

Step-1

(a)

The square matrix A has independent columns.

The pseudo-inverse of A with independent columns is $A^+ = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T$

It is a left inverse of A as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} A^+ A &= (A^T A)^{-1} A^T A \\ &= (A^T A)^{-1} (A^T A) \\ &= I \end{aligned}$$

Further,

$$\begin{aligned} A^+ &= (A^T A)^{-1} A^T \\ &= A^{-1} A^{-T} A^T \\ &= A^{-1} I \\ &= A^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the left inverse $(A^T A)^{-1} A^T$ is A^+ .

Step-2

As the square matrix A has independent columns, the columns of A span the entire vector space \mathbf{R}^n .

But for a matrix, its row rank is equal to its column rank.

Therefore, the rows of A too span the entire vector space \mathbf{R}^n .

This indicates that $x^+ = A^+ b$ is in the row space.

Now verify the following:

$$\begin{aligned} (A^T A) x^+ &= (A^T A) (A^+ b) \\ &= (A^T A) \left[(A^T A)^{-1} A^T \right] b \\ &= (A^T A) \left[A^{-1} (A^T)^{-1} A^T \right] b \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= A^T (AA^{-1}) \left[(A^T)^{-1} A^T \right] b \\
&= A^T \cdot I \cdot I \cdot b \\
&= A^T b
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, $A^T Ax^* = A^T b$.

Step-3

(b)

The square matrix A has independent rows.

Therefore, the rows of A span the entire vector space \mathbf{R}^n .

In this case, the right inverse of A is given by,

$$A^+ = A^T (AA^T)^{-1} \quad \text{This can be verified as follows:}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
AA^+ &= AA^T (AA^T)^{-1} \\
&= (AA^T) (AA^T)^{-1} \\
&= I
\end{aligned}$$

Further,

$$\begin{aligned}
A^+ &= A^T (AA^T)^{-1} \\
&= A^T (A^{-T} A^{-1}) \\
&= (A^T A^{-T}) A^{-1} \\
&= I A^{-1} \\
&= A^{-1}
\end{aligned}$$

Step-4

Let $x^* = A^+ b$, then $x^* = A^T (AA^T)^{-1} b$.

Obviously, x^* is in the row space, because A^T multiplied by any vector has to be in the row space.

Now verify the following:

$$\begin{aligned}
A^T A x^* &= (A^T A) \left[A^T (A A^T)^{-1} b \right] \\
&= (A^T A) \left[A^T \cdot (A^T)^{-1} A^{-1} \right] b \\
&= (A^T A) \left[A^T \cdot (A^T)^{-1} \right] A^{-1} b
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= (A^T A) \cdot I \cdot A^{-1} b \\
&= A^T (A A^{-1}) b \\
&= A^T \cdot I \cdot b \\
&= A^T b
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, $A^T A x^* = A^T b$