University of Regina
Department of Mathematics and Statistics
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Quiz # 3 – Answers

1. Use the inversion algorithm to find the inverse of A where possible. If A is invertible, write A^{-1} as a product of elementary matrices.

   (a) $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ (b) $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$

   Answer.

   (a) We form the augmented matrix and perform row reduction:

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array}\right] \xrightarrow[R3-R1]{R2-R1} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 & -1 & 0 & 1 \end{array}\right] \xrightarrow{R3-R2} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 & -1 & 1 \end{array}\right]$$

$$\xrightarrow[\frac{1}{3}R3]{\frac{1}{2}R2} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -1/2 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -1/3 & 1/3 \end{array}\right]$$

   So the matrix is invertible and

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1/2 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & -1/3 & 1/3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

   Collecting the elementary operations, we have

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

   (b) Row reduction on the extended matrix:

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 6 & 0 & 1 \end{array}\right] \xrightarrow{R2-3R1} \left[\begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 & 1 \end{array}\right]$$

   The RREF has a row of zeroes, so A is not invertible.