

Math 290 ELEMENTARY LINEAR ALGEBRA
REVIEW OF LECTURES – III

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§3. MATRIX ARITHMETIC — I. INVERSE OF A MATRIX.

- Today's agenda: Matrix arithmetic. Ready? Do you guys remember the following from Day 1?

$$(*) \quad \boxed{\begin{cases} 4x + 3y = 5, \\ 2x - 6y = -7 \end{cases}} \quad \begin{array}{c} \iff \\ \text{"equivalent"} \end{array} \quad \boxed{\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 3 \\ 2 & -6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ -7 \end{bmatrix}}$$

This means that the box on the right is a mere paraphrase of the box on the left. I want you to focus on the one in the right. Let's give names for the objects in sight:

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 3 \\ 2 & -6 \end{bmatrix}}_{\parallel} \quad \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}}_{\parallel} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ -7 \end{bmatrix}}_{\parallel}$$

$A \quad \mathbf{x} \quad \mathbf{b}$

So the equation is basically

$$\boxed{A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}.}$$

Not for nothing, let's pretend that, in this last equation, all the letters are numbers. How would you solve it for \mathbf{x} (the unknown)? Yes. Just like

$$3x = 1 \quad \begin{array}{c} \implies \\ \text{solve} \end{array} \quad x = \frac{1}{3} = 3^{-1},$$

$$\pi x = \sqrt{2} \quad \begin{array}{c} \implies \\ \text{solve} \end{array} \quad x = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\pi} = \pi^{-1} \cdot \sqrt{2},$$

we would solve $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ as

$$\text{“ } \mathbf{x} = \frac{\mathbf{b}}{A} \text{ ”}$$

or

$$\text{“ } \mathbf{x} = A^{-1}\mathbf{b} \text{ ”},$$

with quote-unquote “ ”. However, in reality, A is not a number. A is a matrix. So the division $\frac{\mathbf{b}}{A}$ does not make sense as it stands. But we might still be able to make sense of A^{-1} , as a matrix, in such a way that $\mathbf{x} = A^{-1}\mathbf{b}$ is indeed the correct answer for the equation.

- Let’s cut to the chase again: I hereby share the following information:

The fraction $\frac{\mathbf{b}}{A}$ does not quite make sense. However, good news:
 A^{-1} makes sense, as a 2×2 matrix, and thus $A^{-1}\mathbf{b}$ also makes sense,
under one condition: $\det A \neq 0$.

So,

$$\boxed{A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b} \quad \begin{array}{c} \implies \\ \text{can solve,} \\ \text{if } \det A \neq 0 \end{array} \quad \mathbf{x} = A^{-1}\mathbf{b}.}$$

This is a legit way to solve the equation

$$\boxed{A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}.}$$

Most importantly, I must tell you how to form A^{-1} out of A :

Inverse of a 2×2 matrix.

Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$. The inverse A^{-1} of A is the following matrix:

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

A^{-1} exists, provided $\det A = ad - bc \neq 0$.

— All right, let's dissect this:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{d}{ad-bc} & \frac{-b}{ad-bc} \\ \frac{-c}{ad-bc} & \frac{a}{ad-bc} \end{bmatrix}.$$

A little fuss — this matrix is so crammed, because it is made of fractions. Those fractions aren't random, though. On second look, realize that the denominators are all $ad - bc$, which is nothing else but $\det A$. So, we might as well write this as something like

$$\frac{1}{ad - bc} \begin{bmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{bmatrix}, \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{1}{\det A} \begin{bmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{bmatrix}.$$

Technically, though, we need to “validate” that. Here is what I mean: Agree that

- the part $\frac{1}{ad - bc}$ ($= \frac{1}{\det A}$) is a scalar,

whereas

- the part $\begin{bmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{bmatrix}$ is a matrix.

We have juxtaposed these two ingredients, and we mean it to signify

“ a scalar being multiplied to a matrix ”.

The problem is, we haven't officially implemented such an operation in this class yet. Technically speaking, no matter how natural it is that

$$10 \begin{bmatrix} 8 & 3 \\ 2 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{means} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 80 & 30 \\ 20 & 70 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\frac{1}{5} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -4 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{means} \quad \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2}{5} & \frac{-4}{5} \\ \frac{-1}{5} & \frac{1}{5} \end{bmatrix},$$

etc., we still need to *officially* declare that

$$s \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{means} \quad \begin{bmatrix} sa & sb \\ sc & sd \end{bmatrix}.$$

Nothing really stops us from making such a declaration. Setting such a rule is universally adopted. So, here we go, an official declaration of the rule:

- **Definition (Scalar multiplied to a matrix).** Let s be a scalar. Then

$$s \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} sa & sb \\ sc & sd \end{bmatrix}.$$

