

**CHAPTER 6**  
**MATRICES AND DETERMINANTS**

**QUESTION 1**

(a) The equation  $M^2 = aM + bI$ , where  $a, b$  are real scalars, is satisfied by the matrix  $M$  given by:

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- (i) Find the values of  $a$  and  $b$ .
- (ii) Use the equation to find the inverse of the matrix  $M$ .
- (iii) Hence, solve the following equations:  
 $x + 2y + 2z = 3$   
 $2x + y + 2z = 1$   
 $2x + 2y + z = 1$

(b) Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

Compute  $f(A) = A^3 - 3A^2 + 2A + I$ .

**Solution:**

(a) (i)  $M^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} =$

$$\begin{pmatrix} (1x1) + (2x2) + (2x2) & (1x2) + (2x1) + (2x2) & (1x1) + (2x2) + (2x1) \\ (2x1) + (1x2) + (2x2) & (2x2) + (1x1) + (2x2) & (2x2) + (1x2) + (2x1) \\ (2x1) + (2x2) + (1x2) & (2x2) + (2x1) + (1x2) & (2x2) + (2x2) + (1x1) \end{pmatrix} =$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 9 & 8 & 8 \\ 8 & 9 & 8 \\ 8 & 8 & 9 \end{pmatrix}. \quad \text{So, } M^2 = aM + bI \quad \longrightarrow$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}^2 = a \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + b \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Remember  $I$  is an Identity Matrix.  $\longrightarrow$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 9 & 8 & 8 \\ 8 & 9 & 8 \\ 8 & 8 & 9 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a & 2a & 2a \\ 2a & a & 2a \\ 2a & 2a & a \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} b & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & b \end{pmatrix}. \quad \text{We can rewrite this equation as:}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & 2a & 2a \\ 2a & a & 2a \\ 2a & 2a & a \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} b & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & b \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 9 & 8 & 8 \\ 8 & 9 & 8 \\ 8 & 8 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

So, from row 1,  $a + b = 9$  —————(i)  $2a + 0 = 8$  —————(ii)  
 $\longrightarrow a = 4.$  So, (i):  $4 + b = 9$   $\therefore b = 5.$

(ii) Remember,

Inverse of matrix X The matrix = Identity matrix

So, for the matrix M,  $M^{-1} \times M = I$   $\longrightarrow$   
 $M^{-1} = \frac{I}{M}$ . Now, we try to establish  $\frac{I}{M}$  from the given equation:

$M^2 = aM + bI$ . Dividing through by  $aM$   $\longrightarrow$

$$\frac{M^2}{aM} = \frac{aM}{aM} + \frac{bI}{aM} \longrightarrow \frac{M}{a} = 1 + \frac{bI}{aM}, \longrightarrow$$

$$\frac{bI}{aM} = \frac{M}{a} - 1 \quad \therefore \frac{I}{M} = \left[ \frac{M}{a} - 1 \right] \times \frac{a}{b} = \frac{aM}{ab} - \frac{a}{b} = \frac{M}{b} - \frac{a}{b} = \frac{M-a}{b}$$

Inverse of matrix M i.e  $\frac{I}{M} = \frac{I}{b}(M-a)$

$$= \frac{1}{5} \left[ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} - 4 \right] = \frac{1}{5} \left[ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} - \frac{4}{5} \right]$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1/5 & 2/5 & 2/5 \\ 2/5 & 1/5 & 2/5 \\ 2/5 & 2/5 & 1/5 \end{pmatrix} - \frac{4}{5} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

( Note the introduction of Identity matrix I adjacent to  $\frac{4}{5}$ . This is because we can subtract only a matrix from another matrix.)

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1/5 & 2/5 & 2/5 \\ 2/5 & 1/5 & 2/5 \\ 2/5 & 2/5 & 1/5 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 4/5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 4/5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 4/5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -3/5 & 2/5 & 2/5 \\ 2/5 & -3/5 & 2/5 \\ 2/5 & 2/5 & -3/5 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\therefore \text{The inverse of matrix M (i.e } M^{-1}) = \begin{pmatrix} -3/5 & 2/5 & 2/5 \\ 2/5 & -3/5 & 2/5 \\ 2/5 & 2/5 & -3/5 \end{pmatrix}.$$

(iii)  $x + 2y + 2z = 3$   
 $2x + y + 2z = 1$  (Given)  
 $2x + 2y + z = 1$

Rewriting these equations in matrix form gives:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Remember,  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = M$ . Let  $\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}$  be A and  $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  be .

