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A solution of system of linear matrix equations by matrix of matrices

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Abstract: It is well-known that the matrix equations play an important role in engineering and applied sciences. In this paper, we define and study a system of linear matrix equations. Also, we define the notions of vector of matrices (for short, VMs), linearly dependent, independent VMs and rank of the matrix of matrices (for short, MMs) which introduced recently by Kishka and et al. [1,2]. We propose three methods for computing the solution of this system.

Keywords: MMs, system of linear matrix equations, rank of MMs

1 Introduction

In recent years, several articles are written about the system of matrix equations. Mitra [3], first study the system

$$A_1 X B_1 = C_1,$$

$$A_2 X B_2 = C_2,$$

over the complex number \mathbb{C} . Many authors contributed to this system (see [4,5,6,7,8,9,10]). To instance, in 1987, Van der Woude investigated this system over a field. In 1996, Wang studied the system over an arbitrary division ring. Kiska et al. (cf. [1,2]) introduced the concept of MMs which provide the possibility of extending the many topics of matrices in addition to saving time and speed in the work of many mathematical calculations. Our fundamental outcomes,

define a linear system of matrix equations, and we introduce several methods to solve this system. The remainder of this article is organized as follows:

In section 2, we present the notions of VMs, linearly dependent, linearly independent VMs and rank of MMs. Section 3, is devoted to show some methods for computing the solution of linear system of matrix equations. The conclusion is reported in section 4.

Throughout this paper, the following notations are used:

Let \mathbb{K} be an arbitrary field and $M_l(\mathbb{K})$ be the set of all $l \times l$ matrices over \mathbb{K} , $M'_l(\mathbb{K}) \subset M_l(\mathbb{K})$ be commutative ring I and O stand for the identity matrix and the zero matrix in $M_l(\mathbb{K})$, respectively. We denote by $\mathscr{M}_{m \times n}(M_l(\mathbb{K}))$ the set of all $m \times n$ MMs over $M_l(\mathbb{K})$, the elements of $\mathscr{M}_{m \times n}(M_l(\mathbb{K}))$ are denoted by $\mathscr{A}, \mathscr{B}, \mathscr{C}, \mathscr{D}, \mathscr{G}, ...$ etc. Now, it is useful to define MMs and the system of linear matrix equations.

Definition 1.[2] Let $\mathscr{A} \in \mathscr{M}_{m \times n}(M_l(\mathbb{K}))$, then it can be written as a rectangular table of elements A_{ij} ; i = 1, 2, ..., m and j = 1, 2, ..., n, as follows:

$$\mathscr{A} = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & \dots & A_{1n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ A_{m1} & \dots & A_{mn} \end{pmatrix}.$$

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The system of *m* matrix equations in *n* unknowns defined as follows:

$$A_{11}X_{1} + \dots + A_{1n}X_{n} = B_{1}, A_{21}X_{1} + \dots + A_{2n}X_{n} = B_{2}, \vdots A_{m1}X_{1} + \dots + A_{mn}X_{n} = B_{m},$$
(1.1)

where A_{ij} , X_i and $B_j \in M_l(\mathbb{K})$, i = 1, 2, ..., n, j = 1, 2, ..., m, and A_{ij} are called the coefficients, X_i are variables, and B_j are scalars matrices called the constants.

We can write the above system (1.1) in the form

$$\mathscr{AX} = \mathscr{B},\tag{1.2}$$

by using the concept MMs.

Remark. It is said that system of matrix equations that homogeneous if $B_i = O$, where O is zero matrix. Otherwise called non-homogeneous.

Definition 2.*Two systems of matrices equations involving the same matrices of variables are said to be equivalent if they have the same solution set.*

Theorem 1. Any system of matrix equations has one of the following exclusive conclusions:

- (1) No solution.
- (2) Unique solution.
- (3) Infinitely many solutions.

Before presenting solution of the system of the linear matrix equations, it is useful to introduce a few notations.

