#### MATH 110 Notes

based on Linear Algebra Done Right, third edition

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## 1 Vector Spaces

- A vector space V is an abelian group under addition that has the distributive and associative properties
  in scalar multiplication and the multiplicative identity. (Here addition and scalar multiplication are
  closed operations in V.)
- $\mathbb{F}^S$  denotes the set of functions from S to  $\mathbb{F}$ . It is a vector space over  $\mathbb{F}$  under the sum and scalar multiplication of functions defined in the usual pointwise way.
- A vector space holds the cancellation law and has a unique additive identity and a unique additive inverse because it is a group. 0v = 0, a0 = 0, and (-1)v = -v hold by the distributive property.
- A subset U of the whole vector space V that is still a vector space is called a vector subspace. Usually we use the three criteria i)  $0_V \in U$  (or U is nonempty), ii) closed under addition in U, and iii) closed under scalar multiplication in U to verify. To show the criteria are equivalent to the definition, in one direction we show that  $0_V$  is the (unique) identity element of U and in the other direction we only need to check the additive inverse property (satisfied by (-1)u = -u).
- The sum  $U_1 + U_2 + \cdots + U_m$ , where  $U_i$ 's are subsets of V, is the set of all possible sums of the respective elements from each  $U_i$ .
- When the  $U_i$ 's are subspaces of V, then the sum is the smallest vector space containing all  $U_i$ 's.
- When the  $U_i$ 's are subspaces of V, and every element of the sum  $U_1 + U_2 + \cdots + U_m$  can be written in only one way as  $u_1 + u_2 + \cdots + u_m$ , we call the sum a *direct sum*, denoted by  $\oplus$  replacing +.
- The equivalent criterion for the sum to be a direct sum is that the only way to express 0 is to write it as the sum of 0's from each  $U_i$ . One direction is trivial, while the other direction employs the common trick of subtracting two different expressions of the same vector  $v \in V$ .
- If we are only discussing two subspaces U and W of V, then U+W is a direct sum iff their intersection is the  $\{0\}$ . The proof of this, in both directions, considers 0 = v + (-v). The fact W always contains an element and its inverse will give us the answer.
- Arbitrary intersection of subspaces of V is a subspace of V, and the union of two subspaces is still a subspace iff one is contained in the other.

# 2 Finite-Dimensional Vector Spaces

Remark. Note that this section in the book builds on the idea of a "list" of vectors, which is no different than using a "set" of vectors because vector addition is commutative. (We will use either a list or a set of vectors later depending on whether we have to specify the ordering of these vectors.) Finite-dimensional is defined in terms of a spanning list, and the concept of a basis and the dimension of a vector space is pushed backward. In our exposition, we rearrange the progression of these ideas and reconstruct some proofs.

- The span of a set S of vectors in V is defined to be all possible linear combinations of these vectors. In particular,  $\operatorname{span}(\emptyset) := \{0\}$ .
- Similar to the fact that the sum  $U_1 + U_2 + \cdots + U_m$  is the smallest vector space containing all  $U_i$ 's, span(S) is the smallest subspace of V containing all the vectors in S. The proof of the two are almost exactly the same.
- A polynomial p in an indeterminate z with coefficients in  $\mathbb{F}$  is the **expression**  $a_0 + a_1 z + \cdots + a_n z^n$  with all  $a_i$ 's in  $\mathbb{F}$ . The *degree* of a polynomial is the largest exponent of z with nonzero coefficient, and if all the coefficients are 0, we customarily define its degree to be  $-\infty$  in the book, or -1 elsewhere.
  - Since we are dealing with z and coefficients in  $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$  in this book, a polynomial here can be alternatively defined as the **function**  $p: \mathbb{F} \to \mathbb{F}$  with  $p(z) = a_0 + a_1 z + \cdots + a_n z^n$ . The reason behind is that a polynomial function with coefficients from an infinite field can be written into only one polynomial expression with its unique coefficients. See Chapter 4 of this book or Appendix E, Theorem 10 of *Linear Algebra* by Friedberg, Insel, and Spence. It is the consequence of the fact that a polynomial of degree  $n \geq 1$  has at most n distinct zeros. We will proceed with this definition of polynomials.
  - We denote the set of all polynomials with coefficients in  $\mathbb{F}$  by  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{F})$ . Under the usual coefficient-wise addition and scalar multiplication, it is obvious that  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{F})$  is a vector space over  $\mathbb{F}$ . In addition, the set of all polynomials with degree at most m, denoted by  $\mathcal{P}_m(\mathbb{F})$  is a vector subspace of  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{F})$ .
- Linear independence and dependence can be characterized in multiple ways. A set S of vectors is linearly independent iff the only way to write 0 as  $a_1v_1 + a_2v_2 + \cdots + a_mv_m$  is the trivial way. (We also sometimes say that some vectors themselves are linearly independent.) It is equivalent to saying that every linear combination has its only representation, or none of the vectors is in the span of the other vectors (can be written as a linear combination of them). Linear dependence is the negation of independence, but in particular we should remember that it means there exists at least one vector  $v_i$  that is in the span of the rest of the vectors.
  - Obviously removing such vector  $v_i$  from S will not change the span.
  - In particular, for a linearly independent set  $S = \{s_1, s_2, \ldots, s_m\} \subseteq a$  linearly dependent set  $T = \{s_1, s_2, \ldots, s_m, t_1, t_2, \ldots, t_n\}$ , one such vector is always in  $T \setminus S$ . This is because for the nontrivial way of writing  $0 = a_1 s_1 + \cdots + a_m s_m + b_1 t_1 + \cdots + b_n t_n$ , if all b's are 0, then all a's will also be 0. Thus, some  $b_i$  must be nonzero, and the corresponding  $t_i$  can be removed without changing the span.
    - \* The special case n = 1 of the contraposition will be useful to us. If one new vector is added to the linearly independent S but does not belong to span(S), then the resulting set is still linearly independent.
    - \* From this special case we know that for a linear dependent set  $\{v_1, \ldots, v_n\}$ , at some index  $k \leq n$  we have  $\{v_1, \ldots, v_{k-1}\}$  being linearly independent, while  $v_k \in \text{span}(\{v_1, \ldots, v_{k-1}\})$ . (This is the well-ordering case of the linear dependence lemma 2.21 in book that we will use again in Chapter 5.)
  - Note that a linearly independent set of vectors cannot have the 0 vector.

- We now have the essential tools to prove the following important theorem, that if a vector space V can be spanned by  $S = \{w_1, w_2, \ldots, w_n\}$ , then all linearly independent sets of vector  $\{u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_m\} \subseteq V$  must have  $m \leq n$ . The proof suggests adding a new  $u_i$  into S and then remove another  $w_j$  from S in each step. In the end all the u's will be added and the corresponding number of w's are removed from S. Therefore,  $m \leq n$ .
  - The direct consequence of this theorem is the definition of dimension. But before that we need to introduce the notion of a basis and its existence.
- A basis of V is a linearly independent spanning set of V. A set is a basis iff all vectors in V can be written as a unique linear combination of the basis vectors. This follows directly from the definition.
- Most of time we are concerned with vector spaces with finite bases. The vector spaces that have a finite spanning set are called *finite-dimensional vector spaces* (FDVS), and we will soon know why they bear this name. First of all, we can show that every finite spanning set of a FDVS V can be reduced to a finite basis. Furthermore, every linearly independent set of a FDVS V can be extended to a basis.
  - To prove the first claim, we construct our basis B from scratch and try to add all the elements of the spanning set  $S = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  one by one into the basis, as long as the element added is not in the span of the existing vectors in B. In this way, every time a new vector is added to B, B will still be linearly independent, and this B will be linearly independent in the end. Furthermore,  $\operatorname{span}(B) = \operatorname{span}(S) = V$  because all the v's left out are in  $\operatorname{span}(B)$ .
    - \* It is also possible to start B from S and check from  $v_1$  to  $v_n$  whether each vector is in the span of the rest of the vectors in B. If it is, then we remove it from B; if it is not, then we keep it. In the end,  $\operatorname{span}(B) = \operatorname{span}(S)$  and none of the vectors in B is in the span of the others. However, this is top-down approach is harder in practice to actually find the basis.
    - \* This claim shows that every FDVS has a finite basis.
  - To prove the second claim, similarly construct our basis from the given linearly independent set L. We pick a finite basis  $B = \{b_1, b_2, \ldots, b_n\}$  of V and check whether the next b may be added to L (same to what we did above). In the end, all the b's are in the span of L and L remains linearly independent.
- Choose two finite bases of a vector space. The fact that they are both linearly independent and both span V tells us that the two bases should have the same size, which we define as the *dimension* of a vector space. Thus, the vector spaces with finite bases are called *finite-dimensional*.
  - The fact that the bases of V has a fixed size implies every spanning set or linearly independent set of this size dim V is a basis itself (because the reduction/extension here is the trivial one).
- The subspace dimension  $\dim U$  is always  $\leq$  the whole space dimension  $\dim V$ . To accomplish this we have to resort to the classic procedure: we add vectors from U that are not in the span of the existing ones in L. Thus L always remains linearly independent, and it should always be smaller in size than B, a spanning set of U. Our procedure will eventually terminate and no more vectors can be added to L, i.e., all the vectors in V is in  $\operatorname{span}(L)$ . L is our desired basis, and  $|L| = \dim U \leq \dim V = |B|$ .
  - Note it is WRONG to assume that a finite basis of the whole space can always be reduced to a finite basis of the subspace!

- Corollary: for FDVS V and its subspace U, if the two spaces have the same dimension, then they are the same space. This is an important result useful in many proofs.
- There are two more things that deserve mentioning. For FDVS V and its subspace U, we can always find subspace W such that  $V = U \oplus W$ . The idea is to find a basis  $B_U$  of U and extend it to the basis  $B_V$  of V. span $(B_V \backslash B_U)$  is our desired W. We then only have to show V = U + W and  $U \cap W = \{0\}$ , which is not difficult.
- The dimension of the sum of two vector spaces  $U_1$  and  $U_2$  can be expressed as follows:

$$\dim(U_1 + U_2) = \dim U_1 + \dim U_2 - \dim(U_1 \cap U_2).$$

- Despite the fact that it looks like the inclusion-exclusion formula, + and ∪ are quite different, thus the formula cannot be similarly generalized to higher orders. To prove the formula, start from a basis  $\{u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_m\}$  of  $U_1 \cap U_2$  (intersection is a subspace).  $U_1$  and  $U_2$  then have their respective bases  $B_1$  and  $B_2$ . We can show  $B_1 \cup B_2$  is a basis of  $U_1 + U_2$ . See page 47 of the book for the full proof.
- Note that when the sum is a direct sum, then the formula is just  $\dim(U_1 \oplus U_2) = \dim U_1 + \dim U_2$ .

## 3 Linear Maps

#### 3.1 The Vector Space of Linear Maps

• A linear map(ping)/transformation is a homomorphism of vector spaces under addition and scalar multiplication. The linear structure is preserved after the transformation T. To use symbols, a linear map is a function  $T: V \to W$  such that for all  $u, v \in V$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{F}$  (the field of V and W),

$$T(u+v) = Tu + Tv$$
 and  $T(\lambda u) = \lambda T(u)$ .

- The zero transformation maps every vector of V to  $0_W$ . The identity transformation  $I_V: V \to V$  maps each element of V to itself in V.
- We define the addition and scalar multiplication of linear maps in the vector-wise way:

$$(S+T)(v) = Sv + Tv$$
 and  $(\lambda T)(v) = \lambda T(v)$ ,

following which we can easily show that the set of linear maps  $\mathcal{L}(V,W)$  from V to W is a vector space over  $\mathbb{F}$ . In addition to the linear properties, we define the *product* ST of linear maps same as  $S \circ T$ , given the appropriate domain and codomain. Why the product is essential will become clear later. The theory of functions tells us this product is associative  $[T_1(T_2T_3) = (T_1T_2)T_3]$  and the identity works as usual  $(I_WT = TI_V = T)$ . The distributive properties  $((S_1 + S_2)T = S_1T + S_2T)$  and  $S(T_1 + T_2) = ST_1 + ST_2$  obviously hold as well.

• If  $T(x_1, \ldots, x_n) = (a_{11}x_1 + \cdots + a_{1n}x_n, \ldots, a_{m1}x_1 + \cdots + a_{mn}x_n)$ , then T is obviously a linear map from  $\mathbb{F}^n$  to  $\mathbb{F}^m$ . For a linear map  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{F}^n, \mathbb{F}^m)$ , it must be of this form, and all the  $a_{ij}$ 's are determined by the mapping of the n canonical basis vectors of  $\mathbb{F}^n$ .

• The uniqueness of the linear map that takes basis vectors  $v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_n$  to corresponding vectors  $w_1, w_2, \ldots, w_n$  is the most fundamental theorem in this section. It is our first step toward showing that linear maps and matrices are isomorphic. To prove the theorem, for arbitrary  $a_i$ 's, let

$$T: \sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i v_i \mapsto \sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i w_i.$$

- Here are a few properties that are useful in linear maps. The proofs are quite routine.
  - $-T(0_V)=0_W;$
  - T is linear iff T(cx + y) = cT(x) + T(y) for all c, x, y.