So, we now have:

$$MA = B \longrightarrow a = M^{-1}B \quad (\text{Note that } M^{-1} \text{ must come before } B \text{ i.e } M^{-1}B \text{ not } BM^{-1})$$

$$\longrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -3/5 & 2/5 & 2/5 \\ 2/5 & -3/5 & 2/5 \\ 2/5 & 2/5 & -3/5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\longrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -9/5 & 2/5 & 2/5 \\ 6/5 & -3/5 & 2/5 \\ 6/5 & 2/5 & -3/5 \end{pmatrix} \quad \therefore \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\therefore x = -1, \quad y = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad z = 1.$

$$(b) (i) \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad A^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 12 & 14 & 15 \\ 11 & 13 & 13 \\ 5 & 6 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A^3 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 12 & 14 & 15 \\ 11 & 13 & 13 \\ 5 & 6 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 67 & 79 & 81 \\ 61 & 72 & 74 \\ 28 & 33 & 34 \end{pmatrix}$$

Hence,  $f(A) = A^3 - 3A^2 + 2A + I \quad \longrightarrow$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 67 & 79 & 81 \\ 61 & 72 & 74 \\ 28 & 33 & 34 \end{pmatrix} - 3 \begin{pmatrix} 12 & 14 & 15 \\ 11 & 13 & 13 \\ 5 & 6 & 6 \end{pmatrix} + 2 \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 67 & 79 & 81 \\ 61 & 72 & 74 \\ 28 & 33 & 34 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 36 & 42 & 45 \\ 33 & 39 & 39 \\ 15 & 18 & 18 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 6 & 4 \\ 4 & 4 & 6 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 36 & 43 & 40 \\ 32 & 38 & 41 \\ 15 & 17 & 19 \end{pmatrix}.$$

## **QUESTION 2**

(a) (i) Find the inverse of the matrix  $P = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & k \\ 2 & k & 1 \\ k & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$  where  $k$  is any real number.

(ii) Hence or otherwise, solve the following system of equations:

$$\begin{aligned} x + 2y &= 4 - 3z \\ 2x + 3y + z &= 0 \\ 3x + y + 2z + 10 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

(b) Let  $g(x) = x^3 + 3x^2 - 2$ . Find  $g(A)$ , where  $A$  is the matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} -2 & 1 & -3 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ .

### **Solution:**

(i) Remember, Inverse of matrix  $P$  is:  $P^{-1} = \frac{\text{Adj.P}}{|P|}$

Now, expanding along the first row for P:

$$|P| = 1 \begin{vmatrix} k & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} - 2 \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ k & 2 \end{vmatrix} + k \begin{vmatrix} 2 & k \\ k & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 1(2k - 1) - 2(4 - k) + k(2 - k^2)$$

$$= 2k - 1 - 8 + 2k + 2k - k^3 = 6k - k^3 - 9. \quad \therefore |P| = 6k - k^3 - 9.$$

For the Adj.P, let the matrix of cofactors be:

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} & C_{13} \\ C_{21} & C_{22} & C_{23} \\ C_{31} & C_{32} & C_{33} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C_{11} = + \begin{vmatrix} k & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 2k - 1, \quad C_{12} = - \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ k & 2 \end{vmatrix} = -(4 - k) = k - 4, \quad C_{13} = + \begin{vmatrix} 2 & k \\ k & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 2 - k^2$$

$$C_{21} = - \begin{vmatrix} 2 & k \\ 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = -(4 - k) = k - 4, \quad C_{22} = + \begin{vmatrix} 1 & k \\ k & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 2 - k^2, \quad C_{23} = - \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ k & 1 \end{vmatrix} = -(1 - 2k) = 2k - 1,$$

$$C_{31} = + \begin{vmatrix} 2 & k \\ k & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 2 - k^2, \quad C_{32} = - \begin{vmatrix} 1 & k \\ 2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = -(1 - 2k) = 2k - 1, \quad C_{33} = + \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & k \end{vmatrix} = k - 4.$$

Take note of how the sign changes for cofactors i.e  $\begin{pmatrix} + & - & + \\ - & + & - \\ + & - & + \end{pmatrix}$ .

So, the matrix of cofactors is now:

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} (2k - 1) & (k - 4) & (2 - k^2) \\ (k - 4) & (2 - k^2) & (2k - 1) \\ (2 - k^2) & (2k - 1) & (k - 4) \end{pmatrix}.$$

Transpose of this gives the Adj.P =  $C^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} (2k - 1) & (k - 4) & (2 - k^2) \\ (k - 4) & (2 - k^2) & (2k - 1) \\ (2 - k^2) & (2k - 1) & (k - 4) \end{pmatrix}$ .

[The same thing i.e  $C^{-1} = C$  (Symmetric)].

