

# **MATRIX ANALYSIS**

## A Quick Guide

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## Preface

Greetings,

*Matrix Analysis: A Quick Guide to* is compiled based on my MA353: Matrix Analysis notes with professor Leo Livshits. The sections are based on a number of resources: *Linear Algebra Done Right* by Axler, *A Second Course in Linear Algebra* by Horn and Garcia, *Matrices and Linear Transformations* by Cullen, *Matrices: Methods and Applications* by Barnett, *Problems and Theorems in Linear Algebra* by Prasolov, *Matrix Operations* by Richard Bronson, and professor Leo Livshits' own textbook (in the making). Prerequisites: some prior exposure to a first course in linear algebra.

The development of this text will come in layers. The first layer, one that I am working on during the course of S'19 MA353, will be an overview of the key topics listed in the table of contents. As the semester progresses, I will be constantly updating the existing notes, as well as adding prof. Livshits' problems and my solutions to the problems. The second layer will come after the course is over, when concepts will have hopefully "come together."

I will decide how much narrative I should put into the text as text is developed over the semester. I'm thinking that I will only add detailed explanations wherever I find fit or necessary for my own studies. I will most likely keep the text as condensed as I can.

Enjoy!

# Contents

Preface . . . . .	1
<b>1 List of Special Matrices &amp; Their Properties</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>2 List of Operations</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>3 List of Algorithms</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>4 Complex Numbers</b>	<b>9</b>
4.1 A different point of view . . . . .	9
4.2 Relevant properties and definitions . . . . .	11
<b>5 Vector Spaces &amp; Linear Functions</b>	<b>13</b>
5.1 Review of Linear Spaces and Subspaces . . . . .	13
5.2 Review of Linear Maps . . . . .	13
5.3 Review of Kernels and Images . . . . .	14
5.4 Atrices . . . . .	14
5.5 Linear Independence, Span, and Bases . . . . .	16
5.5.1 Linear Independence . . . . .	16
5.5.2 Span . . . . .	17
5.5.3 Bases . . . . .	17
5.6 Linear Bijections and Isomorphisms . . . . .	18
5.7 Finite-Dimensional Linear Spaces . . . . .	18
5.7.1 Dimension . . . . .	18
5.7.2 Rank-Nullity Theorem . . . . .	19
5.8 Infinite-Dimensional Spaces . . . . .	19
<b>6 Sums of Subspaces &amp; Products of vector spaces</b>	<b>20</b>
6.1 Direct Sums . . . . .	20
6.2 Products of Vector Spaces . . . . .	20
6.3 Products & Direct Sums . . . . .	21
6.4 Rank-Nullity Theorem . . . . .	21
6.5 Nullspaces & Ranges of Operator Powers . . . . .	22
6.6 Generalized Eigenvectors and Eigenspaces . . . . .	23
6.7 Nilpotent Operators . . . . .	24
6.8 Weyr Characteristic . . . . .	24
<b>7 Idempotents &amp; Resolutions of Identity</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>8 Block-representations of operators</b>	<b>26</b>
8.1 Direct sums of operators . . . . .	26
8.2 Coordinatization & matricial representation of linear functions .	26
8.3 Equality of rank and trace for idempotents; Resolution of Identity Revisited . . . . .	26

<b>9</b>	<b>Invariant subspaces</b>	<b>27</b>
9.1	Reducing subspaces . . . . .	27
<b>10</b>	<b>Polynomials applied to operators</b>	<b>28</b>
10.1	Minimal polynomials of block- $\Delta^r$ operators . . . . .	28
10.2	Minimal polynomials at a vector . . . . .	28
<b>11</b>	<b>Eigentheory</b>	<b>29</b>
11.1	Spectral Mapping Theorem . . . . .	29
<b>12</b>	<b>Triangularization</b>	<b>30</b>
12.1	Compression to invariant subspaces . . . . .	30
12.2	Simultaneously $\Delta$ -ity of commuting families . . . . .	30
<b>13</b>	<b>Diagonalization</b>	<b>31</b>
13.1	Spectral resolutions . . . . .	31
13.2	Compressions to reducing subspaces . . . . .	31
13.3	Simultaneous diagonalizability for commuting families . . . . .	31
<b>14</b>	<b>Primary decomposition over <math>\mathbb{C}</math> and generalized eigenspaces</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>Cyclic decomposition and Jordan form</b>	<b>33</b>
15.1	Square roots of operators . . . . .	33
15.2	Similarity of a matrix and its transpose . . . . .	33
15.3	Similarity of a matrix and its conjugate . . . . .	33
15.4	Jordan forms of $\mathcal{AB}$ and $\mathcal{BA}$ . . . . .	33
15.5	Power-convergent operators . . . . .	33
15.6	Power-bounded operators . . . . .	33
15.7	Row-stochastic matrices . . . . .	33
<b>16</b>	<b>Determinant &amp; Trace</b>	<b>34</b>
16.1	Classical adjoints . . . . .	34
16.2	Cayley-Hamilton theorem . . . . .	34
<b>17</b>	<b>Inner products and norms</b>	<b>35</b>
17.1	Riesz representation theorem . . . . .	36
17.2	Adjoint . . . . .	36
17.3	Grammians . . . . .	36
17.4	Orthogonal complements and orthogonal decompositions . . . . .	36
17.5	Ortho-projections . . . . .	36
17.6	Closest point solutions . . . . .	36
17.7	Gram-Schmidt and orthonormal bases . . . . .	36
<b>18</b>	<b>Isometries and unitary operators</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>Ortho-triangularization</b>	<b>38</b>

<b>20 Spectral resolutions</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>21 Ortho-diagonalization; self-adjoint and normal operators; spectral theorems</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>22 Positive (semi-)definite operators</b>	<b>41</b>
22.1 Classification of inner products . . . . .	41
22.2 Positive square roots . . . . .	41
<b>23 Polar decomposition</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>24 Single value decomposition</b>	<b>43</b>
24.1 Spectral/operator norm . . . . .	43
24.2 Singular values and approximation . . . . .	43
24.3 Singular values and eigenvalues . . . . .	43
<b>25 Problems and Solutions</b>	<b>44</b>
25.1 Problem set 1 (under corrections) . . . . .	44
25.2 Problem set 2 . . . . .	45
25.3 Problem set 3 . . . . .	60

# 1 List of Special Matrices & Their Properties

1. **Hermitian/Self-adjoint:**  $H = H^\dagger$ . A Hermitian matrix is matrix that is equal to its own conjugate transpose:

$$H \text{ is Hermitian} \iff H_{ij} = \bar{H}_{ji}$$

## Properties 1.1.

- (a)  $H$  is Hermitian  $\iff \langle w, Hv \rangle = \langle Hw, v \rangle$ , where  $\langle, \rangle$  denotes the inner product.
- (b)  $H$  is Hermitian  $\iff \langle v, Hv \rangle \in \mathbb{R}$ .
- (c)  $H$  is Hermitian  $\iff$  it is *unitarily diagonalizable* with *real eigenvalues*.

**Unitary:**  $U^*U = UU^* = I = U^\dagger U = UU^\dagger$ . The real analogue of a unitary matrix is an orthogonal matrix. The following list contain the properties of  $U$ :

- (a)  $U$  preserves the inner product:

$$\langle Ux, Uy \rangle = \langle x, y \rangle.$$

- (b)  $U$  is normal: it commutes with  $U^* = U^\dagger$ .
- (c)  $U$  is diagonalizable:

$$U = VDV^*,$$

where  $D$  is diagonal and unitary, and  $V$  is unitary.

- (d)  $|\det(U)| = 1$  (hence the real analogue to  $U$  is an orthogonal matrix)
- (e) Its eigenspaces are orthogonal.
- (f)  $U$  can be written as

$$U = e^{iH},$$

where  $H$  is a Hermitian matrix.

- (g) Any square matrix with unit Euclidean norm is the average of two unitary matrices.

2. **Idempotent:**  $M$  idempotent  $\iff M^2 = M$ .

- (a) Singularity: its number of independent rows (and columns) is less than its number of rows (and columns).
- (b) When an idempotent matrix is subtracted from the identity matrix, the result is also idempotent.

“Proof”.

$$[I - M][I - M] = I - M - M + M^2 = I - M - M + M = I - M.$$

□

- (c)  $M$  is idempotent  $\iff \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, A^n = A$ .
- (d) Eigenvalues: an idempotent matrix is always diagonalizable and its eigenvalues are either 0 or 1. (think “projection”)
- (e) Trace: the trace of an idempotent matrix equals the rank of the matrix and thus is always an integer. So

$$\text{tr}(A) = \dim(\text{Im } A).$$

3. **Nilpotent:** a nilpotent matrix is a square matrix  $N$  such that

$$N^k = 0$$

for some positive integer  $k$ . The smallest such  $k$  is sometimes called the **index** of  $N$ .

The following statements are equivalent:

- (a)  $N$  is nilpotent.
- (b) The minimal polynomial for  $N$  is  $x^k$  for some positive integer  $k \leq n$ .
- (c) The characteristic polynomial for  $N$  is  $x^n$ .
- (d) The only complex eigenvalue for  $N$  is 0.
- (e)  $\text{tr } N^k = 0$  for all  $k > 0$ .

**Properties 1.2.**

- (a) The degree of an  $n \times n$  nilpotent matrix is always less than or equal to  $n$ .
- (b)  $\det N = \text{tr}(N) = 0$ .
- (c) Nilpotent matrices are not invertible.
- (d) The only nilpotent diagonalizable matrix is the zero matrix.

## 2 List of Operations

1. **Conjugate transpose** is what its name suggests.
2. **Classical adjoint/Adjugate/adjunct** of a square matrix is the transpose of its cofactor matrix.



### 3 List of Algorithms

## 4 Complex Numbers

### 4.1 A different point of view

We often think of complex numbers as

$$a + ib$$

where  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $i = \sqrt{-1}$ . While there is nothing “bad” about this way of thinking - in fact thinking of complex numbers as  $a + ib$  allows us to very quickly and intuitively do arithmetics operations on them - a “matrix representation” of complex numbers can give us some insights on “what we actually do” when we perform complex arithmetics.