2 Basic points

In this section, we introduce a definition for VMs, linearly dependent, linearly independent VMs and rank of MMs. Also, we show the type of solution.

Definition 3.*Let* $M_l(\mathbb{K})$ *be a ring with unity, then the set*

$$\mathscr{V}^{n} = \{ (A_{1}, A_{2}, ..., A_{n}) : A_{1}, A_{2}, ..., A_{n} \in M_{l} (\mathbb{K}) \},\$$

is called VMs.

Definition 4. *The set of n VMs is linearly independent if*

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n} E_k \mathscr{V}_k = \mathscr{V}_0,$$

and $E_k = O$, where $\mathscr{V}_k = (A_{kj})$, $\mathscr{V}_0 = (O_{1,k}) \in \mathscr{M}_{1 \times n}(M_l(\mathbb{K}))$, $O, E_k \in M_l(\mathbb{K})$ and k = 1, 2, ..., n. If one of $E_k \neq O$, then n VMs is linearly dependent.

Definition 5.Let $\mathscr{A} = (A_{ij}) \in \mathscr{M}_{m \times n}(M_l(\mathbb{K}))$, then

$$rank\left(\mathscr{A}\right) = \max_{1 \le j \le n} \{rank\left(A_{1j}\right)\} + \dots + \max_{1 \le j \le n} \{rank\left(A_{pj}\right)\}$$
$$= \sum_{i=1}^{p} \max_{1 \le j \le n} \{rank\left(A_{ij}\right)\},$$

where p denoted the number of linear independent rows.

If the augmented MMs ($\mathscr{A}|\mathscr{B}$) is obtained from (1.2), then we have the following properties

(1)If $rank(\mathscr{A}) = rank(\mathscr{A}|\mathscr{B}) = \rho$, then the system has a unique solution.

(2) If $rank(\mathscr{A}) = rank(\mathscr{A}|\mathscr{B}) < \rho$, then the system has ∞ -many solutions.

(3) If $rank(\mathscr{A}) < rank(\mathscr{A}|\mathscr{B})$, then the system has no solution.

Where ρ is the number of rows in \mathscr{X} product size of elements.



3 Solve the system of the linear matrix equations

In this section, we introduce some methods to solve the system of the linear matrix equations.

3.1 The inverse MMs method

In this subsection, we use the inverse of MMs to solve the system of the linear matrix equations. We consider $M'_{l}(\mathbb{K})$ be commutative matrices, and $\mathscr{A} \in \mathscr{M}_{n}\left(M'_{l}(\mathbb{K})\right)$, $\mathscr{B} \in \mathscr{M}_{n \times 1}\left(M'_{l}(\mathbb{K})\right)$ and $\mathscr{X} \in \mathscr{M}_{n \times 1} \left(M'_{l}(\mathbb{K}[x]) \right).$ Furthermore, we consider the system,

$$\mathscr{AX} = \mathscr{B}$$

then the solution of this system is

$$\mathscr{X} = \mathscr{A}^{-1}\mathscr{B}.$$

Example 1.Let

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} X_1 + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} X_2 = I_2,$$
$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 6 \\ 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} X_1 + \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} X_2 = O_2,$$
where $X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \\ x_3 & x_4 \end{pmatrix}, X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 & y_2 \\ y_3 & y_4 \end{pmatrix}, I_2 \text{ and } O_2 \in M'_2(\mathbb{K}), \text{ then}$

$$rank(\mathscr{A}) = rank(\mathscr{A}|\mathscr{B}) = 4,$$

so the system has a unique solution. Since the inverse ${\mathscr A}$

$$\mathscr{A}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\frac{9}{7} \\ -\frac{3}{7} & \frac{4}{7} \end{pmatrix} & \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{7} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{7} \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{7} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{2}{7} \end{pmatrix} & \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{7} & -\frac{3}{7} \\ -\frac{1}{7} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix},$$

then the solution is

$$\mathscr{X} = \begin{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\frac{9}{7} \\ -\frac{3}{7} & \frac{4}{7} \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{7} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{2}{7} \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Example 2.Let

