

MATH 223 — Final Exam — 150 minutes

18th December 2024

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## Cheat sheet

These are the most important definitions that we encountered:

- A list  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_m$  of vectors is **linearly independent** if

$$a_1\vec{v}_1 + \dots + a_m\vec{v}_m = \vec{0}$$

has only the trivial solution  $a_1 = \dots = a_m = 0$ .

- The **span** of a list  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_m$  is the set

$$\{a_1\vec{v}_1 + \dots + a_m\vec{v}_m \in V \mid a_i \in \mathbb{F}\}$$

- A **basis** of a vector space is a linearly independent spanning list.
- The **dimension** of a vector space is the number of elements in a basis.
- For  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$ , the **null space** of  $T$ , denoted  $\text{null}(T)$  is

$$\text{null}(T) = \{\vec{v} \in V \mid T(\vec{v}) = \vec{0}\}.$$

- For  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$ , the **range** of  $T$ , denoted  $\text{range}(T)$  is

$$\text{range}(T) = \{T(\vec{v}) \mid \vec{v} \in V\}.$$

- A linear map  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$  is called **invertible** if there exists a linear map  $S \in \mathcal{L}(W, V)$  such that  $ST$  is the identity on  $V$  and  $TS$  is the identity on  $W$ .
- Suppose  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$ . A nonzero vector  $\vec{v} \in V$  is called an **eigenvector** of  $T$  corresponding to the eigenvalue  $\lambda \in \mathbb{F}$  if

$$T(\vec{v}) = \lambda\vec{v}.$$

- Suppose  $V$  is finite-dimensional and  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$ . The **minimal polynomial** of  $T$  is the unique monic polynomial  $p \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{F})$  of smallest degree such that  $p(T) = 0_V$  is the zero operator.
- Two vectors  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  are **orthogonal** in an inner product space if

$$\langle \vec{v}, \vec{w} \rangle = 0.$$

- A list of vectors is **orthonormal** if each vector  $\vec{v}$  in the list has  $\langle \text{vecv}, \vec{v} \rangle = 1$  and is orthogonal to all the other vectors in the list.
- Suppose  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$ . A basis of  $V$  is called a **Jordan basis** for  $T$  if with respect to this basis  $T$  has a block diagonal matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & A_p \end{pmatrix}$$

in which each  $A_k$  is an upper-triangular matrix of the form

$$A_k = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_k & 1 & & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & \ddots & 1 \\ 0 & & & \lambda_k \end{pmatrix}.$$

- An  **$m$ -linear form** on  $V$  is a function  $\beta : V^m \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$  that is linear in each slot when the other slots are held fixed. The set of  $m$ -linear forms on  $V$  is denoted by  $V^{(m)}$ .
- An  $m$ -linear form  $\alpha$  on  $V$  is called **alternating** if  $\alpha(\vec{v}_1, \dots, \text{vecv}_m) = 0$  whenever  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_m$  is a list of vectors in  $V$  with  $\vec{v}_j = \vec{v}_k$  for some  $j \neq k$ . The set of alternating  $m$ -linear forms is denoted by  $V_{\text{alt}}^{(m)}$ .
- The **determinant**  $\det T$  of an operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  is the unique scalar in  $\mathbb{F}$  such that

$$\alpha(T\vec{v}_1, \dots, T\vec{v}_m) = (\det T)\alpha(\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_m)$$

for all  $\alpha \in V_{\text{alt}}^{(\dim V)}$ .

1. Let

$$U = \left\{ p \in \mathcal{P}_3(\mathbb{R}) \mid \int_0^1 p(x) dx = p(1) \right\}.$$

(a) Prove that  $U$  is a subspace.

**Solution:** We check the conditions:

- For the zero polynomial  $\vec{0}(x)$ , we have  $\int_0^1 \vec{0}(x) dx = 0 = \vec{0}(1)$ , so  $\vec{0} \in U$ .
- If  $p, q \in U$ , then  $\int_0^1 (p+q)(x) dx = \int_0^1 p(x) dx + \int_0^1 q(x) dx = p(1) + q(1) = (p+q)(1)$ , so  $p+q \in U$ .
- If  $p \in U, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ , we have  $\int_0^1 (\lambda p)(x) dx = \lambda \int_0^1 p(x) dx = \lambda p(1) = (\lambda p)(1)$  so  $\lambda p \in U$ .