Let us think of

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{pmatrix}$$

as a different representation of the same object - the same complex number “ $a + ib$ .” Note that it does not make sense to say the matrix representation **equals** the complex number itself. But we shall see that a lot of the properties of complex numbers are carried into this matrix representation under interesting matricial properties.

$$\boxed{\begin{pmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{pmatrix} \sim a + ib}$$

First, let us break the matrix down:

$$a + ib = a \times 1 + i \times b \sim \begin{pmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{pmatrix} = a \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + b \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = aI + b\mathcal{I}.$$

Right away, we can make some “mental connections” between the representations:

$$\begin{aligned} I &\sim 1 \\ \mathcal{I} &\sim i. \end{aligned}$$

Now, we know that complex number multiplications commute:

$$(a + ib)(c + id) = (c + id)(a + ib).$$

Matrix multiplications are not commutative. So, we might wonder whether commutativity holds under the this new representation of complex numbers. Well, the answer is yes. We can readily verify that

$$(aI + b\mathcal{I})(cI + b\mathcal{I}) = (cI + b\mathcal{I})(aI + b\mathcal{I}).$$

How about additions? Let's check:

$$(a + ib) + (c + id) = (a + c) + i(b + d) \sim \begin{pmatrix} a + c & -(b + d) \\ (b + d) & a + c \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} c & -d \\ d & c \end{pmatrix}.$$

Ah! Additions work. So, the new representation of complex numbers seems to be working flawlessly. However, we have yet to gain any interesting insights into the connections between the representations. To do that, we have to look into changing the form of the matrix. First, let's see what conjugation does:

$$(a + ib)^* = a - ib \sim \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ -b & a \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{pmatrix}^\top$$

Ah, so conjugation to a complex number in the traditional representation is the same as transposition in the matrix representations. What about the amplitude square? Let us call

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{pmatrix}.$$

We have

$$(a + ib)(a - ib) \sim \begin{pmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ -b & a \end{pmatrix} = MM^\top = (a^2 + b^2)I = \det(M)I$$

Interesting. But observe that if  $\det(M) \neq 0$

$$\frac{1}{\det(M)} MM^\top = I.$$

This tells us that

$$M^\top = M^{-1},$$

where  $M^{-1}$  is the inverse of  $M$ , and, not surprisingly, it corresponds to the reciprocal to the complex number  $a + ib$ . We can readily show that

$$M^{-1} \sim (a + ib)^{-1} = \frac{1}{a^2 + b^2}(a - ib).$$

Remember that we can also think of a complex number as a column vector:

$$c + id \sim \begin{pmatrix} c \\ d \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let us look back at complex number multiplication under matrix representation:

$$(a + ib)(c + id) = (ac - bd) + i(bc + ad) \sim \begin{pmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c \\ d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} ac - bd \\ bc + ad \end{pmatrix}.$$

Multiplication actually works in this “mixed” way of representing complex numbers as well. Now, observe that what we just did was performing a linear transformation on a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . It is always interesting to look at the geometrical interpretation of this transformation. To do this, let us call  $N$  the “normalized” version of  $M$ :

$$N = \frac{1}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}} \begin{pmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{pmatrix}.$$

We immediately recognize that  $N$  is an orthogonal matrix. This means  $N$  is an orthogonal transformation (length preserving). Now, it is reasonable to define

$$\begin{aligned} \cos \theta &= \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}} \\ \sin \theta &= \frac{b}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}}. \end{aligned}$$

We can write  $N$  as

$$N = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix},$$

which is a physicists’ favorite matrix: the rotation by  $\theta$ . So, let us write  $M$  in terms of  $N$ :

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{pmatrix} = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} N = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}.$$

We can interpret  $M$  as a rotation by  $\theta$ , followed by a scaling by  $\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$ . But what  $\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$  exactly is just the “length” or the “amplitude” of the complex number  $a + ib$ , if we think of it as an arrow in a plane.

## 4.2 Relevant properties and definitions

1. The *modulus* of  $z = a + ib$  is the “amplitude” of  $z$ , denoted by  $|z| = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} = z\bar{z}$ .
2. The modulus is *multiplicative*, i.e.

$$|wz| = |w||z|.$$

3. Triangle inequality:

$$|z + w| \leq |z| + |w|.$$

We can readily show this geometrically, or algebraically.

4. The *argument* of  $z = a + ib$  is  $\theta$ , where

$$\theta = \begin{cases} \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{b}{a} \right), & \text{if } a > 0 \\ \frac{\pi}{2} + k2\pi, k \in \mathbb{R} & \text{if } a = 0, b > 0 \\ -\frac{\pi}{2} + k2\pi, k \in \mathbb{R} & \text{if } a = 0, b < 0 \\ \text{Undefined} & \text{if } a = b = 0. \end{cases}$$

5. The *conjugate* of  $a+ib$  is  $a-ib$ . Conjugation is *additive* and *multiplicative*, i.e.

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{z+w} &= \bar{z} + \bar{w} \\ \overline{wz} &= \bar{w}\bar{z}. \end{aligned}$$

Note that we can also show the multiplicative property with the matrix representation as well:

$$\bar{w}z \sim (WZ)^\top = Z^\top W^\top \sim \bar{z}\bar{w} = \bar{w}\bar{z}.$$

6. Euler's identity, generalized to de Moivre's formula:

$$z^n = r^n e^{in\theta}.$$

## 5 Vector Spaces & Linear Functions

### 5.1 Review of Linear Spaces and Subspaces

**Properties 5.1.** of linear spaces:

1. Commutativity and associativity of addition
2. Existence of an additively neutral element (null element). Zero multiples of elements give the null element:  $0 \cdot V = \mathbf{0}$
3. Every element has an (unique) additively antipodal element
4. Scalar multiplication distributes over addition
5. Multiplicative identity:
6.  $ab \cdot V = a \cdot (bV)$
7.  $(a + b)V = aV + bV$

$W$  is a subspace of  $V$  if

1.  $S \subseteq V$
2.  $S$  is non-empty
3.  $S$  is closed under addition and scalar multiplication

**Properties 5.2.** that are interesting/important/maybe-not-so-obvious:

1. If  $S$  is a subspace of  $V$  and  $S \neq V$  then  $S$  is a proper subspace of  $V$ .
2. If  $X$  is a subspace of  $Y$  and  $Y$  is a subspace of  $Z$ , then  $X$  is a subspace of  $Z$ .
3. Non-trivial linear (non-singleton) spaces are infinite.

### 5.2 Review of Linear Maps

Consider linear spaces  $V$  and  $W$  and elements  $v \in V$  and  $w \in W$  and scalars  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ , a function  $F : V \rightarrow W$  is a linear map if

$$F[\alpha v + \beta w] = \alpha F[v] + \beta F[w].$$

**Properties 5.3.**

1.  $F[\mathbf{0}_V] = \mathbf{0}_W$
2.  $G[w] = (\alpha \cdot F)[w] = \alpha \cdot F[w]$
3. Given  $F : V \rightarrow W$  and  $G : V \rightarrow W$ ,  $H[v] = F[v] + G[v] = (F + G)[v]$  is called the sum of the functions  $F$  and  $G$ .

4. Linear combinations of linear maps are linear.
5. Compositions of linear maps are linear.
6. Compositions distributes over linear combinations of linear maps.
7. Inverses of linear functions (if they exist) are linear.
8. Inverse of a bijective linear function is a bijective linear function

### 5.3 Review of Kernels and Images

**Definition 5.1.** Let  $F : V \rightarrow W$  be given. The kernel of  $F$  is defined as

$$\ker(F) = \{v \in V \mid F[v] = \mathbf{0}_W\}.$$

**Properties 5.4.** Let  $F : V \rightarrow W$  a linear map be given. Also, consider a linear map  $G$  such that  $F \circ G$  is defined

1.  $F$  is null  $\iff \ker(F) = V \iff \text{Im}(F) = \mathbf{0}_W$
2.  $\ker(F)$  is a subspace of  $V$
3.  $\text{Im}(F)$  is a subspace of  $W$
4.  $F$  is injective  $\iff \ker(F) = \mathbf{0}_V$
5.  $\ker(F) \subseteq \ker(F \circ G)$ .
6.  $F$  injective  $\implies \ker(F) = \ker(F \circ G)$

**Definition 5.2.** Let  $F : V \rightarrow W$  be given. The image of  $F$  is defined as

$$\text{Im}(F) = \{w \in W \mid \exists v \in V, F[v] = w\}.$$

### 5.4 Atrices

**Definition 5.3. Atrix functions:** Let  $V_1, \dots, V_m \in \mathbf{V}$  be given. Consider  $f : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbf{V}$  be defined by

$$f \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ \vdots \\ a_m \end{pmatrix} = \sum_{i=1}^m a_i V_i.$$

We denote  $f$  by

$$(V_1 \quad V_2 \quad \dots \quad V_m).$$

We refer to the  $V_i$ 's as the **columns** of  $f$ , even though there doesn't have to be any columns. Basically,  $f$  is simply a function that takes in an ordered list of coefficients and returns a linear combination of  $V_i$  with the respective coefficients. A matrix is a special atrix. Not every atrix is a matrix.

**Properties 5.5.** of atrices

1. The  $V_i$ 's - the columns of an atrix - are the images of the standard basis tuples.
2.  $\mathbf{e}_j \in \ker(V_1 \dots V_m) \iff V_j = \mathbf{0}_V$ , where  $\mathbf{e}_j$  denotes a standard basis tuple with a 1 at the  $j^{\text{th}}$  position. To put in words, a kernel of an atrix contains a standard basis if and only if one of its columns is a null element.
3.  $\text{Im}(f) \equiv \text{Im}(V_1 \dots V_m) = \text{span}(V_1 \dots V_m)$
4.  $B$  is a null atrix  $\iff \ker(B) = \mathbb{R}^m \iff \text{Im}(B) = \mathbf{0}_V \iff V_j = \mathbf{0}_V \forall j = 1, 2, \dots, m$ .
5.  $f$  is a linear function  $\mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow V \iff f$  is an atrix function  $\mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow V$ .
6. An atrix  $A$  is bijective/invertible, then its inverse  $A^{-1}$  is a linear function, but is an atrix only if  $A$  is a matrix.
7. Linear combinations of atrices are atrices:

$$\begin{aligned} & \alpha \cdot (V_1 \quad \dots \quad V_m) + \beta \cdot (W_1 \quad \dots \quad W_m) \\ &= (\alpha V_1 + \beta W_1 \quad \dots \quad \alpha V_m + \beta W_m) \end{aligned}$$

8. Compositions of two atrices are NOT defined unless the atrix going first is a matrix. Consider  $F : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow W$  and  $G : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow T$ .  $F \circ G$  is only defined if  $T = \mathbb{R}^m$ . This makes  $G$  an  $n \times m$  matrix. It follows that the atrix  $F \circ G$  has the form

$$(f(g_1) \quad f(g_2) \quad \dots \quad f(g_m)).$$

9. Consider  $F : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow V$  and  $G : \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow V$ .  $\text{Im}(F) \subseteq \text{Im}(G) \iff F = G \circ C$ , with  $C \in \mathbb{M}_{k \times m}$ , i.e.  $C$  is an  $k \times m$  matrix.
10. Consider an atrix  $A : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow V$ .  $A = (V_1 \dots V_m)$ .  $A$  is NOT injective.  
 $\iff \exists$  a non-trivial linear combination of the columns of  $A$  that gives  $\mathbf{0}_V$   
 $\iff A = [\mathbf{0}_v]$  or  $\exists j | V_j$  is linear combination of other columns of  $A$   
 $\iff$  The first column of  $A$  is  $\mathbf{0}_V$  or  $\exists j | V_j$  is a linear combination some of  $V_i, i < j$ .
11. If atrix  $A : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow V$  has a single column then it is injective if the column is not  $\mathbf{0}_V$ .

