

Bachelor of Computer Application

Computational Mathematics

LECTURE 18 NOTES

Transpose of a Matrix



- **Transpose of Matrix**

- The new matrix obtained by interchanging the rows and columns of the original matrix is known as the transpose of the matrix.
- If $A = [a_{ij}]$ be an $m \times n$ matrix, then the matrix obtained by interchanging the rows and columns of A would be the transpose of A . It is denoted by A' or (A^T) .
- In other words, if $A = [a_{ij}]_{m \times n}$, then $A' = [a_{ji}]_{n \times m}$.

- **Example:** $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -5 \\ 4 & \frac{7}{2} \\ 9 & \frac{5}{8} \end{bmatrix}$ $A' = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 & 9 \\ -5 & \frac{7}{2} & \frac{5}{8} \end{bmatrix}$

- **Properties of Transpose of the Matrices**

- **PROPERTY 1:** For any matrix A , $(A^T)^T = A$
- **Proof:**
Let $A = [a_{ij}]$ be an $m \times n$ matrix. Then, A^T is a $n \times m$ matrix and so $(A^T)^T$ is an $m \times n$ matrix. Thus, the matrices A and $(A^T)^T$ are of the same order such that

$$((A^T)^T)_{ij} = (A^T)_{ji} \quad \text{[by the definition of transpose]}$$

$$\Rightarrow ((A^T)^T)_{ij} = (A^T)_{ji} \text{ for all } i=1, 2, \dots, m \text{ and } j=1, 2, \dots, n$$

Hence, by the definition of equality of two matrices, we obtain

$$(A^T)^T = A$$

- **PROPERTY 2:** For any two matrices A and B of the same order, $(A+B)^T = A^T + B^T$

- **Proof:**

Let $A = [a_{ij}]_{m \times n}$ and $B = [b_{ij}]_{m \times n}$. Then, $A+B$ will be a matrix of the order $m \times n$ and so $(A+B)^T$ will be a matrix of order $n \times m$. Since A^T and B^T are both $n \times m$ matrices.

Therefore, $A^T + B^T$ will be a matrix of the order $n \times m$. Thus, the matrices $(A+B)^T$ and $A^T + B^T$ are of the same order such that

$$\Rightarrow ((A+B)^T)_{ij} = (A+B)_{ji} \quad [\text{By the definition of transpose}]$$

$$\Rightarrow ((A+B)^T)_{ij} = a_{ji} + b_{ji} \quad [\text{By the definition of addition}]$$

$$\Rightarrow ((A+B)^T)_{ij} = (A^T)_{ij} + (B^T)_{ij}$$

$$\Rightarrow ((A+B)^T)_{ij} = (A^T + B^T)_{ij} \quad \text{for all } i, j \quad [\text{By the definition of addition}]$$

Hence, by the definition of equality of two matrices, we obtain

$$(A+B)^T = A^T + B^T$$

- **PROPERTY 3:** If A is a matrix and K is a scalar, then $(kA)^T = k(A)^T$

- **Proof:**

Let $A = [a_{ij}]$ be an $m \times n$ matrix. Then, for any scalar k, kA is also an $m \times n$ matrix and so $(kA)^T$ is an $n \times m$ matrix. Again, A^T is an $n \times m$ matrix and so KA^T is an $n \times m$ matrix. Thus, the two matrices $(kA)^T$ and KA^T are of the same order such that

$$((kA)^T)_{ij} = (kA)_{ji} \quad [\text{By the definition of transpose}]$$

$$\Rightarrow ((kA)^T)_{ij} = k a_{ji} \quad [\text{By the definition of scalar multiplication}]$$

$$\Rightarrow ((KA)^T)_{ij} = k(A^T)_{ij} \quad [\text{By the definition of transpose}]$$

$$\Rightarrow ((KA)^T)_{ij} = (KA^T)_{ij} \quad [\text{By the definition of scalar multiplication}]$$

Hence, by the definition of equality of two matrices, we obtain

$$(kA)^T = k(A)^T$$

- **PROPERTY 4:** If A and B are two matrices such that AB is defined, then $(AB)^T = B^T A^T$.

