



LINEAR ALGEBRA Echelon Form Simplified

Nooshin Maghsoodi

Noshirvani University

Echelon Form

- Echelon Form of a matrix is used to solve a linear system by converting a complex matrix to a simple matrix.
- A matrix is in an **Echelon Form** if it satisfies some conditions.
- We must know how to convert a matrix into Echelon Form and simplify our matrix for further linear algebra operations.



- A matrix is in an Echelon Form when it satisfies three conditions
- We will explain each of them with examples.



A definition:

Leading entry: first non-zero element in a row



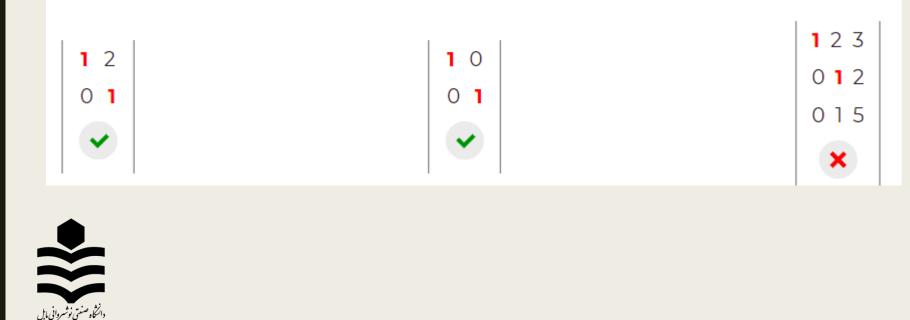
First condition:

- A row with no zero element is above all other rows.



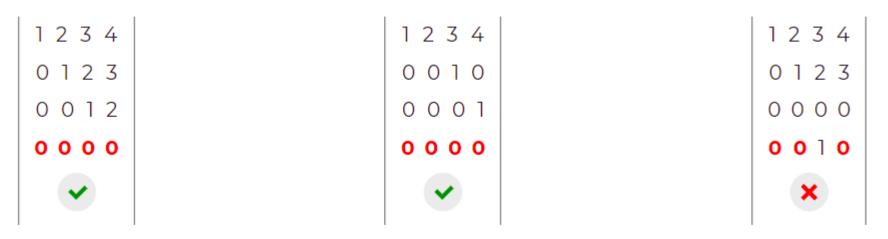
Second condition:

- Each leading entry in a row is in the right side of the leading entry of the previous row.



Third condition:

 A row with all zeros should be below rows having a nonzero element.





IN SOME OTHER REFRENCES THE IN REF THE LEADING ENTRY IN EACH ROW SHOULD BE ONE.

This process of converting a matrix to echelon form is known as Gaussian elimination process.



Reduced Row Echelon form

- This is a special form of a row echelon form matrix.
- So A row echelon form is reduced row echelon form if it satisfies the following condition:
 - The leading entry of each row is 1.
 - A pivot or leading entry 1 in the row will be the only nonzero value in its columns.
 - So all other values in the same column will have zero value.



Solving a System Using Gaussian Elimination

- To solve a system using Gaussian elimination, we use:
 - 1. Augmented matrix
 - 2. Row-echelon form
 - 3. Back-substitution



Solving a System Using Gaussian Elimination

1. Augmented matrix

- Write the augmented matrix of the system.
- 2. Row-echelon form
 - Use elementary row operations to change the augmented matrix to row-echelon form.



Solving a System Using Gaussian Elimination

3. Back-substitution

 Write the new system of equations that corresponds to the row-echelon form of the augmented matrix and solve by back-substitution.



 Solve the system of linear equations using Gaussian elimination.

 $\begin{cases} 4x + 8y - 4z = 4 \\ 3x + 8y + 5z = -11 \\ -2x + y + 12z = -17 \end{cases}$

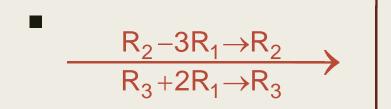
- We first write the augmented matrix of the system.
- Then, we use elementary row operations to put it in row-echelon form.