**Properties 5.6.** of elementary column operations for atrices. Elementary operations on the columns of  $F$  can be expressed as a composition of  $F$  and an appropriate elementary matrix  $E$ ,  $F \circ E$ .

1. Swapping  $i^{\text{th}}$  and  $j^{\text{th}}$  columns:  $F \circ E^{[i] \leftrightarrow [j]}$ .
2. Scaling the  $j^{\text{th}}$  column by  $\alpha$ :  $F \circ E^{\alpha \cdot [j]}$ .



3. Adjust the  $j^{th}$  column by adding to it  $\alpha \times i^{th}$  column:  $F \circ E^{[i] \xleftarrow{\pm} \alpha \cdot [j]}$ .
4. Elementary column operations do not change the injectivity nor image of  $F$ .
5. If a column of  $F$  is a linear combination of some of the other columns then elementary column operations can turn it into  $\mathbf{0}_V$ .
6. Removing/Inserting null columns or columns that are linear combinations of other columns does not change the image of  $F$ .
7. Given matrix  $A$ , it is possible to eliminate (or not) columns of  $A$  to end up with a matrix  $B$  with  $\text{Im}(B) = \text{Im}(A)$ .
8. If  $B$  is obtained from insertion of columns into matrix  $A$ , then  $\text{Im}(B) = \text{Im}(A) \iff$  the insert columns  $\in \text{Im}(A)$ .
9. Inserting columns to a surjective  $A$  does not destroy surjectivity of  $A$ . ( $A$  is already having extra or just enough columns)
10.  $A$  surjective  $\iff A$  is obtained by inserting columns (or not) into an invertible matrix  $\iff$  deleting some columns of  $A$  (or not) gives an invertible matrix.
11. If  $A$  is injective, then column deletion does not destroy injectivity. ( $A$  is already “lacking” or having just enough columns)
12. The new matrix obtained from inserting columns from  $\text{Im}(A)$  into  $A$  is injective  $\iff A$  is injective.

## 5.5 Linear Independence, Span, and Bases

### 5.5.1 Linear Independence

- $X_1 \dots X_m$  are linearly independent  
 $\iff F = [X_1 \dots X_m]$  injective  
 $\iff \sum a_i X_i = 0 \iff a_i = 0 \forall i$   
 $\iff \mathbf{0}_V \notin \{X_i\}$  and none are linear combinations of some of the others.  
 $\iff X_1 \neq \mathbf{0}_V$  and  $X_j$  is not a linear combination of any of  $X_i$ 's for  $i < j$ .

#### Properties 5.7.

1. The singleton list is linearly independent if its entry is not the null element
2. Sublists of a linearly independent list are linearly independent
3. List operations cannot create/destroy linearly independence.
4. If a linear map  $L : X \rightarrow W$  injective, then  $X_1 \dots X_m$  linearly independent  $\iff L(X_1) \dots L(X_m)$  linearly independent.

### 5.5.2 Span

#### Properties 5.8.

1. Spans are subspaces.  $\text{span}(X_1 \dots X_m), X_j \in V$  is a subspace of  $V$ .
2.  $\text{span}(X_1 \dots X_j) \subseteq \text{span}(X_1 \dots X_k)$  if  $j \leq k$ .
3. Adding elements to a list that spans  $V$  produces a list that spans  $V$ .
4. The following list operations do not change the span of  $V$ : removing the null/linearly dependent element, inserting a linearly dependent element, scaling element(s), adding (multiples) of an element to another element.
5. It is possible to reduce a list that spans to a list that spans AND have linearly independent elements.
6. Consider  $A : V \rightarrow W$ . If  $X_i$  span  $V$  then  $A(X_i)$  span  $\text{Im}(A)$ .  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ .
7. If  $A : V \rightarrow W$  invertible, then  $X_i$  span  $V \iff A(X_i)$  span  $W$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ .

### 5.5.3 Bases

#### Properties 5.9.

1. A list is a basis of  $V$  if the elements are linearly independent and they span  $V$ .
2. A singleton linear space has no basis.
3. Re-ordering the elements of a basis gives another basis.
4.  $\{X_1 \dots X_m\}$  is a basis of  $V$  if  $(X_1 \dots X_m)$  is injective AND  $\text{Im}(X_1 \dots X_m) = V$ , i.e.  $(X_1 \dots X_m)$  invertible.
5. If  $\{X_i\}$  is a basis of  $V$  and  $\{Y_i\}$  is a list of elements in  $W$ , then there exists a unique linear function  $L : V \rightarrow W$  satisfying

$$L[X_i] = Y_i$$

6. If  $A : V \rightarrow W$  bijective, then  $\{V_i\}$  forms a basis of  $V$  and  $\{A(X_i)\}$  forms a basis of  $W$ .
7. Elementary operations on bases give bases.

## 5.6 Linear Bijections and Isomorphisms

**Definition 5.4.** Let linear spaces  $V, W$  be given.  $V$  is **isomorphic** to  $W$  if  $\exists F : V \rightarrow W$  bijective. We say  $V \sim W$ .

**Properties 5.10.**

1. A non-zero scalar multiple of an isomorphism is an isomorphism.
2. A composition of isomorphism is an isomorphism.
3. “Isomorphism” behaves like an equivalence relation:
  - (a) Reflexivity:  $V \sim V$ .
  - (b) Symmetry: if  $V \sim W$  then  $W \sim V$ .
  - (c) Transitivity: if  $V \sim W$  and  $W \sim Z$  then  $V \sim Z$ .
4. Consider  $F : V \rightarrow W$  an isomorphism.
  - (a) Isomorphisms preserve linear independence.  $V_i$ ’s are linearly independent in  $V \iff F(V_i)$ ’s are linearly independent in  $W$ .
  - (b) isomorphisms preserve spanning.  $V_i$ ’s span  $V \iff F(V_i)$ ’s span  $W$ .
  - (c) Isomorphisms preserve bases.  $\{V_i\}$  is a basis of  $V \iff F\{V_i\}$  is a basis of  $W$ .
5. If  $V \sim W$  then  $\dim(V) = \dim(W)$  (finite or infinite).
6. If a linear map  $A : V \rightarrow W$  is given and  $A(X_i)$ ’s are linearly independent, then  $X_i$ ’s are linearly independent.
7. If a linear map  $A : V \rightarrow W$  is injective and  $\{X_i\}$  is a basis of  $V$  then  $\{A(X_i)\}$  is a basis of  $\text{Im}(A)$

## 5.7 Finite-Dimensional Linear Spaces

### 5.7.1 Dimension

**Properties 5.11.**

1.  $\mathbb{R}^m \sim \mathbb{R}^n \iff m = n$ .
2. Isomorphisms  $F : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow V$  are bijective atrices.
3. Isomorphisms  $G : W \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  are inverses of bijective atrices.
4. Consider a non-singleton linear space  $V$ 
  - (a)  $V$  has a basis with  $n$  elements.
  - (b)  $V \sim \mathbb{R}^n$ .
  - (c)  $V \sim W$ , where  $W$  is any linear space with a basis of  $n$  elements.

5. If  $V$  is a linear space with a basis with  $n$  elements, then any basis of  $V$  has  $n$  elements.
6. Linear space  $V \sim W$  where  $W$  is  $n$ -dimensional if  $V$  is  $n$ -dimensional.
7. For a non-singleton linear space  $V$ ,  $V \sim \mathbb{R}^n \iff \dim(V) = n$ .
8.  $V \sim W \iff \dim(V) = \dim(W)$ .
9. If  $W$  is a subspace of  $V$ , then  $\dim(W) \leq \dim(V)$ . Equality holds when  $W = V$ .

### 5.7.2 Rank-Nullity Theorem

Let finite-dimensional linear space  $V$  and linear map  $F : V \rightarrow W$  be given. Then  $\text{Im}(F)$  is finite-dimensional and

$$\dim(\text{Im}(F)) + \dim(\ker(F)) = \dim(V)$$

A stronger statement: If a linear map  $F : V \rightarrow W$  has finite rank and finite nullity  $\iff V$  is finite-dimensional, then

$$\text{Im}(F) + \ker(F) = \dim(V).$$

## 5.8 Infinite-Dimensional Spaces

Consider a non-singleton linear space  $V$ . The following statements are equivalent:

1.  $V$  is infinite-dimensional.
2. Every linearly independent list in  $V$  can be enlarged to a strictly longer linearly independent set in  $V$ .
3. Every linearly independent list in  $V$  can be enlarged to an arbitrarily long (finite) linearly independent set in  $V$ .
4. There are arbitrarily long (finite) linearly independent lists in  $V$ .
5. There are linearly independent lists in  $V$  of any (finite) length.
6. No list of finitely many elements of  $V$  spans  $V$ .

## 6 Sums of Subspaces & Products of vector spaces

### 6.1 Direct Sums

**Definition 6.1.** Let  $U_j$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots, m$  are subspaces of  $V$ .  $\sum_1^m U_j$  is a *direct sum* if each  $u \in \sum U_j$  can be written in only one way as  $u = \sum_1^m u_j$ . The direct sum  $\sum_i^m U_j$  is denoted as  $U_1 \oplus \dots \oplus U_m$ .

**Properties 6.1.**

1. Condition for direct sum: If all  $U_j$  are subspaces of  $V$ , then  $\sum_1^m U_j$  is a direct sum  $\iff$  the only way to write 0 as  $\sum_1^m u_j$ , where  $u_j \in U_j$  is to take  $u_j = 0$  for all  $j$ .
2. If  $U, W$  are subspaces of  $V$  and  $U \cap W = \{0\}$  then  $U + W$  is a direct sum.

