

Advanced Linear Algebra (MA 409)  
Problem Sheet - 11

Elementary Matrix Operations and Elementary Matrices

1. Label the following statements as true or false.

- (a) An elementary matrix is always square.
- (b) The only entries of an elementary matrix are zeros and ones.
- (c) The  $n \times n$  identity matrix is an elementary matrix.
- (d) The product of two  $n \times n$  elementary matrices is an elementary matrix.
- (e) The inverse of an elementary matrix is an elementary matrix.
- (f) The sum of two  $n \times n$  elementary matrices is an elementary matrix.
- (g) The transpose of an elementary matrix is an elementary matrix.
- (h) If  $B$  is a matrix that can be obtained by performing an elementary row operation on a matrix  $A$ , then  $B$  can also be obtained by performing an elementary column operation on  $A$ .
- (i) If  $B$  is a matrix that can be obtained by performing an elementary row operation on a matrix  $A$ , then  $A$  can be obtained by performing an elementary row operation on  $B$ .

2. Let

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 1 & -3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ and } C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & -2 & -2 \\ 1 & -3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Find an elementary operation that transforms  $A$  into  $B$  and an elementary operation that transforms  $B$  into  $C$ . By means of several additional operations, transform  $C$  into  $I_3$ .

3. Obtain the inverse of each of the following elementary matrices.

$$(a) \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (b) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (c) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -2 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- 4. Prove that any elementary  $n \times n$  matrix can be obtained in at least two ways either by performing an elementary row operation on  $I_n$  or by performing an elementary column operation on  $I_n$ .
- 5. Prove that  $E$  is an elementary matrix if and only if  $E^t$  is.
- 6. Let  $A$  be an  $m \times n$  matrix. Prove that if  $B$  can be obtained from  $A$  by an elementary row [column] operation, then  $B^t$  can be obtained from  $A^t$  by the corresponding elementary column [row] operation.

7. Prove that if a matrix  $Q$  can be obtained from a matrix  $P$  by an elementary row operation, then  $P$  can be obtained from  $Q$  by an elementary row operation of the same type.  
Hint : Treat each type of elementary row operation separately.
8. Prove that any elementary row [column] operation of type 1 can be obtained by a succession of three elementary row [column] operations of type 3 followed by one elementary row [column] operation of type 2.
9. Prove that any elementary row [column] operation of type 2 can be obtained by dividing some row [column] by a nonzero scalar.
10. Prove that any elementary row [column] operation of type 3 can be obtained by subtracting a multiple of some row [column] from another row [column].
11. Let  $A$  be an  $m \times n$  matrix. Prove that there exists a sequence of elementary row operations of types 1 and 3 that transforms  $A$  into an upper triangular matrix.

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