

**Minqi's Solutions to the Exercises and Problems  
of Michael Artin (2011), Algebra (2nd Edition)**

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CHAPTER 1

## Matrices

### 1.1. Exercise 1.1: The Row Index and the Column Index

What are the entries  $a_{21}$  and  $a_{23}$  of the matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 5 \\ 2 & 7 & 8 \\ 0 & 9 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$ ?

ANSWER. 2 and 8. □

### 1.2. Exercise 1.2: Matrix Multiplication is not Commutative

Determine the products  $AB$  and  $BA$  for the following values of  $A$  and  $B$ :

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, B = \begin{bmatrix} -8 & -4 \\ 9 & 5 \\ -3 & -2 \end{bmatrix}; A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, B = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & -4 \\ 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

ANSWER. For the 1st pair,

$$AB = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, BA = \begin{bmatrix} -20 & -28 & -28 \\ 24 & 33 & 32 \\ -9 & -12 & -11 \end{bmatrix}.$$

For the 2nd pair,

$$AB = \begin{bmatrix} 18 & 4 \\ 12 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, BA = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 16 \\ 5 & 16 \end{bmatrix}.$$

□

### 1.3. Exercise 1.3: Row $\times$ Column and Column $\times$ Row

Let  $A = [a_1 \ \dots \ a_n]$  be a row vector, and let  $B = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ \vdots \\ b_n \end{bmatrix}$  be a column vector.

Compute the products  $AB$  and  $BA$ .

ANSWER.

$$AB = a_1b_1 + a_2b_2 + \dots + a_nb_n.$$

$$BA = \begin{bmatrix} b_1a_1 & b_1a_2 & \dots & b_1a_n \\ b_2a_1 & b_2a_2 & \dots & b_2a_n \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ b_na_1 & b_na_2 & \dots & b_na_n \end{bmatrix}.$$

□

**1.4. Exercise 1.4: Matrix Multiplication is Associative**

Verify the associative law for the matrix product  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ .

ANSWER.

$$\left( \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \right) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 & 8 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 38 \\ 14 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 14 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 38 \\ 14 \end{bmatrix}$$

□

**1.5. Exercise 1.5: The Number of Multiplications Required to Multiply 3 Matrices**

Let  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$  be matrices of size  $l \times m$ ,  $m \times n$  and  $n \times p$ . How many multiplications are required to compute the product  $AB$ ? In which order should the triple product  $ABC$  be computed, so as to minimize the number of multiplications required?

ANSWER.  $AB$  has  $l \times n$  entries, each in need of  $m$  multiplications. Therefore  $l \times m \times n$  multiplications are required to compute the product  $AB$ .

There are 2 ways to compute  $ABC$ :

- (1) Compute  $(AB)C$  with  $l \times m \times n + l \times n \times p$  multiplications;
- (2) Compute  $A(BC)$  with  $m \times n \times p + l \times m \times p$  multiplications.

Therefore,

- (1) If  $lmn + lnp > mnp + lmp$ , the product  $ABC$  should be computed in the order of  $A(BC)$ .
- (2) If  $lmn + lnp < mnp + lmp$ , the product  $ABC$  should be computed in the order of  $(AB)C$ .
- (3) Otherwise, both orders are equally good.

□

**1.6. Exercise 1.6:  $2 \times 2$  Upper Triangular Matrices**

Compute  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & a \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & b \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & a \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^n$ .

ANSWER.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & a \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & b \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & a+b \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & a \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^n = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & na \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

□

**1.7. Exercise 1.7:  $3 \times 3$  Upper Triangular Matrices**

Find a formula for  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ & 1 & 1 \\ & & 1 \end{bmatrix}^n$ , and prove it by induction.

