

Linear algebra, Exercise 5

叶卢庆*

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Exercise. ^a Let $T : \mathbf{R}^4 \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^4$ be the transformation

$$T(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) = (0, x_1, x_2, x_3).$$

- What is the rank and nullity of T ?
- Let $\beta = ((1, 0, 0, 0), (0, 1, 0, 0), (0, 0, 1, 0), (0, 0, 0, 1))$ be the standard ordered basis for T . Compute $[T]_{\beta}^{\beta}, [T^2]_{\beta}^{\beta}, [T^3]_{\beta}^{\beta}$, and $[T^4]_{\beta}^{\beta}$.

^aFrom <http://www.math.ucla.edu/tao/resource/general/115a.3.02f/midterm.pdf>

Solve. • Let $v_1 = (1, 0, 0, 0), v_2 = (0, 1, 0, 0), v_3 = (0, 0, 1, 0), v_4 = (0, 0, 0, 1)$. Then

$$T(v_1) = (0, 1, 0, 0) = v_2, T(v_2) = (0, 0, 1, 0) = v_3, T(v_3) = (0, 0, 0, 1) = v_4, T(v_4) = (0, 0, 0, 0) = \mathbf{0}.$$

So the rank of T is 3, the nullity of T is 1.

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$$[T]_{\beta}^{\beta} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$T^2(v_1) = T(v_2) = v_3, T^2(v_2) = T(v_3) = v_4, T^2(v_3) = T(v_4) = \mathbf{0}, T^2(v_4) = \mathbf{0}.$$

So

$$[T^2]_{\beta}^{\beta} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$T^3(v_1) = T(v_3) = v_4, T^3(v_2) = T(v_4) = \mathbf{0}, T^3(v_3) = T^3(v_4) = \mathbf{0}.$$

So

$$[T^3]_{\beta}^{\beta} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

And

$$[T^4]_{\beta}^{\beta} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

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*Luqing Ye(1992—), E-mail: yeluqingmathematics@gmail.com