### 3.2 Null Spaces and Ranges

- The nullspace/kernel null T is the preimage of  $0_W$ . The range/image range T is defined the same as the range of a function. The nullspace and the range are respectively subspaces of V and W (by checking the three criterion). If the nullspace (resp. range) is finite-dimensional, then its dimension is the nullity (resp. rank) of T.
  - Since  $\dim U = \dim W$  for subspace U of W implies U = W, rank  $T = \dim W$  implies surjection.
  - An easy theorem to always keep in mind is that the map of the basis vectors of V spans range T. We will use it in the proof of the next theorem.
- We are now endowed with all the tools to prove the **rank-nullity theorem**: for a FDVS V and T from V to W, range T is finite-dimensional with

$$\dim V = \dim \operatorname{null} T + \dim \operatorname{range} T$$
.

- As always, we need to construct a basis to work with first. Let  $u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n$  be a basis of null T, and thus can be extended to  $u_1, \ldots, u_m, v_1, \ldots, v_n$  a basis of V. We prove  $T(\{v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_n\})$  is a basis for range T. The fact that the u's are in the nullspace shows that  $Tv_1, \ldots, Tv_n$  spans range T (by the "easy" theorem above). To show the elements are linearly independent, consider that

$$a_1T(v_1) + \cdots + a_nT(v_n) = 0$$

implies  $a_1v_1 + \cdots + a_nv_n \in \text{null } T$ . Yet we also have  $b_1u_1 + \cdots + b_nu_n \in \text{null } T$ , so we can set the two linear combinations equal. Because the u's and v's are altogether linearly independent, the coefficients a's (and b's) are all 0.

- The rank-nullity theorem gives rise to a number of equivalent characterizations regarding injection and surjection. First of all, there is a criterion that says T is injective iff null T = 0 (proof follows straight from the definition of nullspace). The results below follow.
  - A map to a smaller dimensional space cannot be injective because  $\dim(\text{null }T) > 0$ .
  - A map to a large dimensional space cannot be surjective because  $\dim(\operatorname{range} T) \leq \dim V < \dim W$ .

-V and W are FDVS of equal dimension, then

T is injective  $\iff$  T is surjective  $\iff$  dim range  $T = \dim V$ .

- Solving systems of linear equations is a direct application of this.
  - A homogeneous system of linear equations with more variables than equations has nonzero solutions. Here we can view the system as a linear map T that maps the vector of unknown variables  $x \in \mathbb{F}^n$  to  $0 \in \mathbb{F}^m$  with n > m. The nullity of T is greater than 0 as a result.
  - Similarly, the T associated with an inhomogeneous equation with more equations than variables
    is not surjective, and thus some choices of constants on the right side will give no solutions to the
    system.

#### 3.3 Matrices

- Consider the *n*-dimensional V with basis  $v_1, \ldots, v_n$  and m-dimensional W with basis  $w_1, \ldots, w_m$ . For  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$ , we can find for every  $v_k$ , a list of  $A_{i,k}$ 's such that  $Tv_k = A_{1,k}w_1 + \cdots + A_{m,k}w_m = \sum_{j=1}^m A_{j,k}w_j$ . As a result, we have n lists of scalar a's, each of length m, and we can put them into an  $m \times n$  matrix A, with entries  $a_{i,j}$  in the i-th row and j-th column.  $\mathcal{M}(T, (v_1, \ldots, v_n), (w_1, \ldots, w_n))$  uniquely determines the linear map  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$ .
  - Assume

$$Tv_1 = A'_{1,1}w_1 + \dots + A'_{1,m}w_m,$$
  

$$\vdots$$

$$Tv_n = A'_{n,1}w_1 + \dots + A'_{n,m}w_m,$$

from which we get the  $m \times n$  matrix A'. Its transpose  $n \times m$  A is our defined matrix representation of T. The reason for taking transpose will become clear later.

- We define matrix addition entry-wise, because under this definition, matrix representation of linear maps preserves addition, i.e.  $\mathcal{M}(S+T) = \mathcal{M}(S) + \mathcal{M}(T)$  for  $S, T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$ , assuming S+T, S, and T share the same ordered bases.
- Similarly entry-wise scalar multiplication with matrices give us  $\mathcal{M}(\lambda T) = \lambda \mathcal{M}(T)$ .
- Given the definition of matrix addition and scalar multiplication,  $\mathbb{F}^{m,n}$ , the set of matrices with m rows and n columns over  $\mathbb{F}$ , is a vector space of dimension mn.
- The reason why we represent linear maps from n-dimensional VS to m-dimensional VS is that we want to preserve the ordering of "S" and "T" after matrix representation, i.e.,  $\mathcal{M}(ST) = \mathcal{M}(S)\mathcal{M}(T)$  instead of  $\mathcal{M}(T)\mathcal{M}(S)$ , under the usual definition of matrix multiplication:

$$[AC]_{j,k} = \sum_{r=1}^{n} A_{j,r} C_{r,k}.$$

- Remember that matrix multiplication is not commutative, but is associative and distributive.

• The book defines  $A_{j,.}$  and  $A_{\cdot,k}$  as the j-th row and the k-th column of matrix A, and thus  $[AC]_{j,k} = A_{j,.}C_{\cdot,k}$ . Also, k-th column of matrix product equals matrix times the k-th column of the second matrix:

$$[AC]_{\cdot,k} = AC_{\cdot,k},$$

which is an alternative to understanding matrix multiplication. Obviously there is a row equivalent version that says j-th row of the matrix product equals j-th row times the second matrix.

• When we are considering matrix A times a column vector c, we can see Ac as the linear combination  $c_1A_{\cdot,1} + \cdots + c_nA_{\cdot,n}$ .

### 3.4 Invertibility and Isomorphic Vector Spaces

- $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$  is invertible if there exists S such that  $ST = I_V$  and  $TS = I_W$ . We denote this inverse S by  $T^{-1}$ . One can show that the inverse must be linear and thus belongs to  $\mathcal{L}(W, V)$ . By the associativity of linear maps, the inverse is unique.
- Invertibility is equivalent to bijectivity between vector spaces. Linear maps are functions, so beyond showing that the inverse is linear, the proof is exactly the same.
- An *isomorphism* is an invertible linear map; if an isomorphism exists between two vector spaces, then the vector spaces are *isomorphic*.
- Two FDVS over  $\mathbb{F}$  are isomorphic iff they have the same dimension. Injection gives us nullity = 0 and surjection gives us rank  $T = \dim W$ . The rank-nullity theorem tells us  $\dim V = \dim W$ . On the other hand to prove isomorphism, we show  $T(a_1v_1 + \cdots + a_nv_n) = a_1w_1 + \cdots + a_nw_n$  is both injective and surjective, which is not hard.
  - The theorem above implies n-dimensional VS is always isomorphic to  $\mathbb{F}^n$ .
- Now we show the isomorphism between a linear map and its corresponding matrix. When the orders of the bases  $v_1, \ldots, v_n$  and  $w_1, w_2, \ldots, w_m$  are fixed, then  $\mathcal{M}$  is a function from  $\mathcal{L}(V, W)$  to  $\mathbb{F}^{m,n}$ . As we have noted earlier  $\mathcal{M}$  is linear. Thus, it suffices to show that  $\mathcal{M}$  is bijective.
  - For all  $A \in \mathbb{F}^{m,n}$ , let

$$Tv_k = \sum_{j=1}^m A_{j,k} w_j.$$

Then this is the *unique* (recall the theorem we emphasized in §3.1) T such that  $A = \mathcal{M}(T)$ .

- A linear map and its matrix representation are homomorphic not merely in regards to linearity, but also in regards to the preservation of the order of the product  $\mathcal{M}(ST) = \mathcal{M}(S)\mathcal{M}(T)$ .
- By the theorems on isomorphism above,  $\dim \mathcal{L}(V, W) = mn = (\dim V)(\dim W)$ .
- We now shift our focus from the matrix representing an entire linear map to the matrix/column vector representing a vector in the same V. We fix the basis  $v_1, \ldots, v_n$ , then for any  $v \in V$ , we define

$$\mathcal{M}(v) = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_n \end{bmatrix},$$

where  $a_1, \ldots, a_n$  are given by  $v = a_1v_1 + \cdots + a_nv_n$ . Here  $\mathcal{M}$  is an isomorphism from V to  $F^{n(1)}$ .

- Following this definition,  $\mathcal{M}(T)_{\cdot,k} = \mathcal{M}(Tv_k)$ .
- More importantly, the linear map of a vector can now be completely described by matrix-multiplication. Symbolically, we want to prove  $\mathcal{M}(Tv) = \mathcal{M}(T)\mathcal{M}(v)$  for all  $v \in V$ . Since  $v = a_1v_1 + \cdots + a_nv_n$  and  $\mathcal{M}$  is linear,

$$\mathcal{M}(Tv) = a_1 \mathcal{M}(Tv_1) + \dots + a_n \mathcal{M}(Tv_n)$$
$$= a_1 \mathcal{M}(T)_{\cdot,1} + \dots + a_n \mathcal{M}(T)_{\cdot,n}$$
$$= \mathcal{M}(T) \mathcal{M}(v).$$

- How do we interpret this? Consider the following diagram under the appropriate bases for V and W.

$$V \xrightarrow{T} W$$

$$\mathcal{M} \uparrow \simeq \qquad \mathcal{M} \uparrow \simeq$$

$$\mathbb{F}^{n,1} \xrightarrow{\mathcal{M}(T)} \mathbb{F}^{m,1}$$

For a vector  $v \in V$ , its image  $\mathcal{M}(v)$  under the isomorphism  $\mathcal{M}$  of V belongs to  $\mathbb{F}^{n,1}$ . Matrix multiplication with  $\mathcal{M}(T)$  gives us  $\mathcal{M}(Tv) \in \mathbb{F}^{m,1}$ , which we identify with Tv under the isomorphism  $\mathcal{M}$  of W. This is why a linear map can be described entirely by its matrix representation.

- If  $V = \mathbb{F}^n$  and  $W = \mathbb{F}^m$  and we are using the canonical bases, then the linear map is equivalent to matrix multiplication. Think about the Jacobian matrix representation of the total derivative in the Euclidean space. Left-multiplication by a matrix corresponds to the linear transformation of a vector.
- A linear operator is a linear map from a VS to itself. The notation  $\mathcal{L}(V)$  stands for  $\mathcal{L}(V,V)$ .
- Suppose V is FDVS and  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$ , then (a) T is invertible iff (b) T is injective iff (c) T is surjective. (This is not true for infinite-dimensional vector space.) This is true for functions  $f: S \to S$  (where S is finite) in general, but for linear maps the proof is likely to be rather simple:
  - (a)  $\Longrightarrow$  (b) we proved earlier.
  - (b)  $\Longrightarrow$  (c) by checking the rank-nullity theorem. Injection means nullity T=0, which implies rank  $T=\dim V$ .
    - (c)  $\Longrightarrow$  (a) by showing T is injective, as nullity  $T = \dim V \operatorname{rank} T$ , which is 0.

#### 3.5 Products and Quotients of Vector Spaces

• The product  $V_1 \times \cdots \times V_n$  of vector spaces  $V_1, \ldots, V_n$  over  $\mathbb{F}$  is the set

$$\{(v_1,\ldots,v_n) \mid v_1 \in V_1,\ldots,v_n \in V_n\}.$$

The addition and scalar multiplication on the product is defined in the usual entry-wise way. It is routine to prove that this product is a vector space over  $\mathbb{F}$  as well.

•  $\dim(V_1 \times \cdots \times V_n) = \dim V_1 + \cdots + \dim V_n$ . Why? Choose a basis for each  $V_i$ , then put every basis

vector of  $V_i$  into the *i*-th entry of  $(v_1, \ldots, v_n)$  and let other entries be 0. These vectors are linearly independent and span the product and thus is a basis of the product.

• For subspaces  $U_1, \ldots, U_n$  of V, define the linear map  $\Gamma: U_1 \times \cdots \times U_n \to U_1 + \cdots + U_n$  by

$$\Gamma(u_1,\ldots,u_n)=u_1+\cdots+u_n.$$

(One can easily check that this map is indeed linear.) Then  $U_1 + \cdots + U_n$  is a direct sum iff  $\Gamma$  is injective (or invertible, since  $\Gamma$  is surjective by its definition.) To prove this, we just need to show null T = 0 iff the only way to write  $0 = u_1 + \cdots + u_n$  is to let all u's be 0. This is quite clear.

• The last two theorems lead to the following one. A sum of subspaces  $U_i$ 's of V is a direct sum iff dimensions add up. This is because two isomorphic vector spaces must have the same dimension. In both directions we would encounter

$$\dim(U_1 + \dots + U_n) = \dim(U_1 \times \dots \times U_n) = \dim U_1 + \dots + \dim U_n.$$

Construct the linear map  $\Gamma$  above from the product of subspaces makes the proof really clean. Recall that we have proved the special case n=2 already.