### 6.2 Products of Vector Spaces

**Definition 6.2.** Product of vectors spaces

$$V_1 \times \dots \times V_m = \{(v_1, \dots, v_m) : v_j \in V_j, j = 1, 2, \dots, m\}.$$

**Definition 6.3.** Addition on  $V_1 \times \dots \times V_m$ :

$$(u_1, \dots, u_m) + (v_1, \dots, v_m) = (u_1 + v_1, \dots, v_m + u_m).$$

**Definition 6.4.** Scalar multiplication on  $V_1 \times \dots \times V_m$ :

$$\lambda(v_1, \dots, v_m) = (\lambda v_1, \dots, \lambda v_m).$$

**Properties 6.2.**

1. Product of vectors spaces is a vector space.  
 $V_j$  are vectors spaces over  $\mathbb{F} \implies V_1 \times \dots \times V_m$  is a vector space over  $\mathbb{F}$ .
2. Dimension of a product is the sum of dimensions:

$$\dim(V_1 \times \dots \times V_m) = \sum_1^m \dim(V_j)$$

3. Vector space products are NOT commutative:

$$W \times V \neq V \times W.$$

However,

$$V \times W \sim W \times V.$$

4. Vector space products are NOT associative:

$$V \times (W \times Z) \neq (V \times W) \times Z$$

### 6.3 Products & Direct Sums

#### Properties 6.3.

1. Let  $U_1, \dots, U_m$  be subspaces of  $V$ . Define a linear map  $\Gamma : U_1 \times \dots \times U_m \rightarrow U_1 + \dots + U_m$  by:

$$\Gamma(u_1, \dots, u_m) = \sum_1^m u_j.$$

$U_1 + \dots + U_m$  is a direct sum  $\iff \Gamma$  is injective.

2. Let  $U_j$  be finite-dimensional and are subspaces of  $V$ .

$$U_1 \oplus \dots \oplus U_m \iff \dim(U_1 + \dots + U_m) = \sum_1^m \dim(U_j)$$

### 6.4 Rank-Nullity Theorem

Suppose  $Z_1$  and  $Z_2$  are subspaces of a finite-dimensional vector space  $W$ . Consider  $z_1 \in Z_1$ ,  $z_2 \in Z_2$ , and a function  $\phi : Z_1 \times Z_2 \rightarrow Z_1 + Z_2 \prec W$  defined by

$$\phi \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix} = z_1 + z_2.$$

First,  $\phi$  is a linear function, as it satisfies the linearity condition:

$$\phi \left( \alpha \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix} + \beta \begin{pmatrix} z'_1 \\ z'_2 \end{pmatrix} \right) = \alpha \phi \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix} + \beta \phi \begin{pmatrix} z'_1 \\ z'_2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

By rank-nullity theorem,

$$\dim(Z_1 \times Z_2) = \dim(Z_1 + Z_2) + \dim(\ker(\phi)).$$

But this is equivalent to

$$\dim(Z_1) + \dim(Z_2) = \dim(Z_1 + Z_2) + \dim(\ker(\phi))$$

The kernel of  $\phi$  is:

$$\ker(\phi) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} v \\ -v \end{pmatrix} \middle| v \in z \in Z_1, z \in Z_2 \right\} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} v \\ -v \end{pmatrix} \middle| v \in z \in Z_1 \cap Z_2 \right\}$$

We can readily verify that  $Z_1 \cap Z_2$  is a subspace of  $W$ . With this,  $\dim(\ker(\phi)) = \dim(Z_1 \cap Z_2)$ . So we end up with

$$\dim(Z_1 + Z_2) = \dim(Z_1) + \dim(Z_2) - \dim(Z_1 \cap Z_2).$$

#### Properties 6.4.

1. When  $Z_1 \cap Z_2$  is trivial, then  $Z_1 + Z_2$  is direct.
2. When  $\dim(\ker(\phi)) = 0$ ,  $\phi$  is injective. But  $\phi$  is also surjective by definition, this implies  $\phi$  is a bijection, in which case

$$Z_1 \oplus Z_2 \sim Z_1 + Z_2.$$

## 6.5 Nullspaces & Ranges of Operator Powers

1. Sequence of increasing null spaces: Suppose  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$ , i.e.,  $T$  is some linear function mapping  $V \rightarrow V$ , then

$$\{0\} = \ker(T^0) \subset \ker(T^1) \subset \ker(T^2) \subset \cdots \subset \ker(T^k) \subset \ker(T^{k+1}) \subset \cdots$$

*Proof Outline.* Let  $k$  be a nonnegative integer and  $v \in \ker(T^k)$ . Then  $T^k v = 0$ , so  $T^{k+1} v = T(T^k v) = T(0) = 0$ , so  $v \in \ker T^{k+1}$ . So  $\ker(T^k) \subset \ker(T^{k+1})$ .  $\square$

2. Equality in the sequence of null spaces: Suppose  $m$  is a nonnegative integer such that  $\ker(T^m) = \ker(T^{m+1})$ , then

$$\ker(T^m) = \ker(T^{m+1}) = \ker(T^{m+2}) = \cdots$$

*Proof Outline.* We want to show

$$\ker(T^{m+k}) = \ker(T^{m+k+1}).$$

We know that  $\ker T^{m+k} \subset \ker T^{m+k+1}$ . Suppose  $v \in \ker T^{m+k+1}$ , then

$$T^{m+1}(T^k v) = T^{m+k+1} v = 0.$$

So

$$T^k v \in \ker T^{m+1} = \ker T^m.$$

So

$$0 = T^m(T^k v) = T^{m+k} v,$$

i.e.,  $v \in \ker T^{m+k}$ . So  $\ker T^{m+k+1} \subset \ker T^{m+k}$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

3. Null spaces stop growing: If  $n = \dim(V)$ , then

$$\ker(T^n) = \ker(T^{n+1}) = \ker(T^{n+2}) = \cdots$$

*Proof Outline.* To show:

$$\ker T^n = \ker T^{n+1}.$$

Suppose this is not true. Then the dimension of the kernel has to increase by at least 1 every step until  $n+1$ . Thus  $\dim \ker T^{n+1} \geq n+1 > n = \dim(V)$ . This is a contradiction.  $\square$

4.  $V$  is the direct sum of  $\ker(T^{\dim(V)})$  and  $\text{Im}(T^{\dim(V)})$ : If  $n = \dim(V)$ , then

$$V = \ker(T^n) \oplus \text{Im}(T^n).$$

*Proof Outline.* To show:

$$\ker T^n \cap \operatorname{Im} T^n = \{0\}.$$

Suppose  $v \in \ker T^n \cap \operatorname{Im} T^n$ . Then  $T^n v = 0$  and  $\exists u \in V$  such that  $v = T^n u$ . So

$$T^n v = T^{2n} u = 0.$$

So

$$T^n u = 0.$$

But this means  $v = 0$ . □

5. IT IS NOT TRUE THAT  $V = \ker(T) \oplus \operatorname{Im}(T)$  in general.

## 6.6 Generalized Eigenvectors and Eigenspaces

**Definition 6.5.** Suppose  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  and  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $T$ . A vector  $v \in V$  is called a **generalized eigenvector** of  $T$  corresponding to  $\lambda$  if  $v \neq 0$  and

$$(T - \lambda I)^j v = 0$$

for some positive integer  $j$ .

**Definition 6.6. Generalized Eigenspace:** Suppose  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbf{F}$ . The **generalized eigenspace** of  $T$  corresponding to  $\lambda$ , denoted  $G(\lambda, T)$ , is defined to be the set of all generalized eigenvectors of  $T$  corresponding to  $\lambda$ , along with the 0 vector.

**Properties 6.5.** 1. Suppose  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbf{F}$ . Then

$$G(\lambda, T) = \ker(T - \lambda I)^{\dim(V)}.$$

*Proof Outline.* Suppose  $v \in \ker(T - \lambda I)^{\dim(V)}$ . Then  $v \in G(\lambda, T)$ . So,  $\ker(T - \lambda I)^{\dim V} \subset G(\lambda, T)$ . Next, suppose  $v \in G(\lambda, T)$ . Then there is a positive integer  $j$  such that

$$v \in \ker(T - \lambda I)^j.$$

But if this is true, then

$$v \in \ker(T - \lambda I)^{\dim V},$$

since  $\ker(T - \lambda I)^{\dim V}$  is the largest possible kernel, in a sense. □

2. Linearly independent generalized eigenvectors: Let  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$ . Suppose  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m$  are distinct eigenvalues of  $T$  and  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  are corresponding generalized eigenvectors. Then  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  is linearly independent.



## 6.7 Nilpotent Operators

**Definition 6.7.** An operator is called **nilpotent** if some power of it equals 0.

**Properties 6.6.**

Nilpotent operator raised to dimension of domain is 0: Suppose  $N \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  is nilpotent. Then

$$N^{\dim(V)} = 0.$$

Matrix of a nilpotent operator: Suppose  $N$  is a nilpotent operator on  $V$ . Then there is a basis of  $V$  with respect to which the matrix of  $N$  has the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & & & * \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & 0 & \\ 0 & & & 0 \end{pmatrix};$$

here all entries on and below the diagonal are 0's.

## 6.8 Weyr Characteristic

## 7 Idempotents & Resolutions of Identity

## 8 Block-representations of operators

### 8.1 Direct sums of operators

### 8.2 Coordinatization & matricial representation of linear functions

Consider a finite-dimensional linear space  $V$  with basis  $\{V_i\}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ . An element  $\tilde{V}$  in  $V$  can be expressed in exactly one way:

$$\tilde{V} = \sum_{i=1}^m a_i V_i,$$

where  $\{a_i\}$  is unique. We call  $\{a_i\}$  the coordinate tuple of  $\tilde{V}$  and  $a_i$ 's the coordinates.

