



Matrix Inverse

Student Activity

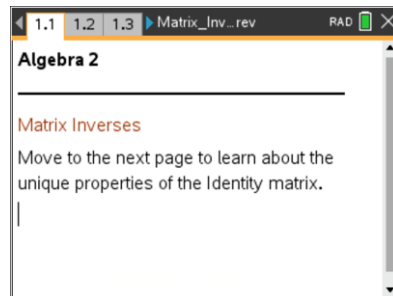
Name _____

Class _____

Open the TI-Nspire document *Matrix_Inverse.tns*.

In the expression $x * 5 = 1$, the value of x must be $1/5$. What would the value of x be in the equation $x \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$?

This activity will show you how to find x .

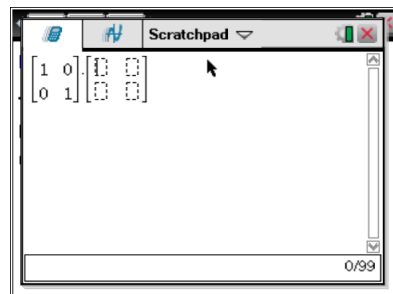
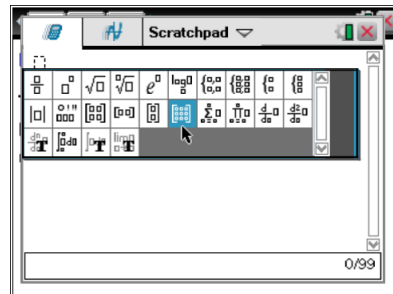


The number 1 is an incredibly powerful number in mathematics, and it can be written in many different ways. In matrix notation, the number 1 is expressed as $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ and is called the *identity matrix*.

1. Multiplying 1 by any number results in no change to the number.

Test this in matrix notation by multiplying $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ by any 2×2 matrix.

- Open the **Scratchpad**.
 - Enter the identity matrix by pressing $\left[\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right]$, selecting the 2×2 matrix template and entering $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$.
 - Now enter another 2×2 matrix, but choose any element values for the matrix. Press $\left[\text{enter} \right]$.
 - When you finish question 1b, press $\left[\text{esc} \right]$ to exit the **Scratchpad**.
- a. What is the result of the matrix multiplication?
 - b. Repeat this two more times using a different second matrix. What do you notice about the results? Will this always happen? Why or why not?





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Press ctrl ▶ and ctrl ◀ to
navigate through the lesson.

2. Attempt to change the element values in matrix B until the product $[A][B]$ is the identity

matrix $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$. Why is it so difficult to find the correct values for matrix B?

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3. When the product of two matrices is the identity matrix, then the second matrix is the *inverse* of the first matrix. The inverse matrix can be calculated using a system of equations.
- Identify the necessary system of equations by multiplying matrices A and B. Write your result below. Confirm your result by moving the slider to *yes* for *Show Equations*.
 - Determine the correct element values for matrix B by solving the system of equations. To display the solution to this system, move the slider to *yes* for *Show Solutions*.
 - Use the **Scratchpad** to confirm that $[A][B]$ results in the identity matrix. What patterns do you notice between the element values in matrix A and matrix B?
4. Using the **Scratchpad**, find the reciprocal of the determinant of matrix A by pressing 1 ÷ D E T (and entering matrix A.
- Knowing the value of the reciprocal of the determinant, are there other patterns that you now notice between matrix A and matrix B?
 - Would you like to change anything you wrote for question 3? Try rewriting the matrix so each element has a common denominator before answering.



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5. Use the calculated determinant to help choose correct values for matrix B so that the product, $[A][B]$, results in the identity matrix.

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6. This next page is for practice. Practice finding the correct values for matrix B so that the product, $[A][B]$, is the identity matrix. Click the arrows by the question number to get a new question.

7. Amber says that the inverse of $\begin{bmatrix} -2 & 3 \\ 1 & -5 \end{bmatrix}$ is $\begin{bmatrix} \frac{5}{7} & -\frac{3}{7} \\ -\frac{1}{7} & \frac{2}{7} \end{bmatrix}$. Is Amber correct? Why or why not?

8. Sean says every square matrix has an inverse. Is he correct? Explain.