$\therefore$  The inverse of the given matrix is:

$$P^{-1} = \frac{\text{Adj.P}}{P} = \frac{1}{6k - k^3 - 9} \begin{pmatrix} (2k - 1) & (k - 4) & (2 - k^2) \\ (k - 4) & (2 - k^2) & (2k - 1) \\ (2 - k^2) & (2k - 1) & (k - 4) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{(ii)} \quad x + 2y = 4 - 3z \\ \quad \quad 2x + 3y + z = 0 \\ \quad \quad 3x + y + 2z + 10 = 0 \end{array} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \begin{array}{l} x + 2y + 3z = 4 \\ 2x + 3y + z = 0 \\ 3x + y + 2z = -10 \end{array}$$

Rewriting these equations in matrix form gives:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ -10 \end{pmatrix}$$

When you compare  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$  with  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & k \\ 2 & k & 1 \\ k & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ , you would find that  $k = 3$ .

When you now substitute  $k = 3$  into  $\frac{1}{6k - k^3 - 9} \begin{pmatrix} (2k-1) & (k-4) & (2-k^2) \\ (k-4) & (2-k^2) & (2k-1) \\ (2-k^2) & (2k-1) & (k-4) \end{pmatrix}$ , that will give you

the inverse of the matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ .

$$\text{So, inverse of } \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} = -\frac{1}{18} \begin{pmatrix} 5 & -1 & -7 \\ -1 & -7 & 5 \\ -7 & 5 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -5/18 & 1/18 & 7/18 \\ 1/18 & 7/18 & -5/18 \\ 7/18 & -5/18 & 1/18 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Now, back to the equation:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ -10 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Let } \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \text{ be P, } \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} \text{ be Q and } \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ -10 \end{pmatrix} \text{ be R.} \quad \longrightarrow$$

$$PQ = R, \quad \therefore Q = P^{-1}R \quad \text{where } P^{-1} \text{ is the inverse.}$$

(Note that  $P^{-1}$  must come before R i.e  $P^{-1}R$  not  $RP^{-1}$ .)

$$\text{So, } \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -5/18 & 1/18 & 7/18 \\ 1/18 & 7/18 & -5/18 \\ 7/18 & -5/18 & 1/18 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ -10 \end{pmatrix} \quad \longrightarrow$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -20/18 + 0 - 70/18 \\ 4/18 + 0 + 50/18 \\ 28/18 + 0 - 10/18 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\therefore \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \therefore x = -5, \quad y = 3 \quad \text{and} \quad z = 1.$$

(b) If  $g(x) = x^3 + 3x^2 - 2$ , then  $g(A) = A^3 + 3A - 2$ .

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 & -3 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A^2 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 & -3 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^2 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 & -3 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 & -3 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} (-2x-2)+(1x2)+(-3x1) & (-2x1)+(1x3)+(-3x-1) & (-2x-3)+(1x1)+(-3x0) \\ (2x-2)+(3x2)+(1x1) & (2x1)+(3x3)+(1x-1) & (2x-3)+(3x1)+(1x0) \\ (1x-2)+(-1x2)+(0x1) & (1x1)+(-1x3)+(0x-1) & (1x-3)+(-1x1)+(0x0) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 & 7 \\ 3 & 10 & -3 \\ -4 & -2 & -4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

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

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 & 7 \\ 3 & 10 & -3 \\ -4 & -2 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 & -3 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 9 & 8 & -5 \\ 11 & 36 & 1 \\ 0 & -6 & 10 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Hence,  $g(A) = A^3 + 3A - 2$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 9 & 8 & -5 \\ 11 & 36 & -1 \\ 0 & -6 & 10 \end{bmatrix} + 3 \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 & 7 \\ 3 & 1 & -3 \\ -4 & -2 & -4 \end{bmatrix} - 2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 9 & 8 & -5 \\ 11 & 36 & -1 \\ 0 & -6 & 10 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 9 & 12 & 21 \\ 9 & 30 & -9 \\ -12 & -6 & -12 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 16 & 20 & 16 \\ 20 & 64 & -10 \\ -12 & -12 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

### **QUESTION 3**

(a) Given that  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & a & a^2 \\ 1 & b & b^2 \\ 1 & c & c^2 \end{bmatrix}$ , find:

(i)  $A^{-1}$       (ii)  $ABA^{-1}$  .      (iii) Show that  $|ABA^{-1}| = |B|$ .

(b) Using Cramer's Rule only, solve the following system of equations:

$$\begin{aligned} 2x - 3y + z &= 2 \\ x + y + z &= 1 \\ 2x - 2y + z &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

**Solution:**

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