- An affine subset of V is a subset of V of the form  $v + U = \{v + u \mid u \in U\}$  for some vector  $v \in V$  and some subspace U of V. Here the affine subset v + U is said to be parallel to U.
  - -v+U is a subspace of V iff  $v \in U$ . If  $v \in U$ , then v+U=U, subspace of V. If  $v \notin U$ , then  $0 \notin v+U$ , and thus v+U cannot be a subspace of V.
- Under the same setting, the quotient space V/U is the set of all affine subsets of V parallel to U, i.e.,  $V/U = \{v + U \mid v \in V\}$ .
- For subspace U of V and  $v, w \in U$ , then

(a) 
$$v - w \in U \iff$$
 (b)  $v + U = w + U \iff$  (c)  $(v + U) \cap (w + U) \neq \emptyset$ .

(a)  $\Longrightarrow$  (b) as  $v + u = w + ((v - w) + u) \in w + U$  (and the same for the other direction). (b)  $\Longrightarrow$  (c) because v + U is not empty, while (c)  $\Longrightarrow$  (a) because  $v + u_1 = w + u_2$  for some  $u_1$  and  $u_2$ , and we then move v - w to the left side.

- The theorem above tells us that two affine subset to U are either the same or disjoint.
- The addition and scalar multiplication on V/U are defined by

$$(v+U)+(w+U)=(v+w)+U$$
 and  $\lambda(v+U)=\lambda v+U$ .

We should pay particular attention to this definition because **an affine subset do not have a unique** representation (for  $v \neq v'$ , it is possible that v + U = v' + U still)! Therefore, one has to show that different representations v + U and w + U of the same affine subsets of U still gives us a **unique** (v + w) + U, so that the addition function above is well-defined (and similar for scalar multiplication). Suppose v + U = v' + U and w + U = w' + U, then essentially we want to prove (v + w) + U = (v' + w') + U.

By assumption v - v' and  $w - w' \in U$ ,  $(v + w) - (v' + w') \in U$ , and we reach the conclusion (and similar for scalar multiplication).

- V/U with the two operations above is a vector space. Showing this is routine, but one has to remember that V/U is not a subspace of V. Despite all the elements of the quotient space is in the whole space, the additive identity is now 0 + U = U, and the additive inverse of v + U is -v + U. (The quotient space is discussed with respect to a fixed subspace.) Therefore, we have to check the 8 VS properties.
  - Also, by the previous theorem, for any  $v \in U$ , v + U equals the 0 vector (0+)U and is thus not a basis vector for V/U.
- To find the dimension of V/U, we appeal to the trick of constructing a linear map again. (One should check its linearity) The quotient map  $\pi: V \to V/U$  is given by

$$\pi(v) = v + U.$$

For FDVS V and its subspace U,  $\dim V/U = \dim V - \dim U$ .  $\pi$  is a map onto V/U obviously, and null  $\pi = U$ . Therefore the formula follows.

- A basis from V/U combined with a basis from U form a basis of V. Suppose  $v_1, \ldots, v_n$  are the basis vectors of V/U and  $u_1, \ldots, u_m$  are the basis vectors of U. If we write

$$a_1v_1 + \dots + a_nv_n + b_1u_1 + \dots + b_mu_m = 0,$$

then necessarily  $(a_1v_1 + \cdots + a_nv_n) \in U$ , which implies that

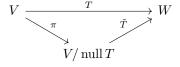
$$0 + U = (a_1v_1 + \dots + a_nv_n) + U = a_1(v_1 + U) + \dots + a_n(v_n + U).$$

Because the v+U's form a basis of V/U, the coefficients  $a_1, \ldots, a_n$  must be 0. Since  $u_1, \ldots, u_m$  form a basis of U, their coefficients  $b_1, \ldots, b_m$  must also be 0. And because  $v_1, \ldots, v_n, u_1, \ldots, u_m$  is of length n+m, by the previous theorem this indeed is a basis of V.

• Now we define the induced map  $\tilde{T}: V/(\operatorname{null} T) \to W$  of  $T: V \to W$  by

$$\tilde{T}(v + \text{null } T) = Tv.$$

 $u + \operatorname{null} T = v + \operatorname{null} T$  implies  $u - v \in \operatorname{null} T$ , and thus Tu - Tv = 0. Therefore the induced map is well defined. Checking the linearity of  $\tilde{T}$  is routine. Note that  $T = \tilde{T} \circ \pi$ .



• The definition leads to the isomorphism theorem that exists for different algebraic structures. For  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V,W)$ ,  $\tilde{T}$  is injective and range  $\tilde{T} = \operatorname{range} T$ . The latter simply follows from the definition, while the first requires us to prove null  $\tilde{T} = \{0 + \operatorname{null} T\}$ , the identity.  $\tilde{T}(v + \operatorname{null} T) = Tv = 0$  gives us  $v - 0 \in \operatorname{null} T$ . Hence,  $v + \operatorname{null} T = 0 + \operatorname{null} T$ , and the conclusion follows.

- The two claims combined tell us  $V/(\text{null }T) \simeq \text{range }T$  under the isomorphism  $\tilde{T}$ .

## 3.6 Duality

- A linear functional on V is a linear map belonging to  $\mathcal{L}(V, \mathbb{F})$ . The dual space of V, denoted usually by  $V^*$  or V', is the vector space  $\mathcal{L}(V, \mathbb{F})$ .
- We proved earlier that  $\dim \mathcal{L}(V,W) = (\dim V)(\dim W)$ . Therefore,  $\dim V' = \dim V$  for finite-dimensional V.
- The dual basis of  $v_1, \ldots, v_n$ , basis of V, is a set of vectors  $\varphi_1, \ldots, \varphi_n$  in V', where each  $\varphi_i$  is a linear functional defined by

$$\varphi_i(v_j) = \delta_{ij} = \begin{cases}
1 & \text{if } i = j, \\
0 & \text{if } i \neq j.
\end{cases}$$

These  $\varphi_i$ 's are designed to form a basis of V'. It suffices to show that  $\varphi_1, \ldots, \varphi_n$  is linearly independent in V'. Consider

$$a_1\varphi_1 + \dots + a_n\varphi_n = 0.$$

Since  $(a_1\varphi_1 + \cdots + a_n\varphi_n)(v_j) = a_j$ , all  $a_j$ 's are 0.

- Remember that the dual basis vector  $\varphi_i$  of  $e_1, \ldots, e_n$  in  $\mathbb{F}^n$  has

$$\varphi_i(x_1,\ldots,x_n) = \varphi_i(x_1e_1 + \cdots + x_ne_n) = x_i.$$

Namely, the *i*-th dual basis vector maps  $(x_1, \ldots, x_n)$  to its *i*-th coordinate.

- For  $v_1, \ldots, v_n$  basis of V and its associated dual basis  $\varphi_1, \ldots, \varphi_n$  of V',
  - first, every  $\psi \in V'$  can be written as  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} \psi(v_i)\varphi_i$ . Since  $(\sum_{i=1}^{n} \psi(v_i)\varphi_i)(v_j) = \psi(v_j)$ , the sum and  $\psi$  agrees on all basis vectors and they are equal.
  - second, every  $v \in V$  can be written as  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} \varphi_i(v)v_i$ . For this claim one needs to prove that for  $v = a_1v_1 + \cdots + a_nv_n$ , every  $a_j = \varphi_j(v)$ . By linearity,  $\varphi_j(v) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i\varphi_j(v_i) = a_j$ .
- The dual map  $T' \in \mathcal{L}(W', V')$  of  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$  is given by  $T'(\varphi) = \varphi \circ T$  for  $\varphi \in W'$ . We have to be very clear about what this definition means. Here T' maps a function to a function.

$$\begin{array}{c|c} W & V \\ \hline \varphi & \xrightarrow{T'} & \downarrow \begin{array}{c} \varphi \circ T \\ \text{through} \\ W \end{array}$$
 
$$\mathbb{F} \qquad \qquad \mathbb{F}$$

T' is a composition of linear maps and is thus a linear map from V' to  $\mathbb{F}$ . To show that T' is linear from W' to V', one simply follows the definition.

- The following algebraic properties hold for dual maps:
  - \*(S+T)' = S' + T',
  - \*  $(\lambda T)' = \lambda T'$ ,

$$* (ST)' = T'S'$$

under the appropriate S, T, and  $\lambda$ . The first two are routine, and the third one is manipulation of function compositions.

- We define annihilator  $U^0$  of  $U \subseteq V$  as  $\{\varphi \in V' \mid \varphi(U) = 0\}$ , the subset of all linear functionals on V whose image is 0.
- There is a good example (3.104) in the book about annihilators. For the dual basis  $\varphi_1, \ldots, \varphi_5$  in  $(\mathbb{F}^5)'$  that corresponds to  $e_1, \ldots, e_5$  in  $\mathbb{F}^5$ ,  $(\operatorname{span}(e_1, e_2))^0 = \operatorname{span}(\varphi_3, \varphi_4, \varphi_5)$ , since  $\varphi_i$  takes out the *i*-th coordinate.
- As expected  $U^0$  is a subspace of V'. The zero linear functional takes  $U \subseteq V$  to 0.  $(\varphi + \psi)(U) = 0$  and  $\lambda \varphi(U) = 0$  are omitted as usual.
- For FDVS V and its subspace U,

$$\dim U + \dim U^0 = \dim V.$$

The book mentions two proofs. The first proof takes the usual "choose a basis and extend it" approach. The second proof is more obscure: consider the inclusion map  $i \in \mathcal{L}(U, V)$  such that i(u) = u for all  $u \in U$ , then  $i' \in \mathcal{L}(V', U')$ , which gives us

$$\dim \operatorname{null} i' + \dim \operatorname{range} i' = \dim V' = \dim V.$$

Note that  $i'(\varphi) = \varphi \circ i$  for  $\varphi \in V'$ , giving us null  $i' = U^0$ . The nullspace of i' are the set of  $\varphi$ 's such that  $\varphi \circ i = 0$ , and therefore  $\varphi$  should map the entire U to 0.

Now we show  $U = \operatorname{range} i'$ . A linear map defined on a subspace can always be extended to the whole space, and thus we may extend any  $\varphi \in U'$  to  $\psi \in V'$ . The dual map i' maps  $\psi$  back to  $\varphi$ , so  $\varphi \in U' \implies \varphi \in \operatorname{range} i'$ , showing us what we desire.

- The nullspace and range of the dual map T' can now be characterized in terms of the concepts we have introduced.
  - For  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$ , null  $T' = (\text{range } T')^0$ :

$$\varphi \in \text{null } T' \iff (\varphi \circ T)(v) = \varphi(Tv) = 0 \iff \varphi \in (\text{range } T)^0.$$

- If V, W are finite-dimensional, then we have

$$\dim \operatorname{null} T' = \dim(\operatorname{range} T)^0$$

$$= \dim W - \dim \operatorname{range} T$$

$$= \dim W - (\dim V - \dim \operatorname{null} T)$$

$$= \dim \operatorname{null} T + \dim W - \dim V.$$

- dim range T' = dim range T easily follows from the rank-nullity theorem and the two bullet points above.
- Also we can prove range  $T' = (\text{null } T)^0$ . Showing range  $T' \subseteq (\text{null } T)^0$  is standard (just assume T' maps  $\varphi$  to  $\psi \in \text{range } T'$ ), while the other direction is quite tricky. The book assumes finite-

dimension here and showed the two spaces have the same dimension:

$$\dim \operatorname{range} T' = \dim \operatorname{range} T = \dim V - \dim \operatorname{null} T = \dim(\operatorname{null} T)^{0}.$$

We have to make a side note here. When we proved the first bullet point, we did not assume finite-dimension of V and W, so it is natural to consider if our proof of range  $T' \supseteq (\text{null } T)^0$  also does not require the finite-dimension assumption either.

We may formulate our question this way: for  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$  and  $\varphi \in V'$  with  $\varphi(\text{null } T) = 0$ , can we always find a  $\psi \in W'$  such that  $\varphi = \psi \circ T$ ? This turns out to be true if we assume the axiom of choice from set theory, which has important corollaries in the theory of infinite-dimensional vector spaces. We will not get into details here, but it is interesting to know about this.

• The corollary of the previous claims are the following:

T is surjective  $\iff T'$  is injective and T is injective  $\iff T'$  is surjective.

Proof of this is quite standard, and we show the first one here only:

$$T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$$
 surjective  $\iff$  range  $T = W \iff$  (range  $T$ )<sup>0</sup> = 0  $\iff$  null  $T' = 0 \iff$   $T'$  injective.