Therefore  $U$  is a subspace.

(b) Find a basis for  $U$  and compute its dimension.

**Solution:** Let  $p(x) = ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d$ . Then  $\int_0^1 p(x) dx = \frac{a}{4} + \frac{b}{3} + \frac{c}{2} + d$  and  $p(1) = a + b + c + d$ . To be in  $U$ ,  $p$  must satisfy

$$\frac{a}{4} + \frac{b}{3} + \frac{c}{2} + d = a + b + c + d,$$

Consider the list of polynomials

$$x^3 - \frac{9}{8}x^2, x^2 - \frac{4}{3}x, 1.$$

The list is linearly independent since the polynomials are of different degrees. All of the polynomials are in  $U$ . We claim that they form a basis for  $U$ . Since  $U$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{P}_3(\mathbb{R})$ , its dimension is at most 4. But  $x^3 \notin U$ , so  $U$  is not the whole  $\mathcal{P}_3(\mathbb{R})$ . So  $\dim U \leq 3$ , but we have already found a list of three linearly independent vectors in  $U$ , so  $\dim U = 3$  and the list above is a basis.

2. Let  $V, W$  be vector spaces and  $T : V \rightarrow W$  a linear map. Prove that if

$$\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n$$

is linearly dependent, then

$$T\vec{v}_1, T\vec{v}_2, \dots, T\vec{v}_n$$

is linearly dependent.

**Solution:** Since  $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n$  is LD, we have  $c_1, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{F}$  not all zero such that

$$c_1\vec{v}_1 + c_2\vec{v}_2 + \dots + c_n\vec{v}_n = \vec{0}.$$

Apply  $T$  to both sides of the equation, we get the following equality in  $W$ :

$$T(c_1\vec{v}_1 + c_2\vec{v}_2 + \dots + c_n\vec{v}_n) = \vec{0}.$$

Since  $T$  is linear, we can rewrite the left-hand side as

$$c_1T(\vec{v}_1) + c_2T(\vec{v}_2) + \dots + c_nT(\vec{v}_n) = \vec{0},$$

and since not all  $c_i$  are zero, this implies that

$$T\vec{v}_1, T\vec{v}_2, \dots, T\vec{v}_n$$

is linearly dependent.

3. Let  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{R}^2)$  be given by reflection across the line  $y = 2x$ . Find all eigenvalues and eigenvectors of  $T$ .

**Solution:** Observe that a vector on the line is sent to itself by a reflection, and a vector orthogonal to the line is sent to its negative. So the eigenvalues are 1 and  $-1$ , and the eigenvectors are

$$\{(x, 2x) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x \neq 0\}$$

for 1. Notice that  $(2, -1) \cdot (1, 2) = 0$ , so the orthogonal complement of the line is spanned by  $(2, -1)$ . Therefore

$$\{(2x, -x) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x \neq 0\}$$

are the eigenvectors for the eigenvalue  $-1$ .

4. Let  $T : \mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}_4(\mathbb{R})$  be the linear transformation given by

$$T(p) = x^2 p.$$

Compute the matrix of  $T$  with respect to the bases  $(1, x + 1, x^2 + x + 1)$  of  $\mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R})$  and  $(1, x, x^2, x^3, x^4)$  of  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbb{R})$ .

**Solution:** We compute

$$T(1) = 1(x^2)$$

$$T(x + 1) = 1(x^3) + 1(x^2)$$

$$T(x^2 + x + 1) = 1(x^4) + 1(x^3) + 1(x^2)$$

So the matrix is

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

5. For each of the following parts, give a concrete example. For this question only, you do not need to justify your answers.

