

Matrix & Matrix Operations

Matrix: rectangular array of numbers
entries: the numbers in the array

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \cdots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix}$$

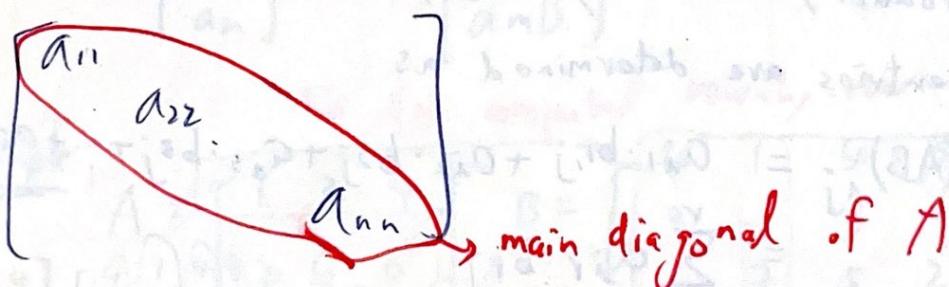
$$A = [a_{ij}]_{m \times n} \text{ or } A = [a_{ij}]$$

$$(A)_{ij} = a_{ij}$$

$$\mathbf{a} = [a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n] \rightarrow \text{an } 1 \times n \text{ row vector}$$

$$\mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_m \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \text{a } m \times 1 \text{ column vector}$$

* $m = n$; square matrix



* equal

For an $m_1 \times n_1$ matrix A
{ an $m_2 \times n_2$ matrix B , A and B are equal.

if $m_1 = m_2$, $n_1 = n_2$ and $(A)_{ij} = (B)_{ij}$ for $i \in [m_1]$,
 $j \in [n_1]$
corresponding entries

Summation

If $A = [a_{ij}]$, $B = [b_{ij}]$ have the same size,

$$\text{then } (\underline{A+B})_{ij} = \underline{(A)_{ij}} + \underline{(B)_{ij}} = a_{ij} + b_{ij}$$

Example :

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 & 3 \\ -1 & 0 & 2 & 4 \\ 4 & -2 & 7 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A+C ?? \quad A-C ??$$

Scalar multiple $[a_{ij}]$

For any matrix A and scalar c ,

$$(cA)_{ij} = c(A)_{ij} = ca_{ij}$$

Product: For two matrices $A : m \times r$

$B : r \times n$

The product, denoted by AB , is the $m \times n$ matrix whose entries are determined as

$$(AB)_{ij} = a_{i1} \cdot b_{1j} + a_{i2} \cdot b_{2j} + a_{i3} \cdot b_{3j} + \dots + a_{ir} \cdot b_{rj}$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^r a_{ik} \cdot b_{kj}$$

A Matrix Can be Partitioned"

a submatrix

Example:

$$A = \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & a_{14} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & a_{24} \\ \hline a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & a_{34} \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{cc} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{array} \right]$$

or $A = \left[\begin{array}{cccc} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & a_{14} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & a_{24} \\ \hline a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & a_{34} \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{c} r_1 \\ r_2 \\ r_3 \end{array} \right]$

or $A = \left[\begin{array}{c|c|c|c} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & a_{14} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & a_{24} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & a_{34} \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{cccc} c_1 & c_2 & c_3 & c_4 \end{array} \right]$

So,

$$AB = A[b_1 \ b_2 \ \dots \ b_n] = [Ab_1 \ Ab_2 \ \dots \ Ab_n]$$

$$AB = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ \vdots \\ a_m \end{bmatrix} \cdot B = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \cdot B \\ a_2 \cdot B \\ \vdots \\ a_m \cdot B \end{bmatrix}$$

↓
AB computed
"column-by-column"

Example:

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \boxed{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}} & B &= \boxed{\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 & 4 & 3 \\ 0 & -1 & 3 & 1 \\ 2 & 7 & 5 & 2 \end{bmatrix}} \\ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 & 4 & 3 \\ 0 & -1 & 3 & 1 \\ 2 & 7 & 5 & 2 \end{bmatrix} & \text{or } \boxed{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 2 & 6 & 0 \end{bmatrix}} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} [1 \ 2 \ 4]B \\ [2 \ 6 \ 0]B \end{bmatrix} & & \end{aligned}$$

GOTO 3/q END

Matrix products as Linear Combinations,

A_1, A_2, \dots, A_r : matrices of the same size

c_1, c_2, \dots, c_r : scalars.

then

$c_1 A_1 + c_2 A_2 + \dots + c_r A_r$ is a linear combination
of A_1, \dots, A_r with coefficients c_1, c_2, \dots, c_r

Matrix Product \Rightarrow [linear combinations?]