- The row rank and column rank of matrix A are defined to be the dimension of the span of the rows of A in  $\mathbb{F}^{1,n}$  and of the columns of A in  $\mathbb{F}^{m,1}$ , respectively. As we know from lower-division matrix algebra, they are the same and represent the number of pivots in a reduced row echelon form of a matrix. We now prove this fact with the tools we have.
- $\mathcal{M}(T') = (\mathcal{M}(T))^t$ . Consider the dual basis  $\psi_j$   $(1 \leq j \leq m)$  of W' and  $\varphi_j$   $(1 \leq k \leq n)$  of V'. Then

$$T'(\psi_j) = \sum_{r=1}^n C_{r,j} \varphi_r,$$

which we evaluate at  $v_k$ :

$$(\psi_j \circ T)(v_k) = \sum_{r=1}^n C_{r,j} \varphi_r(v_k) = C_{k,j}.$$

On the other hand, we have

$$(\psi_j)(Tv_k) = \psi_j(\sum_{r=1}^m A_{r,k}w_r) = \sum_{r=1}^m A_{r,k}\psi_j(w_r) = A_{j,k}.$$

- First, dim range  $T = \text{column rank of } \mathcal{M}(T)$ . From bases  $v_1, \ldots, v_n$  and  $w_1, \ldots, w_m$  of V and W, we have  $\text{span}(\{Tv_1, \ldots, Tv_n\})$  is isomorphic to  $\text{span}(\{\mathcal{M}(Tv_1), \ldots, \mathcal{M}(Tv_n)\})$  under the isomorphism  $\mathcal{M}$ . Thus, the two VS have the same dimensions, with  $\text{dim span}(\{\mathcal{M}(Tv_1), \ldots, \mathcal{M}(Tv_n)\}) = \text{column rank}$  of  $\mathcal{M}(T)$ . Recall that  $\text{span}(\{Tv_1, \ldots, Tv_n\}) = \text{range } T$ , thus  $\text{dim range } T = \text{column rank of } \mathcal{M}(T)$ , as desired.
- For  $A \in \mathbb{F}^{m,n}$ , define  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V,W)$  as the left-multiplication by A map (i.e., Tx = Ax). Then

 $A = \mathcal{M}(T)$  with respect to the canonical bases. It follows that

```
column rank of A = \text{column rank of } \mathcal{M}(T)
= \dim \text{range } T = \dim \text{range } T' (which we proved a moment ago)
= \text{column rank of } \mathcal{M}(T') = \text{column rank of } A^t = \text{row rank of } A.
```

Therefore, rank is a property of a finite matrix.

## 4 Polynomials

*Remark.* We used facts about polynomials in high school algebra. These facts were intuitively "understood" by us back then, but we never had the chance to rigorously prove them.

- The division algorithm for polynomials is similar to the one in number theory. For  $p, s \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{F})$  with  $s \neq 0$ , then there exist a pair of unique polynomials  $q, r \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{F})$  such that p = sq + r and  $\deg r < \deg s$ .
  - For deg  $p < \deg s$ , then q = 0 and r = p. If deg  $p = n \ge \deg s = m$ , we define  $T : \mathcal{P}_{n-m}(\mathbb{F}) \times \mathcal{P}_{m-1}(\mathbb{F}) \to \mathcal{P}_n(\mathbb{F})$  by

$$T(q,r) = sq + r.$$

Clearly T is a linear map, and we basically want to show T is bijective. For sq + r = 0, we must have q = 0 and r = 0 because otherwise deg  $sq \ge m > \deg r$ . Also, notice that

$$\dim(\mathcal{P}_{n-m}(\mathbb{F}) \times \mathcal{P}_{m-1}(\mathbb{F})) = n+1 = \dim \mathcal{P}_n(\mathbb{F}).$$

- Each zero of a polynomial corresponds to a degree-1 factor, i.e., for  $p \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{F})$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{F}$ ,  $p(\lambda) = 0$  iff  $\exists q \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{F})$  such that for all  $z \in \mathbb{F}$ ,  $p(z) = (z \lambda)q(z)$ . To prove the  $\implies$  direction, division algorithm gives us  $p(z) = (z \lambda)q(z) + r$  (here r is a constant) as  $(z \lambda)$  is of degree 1. Thus,  $p(\lambda) = 0$  gives us r = 0.
- A polynomial  $p \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{F})$  has at most as many zeros as its degree  $(\geq 0)$ . deg = 0 and 1 can be checked, and we proceed with induction on higher orders. If p has no zeros, then done. If p has one zero, let

$$p(z) = (z - \lambda)q(z),$$

where p is of degree m+1 and q is of degree m (with at most m zeros).

• Recall the remark on polynomials we made in Chapter 2. Now we prove that polynomial functions over an infinite field  $\mathbb{F}$  have a unique representation. Suppose  $f, g \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{F})$  and f(z) = g(z) for all  $z \in \mathbb{F}$ , we want to show that f = g.

Define h = f - g, and then we have  $\forall z \in \mathbb{F}, h(z) = 0$ . Suppose h is a nonzero polynomial of degree n, then by the division algorithm h has at most n zeros, yet  $\mathbb{F}$  is an infinite field, contradiction! Thus h = f - g is the zero polynomial, and f = g as a result.

- In the case of  $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{C}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$ , the book gives another proof of the contraposition that if one coefficient

out of

$$h(z) = a_0 + a_1 z + \dots + a_m z^m$$

is not zero, then  $h(z) \neq 0$  for some  $z \in \mathbb{F}$ . Assume  $m \neq 0$  and pick

$$z = \frac{|a_0| + \dots + |a_{m-1}|}{|a_m|} + 1 \ge 1.$$

Thus,  $z^j \leq z^{m-1}$  for all  $j \leq m-1$ . By triangle inequality and  $|a_m|z > |a_0| + \cdots + |a_{m-1}|$ ,

$$|a_0 + a_1 z + \dots + a_{m-1} z^{m-1}| \le (|a_0| + \dots + |a_{m-1}|) z^{m-1} < |a_m z^m|.$$

Therefore  $a_0 + a_1 z + \dots + a_{m-1} z^{m-1} \neq -a_m z^m$ .

- The proof of the fundamental theorem of algebra is omitted here for the obvious reason. Every nonconstant polynomial on  $\mathbb{C}$  has a zero, which directly implies that a polynomial p of degree m has m nondistinct roots, which we sketch below.
  - Every nonconstant polynomial over  $\mathbb C$  has a unique factorization (up to the order of factors) of the form

$$p(z) = c(z - \lambda_1) \cdots (z - \lambda_m), \tag{*}$$

where  $c, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m \in \mathbb{C}$ . We call this the unique factorization theorem.

- To prove this, by the fundamental theorem of algebra we can factorize p(z) into  $(z \lambda)q(z)$ , and again factorize q(z), and so on. We have proved the existence of such factorization.
- Now we proceed to prove the uniqueness. c is clearly unique as the highest coefficient of p(z). Consider  $(z \lambda_1) \cdots (z \lambda_m) = (z \tau_1) \cdots (z \tau_m)$ . We want to show that the  $\lambda$ 's and  $\tau$ 's are the same up to their ordering. Let  $z = \lambda_1$ , one of the  $\lambda_1 \tau_i$ 's on the RHS must be 0. WLOG we assume  $\lambda_1 = \tau_1$ , and  $(z \lambda_2) \cdots (z \lambda_m) = (z \tau_2) \cdots (z \tau_m)$  holds for all  $z \in \mathbb{F}$  except for  $\lambda_1$ . Actually

$$(z - \lambda_2) \cdots (z - \lambda_m) - (z - \tau_2) \cdots (z - \tau_m) = 0$$

must hold for all  $z \in \mathbb{F}$  because we would have a nonzero polynomial with infinite many zeros. Thus, we can proceed to show  $\lambda_2 = \tau_2$ , and so on.

- For polynomials  $p \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{C})$  with real coefficients, the complex conjugate of a root is still a root. This follows from  $\lambda^m = \overline{\lambda}^m$ .
- For nonconstant  $p \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R})$ , p has a unique factorization into linear and quadratic polynomials with the highest coefficients being 1, i.e.,

$$p(x) = c(x - \lambda_1) \cdots (x - \lambda_m)(x^2 + b_1 x + c_1) \cdots (x^2 + b_M x + c_M), \tag{1}$$

where the c at the front, the  $\lambda$ 's, and the b's and c's at the end are all reals and each quadratic factors have negative discriminant.

- (1) would be obviously true if all zeros are reals by the unique factorization theorem. Suppose p

has one pair of nonreal complex zeros  $\lambda$  and  $\overline{\lambda}$ , then

$$p(x) = (x - \lambda)(x - \overline{\lambda})q(x) = (x^2 - 2(\operatorname{Re}\lambda)x + |\lambda|^2)q(x).$$

What we want to show is that such  $(x - \lambda)$  appear exactly the same number of times  $(x - \overline{\lambda})$  in the factorization.

Our idea is to use induction on the degree of p. We assume real nonconstant polynomials of degree less than deg p can be factorized according to (1). If we prove that q (of degree deg p-2) has real coefficients, then p can be factorized according to (1).

Now for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$q(x) = \frac{p(x)}{x^2 - 2(\operatorname{Re}\lambda)x + |\lambda|^2}.$$

Therefore, for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $q(x) \in \mathbb{R}$ . If we write  $q(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \cdots + a_{n-2}x^{n-2}$  ( $n = \deg p$  and the a's are complex-valued), then taking the imaginary parts on both sides gives us

$$0 = (\operatorname{Im} a_0) + (\operatorname{Im} a_1)x + \dots + (\operatorname{Im} a_{n-2})x^{n-2}$$

for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ . Hence the imaginary-part coefficients must all be 0, telling us q is of real coefficients.

Now we have a factorization of p given by (1), and we want to show its uniqueness. For the quadratic factors with negative discriminants at the end, each can be uniquely factorized into  $(x - \lambda_j)(x - \overline{\lambda_j})$ . Therefore, if we have two different factorizations of p of the form in (1), then we would have two different standard factorizations ( $\star$ ) of p over  $\mathbb C$  (as one of factors over  $\mathbb R$  being different implies that one of the factors over  $\mathbb C$  is different). This contradicts the unique factorization theorem.

# 5 Eigenvalues, Eigenvectors, and Invariant Subspaces

#### 5.1 Invariant Subspaces

- For  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$ , the subspace U of V is T-invariant if  $T(U) \subseteq U$ , or alternatively,  $T|_U$  is an operator on U.
- It can be easily verified that  $\{0\}$ , V, null V, and range T are invariant subspaces of V under T.
- Here we focus on invariant subspaces of dimension 1. Any 1-dimensional subspace U has some nonzero vector  $u \in V$  as the basis (in fact any nonzero vector in U can be the basis). To check if T is invariant under U, we only need to check if the basis vectors are mapped into U (so that the range  $T \subseteq U$ ). Since  $Tu \in U$  iff  $Tu = \lambda u$ , a subspace with dimension 1 is invariant under T iff a (any) nonzero vector u in the subspace has  $Tu = \lambda u$ .
- For  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$ ,  $\lambda \in \mathbb{F}$  is an eigenvalue of T if there exists a nonzero  $v \in V$  such that  $Tv = \lambda v$ . The v here is called the eigenvector.

Any nonzero vector in a 1-dimension space is an eigenvector. If u is an eigenvector of T, then  $\operatorname{span}(u)$  is invariant under T.

- To move  $\lambda v$  to the left side, we consider the linear operator  $\lambda I$  that maps v to  $\lambda v$ . Therefore, we have  $(T \lambda I)v = 0$ . Since  $v \neq 0$ ,  $T \lambda I$  is not injective/surjective/invertible (since it is an operator on V).
- Eigenvectors corresponding to distinct eigenvalues are linearly independent. The usual proof of this starts with 2 distinct eigenvalues and proceeds with induction, but the book uses the well-ordering principle instead. Suppose the  $v_1, \ldots, v_n$  corresponding to eigenvectors  $\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_n$  are linearly dependent, then at  $k \leq n$  we have  $v_k \in \text{span}(v_1, \ldots, v_{k-1})$  with  $v_1, \ldots, v_{k-1}$  being linearly dependent. Thus,

$$v_k = a_1 v_1 + \dots + a_{k-1} v_{k-1}, \tag{2}$$

and by applying T to both sides, we have

$$\lambda_k v_k = a_1 \lambda_1 v_1 + \dots + a_{k-1} \lambda_{k-1} v_{k-1}.$$

If instead, we multiply (2) by  $\lambda_k$  on both sides, then

$$\lambda_k v_k = a_1 \lambda_k v_1 + \dots + a_{k-1} \lambda_k v_{k-1}.$$

Subtracting the two equations above give us

$$0 = a_1(\lambda_1 - \lambda_k) + \dots + a_{k-1}(\lambda_{k-1} - \lambda_k)v_{k-1}.$$

Since  $v_1, \ldots, v_{k-1}$  are linearly independent, all the coefficients are 0 and thus all the a's are the same (because the  $\lambda$ 's are distinct). However, this implies  $v_k = 0$ , which contradicts with  $v_k$  being an eigenvector. Therefore, the set of eigenvectors are linearly independent.

- The direct corollary of this is that the number of eigenvalues of  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  cannot exceed the dim V.
- Here we restate the  $T|_U \in \mathcal{L}(U)$  as the restriction operator of T. The quotient operator  $T/U \in \mathcal{L}(V/U)$  is given by (T/U)(v+U) = Tv + U for any  $v \in V$ . Of course for the quotient operator we need to verify it is well-defined for different representation of the same quotient space, which is very similar to what we have done before and is thus omitted. These two operators provide nice information about the original T.

