

Solving a Linear System:

3 basic operations (Elementary Row Operations)

1. (Replacement)

Replace 1 row by the sum of itself and a multiple of another row

2. (Interchange)

Interchange 2 rows

3. (Scaling)

Multiply all entries in a row by a nonzero constant.

example:

$$\begin{cases} x_1 + 5x_2 - 3x_3 = 1 \\ 2x_1 - x_2 = 0 \\ 7x_2 + 2x_3 = 4 \end{cases}$$

(I)

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

(II)

$$2x_1 - x_2 = 0$$

(III)

$$7x_2 + 2x_3 = 4$$

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

keep x_1 in 1st column equation. Eliminate it from all others.

$$-2(\text{I}) : \quad -2x_1 - 10x_2 + 6x_3 = -2$$

$$+ (\text{II}) : \quad 2x_1 - x_2 = 0$$

new (II)

$$-11x_2 + 6x_3 = -2$$

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

$$\neq -11x_2 + 6x_3 = -2$$

$$7x_2 + 2x_3 = 4$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 & -3 & 1 \\ 0 & -11 & 6 & -2 \\ 0 & 7 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

want coef of x_2 in 2nd row to be 1

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \text{(I)} \quad x_1 + 5x_2 - 3x_3 = 1 \\
 \text{(II)} \quad x_2 - \frac{6}{11}x_3 = \frac{2}{11} \\
 \text{(III)} \quad 7x_2 + 2x_3 = 4
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \left[
 \begin{array}{cccc}
 1 & 5 & -3 & 1 \\
 0 & 1 & -\frac{6}{11} & \frac{2}{11} \\
 0 & 7 & 2 & 4
 \end{array}
 \right]$$

eliminate x_2 from all equations except row 2

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \text{(I)} : \quad x_1 + 5x_2 - 3x_3 = 1 \\
 -5 \text{(II)} : \quad -5x_2 + \frac{30}{11}x_3 = -\frac{10}{11} \\
 \hline
 \text{new (I)} \quad x_1 - \frac{3}{11}x_3 = \frac{1}{11}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \text{(III)} : \quad 7x_2 + 2x_3 = 4 \\
 -7 \text{(II)} : \quad -7x_2 + \frac{42}{11}x_3 = -\frac{14}{11} \\
 \hline
 \text{new (III)} \quad \frac{64}{11}x_3 = \frac{30}{11}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l}
 x_1 - \frac{3}{11}x_3 = \frac{1}{11} \\
 x_2 - \frac{6}{11}x_3 = \frac{2}{11} \\
 \frac{64}{11}x_3 = \frac{30}{11}
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \left[
 \begin{array}{cccc}
 1 & 0 & -\frac{3}{11} & \frac{1}{11} \\
 0 & 1 & -\frac{6}{11} & \frac{2}{11} \\
 0 & 0 & \frac{64}{11} & \frac{30}{11}
 \end{array}
 \right]$$

want coef of x_3 in 3rd row to be 1

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \text{(I)} \quad x_1 - \frac{3}{11}x_3 = \frac{1}{11} \\
 \text{(II)} \quad x_2 - \frac{6}{11}x_3 = \frac{2}{11} \\
 \text{(III)} \quad x_3 = \frac{30}{64} = \frac{15}{32}
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \left[
 \begin{array}{cccc}
 1 & 0 & -\frac{3}{11} & \frac{1}{11} \\
 0 & 1 & -\frac{6}{11} & \frac{2}{11} \\
 0 & 0 & 1 & \frac{15}{32}
 \end{array}
 \right]$$

eliminate x_3 from all equations except row 3

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \text{(I)} : \quad x_1 - \frac{3}{11}x_3 = \frac{1}{11} = \frac{32}{352} \\
 + \frac{3}{11} \text{(III)} : \quad \frac{3}{11}x_3 = \frac{45}{352} \\
 \hline
 \text{new (I)} \quad x_1 = \frac{77}{352} = \frac{7}{32}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 \text{(II)} & : & X_2 - \frac{6}{11} X_3 = \frac{2}{11} = \frac{32}{176} \\
 + \frac{6}{11} \text{(III)} & ? & \frac{6}{11} X_3 = \frac{90}{352} = \frac{45}{176} \\
 \hline
 \text{new (II)} & & X_2 = \frac{77}{176} = \frac{7}{16}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l}
 X_1 = \frac{7}{32} \\
 X_2 = \frac{7}{16} \\
 X_3 = \frac{15}{32}
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{bmatrix}
 1 & 0 & 0 & \frac{7}{32} \\
 0 & 1 & 0 & \frac{7}{16} \\
 0 & 0 & 1 & \frac{15}{32}
 \end{bmatrix}$$

Check is this a solution? ✓

To Solve this we used Row Operations

* we can apply these row operations to any matrix

Row Equivalent - 2 matrices are row equivalent if there exist a sequence of row operations that transforms 1 matrix into the 2nd matrix

Note: all row operations are reversible

how?

3. Scaling?
2. Interchanging?
1. Replacement?

The solution sets of 2 row equivalent matrices are the same.