- (a) A nilpotent operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  that has  $\dim \text{range}(T) = \dim V - 1$

**Solution:** Let  $V = \mathbf{C}^2$  and  $T(x, y) = (y, 0)$ .

- (b) Two linear maps  $S, T$  such that  $ST = I$  but  $S$  is not invertible.

**Solution:** Let  $S : \mathbf{C}^2 \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$  and  $T : \mathbf{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{C}^2$  be given by  $S(x, y) = x, T(x) = (x, 0)$ .

- (c) An operator on  $V = \mathbb{C}^2$  whose minimal polynomial is  $z - 1$ .

**Solution:** The identity  $I_V$ .

- (d) An inner product on  $\mathbb{R}^2$  different from the usual dot product.

**Solution:** Let  $\langle (x, y), (z, w) \rangle = xz + 2yw$ .

- (e) A nonzero vector in  $\mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R})$  orthogonal to  $p(x) = x$  under the inner product  $\langle p, q \rangle = \int_0^1 pq$ .

**Solution:** Let  $q(x) = -\frac{3}{2}x + 1$ .



6. Let  $V = \mathcal{P}_1(\mathbb{R})$ , and, for  $p \in V$ , define  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2 \in V'$  by

$$\varphi_1(p) = \int_0^1 p(x) dx, \quad \text{and} \quad \varphi_2(p) = \int_0^2 p(x) dx.$$

Prove that  $(\varphi_1, \varphi_2)$  is a basis for  $V'$  and find a basis for  $V$  for which it is the dual basis.

**Solution:** First note that  $\varphi_2(x-1) = 0$  and  $\varphi(1)(x-1) = \int_0^1 x-1 dx = -\frac{1}{2}$ . Also,  $\varphi_1(2x-1) = 0$  and  $\varphi_2(2x-1) = \int_0^2 2x-1 dx = 3$ . This computation shows that neither  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2$  is zero, and also they are not scalar multiples of each other. Therefore they are linearly independent. Since  $\dim V = 2$ , we also have  $\dim V' = 2$ , and any linearly independent set of size 2 is a basis, therefore  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2$  is a basis.

To find the dual basis, note that we already found that  $x-1 \in \text{null}\varphi_2$  and  $2x-1 \in \text{null}\varphi_1$ . So if we take

$$-2x+2, \frac{2x-1}{3}$$

as our list, then we have

$$\varphi_1(-2x+2) = 1$$

$$\varphi_1\left(\frac{2x-1}{3}\right) = 0$$

$$\varphi_2\left(\frac{x-1}{3}\right) = 0$$

$$\varphi_2\left(\frac{2x-1}{3}\right) = 1$$

so the list is the basis for which  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2$  is the dual basis.

7. Suppose that  $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3$  is a basis for an inner product space  $V$  over  $\mathbb{R}$  and that

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_1 \rangle &= 1 \\ \langle \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_2 \rangle &= 2 \\ \langle \vec{v}_3, \vec{v}_3 \rangle &= 2 \\ \langle \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2 \rangle &= -1 \\ \langle \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_3 \rangle &= -1 \\ \langle \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3 \rangle &= 1\end{aligned}$$

Find an orthonormal basis for  $V$ . Justify your answer.

**Solution:** We use the Gram-Schmidt procedure. Let  $\vec{f}_1 = \vec{v}_1$ . Then we let

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{f}_2 &= \vec{v}_2 - \frac{\langle \vec{v}_2, \vec{f}_1 \rangle}{\langle \vec{f}_1, \vec{f}_1 \rangle} \vec{f}_1 \\ &= \vec{v}_2 + \vec{f}_1 \\ &= \vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2 \\ \vec{f}_3 &= \vec{v}_3 - \frac{\langle \vec{v}_3, \vec{f}_1 \rangle}{\langle \vec{f}_1, \vec{f}_1 \rangle} \vec{f}_1 - \frac{\langle \vec{v}_3, \vec{f}_2 \rangle}{\langle \vec{f}_2, \vec{f}_2 \rangle} \vec{f}_2 \\ &= \vec{v}_3 - \frac{\langle \vec{v}_3, \vec{v}_1 \rangle}{\langle \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_1 \rangle} \vec{v}_1 - \frac{\langle \vec{v}_3, \vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2 \rangle}{\langle \vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2 \rangle} (\vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2) \\ &= \vec{v}_3 + (1)\vec{v}_1 + (0)(\vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2).\end{aligned}$$

It remains to scale each  $\vec{f}_1, \vec{f}_2, \vec{f}_3$  to unit length.