#### 5.2 Eigenvectors and Upper-Triangular Matrices

*Remark.* (In the upcoming fourth edition, this section is rewritten in terms of minimal polynomials.) Most theorems in this section rely heavily on induction. This is because we will be considering bases and matrices of arbitrary finite dimensions.

- Linear operators allow idempotent operations. Given  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$ , we define  $T^m$   $(m \in \mathbb{Z}^+)$  as T composite with itself m times,  $T^0$  as the identity operator  $I_V$ , and  $T^{-m}$  as  $(T^{-1})^m$ , given  $T^{-1}$  exists.
  - Obviously  $T^mT^n = T^{m+n}$  and  $(T^m)^n = T^{mn}$ . (If T is invertible then we can m, n are allowed to be all integers.)
- p(T) is the polynomial p taking T as its indeterminate (although T is not  $\mathbb{F}$ ). For  $p(z) = a_0 + a_1 z + \cdots + a_n z^n$  over  $\mathbb{F}$ , we define  $p(T) = a_0 I + a_1 T + \ldots + a_n T^n$ .

- If we fix an operator T, the evaluation map  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{F})$  to  $\mathcal{L}(V)$  given by  $p \mapsto p(T)$  is linear.
- The product of  $pq \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{F})$  of polynomials  $p, q \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{F})$  is defined by

$$(pq)(z) = p(z)q(z)$$

for all  $z \in \mathbb{F}$ . If we write out the polynomials, one can easily see that (pq)(z) = p(z)q(z) = q(z)p(z) = (qp)(z).

- It follows directly that (pq)(T) = p(T)q(T) and (pq)(T) = (qp)(T), because we only replace the symbol z by T.
- It turns out that every operator on a finite-dimensional and nonzero complex vector space necessarily has an eigenvalue. (This is not necessarily true on real vector spaces) The proof employs the fundamental theorem of algebra and is quite tricky. Choose a nonzero  $v \in V$  (dim V = n) and consider the list  $v, Tv, \ldots, T^nv$ , which must be linearly dependent. Thus, we have

$$0 = a_0v + a_1Tv + \dots + a_nT^nv,$$

where the  $a_i$ 's are not all 0. In particular,  $a_1, \ldots, a_n$  cannot all be 0 since  $v \neq 0$  will then give us  $a_0 = 0$ . Thus, we have a nonconstant polynomial  $a_0 + a_1 z + \cdots + a_m z^m$   $(m \leq n)$ , which can be factorized into

$$c(z-\lambda_1)\cdots(z-\lambda_m)$$

over  $\mathbb{C}$ . For

$$0 = c(T - \lambda_1 I) \cdots (T - \lambda_m I) v,$$

the nonzero vector  $w = (T - \lambda_{j+1}I) \cdots (T - \lambda_mI)v$  will be be taken to 0 by  $(T - \lambda_jI)$ .  $(T - \lambda_jI)$  is thus not injective and  $\lambda_j$  is an eigenvalue.

- We construct the matrix of an operator always with respect to only one ordered basis of V. The matrix  $\mathcal{M}(T,(v_1,\ldots,v_n))$  is a square matrix. In the j-th column of  $\mathcal{M}(T)$ , each entry corresponds to each coefficient from  $a_1v_1 + \cdots + a_nv_n = Tv_j$ . A square matrix with all entries being 0 below the diagonal is called an *upper-triangular matrix*, which is crucial in the theory of eigenvalues.
- How are invariant subspaces and upper triangular matrices connected? Suppose  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  and  $v_1, \ldots, v_n$  is a basis of V, then the following are equivalent:
  - (a)  $\mathcal{M}(T)$  is upper triangular;
  - (b)  $Tv_j \in \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_j)$  for each j from 1 to n;
  - (c) span $(v_1, \ldots, v_j)$  is invariant under T for each j from 1 to n.

The first two are equivalent follow straight from the definition. (b)  $\Longrightarrow$  (c) because for every i between 1 and j,  $Tv_i \in \text{span}(v_1, \ldots, v_j)$ . (c)  $\Longrightarrow$  (b) is obvious as well.

• For FDVS V over  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$ , then  $\mathcal{M}(T)$  is upper triangular with respect to some basis of V. The book gives two proofs relying on the induction on dim V.

The first proof first shows that  $U = \text{range}(T - \lambda I)$  is invariant under T, which shows that U has a basis  $u_1, \ldots, u_m$  with respect to an upper triangular matrix (by the inductive hypothesis, and is

equivalent to  $Tu_j \in \text{span}(u_1, \dots, u_j)$  for all j).

We extend  $u_1, \ldots, u_m$  to  $u_1, \ldots, u_m, v_1, \ldots, v_n$ , basis of V. Now set  $Tv_k = (T - \lambda I)v_k + \lambda v_k$ . Since  $(T - \lambda I)v_k \in U$ ,

$$Tv_k \in \operatorname{span}(u_1, \dots, u_m, v_1, \dots, v_k)$$

for all  $1 \le k \le n$ . This combined with  $Tu_j \in \text{span}(u_1, \dots, u_j)$  for all j shows that  $u_1, \dots, u_m, v_1, \dots, v_n$  is the basis of V that has an upper triangular matrix.

The second proof is nonstandard but quite interesting. It sets  $U = \text{span}(v_1)$  and looks at V/U of dimension n-1 instead.  $T/U \in \mathcal{L}(V/U)$  by the inductive hypothesis should have (for all j between 2 and n)

$$(T/U)(v_j + U) \in \operatorname{span}(v_2 + U, \dots, v_j + U).$$

This implies that  $Tv_j = \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_j)$  for j between 1 and n. Recall in §3.5 we showed that  $v_2, \dots, v_n$  combined with the basis vector  $v_1$  from U is a basis of V, and the conclusion follows.

• Upper-triangular matrices help us determine whether T is invertible. If  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  has an upper-triangular  $\mathcal{M}(T)$  with respect to some basis of V, then T is invertible iff all entries on the diagonal of  $\mathcal{M}(T)$  are nonzero.

$$\begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & * \\ & \lambda_2 & \\ & & \ddots \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}.$$

Suppose the  $\lambda$ 's on the diagonal in the matrix above are all nonzero, then  $Tv_1 = \lambda_1 v_1$  implies that  $T(v_1/\lambda_1) = v_1$ , so that  $v_1 \in \text{range } T$ . Looking at the next column of the matrix we can continue to show that  $T(v_2/\lambda_2) = av_1 + v_2$ , which implies that  $v_2 \in \text{range } T$ . Following this fashion we can conclude that  $v_1, \ldots, v_n$  are all in range T. Since dim V = n, T is surjective and thus invertible.

Suppose in the other direction that T is invertible, then in the first place  $\lambda_i \neq 0$  because otherwise  $Tv_1 = 0$  (Since  $v_1 \neq 0$ , T cannot be injective). For  $1 < j \le \text{suppose } \lambda_j = 0$ , "looking" at the j-th column above we immediately know that  $T|_{\text{span}(v_1,...,v_j)}$  is not injective (it maps into  $\text{span}(v_1,...,v_{j-1})$  of dimension j-1 < j). Thus T (with respect to the whole V) is not injective (thus not invertible) as well. Thus, all the  $\lambda$ 's on the diagonal must be nonzero.

• By the previous theorem, we can determine all the eigenvalues of T if we are fortunate to find a basis that corresponds to an upper-triangular  $\mathcal{M}(T)$ .  $\mathcal{M}(T-\lambda I)$  is of the form

$$\begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 - \lambda & & * \\ & \lambda_2 - \lambda & \\ & & \ddots & \\ 0 & & & \lambda_n - \lambda \end{bmatrix}.$$

One of the  $\lambda_i - \lambda$ 's is 0 iff  $T - \lambda I$  is invertible iff  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue. Therefore, all the entries  $\lambda_i$ 's on the diagonal are exactly all the eigenvalues.

### 5.3 Eigenspaces and Diagonal Matrices

- A diagonal matrix has all its entries off the diagonal 0.
- The eigenspace of  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  corresponding to  $\lambda \in \mathbb{F}$  is given by

$$E(\lambda, T) = \text{null}(T - \lambda I) = \{ v \in V \mid Tv = \lambda v \}.$$

The eigenspace is basically the vector subspace of V with all eigenvectors corresponding to v, along with the 0 vector.

• The sum of eigenspaces is a direct sum. We consider  $u_1 + \cdots + u_m = 0$ , where each eigenvector  $u_i$  is from the eigenspace  $E(\lambda_i, T)$ . Because eigenvectors corresponding to distinct eigenvalues are linearly independent, we get what we want. Furthermore, since

$$E(\lambda_1,T)+\cdots+E(\lambda_m,T)$$

is a direct sum, we have

$$\dim E(\lambda_1, T) + \cdots + \dim E(\lambda_m, T) = \dim(E(\lambda_1, T) \oplus \cdots \oplus E(\lambda_m, T)) \leq \dim V.$$

Recall the theorem in §3.5 that says a sum is a direct sum iff the dimensions add up.

- An operator T is diagonalizable if the operator has a diagonal matrix with respect to some basis
  of T.
- For T on FDVS V with dimension n and distinct eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_m$ , diagonalizability of T is equivalent to the following four conditions:
  - (a) V has a basis consisting of eigenvectors of T;
  - (b) V can be decomposed into n 1-dimension subspaces  $U_1$  to  $U_n$ , where  $V = U_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus U_n$ ;
  - (c)  $V = E(\lambda_1, T) \oplus \cdots \oplus E(\lambda_m, T);$
  - (d)  $\dim V = \dim E(\lambda_1, T) + \dots + \dim E(\lambda_m, T) = \dim(E(\lambda_1, T) \oplus \dots \oplus E(\lambda_m, T))$

The proof to this theorem is a little involved but not hard at all. One should get an intuitive idea of what each equivalent condition means.

- We consider the whole list of eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_n$  with repetition  $(n \geq m)$ . Looking at the matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}$$

for a moment would tell us diagonalizability and (a) are equivalent.

- (a)  $\Longrightarrow$  (b): Let each  $U_j = \operatorname{span}(v_j)$ , each of which are invariant under T. Since  $v_1, \ldots, v_n$  is a basis of V, any  $v \in V$  can be written uniquely as a linear combination of  $v_1, \ldots, v_n$ , and thus a unique sum of elements from each  $U_j$ . Therefore, V is a direct sum of the  $U_j$ 's. Trace this proof backward to show (b)  $\Longrightarrow$  (a).

- We now show (a)  $\iff$  (c)  $\iff$  (d). (c)  $\iff$  (d) follows from the theorem in §3.5.
  - \* (a)  $\Longrightarrow$  (c) because V has a basis of n eigenvectors, each of which must belong to any of the m distinct eigenspaces  $E(\lambda_j, T)$ . Therefore, V is the sum of all these eigenspaces (and thus the direct sum of them).
  - \* To show (c) & (d)  $\Longrightarrow$  (a), choose a basis  $B_j$  from each  $E(\lambda_j, T)$ . Therefore, we get a list of vectors  $v_1, \ldots, v_n$  of length  $n = \dim V$  by (d). To show the list is linearly independent, consider  $0 = u_1 + \cdots + u_n$ , where each  $u_j$  is from  $E(\lambda_j, T)$ . All the  $u_j$ 's must be 0 because V is a direct sum of the eigenspaces. If  $0 = u_j$ , since  $u_j$  can be expressed as a linear combination of the basis vectors in  $B_j$ , the coefficients in the linear combination must be 0. Therefore our constructed list of eigenvectors  $v_1, \ldots, v_n$  is indeed a basis of V.
- If  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  has dim V number of distinct eigenvalues, then T is necessarily diagonalizable. Having dim V number of distinct eigenvalues tells us we have a basis of eigenvectors of T. With respect to this basis  $\mathcal{M}(T)$  is a diagonal matrix.

## 6 Inner Product Spaces

Remark. In this section V is by default an inner product space.

#### 6.1 Inner Products and Norms

- For  $x = (x_1, \ldots, x_n)$  and  $y = (y_1, \ldots, y_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  (the real *n*-dimensional space), the *dot product*  $x \cdot y := x_1y_1 + \cdots + x_ny_n$  is a scalar in  $\mathbb{R}$ . The norm ||x|| on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is usually given by  $\sqrt{x_1^2 + \cdots + x_n^2}$ , which is the square root of the dot product of x with itself.
- The usual norm  $||z|| := \sqrt{|z_1|^2 + \cdots + |z_n|^2}$  on  $\mathbb{C}^n$  (the complex *n*-dimensional space) is also a scalar in  $\mathbb{R}$ .
- Generally on both real and complex n-dimensional spaces, we define the Euclidean inner product by

$$\langle (w_1, \ldots, w_n), (z_1, \ldots, z_n) \rangle = w_1 \overline{z_1} + \cdots + w_n \overline{z_n}.$$

This generalizes the definition of the dot product on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Moreover, we have

$$\langle (z_1,\ldots,z_n),(z_1,\ldots,z_n)\rangle = z_1\overline{z_1}+\cdots+z_n\overline{z_n} = |z_1|^2+\cdots+|z_n|^2 = ||z||^2,$$

so that ||z|| becomes the square root of the inner product of z with itself.

