

Lecture # 7

INVERSE OF A MATRIX

We know that real number 1 is an identity element under multiplication of a set of real numbers because for any real number a , $a \cdot 1 = 1 \cdot a = a$. In this section, an **Identity matrix** I is defined that has properties similar to those of the number 1 in the set of real numbers. This identity matrix is then used to find the multiplicative inverse of any square matrix provided it exists.

Definition: If A and B be two square matrices of same order and $AB = I = BA$, then matrices A and B are called multiplicative inverse of each other and are usually denoted by $A = B^{-1}$ and $B = A^{-1}$.

Similarly, if A and B are any two matrices of the same order and $A + B = O$, then B is called additive inverse of the matrix A and vice versa. This is denoted by $B = -A$ or $A = -B$.

Further note that if A and I are square matrices of order n , then $A \cdot I = I \cdot A = A$.

Similarly, if A and O are matrices of same order (not necessarily the square matrices) then, $A + O = O + A = A$. I and O are therefore called identity matrices under multiplication and addition respectively.

In this section we shall discuss the process of finding the multiplicative inverse of a square matrix, because finding the additive inverse of any matrix is straight forward.

NOTE:

- i. Only the square matrices may have multiplicative inverses.
- ii. The symbol A^{-1} (A - inverse) does not mean $1/A$ or I/A . The symbol is just the notation for the inverse of matrix A because there is no such thing as matrix division.
- iii. The order of multiplicative inverse of a square matrices (if it exists) will be same as that of the matrix A .

Theorem: Prove that if the inverse of a square matrix exists then it will be unique.

Definition: The square matrix A , whose inverse A^{-1} exists, is called **non-singular or invertible matrix**. Square matrices which do not have inverses are called **singular matrices**.

Theorem: If A and B are invertible matrices, so does the AB and that $(AB)^{-1} = B^{-1}A^{-1}$

1.9.1 Inverse of a Matrix Through Elementary Row Operations

A matrix obtained from the identity matrix by a single elementary row operation is called an *elementary matrix*. Thus elementary matrices are obtained

- (i) By interchanging any two rows of the identity matrix (R_{ij}).
- (ii) By multiplying a row of the identity matrix by a scalar (kR_i).
- (iii) From the identity matrix by adding a row after multiplying it by a scalar, into another row

($R_i + kR_j$).

Thus if $I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$, then $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$, $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$, $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -7 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

are elementary matrices obtained respectively (i) by adding R_2 of I in R_1 (ii) by multiplying R_3 of I by -3 (iii) by multiplying R_1 of I by -7 and adding the result in the R_2 .

Consider the matrix $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -3 & 1 \\ 5 & -1 & -2 \\ 3 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$. Let B be a matrix obtained from A by interchanging first

and third rows of A , that is, $B = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & 4 \\ 5 & -1 & -2 \\ 2 & -3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ and let E be a matrix obtained from I_3 by

interchanging first and third rows of I_3 , that is, $E = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$. We notice that

$$EA = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & 4 \\ 5 & -1 & -2 \\ 2 & -3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = B$$

Thus a matrix B obtained from a matrix A through an elementary row operation can also be obtained by applying the same row operations on I and then multiplying the resultant elementary matrix E with A . It can be verified that the square matrix A is row equivalent to B if and only if there exists elementary matrices E_1, E_2, \dots, E_r such that $E_r \cdot E_{r-1} \cdots E_2 \cdot E_1 \cdot A = B$. If $B = I$, then

$$E_r \cdot E_{r-1} \cdots E_2 \cdot E_1 \cdot I = A^{-1}$$

Thus, we deduce that:

If a square matrix A is reducible to an identity matrix I by a sequence of elementary row operations then A^{-1} may be obtained by applying the same sequence of elementary row operations on I .