Paraphrase:

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{If } A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad s : \text{ a scalar} \\ \Rightarrow \quad sA = \begin{bmatrix} sa & sb \\ sc & sd \end{bmatrix}. \end{array}$$

Example 1. (1) $3 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 6 \\ 9 & 12 \end{bmatrix}.$

(2) $4 \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 3 \\ 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 12 & 12 \\ 12 & 12 \end{bmatrix}.$

(3) $\frac{1}{7} \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 7 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{5}{7} & 1 \\ \frac{-1}{7} & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$

(4) $\frac{9}{2} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2}{9} & 2 \\ \frac{4}{9} & \frac{1}{9} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 9 \\ 2 & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}.$

(5) $1 \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -2 \\ 6 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -2 \\ 6 & 3 \end{bmatrix}.$

- An obvious generalization of (5) is

$$1 \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}.$$

Paraphrase:

$$\text{If } A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \implies 1A = A.$$

- **Definition (negation).**

$$- \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -a & -b \\ -c & -d \end{bmatrix}.$$

Paraphrase:

$$\text{If } A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \implies -A = \begin{bmatrix} -a & -b \\ -c & -d \end{bmatrix}.$$

Example 2. $0 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad 8 \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$

- An obvious generalization of Example 2 is

$$0 \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad s \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

- We denote $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ as O . Then we can paraphrase it as:

If $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$ and s : a scalar
 $\implies \quad \quad \quad 0A = O, \quad sO = O.$

Example 3a. $(-1) \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 5 & 9 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 & -4 \\ -5 & -9 \end{bmatrix}.$

Example 3b. $-\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 5 & 9 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 & -4 \\ -5 & -9 \end{bmatrix}.$

- As you can clearly see, the negative of a matrix and the (-1) times the same matrix are always equal:

$$(-1) \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} = - \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}.$$

Paraphrase:

If $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \implies (-1)A = -A.$

Exercise 1. Write each of the following in the form

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$(1) \quad 3 \begin{bmatrix} -4 & 2 \\ 6 & 5 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (2) \quad \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 10 & 12 \\ 8 & 4 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (3) \quad \frac{1}{8} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$(4) \quad (-2) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 \\ -3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (5) \quad 1 \begin{bmatrix} 7 & -5 \\ \frac{1}{2} & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (6) \quad 0 \begin{bmatrix} 124 & 242 \\ 163 & 89 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$(7) \quad 1000 \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Exercise 2. Write each of the following in the form

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$(1) \quad - \begin{bmatrix} -6 & -8 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (2) \quad - \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (3) \quad - \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Exercise 3. For $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$, define

$$A^T = \begin{bmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{bmatrix} \quad (\text{the } \underline{\text{transpose}} \text{ of } A).$$

Assume $A^T = -A$. Prove that there is a scalar s such that

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

- We were originally talking about the inverse of a matrix. We then got side-tracked a bit along the way. So, back to page 3:

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

Now that we have established the concept “a scalar multiplied to a matrix”, we are officially entitled to paraphrase the definition of the inverse in page 3:

Inverse of a 2×2 matrix, paraphrased.

Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$. The inverse A^{-1} of A is the following matrix:

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

A^{-1} exists, provided $\det A = ad - bc \neq 0$.

- **Adjoint matrix.**

For convenience of reference, we give it a name for a part of the A^{-1} formation:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \quad \implies \quad A^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det A} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{bmatrix}}_{\substack{\parallel \\ \text{adj } A}}$$

So,

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \implies \text{adj } A = \begin{bmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{bmatrix}.$$

We call $\text{adj } A$ the adjoint matrix of A .

- We may accordingly further paraphrase the above:

Inverse of a 2×2 matrix, paraphrased — II.

Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$. The inverse A^{-1} of A is the following matrix:

$$A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det A} \text{adj } A,$$

where

$$\det A = ad - bc, \quad \text{and}$$

$$\text{adj } A = \begin{bmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{bmatrix}.$$

A^{-1} exists, provided $\det A = ad - bc \neq 0$.

- Let's calculate A^{-1} for some concrete matrix A .

Example 4. $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$. Let's find A^{-1} .

Here is how it goes:

Step 1. Calculate the determinant of A :

$$\begin{aligned} \det A &= \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 7 \end{vmatrix} = 2 \cdot 7 - 3 \cdot 4 \\ &= 2. \end{aligned}$$

Step 2. Form the adjoint of A :

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{adj} A &= \begin{bmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 7 & -3 \\ -4 & 2 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Step 3. Finish it off:

$$\begin{aligned} A^{-1} &= \frac{1}{\det A} \operatorname{adj} A \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 7 & -3 \\ -4 & 2 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

You may write the answer as

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{7}{2} & \frac{-3}{2} \\ -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

which is optional.

