

## Section 2.2

In this section we discuss the inverse of a matrix  $A$

The concept is similar to the multiplicative inverse of a real number

For  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\frac{1}{c} = c^{-1}$  is the multiplicative inverse because

$I_{n \times n}$

$$c \cdot c^{-1} = c^{-1} \cdot c = I$$

order doesn't matter

identity element for multiplication

For certain matrices a similar concept (inverse) exists.

**Def:** A square  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  is **invertible** if there exists some matrix  $C$  such that:

$$CA = A C = I_{n \times n} \quad \star$$

Thoughts: Everything has to be square,  $n \times n$ , otherwise dimensions won't match up for either  $CA$  or  $AC$

**Def:** A matrix  $C$  such that  $AC = CA = I_{n \times n}$  is called **inverse of  $A$**

Thoughts: The inverse of  $A$  is unique. Why?

Imagine  $B, C$  are both inverses of  $A$ . Then:

$$AB = I_{n \times n}$$

$$\Rightarrow \rightarrow C(A B) = C(I_{n \times n})$$

$$\Rightarrow (CA)B = C \leftarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow I_{n \times n} B = C$$

$$\Rightarrow B = C$$

### Notation / Terminology:

- Will denote inverse of  $A$  as  $A^{-1}$
- An invertible matrix may also be called non-singular
- A non-invertible matrix may also be called singular square

### Calculating the inverse

Theorem 4 of section 2.2 gives formulae for special case of a  $2 \times 2$  matrix.

**Thm** Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$ . If  $(ad - bc) \neq 0$  then  $A$  invertible and

$$A^{-1} = \frac{1}{ad - bc} \begin{bmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{bmatrix}$$

If  $ad - bc = 0$  then  $A$  not invertible

I have never bothered using above formula.

I prefer more general method which works for any size matrix. But need to build up to it.

**Def:** An elementary matrix is one obtained by performing a single row operation on the identity matrix. (Usually denoted  $E$ )

$$Ex: \quad E = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Added 3 (1<sup>st</sup> row)  
to the 3<sup>rd</sup> row

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

When we multiply a matrix  $A$  by an elementary matrix, it has effect of performing row operation on  $A$ .

Elementary matrix is a way to represent a row operation

Ex:  $\begin{matrix} E \\ A \end{matrix}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 4 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 6 & 7 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

\* Note \* Order matters! Always put most recent elementary matrix on left

We can easily undo any of our basic row operations. If we think of the inverse of matrix as something that "cancels out" then seems obvious that every elementary matrix  $E$  has inverse  $E^{-1}$

Ex:  $\rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  Represents row operation of adding 3 (row 1) to row 3

How would we undo that?

Subtract back 3 (row 1) from row 3

$$\rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -3 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Let's check. Should be able to multiply either order and get  $I_{3 \times 3}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -3 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \checkmark$$

Brings us to our theorem / method for finding general inverses

**Theorem:** An  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  is invertible if and only if it is row equivalent to  $I_{n \times n}$ . And in this case a sequence of row operations that transforms  $A$  into  $I_{n \times n}$  also

transforms  $I_{nn}$  into  $A^{-1}$ .

### The method

Glue matrix  $A$  and  $I_{nn}$  together

Ex:  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \swarrow$

↓

$$\rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 2 & 4 & 4 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] \quad \text{Now row reduce until left side is } I_{nn}.$$

$$E_2 \sim \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 1 & 2 & 2 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

$$E_3 \sim \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 1 & 2 & 2 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -\frac{1}{2} & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

$$E_3 \sim \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 1 & 2 & 2 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -\frac{1}{2} & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

$$E_3 \sim \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 1 & 2 & 0 & \frac{3}{2} & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -\frac{1}{2} & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

$$E_3 \sim \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -\frac{1}{2} & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] \swarrow \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Left side is now } I_{nn} \\ \text{Right side should be } A^{-1} \end{array}$$

$\underbrace{I_{3 \times 3}}_{A^{-1}}$

Check

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \checkmark$$
$$A \quad A^{-1} = I$$

Why it works:

Assume  $A$  is row equivalent to  $I_{n \times n}$ . This means there are elementary matrices  $E_1, \dots, E_k$  s.t.

$$\underbrace{E_k \dots E_1}_{} A = I_{n \times n} \quad \underline{BA = I}$$

These multiplied together are just some matrix  $B$   
So have  $BA = I$

$$\star \quad E_k \dots E_1 A = I_{n \times n} \quad \text{Each } E \text{ is invertible}$$

*Multiply on left by inverses*

$$E_1^{-1} \dots E_k^{-1} E_k \dots E_1 A = E_1^{-1} \dots E_k^{-1} I_{n \times n}$$

$$A = E_1^{-1} \dots E_k^{-1}$$

Now multiply on right by  $E$ 's.

$$A E_k \dots E_1 = E_1^{-1} \dots E_k^{-1} E_k \dots E_1$$

$$A \underbrace{E_k \dots E_1}_{} = I_{n \times n}$$

This is some  
matrix  $B$  as  
before

So have a matrix  $B$  s.t.

$$AB = BA = I_{n \times n}$$

This fits definition of inverse.  $B = A^{-1}$ .

**Theorem:** If  $A$  is invertible  $n \times n$  matrix then for each  $\underline{b} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , equation  $A\underline{x} = \underline{b}$  has unique solution  $\underline{x} = A^{-1}\underline{b}$

**Thoughts:** By above,  $A\underline{x}$  is one-to-one and onto.

**Ex:** Use inverse to solve system

$$\begin{cases} 3x_1 + 4x_2 = 3 \\ 5x_1 + 6x_2 = 7 \end{cases} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 5 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|cc} 3 & 4 & 1 & 0 \\ 5 & 6 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[ \begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 0 & -3 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{5}{3} & -\frac{1}{2} \end{array} \right] \quad \begin{bmatrix} -3 & 2 \\ \frac{5}{3} & -\frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Theorem:** ① If  $A$  invertible, then so is  $A^{-1}$  and  $(A^{-1})^{-1} = A$

② If  $A, B$  invertible  $n \times n$  matrices then so is  $AB$  and  $(AB)^{-1} = B^{-1}A^{-1}$

③ If  $A$  is an invertible matrix, so is  $A^T$  and  $(A^T)^{-1} = (A^{-1})^T$

Theorem: Product of  $n \times n$  invertible matrices is  
invertible and

$$(A_1 \dots A_n)^{-1} = A_n^{-1} \dots A_1^{-1}$$