# Section 6.3 Orthogonal Matrices

7. A is a square matrix below, please find  $A^{-1}$  by the given method.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -3 & 6 \\ 6 & 6 & 2 \\ -12 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Method:** If A and D are square matrices, D is diagonal, and AD is orthogonal, then  $A^{-1} = D^2 A^T$ 

## Answer:

Name the column vectors of A are  $\vec{a}_1, \vec{a}_2, \vec{a}_3$ . Notice that  $\{\vec{a}_1, \vec{a}_2, \vec{a}_3\}$  is orthogonal and  $\|\vec{a}_1\| = 14, \|\vec{a}_2\| = 7, \|\vec{a}_3\| = 7$ , hence  $\{\frac{\vec{a}_1}{14}, \frac{\vec{a}_2}{7}, \frac{\vec{a}_3}{7}\}$  is orthonormal.

$$AD = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -3 & 6 \\ 6 & 6 & 2 \\ -12 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1/14 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/7 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/7 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{7} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -3 & 6 \\ 3 & 6 & 2 \\ -6 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$
is an orthogonal matrix.

$$A^{-1} = D^2 A^T \begin{bmatrix} 1/196 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/49 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/49 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 6 & -12 \\ -3 & 6 & 2 \\ 6 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{49} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3/2 & -3 \\ -3 & 6 & 2 \\ 6 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

21. Let A be an orthogonal matrix. Show that  $A^2$  is an orthogonal matrix, too.

#### Answer:

A be an orthogonal matrix, i.e.  $A^TA = I$ .  $(A^2)^T = (AA)^T = A^TA^T = (A^T)^2$ . Therefore  $(A^2)^T(A^2) = A^TA^TAA = A^T(A^TA)A = A^TIA = A^TA = I$ . We have  $A^2$  is an orthogonal matrix.

23. Find a  $2 \times 2$  matrix with determinant 1 that is not an orthogonal matrix.

# Answer:

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

$$\det(A) = 1$$
, but  $A^T A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \neq I$ 

31. Let A and C be orthogonal  $n \times n$  matrices. Show that  $CAC^{-1}$  is orthogonal.

## Answer:

A and C be orthogonal matrices, i.e.  $A^TA=C^TC=I.$  We also know that  $C^{-1}=C^T,$  i.e.  $CAC^{-1}=CAC^T$ 

$$\begin{split} (CAC^T)^T(CAC^T) &= (C^T)^TA^TC^TCAC^T = CA^TC^TCAC^T = CA^T(C^TC)AC^T \\ &= CA^TIAC^T = C(A^TA)C^T = CIC^T = (C^TC)^T = I^T = I. \end{split}$$

We have  $CAC^T = CAC^{-1}$  is orthogonal.