#### Properties 8.1.

1. Inverse of a bijective matrix outputs the coordinates. Suppose  $A = [V_i]$ . Then

$$\tilde{V} = \sum_{i=1}^m a_i V_i \iff A^{-1}(Z) = (a_1 \quad \dots \quad a_m)^\top$$

### 8.3 Equality of rank and trace for idempotents; Resolution of Identity Revisited

## 9 Invariant subspaces

### 9.1 Reducing subspaces

## 10 Polynomials applied to operators

### 10.1 Minimal polynomials of block- $\Delta^r$ operators

### 10.2 Minimal polynomials at a vector

## 11 Eigentheory

### 11.1 Spectral Mapping Theorem

## 12    Triangularization

### 12.1    Compression to invariant subspaces

### 12.2    Simultaneously $\Delta$ -ity of commuting families

## 13 Diagonalization

### 13.1 Spectral resolutions

### 13.2 Compressions to reducing subspaces

### 13.3 Simultaneous diagonalizability for commuting families



## 14 Primary decomposition over $\mathbb{C}$ and generalized eigenspaces

## 15 Cyclic decomposition and Jordan form

15.1 Square roots of operators

15.2 Similarity of a matrix and its transpose

15.3 Similarity of a matrix and its conjugate

15.4 Jordan forms of  $AB$  and  $BA$

15.5 Power-convergent operators

15.6 Power-bounded operators

15.7 Row-stochastic matrices

## 16 Determinant & Trace

### 16.1 Classical adjoints

### 16.2 Cayley-Hamilton theorem

## 17 Inner products and norms

- 17.1 Riesz representation theorem
- 17.2 Adjoints
- 17.3 Grammians
- 17.4 Orthogonal complements and orthogonal decompositions
- 17.5 Ortho-projections
- 17.6 Closest point solutions
- 17.7 Gram-Schmidt and orthonormal bases

## 18 Isometries and unitary operators

## 19 Ortho-triangularization

## 20 Spectral resolutions



**21 Ortho-diagonalization; self-adjoint and normal operators; spectral theorems**

## **22 Positive (semi-)definite operators**

### **22.1 Classification of inner products**

### **22.2 Positive square roots**

## 23 Polar decomposition

## **24 Single value decomposition**

### **24.1 Spectral/operator norm**

### **24.2 Singular values and approximation**

### **24.3 Singular values and eigenvalues**

## 25 Problems and Solutions

### 25.1 Problem set 1 (under corrections)

## 25.2 Problem set 2

### Problem. 1. Finite unions of subspaces are rarely a subspace

Suppose that  $\mathbf{W}_1, \mathbf{W}_2, \dots, \mathbf{W}_n$  are subspaces of a vector space  $\mathbf{V}$ . Prove that the following are equivalent:

1.  $\mathbf{W}_1 \cup \mathbf{W}_2 \cup \dots \cup \mathbf{W}_n$  is a subspace of  $\mathbf{V}$ .
2. One of the  $\mathbf{W}_i$ 's contains all the others.

### Solution. 1.

- [1.  $\implies$  2.] : Suppose 2. is false and define

$$\mathbf{S} = \bigcup_{i=1}^{n_0} \mathbf{W}_i$$

a subspace of  $\mathbf{V}$ , where none of the  $\mathbf{W}_i$ 's  $\prec \mathbf{V}$  contains all the others, and  $n_0$  is minimal. If  $n_0 = 1$ , then the implication 1.  $\implies$  2. is true because  $\mathbf{W}_1$  contains itself. Therefore, in order for this implication to fail,  $n_0 \geq 2$ .

Because  $n_0$  is minimal,  $\mathbf{S}$  cannot be obtained from a union of less than  $n_0$  of the  $\mathbf{W}_i$ 's. Therefore, each  $\mathbf{W}_i$  contains an element  $w_i$  that does not belong to any other  $\mathbf{W}_j$ 's.

Take  $w_2 \in \mathbf{W}_2 \setminus \mathbf{W}_1$  and  $w_1 \in \mathbf{W}_1$  such that  $w_1 \notin \bigcup_{j \neq 1}^{n_0} \mathbf{W}_j$ . It follows that  $w_1, w_2 \in \mathbf{S}$  because  $\mathbf{W}_1, \mathbf{W}_2 \subseteq \mathbf{S}$ . And since  $\mathbf{S}$  is a subspace,  $nw_1 + w_2 \in \mathbf{S}$  for any  $n \in \mathbb{C}$  by closure under addition.

Consider a collection of  $n_0$  linear combinations of  $w_1$  and  $w_2$ , defined as

$$T = \{w_1 + w_2, 2w_1 + w_2, \dots, n_0 w_1 + w_2\} \subseteq \mathbf{S}.$$

Consider a typical element of  $T$ :  $nw_1 + w_2 \in \mathbf{S}$ ,  $n \in \{1, 2, \dots, n_0\}$ . Suppose  $nw_1 + w_2 \in \mathbf{W}_1$ . By closure under addition,

$$(nw_1 + w_2) - nw_1 = w_2 \in \mathbf{W}_1.$$

But this contradicts the choice of  $w_2$ . Therefore,  $nw_1 + w_2 \notin \mathbf{W}_1$ , for any  $n \in \{1, 2, \dots, n_0\}$ . It follows that  $T \subseteq \bigcup_{i=2}^{n_0} \mathbf{W}_i$ .

By construction,  $T$  has  $n_0$  elements, while  $\bigcup_{i=2}^{n_0} \mathbf{W}_i$  has  $(n_0 - 1)$   $\mathbf{W}_i$ 's. By the pigeonhole principle, a  $\mathbf{W}_k$  of  $\mathbf{W}_2, \dots, \mathbf{W}_{n_0}$  must contain  $nw_1 + w_2$  for two distinct values of  $n$ . Let these values be  $n_a$  and  $n_b$ . By closure under addition, we have

$$(n_a w_1 + w_2) - (n_b w_1 + w_2) = (n_a - n_b)w_1 \in \mathbf{W}_k.$$

But since  $n_a \neq n_b$ ,  $w_1 \in \mathbf{W}_k$ . This contradicts our initial choice of  $w_1$  and thus rules out the possibility that the implication 1.  $\implies$  2. fails to hold. Therefore, the implication 1.  $\implies$  2. must be true.

- [2.  $\implies$  1.] : Without loss of generality, assume that  $\mathbf{W}_1$  contains all the other  $\mathbf{W}_j$ 's. It follows that

$$\bigcup_{i=1}^{n_0} \mathbf{W}_i = \mathbf{W}_1.$$

Since  $\mathbf{W}_1$  is a subspace of  $\mathbf{V}$ ,  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{n_0} \mathbf{W}_i$  is also a subspace of  $\mathbf{V}$ . Therefore, 2.  $\implies$  1. must hold.

**Problem. 2. Images of pre-images and pre-images of images:** Is there a  $3 \times 3$  matrix  $\mathcal{A}$  such that

$$\mathbf{W} := \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \mid x, y \in \mathbb{C} \right\}$$

is an invariant subspace for  $\mathcal{A}$ , and

$$\mathcal{A}[\mathcal{A}^{-1}[\mathbf{W}]] \subsetneq \mathbf{W} \subsetneq \mathcal{A}^{-1}[\mathcal{A}[\mathbf{W}]]?$$

Justify your answer.

**Solution. 2.**

First, we observe that  $\dim(\mathbf{W}) = 2$ , because a basis set of  $\mathbf{W}$ ,

$$\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\},$$

has two elements. Next, consider the vector space  $\mathbb{C}^3$  over the complex numbers. Since  $\mathbf{W}$  is a subspace and any element of  $\mathbf{W}$  is contained in  $\mathbb{C}^3$  by construction,  $\mathbf{W} \prec \mathbb{C}^3$ . In fact,  $\mathbf{W} \subsetneq \mathbb{C}^3$  because  $\mathbb{C}^3 \ni (0 \ 0 \ 1)^\top \notin \mathbf{W}$ .

By the condition  $\mathcal{A}[\mathcal{A}^{-1}[\mathbf{W}]] \subsetneq \mathbf{W} \subsetneq \mathcal{A}^{-1}[\mathcal{A}[\mathbf{W}]]$ , it must be true that

$$\dim(\mathcal{A}[\mathcal{A}^{-1}[\mathbf{W}]]) < \dim(\mathbf{W}) < \dim(\mathcal{A}^{-1}[\mathcal{A}[\mathbf{W}]]) .$$

Now, since  $\dim(\mathbf{W}) = 2$  and  $\mathcal{A}$  is a  $3 \times 3$  matrix (i.e., neither  $\dim(\ker(\mathcal{A}))$  nor  $\dim(\text{Im}(\mathcal{A}))$  can exceed  $3^{(\dagger)}$ ), it is required that  $\dim(\mathcal{A}[\mathcal{A}^{-1}[\mathbf{W}]]) \leq 1$  and  $\dim(\mathcal{A}^{-1}[\mathcal{A}[\mathbf{W}]]) = 3$ .

Because  $\mathbf{W}$  is invariant under  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\mathcal{A}[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathbf{W}$ . It follows that  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}[\mathcal{A}[\mathbf{W}]] \subseteq \mathcal{A}^{-1}[\mathbf{W}]$ . Therefore,

$$3 = \dim(\mathcal{A}^{-1}[\mathcal{A}[\mathbf{W}]]) \leq \dim(\mathcal{A}^{-1}[\mathbf{W}]) .$$

It follows, by fact  $(\dagger)$ , that

$$3 \leq \dim(\mathcal{A}^{-1}[\mathbf{W}]) \leq 3,$$

which implies  $\dim(\mathcal{A}^{-1}[\mathbf{W}]) = 3 = \dim(\mathbb{C}^3)$ . Consider  $v \in \mathcal{A}^{-1}[\mathbf{W}]$ .  $v$  can have the form  $(x \ y \ z)^\top$ ,  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{C}$ , so  $v \in \mathbb{C}^3$ . This implies  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathbb{C}^3$ . But since their dimensions are both 3,  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}[\mathbf{W}] = \mathbb{C}^3$ . It follows that

$$\mathcal{A}[\mathcal{A}^{-1}[\mathbf{W}]] = \mathcal{A}[\mathbb{C}^3] \supseteq \mathcal{A}[\mathbf{W}],$$



where the second relation comes from the fact that  $\mathbf{W}$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{C}^3$ . Hence,

$$1 \geq \dim(\mathcal{A}[\mathcal{A}^{-1}[\mathbf{W}]]) \geq \dim(\mathcal{A}[\mathbf{W}]),$$

which implies  $\dim(\mathcal{A}[\mathbf{W}]) = 0$  or  $1$ .

So, such a  $3 \times 3$  matrix  $\mathcal{A}$  that satisfies the given condition is

$$\mathcal{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

First,  $\mathbf{W}$  is invariant under  $\mathcal{A}$  because take any  $(x \ y \ 0)^\top \in \mathbf{W}$ ,  $\mathcal{A}((x \ y \ 0)^\top) = (x \ 0 \ 0)^\top \in \mathbf{W}$ . This implies  $\mathcal{A}[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq [\mathbf{W}]$  (a).

Second, it is easy to see that the pre-image of  $\mathbf{W}$  under  $\mathcal{A}$  is  $\mathbb{C}^3$ , since take any  $(x \ y \ z)^\top \in \mathbb{C}^3$ , we have  $\mathcal{A}((x \ y \ z)^\top) = (x \ 0 \ 0)^\top \in \mathbf{W}$ . But observe that  $\text{Im}(\mathcal{A})$  is proper subset of  $\mathbf{W}$ , because any  $(x \ y \ 0)^\top \in \mathbf{W}$  with  $y \neq 0$  is not contained in  $\text{Im}(\mathcal{A})$ . This implies  $\mathcal{A}[\mathcal{A}^{-1}[\mathbf{W}]] \subsetneq \mathbf{W}$  (b).