- **Proof:**

Let $A = [a_{ij}]_{m \times n}$ and $B = [b_{ij}]_{n \times p}$ be two matrices. Then AB is an $m \times p$ matrix and therefore $(AB)^T$ is a $p \times m$ matrix.

Since A^T and B^T are $n \times m$ and $p \times n$ matrices, therefore $B^T A^T$ is a $p \times m$ matrix. Thus, the two matrices $(AB)^T$ and $B^T A^T$ are of the same order such that

$$((AB)^T)_{ij} = (AB)_{ji} \quad \text{[By the definition of transpose]}$$

$$\Rightarrow ((AB)^T)_{ij} = \sum_{r=1}^n a_{jr} b_{ri} \quad \text{[By the definition of matrix multiplication]}$$

$$\Rightarrow ((AB)^T)_{ij} = \sum_{r=1}^n b_{ri} a_{jr} \quad \text{[By commutativity of multiplication of numbers]}$$

$$\Rightarrow ((AB)^T)_{ij} = \sum_{r=1}^n (B^T)_{ir} (A^T)_{rj} \quad \text{[By definition of transpose]}$$

$$\Rightarrow ((AB)^T)_{ij} = (B^T A^T)_{ij} \quad \text{[By definition of multiplication of matrices]}$$

Hence, by the definition of equality of two matrices, we obtain

$$(AB)^T = B^T A^T.$$

❖ EXAMPLES:

- We now state the following properties of transpose of matrices without proof. These may be verified by taking suitable examples.
- For any matrices A and B of suitable orders, we have
- (i) $(A')' = A$, (ii) $(kA)' = kA'$ (where k is any constant) (iii) $(A + B)' = A' + B'$ (iv) $(A B)' = B' A'$

- **Example 1:** If $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & \sqrt{3} & 2 \\ 4 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ and $B = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$ verify that

(i) $(A')' = A$, (ii) $(A + B)' = A' + B'$, (iii) $(kB)' = kB'$, where k is any constant.

- **Solution:**

(i) We have,

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & \sqrt{3} & 2 \\ 4 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow A' = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ \sqrt{3} & 2 \\ 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow (A')' = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & \sqrt{3} & 2 \\ 4 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = A$$

(ii) We have $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & \sqrt{3} & 2 \\ 4 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ and $B = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\Rightarrow A + B = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & \sqrt{3} & 2 \\ 4 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & \sqrt{3} - 1 & 4 \\ 5 & 4 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Therefore } (A + B)' = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 5 \\ \sqrt{3} - 1 & 4 \\ 4 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Now, } A' = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ \sqrt{3} & 2 \\ 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, B' = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -1 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{so } A' + B' = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 5 \\ \sqrt{3} - 1 & 4 \\ 4 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Thus $(A + B)' = A' + B'$

(iii) We have

$$kB = K \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2k & -k & 2k \\ k & 2k & 4k \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Then, } (KB)' = \begin{bmatrix} 2k & k \\ -k & 2k \\ 2k & 4k \end{bmatrix} = k \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -1 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = kB'$$

$$\text{Thus, } (kB)' = kB'$$

▪ **Example 2:** If $A = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ and $B = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & -1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$, verify that $(AB)^T = B^T A^T$.

▪ **Solution:**

We have,

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } B = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & -1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\therefore AB = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -2 & -1 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 4 \\ -4 & -2 & -8 \\ -6 & -3 & -12 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow (AB)^T = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -4 & -6 \\ 1 & -2 & -3 \\ 4 & -8 & -12 \end{bmatrix} \dots\dots\dots(i)$$

$$\text{Also, } B^T A^T = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & -1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}^T = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -4 & -6 \\ 1 & -2 & -3 \\ 4 & -8 & -12 \end{bmatrix} \dots\dots\dots(ii)$$

- **Example 3** If $A = \begin{bmatrix} \cos\theta & -\sin\theta \\ \sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{bmatrix}$, then find the values of θ satisfying the equation $A^T + A = I_2$.