PROOF. We claim that,

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ & 1 & 1 \\ & & 1 \end{bmatrix}^n = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & n & \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \\ & 1 & n \\ & & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Set  $n = 2$  and we can verify it by showing that,

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ & 1 & 1 \\ & & 1 \end{bmatrix}^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ & 1 & 2 \\ & & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & \frac{2*(2+1)}{2} \\ & 1 & 2 \\ & & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Now suppose that there exists some  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}, n_0 \geq 2$  such that,

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ & 1 & 1 \\ & & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{n_0} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & n_0 & \frac{n_0(n_0+1)}{2} \\ & 1 & n_0 \\ & & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

It follows that,

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ & 1 & 1 \\ & & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{n_0+1} &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & n_0 & \frac{n_0(n_0+1)}{2} \\ & 1 & n_0 \\ & & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ & 1 & 1 \\ & & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & n_0+1 & \frac{n_0(n_0+1)}{2} + n_0+1 \\ & 1 & n_0+1 \\ & & 1 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Note that,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{n_0(n_0+1)}{2} + n_0+1 &= \frac{n_0(n_0+1)}{2} + \frac{2n_0}{2} + \frac{2}{2} \\ &= \frac{n_0(n_0+1) + 2n_0 + 2}{2} \\ &= \frac{n_0(n_0+1) + 2(n_0+1)}{2} \\ &= \frac{(n_0+2)(n_0+1)}{2} \\ &= \frac{(n_0+1)((n_0+1)+1)}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore the equation holds for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq 2$ . □

**1.8. Exercise 1.8: Block Multiplications**

Compute the following products by block multiplications:

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 1 & 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right] \left[ \begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right], \left[ \begin{array}{c|cc} 0 & 1 & 2 \\ \hline 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] \left[ \begin{array}{c|cc} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \hline 4 & 2 & 3 \\ 5 & 0 & 4 \end{array} \right]$$

ANSWER.

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left[ \begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 1 & 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right] \left[ \begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right] \\
= & \left[ \frac{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}}{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}} \left| \frac{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}}{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}} \right] \\
& = \left[ \begin{array}{cc|cc} 2 & 8 & 6 & 17 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 4 \\ \hline 1 & 3 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 \end{array} \right] \\
& \left[ \begin{array}{c|cc} 0 & 1 & 2 \\ \hline 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] \left[ \begin{array}{c|cc} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \hline 4 & 2 & 3 \\ 5 & 0 & 4 \end{array} \right] \\
= & \left[ \frac{0 * 1 + (1 \ 2) \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}}{\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} * 1 + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} * \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}} \left| \frac{0 * (2 \ 3) + (1 \ 2) \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix}}{\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} * (2 \ 3) + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix}} \right] \\
& = \left[ \begin{array}{cc|cc} 14 & 2 & 11 \\ \hline 4 & 2 & 3 \\ 8 & 6 & 13 \end{array} \right].
\end{aligned}$$

□

**1.9. Exercise 1.9: Laws of Matrix Operations**Let  $A, B$  be square matrices.

- (a) When is  $(A + B)(A - B) = A^2 - B^2$ ?  
 (b) Expand  $(A + B)^3$ .

ANSWER. (a) When  $BA = AB$ .

- (b)  $(A + B)^3 = A^3 + ABA + BAA + BBA + AAB + ABB + BAB + B^3$ .

□

**1.10. Exercise 1.10: Multiplications with Diagonal Matrices**

Let  $D$  be the diagonal matrix with diagonal entries  $d_1, \dots, d_n$ , and let  $A = (a_{ij})$  be an arbitrary  $n \times n$  matrix. Compute the products  $DA$  and  $AD$ .

ANSWER.

$$\begin{aligned}
DA &= \begin{bmatrix} d_1 a_{11} & d_1 a_{12} & \dots & d_1 a_{1n} \\ d_2 a_{21} & d_2 a_{22} & \dots & d_2 a_{2n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ d_n a_{n1} & d_n a_{n2} & \dots & d_n a_{nn} \end{bmatrix}, \\
AD &= \begin{bmatrix} d_1 a_{11} & d_2 a_{12} & \dots & d_n a_{1n} \\ d_1 a_{21} & d_2 a_{22} & \dots & d_n a_{2n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ d_1 a_{n1} & d_2 a_{n2} & \dots & d_n a_{nn} \end{bmatrix}.
\end{aligned}$$



