



## 6 Inverse of a Matrix

### 6.1 Cramer's Rule & Inverse for solving $AX = b$

$$A \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow A \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & 0 & 0 \\ x_2 & 1 & 0 \\ x_3 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ b_2 & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ b_3 & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} := B_1$$

→ Take determinants :  $(\det A)x_1 = \det B_1$

$$\therefore x_1 = \frac{\det B_1}{\det A}$$

$$A \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & 0 \\ 0 & x_2 & 0 \\ 0 & x_3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & b_1 & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & b_2 & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & b_3 & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} := B_2$$

→ Take determinants :  $(\det A)x_2 = \det B_2$

$$\therefore x_2 = \frac{\det B_2}{\det A}$$

<Cramer's Rule>

If  $\det A \neq 0$ ,  $AX = b$  has the unique soln.

$$x_j = \frac{\det B_j}{\det A}$$

where  $B_j$  has the column  $j$  of  $A$   
replaced by the vector  $b$ .

Ex

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + x_2 + x_3 &= 1 \\ -2x_1 + x_2 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$-4x_1 + \quad + x_3 = 0$$

$$|A| = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ -2 & 1 & \\ -4 & & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 7$$

$$|B_1| = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & \\ 0 & & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 1$$

$$|B_2| = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ -2 & 0 & \\ -4 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 2$$

$$|B_3| = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ -2 & 1 & 0 \\ -4 & & 0 \end{vmatrix} = 4$$

$$\implies x_j = \frac{|B_j|}{|A|} \quad \therefore \begin{pmatrix} x_1 = \frac{1}{7} \\ x_2 = \frac{2}{7} \\ x_3 = \frac{4}{7} \end{pmatrix}$$

## 6.2 using Cramer's rule to compute the inverse

$$\cdot \quad AA^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\Downarrow$   
b in the above example

$$\therefore \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \text{the first column of } A^{-1}$$

· In the above example, note that

$$|B_1| = C_{11}, \quad |B_2| = C_{12}, \quad |B_3| = C_{13}$$

$$\therefore \text{ the first col. of } A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{C_{11}}{|A|} \\ \frac{C_{12}}{|A|} \\ \frac{C_{13}}{|A|} \end{bmatrix}$$

· use  $b = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$  to get the second column of  $A^{-1}$  :

$$|B_1| = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ 1 & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ 0 & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} = C_{21} \quad \text{the 2nd col. of } A^{-1}$$

$$|B_2| = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & 0 & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & 1 & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & 0 & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} = C_{22} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{bmatrix} \frac{C_{21}}{|A|} \\ \frac{C_{22}}{|A|} \\ \frac{C_{23}}{|A|} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$|B_3| = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & 0 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & 1 \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & 0 \end{vmatrix} = C_{23}$$

· use  $b = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  to get the third column of  $A^{-1}$  :

$$\therefore \boxed{(A^{-1})_{ij} = \frac{C_{ji}}{\det A}} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{bmatrix} \frac{C_{31}}{|A|} \\ \frac{C_{32}}{|A|} \\ \frac{C_{33}}{|A|} \end{bmatrix}$$

If we define the cofactor matrix  $C = [C_{ij}]$  then,

$$A^{-1} = \frac{C^T}{\det A}$$

Ex

$$|A| = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \Rightarrow \det A = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{aligned} M_{11} &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow C_{11} = 1 \\ M_{12} &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow C_{12} = -1 \\ M_{13} &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow C_{13} = 0 \\ &\vdots \end{aligned}$$

$$A^{-1} = \frac{C^T}{\det A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

(The inverse of a triangular matrix is triangular)

### 6.3 inverse & Rank

**Theorem 1** (Existence of the inverse)

*The inverse  $A^{-1}$  of an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  exists if and only if  $\text{rank } A = n$ , hence (by Theorem 3, Sec. 6.6) if and only if  $\det A \neq 0$ . Hence  $A$  is nonsingular if  $\text{rank } A = n$ , and is singular if  $\text{rank } A < n$ .*

**Proof.** Consider the linear system

$$(2) \quad Ax = b$$

with the given matrix  $A$  as coefficient matrix. If the inverse exists, then multiplication from the left on both sides gives by (1)

$$A^{-1}Ax = x = A^{-1}b.$$

This shows that (2) has a unique solution  $x$ , so that  $A$  must have rank  $n$  by the Fundamental Theorem in Sec. 6.5

Conversely, let  $\text{rank } A = n$ . Then by the same theorem, the system (2) has a unique solution  $x$  for any  $b$ , and the back substitution following the Gauss elimination (in Sec 6.3) shows that its components  $x_j$  are linear combinations of those of  $b$ , so that we can write

$$(3) \quad x = Bb.$$

Substitution into (2) gives

$$Ax = A(Bb) = (AB)b = Cb = b \quad (C = AB)$$

for any  $b$ . Hence  $C = AB = I$ , the unit matrix. Similarly, if we substitute (2) into (3) we get

$$x = Bb = B(Ax) = (BA)x$$

for any  $x$  (and  $b = Ax$ ). Hence  $BA = I$ . Together,  $B = A^{-1}$  exists.