

HOMEWORK 5 – MATH 441
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ALEX THIES
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ASSIGNMENT. The following exercises are assigned from
Linear Algebra Done Right, 3rd Edition, by Sheldon Axler.
3.B - 6, 16, 21;
3.C - 4, 10, 14.

SECTION 3.B

Problem 6. Prove that there does not exist a linear map $T : \mathbb{R}^5 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^5$ such that

$$\text{range } T = \text{null } T.$$

Proof. Let $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{R}^5, \mathbb{R}^5)$, i.e., $T : \mathbb{R}^5 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^5$. By the Fundamental Theorem for Linear Maps (FTLM) we have $\dim \mathbb{R}^5 = \dim \text{null } T + \dim \text{range } T$. Suppose by way of contradiction that $\text{range } T = \text{null } T$, then $\dim \text{null } T = \dim \text{range } T$, so the FTLM states $5 = 2 \dim \text{null } T$. Since $\dim \text{null } T \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, the FTLM is asserting that $5 = 2n$, i.e., 5 is even \nmid . Hence, there does not exist a linear map $T : \mathbb{R}^5 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^5$ such that $\text{range } T = \text{null } T$, as we aimed to show. \square

Problem 16. Suppose there exists a linear map on V whose null space and range are both finite-dimensional. Prove that V is finite-dimensional.

Proof. Let $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{W})$ such that

$$\dim \text{null } T = m \text{ and } \dim \text{range } T = n$$

for $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Let u_1, \dots, u_m be a basis of $\text{null } T$ and w_1, \dots, w_n be a basis of $\text{range } T$. Since T is surjective, $\text{range } T = \mathbf{W}$, so

w_1, \dots, w_n is also a basis of \mathbf{W} . Moreover, since T is surjective, for each $w \in \mathbf{W}$, there exists $v \in \mathbf{V}$ such that $Tv = w$, hence we can write our basis of W as Tv_1, \dots, Tv_n for $v_j \in V$. Then $Tv = a_1w_1 + \dots + a_nw_n = a_1Tv_1 + \dots + a_nTv_n$. So, with additivity and homogeneity we can compute the following:

$$\begin{aligned} Tv &= a_1Tv_1 + \dots + a_nTv_n, \\ 0 &= T(a_1v_1 + \dots + a_nv_n) - Tv, \\ &= T(a_1v_1 + \dots + a_nv_n - v), \\ &= T(v - (a_1v_1 + \dots + a_nv_n)). \end{aligned}$$

So, we have that $v - a_1v_1 - \dots - a_nv_n \in \text{null } T$, thus we can write it as a linear combination of the basis elements u_i . So we have:

$$\begin{aligned} v - (a_1v_1 + \dots + a_nv_n) &= b_1u_1 + \dots + b_mu_m, \\ v &= b_1u_1 + \dots + b_mu_m + a_1v_1 + \dots + a_nv_n \end{aligned}$$

Notice that since $\text{null } T \subsetneq \mathbf{V}$, each of the u_i 's are elements of \mathbf{V} . Thus, an arbitrarily chosen element of \mathbf{V} can be expressed as a linear combination of finitely-many basis elements, which implies that \mathbf{V} is finite-dimensional, as we aimed to show. \square

Problem 21. Suppose V is finite-dimensional and $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$. Prove that T is surjective if and only if there exists $S \in \mathcal{L}(W, V)$ such that TS is the identity map on W .

Proof. Let \mathbf{V} be a finite-dimensional vector space over \mathbb{F} and let $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{W})$ for some vector space W ; let $\dim \mathbf{V} = n$ for $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$.

\Rightarrow) Assume T is surjective. Then $\text{range } T = \mathbf{W}$, but more importantly, we have that for each $w \in \mathbf{W}$, there exists $v \in \mathbf{V}$ such that $Tv = w$. Define $S : \mathbf{W} \rightarrow \mathbf{V}$ mapped by $w \mapsto v$ where v is such that $Tv = w$. Since T is surjective, S is well-defined. Then we have $TSw = Tv = w$, which shows that TS acts as the identity element from \mathbf{W} , as we aimed to show; it remains to prove the converse.