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 0 & 4 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix} X_1 + \begin{pmatrix} 10 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 10 \\ 0 & 8 & 2 \end{pmatrix} X_2 = O_3,$$
$$\begin{pmatrix} 12 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 3 & 10 \\ 0 & 8 & 4 \end{pmatrix} X_1 + I_3 X_2 = I_3,$$
where $X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} x_{11} & x_{12} & x_{13} \\ x_{21} & x_{22} & x_{23} \\ x_{31} & x_{32} & x_{33} \end{pmatrix}, X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} y_{11} & y_{12} & y_{13} \\ y_{21} & y_{22} & y_{23} \\ y_{31} & y_{32} & y_{33} \end{pmatrix}, I_3 \text{ and } O_3 \in M'_3(\mathbb{K}), \text{ then}$

$$rank(\mathscr{A}) = rank(\mathscr{A}|\mathscr{B}) = 6$$



then the solution is



so the system has a unique solution. Since the inverse \mathscr{A}

$$\mathscr{A}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1407}{167276} - \frac{170}{17608} & \frac{8}{167276} \\ -\frac{51}{334552} - \frac{545}{35216} & \frac{2143}{334552} \\ -\frac{43}{334552} & \frac{35216}{35216} - \frac{4753}{334552} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{7035}{83638} - \frac{109}{8804} & \frac{714}{1819} \\ \frac{225}{167276} - \frac{905}{17608} & \frac{11885}{83638} \\ \frac{153}{167276} & \frac{1755}{17608} & \frac{21627}{83638} \\ \frac{153}{83638} - \frac{175}{35216} & -\frac{167276}{167276} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{391}{4819} & -\frac{135}{41819} \\ -\frac{41819}{8804} & -\frac{41819}{41819} \\ -\frac{765}{83638} & -\frac{2340}{41819} \\ -\frac{645}{41819} & -\frac{755}{17608} & \frac{487}{41819} \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix}$$

3.2 Gaussian elimination on MMs

Gaussian elimination method is the standard method for solving linear equations (see [11]). In this subsection, we offer Gaussian elimination method in the case of MMs to solve the system of the linear matrix equations. Now, we introduce elementary row operations and row echelon forms.

Definition 6.*There are three kinds of elementary row operations on matrices:*

(a)Adding a multiple of one row to another row;(b)Multiplying all entries of one row by a nonzero matrix constant;(c)Interchanging two rows.

Definition 7.*A MMs is in row echelon form when it satisfies the following conditions:*

(i)The first non-zero matrix element in each row, called the leading entry, is identity matrix.
(ii)Each leading entry is in a column to the right of the leading entry in the previous row.
(iii)Rows with all zero matrix elements, if any, are below rows having a non-zero matrix element.

Definition 8.*A MMs is in reduced row echelon form when it satisfies the following conditions:*

(*i*)*The MMs is in row echelon form (i.e., it satisfies the three conditions listed above).* (*ii*)*The leading entry in each row is the only non-zero matrix entry in its column.*

Example 3. Applying the Gaussian elimination method on the same Example 1, it follows that

$$\begin{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} & \vdots & I_{2} \\ \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 6 \\ 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} & \vdots & O_{2} \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}^{-1} r_{1}} \\ \begin{pmatrix} I_{2} & \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} \end{pmatrix} & \vdots & \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -\frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 6 \\ 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} & \vdots & O_{2} \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{-\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 6 \\ 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} r_{1} + r_{2}} \\ \begin{pmatrix} I_{2} & \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} \end{pmatrix} & \vdots & \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -\frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} \end{pmatrix} \\ O_{2} & \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -7 \\ 0 & -7 \\ -\frac{7}{3} & -\frac{7}{3} \end{pmatrix} & \vdots & \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -2 \\ -\frac{2}{3} & -\frac{2}{3} \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -7 \\ -\frac{7}{3} & -\frac{7}{3} \end{pmatrix}} \xrightarrow{r_{2}} r_{2}$$