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \cdots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix}_{r \times n}, \quad \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}_{n \times 1}$$

$$c_1 x_1 + c_2 x_2 + \dots + c_n x_n$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} A\mathbf{x} &= \begin{bmatrix} a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n \\ a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n \\ \vdots \\ a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + \dots + a_{mn}x_n \end{bmatrix} \\ &= x_1 \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} \\ a_{21} \\ \vdots \\ a_{m1} \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} a_{12} \\ a_{22} \\ \vdots \\ a_{m2} \end{bmatrix} + \dots + x_n \begin{bmatrix} a_{1n} \\ a_{2n} \\ \vdots \\ a_{mn} \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Theorem

If A is an $m \times n$ matrix and \mathbf{x} is an $n \times 1$ column vector
then $A\mathbf{x}$ can be expressed as a linear combination of
the **column vectors** of A in which the coefficients
are the entries of \mathbf{x} .

Example:

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & -3 \\ 2 & 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -9 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= (2) \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} - 1 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + 3 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right) \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = 1 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot 2 + 3 \cdot 3 = 14$$

Example:

$$AB = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 2 & 6 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 & 4 & 3 \\ 0 & -1 & 3 & 1 \\ 2 & 7 & 5 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$4 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + 0 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + 2 \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} - 1 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + 7 \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$4 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + 3 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + 5 \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$3 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + 1 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + 2 \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Column-Row Expansion

If



$$AB = c_1r_1 + c_2r_2 + \dots + c_kr_k$$

Example:

$$AB = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 4 \\ -3 & 5 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= c_1r_1 + c_2r_2$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} [2 \ 0 \ 4] + \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} [-3 \ 5 \ 1]$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 4 \\ 4 & 0 & 8 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -9 & 15 & 3 \\ 3 & -5 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} -7 & 15 & 7 \\ 7 & -5 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$$

Matrix Form of a Linear System

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{entry} \\ a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n = b_1, \\ a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n = b_2, \\ \vdots \quad \vdots \quad \text{entry} \quad \vdots \\ a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + \dots + a_{mn}x_n = b_m \end{array}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n \\ a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n \\ \vdots \\ a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + \dots + a_{mn}x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_m \end{bmatrix}$$

Can be viewed as a linear combination!

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & & & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_m \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$$

✓ coefficient matrix

Recall:

The augmented matrix:

$$[A|b] = \left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} & b_1 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} & b_2 \\ \vdots & & & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} & b_m \end{array} \right]$$

Example Compute A^{20} where $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

(91 化科大電通)

3/9 end.

$$A^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & -6 \\ 2 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A^3 = A^2 \cdot A = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & -6 \\ 2 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} -8 & 0 \\ 0 & -8 \end{bmatrix} = (-8) \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = -8I$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore A^{20} &= (A^3)^6 \cdot A^2 = (-8I)^6 \cdot A^2 \\ &= 8^6 (I^6 \cdot A^2) \\ &= 8^6 (IA^2) \\ &= 8^6 \cdot A^2 = \begin{bmatrix} -2(8^6) & -6(8^6) \\ 2(8^6) & -2(8^6) \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Example :

Compute $X = \left[\begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 0 & 0 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right]^{2007}$

(96 大同資工)

$$\text{Let } A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -3 \\ 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ then } X = \begin{bmatrix} I_2 & A \\ 0 & I_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[I \cdot A + A \cdot I] = A + A = 2A$$

$$\text{We find that } X^2 = \begin{bmatrix} I & A \\ 0 & I \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I & A \\ 0 & I \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} I & 2A \\ 0 & I \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{and } X^3 = X \cdot X^2 = \begin{bmatrix} I & A \\ 0 & I \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} I & 2A \\ 0 & I \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} I & 3A \\ 0 & I \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\therefore X^{2007} = \begin{bmatrix} I & 2007A \\ 0 & I \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} I & 0 & 0 & -6021 \\ 0 & I & 6021 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & I & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & I \end{bmatrix}$$

