

Q6. We define left inverse of a matrix A to be any matrix X such that $XA = I$.

Note that if $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, then $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$, where I is the $n \times n$ identity matrix.

The left inverse of a matrix exists iff the columns of the matrix are linearly independent.

(a) $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ For this matrix, since there is only 1 column, and it is not all zeros, the columns are linearly independent trivially. Thus, left inverse exists for this matrix A .

Let X be a left-inverse of A .

$$\text{So, } XA = I$$

Now take another matrix Y , such that,

$$YA = 0,$$

then the family of left-inverses can be written as ~~$X + \alpha Y$~~ $X + \alpha Y$ ($\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$).

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Because } (X + \alpha Y)A &= XA + \alpha YA \\ &= I + 0 = I. \end{aligned}$$

In this case to find out X , let's consider

$$X = [x_1 \ x_2 \ x_3 \ x_4 \ x_5]$$

$$XA = I \Rightarrow x_1 + x_4 = 1 \Rightarrow x_4 = 1 - x_1$$

Thus X is of the form $[x_1, x_2, x_3, 1 - x_1, x_5]$ where $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_5 \in \mathbb{R}$.

Now, assume $Y = [y_1 \ y_2 \ y_3 \ y_4 \ y_5]$

$$YA = 0 \Rightarrow y_1 + y_4 = 0 \Rightarrow y_4 = -y_1.$$

So, Y is of the form $[y_1 \ y_2 \ y_3 \ -y_1 \ y_5]$

Then, the family of left inverses $X + \alpha Y$ is :-

$$[x_1 + \alpha y_1 \ x_2 + \alpha y_2 \ x_3 + \alpha y_3 \ 1 - x_1 - \alpha y_1 \ x_5 + \alpha y_5]$$

Thus, in this case, we can characterize all left-inverses.

$$(b) \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 \\ 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

To show columns of A are linearly independent :-

$$\alpha \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + \beta \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2\alpha = 0, \quad -2\beta = 0, \quad 3\alpha + 3\beta = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha = \beta = 0.$$

Thus, columns of A are linearly independent.

Similar to the previous case, if X is a left inverse of A , then, if we find a Y such that $YA = 0$, then the set of all left-inverses will be $X + \alpha Y$ ($\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$).

$$\text{Consider } X = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_3 & x_5 \\ x_2 & x_4 & x_6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow XA = I \quad \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_3 & x_5 \\ x_2 & x_4 & x_6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 \\ 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2x_1 + 3x_5 = 1, \quad -2x_3 + 3x_5 = 0$$

$$\text{So, } x_5 = \frac{1-2x_1}{3}, \quad x_3 = \frac{1-2x_1}{2}$$

$$\text{and, } 2x_2 + 3x_6 = 0, \quad -2x_4 + 3x_6 = 1$$

$$\text{So, } x_6 = \frac{-2x_2}{3}, \quad x_4 = \frac{-1-2x_2}{2}$$

$$\text{So, } x = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & \frac{1-2x_1}{2} & \frac{1-2x_1}{3} \\ x_2 & \frac{-1-2x_2}{2} & \frac{-2x_2}{3} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{To get } Y = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 & y_3 & y_5 \\ y_2 & y_4 & y_6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$YA = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} y_1 & y_3 & y_5 \\ y_2 & y_4 & y_6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 \\ 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solving this, we get,

$$Y = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 & -y_1 & \frac{-2y_1}{3} \\ y_2 & -y_2 & \frac{-2y_2}{3} \end{bmatrix}$$

So, the family of all left-inverses $X + \alpha Y$ can be characterized as:-

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 + \alpha y_1 & \frac{1-2x_1}{2} - \alpha y_1 & \frac{1-2x_1 - 2\alpha y_1}{3} \\ x_2 + \alpha y_2 & \frac{-1-2x_2}{2} - \alpha y_2 & \frac{-2x_2 - 2\alpha y_2}{3} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2, \alpha \in \mathbb{R}.$$