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{e}_1 &= \frac{\vec{f}_1}{\langle \vec{f}_1, \vec{f}_1 \rangle} = \vec{f}_1 = \vec{v}_1 \\ \vec{e}_2 &= \frac{\vec{f}_2}{\langle \vec{f}_2, \vec{f}_2 \rangle} = \vec{f}_2 = \vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2 \\ \vec{e}_3 &= \frac{\vec{f}_3}{\langle \vec{f}_3, \vec{f}_3 \rangle} = \vec{f}_3 = \vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_3\end{aligned}$$

So an orthonormal basis is

$$\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_3.$$

8. Suppose  $V$  and  $W$  are finite-dimensional and that  $U$  is a subspace of  $V$ . Prove that there exists  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$  such that  $\text{null}(T) = U$  if and only if  $\dim U \geq \dim V - \dim W$ .

**Solution:** Assume that there exists  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$  such that  $\text{null}(T) = U$ . Then by the FTLM,

$$\begin{aligned}\dim \text{null}(T) + \dim \text{range}(T) &= \dim V \\ \dim U &= \dim V - \dim \text{range}(T) \\ \dim U &\geq \dim V - \dim W\end{aligned}$$

For the converse, assume that  $U$  is a subspace of  $V$  and  $\dim U \geq \dim V - \dim W$ . Pick a basis  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k$  for  $U$  and extend to a basis  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k, \vec{v}_{k+1}, \dots, \vec{v}_n$  of  $V$ . Note that the assumption on dimensions implies that  $k \geq n + k - m$ , or, equivalently, that  $n \leq m$ . Pick a basis  $\vec{w}_1, \dots, \vec{w}_m$  of  $W$ . Define

$$T(\vec{v}_i) = \begin{cases} \vec{0} & \text{if } i = 1, \dots, k \\ \vec{w}_{i-k} & \text{if } i = k + 1, \dots, n \end{cases}$$

Since  $n \leq m$ , this map is well-defined, and by the linear map lemma it defines a linear map  $T : V \rightarrow W$ . Now note that  $\text{range}(T) = \text{Span}(\vec{w}_1, \dots, \vec{w}_n)$ , so  $\dim \text{range}(T) = n$ , so  $\dim \text{null}(T) = \dim V - \dim \text{range}(T) = n + k - n = k$ . By the definition above, we have  $U \subseteq \text{null}(T)$ , and therefore we have  $\text{null}(T) = U$  as required.

9. Suppose that  $V$  is finite-dimensional inner product space and  $U$  is a subspace of  $V$ . Show that

$$P_{U^\perp} = I_V - P_U,$$

where  $I_V$  is the identity map on  $V$  and  $P_W$  denotes the orthogonal projection map onto a subspace  $W \subseteq V$ .

**Solution:** Let  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k$  be an orthonormal basis for  $U$  and extend it to an orthonormal basis  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k, \vec{v}_{k+1}, \dots, \vec{v}_n$  of  $V$ . Then since  $\langle \vec{v}_j, \vec{v}_i \rangle = \delta_i^j$ , the list  $\vec{v}_{k+1}, \dots, \vec{v}_n$  is an orthonormal basis for  $U^\perp$ , since it is a linearly independent list of  $\dim V - \dim U$  vectors in  $U^\perp$ . Recall that for all  $\vec{v} \in V$ , we can uniquely write

$$c_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + c_k \vec{v}_k + c_{k+1} \vec{v}_{k+1} + \dots + c_n \vec{v}_n$$

