

# Linear Algebra 5C

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## 5C

### Problem 1

**Proof.** If  $F = C$  then  $T$  has an upper triangular matrix regardless.  
 If  $F = R$  then consider  $T(x, y) = (-y, x)$ . We have  $T^2 + I = 0$ . So the minimal polynomial of  $T$  does not have any real eigenvalues.  
 However  $T' = T^2$  has the upper triangular matrix  $-I$   $\square$

### Problem 2

**Proof.** (a). We have  $(A + B)_{jk} = A_{jk} + B_{jk}$   
 As both  $A$  and  $B$  are upper triangular matrices we know that  $A_{jk} = B_{jk} = 0$  for  $j > k$ . Hence  $(A + B)_{jk} = 0$  for  $j > k$ . And  $(A + B)_{kk} = A_{kk} + B_{kk} = \alpha_k + \beta_k$   
 (b). We have,

$$(AB)_{jk} = \sum_{n=1}^m A_{jn} B_{nk}$$

First consider if  $j > k$ . We have,

$$\sum_{n=1}^k A_{jn} B_{nk} + \sum_{n=k+1}^m A_{jn} B_{nk}$$

In the first sum we have  $j > k$  and  $k > n$  so  $j > n$  which means that  $A_{jn} = 0$  so the sum goes to zero. In the second sum we have  $n > k$  so  $B_{nk} = 0$  so that goes to zero. Hence the sum is always 0 for any choice of  $j, k$  if  $j > k$ .

This shows that  $AB$  is an upper triangular matrix.

Now if  $j = k$  we have,

$$(AB)_{kk} = \sum_{n=1}^m A_{kn} B_{nk} = A_{kk} B_{kk} = \alpha_k \beta_k$$

$\square$

### Problem 3

**Proof.** (1). We know if  $T$  is an upper triangular matrix then the minimal polynomial of  $T$  can be written as  $(z - \lambda_1) \dots (z - \lambda_n)$ . We also know that if  $T$  is invertible then its minimal polynomial is,

$$(z - \frac{1}{\lambda_1}) \dots (z - \lambda_n)$$

Because it is of this form we can create an upper triangular matrix with the reciprocals on the diagonal.

(2). The existence of an upper triangular matrix for  $T$  implies that for the

basis  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  we can write,

$$\begin{aligned}Tv_1 &= \lambda_1 v_1 \\Tv_2 &= a_1 v_1 + \lambda_2 v_2 \\&\dots \\Tv_n &= b_1 v_1 + \dots + \lambda_n v_n\end{aligned}$$

Now let us apply  $T^{-1}$  on each side and we get,

$$\begin{aligned}v_1 &= \lambda_1 T^{-1} v_1 \\v_2 &= a_1 T^{-1} v_1 + \lambda_2 T^{-1} v_2 \\&\dots \\v_n &= b_1 T^{-1} v_1 + \dots + T^{-1} \lambda_n v_n\end{aligned}$$

Rearranging the term we get,

$$\begin{aligned}T^{-1} v_1 &= \frac{v_1}{\lambda_1} \\T^{-1} v_2 &= \frac{v_2}{\lambda_2} - \frac{a_1}{\lambda_2} T^{-1} v_1 \\&\dots \\T^{-1} v_n &= \frac{v_n}{\lambda_n} - \frac{b_1}{\lambda_n} T^{-1} v_1 + \dots\end{aligned}$$

Going from the beginning we have  $T^{-1} v_1 \in \text{span}(v_1)$ ,  $T^{-1} v_2 \in \text{span}(v_1, v_2)$  and going forward we get  $T^{-1} v_k \in \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_{k-1})$ . This makes our matrix upper triangular.

We see that for any  $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  that the term before  $v_k$  for  $T^{-1} v_k$  is  $\frac{1}{\lambda_k}$ . Hence our diagonal is  $\frac{1}{\lambda_k}$  for the  $v_k$ .

□

## Problem 6

**Proof.** If  $F = C$  that means that there exists an upper triangular matrix with respect to some basis of  $V$ . Let this basis be  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  where  $n = \dim V$ .

Now this means that for any  $k$ ,  $\text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_k)$  is invariant under  $T$  as  $T(v_k) \in \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_k)$ ,  $T(v_{k-1}) \in \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_{k-1})$ , ...

□

## Problem 7a

**Proof.** (a). Consider the list  $(v, Tv, \dots, T^{\dim V} v)$ . As the dimension is  $\dim V + 1$  there is some smallest  $k$  such that  $T^{k+1} \in \text{span}(v, \dots, T^k)$ . Which makes  $U = \text{span}(v, \dots, T^k)$  invariant under  $T$ . Let  $p_v$  be the minimal

polynomial of  $T|_U$  so we see that,

$$p_v(T)v = p_v(T|_U)v = 0$$

We know that the degree cannot be smaller than  $k$  so it is of least degree.  $\square$

### Problem 8b

**Proof.** We have  $T^2v + 2Tv + 2v = 0$

So the minimal polynomial is either  $z^2 + 2z + 2 = 0$  or a polynomial multiple of it whose roots are  $-1 + i$  or  $-1 - i$ .

Which means that eigenvalues of  $T$  are the same so it must appear on the diagonal of  $A$ .  $\square$

### Problem 9

**Proof.** Now let  $T$  be the linear map associated with  $B$ . Because  $F = C$  there exists some basis of  $V$  in which there is a linear map  $C$  which is upper triangular. Let this basis be  $v_1, \dots, v_n$ . If  $B$  is a matrix defined on the basis  $u_1, \dots, u_n$ . Then we can define  $A = M(T, (v_1, \dots, v_n), (u_1, \dots, u_n))$  such that  $A^{-1}BA = M(T, (v_1, \dots, v_n), (v_1, \dots, v_n)) = C$ .  $\square$

### Problem 10

**Proof.**  $a \Rightarrow b$

If the matrix is lower triangular then we can say that,

$$\begin{aligned} Tv_1 &= a_1v_1, \dots, a_nv_n \\ &\dots \\ T(v_n) &= b_nv_n \end{aligned}$$

So we see that for any  $j$  we have  $Tv_j \in \text{span}(v_j, \dots, v_n)$  but  $\text{span}(v_j, \dots, v_n) \subset \text{span}(v_k, \dots, v_n)$ . So for any  $v \in \text{span}(v_k, \dots, v_n)$  we have  $Tv \in \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_n)$  which makes the span invariant.

$b \Rightarrow c$  If the span is invariant then it follows.

$c \Rightarrow b$  If  $c$  is true that means that we can write  $Tv_1, \dots, Tv_k$  in the way we wrote above which means we can make a lower triangular matrix.  $\square$