Lastly, as we have pointed out, because  $\dim(\mathcal{A}^{-1}[\mathcal{A}[\mathbf{W}]]) = 3$  and  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}[\mathcal{A}[\mathbf{W}]] \prec \mathbb{C}^3$ ,  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}[\mathcal{A}[\mathbf{W}]] = \mathbb{C}^3 \supsetneq \mathbf{W}$  (c).

From (a), (b), (c), we see that this  $3 \times 3$  matrix  $\mathcal{A}$  works as desired.

**Problem. 3. Invariant subspaces form a “lattice”:**

1. Argue that  $\mathfrak{Lat}(\mathcal{L})$  is closed under intersection; i.e., that the intersection of any two invariant subspaces for  $\mathcal{L}$  is also an invariant subspace for  $\mathcal{L}$ .
2. Argue that  $\mathfrak{Lat}(\mathcal{L})$  is closed under subspace sums; i.e., that a subspace sum of two invariant subspaces for  $\mathcal{L}$  is again an invariant subspace for  $\mathcal{L}$ .
3. Show that an image under  $\mathcal{L}$  of an invariant subspace for  $\mathcal{L}$  is again an invariant subspace for  $\mathcal{L}$ .
4. Show that a pre-image under  $\mathcal{L}$  of an invariant subspace for  $\mathcal{L}$  is again an invariant subspace for  $\mathcal{L}$ .

**Solution. 3.**

1. Let subspaces  $\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{W} \in \mathfrak{Lat}(\mathcal{L})$  be given.  $\mathfrak{Lat}(\mathcal{L})$  is closed under intersection if  $\mathbf{V} \cap \mathbf{W} \in \mathfrak{Lat}(\mathcal{L})$ . Consider  $u \in \mathbf{V} \cap \mathbf{W}$ , then  $u \in \mathbf{V}$  and  $u \in \mathbf{W}$ . It follows that  $\mathcal{L}(u) \in \mathcal{L}[\mathbf{V}]$  and  $\mathcal{L}(u) \in \mathcal{L}[\mathbf{W}]$ .

Now, since  $\mathcal{L}[\mathbf{V}] \subseteq \mathbf{V}$  and  $\mathcal{L}[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathbf{W}$  because  $\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{W} \in \mathfrak{Lat}(\mathcal{L})$ , we have  $\mathcal{L}(u) \in \mathbf{V}$  and  $\mathcal{L}(u) \in \mathbf{W}$ , which implies  $\mathcal{L}(u) \in \mathbf{V} \cap \mathbf{W}$ . Since this implication holds for any  $u \in \mathbf{V} \cap \mathbf{W}$ ,  $\mathcal{L}[\mathbf{V} \cap \mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathbf{V} \cap \mathbf{W}$ . Therefore,  $\mathbf{V} \cap \mathbf{W}$  is invariant under  $\mathcal{L}$ ; i.e.,  $\mathbf{V} \cap \mathbf{W} \in \mathfrak{Lat}(\mathcal{L})$ . This completes the argument.

2. Let subspaces  $\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{W} \in \mathfrak{Lat}(\mathcal{L})$  be given.  $\mathfrak{Lat}(\mathcal{L})$  is closed under subspace sums if  $\mathbf{V} + \mathbf{W} \in \mathfrak{Lat}(\mathcal{L})$ . Consider  $v \in \mathbf{V}, w \in \mathbf{W}$ . Then  $v + w \in \mathbf{V} + \mathbf{W}$ . Next, consider  $l \in \mathcal{L}[\mathbf{V} + \mathbf{W}]$  given by

$$l = \mathcal{L}(v + w) = \mathcal{L}(v) + \mathcal{L}(w) = v' + w',$$

where  $v' \in \mathbf{V}$  and  $w' \in \mathbf{W}$  because  $\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{W}$  are invariant under  $\mathcal{L}$ . So  $l \in \mathbf{V} + \mathbf{W}$ . This implies  $\mathcal{L}[\mathbf{V} + \mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathbf{V} + \mathbf{W}$ ; i.e.,  $\mathfrak{Lat}(\mathcal{L})$  is closed under subspace sums.

3. Let  $\mathbf{V} \in \mathfrak{Lat}(\mathcal{L})$  be given. By definition,  $\mathcal{L}[\mathbf{V}] \subseteq \mathbf{V}$ . It follows that  $\mathcal{L}[\mathcal{L}[\mathbf{V}]] \subseteq \mathcal{L}[\mathbf{V}]$ . So,  $\mathcal{L}[\mathbf{V}]$  is invariant under  $\mathcal{L}$ .

4. Let  $\mathbf{W} \in \mathfrak{Lat}(\mathcal{L})$  be given. Claim:  $\mathcal{L}[\mathcal{L}^{-1}[\mathbf{W}]] \subseteq \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\mathbf{W}]$ .

It follows from the definition of the pre-image of  $\mathbf{W}$  under  $\mathcal{L} : \mathbf{V} \rightarrow \mathbf{W}$  that  $\mathcal{L}^{-1}[\mathbf{W}] = \{v \in \mathbf{V} | \mathcal{L}(v) \in \mathbf{W}\}$ . This implies  $\mathcal{L}[\mathcal{L}^{-1}[\mathbf{W}]] \subseteq \mathbf{W}$  (i).

Next, consider  $w \in \mathbf{W} \subseteq \mathbf{V}$ . By definition,  $\mathcal{L}^{-1}[\mathcal{L}[\mathbf{W}]] = \{v \in \mathbf{V} | \mathcal{L}(v) \in \mathcal{L}[\mathbf{W}]\}$ , which implies  $w \in \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\mathcal{L}[\mathbf{W}]]$ , because  $\mathcal{L}(w) \in \mathcal{L}[\mathbf{W}]$ . Therefore,

$$\mathbf{W} \subseteq \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\mathcal{L}[\mathbf{W}]] \text{ (ii).}$$

Moreover, because  $\mathbf{W} \in \mathfrak{Lat}(\mathcal{L})$ ,  $\mathcal{L}[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathbf{W}$  (iii).

From (i), (ii), and (iii) we have

$$\mathcal{L}[\mathcal{L}^{-1}[\mathbf{W}]] \stackrel{(i)}{\subseteq} \mathbf{W} \stackrel{(ii)}{\subseteq} \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\mathcal{L}[\mathbf{W}]] \stackrel{(iii)}{\subseteq} \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\mathbf{W}].$$

Therefore,  $\mathcal{L}[\mathcal{L}^{-1}[\mathbf{W}]] \subseteq \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\mathbf{W}]$ , verifying the claim.

**Problem. 4. Cyclic invariant subspaces** For a given  $\mathcal{L} \in \mathfrak{L}(\mathbf{V})$  and a fixed  $v_0 \in \mathbf{V}$ , define

$$\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0) := \left\{ (a_0\mathcal{L}^0 + a_1\mathcal{L}^1 + a_2\mathcal{L}^2 + \cdots + a_k\mathcal{L}^k)(v_0) \mid k \geq 0, a_i \in \mathbb{C} \right\}.$$

1. Argue that  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$  is a subspace of  $\mathbf{V}$ .
2. Argue that  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$  is invariant under  $\mathcal{L}$ .
3. Argue that  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$  is the smallest invariant subspace for  $\mathcal{L}$  that contains  $v_0$ . We refer to  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$  as **the cyclic invariant subspace for  $\mathcal{L}$  generated by  $v_0$** .
4. Argue that  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$  is 1-dimensional exactly when  $v_0$  is an eigenvector of  $\mathcal{L}$ .
5. Argue that a subspace  $\mathbf{W}$  of  $\mathbf{V}$  is invariant under  $\mathcal{L}$  exactly when it is a union of cyclic invariant subspaces for  $\mathcal{L}$ .

**Solution. 4.**

1. Consider a typical element  $P(\mathcal{L}, v_0) \in \mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$ . Since  $\mathcal{L} \in \mathfrak{L}(\mathbf{V})$ ,  $\mathcal{L}^i(v_0) \in \mathbf{V}$  for all  $i$  and  $v_0 \in \mathbf{V}$ . By closure under scalar multiplication and addition, for any  $a_i \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $v_0 \in \mathbf{V}$ , and  $k \geq 0$ ,

$$P(\mathcal{L}, v_0) = \sum_{i=0}^k a_i \mathcal{L}^i(v_0) \in \mathbf{V}.$$

Therefore  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0) \subseteq \mathbf{V}$  (i).

With  $a_i = 0$  for all  $i$ ,  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0) \ni P(\mathcal{L}, v_0) = \sum_{i=1}^k 0 \cdot \mathcal{L}^i(v_0) = \mathbf{0}_{\mathbf{P}}$ . So  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$  contains the null element (ii).

Consider  $P_1(\mathcal{L}, v_0) = \sum_{i=0}^k b_i \mathcal{L}^i(v_0)$  and  $P_2(\mathcal{L}, v_0) = \sum_{j=0}^l c_j \mathcal{L}^j(v_0)$ , with  $b_i, c_j \in \mathbb{C}$  for all  $i, j$ . Without loss of generality, assume that  $k \geq l \geq 0$ . It is clear that  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$  is closed under addition because,

$$\begin{aligned} P_1(\mathcal{L}, v_0) + P_2(\mathcal{L}, v_0) &= \sum_{i=0}^k b_i \mathcal{L}^i(v_0) + \sum_{j=0}^l c_j \mathcal{L}^j(v_0) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^k b_i \mathcal{L}^i(v_0) + \sum_{i=0}^k c_i \mathcal{L}^i(v_0) \quad \text{with } c_i = 0 \text{ for all } i > l \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^k (b_i + c_i) \mathcal{L}^i(v_0) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^k d_i \mathcal{L}^i(v_0) \in \mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0), \end{aligned}$$

where  $d_i = b_i + c_i \in \mathbb{C}$ . (iii).

It is also clear that  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$  is closed under scalar multiplication because given  $\mu \in \mathbb{C}$ ,

$$\mu P_1(\mathcal{L}, v_0) = \mu \sum_{i=0}^k b_i \mathcal{L}^i(v_0) = \sum_{i=0}^k \mu b_i \mathcal{L}^i(v_0) = \sum_{i=0}^k e_i \mathcal{L}^i(v_0) \in \mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0),$$

where  $e_i = \mu b_i \in \mathbb{C}$  (iv).

By (i), (ii), (iii), and (iv),  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$  is a subspace of  $\mathbf{V}$ .

