



4.5.1

4.5: Inverse of a Square Matrix**Identity matrix for multiplication:**

For real numbers, 1 is the identity for multiplication.

$$| a = a \cdot 1 = a$$

Note: 0 is the additive identity
because $a+0=0+a=a$

Is there an identity for matrix multiplication? i.e. is there a matrix I such that $MI = IM = M$?

In general, there is no multiplicative identity that works, due to size incompatibility.

However, for square matrices, there is such an identity.

For $n \times n$ matrices, I is the matrix with 1 on the principal diagonal and zeros elsewhere.

Examples of Identity Matrices:

$$I_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

2×2

$$I_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$I_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Note:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

also

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

Inverses:

Every real number except 0 has a multiplicative inverse.

$$a a^{-1} = a^{-1} a = 1 \quad \text{multiplicative identity}$$

Ex: For $a=7$, $a^{-1} = \frac{1}{7}$ because $7 \cdot \frac{1}{7} = \frac{1}{7} \cdot 7 = 1$

The Inverse of a Square Matrix: (multiplicative inverse)

Let M be an $n \times n$ square matrix and I be the $n \times n$ identity matrix. If there exists a matrix M^{-1} such that $M^{-1}M = MM^{-1} = I$, then M^{-1} is the inverse of M .

Example 1: Verify that $\begin{bmatrix} 5 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{3}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{5}{2} \end{bmatrix}$ are inverses of one another.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 5 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{3}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{5}{2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{3}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{5}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

\Rightarrow Yes, these are inverses.

How to find the inverse:

- To find the inverse of a matrix M , start by creating an augmented matrix $[M|I]$ by placing the appropriate-sized identity matrix to the right of the vertical line.
- Then row-reduce the augmented matrix until the identity matrix appears to the left of the vertical line. Then M^{-1} is to the right of the vertical line. In other words, row-reduce your augmented matrix until it looks like $[I|M^{-1}]$.
- If a zero row appears to the left of the vertical line, then M^{-1} does not exist.

Example 2: Find the inverse of $M = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$, if it exists.

want 1

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 & | & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & | & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_0 \leftrightarrow R_1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & | & 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 & | & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{-2R_0 + R_1 \rightarrow R_1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & | & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & | & 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

want 0

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & | & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & | & 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{-1R_1 \rightarrow R_1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & | & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & | & -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{-2R_1 + R_0 \rightarrow R_0} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & | & 2 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & | & -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

want 1

$$\Rightarrow M^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

check by multiplying

want: $\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & m^{-1} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \end{array} \right]$

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Example 3: Find the inverse of $M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$, if it exists.

$$\begin{array}{l} R_0 \\ R_1 \\ R_2 \end{array} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\begin{array}{l} -1R_0+R_1 \rightarrow R_1 \\ 1R_0+R_2 \rightarrow R_2 \end{array}} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\xrightarrow{-1R_1+R_0 \rightarrow R_0} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 1 & 0 & -1 & 2 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{1R_2+R_0 \rightarrow R_0} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 3 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

$$M^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Example 4: Find the inverse of $M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$, if it exists.

Example 5: Find the inverse of $M = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$, if it exists.

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|cc} 2 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] \sim \text{Row ops} \left[\begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right]$$

want 1
cannot get it!

M^{-1} does not exist

matrix M does not have an inverse

Shortcut for 2×2 matrices:

Let $M = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$. Then the determinant of M is $D = ad - bc$. If $D \neq 0$, then M^{-1} exists and is given by

$$M^{-1} = \frac{1}{D} \begin{bmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$D = \det(M) = \begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix}$$

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

To get determinant

exchange places on principal diagonal
opp. signs on other diagonal

Example 6: Find the inverse of $M = \begin{bmatrix} -5 & -3 \\ 6 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$, if it exists.

$$D = \det(M) = -5(4) - (-3)(6) = -20 - (-18) = -20 + 18 = -2$$

$$M^{-1} = \frac{1}{-2} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 3 \\ -6 & -5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & -\frac{3}{2} \\ 3 & \frac{5}{2} \end{bmatrix} = M^{-1}$$

Example 7: Find the inverse of $M = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ 3 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$, if it exists.

$$D = \det(M) = 2(6) - 4(3) = 12 - 12 = 0$$

$\frac{1}{0}$ is not defined!

M^{-1} does not exist

Example 8: Find the inverse of $M = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 5 \\ 2 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$, if it exists.

$$D = \det(M) = 3(8) - 5(2) = 24 - 10 = 14$$

$$M^{-1} = \frac{1}{14} \begin{bmatrix} 8 & -5 \\ -2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{8}{14} & -\frac{5}{14} \\ -\frac{2}{14} & \frac{3}{14} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{4}{7} & -\frac{5}{14} \\ -\frac{1}{7} & \frac{3}{14} \end{bmatrix}$$