Trace: $\text{Tr}_{M_{mn}, m=n}$ is to sum of x_{ii}

For a **square matrix** A, the trace of A

is $\text{tr}(A) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ii}$

Example:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 & 7 & 0 \\ 3 & 5 & -8 & 4 \\ 1 & 2 & 7 & -3 \\ 4 & -2 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{tr}(A) = -1 + 5 + 7 + 0 = 11$$

Upper/lower triangular matrix

A is a square matrix of order n and $a_{ij}=0 \forall i > j$

then A is an **upper triangular matrix**. ($\forall i < j$)
(lower)

upper triangular matrix : $A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & & & \\ & a_{22} & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ 0 & & & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$

lower triangular matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & & & 0 \\ & a_{22} & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ * & & & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

If A is both upper and lower triangular,

then A is called a **diagonal matrix**.

Example Suppose that A and B are symmetric matrices each of order n .

Prove that AB is a symmetric matrix if and only if

$$AB = BA. \quad (91 \text{ 師大資工})$$

$$(\Rightarrow) : AB \text{ is symmetric} \Rightarrow (AB)^T = AB$$

$$\Rightarrow B^T A^T = AB$$

$$\Rightarrow BA = AB$$

$$(\Leftarrow) : AB = BA$$

$$\therefore (AB)^T = B^T A^T = BA = AB$$

$\therefore AB$ is symmetric

Example (先證之):

Prove that $(AB)^T = B^T A^T$ (95 南台資工)

Suppose that $A \in F^{m \times n}$, $B \in F^{n \times p}$ (99 賴科大資工)

$$(AB)^T_{ij} = (AB)_{ji}$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^n a_{jk} \cdot b_{ki}$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^n b_{ki} \cdot a_{jk}$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^n (B^T)_{ik} \cdot (A^T)_{kj}$$

$$= (B^T A^T)_{ij}$$

$$\forall i = 1, 2, \dots, p, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, m \quad (AB)^T = B^T A^T$$

Note: $AB \in F^{m \times p}$

$$(AB)^T \in F^{p \times m}$$

Theorem Suppose that $A, B \in F^{n \times n}$, $\alpha, \beta \in F$, then (3/15)

$$(1) \text{tr}(\alpha A + \beta B) = \alpha \cdot \text{tr}(A) + \beta \cdot \text{tr}(B)$$

$$(2) \text{tr}(A^T) = \text{tr}(A) \quad \downarrow \begin{matrix} \text{tr}(\alpha A + \beta B) \\ = \sum_{i=1}^n c_{ii} = \sum_{i=1}^n (\alpha A)_{ii} + (\beta B)_{ii} \end{matrix}$$

$$(3) \text{tr}(I_n) = n \quad \begin{matrix} = \sum_{i=1}^n (\alpha A)_{ii} + \sum_{i=1}^n (\beta B)_{ii} \\ = \text{tr}(A) + \text{tr}(\beta B) = \alpha \cdot \text{tr}(A) + \beta \cdot \text{tr}(B) \end{matrix}$$

Example

Prove that there do not exist $n \times n$ matrices A and B such that $AB - BA = I_n$

(90 中央數學, 91 台大數學,
95 彰師大資工)

(proof):

Suppose that there exist $A, B \in F^{n \times n}$ such that

$$AB - BA = I_n$$

$$\text{Then } \text{tr}(AB - BA) = \text{tr}(AB) - \text{tr}(BA) = \text{tr}(AB) - \text{tr}(AB) = 0$$

$$\text{But } \text{tr}(I_n) = n$$

Theorem Suppose $A \in R^{m \times n}$, $B \in R^{n \times m}$, then $\text{tr}(AB) = \text{tr}(BA)$ (99 台大電機, 95 台科大資工
95 賈大通訊)

proof:

Suppose that $C = AB \in R^{m \times m}$, $D = BA \in R^{n \times n}$

$$\text{then } \text{tr}(AB) = \text{tr}(C) = \sum_{i=1}^m c_{ii} = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik} \cdot b_{ki} = \sum_{k=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^m b_{ki} \cdot a_{ik} \\ = \sum_{k=1}^n d_{kk} \\ = \text{tr}(D) \\ = \text{tr}(BA)$$

Problem

2. A matrix B is said to be square root of a matrix A if $BB = A$

(1) Find two square roots of $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

(2) How many different square roots can you find of

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

(3) Do you think that every 2×2 matrix has at least one square root? Explain your reasoning.

