

## Investigating Identity and Inverse Matrices

$$\text{Let } A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } B = \begin{bmatrix} -4 & 0 \\ -7 & 6 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$\text{Also consider the } 2 \times 2 \text{ identity matrix } I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

1. Find  $AI$  and  $BI$ . What do you notice?

$$AI = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \quad BI = \begin{bmatrix} -4 & 0 \\ -7 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = B$$

2. Find  $IA$  and  $IB$ . What do you notice?  
Is multiplication by the identity matrix commutative?

$$IA = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 5 \end{bmatrix} = A \quad IB = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} -4 & 0 \\ -7 & 6 \end{bmatrix} = B$$

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$$\text{Let } D = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 4 & 2 \end{bmatrix}. \text{ The inverse of } D \text{ is } E = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -0.5 \\ -2 & 1.5 \end{bmatrix}.$$

3. Find  $DE$  and  $ED$ . What do you notice?

$$DE = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 4 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1/2 \\ -2 & 3/2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad ED = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1/2 \\ -2 & 3/2 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 4 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$