



Matrix Calculations: Linear Equations

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Outline

Admin and general advice

What is linear algebra?

Systems of linear equations

Gaussian elimination





First, some admin...

Lectures

- Weekly: Wednesdays 15:30-17:15
- Presence not compulsory...
 - But if you are going to come, actually be here! (This means laptops shut, phones away.)
- The course material consists of:
 - these slides, available via the web
 - *Linear Algebra* lecture notes by Bernd Souvignier ('LNBS')
- Course URL:
www.cs.ru.nl/A.Kissinger/teaching/matrixrekenen2018/
(Link exists in Brightspace, under 'Content').
- Generally, things appear on course website (and not on Brightspace!). Check there before you ask a question.



First, some admin...

Assignments

- You can work together, but exercises must be handed in individually
- Handing in is not compulsory, **but**:
 - It's a tough exam. If you don't do the exercises, you are unlikely to pass.
 - Exercises give up to 1 point (out of 10) bonus on exam.
 - This could be the difference between a 5 and a 6 (...or a 9 and a 10 😊)



First, some admin...

Werkcollege's

- Werkcollege on Friday, 13:30.
 - Presence not compulsory
 - Answers (for old assignments) & Questions (for new ones)
- Schedule:
 - New assignments on the web by Wednesday evening
 - Next exercise meeting (Friday) you can ask questions
 - Hand-in: **Tuesday before 4pm**, handwritten or typed, on paper in the delivery boxes, ground floor Mercator 1.
 - You should **NOT** hand in via Brightspace, but it's a good idea to make photos of your work before handing in paper copies.
- There is a separate Exercises web-page (see URL on course webpage).



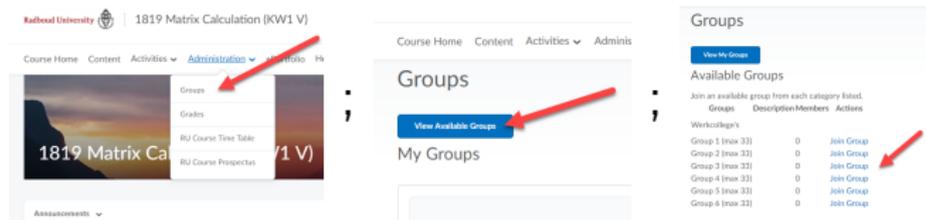
First, some admin...

Werkcollege's

- There will be a werkcollege every Friday (including this one!), 13:30-15:15
- 6 Groups:
 - **Group 1:** Justin Reniers. E2.68 (E2.62 on 12 Oct)
 - **Group 2:** Justin Hende. HG00.062
 - **Group 3:** Iris Delhez. HG00.108
 - **Group 4:** Stefan Boneschanscher. HG01.028
 - **Group 5:** Serena Rietbergen. HG02.028
 - **Group 6:** Jen Dusseljee. HFML0220
- Each assistant has a delivery box on the ground floor of the **Mercator 1 building**

First, some admin...

- Register for a class on Brightspace. Click 'Administration > Groups > View Available Groups', then 'Join Group' next to the group you want:



The first screenshot shows the course page for '1819 Matrix Calculation (KW1 V)' with the 'Administration' menu open and 'Groups' selected. The second screenshot shows the 'Groups' page with the 'View Available Groups' button highlighted. The third screenshot shows the 'Available Groups' table with the 'Join Group' buttons highlighted for each group.

Groups	Description	Members	Actions
Group 1 (max 33)		0	Join Group
Group 2 (max 33)		0	Join Group
Group 3 (max 33)		0	Join Group
Group 4 (max 33)		0	Join Group
Group 5 (max 33)		0	Join Group
Group 6 (max 33)		0	Join Group

- Don't register in a group that has 'max' students in it.
- Registration **must** be done by tomorrow (Thursday) at 12:00. (Do it today, if possible.)
- I may shift some people to other groups. This will be finalised by **Friday morning**, so check your group assignment then.



First, some admin...

Examination

- Final mark is computed from:
 - Average of markings of assignments: A
 - Written exam (October 30): E
 - Final mark: $F = E + \frac{A}{10}$.
- To pass: $E \geq 5$ and $F \geq 6$
- Second chance for written exam on January 25 (A stays the same, E is replaced)
- If you fail again, you will need to re-take the course next year (A and E are replaced)



Next, some advice...

