

## 21-241 – Solution to Homework assignment week #6

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### 1 Standard basis of $\mathcal{M}_{nn}(\mathbb{R})$

1. The product formula yields

$$(E_{ij}E_{kl})_{rs} = \sum_{q=1}^n (E_{ij})_{rq}(E_{kl})_{qs}$$

If  $r \neq i$ , then in each term of this sum the first factor is zero, so the sum is zero.  
If  $s \neq l$ , the same happens with the second factor.

2. So the only possibly non-zero entry of  $E_{ij}E_{kl}$  is

$$(E_{ij}E_{kl})_{il} = \sum_{q=1}^n (E_{ij})_{iq}(E_{kl})_{ql}$$

But each term of this sum is zero except when  $q = j = k$ . So if  $j \neq k$ , this entry is 0 as well and if  $j = k$ , there is only one non-zero term in this sum which is  $1 \times 1 = 1$ . So in the end,

$$(E_{ij}E_{kl})_{il} = \delta_{jk}$$

3. In the end we can conclude that the matrix  $E_{ij}E_{kl}$  has only one possible non-zero entry at index  $(i, l)$  and that it is 1 iff  $j = k$  and 0 otherwise. That is exactly :

$$E_{ij}E_{kl} = \delta_{jk}E_{il}$$

### 2 The inverse of an elementary matrix

We assume that  $i \neq j$ , otherwise  $C$  is just  $I_n$  and  $B$  is just the same as  $A$  with  $\lambda$  replaced by  $\lambda + 1$ . We also assume  $\lambda \neq 0$  otherwise  $A$  is not invertible.

- 1.

$$C = I_n - E_{ii} - E_{jj} + E_{ij} + E_{ji} = \left( \sum_{k=1, k \neq i, k \neq j}^n E_{kk} \right) + E_{ij} + E_{ji}$$

2.  $A$  corresponds to  $R_i \leftarrow \lambda R_i$ .  $B$  corresponds to  $R_j \leftarrow R_j + \lambda R_i$ .  $C$  corresponds to  $R_i \leftrightarrow R_j$ .
3. In the light of elementary row operations and their reverse operations, I propose

$$A' = I_n + (1/\lambda - 1)E_{ii}$$

Indeed, observe that

$$\begin{aligned} AA' &= (I_n + (\lambda - 1)E_{ii})(I_n + (1/\lambda - 1)E_{ii}) \\ &= I_n + (1/\lambda - 1)E_{ii} + (\lambda - 1)E_{ii} + (\lambda - 1)(1/\lambda - 1)E_{ii}E_{ii} \\ &= I_n + 1/\lambda E_{ii} + \lambda E_{ii} - 2E_{ii} + E_{ii} - \lambda E_{ii} - 1/\lambda E_{ii} + E_{ii} \\ &= I_n \end{aligned}$$

since  $E_{ii}E_{ii} = E_{ii}$  by the formula proved in Exercise 1. Since  $AA' = I_n$ ,  $A'$  is the inverse of  $A$ .

4. Again, in the light of elementary operations I propose  $B' = I_n - \lambda E_{ij}$  and  $C' = C$ .  
Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned} BB' &= (I_n + \lambda E_{ij})(I_n - \lambda E_{ij}) \\ &= I_n - \lambda E_{ij} + \lambda E_{ij} - \lambda^2 E_{ij}E_{ij} \\ &= I_n \end{aligned}$$

since  $E_{ij}E_{ij} = 0$  by the formula proved in Exercise 1, since  $i \neq j$ .

$$CC = \left( \left( \sum_{k=1, k \neq i, k \neq j}^n E_{kk} \right) + E_{ij} + E_{ji} \right) \left( \left( \sum_{k=1, k \neq i, k \neq j}^n E_{kk} \right) + E_{ij} + E_{ji} \right)$$

Since  $k \neq i$  and  $k \neq j$  in the sums, there is no cross terms between the terms in the sum and the two other terms. Moreover since  $i \neq j$  just like above,  $E_{ij}^2 = E_{ji}^2 = 0$ . So the only terms left are

$$\begin{aligned} CC &= \left( \sum_{k=1, k \neq i, k \neq j}^n E_{kk} \right) + E_{ij}E_{ji} + E_{ji}E_{ij} \\ &= \left( \sum_{k=1, k \neq i, k \neq j}^n E_{kk} \right) + E_{ii} + E_{jj} \\ &= I_n. \end{aligned}$$