We regard  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\mathbb{C}^n$  by default as the *n*-dimensional real and complex Euclidean spaces endowed with the Euclidean inner product.

- Observation on our definition of the Euclidean inner product suggests how we could possibly define a general abstract inner product on arbitrary real or complex vector spaces. The *inner product* is a function  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : V \times V \to \mathbb{F}$  ( $\mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$ ) with the following properties:
  - Positive definiteness:  $\langle v, v \rangle \geq 0$  (real and nonnegative), which achieves "=" iff v = 0;

- Linearity in the first slot:  $\langle \lambda u + v, w \rangle = \lambda \langle u, w \rangle + \langle v, w \rangle$ ; (This means  $\varphi_w(v) := \langle v, w \rangle$  with respect to a fixed w gives us a linear functional on V.)
- Conjugate symmetry:  $\langle u, v \rangle = \overline{\langle v, u \rangle}$ .

The properties that directly ensue include:

- Conjugate symmetry gives us "conjugate linearity" (anti-linearity) in the second slot:

$$\langle u, \lambda v + w \rangle = \overline{\lambda} \langle u, v \rangle + \langle u, w \rangle;$$

- For fixed  $w \in V$ ,  $f: v \mapsto \langle v, w \rangle$  is a linear map from V to  $\mathbb{F}$  because of linearity in the first slot;
- $-\langle 0,v\rangle=0$  because linear maps take 0 to 0; and  $\langle v,0\rangle=0$  by conjugate symmetry.
- The norm  $||v|| := \sqrt{\langle v, v \rangle}$ . It has properties
  - ||v|| = 0 iff v = 0, and
  - $\|\lambda v\| = |\lambda| \|v\|.$
- Two vectors are *orthogonal* if their inner product is 0. Therefore, 0 is orthogonal to any vector and 0 is the only vector that is orthogonal to itself.
- Introducing these concepts provide us with a list of useful equations and inequalities about *inner product spaces* (vector spaces endowed with an inner product) that we know as facts in the Euclidean spaces.
  - The Pythagorean theorem now holds for orthogonal vectors  $u, v \in V$ :

$$||u + v||^2 = ||u||^2 + ||v||^2.$$

Expanding the LHS, we have  $||u+v||^2 = \langle u+v, u+v \rangle = \langle u, u \rangle + \langle u, v \rangle + \langle v, u \rangle + \langle v, v \rangle$ , where the two terms in the middle are 0. The converse of this theorem holds in real inner product spaces because then we would have  $\langle u, v \rangle + \langle v, u \rangle = 2\langle u, v \rangle = 0$ , showing that the two vectors are orthogonal.

- The method of orthogonal decomposition is extended to inner product spaces. Suppose  $u, v \in V$  with v being nonzero, we wish write u as the sum of scalar multiple of v and another vector w that is orthogonal to v.

Basically we want to choose a scalar  $c \in \mathbb{F}$  such that

$$0 = \langle u - cv, v \rangle = \langle u, v \rangle - c ||v||^2.$$

Let  $c = \frac{\langle u, v \rangle}{\|v\|^2}$  and we have w = u - cv and we have our orthogonal decomposition

$$\langle w, v \rangle = 0$$
 and  $u = cv + w$ .

- The well-known Cauchy-Schwarz inequality states that  $|\langle u, v \rangle| \leq ||u|| ||v||$ , which reaches equality iff one of u, v is a scalar multiple of the other. This can be proved using the orthogonal decomposition theorem we have above, but we choose to use the more standard method. When v = 0, the result

is immediate. By the equality condition given, for  $v \neq 0$  we may consider

$$0 \le ||u - cv||^2 = \langle u, u \rangle - \overline{c} \langle u, v \rangle - c \langle v, u \rangle + c\overline{c} \langle v, v \rangle.$$

Set  $c = \|\langle u, v \rangle / \langle v, v \rangle\|$ , then the RHS of the "=" becomes  $\|u\|^2 - \frac{|\langle u, v \rangle|^2}{\|v\|^2}$ , as desired. The equality is achieved if and only if u = cv or v = 0.

Two special cases should be kept in mind.

- \* On real numbers, we have  $|x_1y_1 + \dots + x_ny_n|^2 \le (x_1 + \dots + x_n)^2(y_1 + \dots + y_n)^2$ .
- \* One can define an inner product on function spaces such as the vector space V of continuous functions from [a, b] to  $\mathbb{F}$ . One can define the inner product on V as such:

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \int_{a}^{b} f(x) \overline{g(x)} dx.$$

This is an important inner product that will be useful in later courses. If  $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{R}$ , then we simply have

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \int_{a}^{b} f(x)g(x)dx.$$

By the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, we then have (over  $\mathbb{R}$ )

$$\left| \int_a^b f(x)g(x)dx \right|^2 \leq \left( \int_a^b (f(x))^2 dx \right) \left( \int_a^b (g(x))^2 dx \right).$$

- The triangle inequality states that  $||u+v|| \le ||u|| + ||v||$ , which reaches equality iff one of u, v is a nonnegative real multiple of the other. To prove, expanding the LHS gives us

$$\begin{split} \langle u, u \rangle + \langle v, v \rangle + \langle u, v \rangle + \overline{\langle u, v \rangle} &= \|u\|^2 + \|v\|^2 + 2\operatorname{Re}\langle u, v \rangle \\ &\leq \|u\|^2 + \|v\|^2 + 2|\langle u, v \rangle| \\ &\leq \|u\|^2 + \|v\|^2 + 2\|u\|\|v\| = (\|u\| + \|v\|)^2. \end{split}$$

Taking the square root gives us the result. To have equality in the third row of our derivation, we need  $|\langle u, v \rangle| = ||u|| ||v||$ , which implies the equality in the second row because the norm is a real number. Therefore, the triangle inequality achieves equality iff  $|\langle u, v \rangle| = ||u|| ||v||$ .

Note that  $|\langle u, v \rangle| = ||u|| ||v||$  implies u = cv or v = 0 by the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality. Also, it is easy to show u = cv or v = 0 implies  $|\langle u, v \rangle| = ||u|| ||v||$ . Thus, the triangle inequality achieves equality iff one of u, v is a scalar multiple of the other.

- The parallelogram equality says that  $||u+v||^2 + ||u-v||^2 = 2(||u||^2 + ||v||^2)$ . To prove, expand the LHS and after some cancellations, we get the RHS.

#### 6.2 Orthonormal Bases

• A list (set) of vectors is *orthonormal* if each vector is of norm 1 and is orthogonal to all other vectors in the list. That is to say for an orthonormal list of vectors  $e_1, \ldots, e_n \in V$ ,

$$\langle e_i, e_j \rangle = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i = j, \\ 0 & \text{if } i \neq j. \end{cases}$$

- Note that the canonical basis in  $\mathbb{F}^n$  is orthonormal.
- Given an orthonormal list  $e_1, \ldots, e_n$ , by repeated use of the Pythagorean theorem, we get

$$||a_1e_1 + \dots + a_ne_n||^2 = |a_1|^2 + \dots + |a_n|^2$$

for all scalars  $a_1, \ldots, a_m$ .

- It follows from the theorem above that if we set  $a_1e_1+\cdots+a_ne_n=0$ , then all the  $a_i$ 's must be 0, showing that an orthonormal list of vectors  $e_1,\ldots,e_n$  are linearly independent. Therefore, an orthonormal list of length dim V is an *orthonormal basis*, i.e., an orthonormal list (set) that is also a basis.
- Now any  $v \in V$  can be written as a unique linear combination of the orthonormal basis vectors  $e_1, \ldots, e_n$ . In fact, we have

$$v = \langle v, e_1 \rangle e_1 + \dots + \langle v, e_n \rangle e_n.$$

Consider  $v = a_1 e_1 + \dots + a_n e_n$  and take an inner product with  $e_j$  on both sides. Then,  $\langle v, a_j \rangle = a_j$ , as desired. Note that  $||v||^2 = |\langle v, e_1 \rangle|^2 + \dots + |\langle v, e_n \rangle|^2$ .

- There is an important corollary to the theorem above. For an orthonormal basis of V  $e_1, \ldots, e_n$ , every

$$Te_k = \langle Te_k, e_1 \rangle e_1 + \dots + \langle Te_k, e_n \rangle e_n.$$

Therefore, we have  $\mathcal{M}(T)_{j,k} = \langle Te_k, e_j \rangle$  for the matrix representation of T with respect to  $e_1, \ldots, e_n$ .

• The Gram-Schmidt process can now be proved. For a linearly independent list  $v_1, \ldots, v_n$  in V, define  $e_1 = \frac{v_1}{\|v_1\|}$ , and then for  $2 \le j \le n$ , define  $e_j$  inductively by

$$e_{j} = \frac{v_{j} - \langle v_{j}, e_{1} \rangle e_{1} - \dots - \langle v_{j}, e_{j-1} \rangle e_{j-1}}{\|v_{i} - \langle v_{i}, e_{1} \rangle e_{1} - \dots - \langle v_{i}, e_{i-1} \rangle e_{j-1}\|}.$$

Then for any  $j \leq m, e_1, \ldots, e_j$  is still orthonormal and has the same span as  $v_1, \ldots, v_j$ .

We use induction for this proof. j=1 obviously holds. Suppose for  $1 < j \le m$  we already have

$$\operatorname{span}(v_1, \dots, v_{j-1}) = \operatorname{span}(e_1, \dots, e_{j-1}).$$

By linear independent of the list of v's,  $v_j \notin \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_{j-1})$  and thus  $v_j \notin \text{span}(e_1, \dots, e_{j-1})$ . Therefore,  $v_j - \langle v_j, e_1 \rangle e_1 - \dots - \langle v_j, e_{j-1} \rangle e_{j-1}$  is nonzero, and we can indeed divide it by its norm to get a new vector  $e_j$  with norm 1.

For  $1 \le k < j$ , we can show that the new vector  $e_j$  is orthogonal to the existing  $e_k$ 's, as

$$\langle e_j, e_k \rangle = \left\langle \frac{v_j - \langle v_j, e_1 \rangle e_1 - \dots - \langle v_j, e_{j-1} \rangle e_{j-1}}{\|v_j - \langle v_j, e_1 \rangle e_1 - \dots - \langle v_j, e_{j-1} \rangle e_{j-1}\|}, e_k \right\rangle$$

$$= \frac{\langle v_j, e_k \rangle - \langle v_j, e_k \rangle}{\|v_j - \langle v_j, e_1 \rangle e_1 - \dots - \langle v_j, e_{j-1} \rangle e_{j-1}\|} = 0.$$

 $v_j \in \operatorname{span}(e_1, \dots, e_j)$  holds by construction and hence  $\operatorname{span}(v_1, \dots, v_j)$  is a subspace of  $\operatorname{span}(e_1, \dots, e_j)$ . The two spaces have the same dimension and are thus equal. This finishes our inductive step.

- This algorithm for constructing an orthonormal basis from a given basis leads to two useful corollaries.
  - \* Every FD inner product space has an orthonormal basis. Proof is trivial.
  - \* If V is FD, then every orthonormal list of vectors can be extended to an orthonormal basis. We start with  $e_1, \ldots, e_m$  and extend the list to a basis  $e_1, \ldots, e_m, v_{m+1}, \ldots, v_n$  of V. It is easily observed that if we apply the Gram-Schmidt process from  $e_1$  to  $v_n$ , then  $e_1$  to  $e_m$  will remain themselves, yet  $v_{m+1}, \ldots, v_n$  will be orthonormalized to  $f_{m+1}, \ldots, f_n$ . Thus the e's and the f's become the basis extended from the original list of e's.
- If  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  has an upper-triangular matrix with respect to some basis of V, then it has an upper-triangular matrix with respect to some orthonormal basis of V.

(In the case of  $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{C}$ , since the condition always holds, T must have an upper-triangular matrix with respect to some orthonormal basis of V. This is known as Schur's theorem.)

Recall having upper-triangular  $\mathcal{M}(T)$  is equivalent to  $\mathrm{span}(v_1,\ldots,v_j)$  being invariant under for each  $1 \leq j \leq n$ . This is ensured by the Gram-Schmidt process.

• We briefly mentioned a while ago that an inner product with the second slot fixed is a linear functional. In fact there is a **one-to-one correspondence** between every  $u \in V$  and every  $\varphi \in V'$ . The Riesz representation theorem states that for finite-dimensional inner product space V and  $\operatorname{any} \varphi \in V'$ , there exists a **unique**  $u \in V$  such that  $\varphi_u(v) = \langle v, u \rangle$  for every  $v \in V$ . This is a very important theorem that leads to the definition of adjoint in Chapter 7.