- **Solution:** We have,

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \cos\theta & -\sin\theta \\ \sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow A^T = \begin{bmatrix} \cos\theta & \sin\theta \\ -\sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Now, } A^T + A = I_2$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \cos\theta & \sin\theta \\ -\sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \cos\theta & -\sin\theta \\ \sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2\cos\theta & 0 \\ 0 & 2\cos\theta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2\cos\theta = 1 \Rightarrow \cos\theta = \cos\frac{\pi}{3} \Rightarrow \theta = 2n\pi \pm \frac{\pi}{3}, n \in \mathbb{Z}$$

- **Example 4** If $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & -2 \\ a & 2 & b \end{bmatrix}$ is a matrix satisfying $AA^T = 9I_3$, then find the values of a and b .

- **Solution:**

We have,

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & -2 \\ a & 2 & b \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow A^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & a \\ 2 & 1 & -2 \\ 2 & -2 & b \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\therefore AA^T = 9I_3$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & -2 \\ a & 2 & b \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & a \\ 2 & 1 & -2 \\ 2 & -2 & b \end{bmatrix} = 9 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 9 & 0 & a+2b+4 \\ 0 & 9 & 2a+2-2b \\ a+2b+4 & 2a+2-2b & a^2+4+b^2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 9 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 9 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow a+2b+4=0, 2a+2-2b=0 \text{ and } a^2+4+b^2=9$$

$$\Rightarrow a+2b+4=0, a-b+1=0 \text{ and } a^2+b^2=5$$

Solving, $a+2b+4=0$ and $a-b+1=0$, we get: $a=-2$ and $b=-1$.

- **Example 5** Find the values of x, y, z if the matrix $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2y & z \\ x & y & -z \\ x & -y & z \end{bmatrix}$, satisfy the equation $A^T A = I_3$

- **Solution:**

We have,

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2y & z \\ x & y & -z \\ x & -y & z \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow A^T = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & x & x \\ 2y & y & -y \\ z & -z & z \end{bmatrix}$$

It is given that,

$$A^T A = I_3$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0 & x & x \\ 2y & y & -y \\ z & -z & z \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2y & z \\ x & y & -z \\ x & -y & z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2x^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 6y^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3z^2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2x^2=1, 6y^2=1, 3z^2=1$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, y = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}, z = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$$

❖ **EXERCISE:**

1. Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ -7 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$ and $B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & -4 \end{bmatrix}$, verify that.

(i) $(2A)^T$ (ii) $(A+B)^T = A^T + B^T$

(iii) $(A-B)^T = A^T - B^T$ (iv) $(AB)^T = B^T A^T$

2. If $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ and $B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$, verify that $(AB)^T = B^T A^T$.

3. If $A^T = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ and $B = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$, find $A^T - B^T$.

4. If $A = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \alpha & \sin \alpha \\ -\sin \alpha & \cos \alpha \end{bmatrix}$, then verify that $A^T A = I_2$

5. If $A = \begin{bmatrix} \sin \alpha & \cos \alpha \\ -\cos \alpha & \sin \alpha \end{bmatrix}$, verify that $A^T A = I_2$

- **Symmetric and Skew-Symmetric Matrices**

- **Definition:** A square matrix $A = [a_{ij}]$ is said to be symmetric if $A' = A$, that is, $[a_{ij}] = [a_{ji}]$ for all possible values of i and j .

- **For example,** $\begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{3} & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & -1.5 & -1 \\ 3 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ is a symmetric matrix as $A' = A$.

- **Definition:** A square matrix $A = [a_{ij}]$ is said to be skew symmetric matrix if $A' = -A$, that is $a_{ji} = -a_{ij}$ for all possible values of i and j . Now, if we put $i = j$, we have $a_{ii} = -a_{ii}$. Therefore $2a_{ii} = 0$ or $a_{ii} = 0$ for all i 's.

This means that all the diagonal elements of a skew symmetric matrix are zero.

- **For example,** the matrix $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & e & f \\ e & 0 & g \\ -f & -g & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ is a skew symmetric matrix as $B' = -B$

❖ **THEOREMS:**

- **Theorem 1:** For any square matrix A with real number entries, $A + A'$ is a symmetric matrix and $A - A'$ is a skew symmetric matrix.

