

CHAPTER 11: MATRIX INVERSES (DAY 1)

1. *Definition:* The matrix  $C$  is called the *left inverse* of matrix  $A$  if

In this case, we call the matrix  $A$  *left-invertible*.

2. Suppose  $A$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix. What must be the dimensions of  $I$  and  $C$  in the definition above?

$$\begin{bmatrix} C \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A \end{bmatrix} = I_n$$

Diagram illustrating the dimensions of matrices in the equation  $CA = I_n$ . The matrix  $C$  is  $n \times m$  (labeled 3),  $A$  is  $m \times n$  (labeled 2), and the identity matrix  $I_n$  is  $n \times n$  (labeled 1). Arrows indicate the compatibility of dimensions for matrix multiplication.

3. Suppose  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \\ 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

(a) Show that  $A$  is left-invertible by finding a left inverse  $C$  of  $A$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \\ 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \checkmark$$

$C \qquad A \qquad I_2$

An inverse for  $A^T$ ?

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

(b) Is the left inverse,  $C$ , unique? *No*

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ will also work}$$

(c) Is  $A$  right-invertible? Justify your conclusion. *No*

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

$3 \times 2 \qquad 2 \times 3 \qquad 3 \times 3$   
 $A \qquad C \qquad I_3$

- To get the first row of  $I_3$ , the first row of  $C$  is forced.
- The same for the second row.
- Now the third row is wrong.

4. Give an example of a matrix  $A$  that has at least one non-zero entry but for which no left-inverse or right-inverse exists. Give some justification that you are correct.

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

For any  $CA$ , the last column will be all zeros  
 For any  $AC$ , the last row will be all zeros.

5. Let  $S = \begin{cases} 4x + 7y = 10 \\ 2x + 6y = 20 \end{cases}$ .

- (a) Write  $S$  as a matrix equation  $Ax = b$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 7 \\ 2 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 20 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$CA = \begin{bmatrix} 2.4 - 1.4 & 4.2 - 4.2 \\ -0.8 + 0.8 & -1.4 + 2.4 \end{bmatrix} = I_2 \checkmark$$

- (b) Check that  $C = \begin{bmatrix} 0.6 & -0.7 \\ -0.2 & 0.4 \end{bmatrix}$  is the left inverse of  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 7 \\ 2 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$  and use  $C$  to solve the system  $S$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.6 & -0.7 \\ -0.2 & 0.4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 20 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 6 - 14 \\ -2 + 8 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -8 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

check  
 $-32 + 42 = 10 \checkmark$   
 $-16 + 36 = 20 \checkmark$

- (c) Show that  $C$  is also a right-inverse of  $A$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 7 \\ 2 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.6 & -0.7 \\ -0.2 & 0.4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2.4 - 1.4 & 0 \\ 0 & -1.4 + 2.4 \end{bmatrix} = I_2$$

- (d) Can you find an inverse of  $A^T$ ?

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0.6 & -0.2 \\ -0.7 & 0.4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 \\ 7 & 6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

6. Let  $a_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $a_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $a_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$ .

(a) Write the system of equations you need to solve to show  $a_1, a_2$ , and  $a_3$  are linearly independent. (Note that you are not asked to solve this system.)

Solve

$$\beta_1 a_1 + \beta_2 a_2 + \beta_3 a_3 = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_1 + \beta_2 + 2\beta_3 &= 0 \\ \beta_1 + \beta_2 + \beta_3 &= 0 \\ 2\beta_1 + 3\beta_2 + 4\beta_3 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

(b) Write the system of equations from part (a) as a matrix equation  $Ax = b$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \beta_1 \\ \beta_2 \\ \beta_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{or} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

(c) Check that the matrix  $C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ -2 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  is a left inverse of  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$  and use  $C$  to solve the matrix equation in part (b).

Since  $Ax = b$ ,  
 $CAx = Cb$ . So  
 $x = Cb$ .

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ -2 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

So only 1 solution!

(d) What conclusions can you draw about a matrix  $A$  if it has a left inverse  $C$ ?

If  $A$  has a left inverse, its columns are linearly independent.

If  $A$  has a right inverse, its rows are linearly independent.

## 7. Observations

- Left/right inverses may not be unique.

• However, if a matrix  $A$  is left- and right-invertible, then these are unique and equal.

If  $XA=I$  and  $AY=I$ , then

$$X = XI = X(AY) = (XA)Y = IY = Y.$$

If  $X$  and  $\tilde{X}$  both have the property that  $XA = I = \tilde{X}A$ . Then both are equal to  $Y$  and thus each other.

- So  $A$  must be square.

• Defn: A square matrix  $A$  is called invertible if  $A$  has an inverse  $A^{-1}$ .

[i.e. there is a matrix  $A^{-1}$  so that  $A^{-1}A = AA^{-1} = I_n$ ]  
Otherwise called singular ( $\equiv$  no inverse)

- If  $C$  is a left inverse to  $A$ , then  $C^T$  is a right inverse to  $A$ .

[i.e. We know  $(XY)^T = Y^T X^T$ . So

if  $CA = I$ , then  $(CA)^T = I^T = I$ .

But now  $I = (CA)^T = A^T C^T$ . ✓]

- Given a system of equations in rec-<sup>d</sup> form:  $Ax=b$ .  
If  $A$  is invertible, then  $x=A^{-1}b$ .