To prove, choose an arbitrary orthonormal basis  $e_1, \ldots, e_n$ . Then for any v,

$$\varphi(v) = \varphi(\langle v, e_1 \rangle e_1 + \dots + \langle v, e_n \rangle e_n)$$

$$= \langle v, e_1 \rangle \varphi(e_1) + \dots + \langle v, e_n \rangle \varphi(e_n)$$

$$= \langle v, \overline{\varphi(e_1)} e_1 + \dots + \overline{\varphi(e_n)} e_n \rangle.$$

Therefore  $\overline{\varphi(e_1)}e_1 + \cdots + \overline{\varphi(e_n)}e_n$  is our desired u.

To show uniqueness, suppose  $\varphi(v) = \langle v, u_1 \rangle = \langle v, u_2 \rangle$ , then  $\langle v, u_1 - u_2 \rangle = 0$  for all v. And by setting  $v = u_1 - u_2$  we have  $u_1 = u_2$ .

(If two inner products are the same for any common first slot, then the second slot must be equal as well; we will use this frequently in Chapter 7.)

- By uniqueness, whatever what orthonormal basis  $e_1, \ldots, e_n$  we choose, the expression

$$\overline{\varphi(e_1)}e_1 + \dots + \overline{\varphi(e_n)}e_n$$

remains the same.

- Thus, if we choose any  $u = a_1e_1 + \cdots + a_ne_n$  in U and define a linear functional  $\varphi$  such that

$$\varphi(e_1) = \overline{a_1}, \dots, \varphi(e_n) = \overline{a_n},$$

then  $\varphi$  here is the **unique** linear functional such that  $\varphi(v) = \langle v, u \rangle$ .

#### 6.3 Orthogonal Complement and Minimization Problems

• For  $U \subseteq V$  (we assume U is nonempty by default), the *orthogonal complement* of U (denoted by  $U^{\perp}$ ) is the set of all vectors in V that are orthogonal to every vector in U, i.e.,

$$U^{\perp} = \{ v \in V \mid \forall u \in U, \langle v, u \rangle = 0 \}.$$

- It is good to see an example in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ : if U is a line in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  through the origin, then all the vectors perpendicular to the line U form the orthogonal complement of U, the plane through the origin perpendicular to the line U. Similarly, if on the other hand, U is a plane in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  through the origin, then its orthogonal complement is the line through the origin perpendicular to the plane U.
- It is easy to verify and understand the following properties of orthogonal complements:
  - (a) For  $U \subseteq V$ ,  $U^{\perp} \subseteq V$ .
  - (b)  $0^{\perp} = V$ .
  - (c)  $V^{\perp} = \{0\}.$
  - (d) For  $U \subseteq V$ ,  $U \cap U^{\perp} = \begin{cases} \{0\} & \text{if } 0 \in U, \\ \emptyset & \text{if } 0 \notin U. \end{cases}$
  - (e) If  $U \subseteq W \subseteq V$ , then  $W^{\perp} \subseteq U^{\perp}$ .

And we skip their proofs.

• If in particular U is a finite-dimensional subspace of V (V does not have to be finite-dimensional), then  $V = U \oplus U^{\perp}$ .

First we prove  $V = U + U^{\perp}$ . Let  $e_1, \ldots, e_m$  be the orthonormal basis of U. Any  $u \in U$  can be written as

$$\{\langle v, e_1 \rangle e_1 + \dots + \langle v, e_m \rangle e_m\} + \{v - \langle v, e_1 \rangle e_1 - \dots - \langle v, e_m \rangle e_m\}.$$

Here  $\langle v, e_1 \rangle e_1 + \dots + \langle v, e_m \rangle e_m \in U$ , and one can easily show that for  $w = v - \langle v, e_1 \rangle e_1 - \dots - \langle v, e_m \rangle e_m$ ,  $\langle w, e_j \rangle = \langle v, e_j \rangle - \langle v, e_j \rangle = 0$  (for all j between 1 and m).

Therefore, w is orthogonal to span $(e_1, \ldots, e_m) = U$ , meaning that  $w \in U^{\perp}$ . Since U is a subspace and is thus nonempty,  $U \cap U^{\perp} = \{0\}$ , showing that  $U + U^{\perp}$  is a direct sum.

- It follows directly that  $\dim U^{\perp} = \dim V - \dim U$ .

• Let U again be a finite-dimensional subspace of V, then  $U = (U^{\perp})^{\perp}$ . For the " $\subseteq$ " direction, any  $u \in U$  is orthogonal to any vectors  $v \in U^{\perp}$ , while all vectors in  $(U^{\perp})^{\perp}$  are orthogonal to any  $v \in U^{\perp}$ . (Note that we can prove " $\supseteq$ " this way because we do not know if U contains all the vectors orthogonal to  $U^{\perp}$ .)

For the " $\supseteq$ " direction, suppose  $v \in (U^{\perp})^{\perp} \subseteq V$ . Then v can be uniquely written as u+w, where  $u \in U$  and  $w \in U^{\perp}$ . We have just proved that  $U \subseteq (U^{\perp})^{\perp}$ , meaning that  $u \in (U^{\perp})^{\perp}$ , subspace of V. Therefore,  $w = v - u \in (U^{\perp})^{\perp}$  and  $w \in U^{\perp}$  simultaneously. Since U is nonempty, w = 0 and thus  $v = u \in U$ .

- The orthogonal projection  $P_U$  of V to U is the map  $P_U: V \to U$  defined by  $P_U(v) = u$ , where  $u \in U$  and  $w \in U^{\perp}$  are the pair of unique elements such that v = u + w. It is easy to verify  $P_U \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  (note that  $U \subseteq V$ ). Also,  $P_U$  is surjective onto U.
- Also, for orthonormal basis  $e_1, \ldots, e_m$ ,  $P_U(v) = \langle v, e_1 \rangle e_1 + \cdots + \langle v, e_m \rangle e_m$ , which we have showed earlier. In general, if we want to find  $P_U(v)$ , we should first use Gram-Schmidt process to find an orthonormal basis of V and then use the expression above the find  $P_U(v)$ .
- We give a list of properties of  $P_U$  below.
  - (a)  $\forall u \in U, P_U(u) = u$ ; [for u = u + 0]
  - (b)  $\forall w \in U^{\perp}, P_U(w) = 0$ ; [for w = 0 + w]
  - (c) range  $P_U = U$ ; [for range  $P_U \subseteq U$  by definition, and (a) above]
  - (d)  $v P_U(v) \in U^{\perp}$ ; [true because  $w = v P_U(v)$  is unique in  $U^{\perp}$ ]
  - (e) null  $P_U = U^{\perp}$ ;  $[U^{\perp} \subseteq \text{null } P_U \text{ by (b)}$ ; also, for v such that  $P_U(v) = 0$ , meaning that  $v - 0 = v \in U^{\perp}$  by (c)]
  - (f)  $P_U$  is an idempotent operator; [by (b)]
  - (g)  $||P_U(v)|| \le ||v||$ ; [since  $||u|| \le ||u|| + ||w|| = ||v||$ ]
- For finite-dimensional subspace U of an inner product space V and a fixed  $v \in V$ , the minimum distance between v and all vectors on U is achieved at  $u = P_U(v)$ , as expected. Formally, we want to show that for all  $u \in U$ ,

$$||v - P_{U}(v)|| < ||v - u||,$$

which achieve equality iff  $u = P_U(v)$ .

The proof obviously employs the Pythagorean theorem. We have

$$||v - P_U(v)||^2 \le ||v - P_U(v)||^2 + ||P_U(v) - u||^2 = ||v - u||^2$$

because  $v - P_U(v) \in U^{\perp}$  and  $P_U(v) - u \in U$ , so that the two are orthogonal. The equality condition is obvious.

# 7 Operators on Inner Product Spaces

*Remark.* In this chapter we regard V by default as FDVS over  $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$ .

### 7.1 Self-Adjoint and Normal Operators

• For  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$ , the adjoint of T is the function  $T^*: W \to V$  such that

$$\langle Tv, w \rangle_W = \langle v, T^*w \rangle_V.$$

Pay attention to the fact that the inner product on the left is on W, while the inner product on the right is on V. What we have above is well-defined by the Riesz representation theorem in §6.2. Fix w, then  $\langle Tv, w \rangle$  becomes a linear functional  $\psi_{T,w}(v)$  on V (because T is linear), which uniquely determines a  $u \in V$  such that  $\langle v, u \rangle = \psi_{T,w}(v)$ . This unique u is our  $T^*w$ . Thus, this  $T^*$  always exists and is unique given T.

To calculate  $T^*$  based on T, fix the second slot w in  $\langle Tv, w \rangle$  and convert  $\langle Tv, w \rangle_W$  into the form  $\langle v, f(w) \rangle_V$ , where the function f of w is our desired  $T^*$ .

• As expected,  $T^* \in \mathcal{L}(W, V)$ , since

$$\langle v, T^*(\lambda w_1 + w_2) \rangle = \langle Tv, \lambda w_1 + w_2 \rangle = \overline{\lambda} \langle Tv, w_1 \rangle + \langle Tv, w_2 \rangle$$
$$= \overline{\lambda} \langle v, T^*w_1 \rangle + \langle v, T^*w_2 \rangle$$
$$= \langle v, \lambda T^*w_1 + T^*w_2 \rangle.$$

The above is true for all v, and thus the second slot must be the same, showing that  $T^*$  is linear.

- Here are some properties of the adjoint. Move the adjoint from the second slot to the first slot and then back to the second slot will give these results.
  - (a)  $(S+T)^* = S^* + T^*$ ;
  - (b)  $(\lambda T)^* = \overline{\lambda} T^*$ ;
  - (c)  $(T^*)^* = T$ ;
  - (d)  $I^* = I$ ;
  - (e)  $(ST)^* = T^*S^*$  for all  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$  and  $S \in \mathcal{L}(W, U)$ .

We prove (c) here and omit the others. For any  $v \in V$  and  $w \in W$ ,

$$\langle w, (T^*)^* v \rangle = \langle T^* w, v \rangle = \overline{\langle v, T^* w \rangle} = \overline{\langle Tv, w \rangle} = \langle w, Tv \rangle.$$

The second slot must be the same for all v and thus  $(T^*)^* = T$ .

As you may have noticed from (a), (b), & (c), the map  $^*: \mathcal{L}(V,W) \to \mathcal{L}(W,V)$  turns out to be a **conjugate-linear bijective map**. The map is injective because

$$S^* = T^* \implies S = (S^*)^* = (T^*)^* = T;$$

the map is surjective because for any  $S \in \mathcal{L}(W, V)$ , we always have  $S^* \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$  such that  $(S^*)^* = S$ .

- The nullspace and range of the adjoint of T is connected to the orthogonal complement of null T and range T. For  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$ , we have
  - (a) null  $T^* = (\operatorname{range} T)^{\perp}$ ;

- (b) range  $T = (\text{null } T^*)^{\perp}$ ; [take the orthogonal complement of both sides in (a)]
- (c) null  $T = (\operatorname{range} T^*)^{\perp}$ ; [replace  $T^*$  in (a) by  $(T^*)^* = T$ ]
- (d) range  $T^* = (\text{null } T)^{\perp}$ . [take the orthogonal complement of both sides in (d)]

For (a),  $w \in \operatorname{null} T^* \iff T^*(w) = 0 \iff \langle v, T^*(w) \rangle = 0$  for all  $v \in V \iff \langle Tv, w \rangle = 0$  for all  $v \in V \iff w \in (\operatorname{range} T)^{\perp}$ .

• With respect to an orthonormal basis  $e_1, \ldots, e_n$  of V and an orthonormal basis  $f_1, \ldots, f_m$  of W,  $\mathcal{M}(T^*, (f_1, \ldots, f_m), (e_1, \ldots, e_n))$  is just the conjugate transpose of  $\mathcal{M}(T, (e_1, \ldots, e_n), (f_1, \ldots, f_m))$ . (If we are considering operators  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  instead, by default we use the same basis on the domain V and on the range of V.)

The entries in k-th column of  $\mathcal{M}(T)$  are exactly the coefficients in

$$\langle Te_k, f_1, f \rangle_1 + \dots + \langle Te_k, f_m, f \rangle_m = Te_k.$$

Therefore,  $\mathcal{M}(T)_{j,k} = \langle Te_k, f_j \rangle$ . Similarly we can conclude that  $\mathcal{M}(T^*)_{k,j} = \langle T^*f_j, e_k \rangle = \langle f_j, Te_k \rangle$ , where  $1 \leq j \leq m$  and  $1 \leq k \leq n$ . It is clear that  $\mathcal{M}(T)$  and  $\mathcal{M}(T^*)$  are conjugate transposes of one another.

