

## Art-17. Cayley-Hamilton Theorem

(P.U. 2004, 2006, 2012; Pbi. U. 2005, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2013;

H.P.U. 2004, 2005, 2007, 2010, 2013 ; G.N.D.U. 2006, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2011)

**Statement.** Every square matrix satisfies its characteristic equation.

**Proof.** Let  $A$  be any square matrix of order  $n$ , and its characteristic equation be

$$p_0 + p_1 \lambda + p_2 \lambda^2 + \dots + p_n \lambda^n = 0$$

We have to prove that  $A$  satisfies this equation

$$\text{i.e., } p_0 I + p_1 A + p_2 A^2 + \dots + p_n A^n = 0 \quad \dots(1)$$

For proving this, we proceed as follow :

$$\text{We know that } (A - \lambda I) \text{ adj.} (A - \lambda I) = |A - \lambda I| I \quad [\because A \text{ adj. } A = |A| I]$$

$$\text{Let } \text{adj.} (A - \lambda I) = B_0 + B_1 \lambda + B_2 \lambda^2 + \dots + B_{n-1} \lambda^{n-1}$$

$$\therefore \text{we have, } (A - \lambda I) (B_0 + B_1 \lambda + B_2 \lambda^2 + \dots + B_{n-1} \lambda^{n-1})$$

$$= (p_0 + p_1 \lambda + p_2 \lambda^2 + \dots + p_n \lambda^n) I$$

Equating the coefficients of like powers of  $\lambda$ , we get,

$$AB_0 = p_0 I$$

$$AB_1 - B_0 = p_1 I$$

$$AB_2 - B_1 = p_2 I$$

.....

$$AB_{n-1} - B_{n-2} = p_{n-1} I$$

$$- B_{n-1} = p_n I$$

Pre-multiplying above equations by  $I, A, A^2, \dots, A^n$  respectively and adding, we get,  
 $O = p_0 I + p_1 A + p_2 A^2 + \dots + p_n A^n$ , which is same as (1).

Hence the theorem.

**Art-18.** Explain how inverse of a square matrix can be found by using Cayley-Hamilton theorem.

**Proof :** According to Cayley Hamilton theorem, square matrix  $A$  satisfies its characteristic equation.

$$\therefore p_0 I + p_1 A + p_2 A^2 + \dots + p_n A^n = O$$

Pre-multiplying both sides by  $A^{-1}$ , we get,

$$p_0 A^{-1} I + p_1 A^{-1} A + p_2 A^{-1} A^2 + \dots + p_n A^{-1} A^n = O$$

$$\therefore p_0 A^{-1} + p_1 I + p_2 A + \dots + p_n A^{n-1} = O$$

$$\therefore p_0 A^{-1} = -(p_1 I + p_2 A + \dots + p_n A^{n-1})$$

$$\therefore A^{-1} = -\frac{1}{p_0}(p_1 I + p_2 A + \dots + p_n A^{n-1})$$

## ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES

**Example 1.** Verify Cayley-Hamilton theorem for the matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$  and hence find  $A^{-1}$ . (H.P.U. 2013)

$$\text{Sol. } A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \lambda I = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\therefore |A - \lambda I| = \begin{vmatrix} 1 - \lambda & -2 \\ 1 & 4 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = (1 - \lambda)(4 - \lambda) + 2$$

$$= 4 + \lambda^2 - 5\lambda + 2 = \lambda^2 - 5\lambda + 6$$

$\therefore$  the characteristic equation of  $A$  is  $|A - \lambda I| = 0$  or  $\lambda^2 - 5\lambda + 6 = 0$

We have to prove that  $A$  satisfies this equation i.e.  $A^2 - 5A + 6I = 0$  ... (1)

$$A^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 1 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 1 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - 2 & -2 - 8 \\ 1 - 4 & -2 + 16 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -10 \\ 5 & 14 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Consider } A^2 - 5A + 6I &= \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -10 \\ 5 & 14 \end{bmatrix} - 5 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 1 & 4 \end{bmatrix} + 6 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -10 \\ 5 & 14 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -5 & 10 \\ -5 & -20 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} -1 - 5 + 6 & -10 + 10 + 0 \\ 5 - 5 + 0 & 14 - 20 + 6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore A^2 - 5A + 6I = O$$

$\therefore$  (1) is satisfied.

Hence the result.

$$\text{From (1), } A^{-1}(A^2 - 5A + 6I) = A^{-1} \cdot O$$

$$\therefore A - 5I + 6A^{-1} = O \Rightarrow 6A^{-1} = -A + 5I$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore 6A^{-1} &= -\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 1 & 4 \end{bmatrix} + 5 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ -1 & -4 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 + 5 & 2 + 0 \\ -1 + 0 & -4 + 5 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore 6A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\therefore A^{-1} = \frac{1}{6} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Example 2.** Find the characteristic equation of the matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & 4 \\ 4 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$  and verify

Cayley Hamilton Theorem. Find  $A^{-1}$ .

