

Pseudo Inverse of a Matrix

The matrix $(A^T A)^{-1} A^T$ is called pseudo inverse of a matrix A and denoted by $\text{pinv}(A)$. The pseudo inverse can be expressed of a rectangular matrix, or not invertible square matrix.

$$(A^T A)^{-1} A^T = A^{-1} (A^T)^{-1} A^T = A^{-1} I = A^{-1}$$

Example 1: Find A^{-1} for the following matrix

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

Solution: we see that A is rectangular matrix that we cannot compute A^{-1} director. So, we find pseudo inverse as follow :

Firstly find $A^T A$,

$$A^T A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 6 \\ 6 & 11 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(A^T A)^{-1} = \frac{\text{adj}(A^T A)}{|A^T A|} = \frac{1}{30} \begin{bmatrix} 11 & -6 \\ -6 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{pinv}(A) &= (A^T A)^{-1} A^T = \frac{1}{30} \begin{bmatrix} 11 & -6 \\ -6 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{30} \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -17 & 4 \\ 0 & 12 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

That is $\text{pinv}(A): \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{6} & \frac{-17}{30} & \frac{2}{15} \\ 0 & \frac{2}{5} & \frac{1}{5} \end{bmatrix}$.