

# 5.4.16

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## Question:

Using elementary transformations, find the inverse of the following matrix.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 5 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

**Solution:** Given

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 5 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1)$$

Let  $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$  be the inverse of  $\mathbf{A}$ . Then

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \mathbf{I} \quad (2)$$

Augmented matrix of  $(\mathbf{A} \mid \mathbf{I})$  is given by

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 2 & 5 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right) \quad (3)$$

Perform the elementary row operation  $R_2 \rightarrow 2R_2 - R_1$  to eliminate the first column entry of  $R_2$ :

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 2 & 5 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{R_2 \rightarrow 2R_2 - R_1} \left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 2 & 5 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 2 \end{array} \right) \quad (4)$$

Now eliminate the 5 above the (2,2) pivot by  $R_1 \rightarrow R_1 - 5R_2$ :

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 2 & 5 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 2 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{R_1 \rightarrow R_1 - 5R_2} \left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 2 & 0 & 6 & -10 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 2 \end{array} \right) \quad (5)$$

Finally make the leading entry of  $R_1$  unity by  $R_1 \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}R_1$ :

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 2 & 0 & 6 & -10 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 2 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{R_1 \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}R_1} \left( \begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 0 & 3 & -5 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 2 \end{array} \right) \quad (6)$$

Hence the inverse of the matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 5 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$  is

$$\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -5 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$