$$\begin{pmatrix} I_2 & O_2 & \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 8 \\ \frac{10}{9} & \frac{-4}{9} \end{pmatrix} \vdots & \begin{pmatrix} -4 & 7 \\ \frac{1}{9} & \frac{2}{9} \\ 0_2 & I_2 & \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{7}{9} & -\frac{35}{9} \\ -\frac{7}{9} & -\frac{14}{9} \end{pmatrix} \vdots & \begin{pmatrix} \frac{20}{9} & -\frac{32}{9} \\ \frac{8}{9} & \frac{14}{9} \\ -\frac{7}{9} & \frac{-87}{9} \\ 0_2 & O_2 & I_2 & \vdots \begin{pmatrix} \frac{223}{3} & -\frac{787}{3} \\ -\frac{151}{9} & \frac{263}{3} \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{- \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 8 \\ \frac{10}{9} & -\frac{4}{9} \end{pmatrix} r_3 + r_2 \\ - \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{7}{9} & -\frac{35}{9} \\ -\frac{7}{9} & -\frac{14}{9} \end{pmatrix} r_3 + r_2 \\ \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} I_2 & O_2 & O_2 \vdots \begin{pmatrix} \frac{592}{-\frac{281}{3}} & \frac{992}{3} \\ -\frac{281}{992} & \frac{992}{3} \end{pmatrix} \\ O_2 & I_2 & O_2 \vdots \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{227}{2} & \frac{400}{3} \\ -\frac{151}{9} & \frac{263}{3} \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix} \\ O_2 & O_2 & I_2 \vdots \begin{pmatrix} \frac{223}{-\frac{151}{9}} & -\frac{787}{3} \\ -\frac{151}{9} & \frac{263}{3} \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix} ,$$
so $X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{592}{-\frac{281}{3}} & -\frac{2083}{992} \\ -\frac{281}{3} & \frac{992}{3} \end{pmatrix}, X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{227}{176} & \frac{400}{3} \\ \frac{176}{9} & -\frac{623}{9} \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } X_3 = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{223}{-\frac{151}{9}} & -\frac{787}{3} \\ -\frac{151}{9} & \frac{263}{3} \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix}.$

Example 5.Let

$$I_2X_1 + 2 I_2X_2 = O_2,$$

 $3 I_2X_1 + 4 I_2X_2 = O_2,$

where $X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \\ x_3 & x_4 \end{pmatrix}$, $X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 & y_2 \\ y_3 & y_4 \end{pmatrix}$, I_2 and $O_2 \in M_2(\mathbb{K})$, then the system has ∞ -many solutions.

Example 6.Let

$$I_{2}X_{1} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} X_{2} + I_{2}X_{3} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} X_{1} + O_{2}X_{2} + 2I_{2}X_{3} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

where $X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \\ x_3 & x_4 \end{pmatrix}$, $X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 & y_2 \\ y_3 & y_4 \end{pmatrix}$, $X_3 = \begin{pmatrix} z_1 & z_2 \\ z_3 & z_4 \end{pmatrix}$, I_2 and $O_2 \in M_2(\mathbb{K})$, then the system has no solution.

3.3 Crammer's rule on MMs

In this subsection, we give Crammer's rule on MMs and use them in solving system of linear matrix equations.