and by the definition of orthogonal projections, we have

$$\begin{aligned} P_U(\vec{v}) &= c_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + c_k \vec{v}_k \\ P_{U^\perp}(\vec{v}) &= c_{k+1} \vec{v}_{k+1} + \dots + c_n \vec{v}_n \\ I_V(\vec{v}) &= c_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + c_k \vec{v}_k + c_{k+1} \vec{v}_{k+1} + \dots + c_n \vec{v}_n \end{aligned}$$

for all  $\vec{v} \in V$ , and therefore  $P_U + P_{U^\perp} = I_V$ , or equivalently,

$$P_{U^\perp} = I_V - P_U.$$

10. Two linear operators  $S, T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  are said to be simultaneously diagonalizable if there exists a basis  $(\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n)$  of  $V$  such that the matrices  $\mathcal{M}(S, (\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n))$  and  $\mathcal{M}(T, (\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n))$  of  $S$  and  $T$  with respect to this basis are both diagonal. Prove that if  $S$  and  $T$  are simultaneously diagonalizable, then they commute, i.e.

$$ST = TS$$

**Solution:** Let  $\lambda_i$  be the eigenvalue corresponding for  $\vec{v}_i$  for  $S$  and let  $\mu_i$  be the eigenvalue corresponding to  $\vec{v}_i$  for  $T$ . Then we have

$$ST(\vec{v}_i) = S(\mu_i \vec{v}_i) = \mu_i (S\vec{v}_i) = \mu_i \lambda_i \vec{v}_i = \lambda_i \mu_i \vec{v}_i = \lambda_i S(\vec{v}_i) = TS(\vec{v}_i).$$

Since  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n$  form a basis, and  $ST(\vec{v}_i) = TS(\vec{v}_i)$ , by the linear map lemma, we have that  $ST = TS$ .

11. Suppose that  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{C}^3)$  is an operator such that the minimal polynomial of  $T$  is

$$z^3 + 2z^2 + z.$$

Find all the possibilities for the matrix of  $\mathcal{M}(T)$  with respect to a Jordan basis (up to reordering the basis).

**Solution:** The minimal polynomial factors as  $z(z+1)^2$ . So the eigenvalues of  $T$  are 0 and  $-1$ . Since the  $(z+1)$  factor occurs with multiplicity 2, we must have a Jordan block of size 2 corresponding to the eigenvalue  $-1$ , and therefore  $\dim G(-1, T) \geq 2$ . Since 0 is an eigenvalue, we have  $\dim G(0, T) \geq 1$ . Since  $1 + 2 = 3 = \dim \mathbb{C}^3$ , these inequalities must be in fact equalities, and then the matrix of  $T$  with respect to a Jordan basis must look like

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

(up to reordering the basis).

12. Suppose  $V = \mathbb{F}^n$  and  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  is given by

$$T(x_1, \dots, x_n) = (x_1, 2x_2, 3x_3, \dots, nx_n).$$

Find the minimal polynomial of  $T$ . Justify your answer.

**Solution:** Let  $\vec{e}_i$  denote the standard basis vector with a 1 in position  $i$  and 0 everywhere else. Then note that

$$T(\vec{e}_i) = i\vec{e}_i$$

for all  $i$ . Therefore  $1, 2, \dots, n$  are eigenvalues of  $T$  with corresponding eigenvectors  $\vec{e}_1, \dots, \vec{e}_n$ . So for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , we have that  $(z - i)$  is a factor of the minimal polynomial. Notice that

$$\deg((z - 1)(z - 2) \cdots (z - n)) = n$$

which is  $\dim V$ , which is the maximum degree of the minimal polynomial. In addition,  $(z - 1)(z - 2) \cdots (z - n)$  is monic, so in fact the minimal polynomial of  $T$  must be

$$(z - 1)(z - 2) \cdots (z - n)$$

13. Suppose  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  is nilpotent. Prove that  $\det(I + T) = 1$ .

**Solution:** Let  $\alpha \in V_{\text{alt}}^{(\dim V)}$  be a nonzero alternating  $\dim V$ -linear form. Pick a Jordan basis  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n$  for  $T$ . Then  $\det(I + T)$  is the scalar such that

$$\alpha((I + T)\vec{v}_1, \dots, (I + T)\vec{v}_n) = \det(I + T)\alpha(\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n).$$

