; 0 0 1] * [0 0 1; 0 1 0; 1 0 0] * g
```

```
[35]: 3x4 Array{Int64,2}:
```

```
 1  1  1  3
 0 -1  0 -4
 0 -6 -5 -20
```

Subtract six times the second row from the third.

```
[36]: [1 0 0; 0 1 0; 0 -6 1] * [1 0 0; 0 1 0; -9 0 1] * [1 0 0; -4 1 0; 0 0 1] * [0 0 1;
  -1; 0 1 0; 1 0 0] * g
```

[36]: 3×4 Array{Int64,2}:

```
1  1  1  3
0 -1  0 -4
0  0 -5  4
```

Now we see $-5z = 4$, $-y + 0z = -4$, and $x + y + z = 3$, which give $z = -4/5$, $y = 4$, and $x = -1/5$.

9.1 Left Division Operator

Julia contains a built-in “left division operator” (\backslash) for this purpose.

```
[37]: round.([9 3 4; 4 3 4; 1 1 1] \ [7; 8; 3], digits=2)
```

[37]: 3-element Array{Float64,1}:

```
-0.2
 4.0
-0.8
```

9.2 Units

This is a general reminder to be very cautious with units. Example TMP at <http://linear.ups.edu/html/section-SSLE.html> gives a system of linear equations

$$\begin{bmatrix} 7 \text{ kg/batch of raisins} & 6 \text{ kg/batch of raisins} & 2 \text{ kg/batch of raisins} \\ 6 \text{ kg/batch of peanuts} & 4 \text{ kg/batch of peanuts} & 5 \text{ kg/batch of peanuts} \\ 2 \text{ kg/batch of chocolate} & 5 \text{ kg/batch of chocolate} & 8 \text{ kg/batch of chocolate} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b \text{ batches of bulk trail mix} \\ s \text{ batches of standard trail mix} \\ f \text{ batches of fancy trail mix} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 380 \text{ kg of raisins} \\ 500 \text{ kg of peanuts} \\ 620 \text{ kg of chocolate} \end{bmatrix} \quad (12)$$

This is straightforward to solve, but the question is looking for answers in kilograms.

```
[38]: round.([7 6 2; 6 4 5; 2 5 8] \ [380; 500; 620])
```

[38]: 3-element Array{Float64,1}:

```
20.0
20.0
60.0
```

To get to the answer, we needed to know $15 \text{ kg} = 1 \text{ batch}$, so $\begin{bmatrix} b \\ s \\ f \end{bmatrix}$ should actually be $15\times$ the amount calculated.

Again, what we solved was

$$[\text{kg/batch}] [\text{batches}] = [\text{kg}] \quad (13)$$

when the question really needs

$$[\text{units}] [\text{kg}] = [\text{kg}]. \quad (14)$$

```
[39]: round.((([7 6 2; 6 4 5; 2 5 8]) / 15 \ [380; 500; 620])
```

```
[39]: 3-element Array{Float64,1}:  
 300.0  
 300.0  
 900.0
```

10 Inversions

10.1 Not all matrices are invertible

Let us assume, for the sake of contradiction, that there exists some matrix A^{-1} for the matrix $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$. Observe that $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$. If A^{-1} exists, then $A^{-1}A \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = A^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, which implies $\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$. This is a contradiction, therefore it must not be true that all matrices are invertible.

(The key to this proof is to find some x such that $Ax = 0$).

See <https://ocw.mit.edu/courses/mathematics/18-06-linear-algebra-spring-2010/video-lectures/lecture-3-multiplication-and-inverse-matrices/>.

10.2 Invert a Matrix

Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$. We want to find $A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{bmatrix}$ such that $AA^{-1} = I$. Then

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (15)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (16)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c \\ d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (17)$$

which produces the linear equations

$$1a + 3b = 1 \quad (18)$$

$$2a + 7b = 0 \quad (19)$$

$$1c + 3d = 0 \quad (20)$$

$$2c + 7d = 1 \quad (21)$$

which we can solve!

```
[40]: [1 3; 2 7] \ [1; 0]
```

```
[40]: 2-element Array{Float64,1}:  
 7.0  
-2.0
```

```
[41]: [1 3; 2 7] \ [0; 1]
```

```
[41]: 2-element Array{Float64,1}:  
-3.0  
 1.0
```

```
[42]: [1 3; 2 7] * hcat([7; -2], [-3, 1])
```

```
[42]: 2×2 Array{Int64,2}:  
 1  0  
 0  1
```

10.3 Gauss-Jordan

Gauss-Jordan lets you do this by hand by performing elimination “downwards” and then again “upwards” with your coefficient matrix augmented with a complete identity. It looks like:

$$E \begin{bmatrix} a & c & 1 & 0 \\ b & d & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = E [A \ I] = [I \ A^{-1}] \quad (22)$$