

# Math 236 - Assignment 2

Name KEY \_\_\_\_\_

January 24, 2024

Show all work to receive full credit. Supply explanations when necessary. Do all computations by hand unless otherwise indicated. This assignment is due January 31.

---

1. For any real numbers  $x$  and  $y$ , we will say  $x \sim y$  if and only if  $x - y$  is an integer. Prove that  $\sim$  is an equivalence relation.

## Solution

Let  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  be real numbers.

Reflexive:  $x \sim x$  because  $x - x = 0$  and 0 is an integer.

Symmetric: Assume  $x \sim y$ . Then  $x - y = k$ , where  $k$  is an integer. It follows that  $y - x = -k$ . Since  $-k$  is an integer, we have  $y \sim x$ .

Transitive: Assume  $x \sim y$  and  $y \sim z$ . Then  $x - y = k$  and  $y - z = n$ , where  $k$  and  $n$  are integers. It follows that  $x - z = k + n$ . Since  $k + n$  is an integer,  $x \sim z$ .

2. Prove that a linear combination of three linear combinations of  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  is a linear combination of  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$ .

## Solution

Let  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$ ,  $a_1$ ,  $a_2$ ,  $a_3$ ,  $b_1$ ,  $b_2$ ,  $b_3$ ,  $c_1$ ,  $c_2$ , and  $c_3$  be constants.

A linear combination of three linear combinations has the form

$$\alpha(a_1x + a_2y + a_3z) + \beta(b_1x + b_2y + b_3z) + \gamma(c_1x + c_2y + c_3z).$$

Distribute and rearrange terms to get

$$(\alpha a_1 + \beta b_1 + \gamma c_1)x + (\alpha a_2 + \beta b_2 + \gamma c_2)y + (\alpha a_3 + \beta b_3 + \gamma c_3)z,$$

which is a linear combination of  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$ .

3. Find (by hand) the reduced row echelon form (RREF).

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 4 & 2 & 1 & 5 \\ 3 & 4 & 8 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Solution

Here are Sage steps that reduce the matrix to RREF:

```

A=matrix(QQ, [[1,0,3,1,2],[1,4,2,1,5],[3,4,8,1,2]])
A.add_multiple_of_row(1,0,-1)
A.add_multiple_of_row(2,0,-3)
A.rescale_row(1,1/4)
A.add_multiple_of_row(2,1,-4)
A.rescale_row(2,-1/2)
A.add_multiple_of_row(0,2,-1)

```

The RREF is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 & 0 & -3/2 \\ 0 & 1 & -1/4 & 0 & 3/4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 7/2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

4. Write the system as an augmented matrix. Then compute the RREF and determine the solution set. You may use technology to find the RREF.

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 + x_4 - x_5 &= 1 \\ 3x_1 - x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

Solution

The augmented matrix is

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

```

A=matrix([[1,2,3,1,-1,1],[3,-1,1,1,1,3]])
A.rref()

```

The RREF is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 5/7 & 3/7 & 1/7 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 8/7 & 2/7 & -4/7 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The free variables are  $x_3$ ,  $x_4$ , and  $x_5$ . The parameterized general solution is

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -5/7 \\ -8/7 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} x_3 + \begin{pmatrix} -3/7 \\ -2/7 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} x_4 + \begin{pmatrix} -1/7 \\ 4/7 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} x_5; \quad x_3, x_4, x_5 \in \mathbb{R}.$$

5. Say why the following matrix is NOT in RREF. Then reduce it to RREF. Finally, once it's reduced, show that no row is a linear combination of the other rows.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 4 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

### Solution

The entry in row 1, column 3 should be zero. Zeroing that entry,  $R_1 = -4R_2 + R_1$ , will reduce the matrix to RREF:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 & -18 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

First let's show that  $R_1$  is not a linear combination of  $R_2$  and  $R_3$ . The combination

$$R_1 = \alpha R_2 + \beta R_3$$

is impossible because the first entry of  $\alpha R_2 + \beta R_3$  is  $\alpha 0 + \beta 0 = 0 \neq 1$ .

Now let's show that  $R_2$  is not a linear combination of  $R_1$  and  $R_3$ . The combination

$$R_2 = \alpha R_1 + \beta R_3$$

is impossible because the third entry of  $\alpha R_1 + \beta R_3$  is  $\alpha 0 + \beta 0 = 0 \neq 1$ .

Finally let's show that  $R_3$  is not a linear combination of  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ . The combination

$$R_3 = \alpha R_1 + \beta R_2$$

is impossible because the fourth entry of  $\alpha R_1 + \beta R_2$  is  $\alpha 0 + \beta 0 = 0 \neq 1$ .

6. Give two distinct echelon forms of the matrix below. Be sure to say (or show) which sequence of row operations gave each form.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 6 & 4 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 5 & 1 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

### Solution

The operations

```
A.add_multiple_of_row(1,0,-3)
A.add_multiple_of_row(2,0,-1/2)
A.add_multiple_of_row(2,1,-9/2)
A.rescale_row(2,2)
```

result in the echelon form

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & -7 \\ 0 & 0 & 19 & 70 \end{pmatrix}.$$

On the other hand, the operations

```

A.swap_rows(0,2)
A.add_multiple_of_row(1,0,-6)
A.add_multiple_of_row(2,0,-2)
A.add_multiple_of_row(2,1,-9/26)
A.rescale_row(2,26)

```

result in the echelon form

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 5 & 1 & 5 \\ 0 & -26 & -5 & -28 \\ 0 & 0 & 19 & 70 \end{pmatrix}.$$

7. Reduce to RREF. Then express the third row of the RREF as a linear combination of the rows of the original matrix.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 4 & 0 \\ 3 & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Solution

In order to do this, we'll keep careful track of the row operations that are used to get the final third row. First, let's do  $R_3^{(1)} = -3R_1^{(0)} + R_3^{(0)}$  and  $R_2^{(1)} = \frac{1}{4}R_2^{(0)}$  in order to obtain

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -7 & -3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Next, we do  $R_3^{(2)} = 7R_2^{(1)} + R_3^{(1)}$  leaving

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

Finally, we do  $R_3^{(3)} = -\frac{1}{3}R_3^{(2)}$  to obtain

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Row 3 is done! How is it related to the original rows?

$$R_3^{(3)} = -\frac{1}{3} \left( 7R_2^{(1)} + R_3^{(1)} \right) = -\frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{7}{4}R_2^{(0)} - 3R_1^{(0)} + R_3^{(0)} \right).$$

Therefore,

$$\text{Final Row 3} = R_3^{(3)} = R_1^{(0)} - \frac{7}{12}R_2^{(0)} - \frac{1}{3}R_3^{(0)}.$$

In order to finish this problem, we do two more obvious steps to obtain the RREF

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

8. Three truck drivers (in perhaps 1960) went into a roadside cafe. One truck driver purchased four sandwiches, a cup of coffee, and ten doughnuts for \$8.45. Another driver purchased three sandwiches, a cup of coffee, and seven doughnuts for \$6.30. What did the third truck driver pay for a sandwich, a cup of coffee, and a doughnut? (If your approach to this problem involves matrices and elimination, you may use technology.)

Solution

Let  $s$ ,  $c$ , and  $d$  represent the number of sandwiches, cups of coffee, and doughnuts, respectively. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}4s + c + 10d &= 8.45 \\3s + c + 7d &= 6.30\end{aligned}$$

and we must find the value of  $s + c + d$ .

Let's solve the linear system by using RREF:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 & 2.15 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & -0.15 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Now adding row 1 to row 2 gives

$$s + c + d = 2.00.$$