\Leftarrow) Assume there exists $S \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{V})$ such that TS is the identity map on \mathbf{W} , we will show that T is surjective, using the

definition of surjectivity¹ Let $w \in \mathbf{W}$, and note that S in this part of the proof is **not** defined as it is previously.² Notice that $Sw \in V$, hence for some $v \in \mathbf{V}$ we know $Sw = v$. By assumption $TSw = w$, but from the previous line we know that $Sw \in \mathbf{V}$ is the element that T maps to w , and since w is arbitrary, we have that $Tv = w$ for each $w \in \mathbf{W}$, which means that T satisfies the definition of being a surjective mapping, as we aimed show. \square

SECTION 3.C

Problem 4. Suppose v_1, \dots, v_m is a basis of V and W is finite-dimensional. Suppose $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$. Prove that there exists a basis w_1, \dots, w_m of W such that all the entries in the first column of $\mathcal{M}(T)$ (with respect to the bases v_1, \dots, v_m and w_1, \dots, w_m) are 0 except for possibly a 1 in the first row, first column.

Proof. Let v_1, \dots, v_m, V, W , and T be as above. I think the idea behind this problem is to show that matrices can be row-reduced, so we need to make a basis w_1, \dots, w_m where $Tv_1 = w_1$. So, we have two cases: (1) $Tv_1 = 0$; and (2) $Tv_1 \neq 0$. If $Tv_1 = 0$, then any w_1, \dots, w_m will work fine. If $Tv_1 \neq 0$, choose any w_1, \dots, w_m so that $Tv_1 = w_1$, as we alluded to above. \square

Problem 10. Suppose A is an m -by- n matrix and C is an n -by- p matrix. Prove that

$$(AC)_j.$$

In other words, show that row j of AC equals (row j of A) times C .

Proof. The notation for this problem was very cumbersome, so I wasn't able to come up with a good, clean solution. \square

¹I tried to show that $\text{range } T = \mathbf{W}$ for awhile, and that was hard; Shida suggested that we just use the definition.

²This is because the previous definition of S utilized the fact that T is surjective.

Problem 14. Prove that matrix multiplication is associative. In other words, suppose A , B , and C are matrices whose sizes are such that $(AB)C$ makes sense. Prove that $A(BC)$ makes sense and that $(AB)C = A(BC)$.

Proof. As a consequence of my previous abstract algebra course-work, I hate proving that something is associative directly from the definition, it's tedious and error-prone, so I tried to avoid that here. Recall that multiplication of linear maps is associative, and that linear maps can always be expressed as a matrix, we just need to ensure that the maps we're choosing have the appropriate dimensions. Let $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{F}^n, \mathbb{F}^m)$, $S \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{F}^m, \mathbb{F}^p)$, and $R \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{F}^p, \mathbb{F}^q)$. Next, let $\mathcal{M}(T) = A$, $\mathcal{M}(S) = B$, and $\mathcal{M}(R) = C$. Recall again that by Theorem 3.43 $\mathcal{M}(ST) = \mathcal{M}(S)\mathcal{M}(T)$, using this we compute the following:

$$\begin{aligned}
 (AB)C &= (\mathcal{M}(T)\mathcal{M}(S))\mathcal{M}(R), \\
 &= \mathcal{M}(TS)\mathcal{M}(R), \\
 &= \mathcal{M}((TS)R), \\
 &= \mathcal{M}(TSR), \\
 &= \mathcal{M}(T(SR)), \\
 &= \mathcal{M}(T)\mathcal{M}(SR), \\
 &= \mathcal{M}(T)(\mathcal{M}(S)\mathcal{M}(R)), \\
 &= A(BC).
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $(AB)C = A(BC)$ as we aimed to show.

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