Soln: (1) Let $B = \begin{bmatrix} x & y \\ z & u \end{bmatrix}$, $B^2 = \begin{bmatrix} x^2 + yz & xy + yu \\ xz + uz & yz + u^2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\therefore x^2 + yz = u^2 + yz = 2$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 = u^2$$

① if $x = -u$

$$\Rightarrow xz + uz = 0 = 2 \quad (\text{not})$$

② we have $x = u \Rightarrow B^2 = \begin{bmatrix} u^2 + z^2 & 2uz \\ 2uz & z^2 + u^2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\Rightarrow xy + yu = 2yu = 2 \Rightarrow u = z$$

$$xz + uz = 2uz = 2$$

$$\therefore u^2 + z^2 = 2uz = 2 \Rightarrow (u-z)^2 = 0$$

and $yu = uz = 1 \Rightarrow y = z \quad (\because u \neq 0)$

$$u = z \text{ or } u = -z$$

$$B^2 = \begin{bmatrix} x & y \\ x & x \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x & y \\ x & x \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x^2 + xy & 2xy \\ 2x^2 & x^2 + xy \end{bmatrix} \quad B^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2z^2 & 2z^2 \\ 2z^2 & 2z^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\therefore x = \pm 1, y = \pm 1$$

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ or } \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{or } B^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2z^2 & -2z^2 \\ -2z^2 & 2z^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Verify them.

$$\therefore uz = 1$$

$$\therefore u = z = 1$$

$$\text{or } u = -z$$

(2) Let $B = \begin{bmatrix} x & y \\ z & u \end{bmatrix}$

$$B^2 = \begin{bmatrix} x^2 + yz & xy + yu \\ xz + uz & yz + u^2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} y(x+u) = 0 \\ z(x+u) = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\text{or if } y=0 \Rightarrow B^2 = \begin{bmatrix} x & 0 \\ z & u \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x & 0 \\ z & u \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x^2 & 0 \\ xz + uz & u^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x^2 = 5 \Rightarrow x = \pm\sqrt{5}$$

$$u^2 = 9 \Rightarrow u = \pm 3$$

\Rightarrow That means $x+u \neq 0 \therefore z=0$

We have $B = \begin{bmatrix} \pm\sqrt{5} & 0 \\ 0 & \pm 3 \end{bmatrix}$ (4 square roots of 5)

(3) Try to find a square root of $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 9 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Let $B = \begin{bmatrix} x & y \\ z & u \end{bmatrix}$

$$B^2 = \begin{bmatrix} x^2 + yz & xy + yu \\ xz + uz & yz + u^2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 9 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 + yz = u^2 + yz = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 = u^2 = 0 \Rightarrow x = u = 0$$

$$\therefore xy + yu = 0 + 0 = 0 \neq 9 \quad (\text{Hence})$$

Problem For any two 2×2 matrices A and B , "is $AB = BA$ " always true? Why?

(sol): At the beginning, $\forall i, j \in \{1, 2\}$, $(AB)_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik} b_{kj} \geq ?$

Find an example (counter-example):

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 8 & 5 \\ 20 & 13 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = ?$$

Problem: If A , B , and C are all $n \times n$ square matrices, such that

$$AC = BC, \text{ then } A = B.$$

Is that always true? Why?

(sol): It seems that $AC = BC \Rightarrow A = B$.

Let's find a counter-example?

Let C be $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 9 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$,

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 7 \\ 3 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Then } AC = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 9 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 9 \\ 0 & 27 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{WTF?}$$

$$BC = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 7 \\ 3 & 8 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 9 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 9 \\ 0 & 27 \end{bmatrix}$$