

Matrices, part 2: Matrix Multiplication

Undergraduate Texts in Mathematics

UTM

Sheldon Axler


Linear Algebra Done Right

Third Edition

Apollonius's Identity

$$a^2 + b^2 = \frac{1}{2}c^2 + 2d^2$$



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Motivation for Definition of Matrix Multiplication

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Suppose v_1, \dots, v_n is a basis of V
and w_1, \dots, w_m is a basis of W .
Suppose u_1, \dots, u_p is a basis of U .

Consider linear maps $T: U \rightarrow V$
and $S: V \rightarrow W$.

Does $\mathcal{M}(ST)$ equal $\mathcal{M}(S)\mathcal{M}(T)$?

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For $1 \leq k \leq p$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (ST)u_k &= S\left(\sum_{r=1}^n C_{r,k}v_r\right) \\ &= \sum_{r=1}^n C_{r,k}Sv_r \\ &= \sum_{r=1}^n C_{r,k} \sum_{j=1}^m A_{j,r}w_j \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^m \left(\sum_{r=1}^n A_{j,r}C_{r,k}\right)w_j. \end{aligned}$$

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Thus $\mathcal{M}(ST)$ is the m -by- p matrix whose entry in row j , column k , is

$$\sum_{r=1}^n A_{j,r}C_{r,k}.$$

Definition of Matrix Multiplication

Definition: *matrix multiplication*

Suppose A is an m -by- n matrix and C is an n -by- p matrix. Then AC is defined to be the m -by- p matrix whose entry in row j , column k , is given by the following equation:

$$(AC)_{j,k} = \sum_{r=1}^n A_{j,r} C_{r,k}.$$

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Example:
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \\ 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 5 & 4 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 10 & 7 & 4 & 1 \\ 26 & 19 & 12 & 5 \\ 42 & 31 & 20 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

Matrices and Products of Linear Maps

In the following result, the same basis of V is used in considering $T \in \mathcal{L}(U, V)$ and $S \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$, the same basis of W is used in considering $S \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$ and $ST \in \mathcal{L}(U, W)$, and the same basis of U is used in considering $T \in \mathcal{L}(U, V)$ and $ST \in \mathcal{L}(U, W)$.

The matrix of the product of linear maps

If $T \in \mathcal{L}(U, V)$ and $S \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$, then $\mathcal{M}(ST) = \mathcal{M}(S)\mathcal{M}(T)$.

The proof of the result above is the calculation that was done as motivation before the definition of matrix multiplication.

Notation for Row and Column of Matrix

Notation: $A_{j,\cdot}$, $A_{\cdot,k}$

Suppose A is an m -by- n matrix.

- If $1 \leq j \leq m$, then $A_{j,\cdot}$ denotes the 1 -by- n matrix consisting of row j of A .
- If $1 \leq k \leq n$, then $A_{\cdot,k}$ denotes the m -by- 1 matrix consisting of column k of A .

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- If $1 \leq k \leq n$, then $A_{\cdot,k}$ denotes the m -by-1 matrix consisting of column k of A .

Example: If $A = \begin{pmatrix} 8 & 4 & 5 \\ 1 & 9 & 7 \end{pmatrix}$, then $A_{2,\cdot}$ is row 2 of A and $A_{\cdot,2}$ is column 2 of A . In other words,

$$A_{2,\cdot} = (1 \ 9 \ 7) \quad \text{and} \quad A_{\cdot,2} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Alternative Ways to Think about Matrix Multiplication

Example: $(3 \ 4) \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = (26) = 26.$

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Entry of matrix product equals row times column

Suppose A is an m -by- n matrix and C is an n -by- p matrix. Then

$$(AC)_{j,k} = A_{j,\cdot} \cdot C_{\cdot,k}$$

for $1 \leq j \leq m$ and $1 \leq k \leq p$.

Alternative Ways to Think about Matrix Multiplication

Column of matrix product equals matrix times column

Suppose A is an m -by- n matrix and C is an n -by- p matrix. Then

$$(AC)_{\cdot,k} = AC_{\cdot,k}$$

for $1 \leq k \leq p$.

Alternative Ways to Think about Matrix Multiplication

Column of matrix product equals matrix times column

Suppose A is an m -by- n matrix and C is an n -by- p matrix. Then

$$(AC)_{\cdot,k} = AC_{\cdot,k}$$

for $1 \leq k \leq p$.

Row of matrix product equals row times matrix

Suppose A is an m -by- n matrix and C is an n -by- p matrix. Then

$$(AC)_{j,\cdot} = A_{j,\cdot}C$$

for $1 \leq j \leq m$.

Matrix Times a Column Vector

Linear combination of columns

Suppose A is an m -by- n matrix and $c = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{pmatrix}$ is an n -by-1 matrix.

Then $Ac = c_1A_{.,1} + \cdots + c_nA_{.,n}$.

In other words, Ac is a linear combination of the columns of A , with the scalars that multiply the columns coming from c .

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Example:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 8 & 4 & 5 \\ 1 & 9 & 7 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = 3 \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + (-1) \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix} + 2 \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix} \\ = \begin{pmatrix} 30 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$$

Row Vector Times a Matrix

Linear combination of rows

Suppose $a = (a_1 \ \cdots \ a_n)$ is a 1-by- n matrix and C is an n -by- p matrix. Then

$$aC = a_1 C_{1,\cdot} + \cdots + a_n C_{n,\cdot}$$

In other words, aC is a linear combination of the rows of C , with the scalars that multiply the rows coming from a .

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Example:

$$\begin{aligned} (3 \quad -1) \begin{pmatrix} 8 & 4 & 5 \\ 1 & 9 & 7 \end{pmatrix} &= 3 (8 \quad 4 \quad 5) + (-1) (1 \quad 9 \quad 7) \\ &= (23 \quad 3 \quad 8) \end{aligned}$$

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