

**HOMEWORK 5 – MATH 441**  
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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  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$  such that  $\dim \text{null } T = m$  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:

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

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 surjectivity<sup>1</sup> Let  $w \in \mathbf{W}$ , and note that  $S$  in this part of the proof is **not** defined as it is previously.<sup>2</sup> 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.  $\square$

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

<sup>2</sup>This 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 coursework, 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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