How to pass this course

- Learn by doing, not just staring at the slides (or video, or lecturer)
- Pro tip: exam questions will look a lot like the exercises
- **Give this course the time it needs!**
- 3ec means $3 \times 28 = 84$ hours in total
 - Let's say 20 hours for exam
 - 64 hours for 8 weeks means: **8 hours per week!**
 - 4 hours in lecture and werkcollege leaves...
 - ...another 4 hours for studying & doing exercises
- Coming up-to-speed is your own responsibility
 - if you feel like you are missing some background knowledge: use **Wim Gielen's** notes...or **wikipedia**

...and a plug

GREG ALPAR

2018–2019

Open Maths course

It opens mathematics for you and opens you towards mathematics.

“...a new and optional subject relying on state-of-the-art research, you will experience the **real, exciting and useful mathematics**. As a result, you will be able to learn maths more successfully at the university.”

Intro lecture: Sept 10, 12:15. LIN 5

<https://thalia.nu/events/348/>



Finally, on to the good stuff...

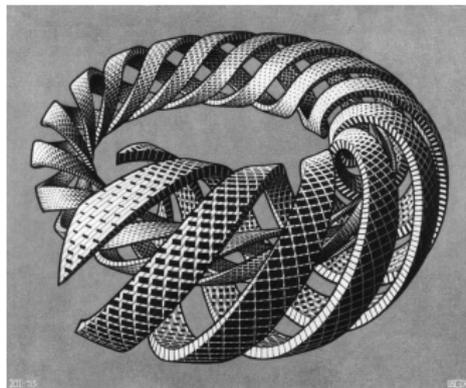
Q: What is ~~matrix calculation~~ all about?
linear algebra

A: It depends on who you ask...



What is linear algebra all about?

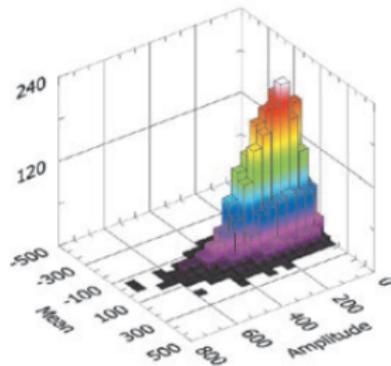
To a mathematician: linear algebra is the mathematics of **geometry** and **transformation**...



It asks: How can we represent a problem in 2D, 3D, 4D (or infinite-dimensional!) space, and **transform** it into a solution?

What is linear algebra all about?

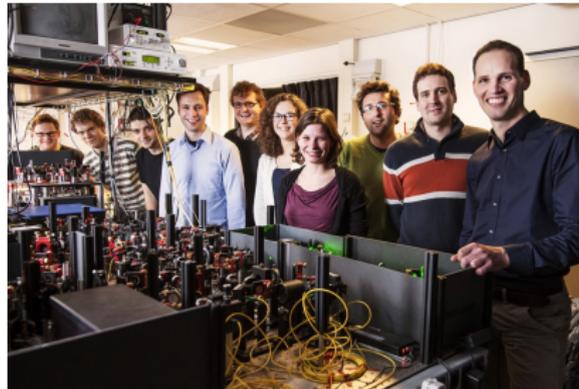
To an engineer: linear algebra is about **numerics**...



It asks: Can we encode a complicated question (e.g. 'Will my bridge fall down?') as a big matrix and compute the answer?

What is linear algebra all about?

To an quantum physicist (or quantum computer scientist!): linear algebra is just the way **nature behaves**...



It asks: How can we explain things that can be in **many states** at the same time, or **entangled** to distant things?

A simple example...

Let's start with something everybody knows how to do:

- Suppose I went to the pub last night, but I can't remember how many, umm... 'sodas' I had.
- I remember taking out 20 EUR from the cash machine.
- Sodas cost 3 EUR.
- I discover a half-eaten kapsalon in my kitchen. That's 5 EUR.
- I have no money left. (Typical...)

By now, most people have (hopefully) figured out I had...5 sodas. That's because you can solve simple **linear equations**:

$$3x + 5 = 20 \quad \implies \quad x = 5$$



An (only slightly less) simple example

I have **two numbers in mind**, but I don't tell you which ones

- if I add them up, the result is 12
- if I subtract, the result is 4

Which two numbers do I have in mind?

