962-20-916   **Gregory M. Boudreaux*** (`gboudreaux@louisiana.edu`), Department of Mathematics, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Lafayette, LA 70504. *Distributive Elements in Endomorphism Near-rings and Rings.*

Let G be a group. Let $\mathcal{E}(G) = \{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \pm\alpha_i : \alpha_i \in End(G),\ n \text{ finite}\}$. This is the endomorphism near-ring of G, which is simply $End(G)$, the endomorphism ring of G, when G is abelian. Let $_d\mathcal{E}(G)$ denote the distributive elements of $\mathcal{E}(G)$; then the containments $End(G) \subseteq {_d\mathcal{E}(G)} \subseteq \mathcal{E}(G)$ always hold. Four combinations arise when we consider if these inclusions are proper or non-proper. We show this partitions the class of all groups into four nonempty classes. Many examples will be given. (Received October 03, 2000)