

Matrix notation

A matrix with m rows and n columns is called an $m \times n$ matrix.

An $m \times 1$ matrix is a column matrix.

$$\left[\begin{array}{c} x \\ x \\ \vdots \\ x \end{array} \right] \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{c} x \\ x \\ \vdots \\ x \end{array}} \right\} m$$

A $1 \times n$ matrix is a row matrix.

$$\left[* \ * \ * \ \dots \ * \right] \left. \vphantom{\left[* \ * \ * \ \dots \ * \right]} \right\} 1$$

An $n \times n$ matrix is a square matrix.

$$\left[\begin{array}{cccc} * & * & \dots & \\ * & * & & \\ \vdots & & & \\ & & & * \end{array} \right] \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{cccc} * & * & \dots & \\ * & * & & \\ \vdots & & & \\ & & & * \end{array}} \right\} n$$

The entry in the i^{th} row and j^{th} column is called the (i, j) -entry of a matrix. If A is an $m \times n$ matrix, with (i, j) -entry a_{ij} , we write it as

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & & & \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix}$$

or, shorthand we simply write $A = [a_{ij}]$.

Addition and scalar multiplication

If two matrices have the same number of rows and columns we can add them by adding the corresponding entries.

So if $A = [a_{ij}]$, $B = [b_{ij}]$ are both $m \times n$ matrices, then

$$A + B = [a_{ij} + b_{ij}].$$

Ex:
$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 & 5 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$$

If A is any matrix, and k is a real number, we define the scalar multiple kA to be the matrix obtained by multiplying each entry of A by k .

i.e. if $A = [a_{ij}]$, then $kA = [ka_{ij}]$.

Ex:
$$-2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 3 & -7 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & -2 \\ -6 & 14 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Transpose of a matrix

If A is an $m \times n$ matrix, the transpose of A , written A^T is the $n \times m$ matrix whose rows are the columns of A in the same order. So the (i, j) -entry of A is the (j, i) -entry of A^T .

Ex: If $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 \\ -1 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$, then $A^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$.

A matrix is symmetric if it is equal to its transpose.

i.e. if $A = A^T$.

(Note that symmetric matrices must be square).

Ex:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 5 & 4 \\ 3 & 4 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \text{ is symmetric}$$

← axis of symmetry

Practice problems: 2.1 : 1a, 2gh, 4, 14