Now we have a **system** of linear equations, in two variables:

$$\begin{cases} x + y = 12 \\ x - y = 4 \end{cases} \quad \text{with solution} \quad x = 8, y = 4.$$



An (only slightly less) simple example

Let's try to find a solution, in general, for:

$$x + y = a$$

$$x - y = b$$

i.e. find the values of x and y in terms of a and b .

- **adding** the two equations yields:

$$a + b = (x + y) + (x - y) = 2x, \quad \text{so}$$

$$x = \frac{a + b}{2}$$

- **subtracting** the two equations yields:

$$a - b = (x + y) - (x - y) = 2y, \quad \text{so}$$

$$y = \frac{a - b}{2}$$

Example (from the previous slide)

$$a = 12, b = 4, \text{ so } x = \frac{12+4}{2} = \frac{16}{2} = 8 \text{ and } y = \frac{12-4}{2} = \frac{8}{2} = 4. \text{ Yes!}$$

A more difficult example

I have **two numbers in mind**, but I don't tell you which ones!

- if I add them up, the result is 12
- if I *multiply*, the result is 35

Which two numbers do I have in mind?

It is easy to check that $x = 5, y = 7$ is a solution.

The system of equations however, is **non-linear**:

$$x + y = 12$$

$$x \cdot y = 35$$

This is already **too difficult** for this course. (If you don't believe me, try $x^5 + x = -1$...on second thought, maybe wait till later.)

We only do linear equations.



Basic definitions

Definition (linear equation and solution)

A **linear equation** in n variables x_1, \dots, x_n is an expression of the form:

$$a_1x_1 + \dots + a_nx_n = b,$$

where a_1, \dots, a_n, b are given numbers (possibly zero).

A **solution** for such an equation is given by n numbers s_1, \dots, s_n such that $a_1s_1 + \dots + a_ns_n = b$.

Example

The linear equation $3x_1 + 4x_2 = 11$ has many solutions, eg. $x_1 = 1, x_2 = 2$, or $x_1 = -3, x_2 = 5$.



More basic definitions

Definition

A $(m \times n)$ **system of linear equations** consists of m equations with n variables, written as:

$$\begin{aligned}a_{11}x_1 + \cdots + a_{1n}x_n &= b_1 \\ &\vdots \\ a_{m1}x_1 + \cdots + a_{mn}x_n &= b_m\end{aligned}$$

A **solution** for such a system consists of n numbers s_1, \dots, s_n forming a solution for **each** of the equations.



Example solution

Example

Consider the system of equations

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 + x_2 + 2x_3 &= 9 \\2x_1 + 4x_2 - 3x_3 &= 1 \\3x_1 + x_2 + x_3 &= 8.\end{aligned}$$

- How to find solutions, if any?
- **Finding** solutions requires some work.
- But **checking** solutions is easy, and you should always do so, just to be sure.
- Solution: $x_1 = 1, x_2 = 2, x_3 = 3$. ✓



Easy and hard

- General systems of equations are hard to solve. But what kinds of systems are easy?
- How about this one?

$$x_1 = 7$$

$$x_2 = -2$$

$$x_3 = 2$$

- ...this one's not too shabby either:

$$x_1 + 2x_2 - x_3 = 1$$

$$x_2 + 2x_3 = 2$$

$$x_3 = 2$$





Transformation

So, why don't we take something hard, and **transform** it into something easy?

$$\begin{cases} 2x_2 + x_3 = -2 \\ 3x_1 + 5x_2 - 5x_3 = 1 \\ 2x_1 + 4x_2 - 2x_3 = 2 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x_1 + 2x_2 - x_3 = 1 \\ x_2 + 2x_3 = 2 \\ x_3 = 2 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x_1 = 7 \\ x_2 = -2 \\ x_3 = 2 \end{cases}$$

Sound like something **linear algebra** might be good for?