Since  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n$  is a Jordan basis for  $T$  and  $T$  is nilpotent the only eigenvalue of  $T$  is zero, and therefore we have that

$$T(\vec{v}_k) = \vec{v}_{k-1} \text{ or } T(\vec{v}_k) = \vec{0}.$$

Then we have

$$\alpha((I + T)\vec{v}_1, (I + T)\vec{v}_2, \dots, (I + T)\vec{v}_n) = \alpha(\vec{v}_1, (I + T)\vec{v}_2, \dots, (I + T)\vec{v}_n).$$

As  $\alpha$  is multilinear, we have that

$$\begin{aligned} &\alpha(\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_{k-1}, (I + T)\vec{v}_k, (I + T)\vec{v}_{k+1}, \dots, (I + T)\vec{v}_n) = \\ &\alpha(\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_{k-1}, \vec{v}_k, (I + T)\vec{v}_{k+1}, \dots, (I + T)\vec{v}_n) + \\ &\alpha(\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_{k-1}, T\vec{v}_k, (I + T)\vec{v}_{k+1}, \dots, (I + T)\vec{v}_n) \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\alpha$  is alternating and  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_{k-1}, T\vec{v}_k$  is always linearly dependent, we also have for any  $1 \leq k \leq n$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k, (I + T)\vec{v}_{k+1}, \dots, (I + T)\vec{v}_n) &= \\ &= \alpha(\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k, \vec{v}_{k+1}, \dots, (I + T)\vec{v}_n). \end{aligned}$$

so by induction,

$$\alpha((I + T)\vec{v}_1, \dots, (I + T)\vec{v}_n) = \alpha(\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n),$$

and therefore

$$\det(I + T) = 1.$$



14. Suppose  $V$  is finite-dimensional and  $S \in \mathcal{L}(V)$ . Define  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{L}(V))$  by

$$\mathcal{A}(T) = ST$$

for  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$ .

(a) Prove that  $\dim \text{null}(\mathcal{A}) = (\dim V)(\dim \text{null}(S))$ .

**Solution:** We will show that  $\text{null}(\mathcal{A}) \cong \mathcal{L}(V, \text{null}(S))$ . Given  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, \text{null}(S))$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{null}(\mathcal{A}) &= \{T \in \mathcal{L}(V) \mid ST = 0\} \\ &= \{T \in \mathcal{L}(V) \mid ST(\vec{v}) = \vec{0} \text{ for all } \vec{v} \in V\} \\ &= \{T \in \mathcal{L}(V) \mid S(T(\vec{v})) = \vec{0} \text{ for all } \vec{v} \in V\} \\ &= \{T \in \mathcal{L}(V) \mid \text{range}(T) \subseteq \text{null}(S)\} \\ &\cong \mathcal{L}(V, \text{null}(S)) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we have  $\dim \mathcal{A} = \mathcal{L}(V, \text{null}(S)) = (\dim(V))(\dim \text{null}(S))$

(b) Prove that  $\dim \text{range}(\mathcal{A}) = (\dim V)(\dim \text{range}(S))$ .

**Solution:** By the fundamental theorem of linear maps, we have  $\dim \text{null}(\mathcal{A}) + \dim \text{range}(\mathcal{A}) = \dim(\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{L}(V))) = (\dim V)^2$ . Also by the fundamental theorem,  $\dim \text{null}(S) + \dim \text{range}(S) = \dim V$ . Combining these two, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \dim \text{range}(\mathcal{A}) &= (\dim V)^2 - \dim \text{null}(\mathcal{A}) \\ &= (\dim V)^2 - (\dim V)(\dim \text{null}(S)) \\ &= (\dim V)(\dim V - \dim \text{null}(S)) \\ &= (\dim V)(\dim \text{range}(S)) \end{aligned}$$