 $\frac{1}{4}R_1$



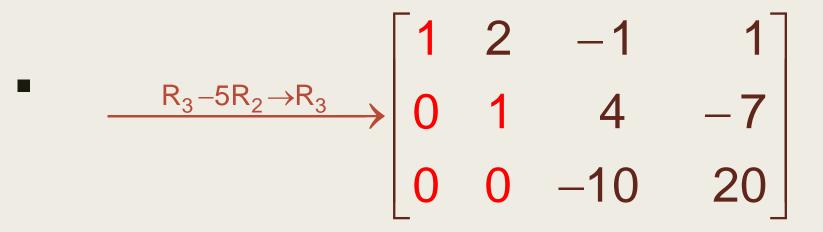
 $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 3 & 8 & 5 & -11 \\ -2 & 1 & 12 & -17 \end{bmatrix}$



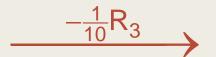
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 8 & -14 \\ 0 & 5 & 10 & -15 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 & -7 \\ 0 & 5 & 10 & -15 \end{bmatrix}$$











- We now have an equivalent matrix in row-echelon form.
- The corresponding system of equations is:

 We use back-substitution to solve the system.

 $\begin{cases} x + 2y - z = 1 \\ y + 4z = -7 \\ z = -2 \end{cases}$



•
$$y + 4(-2) = -7$$

 $y = 1$
• $x + 2(1) - (-2) = 2$

x = -3

The solution of the system is: (-3, 1, -2)



Putting in Reduced Row-Echelon Form

- If we put the augmented matrix of a linear system in reduced row-echelon form, then we don't need to back-substitute to solve the system.
 - To put a matrix in reduced row-echelon form, we use the following steps.
 - We see how the process might work for a 3 x 4 matrix.



Putting in Reduced Row-Echelon Form—Step 1

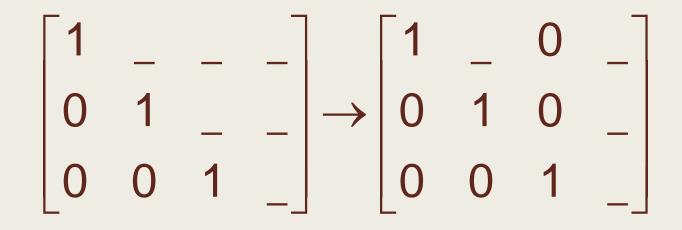
Use the elementary row operations to put the matrix in row-echelon form and set each leading entry to 1.

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



Putting in Reduced Row-Echelon Form—Step 2

Obtain zeros above each leading entry by adding multiples of the row containing that entry to the rows above it.





Putting in Reduced Row-Echelon Form—Step 2

Begin with the last leading entry and work up.

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



Gauss-Jordan Elimination

- Using the reduced row-echelon form to solve a system is called Gauss-Jordan elimination.
 - We illustrate this process in the next example.



 Solve the system of linear equations, using Gauss-Jordan elimination.

 $\begin{cases} 4x + 8y - 4z = 4 \\ 3x + 8y + 5z = -11 \\ -2x + y + 12z = -17 \end{cases}$

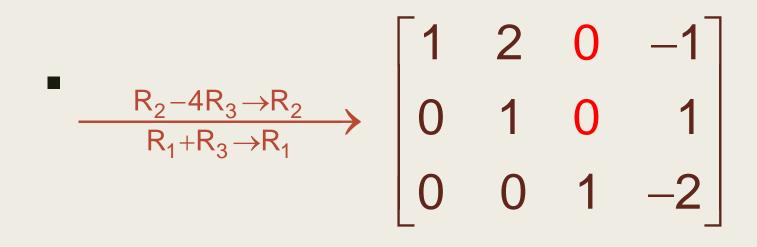
 In the previous Example, we used Gaussian elimination on the augmented matrix of this system to arrive at an equivalent matrix in row-echelon form.



We continue using elementary row operations on the last matrix in Example 3 to arrive at an equivalent matrix in reduced row-echelon form.

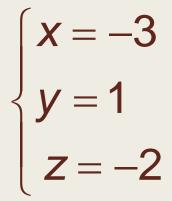
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 & -7 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$





$$\begin{array}{c} 1 & 0 \\ R_1 - 2R_2 \rightarrow R_1 \end{array} \end{array} \xrightarrow{\begin{array}{c} R_1 - 2R_2 \rightarrow R_1 \end{array}} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{array}$$

- We now have an equivalent matrix in reduced row-echelon form.
- The corresponding system of equations is:



− Hence, we immediately arrive at the solution (−3, 1, −2).