Example 5. $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -2 \\ -5 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$. Let's find A^{-1} .

Here is how it goes:

Step 1. Calculate the determinant of A :

$$\begin{aligned} \det A &= \begin{vmatrix} 3 & -2 \\ -5 & 3 \end{vmatrix} = 3 \cdot 3 - (-2) \cdot (-5) \\ &= -1. \end{aligned}$$

Step 2. Form the adjoint of A :

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{adj} A &= \begin{bmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 5 & 3 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Step 3. Finish it off:

$$\begin{aligned} A^{-1} &= \frac{1}{\det A} \operatorname{adj} A \\ &= \frac{1}{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 5 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} -3 & -2 \\ -5 & -3 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

• **What if the determinant of A equals 0 ?**

A natural question arises. What if $\det A = 0$ for a given matrix $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$?
What can one say about A^{-1} ?

— The answer is simple: In such a case, the inverse A^{-1} does not exist.

Example 6. $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 8 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$. Let's decide whether A^{-1} exists.

For that matter, it suffices to calculate the determinant of A :

$$\begin{aligned} \det A &= \begin{vmatrix} 4 & 8 \\ 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 4 \cdot 2 - 8 \cdot 1 \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

So, we conclude that A^{-1} does not exist.

Exercise 4. Decide whether the inverse A^{-1} of A exists, in each of (1–12) below. If it does, then calculate it.

$$(1) \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 7 \\ -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (2) \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (3) \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 6 \\ 6 & 6 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$(4) \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -2 \\ 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (5) \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (6) \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{9} \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$(7) \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (8) \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (9) \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$(10) \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix}. \quad (11) \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} & \frac{-1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$(12) \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-1+\sqrt{5}}{4} & \frac{-\sqrt{10+2\sqrt{5}}}{4} \\ \frac{\sqrt{10+2\sqrt{5}}}{4} & \frac{-1+\sqrt{5}}{4} \end{bmatrix}.$$

- **3 × 3 counterpart.**

Finally, let's take a quick glance at how the above picture is carried over to the 3 × 3 case. Don't get carried away, for the complexity of the formula. Today we take a peek at it. We are going to cross-examine it in the forthcoming lectures.

Inverse of a 3 × 3 matrix.

Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \end{bmatrix}$. The inverse A^{-1} of A is the following matrix:

$$A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det A} \operatorname{adj} A,$$

where

$$\det A = a_1 b_2 c_3 - a_1 b_3 c_2 - a_2 b_1 c_3 + a_2 b_3 c_1 + a_3 b_1 c_2 - a_3 b_2 c_1,$$

and

$$\operatorname{adj} A = \begin{bmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} b_2 & b_3 \\ c_2 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} & - \begin{vmatrix} a_2 & a_3 \\ c_2 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} & + \begin{vmatrix} a_2 & a_3 \\ b_2 & b_3 \end{vmatrix} \\ - \begin{vmatrix} b_1 & b_3 \\ c_1 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} & + \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_3 \\ c_1 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} & - \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_3 \end{vmatrix} \\ + \begin{vmatrix} b_1 & b_2 \\ c_1 & c_2 \end{vmatrix} & - \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ c_1 & c_2 \end{vmatrix} & + \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ b_1 & b_2 \end{vmatrix} \end{bmatrix}.$$

A^{-1} exists, provided $\det A \neq 0$.

Exercise 5. Decide whether the inverse A^{-1} of A exists, in each of (1–6) below. If it does, then calculate it.

$$(1) \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & -2 \\ 5 & -4 & -1 \\ 1 & -3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (2) \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 & -2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$(3) \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 & -4 \\ 2 & 1 & 4 \\ -2 & 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (4) \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 5 & 10 \\ 3 & 1 & 6 \\ -2 & -2 & -6 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$(5) \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \sqrt{2} & \sqrt{3} \\ \sqrt{2} & \frac{-2 - 3\sqrt{6}}{5} & \frac{6 - \sqrt{6}}{5} \\ \sqrt{3} & \frac{6 - \sqrt{6}}{5} & \frac{-3 - 2\sqrt{6}}{5} \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$(6) \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2 + 3\sqrt{2}}{8} & \frac{-2\sqrt{3} + \sqrt{6}}{8} & \frac{\sqrt{6}}{4} \\ \frac{-2\sqrt{3} + \sqrt{6}}{8} & \frac{6 + \sqrt{2}}{8} & \frac{\sqrt{2}}{4} \\ -\frac{\sqrt{6}}{4} & -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{4} & \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \end{bmatrix}.$$