- **Proof:**

Let $B = A + A'$, then

$$\begin{aligned} B' &= (A + A')' \\ &= A' + (A')' \text{ (as } (A + B)' = A' + B') \\ &= A' + A \text{ (as } (A')' = A) \\ &= A + A' \text{ (as } A + B = B + A) \\ &= B \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $B = A + A'$ is a symmetric matrix

Now let

$$\begin{aligned} C &= A - A' \\ C' &= (A - A')' = A' - (A')' \text{ (Why?)} \\ &= A' - A \text{ (Why?)} \\ &= -(A - A') = -C \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $C = A - A'$ is a skew symmetric matrix.

- **Theorem 2:** Any square matrix can be expressed as the sum of a symmetric and a skew symmetric matrix.
- **Proof:**
Let A be a square matrix, then we can write

$$A = \frac{1}{2}(A + A^T) + \frac{1}{2}(A - A^T)$$

From the Theorem 1, we know that $(A + A')$ is a symmetric matrix and $(A - A')$ is a skew symmetric

matrix. Since for any matrix A, $(kA)' = kA'$, it follows that $\frac{1}{2}(A + A^T)$ is symmetric matrix

and $\frac{1}{2}(A - A^T)$ is skew symmetric matrix. Thus, any square matrix can be expressed as the

sum of a symmetric and a skew symmetric matrix.

❖ EXAMPLES:

- **Example 1:**
Show that the elements on the main diagonal of a skew-symmetric matrix are all zero.

- **Solution:**

Let $A = [a_{ij}]$ be a skew-symmetric matrix. Then,

$$a_{ij} = -a_{ji} \text{ for all } i, j \quad \text{[By definition]}$$

$$\Rightarrow a_{ii} = -a_{ii} \text{ for all values of } i$$

$$\Rightarrow 2 a_{ii} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a_{ii} = 0 \text{ for all values of } i$$

$$\Rightarrow a_{11} = a_{22} = a_{33} = \dots = a_{nn} = 0$$

- **Example 2:** Express the matrix $B = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -2 & -4 \\ -1 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & -2 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$ as the sum of a symmetric and a skew symmetric matrix.

- **Solution:**

Here,

$$B^T = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -2 & -4 \\ -1 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & -2 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Let } P = \frac{1}{2}(B + B^T) = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -3 & -3 \\ -3 & 6 & 2 \\ -3 & 2 & -6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -\frac{3}{2} & -\frac{3}{2} \\ -\frac{3}{2} & 3 & 1 \\ -\frac{3}{2} & 1 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Now, } P^T = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -\frac{3}{2} & -\frac{3}{2} \\ -\frac{3}{2} & 3 & 1 \\ -\frac{3}{2} & 1 & -3 \end{bmatrix} = P$$

Thus, $P = \frac{1}{2}(B + B^T)$ is a symmetric matrix.

$$\text{Also, let } Q = \frac{1}{2}(B - B^T) = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & -5 \\ 1 & 0 & -3 \\ -3 & 2 & -6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{5}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 3 \\ \frac{5}{2} & -3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Then } Q^T = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{5}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 3 \\ \frac{5}{2} & -3 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = -Q$$

Thus, $Q = \frac{1}{2}(B - B^T)$ is a skew symmetric matrix.

$$\text{Now, } P + Q = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -\frac{3}{2} & -\frac{3}{2} \\ -\frac{3}{2} & 3 & 1 \\ -\frac{3}{2} & 1 & -3 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{5}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 3 \\ \frac{5}{2} & -3 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -2 & -4 \\ -1 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & -2 & -3 \end{bmatrix} = B$$

- **Example 3:** Let A be a square matrix. Then,

- (i) $A + A^T$ is a symmetric matrix
- (ii) $A - A^T$ is a skew-symmetric matrix.
- (iii) AA^T and $A^T A$ are symmetric matrices.