- An operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  is self-adjoint (or Hermitian) if  $T = T^*$ . That is to say, T is self-adjoint iff  $\langle Tv, w \rangle = \langle v, Tw \rangle$  for all  $v, w \in V$ .
  - It follows from definition that the sum of two self-adjoint operators is self-adjoint and the product of a real scalar and a self-adjoint operator is self-adjoint.
  - As the book points out, over ℂ we can draw a parallel between the adjoint of an operator and the complex conjugation of a number. In some abstract sense saying that an operator is self-adjoint is similar to saying that a number is equal to its conjugation and is thus real. Self-adjoint operators are closely tied to real numbers, as we will see.
- Eigenvalues of self-adjoint operators are real. Consider the self-adjoint operator T on V and  $Tv = \lambda v$  for nonzero  $v \in V$ , then

$$\lambda \|v\|^2 = \langle \lambda v, v \rangle = \langle Tv, v \rangle = \langle v, Tv \rangle = \langle v, \lambda v \rangle = \overline{\lambda} \|v\|^2,$$

telling us  $\lambda = \overline{\lambda}$ .

• (†) For a **complex** inner product space V and  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$ , if  $\langle Tv, v \rangle = 0$  for all  $v \in V$ , then T = 0. We prove this via some calculation tricks: for all  $u, w \in V$ ,

$$\begin{split} \langle Tu,w\rangle = & \frac{\langle T(u+w),u+w\rangle - \langle T(u-w),u-w\rangle}{4} \\ & + i \frac{\langle T(u+iw),u+iw\rangle - \langle T(u-iw),u-iw\rangle}{4}. \end{split}$$

Therefore,  $\langle Tu, w \rangle = 0$  for all  $u, w \in V$ . Taking w = Tu gives us T = 0.

• For operator T on a **complex** inner product spaces V, T is self-adjoint iff for every  $v \in V$ ,  $\langle Tv, v \rangle \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Let us look at the equation

$$\langle Tv, v \rangle - \overline{\langle Tv, v \rangle} = \langle Tv, v \rangle - \langle v, Tv \rangle = \langle (T - T^*)v, v \rangle.$$

If  $\langle Tv, v \rangle \in \mathbb{R}$  for every v, then  $T - T^* = 0$  by (†). If in the other direction  $T = T^*$ , then  $\langle Tv, v \rangle = \overline{\langle Tv, v \rangle}$  and is thus real for every v.

• If  $T = T^*$  on a (real or complex) inner product space V and  $\langle Tv, v \rangle = 0$  for all v, then T = 0. By  $(\dagger)$ , now we only have to check this fact on real inner product space V. As one may check,

$$\langle Tu, w \rangle = \frac{\langle T(u+w), u+w \rangle - \langle T(u-w), u-w \rangle}{4}.$$

We let w = Tu and get T = 0.

- An operator T on V is normal if  $TT^* = T^*T$ . Obviously self-adjoint operators  $T = T^*$  are normal.
- T is normal iff  $||Tv|| = ||T^*v||$  for all  $v \in V$ .

To prove this, first note that  $TT^* - T^*T$  is self-adjoint because  $(TT^* - T^*T)^* = (TT^*)^* - (T^*T)^* = TT^* - T^*T$ . Therefore,

$$TT^* - T^*T = 0 \iff \langle (TT^* - T^*T)v, v \rangle = 0 \text{ for all } v \in V$$
$$\iff \langle TT^*, v \rangle = \langle T^*T, v \rangle \text{ for all } v \in V \iff ||T^*v|| = ||Tv||.$$

- As a corollary,  $Tv = 0 \iff T^*v = 0$ , showing that null  $T = \text{null } T^*$ .
- All the eigenvalues of  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  are exactly the complex conjugates of all the eigenvalues in  $T^*$ . We basically need to prove that  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of T iff  $\overline{\lambda}$  is an eigenvalue of  $T^*$ :

$$\lambda$$
 is not an eigenvalue of  $T \iff T - \lambda I$  is injective 
$$\iff \operatorname{null}(T - \lambda I) = \{0\}$$
 
$$\iff \operatorname{range}(T - \lambda I)^* = \{0\}^{\perp} = V$$
 
$$\iff (T - \lambda I)^* = T^* - \overline{\lambda}I \text{ is surjective}$$
 
$$\iff \overline{\lambda} \text{ is an eigenvalue of } T^*.$$

• If additionally T is normal, T and  $T^*$  share the same set of eigenvectors. Suppose T has eigenvector v with  $Tv = \lambda v$ , then  $T^*$  has the same eigenvector v with  $Tv = \overline{\lambda}v$ .

We first check  $T - \lambda I$  is normal given T is normal:

$$(T - \lambda I)(T - \lambda I)^* = (T - \lambda I)(T^* - \overline{\lambda}I) = (T^* - \overline{\lambda}I)(T - \lambda I) = (T - \lambda I)^*(T - \lambda I).$$

Then,  $0 = \|(T - \lambda I)v\| = \|(T - \lambda I)^*v\| = \|(T^* - \overline{\lambda}I)v\|$ , showing that v is an eigenvector for  $T^*$  corresponding to the eigenvalue  $\overline{\lambda}$ .

• Eigenvectors corresponding to distinct eigenvalues of the normal operator T are orthogonal. Consider  $Tu = \alpha u$  and  $Tv = \beta v$  with  $\alpha \neq \beta$ . Also, by the last theorem,  $T^*v = \overline{\beta}v$ . If we now look at

$$(\alpha - \beta)\langle u, v \rangle$$
, we have

$$\alpha \langle u, v \rangle - \beta \langle u, v \rangle = \langle Tu, v \rangle - \langle u, T^*v \rangle = 0,$$

telling us that u and v are orthogonal.

#### 7.2 The Spectral Theorem

Now we extend the diagonalizability theorem proved in Chapter 5 from general vector spaces to inner product spaces.

- The complex spectral theorem says that for operator T on an complex inner product space V, the following are equivalent:
  - (a) T is normal.
  - (b) V has an orthonormal basis consisting of eigenvectors of T.
  - (c) T has a diagonal matrix with respect to some orthonormal basis of V.

The equivalency between (b) and (c) is easy (looking at the diagonal matrix with respect to an orthonormal basis, as we did back in §5.3).

(c)  $\Longrightarrow$  (a): If  $\mathcal{M}(T,(e_1,\ldots,e_n))$  is diagonal, then  $\mathcal{M}(T^*,(e_1,\ldots,e_n))$  would be the conjugate transpose  $\mathcal{M}(T)$  and is thus still diagonal. Because diagonal matrices commute,

$$\mathcal{M}(TT^*) = \mathcal{M}(T)\mathcal{M}(T^*) = \mathcal{M}(T^*)\mathcal{M}(T) = \mathcal{M}(T^*T),$$

showing that T is a normal operator.

(a)  $\Longrightarrow$  (c): Given T is normal, by Schur's theorem (since  $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{C}$ ) we can find an orthonormal basis  $e_1, \ldots, e_n$  such that

$$\mathcal{M}(T) = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix}.$$

The idea is to show all the entries above the diagonal are 0. From the first column of  $\mathcal{M}(T)$  we have  $||Te_1||^2 = |a_{11}|^2$ , while from the first column of  $\mathcal{M}(T^*)$  (the conjugate of the first row of  $\mathcal{M}(T)$ ) we have

$$||T^*e_1|| = |a_{11}|^2 + \dots + |a_{1n}|^2.$$

Since  $||Te_1||^2 = ||T^*e_1||, a_{12}, \dots, a_{1n}$  are all 0.

We can proceed in this way to show that  $a_{23}, \ldots, a_{2n}$  are also all 0 and so on. Therefore,  $\mathcal{M}(T)$  is indeed a diagonal matrix, as desired.

Schur's theorem gives us a shortcut to prove (a)  $\Longrightarrow$  (c) by comparing  $\mathcal{M}(T)$  and  $\mathcal{M}(T^*)$ . By contrast, in the spectral theorem for T on real inner product spaces, (a)  $\Longrightarrow$  (c) is not easy to prove because in the first place we do not know over  $\mathbb{R}$  (unlike over  $\mathbb{C}$ ) whether T has an upper-triangular matrix with respect to some basis of V. Neither do we know whether any eigenvalue exists for  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  over  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Therefore, a stronger condition on T is required for the similar spectral theorem on real inner product spaces, and as you may guess, T is now required to be self-adjoint in (a). We leave (b) and (c) unchanged

in the real spectral theorem. We can show if T is self-adjoint, then T must have an eigenvalue, from which we can prove that (a)  $\Longrightarrow$  (b).

- Self-adjoint operators has at least an eigenvalue. Recall how we proved operators on complex vector spaces always have an eigenvalue in §5.2. The approach is exactly the same, but we use the polynomial factorization theorem over  $\mathbb{R}$  instead of  $\mathbb{C}$ .
  - We can show that for self-adjoint  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$ ,  $T^2 + bT + CI$  is injective under  $b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $b^2 4c < 0$ . For an arbitrary nonzero  $v \in V$ ,

$$\begin{split} \langle (T^2 + bT + CI)v, v \rangle &= \langle T^2v, v \rangle + b \langle Tv, v \rangle + c \langle v, v \rangle \\ &= \langle Tv, Tv \rangle + b \langle Tv, v \rangle + c \langle v, v \rangle \\ &\geq \|Tv\|^2 + \|v\|^2 - b \|Tv\| \|v\| \quad \text{by Cauchy-Schwarz} \\ &= \left( \|Tv\| - \frac{|b| \|v\|}{2} \right)^2 + \left( c - \frac{b^2}{4} \right) \|v\|^2 > 0, \end{split}$$

showing that  $(T^2 + bT + CI)v \neq 0$  for all nonzero vector v and is thus injective.

Once we show  $T^2 + bT + CI$  is injective, for any  $v \in V$ ,

$$0 = a_0 + a_1 T v + \dots + a_n T^n v$$
  
=  $(a_0 + a_1 T + a_n T^n) v$   
=  $c(T^2 + b_1 T + c_1 I) \cdots (T^2 + b_M T + c_M I) (T - \lambda_1 I) \cdots (T - \lambda_m I) v$ .

Since the first M terms in the factorization are all injective, one of the  $\lambda$ 's is our desired eigenvalue of T. For the full proof, see this section in the book.

- For the self-adjoint  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  and the subspace U of V invariant under T, we have
  - (a)  $U^{\perp}$  is invariant under T; Let  $v \in U^{\perp}$ , then for all  $u \in U$ , we have

$$\langle Tv, u \rangle = \langle v, Tu \rangle = 0.$$

Since this holds for all  $u, Tv \in U^{\perp}$  and thus T is invariant under T.

(b)  $T|_U \in \mathcal{L}(U)$  is self-adjoint;

For any  $u, v \in U$ ,

$$\langle T|_U u, v \rangle = \langle Tu, v \rangle = \langle u, Tv \rangle = \langle u, T|_U v \rangle.$$

(c)  $T|_{U^{\perp}} \in \mathcal{L}(U)$  is self-adjoint.

Since  $U^{\perp}$  is invariant from (a), we can repeat what we did in proving (b).

- The real spectral theorem says that for operator T on an real inner product space V, the following are equivalent:
  - (a) T is self-adjoint.
  - (b) V has an orthonormal basis consisting of eigenvectors of T.

(c) T has a diagonal matrix with respect to some orthonormal basis of V.

For (b)  $\Longrightarrow$  (c), check out §5.3.

For (c)  $\Longrightarrow$  (a), the diagonal matrix  $\mathcal{M}(T)$  is equal to its transpose  $\mathcal{M}(T^*)$ , meaning that  $T = T^*$ .

(a)  $\Longrightarrow$  (b) by induction on dim V:

If dim V = 1, then since T has an eigenvalue, we have an eigenvector of norm 1. This eigenvector itself is a basis of V.

Suppose (a)  $\Longrightarrow$  (b) holds for all real inner product spaces with dimension less than  $n = \dim V$  (n > 1). Given T is self-adjoint, we must have an eigenvector u with norm 1.  $U := \operatorname{span}(u)$  is thus invariant under T, and therefore  $T|_{U^{\perp}}$  is self-adjoint, where  $U^{\perp}$  is of dimension n - 1.

The inductive hypothesis suggests there is an orthonormal basis of  $U^{\perp}$  consisting of eigenvectors of  $T|_{U^{\perp}}$ . Since u has norm 1 and are perpendicular to these eigenvectors of  $T|_{U^{\perp}}$ , the combined list of vectors gives an orthonormal basis of U (as  $V = U \oplus U^{\perp}$ ), which completes the inductive step.

### 7.3 Positive Operators and Isometries

•  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  is positive if T is self-adjoint and  $\langle Tv, v \rangle \geq 0$  for all  $v \in V$ .

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- An operator R is a square root of T if  $R^2 = T$ .
- For  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$ , the following are equivalent:
  - (a) T is positive;
  - (b) T is self-adjoint and all eigenvalues of T are nonnegative;
  - (c) T has a positive square root;
  - (d) T has a self-adjoint square root;
  - (e) there is an operator R such that  $T = R^*R$ .
- $\bullet$  Each positive operator on V has a unique positive square root.
- There are a series of equivalent characterizations of isometry. For  $S \in \mathcal{L}(V)$ , the following are equivalent:

(a)

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- 8 Operators on Complex Vector Spaces
- 8.1 Generalized Eigenvectors and Nilpotent Operators
- 8.2 Decomposition of an Operator
- 8.3 Characteristic and Minimal Polynomials
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- 9 Operators on Real Vector Spaces
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- 10.1 Trace
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