Gaussian elimination

Gaussian elimination is the 'engine room' of all computer algebra.
It was named after this guy:



Carl Friedrich Gauss (1777-1855)
(famous for inventing: like half of mathematics)



Gaussian elimination

Gaussian elimination is the 'engine room' of all computer algebra.
...but it was probably actually invented by this guy:



Liu Hui (ca. 3rd century AD)



Variable names are inessential

The following programs are equivalent:

```
for(int i=0; i<10; i++){      for(int j=0; j<10; j++){  
    P(i);                      P(j);  
}
```

Similarly, the following systems of equations are equivalent:

$$\begin{aligned}2x + 3y + z &= 4 \\ x + 2y + 2z &= 5 \\ 3x + y + 5z &= -1\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}2u + 3v + w &= 4 \\ u + 2v + 2w &= 5 \\ 3u + v + 5w &= -1\end{aligned}$$



Matrices

The essence of the system

$$2x + 3y + z = 4$$

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

$$3x + y + 5z = -1$$

is not given by the variables, but by the numbers, written as:

coefficient matrix

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

augmented matrix

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 2 & 3 & 1 & 4 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 & 5 \\ 3 & 1 & 5 & -1 \end{array} \right)$$

Easy and hard matrices

So, the question becomes, how to we turn a *hard* matrix:

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 0 & 2 & 1 & -2 \\ 3 & 5 & -5 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 & -2 & 2 \end{array} \right) \leftrightarrow \begin{cases} 2x_2 + x_3 = -2 \\ 3x_1 + 5x_2 - 5x_3 = 1 \\ 2x_1 + 4x_2 - 2x_3 = 2 \end{cases}$$

...into an easy one:

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right) \leftrightarrow \begin{cases} x_1 + 2x_2 - x_3 = 1 \\ x_2 + 2x_3 = 2 \\ x_3 = 2 \end{cases}$$

...or an *even easier* one:

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 7 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right) \leftrightarrow \begin{cases} x_1 = 7 \\ x_2 = -2 \\ x_3 = 2 \end{cases}$$

Solving equations by row operations

- Operations on **equations** become operations on **rows**, e.g.

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 1 & -2 \\ 3 & -1 & 2 \end{array} \right) \leftrightarrow \begin{cases} x_1 + x_2 = -2 \\ 3x_1 - x_2 = 2 \end{cases}$$

- Multiply row 1 by 3, giving:

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 3 & 3 & -6 \\ 3 & -1 & 2 \end{array} \right) \leftrightarrow \begin{cases} 3x_1 + 3x_2 = -6 \\ 3x_1 - x_2 = 2 \end{cases}$$

- Subtract the first row from the second, giving:

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 3 & 3 & -6 \\ 0 & -4 & 8 \end{array} \right) \leftrightarrow \begin{cases} 3x_1 + 3x_2 = -6 \\ -4x_2 = 8 \end{cases}$$

- So $x_2 = \frac{8}{-4} = -2$. The first equation becomes:
 $3x_1 - 6 = -6$, so $x_1 = 0$. Always check your answer. ✓



Relevant operations & notation

	on equations	on matrices	LNBS
exchange of rows	$E_i \leftrightarrow E_j$	$R_i \leftrightarrow R_j$	$W_{i,j}$
multiplication with $c \neq 0$	$E_i := cE_i$	$R_i := cR_i$	$V_i(c)$
addition with $c \neq 0$	$E_i := E_i + cE_j$	$R_i := R_i + cR_j$	$O_{i,j}(c)$

These operations on equations/matrices:

- help to find solutions
- but do not change solutions (introduce/delete them)
- **The goal:** put matrices in **Echelon form**

Pivots

- Echelon form = all the **pivots** are in a convenient place
- A **pivot** is the first non-zero entry of a row:

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 0 & \boxed{2} & 1 & -2 \\ \boxed{3} & 5 & -5 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{-2} & 2 \end{array} \right)$$

- If a row is all zeros, it **has no pivot**:

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 0 & \boxed{2} & 1 & -2 \\ \boxed{3} & 5 & -5 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

We call this a *zero row*.





Echelon form

A matrix is in **Echelon form** (a.k.a. *rijtrapvorm*) if:

- 1 All of the rows with pivots occur before zero rows, and
- 2 Pivots always occur to the right of previous pivots

$$\left(\begin{array}{cccc|c} \boxed{3} & 2 & 5 & -5 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{2} & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \boxed{-2} & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \quad \checkmark$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{cccc|c} \boxed{3} & 2 & 5 & -5 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{2} & 1 & -2 \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \boxed{-2} & 2 \end{array} \right) \quad \text{Yes}$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{cccc|c} \boxed{3} & 2 & 5 & -5 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{4} & -2 & 2 \\ 0 & \boxed{2} & 0 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \quad \text{Yes}$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{cccc|c} \boxed{3} & 2 & 5 & -5 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{4} & -2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{2} & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \quad \text{Yes}$$



Even better: reduced Echelon form

A matrix in **reduced Echelon form** if it is in Echelon form, and each row contains *at most* one '1' to the left of the line.