(Pbi. U. 2013; G.N.D.U. 2010)

Sol.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & 4 \\ 4 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \lambda I = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \therefore |A - \lambda I| &= \begin{vmatrix} 3-\lambda & 2 & 4 \\ 4 & 3-\lambda & 2 \\ 2 & 4 & 3-\lambda \end{vmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{vmatrix} 9-\lambda & 9-\lambda & 1 \\ 4 & 3-\lambda & 2 \\ 2 & 4 & 3-\lambda \end{vmatrix}, \text{ by } R_1 \rightarrow R_1 + R_2 + R_3 \\
 &= (9-\lambda) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 4 & 3-\lambda & 2 \\ 2 & 4 & 3-\lambda \end{vmatrix} \\
 &= (9-\lambda) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & -1-\lambda & -2 \\ 2 & 2 & 1-\lambda \end{vmatrix}, \text{ by } C_2 \rightarrow C_2 - C_1, C_3 \rightarrow C_3 - C_1 \\
 &= (9-\lambda) \begin{vmatrix} -1-\lambda & -2 \\ 2 & 1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = (9-\lambda)(-1+\lambda^2+4) \\
 &= (9-\lambda)(\lambda^2+3) = -\lambda^3 + 9\lambda^2 - 3\lambda + 27
 \end{aligned}$$

∴ the characteristic equation of A is  $|A - \lambda I| = 0$   
 or  $-\lambda^3 + 9\lambda^2 - 3\lambda + 27 = 0$       or  $\lambda^3 - 9\lambda^2 + 3\lambda - 27 = 0$   
 We have to prove that A satisfies this equation  
 i.e.,  $A^3 - 9A^2 + 3A - 27I = 0$

Now  $A^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & 4 \\ 4 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & 4 \\ 4 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$   
 $= \begin{bmatrix} 9+8+8 & 6+6+16 & 12+4+12 \\ 12+12+4 & 8+9+8 & 16+6+6 \\ 6+16+6 & 4+12+12 & 8+8+9 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 25 & 28 & 28 \\ 28 & 25 & 28 \\ 28 & 28 & 25 \end{bmatrix}$   
 $A^3 = \begin{bmatrix} 25 & 28 & 28 \\ 28 & 25 & 28 \\ 28 & 28 & 25 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & 4 \\ 4 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$   
 $= \begin{bmatrix} 75+112+56 & 50+84+112 & 100+56+84 \\ 84+100+56 & 56+75+112 & 112+50+84 \\ 84+112+50 & 56+84+110 & 112+56+75 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 243 & 246 & 240 \\ 240 & 243 & 246 \\ 246 & 240 & 243 \end{bmatrix}$

Consider  $A^3 - 9A^2 + 3A - 27I$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \begin{bmatrix} 243 & 246 & 240 \\ 240 & 243 & 246 \\ 246 & 240 & 243 \end{bmatrix} - 9 \begin{bmatrix} 25 & 28 & 28 \\ 28 & 25 & 28 \\ 28 & 28 & 25 \end{bmatrix} + 3 \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 & 4 \\ 4 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 & 3 \end{bmatrix} - 27 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 243 & 246 & 240 \\ 240 & 243 & 246 \\ 246 & 240 & 243 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 225 & 252 & 252 \\ 252 & 225 & 252 \\ 252 & 252 & 225 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 9 & 6 & 12 \\ 12 & 9 & 6 \\ 6 & 12 & 9 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 27 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 27 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 27 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 243 - 225 + 9 - 27 & 246 - 252 + 6 - 0 & 240 - 252 + 12 - 0 \\ 240 - 252 + 12 - 0 & 243 - 225 + 9 - 27 & 246 - 252 + 6 - 0 \\ 246 - 252 + 6 - 0 & 240 - 252 + 12 - 0 & 243 - 225 + 9 - 27 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = O$$

$\therefore$  result (1) is satisfied.

Hence the result.

$$\text{From (1), } A^{-1} (A^3 - 9A^2 + 3A - 27 I) = O$$

$$\Rightarrow A^2 - 9A + 3I - 27 A^{-1} = O$$

$$\Rightarrow 27 A^{-1} = A^2 - 9A + 3I$$

$$\Rightarrow 27 A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 25 & 28 & 28 \\ 28 & 25 & 28 \\ 28 & 28 & 25 \end{bmatrix} - 9 \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & 4 \\ 4 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 & 3 \end{bmatrix} + 3 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 25 & 28 & 28 \\ 28 & 25 & 28 \\ 28 & 28 & 25 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -27 & -18 & -36 \\ -36 & -27 & -18 \\ -18 & -36 & -27 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 25 - 27 + 3 & 28 - 18 + 0 & 28 - 36 + 0 \\ 28 - 36 + 0 & 25 - 27 + 3 & 28 - 18 + 0 \\ 28 - 18 + 0 & 28 - 36 + 0 & 25 - 27 + 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\therefore 27 A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 10 & -8 \\ -8 & 1 & 10 \\ 10 & -8 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A^{-1} = \frac{1}{27} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 10 & -8 \\ -8 & 1 & 10 \\ 10 & -8 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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