

**Solutions to the REAL Quiz #4 (Dr. Z., Math 250)**

1. (3 pts.) Find an elementary matrix  $E$  such that  $EA = B$ , where  $A$  and  $B$  are as follows:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -2 \\ 3 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -2 \\ 3 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Sol. of 1:** We have to decide which **elementary row operation**, when applied to  $A$  yields  $B$ . The first two rows are exactly the same, so this means that  $r_3$  has been changed. Obviously the new  $r_3$  is not a multiple of the old one, so this means that the new  $r_3$  is the old  $r_3$  plus (or minus) a multiple of either  $r_1$  or  $r_2$ . Since the difference between the new  $r_3$  and the old  $r_3$  is  $[1, 2, -2]$ , that is exactly  $r_1$ , the elementary row operation that we need is  $r_3 + r_1 \rightarrow r_3$ .

Now we apply this **very same** elementary row operation to the identity matrix, getting

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{r_3 + r_1 \rightarrow r_3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} .$$

This is the desired matrix  $E$ . You are welcome to check, by doing the matrix multiplication, that indeed  $EA = B$ .

**Ans.:**

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

**Comment:** About 70% of the people got it right. The rest did a much more difficult problem converting  $A$  to reduced-row-echelon-form. **PLEASE** read the question!

2. (3 pts.) Determine whether the following matrix is invertible, and if it is, find its inverse

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Sol. of 2:** We first bring it to **row-echelon form**.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{r_2 - (3/2)r_1 \rightarrow r_2} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix}$$

So we know that it is invertible, and we must go on, all the way. Continuing

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{r_2 - (3/2)r_1 \rightarrow r_2} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{r_1 - 6r_2 \rightarrow r_1} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{(1/2)r_1 \rightarrow r_1, 2r_2 \rightarrow r_2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} .$$

Now we have to **mimick** the same sequence operations starting with the **identity matrix**,  $I_2$ :

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{r_2 - (3/2)r_1 \rightarrow r_2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -3/2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{r_1 - 6r_2 \rightarrow r_1} \begin{bmatrix} 10 & -6 \\ -3/2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{(1/2)r_1 \rightarrow r_1, 2r_2 \rightarrow r_2} \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -3 \\ -3 & 2 \end{bmatrix} .$$

This is the **ans.**.

**Ans. to 2:** The matrix is invertible, and its inverse is:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 5 & -3 \\ -3 & 2 \end{bmatrix} .$$

**Comment:** About %80 of the people got it right completely.

**3.** True or False (Explain when appropriate)

(a) (1 pt.) If a square matrix has a column consisting of all zeros, then it must be invertible.

**Sol. of 3(a): False.** If it has a column of all zeroes, then it is never invertible (For an  $n \times n$ , the rank is less than  $n$ , so its reduced row echelon form will never be  $I_n$ ).

(b) (1 pt.) The pivot columns of a matrix are linearly independent.

**Sol. of 3(b): True.** The pivot columns of the reduced-row-echelon-form are (different) standard vectors, and obviously linearly independent. By the **column-correspondence property** the same applies to the pivot columns of the original matrix.