

Answer to 3.2 problem 19

(a) implies (b)

Recall that, by definition, $N(A)$ is the subspace of all solutions of the homogeneous system $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$.

If $N(A) = \{\mathbf{0}\}$, then the only solution to the homogeneous system $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ is the trivial solution (zero vector), thus the matrix is singular by the Theorem on Equivalent Conditions on Nonsingularity (page 8 of Lecture Notes on Elementary Matrices – Section 1.5)

(b) implies (c)

If A is nonsingular, then it is invertible and $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ if and only if $\mathbf{x} = A^{-1}\mathbf{b}$. Thus $A^{-1}\mathbf{b}$ is the only solution to $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$.

(c) implies (a)

If the equation $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ has a unique solution for each \mathbf{b} , then in particular for $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{0}$ the solution $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ must be unique. Therefore $N(A) = \{\mathbf{0}\}$.