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} \boxed{1} & 0 & 0 & 7 \\ 0 & \boxed{1} & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{1} & 2 \end{array} \right) \quad \checkmark$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 7 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right) \text{ not} \quad \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 7 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right) \text{ not} \quad \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 0 & 1 & 0 & -2 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right) \text{ not}$$

Reduced Echelon form lets us **read off the solutions** directly from the matrix. The big matrix above gives:

$$x_1 = 7$$

$$x_2 = -2$$

$$x_3 = 2$$



Transformations example, part I

equations

$$2x_2 + x_3 = -2$$

$$3x_1 + 5x_2 - 5x_3 = 1$$

$$2x_1 + 4x_2 - 2x_3 = 2$$

$$E_1 \leftrightarrow E_3$$

$$2x_1 + 4x_2 - 2x_3 = 2$$

$$3x_1 + 5x_2 - 5x_3 = 1$$

$$2x_2 + x_3 = -2$$

$$E_1 := \frac{1}{2}E_1$$

$$x_1 + 2x_2 - 1x_3 = 1$$

$$3x_1 + 5x_2 - 5x_3 = 1$$

$$2x_2 + x_3 = -2$$

matrix

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 0 & 2 & 1 & -2 \\ 3 & 5 & -5 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 & -2 & 2 \end{array} \right)$$

$$R_1 \leftrightarrow R_3$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 2 & 4 & -2 & 2 \\ 3 & 5 & -5 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & -2 \end{array} \right)$$

$$R_1 := \frac{1}{2}R_1$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 3 & 5 & -5 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & -2 \end{array} \right)$$



Transformations example, part II

equations

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 + 2x_2 - 1x_3 &= 1 \\3x_1 + 5x_2 - 5x_3 &= 1 \\2x_2 + x_3 &= -2\end{aligned}$$

$$E_2 := E_2 - 3E_1$$

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

$$E_2 := -E_2$$

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

matrix

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 3 & 5 & -5 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & -2 \end{array} \right)$$

$$R_2 := R_2 - 3R_1$$

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

$$R_2 := -R_2$$

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



Transformations example, part III

equations

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

$$E_3 := E_3 - 2E_2$$

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 + 2x_2 - 1x_3 &= 1 \\x_2 + 2x_3 &= 2 \\-3x_3 &= -6\end{aligned}$$

$$E_3 := -\frac{1}{3}E_3$$

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

matrix

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

$$R_3 := R_3 - 2R_2$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 & -6 \end{array} \right)$$

$$R_3 := -\frac{1}{3}R_3$$

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

Echelon
(rijtrap)
form



Transformations example, part IV

equations

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

$$E_1 := E_1 - 2E_2$$

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 - 5x_3 &= -3 \\x_2 + 2x_3 &= 2 \\x_3 &= 2\end{aligned}$$

$$E_2 := E_2 - 2E_3$$

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 - 5x_3 &= -3 \\x_2 &= -2 \\x_3 &= 2\end{aligned}$$

matrix

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

Echelon
form

$$R_1 := R_1 - 2R_2$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -5 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right)$$

$$R_2 := R_2 - 2R_3$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -5 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right)$$



Transformations example, part V

equations

$$x_1 - 5x_3 = -3$$

$$x_2 = -2$$

$$x_3 = 2$$

$$E_1 := E_1 + 5E_3$$

$$x_1 = 7$$

$$x_2 = -2$$

$$x_3 = 2$$

matrix

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -5 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right)$$

$$R_1 := R_1 + 5R_3$$

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

reduced
echelon
form



Gauss elimination

- Solutions can be found by mechanically applying simple rules
 - in Dutch this is called *vegen*
 - first produce **echelon form** (rijtrapvorm), then either (a) finish by substitution, or (b) obtain single-variable equations, **reduced echelon form** (gereduceerde rijtrapvorm)
 - it is one of the most important algorithms in virtually any computer algebra system
- Applying these operations is actually **easier on matrices**, than on the equations themselves
- You should be able to do Gauss elimination in your sleep! It is a basic technique used throughout the course.