EXAMPLE 01: Find the inverse of the following matrices by using elementary row operations:

$$(i) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 2 & 4 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, (ii) \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 & -3 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 4 & -2 & 5 \end{bmatrix}, (iii) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, (iv) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(v) \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 5 & 2 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solution:

(i)

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{Given matrix} & \text{Identity matrix } (I_3) \\ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 2 & 4 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} R_2 + (-2)R_1, R_3 + (-1)R_1 \\ = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 4 & -5 \\ 0 & 3 & -3 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} R_2 + (-1)R_3, \left(-\frac{1}{3}\right)R_3 \\ = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1/3 & 0 & -1/3 \end{bmatrix} (-1)R_3 \\ = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & -1 \\ 2/3 & -1 & 4/3 \end{bmatrix} R_1 + (-3)R_3, R_2 + 2R_3 \\ = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3 & -4 \\ 1/3 & -1 & 5/3 \\ 2/3 & -1 & 4/3 \end{bmatrix} \end{array}$$

Hence the inverse of the given matrix is $A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3 & -4 \\ 1/3 & -1 & 5/3 \\ 2/3 & -1 & 4/3 \end{bmatrix}$. Verify $A A^{-1} = I$

(ii)

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{Given matrix} & \text{Identity matrix } (I_3) \\ \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 & -3 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 4 & -2 & 5 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} R_2 + 2R_1, R_3 + 4R_1 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 & -3 \\ 0 & 5 & -6 \\ 0 & 6 & -7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 4 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} (-1)R_1, R_3 + (-1)R_2 \\ \\ \end{matrix} \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 3 \\ 0 & 5 & -6 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} R_{23} \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 5 & -6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} R_1 + 2R_2, R_3 + (-5)R_2 \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -2 & 2 \\ 2 & -1 & 1 \\ -8 & 6 & -5 \end{bmatrix} R_1 + R_3, R_2 + (-1)R_3, (-1)R_3 \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -5 & 4 & -3 \\ 10 & -7 & 6 \\ 8 & -6 & 5 \end{bmatrix}
\end{aligned}$$

Hence the inverse of the given matrix is $A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} -5 & 4 & -3 \\ 10 & -7 & 6 \\ 8 & -6 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$.

Students are advised to verify that $AA^{-1} = A^{-1}A = I$.

$$\begin{aligned}
&\text{Given matrix} \quad \text{Identity matrix } (I_3) \\
\text{(iii)} \quad &\begin{bmatrix} i & -1 & 2i \\ 2 & 0 & 2 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} R_{13} \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 \\ i & -1 & 2i \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} (-1)R_1, R_{23} \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ i & -1 & 2i \\ 2 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} R_2 + (-i)R_1, R_3 + (-2)R_1 \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 3i \\ 0 & 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 & i \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)R_3, (-1)R_2 \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & -3i \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & -1 \\ -1 & 0 & -i \\ 0 & 1/4 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix} R_1 + R_3, R_2 + 3iR_3 \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1/4 & -1/2 \\ -1 & 3/4 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 1/4 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix}
\end{aligned}$$

Hence the inverse of the given matrix is $A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1/4 & -1/2 \\ -1 & 3/4 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 1/4 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix}$.

(iv)

$$\begin{array}{cc} \text{Given matrix} & \text{Identity matrix } (I_5) \\ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 7 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} R_5 + (-3)R_4 \\ \\ = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} R_4 + (-2)R_5 \end{array}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 7 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Hence the inverse of the given matrix is $A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 7 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

(v)

$$\begin{array}{cc} \text{Given Matrix} & \text{Identity Matrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 5 & 2 & -3 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} R_3 + (-2)R_1 \\ \\ = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -2 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} R_{13} \\ \\ = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} R_3 + (-2)R_1 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 0 & 1 \\ -5 & 1 & 2 \\ 5 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix} R_3 + (-1)R_2 \\
 &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 0 & 1 \\ -5 & 1 & 2 \\ 10 & -1 & -4 \end{bmatrix} R_2 + R_3 \\
 &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 8 & -1 & -3 \\ -5 & 1 & 2 \\ 10 & -1 & -4 \end{bmatrix}
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence the inverse of the given matrix is $\begin{bmatrix} 8 & -1 & -3 \\ -5 & 1 & 2 \\ 10 & -1 & -4 \end{bmatrix}$.

Students are advised to verify that $A A^{-1} = A^{-1} A = I$.