

# Elementary Matrices

An elementary matrix is one that is obtained by performing a single elementary row operation on an identity matrix.

## Examples

$$I_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2} \begin{pmatrix} \phantom{1} & \phantom{0} & \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} & \phantom{1} & \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} & \phantom{0} & \phantom{1} \end{pmatrix} = E_1$$

$$I_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\frac{1}{2}R_2 \rightarrow R_2} \begin{pmatrix} \phantom{1} & \phantom{0} & \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} & \phantom{1} & \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} & \phantom{0} & \phantom{1} \end{pmatrix} = E_2$$

$$I_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{-3R_2 + R_3 \rightarrow R_3} \begin{pmatrix} \phantom{1} & \phantom{0} & \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} & \phantom{1} & \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} & \phantom{0} & \phantom{1} \end{pmatrix} = E_3$$

Now calculate the following matrix products where

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2 & 4 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 7 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$E_1 A = \begin{pmatrix} \phantom{0} & \phantom{2} & \phantom{4} \\ \phantom{1} & \phantom{0} & \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} & \phantom{3} & \phantom{7} \end{pmatrix} = B$$

$$E_2 B = \begin{pmatrix} \phantom{0} & \phantom{2} & \phantom{4} \\ \phantom{1} & \phantom{0} & \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} & \phantom{3} & \phantom{7} \end{pmatrix} = C$$

$$E_3 C = \begin{pmatrix} \phantom{0} & \phantom{2} & \phantom{4} \\ \phantom{1} & \phantom{0} & \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} & \phantom{3} & \phantom{7} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$E_3 (E_2 (E_1 A)) = \begin{pmatrix} \phantom{0} & \phantom{2} & \phantom{4} \\ \phantom{1} & \phantom{0} & \phantom{0} \\ \phantom{0} & \phantom{3} & \phantom{7} \end{pmatrix}$$

(1) Is  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 3 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$  a non-singular matrix? If so, determine  $A^{-1}$ .

(2) Find elementary matrices  $E_1, E_2, E_3$  such that  $E_3 E_2 E_1 A = I_3$ , if such matrices exist. If no such matrices exist, explain why.

If  $E_1, E_2, E_3$  exist, calculate  $E_3 E_2 E_1 I_3$ .

(3) If  $T: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  is defined by  $T(x) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 3 & 7 \end{bmatrix} x$  is  $T$  onto  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ? Is  $T$  1-1? If  $T$  is 1-1, specify a rule for  $T^{-1}$ .