2. Let  $P(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$  be given. It suffices to show that  $\mathcal{L}(P(\mathcal{L}, v_0)) \in \mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$ , for all  $P(\mathcal{L}, v_0) \in \mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$ .

$$\mathcal{L}(P(\mathcal{L}, v_0)) = \mathcal{L} \left( \sum_{i=0}^k a_i \mathcal{L}^i(v_0) \right) = \sum_{i=0}^k a_i \mathcal{L}^{i+1}(v_0),$$

where  $a_i \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $k \geq 0$ . Define new coefficients  $b_j = a_i$  where  $j = i + 1$  and  $b_0 = 0$ , then

$$\mathcal{L}(P(\mathcal{L}, v_0)) = \sum_{j=1}^{k+1} b_j \mathcal{L}^j(v_0) = \sum_{j=0}^{k+1} b_j \mathcal{L}^j(v_0) \in \mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0).$$

Therefore,  $\mathcal{L}[\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)] \subseteq \mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$ ; i.e.,  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$  is invariant under  $\mathcal{L}$ .

3. Let  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$  be given.  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$  is an invariant subspace under  $\mathcal{L}$  that contains  $v_0$  by definition. Suppose  $\mathbf{Q}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$  is some invariant subspace under  $\mathcal{L}$  that also contains  $v_0$ . It suffices to show  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0) \subseteq \mathbf{Q}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$  for any such  $\mathbf{Q}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$ .

Consider  $\mathcal{L}^j(v_0)$  for some  $j \geq 0$ .  $\mathcal{L}^j(v_0) \in \mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$  by definition. We claim that  $\mathcal{L}^j(v_0) = q \in \mathbf{Q}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$  for any non-negative  $j$ . Assume that this is true. The base case where  $j = 0$  is true since  $v_0 \in \mathbf{Q}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$ . The inductive case is also true because

$$\mathcal{L}^{(j+1)}(v_0) = \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{L}^j(v_0)) = \mathcal{L}(q) \in \mathbf{Q}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$$

where the last relation comes from the fact that  $\mathbf{Q}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$  is invariant under  $\mathcal{L}$ . Therefore, by the principle of induction,  $\mathcal{L}^j(v_0) \in \mathbf{Q}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$  for any non-negative  $j$ . This implies  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0) \subseteq \mathbf{Q}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$  for any such  $\mathbf{Q}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$ . Thus  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$  must be the smallest invariant subspace under  $\mathcal{L}$  that contains  $v_0$ .

4. (a) ( $\implies$ ) : Let a  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$  be given such that  $\dim(\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)) = 1$ . Consider the subspace  $\text{span}(v_0)$ . We know that  $\dim(\text{span}(v_0)) = 1$ . Consider  $v \in \text{span}(v_0)$ . Then  $v$  can be expressed as  $v = av_0$  where  $a \in \mathbb{C}$ . It follows immediately that  $v \in \mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$ . Therefore,  $\text{span}(v_0) \subseteq \mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$ . But because  $\dim(\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)) = 1 = \dim(\text{span}(v_0))$ ,  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0) = \text{span}(v_0)$ ; i.e., all elements of  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$  are some scalar multiples of  $v_0$ .

Now, it suffices to show  $\mathcal{L}(v_0) = \lambda v_0$ , where  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ . Consider  $P(\mathcal{L}, v_0) = \mathcal{L}^0(v_0) + \mathcal{L}(v_0) \in \mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0) = \text{span}(v_0)$ ,  $v_0 \neq \mathbf{0}_V$ . By closure under addition,

$$(\mathcal{L}^0(v_0) + \mathcal{L}(v_0)) - v_0 = (\mathcal{L}^0(v_0) + \mathcal{L}(v_0)) - \mathcal{L}^0(v_0) = \mathcal{L}(v_0) \in \text{span}(v_0).$$

This implies  $\mathcal{L}(v_0) = \lambda v_0$  for some  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ ; i.e.,  $v_0$  is an eigenvector of  $\mathcal{L}$ .

- (b) ( $\impliedby$ ) : If  $v_0$  is an eigenvector of  $\mathcal{L}$ , then  $\mathcal{L}^i(v_0) = \lambda^i v_0$ , where  $\lambda^i \in \mathbb{C}$  is the  $\mathcal{L}$ 's  $v_0$ -eigenvalue raised to the  $i^{\text{th}}$  power. It follows that a typical element of  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)$  is

$$P(\lambda, v_0) = \sum_{i=0}^k a_i \mathcal{L}^i(v_0) = \left( \sum_{i=0}^k a_i \lambda^i \right) v_0 = \mu v_0,$$

where  $\mu = \sum_{i=0}^k a_i \lambda^i \in \mathbb{C}$ . Therefore,  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0) = \text{span}(v_0)$ ; i.e.,  $\dim(\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_0)) = 1$ . This completes the argument.

5. (a) ( $\implies$ ) : Let  $\mathbf{W} \in \mathfrak{Lat}(\mathcal{L})$  be given. Then  $\mathcal{L}[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathbf{W}$ . Let  $w_1 \in \mathbf{W}$  be given. We first show that  $\mathcal{L}^k(w_1) \in \mathbf{W}$  for all non-negative  $k$  by induction. Assume that  $\mathcal{L}^k(w_1) = v_1 \in \mathbf{W}$  for all non-negative  $k$  holds. The base case where  $k = 0$  is true since  $\mathcal{L}^0(w_1) = w_1 \in \mathbf{W}$ . The inductive case is also true because

$$\mathcal{L}^{(k+1)}(w_1) = \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{L}^k(w_1)) = \mathcal{L}(v_1) \in \mathbf{W}.$$

By the principle of induction,  $\mathcal{L}^k(w_1) \in \mathbf{W}$  for all  $w_1 \in \mathbf{W}$  and  $k \geq 0$  ( $\dagger$ ). Now, consider  $P \in \mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, w_1)$ . By the definition of  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, w_1)$ ,  $P$  is a linear combination of  $\mathcal{L}^0(w_1), \dots, \mathcal{L}^k(w_1)$  for some  $k \geq 0$ . So, by ( $\dagger$ ),  $P \in \mathbf{W}$ . This implies  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, w_1) \subseteq \mathbf{W}$ .

We can repeat the argument above, starting with  $w_2, w_3, \dots \in \mathbf{W}$ , and conclude that  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, w_2) \subseteq \mathbf{W}$ ,  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, w_3) \subseteq \mathbf{W}$ , and so on. This means  $\mathbf{W}$  contains a union of  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, w_1), \mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, w_2), \mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, w_3), \dots$ . Moreover, observe the fact that any element  $w_n \in \mathbf{W}$  can be used to generate a  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, w_n)$  that is contained in the union of itself and the other  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, w_m)$ 's, which is ultimately contained in  $\mathbf{W}$ . Therefore,  $\mathbf{W}$  is itself a union of cyclic invariant subspaces for  $\mathcal{L}$ .

(b) (  $\Leftarrow$  ) : Let  $\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{P}_1 \cup \mathbf{P}_2 \cup \cdots \cup \mathbf{P}_n$  be a subspace of  $\mathbf{V}$ , where  $\mathbf{P}_i$  denotes  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{L}, v_i)$  and  $v_i$  is an arbitrary element of  $\mathbf{V}$ . By problem 1, because  $\mathbf{P}_1 \cup \mathbf{P}_2 \cup \cdots \cup \mathbf{P}_n$  is a subspace of  $\mathbf{V}$ , a  $\mathbf{P}_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , must contain all the other  $\mathbf{P}_j$ 's. Without loss of generality, assume that such a  $\mathbf{P}_i$  is  $\mathbf{P}_1$ . It follows that  $\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{P}_1$ . By part 2. of this problem, we know that  $\mathbf{P}_1$  is invariant under  $\mathcal{L}$ . Therefore,  $\mathbf{W}$  is invariant under  $\mathcal{L}$ .

**Problem. 5. Invariant subspaces of commuting operators:** Suppose that linear functions  $\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{M} \in \mathfrak{L}(\mathbf{V})$  commute; i.e.,

$$\mathcal{L} \circ \mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M} \circ \mathcal{L}.$$

1. Argue that for any non-negative integer  $k$ ,  $\text{Im}(\mathcal{M}^k)$  and  $\ker(\mathcal{M}^k)$  are invariant subspaces for  $\mathcal{L}$ .
2. Argue that every eigenspace of  $\mathcal{M}$  is an invariant subspace for  $\mathcal{L}$ .
3. By giving a general example (with justification, of course!) show that for each  $n > 1$  there are commuting matrices  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  in  $\mathbb{M}_n$  such that

$$\mathfrak{Lat}(\mathcal{A}) \neq \mathfrak{Lat}(\mathcal{B}).$$

**Solution. 5.**

1. Because  $\mathcal{L} \circ \mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M} \circ \mathcal{L}$ ,  $\mathcal{L} \circ \mathcal{M}^k = \mathcal{M}^k \circ \mathcal{L}$  for any non-negative  $k$ . We can verify this by a short proof by induction. Assume that  $\mathcal{L} \circ \mathcal{M}^k = \mathcal{M}^k \circ \mathcal{L}$  holds for any non-negative  $k$ . The base case where  $k = 0$  is true, for  $\mathcal{L} \circ \mathcal{M}^0 = \mathcal{L} \circ \mathcal{I} = \mathcal{I} \circ \mathcal{L} = \mathcal{M}^0 \circ \mathcal{L}$ , where  $\mathcal{I}$  is the identity operator. The inductive case is also true because

$$\mathcal{L} \circ \mathcal{M}^{k+1} = \mathcal{L} \circ \mathcal{M}^k \circ \mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}^k \circ \mathcal{L} \circ \mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}^k \circ \mathcal{M} \circ \mathcal{L} = \mathcal{M}^{k+1} \circ \mathcal{L}.$$

Therefore, by the principle of induction,  $\mathcal{L} \circ \mathcal{M}^k = \mathcal{M}^k \circ \mathcal{L}$  is indeed true for all  $k \geq 0$ .

(a) To show:  $\mathcal{L}[\text{Im}(\mathcal{M}^k)] \subseteq \text{Im}(\mathcal{M}^k)$ .

Since  $\mathcal{L} \circ \mathcal{M}^k = \mathcal{M}^k \circ \mathcal{L}$ ,  $\mathcal{L} \circ \mathcal{M}^k[\mathbf{V}] = \mathcal{M}^k \circ \mathcal{L}[\mathbf{V}]$ ; i.e.,  $\mathcal{L}[\text{Im}(\mathcal{M}^k)] = \mathcal{M}^k[\text{Im}(\mathcal{L})]$ . But since  $\text{Im}(\mathcal{L}) \subseteq \mathbf{V}$  (because  $\mathcal{L} \in \mathfrak{L}(\mathbf{V})$ ),

$$\mathcal{M}^k[\text{Im}(\mathcal{L})] \subseteq \mathcal{M}^k[\mathbf{V}] = \text{Im}(\mathcal{M}^k).$$

It follows that  $\mathcal{L}[\text{Im}(\mathcal{M}^k)] \subseteq \text{Im}(\mathcal{M}^k)$ . So,  $\text{Im}(\mathcal{M}^k)$  is an invariant subspace for  $\mathcal{L}$ .