- **Solution:**

- (i) Let $P = A + A^T$. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} P^T &= (A + A^T)^T = A^T + (A^T)^T \\ P^T &= A^T + A \\ P^T &= A + A^T = P \end{aligned}$$

addition]

P is a symmetric matrix.

$$\begin{aligned} [\because (A+B)^T &= A^T + B^T] \\ [\because (A^T)^T &= A] \\ &[\text{By commutativity of matrix}] \end{aligned}$$

- (ii) Let $Q = A - A^T$. Then,
- $$\begin{aligned} Q^T &= (A - A^T)^T = A^T - (A^T)^T \\ Q^T &= A^T - A \\ Q^T &= -(A - A^T) = -Q \end{aligned}$$
- Q is skew-symmetric

$$\begin{aligned} [\because (A+B)^T &= A^T + B^T] \\ [\because (A^T)^T &= A] \end{aligned}$$

- (iii) We have,
- $$\begin{aligned} (AA^T)^T &= (A^T)^T A^T \\ (AA^T)^T &= AA^T \end{aligned}$$
- AA^T is symmetric
- Similarly, it can be proved that $A^T A$ is symmetric.

$$\begin{aligned} &[\text{By reversal law}] \\ &[\because (A^T)^T = A] \end{aligned}$$

- **Example 4:** Show that all positive integral powers of a symmetric matrix are symmetric.

- **Solution:** Let A be a symmetric matrix and $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Then,

$$A^n = \underbrace{AAA \dots A}_{\text{n-times}}$$

$$\Rightarrow (A^n)^T = (\underbrace{AAA \dots A}_{\text{n-times}})^T$$

$$\Rightarrow (A^n)^T = \underbrace{(A^T A^T A^T \dots A^T)_{\text{n-times}}} \quad [\text{By reversal law}]$$

$$\Rightarrow (A^n)^T = (A^T)^n = A^n \quad [\because A^T = A]$$

Hence, A^n is also a symmetric matrix.

▪ **Example 5:**

Show that positive odd integral powers of a skew-symmetric matrix are skew-symmetric and positive even integral powers of a skew-symmetric matrix are symmetric.

▪ **Solution:**

Let A be a skew-symmetric matrix. Then, $A^T = -A$.

We have, $(A^n)^T = (A^T)^n$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

$$\therefore (A^n)^T = (-A)^n$$

$$\Rightarrow (A^n)^T = (-1)^n A^n$$

$$\Rightarrow (A^n)^T = \begin{cases} A^n & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \\ -A^n & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

Hence, A^n is symmetric if n is even and skew-symmetric if n is odd.

- **Example 6:** A matrix which is both symmetric as well as skew-symmetric is a null matrix.

▪ **Solution:**

Let $A = [a_{ij}]$ a matrix which is both symmetric and skew-symmetric.

Now, $A = [a_{ij}]$ is a symmetric matrix

$$\Rightarrow a_{ij} = a_{ji} \text{ for all } i, j \quad \dots\dots(i)$$

Also, $A = [a_{ij}]$ is a skew-symmetric matrix.

$$\therefore a_{ij} = -a_{ji} \text{ for all } i, j$$

$$\Rightarrow a_{ji} = -a_{ij} \text{ for all } i, j \quad \dots\dots(ii)$$

From (i) and (ii), we obtain

$$a_{ij} = -a_{ij} \text{ for all } i, j$$

$$\Rightarrow 2a_{ij} = 0 \text{ for all } i, j$$

- \Rightarrow $a_{ij} = 0$ for all i, j
- \Rightarrow $A = [a_{ij}]$ is a null matrix

◆ **EXERCISE:**

- 1:** If $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$, prove that $A - A^T$ is a skew symmetric matrix.
- 2:** If $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -4 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$, prove that $A - A^T$ is a skew symmetric matrix.
- 3:** If the matrix $A = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 2 & x \\ y & z & -3 \\ 4 & t & -7 \end{bmatrix}$ is a symmetric matrix, find x, y, z and t .
- 4:** Express the matrix $A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 & -1 \\ 3 & 5 & 7 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ as the sum of a symmetric and a skew-symmetric matrix.
- 5:** Define a symmetric matrix. Prove that for $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ 5 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$, $A + A^T$ is a symmetric matrix where A^T is the transpose of A .
- 6:** Express the matrix $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -4 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$ as the sum of a symmetric and a skew-symmetric matrix.

