

5.4.1

ADUDOTLA SRIVIDYA-EE25BTECH11006

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Question

Using elementary transformations, find the inverse of the following matrix.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ -4 & -6 \end{pmatrix}$$

Theoretical Solution

using row reductions:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ -4 & -6 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \rightarrow \frac{R_2}{-2}} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1)$$

$$R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - R_1 \implies \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2)$$

since one row becomes zero, the matrix cannot be reduced to the identity matrix

Hence, the given matrix is **not invertible**.

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