

Example let $D = \begin{pmatrix} 10 & -12 & 5 \\ -3 & 3 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow$

Compute DA where $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 5 & 5 \\ 3 & 8 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$

Answer:

$$DA = \begin{pmatrix} 10(1) - 12(2) + 5(3) & 10(2) - 12(5) + 5(8) & 10(3) - 12(5) + 5(6) \\ -3(1) + 3(2) - 1(3) & -3(2) + 3(5) - 1(8) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$= I$, the identity matrix

Note: A matrix is called square if the number of rows is the same as the number of columns. For example, D and A are both square matrices - as is I .

Note further that $IE = E$ and $EI = E$ } for any 3×3 matrix E .

If A is a matrix and $AB = I$, then we call B the inverse matrix of A and we write it as $B = A^{-1}$.

Recall our system of equations that can be written as

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 5 & 5 \\ 3 & 8 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ 21 \\ 31 \end{pmatrix}$$

or $A \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ 21 \\ 31 \end{pmatrix}$.

Strategy: $DA \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = D \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ 21 \\ 31 \end{pmatrix}$ (multiplying by D on the left (both sides))
 $\Rightarrow I \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = D \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ 21 \\ 31 \end{pmatrix}$ (since $DA = I$)

(since $Iv = v$, $IE = E$ etc.)

$$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 10 & -12 & 5 \\ -3 & 3 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ 21 \\ 31 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{pmatrix} 100 - 12(21) + 5(31) \\ -3(10) + 3(21) - 1(31) \\ -10 + 42 - 31 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

ie $x = 3$, $y = 2$, $z = 1$.