Assignment 14

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***Abstract*—This is a simple document explaining how to describe a linear functional on a vector space for certain conditions.**

Download all and latex-tikz codes from

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svn co https://github.com/gadepall/school/trunk/
    ncert/geometry/figs
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1 Problem

In R^3, let $\alpha_1 = \begin{pmatrix}1\\0\\1\end{pmatrix}$, $\alpha_2 = \begin{pmatrix}0\\1\\-2\end{pmatrix}$ and $\alpha_3 = \begin{pmatrix}-1\\-1\\0\end{pmatrix}$. Describe explicitly a linear functional f on R^3 such that $f(\alpha_1) = f(\alpha_2) = 0$ but $f(\alpha_3) \neq 0$

2 Explanation

Let us consider $\alpha = \begin{pmatrix}a\\b\\c\end{pmatrix}$ such that

$$\alpha_1 x_1 + \alpha_2 x_2 + \alpha_2 x_2 = \alpha \tag{2.0.1}$$

$$\alpha_1 x_1 + \alpha_2 x_2 + \alpha_2 x_2 = \begin{pmatrix}a\\b\\c\end{pmatrix} \tag{2.0.2}$$

The coefficient matrix is :

$$A = \begin{pmatrix}1 & 0 & -1\\0 & 1 & -1\\1 & -2 & 0\end{pmatrix} \tag{2.0.3}$$

So,

$$\begin{pmatrix}1 & 0 & -1\\0 & 1 & -1\\1 & -2 & 0\end{pmatrix}\begin{pmatrix}x_1\\x_2\\x_3\end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix}a\\b\\c\end{pmatrix} \tag{2.0.4}$$

Now applying row reduction to the augmented matrix, we get:

$$\begin{pmatrix}1 & 0 & -1 & a\\0 & 1 & -1 & b\\1 & -2 & 0 & c\end{pmatrix} \xleftrightarrow{R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - R_1} \begin{pmatrix}1 & 0 & -1 & a\\0 & 1 & -1 & b\\0 & -2 & 1 & c-a\end{pmatrix}$$
$$\xleftrightarrow{R_3 \leftarrow R_3 + 2R_2} \begin{pmatrix}1 & 0 & -1 & a\\0 & 1 & -1 & b\\0 & 0 & -1 & c-a+2b\end{pmatrix}$$
$$\xleftrightarrow{R_3 \leftarrow R_3/(-1)} \begin{pmatrix}1 & 0 & -1 & a\\0 & 1 & -1 & b\\0 & 0 & 1 & a-2b-c\end{pmatrix}$$
$$\xleftrightarrow[R_1 \leftarrow R_1 + R_3]{R_2 \leftarrow R_2 + R_3} \begin{pmatrix}1 & 0 & 0 & 2a-2b-c\\0 & 1 & 0 & a-b-c\\0 & 0 & 1 & a-2b-c\end{pmatrix} \tag{2.0.5}$$

Now,

$$\begin{pmatrix}1 & 0 & 0\\0 & 1 & 0\\0 & 0 & 1\end{pmatrix}\begin{pmatrix}x_1\\x_2\\x_3\end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix}2a-2b-c\\a-b-c\\a-2b-c\end{pmatrix} \tag{2.0.6}$$

So,

$$x_1 = 2a-2b-c \tag{2.0.7}$$
$$x_2 = a-b-c \tag{2.0.8}$$
$$x_3 = a-2b-c \tag{2.0.9}$$

Now, as f is a linear functional on R^3,

$$\alpha = \alpha_1 x_1 + \alpha_2 x_2 + \alpha_2 x_2 \tag{2.0.10}$$
$$\implies f(\alpha) = f(\alpha_1 x_1 + \alpha_2 x_2 + \alpha_2 x_2) \tag{2.0.11}$$
$$\implies f(\alpha) = x_1 f(\alpha_1) + x_2 f(\alpha_2) + x_3 f(\alpha_3) \tag{2.0.12}$$

As mentioned in the problem statement, $f(\alpha_1) = f(\alpha_2) = 0$ and $f(\alpha_3) \neq 0$, so let us consider $f(\alpha_3) = k$ where k is a scalar constant and $k \neq 0$.

Now,

$$f(\alpha) = x_1 f(\alpha_1) + x_2 f(\alpha_2) + x_3 f(\alpha_3) \tag{2.0.13}$$
$$\implies f(\alpha) = x_3 f(\alpha_3) \tag{2.0.14}$$
$$\implies f(\alpha) = x_3 k \tag{2.0.15}$$
$$\implies f(\alpha) = k(a-2b-c) \tag{2.0.16}$$
$$\implies f(a,b,c) = k(a-2b-c) \tag{2.0.17}$$

So, the function can be defined as:

$$f(x, y, z) = k(x - 2y - z) \tag{2.0.18}$$

Using this defined function, it can be verified that:

$$f(\alpha_1) = k(x - 2y - z) \tag{2.0.19}$$
$$\implies f(1, 0, 1) = k(1 - 2 \times 0 - 1) \tag{2.0.20}$$
$$\implies f(1, 0, 1) = 0 \tag{2.0.21}$$

Similarly,

$$f(\alpha_2) = k(x - 2y - z) \tag{2.0.22}$$
$$\implies f(0, 1, -2) = k(0 - 2 \times 1 + 2) \tag{2.0.23}$$
$$\implies f(0, 1, -2) = 0 \tag{2.0.24}$$

and

$$f(\alpha_3) = k(x - 2y - z) \tag{2.0.25}$$
$$\implies f(-1, -1, 0) = k(-1 + 2 - 0) \tag{2.0.26}$$
$$\implies f(-1, -1, 0) = k \neq 0 \tag{2.0.27}$$

Hence, the above problem statement is verified.