

## Step-1

Consider the matrices,

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & 0 \\ f & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} a & b & 0 \\ c & d & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & e \end{bmatrix}$$

The objective is to determine the conditions on the entries such that  $A$  and  $B$  are invertible.

## Step-2

An  $n \times n$  square matrix is invertible if and only if elimination yields the same number of pivots as rows.

Do elimination on  $A$  and  $B$  and see the conditions on their entries such that we get a pivot in every row.

Do elimination on matrix  $A$ :

Consider the matrix,

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & 0 \\ f & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Observe that, if  $f = 0$ , then the third row is all zeros and there can never be a third pivot.

So for matrix  $A$  is invertible it must be the case that  $f \neq 0$ . This implies that there is a pivot in the first column; to make the pivot occur at  $f$ , switch rows 1 and 3.

$$\begin{bmatrix} f & 0 & 0 \\ d & e & 0 \\ a & b & c \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - \frac{d}{f} R_1$$

$$R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - \frac{a}{f} R_1$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} f & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e & 0 \\ 0 & b & c \end{bmatrix}$$

If  $e = 0$  the second row is all zero, means that there can never be a pivot in that row.

Thus, for matrix  $A$  is invertible it must be the case that  $e \neq 0$ . This implies that there is a pivot in the second column.

### Step-3

Eliminate entry below  $e$  by subtracting  $\frac{b}{e}$  times row 2 from row 3.

$$\begin{bmatrix} f & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c \end{bmatrix}$$

We already know there are pivots in the first two rows; there will be a pivot in the third row only if  $c \neq 0$ . Thus, for matrix  $A$  is invertible it must be the case that  $c \neq 0$ .

Therefore, the conditions on entries of matrix  $A$  such that  $A$  is invertible are:

$$\boxed{c \neq 0, e \neq 0, f \neq 0}$$

### Step-4

Do elimination on matrix  $B$ :

Consider the matrix,

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} a & b & 0 \\ c & d & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & e \end{bmatrix}$$

Observe that, if  $e = 0$ , then the third row is all zeros and there can never be a third pivot.

So, for matrix  $B$  is invertible it must be the case that  $e \neq 0$ .

### Step-5

To have a pivot in the first column, then either  $a$  or  $c$  must be nonzero.

If  $a$  is nonzero, we can eliminate  $c$  by subtracting  $\frac{c}{a}$  times row 1 from row 2.

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b & 0 \\ 0 & d - \frac{c}{a}b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & e \end{bmatrix}$$

Then, to have a pivot the second row, it must be the case that,

$$d - \frac{c}{a}b \neq 0$$

This implies,

$$ad - bc \neq 0$$

## Step-6

On the other hand, if  $c \neq 0$ , we can switch row 1 and 2 to get,

$$\begin{bmatrix} c & d & 0 \\ a & b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & e \end{bmatrix}$$

Eliminate  $a$  by subtracting  $\frac{a}{c}$  times row 1 from row 2.

$$\begin{bmatrix} c & d & 0 \\ 0 & b - \frac{a}{c}d & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & e \end{bmatrix}$$

Then, to have a pivot the second row, it must be the case that,

$$b - \frac{a}{c}d \neq 0$$

This implies,

$$bc - ad \neq 0$$

Therefore, to matrix  $B$  invertible, either  $a \neq 0$  and  $ad - bc \neq 0$ , or,  $c \neq 0$  and  $bc - ad \neq 0$ .

## Step-7

Note that,  $ad - bc \neq 0$  is equivalent to  $bc - ad \neq 0$ , and this inequality required that either  $a$  or  $c$  is nonzero (if both were zero then the left hand side would be zero).

Hence the simplified conditions under which matrix  $B$  is invertible are:

$$\boxed{ad - bc \neq 0 \text{ and } e \neq 0}$$