Throughout this subsection, we consider $M'_{l}(\mathbb{K}) \subset M_{l}(\mathbb{K})$ be commutative matrices, and $\mathscr{A} \in \mathscr{M}_{n}\left(M'_{l}(\mathbb{K})\right)$, $\mathscr{B} \in \mathscr{M}_{n \times 1}\left(M'_{l}(\mathbb{K})\right)$ and $\mathscr{X} \in \mathscr{M}_{n \times 1}\left(M'_{l}(\mathbb{K}(x))\right)$ and let \mathscr{A}_{i} be the MMs obtained from \mathscr{A} by replacing the *ith* column of \mathscr{A} by the column vector \mathscr{B} . Furthermore, let

$$D = \det \mathscr{A}, N_1 = \det \mathscr{A}_1, ..., N_n = \det \mathscr{A}_n.$$

The fundamental relationship between determinants and the solution of the system $\mathscr{AX} = \mathscr{B}$ will be given in the following theorem.

Theorem 2. The square system $\mathscr{A} \mathscr{X} = \mathscr{B}$ has a solution if and only if D is non-singular. In this case, the unique solution is given by

$$X_i = D^{-1}N_i, i \in \{1, 2, ...n\}.$$

Proof. The (square) system $\mathscr{A}\mathscr{X} = \mathscr{B}$ has a unique solution if and only if \mathscr{A} is invertible, and \mathscr{A} is invertible if and only if $D = \det \mathscr{A}$ is non-singular. Now suppose D non-singular, then $\mathscr{A}^{-1} = D^{-1}adj\mathscr{A}$. Multiplying $\mathscr{A}\mathscr{X} = \mathscr{B}$ by \mathscr{A}^{-1} , we obtain

$$\mathscr{X} = \mathscr{A}^{-1}\mathscr{A}\mathscr{X} = D^{-1}(adj\mathscr{A})\mathscr{B}.$$
(3.1)

Note that the *i*th row of $\frac{1}{D}(adj\mathscr{A})$ is $\frac{1}{D}(\mathscr{A}_{1i},\mathscr{A}_{2i},...,\mathscr{A}_{ni})$. If $\mathscr{B} = (B_1, B_2, ..., B_n)^t$, then by (3.1),

$$X_i = D^{-1} \left(B_1 \mathscr{A}_{1i} + B_2 \mathscr{A}_{2i} + \dots + B_n \mathscr{A}_{ni} \right)$$



However, $B_1 \mathscr{A}_{1i} + B_2 \mathscr{A}_{2i} + ... + B_n \mathscr{A}_{ni} = N_i$, the determinant of the matrix obtained by replacing the *i*th column of \mathscr{A} by the column vector \mathscr{B} . Thus,

$$X_i = D^{-1} N_i.$$

Example 7. Applied Theorem 2 in Example 1

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} X_1 + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} X_2 = I_2,$$
$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 6 \\ 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} X_1 + \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} X_2 = O_2,$$

where $X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \\ x_3 & x_4 \end{pmatrix}$, $X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 & y_2 \\ y_3 & y_4 \end{pmatrix}$, then

$$D = \det \mathscr{A} = \det \begin{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 6 \\ 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -7 & -21 \\ -7 & -14 \end{pmatrix},$$

and

$$N_{X_1} = \det \begin{pmatrix} I_2 & \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \\ O_2 & \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

also

$$N_{X_2} = \det \begin{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} I_2 \\ \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 6 \\ 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} O_2 \end{pmatrix} = - \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 6 \\ 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix},$$

the unique solution is given by

$$X_1 = D^{-1} N_{X_1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\frac{9}{7} \\ -\frac{3}{7} & \frac{4}{7} \end{pmatrix}, \ X_2 = D^{-1} N_{X_2} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{7} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{2}{7} \end{pmatrix}.$$

4 Conclusion

In this work, we have introduced a definition for VMs, linearly dependent, independent VMs and rank of the MMs. Also, the system of the linear matrix equations are solved by using some methods. It is worthy to ensure that when we write the above matrix linear equations in the case of systems of linear equations whose coefficients are the scalar number instead of matrices and solve any system by using the classical methods we shall obtain the same results but we shall need a lot of papers and time.

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