

Exemplar Problem

Matrix and Determinants

3. Show that a matrix which is both symmetric and skew symmetric is a zero matrix.

Ans :

Given: Symmetric and Skew symmetric matrix.

For symmetric matrix

$$A' = A$$

and for skew symmetric matrix

$$A' = - A.$$

Let

$$A$$

be a matrix with elements

$$a_{ij}.$$

As,

$$A$$

is both symmetric and skew symmetric,

$$\Rightarrow a_{ij} = a_{ji} \text{ (i)}$$

$$\Rightarrow a_{ij} = - a_{ji}$$

$$\Rightarrow a_{ij} + a_{ji} = 0 \text{ (ii)}$$

from (i) and (ii),

$$2a_{ij} = 0$$

$$\therefore a_{ij} = 0$$

Therefore,

$$A$$

is zero matrix.