

$\begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & \cdots & A_{1n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ A_{m1} & \cdots & A_{mn} \end{bmatrix}$ is an $m \times n$ matrix and if $\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{bmatrix}$ is an $n \times 1$ column vector then $A\mathbf{v}$ is an $m \times 1$ column vector. The formula is

$$(A\mathbf{v})_i = A_{i1}v_1 + A_{i2}v_2 + \cdots + A_{in}v_n.$$

Rule: “Dot the i th row of A with \mathbf{v} to get the i th element of $A\mathbf{v}$.”

Geometric meaning: Multiplication by A gives a **linear map** from \mathbb{R}^n to \mathbb{R}^m .

Question: In general when can you multiply two matrices A and B ? **Answer:** When the number of columns of A equals the number of rows of B .

Rule: If A is an $m \times n$ matrix and B is an $n \times p$ matrix then AB is an $m \times p$ matrix. The ij th entry of AB is the i th row of A dot the j th column of B :

$$(AB)_{ij} = a_{i1}b_{1j} + \cdots + a_{in}b_{nj}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 i \text{ th row} & \begin{bmatrix} a_{i1} & \cdots & a_{in} \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} b_{1j} \\ \vdots \\ b_{nj} \end{bmatrix} & = & \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ \cdots (AB)_{ij} \cdots \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} & i \text{ th row} \\
 & & j \text{ th column} & & j \text{ th column} & &
 \end{array}$$

Alternative rule: If we write B as columns $B\mathbf{x} = [\mathbf{b}_1 \cdots \mathbf{b}_p]$, then $AB = [A\mathbf{b}_1 \cdots A\mathbf{b}_p]$

Example: Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$, $B = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$. Find AB

Solution:

$$AB = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1(-1) + 2 \cdot 1 & 1 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot 2 \\ 0(-1) + (-1)1 & 0 \cdot 1 + (-1)2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 \\ -1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

If it makes things easier:

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

Or using the alternative rule:

$$A\mathbf{b}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \cdot (-1) + 2 \cdot 1 \\ 0 \cdot (-1) + (-1) \cdot 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$A\mathbf{b}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot 2 \\ 0 \cdot 1 + (-1) \cdot 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Hence

$$AB = A[\mathbf{b}_1 \mathbf{b}_2] = [A\mathbf{b}_1 A\mathbf{b}_2] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 \\ -1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Theorem. If A is an $m \times n$ matrix and B is an $n \times p$ matrix and $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^p$, then

$$(AB)\mathbf{v} = A(B\mathbf{v}).$$

Geometric Interpretation: The map $\mathbf{v} \rightarrow B\mathbf{v}$ is a linear map sending $\mathbb{R}^p \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$. The map $\mathbf{w} \rightarrow A\mathbf{w}$ is a linear map sending $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$. But the composition of these maps is

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \mathbf{v} & \rightarrow & (B\mathbf{v}) & \rightarrow & A(B\mathbf{v}) \\ \mathbb{R}^p & \rightarrow & \mathbb{R}^n & \rightarrow & \mathbb{R}^m \end{array}$$

is given by multiplying \mathbf{v} by the matrix AB :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{v} & \longrightarrow & (AB)\mathbf{v} \\ \mathbb{R}^p & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{R}^m. \end{array}$$

Proof of the Theorem. We calculate $A(B\mathbf{x})$:

$$B\mathbf{x} = [\mathbf{b}_1 \cdots \mathbf{b}_p] \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = B\mathbf{x} = x_1\mathbf{b}_1 + \cdots + x_p\mathbf{b}_p.$$

and hence by linearity

$$A(B\mathbf{x}) = A(x_1\mathbf{b}_1 + \cdots + x_p\mathbf{b}_p) = x_1A\mathbf{b}_1 + \cdots + x_pA\mathbf{b}_p = [A\mathbf{b}_1 \cdots A\mathbf{b}_p] \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = (AB) \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}.$$

Warning: Rules that hold for scalar multiplication don't always hold for matrix multiplication!

Definition: The identity matrix is $I = [\delta_{ij}]$, where $\delta_{ij} = 1$ if $i = j$ and $\delta_{ij} = 0$ if $i \neq j$:

$$I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \text{in case } 4 \times 4.$$

Definition: The transpose A^T is the matrix with rows and columns interchanged, $(A^T)_{ij} = (A)_{ji}$

Example: If $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ -2 & 0 & -1 \\ 4 & 5 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ then $A^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 4 \\ 2 & 0 & 5 \\ 3 & -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$.

Quiz: Which are true? Which of these statements are true when they make sense?

Hint: think in terms of linear maps!

(a)
$$A(B + C) = AB + AC.$$

(b)
$$AB = BA.$$

(c)
$$AB = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad A = 0 \text{ or } B = 0.$$

(d)
$$AI = A.$$

(e)
$$(AB)^T = A^T B^T$$

(f)
$$(AB)^T = B^T A^T.$$

Solution (a). $B = [\mathbf{b}_1 \dots \mathbf{b}_p]$, $C = [\mathbf{c}_1 \dots \mathbf{c}_p]$ then $B + C = [\mathbf{b}_1 + \mathbf{c}_1 \dots \mathbf{b}_p + \mathbf{c}_p]$. Hence

$$A(B + C) = [A(\mathbf{b}_1 + \mathbf{c}_1) \dots A(\mathbf{b}_p + \mathbf{c}_p)] = [A\mathbf{b}_1 \dots A\mathbf{b}_p] + [A\mathbf{c}_1 \dots A\mathbf{c}_p].$$

(b). There are linear maps which do not commute. For example rotation by $\frac{\pi}{2}$ counterclockwise and reflection in the x_1 axis do not commute. In terms of matrices,

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

But

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

Why do people expect things to be commutative in math when they are not commutative in real life? It is not the same thing to first put on the shoes and then the socks as it is to first put on the socks and then the shoes?

(c). If you project onto the x -axis and then the y -axis you just get the zero map.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

(e) $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$. $(AB)^T = \left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right)^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$.

$$A^T B^T = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^T = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$B^T A^T = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$((AB)^T)_{ij} = (AB)_{ji} = A_{j1}B_{1i} + \dots + A_{jn}B_{ni} = (B^T)_{i1}(A^T)_{1j} + \dots + (B^T)_{in}(A^T)_{nj} = (B^T A^T)_{ij}.$$