(b) To show:  $\mathcal{L}[\ker(\mathcal{M}^k)] \subseteq \ker(\mathcal{M}^k)$ .

Since  $\mathcal{L} \circ \mathcal{M}^k = \mathcal{M}^k \circ \mathcal{L}$ ,

$$\mathcal{L} \circ \mathcal{M}^k[\ker(\mathcal{M}^k)] = \{\mathbf{0}_\mathbf{V}\} = \mathcal{M}^k \circ \mathcal{L}[\ker(\mathcal{M}^k)].$$

It follows that  $\mathcal{L}[\ker(\mathcal{M}^k)] \subseteq \ker(\mathcal{M}^k)$ . This completes the argument.



2. Let  $\mathbf{E}_\lambda$ , the eigenspace of  $\mathcal{M}$  associated with eigenvalue  $\lambda$ , be given. Consider  $e \in \mathbf{E}_\lambda$ , we have

$$\mathcal{M} \circ \mathcal{L}(e) = \mathcal{L} \circ \mathcal{M}(e) = \mathcal{L}(\lambda e) = \lambda \mathcal{L}(e).$$

This implies  $\mathcal{L}(e) \in \mathbf{E}_\lambda$ . Since this relation holds for any  $e \in \mathbf{E}_\lambda$ ,  $\mathcal{L}[\mathbf{E}_\lambda] \subseteq \mathbf{E}_\lambda$ . Therefore,  $\mathbf{E}_\lambda$  is an invariant subspace for  $\mathcal{L}$  for any eigenvalue  $\lambda$ . This proves the claim that *every* eigenspace of  $\mathcal{M}$  is an invariant subspace for  $\mathcal{L}$ .

3. It suffices to find commuting matrices  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  such that there exists an invariant subspace under  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\mathbf{J} \in \mathfrak{Lat}(\mathcal{A})$ , but  $\mathbf{J} \notin \mathfrak{Lat}(\mathcal{B})$ .

For  $n = 2$ , consider

$$\mathcal{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathcal{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  commute:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Consider  $\mathbf{J} = \text{span}\{(1 \ 1)^\top\}$ .  $\mathbf{J} \in \mathfrak{Lat}(\mathcal{A})$  since  $\mathcal{A}[\mathbf{J}] = \{\mathbf{0}\} \subseteq \mathbf{J}$ . However, consider  $j = (1 \ 1)^\top \in \mathbf{J}$ , we have

$$\mathcal{B}(j) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \notin \text{span}\{(1 \ 1)^\top\},$$

which implies  $\mathbf{J} \notin \mathfrak{Lat}(\mathcal{B})$ . Therefore,  $\mathfrak{Lat}(\mathcal{A}) \neq \mathfrak{Lat}(\mathcal{B})$ .

Observe that we can give a more general example for any  $n > 1$  based on the  $2 \times 2$  example above. Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an  $n \times n$  zero matrix, and  $\mathcal{B}$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix of the form

$$\mathcal{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & & \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \\ 0 & & & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

It is clear that  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  commute, since  $\mathcal{A}$  is the zero matrix:

$$\mathcal{A}\mathcal{B} = [0]_{n \times n} = \mathcal{B}\mathcal{A}.$$

Consider  $j = (1 \ 1 \ \dots \ 1)^\top \in \mathbf{J} = \text{span}\{(1 \ 1 \ \dots \ 1)^\top\} \subseteq \mathbb{C}^n$ . It is clear that  $\mathcal{B}(j) = (1 \ 0 \ \dots \ 0)^\top \notin \mathbf{J}$  but  $\mathcal{A}(j') = \mathbf{0} \in \mathbf{J}$  for any  $j' \in \mathbf{J}$ . So,  $\mathbf{J} \in \mathfrak{Lat}(\mathcal{A})$  but  $\mathbf{J} \notin \mathfrak{Lat}(\mathcal{B})$ ; i.e.,

$$\mathfrak{Lat}(\mathcal{A}) \neq \mathfrak{Lat}(\mathcal{B}).$$

**Problem. 6. Invariant subspace chains:** Suppose that  $\mathcal{L} \in \mathfrak{L}(\mathbf{V})$  and  $\mathbf{W}$  is an invariant subspace of  $\mathcal{L}$ .

1. Argue that the following inclusions hold:

$$\cdots \subseteq \mathcal{L}^3[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathcal{L}^2[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathcal{L}[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathbf{W} \subseteq \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathcal{L}^{-2}[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathcal{L}^{-3}[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \cdots$$

Note that by Problem 3, all of the subspaces listed in the chain are invariant under  $\mathcal{L}$ .

2. Argue that the following implications hold:

$$\mathcal{L}^{k+1}[\mathbf{W}] = \mathcal{L}^k[\mathbf{W}] \implies \mathcal{L}^m[\mathbf{W}] = \mathcal{L}^k[\mathbf{W}] \text{ for any } m \geq k,$$

and

$$\mathcal{L}^{-k}[\mathbf{W}] = \mathcal{L}^{-(k+1)}[\mathbf{W}] \implies \mathcal{L}^{-k}[\mathbf{W}] = \mathcal{L}^{-m}[\mathbf{W}] \text{ for any } m \geq k,$$

and then explain why the chain in part 1 stabilizes in both directions, and has at most  $\dim(\mathbf{V})$  proper inclusions.

3. Argue that any subspace  $\mathbf{M}$  that falls between two consecutive subspaces in the chain shown in part 1. is also invariant under  $\mathcal{L}$ .

**Solution. 6.**

1. (a) To show:  $\cdots \subseteq \mathcal{L}^3[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathcal{L}^2[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathcal{L}[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathbf{W}$ .

Assume that  $\mathcal{L}^{k+1}[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathcal{L}^k[\mathbf{W}]$  for all  $k \geq 0$ . The base case  $k = 0$  is true because  $\mathbf{W}$  is an invariant subspace under  $\mathcal{L}$ . The inductive case is also true because

$$\mathcal{L}^{k+2}[\mathbf{W}] = \mathcal{L}[\mathcal{L}^{k+1}[\mathbf{W}]] \subseteq \mathcal{L}[\mathcal{L}^k[\mathbf{W}]] = \mathcal{L}^{k+1}[\mathbf{W}],$$

where the second relation follows from assumption. By principle of induction,  $\cdots \subseteq \mathcal{L}^3[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathcal{L}^2[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathcal{L}[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathbf{W}$ .

- (b) To show:  $\mathbf{W} \subseteq \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathcal{L}^{-2}[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathcal{L}^{-3}[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \cdots$

Assume that  $\mathcal{L}^{-k}[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathcal{L}^{-k-1}[\mathbf{W}]$  for all  $k \geq 0$ . The base case where  $k = 0$  is true: Given  $w \in \mathbf{W} \subseteq \mathbf{V}$ ,  $\mathcal{L}(w) \in \mathbf{W}$  because  $\mathbf{W}$  is invariant under  $\mathcal{L}$ . But since  $\mathcal{L}^{-1}[\mathbf{W}] = \{v \in \mathbf{V} \mid \mathcal{L}(v) \in \mathbf{W}\}$  and  $\mathcal{L}[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathbf{W}$ ,  $w \in \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\mathbf{W}]$ . Therefore,  $\mathbf{W} \subseteq \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\mathbf{W}]$  (i).

The inductive case is also true:

$$\mathcal{L}^{-k-1}[\mathbf{W}] = \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\mathcal{L}^{-k}[\mathbf{W}]] \subseteq \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\mathcal{L}^{-k-1}[\mathbf{W}]] \subseteq \mathcal{L}^{-k-2}[\mathbf{W}].$$

So by the principle of induction,  $\mathbf{W} \subseteq \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathcal{L}^{-2}[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \cdots$  (ii).

From (i) and (ii),

$$\cdots \subseteq \mathcal{L}^2[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathcal{L}[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathbf{W} \subseteq \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathcal{L}^{-2}[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \cdots$$

2. (a) Assume the hypothesis that  $\mathcal{L}^{k+1}[\mathbf{W}] = \mathcal{L}^k[\mathbf{W}]$  for some  $k \geq 0$ . We can prove by induction that  $\mathcal{L}^{k+j}[\mathbf{W}] = \mathcal{L}^k[\mathbf{W}]$  for all non-negative  $j$ . The base case where  $j = 0$  is true. The inductive case is also true since:

$$\mathcal{L}^{k+j+1}[\mathbf{W}] = \mathcal{L}[\mathcal{L}^{k+j}[\mathbf{W}]] = \mathcal{L}[\mathcal{L}^k[\mathbf{W}]] = \mathcal{L}^{k+1}[\mathbf{W}] = \mathcal{L}^k[\mathbf{W}].$$

By the principle of induction,  $\mathcal{L}^m[\mathbf{W}] = \mathcal{L}^k[\mathbf{W}]$  must hold for any  $m \geq k \geq 0$  if  $\mathcal{L}^{k+1}[\mathbf{W}] = \mathcal{L}^k[\mathbf{W}]$ .

- (b) Assume that hypothesis that  $\mathcal{L}^{-k}[\mathbf{W}] = \mathcal{L}^{-(k+1)}[\mathbf{W}]$  for all  $k \geq 0$ . Also assume that  $\mathcal{L}^{-k}[\mathbf{W}] = \mathcal{L}^{-(k+j)}[\mathbf{W}]$  for all non-negative  $j$ . The base case where  $j = 0$  is true. In inductive case is also true since:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}^{-(k+j+1)}[\mathbf{W}] &= \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\mathcal{L}^{-(k+j)}[\mathbf{W}]] \\ &= \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\mathcal{L}^{-k}[\mathbf{W}]] \\ &= \mathcal{L}^{-(k+1)}[\mathbf{W}] \\ &= \mathcal{L}^{-k}[\mathbf{W}]. \end{aligned}$$

By the principle of induction,  $\mathcal{L}^{-k}[\mathbf{W}] = \mathcal{L}^{-m}[\mathbf{W}]$  must hold for  $m \geq k$  if  $\mathcal{L}^{-k}[\mathbf{W}] = \mathcal{L}^{-(k+1)}[\mathbf{W}]$ .

- (c) It follows from part 1. that

$$\dots \leq \dim(\mathcal{L}[\mathbf{W}]) \leq \dim(\mathbf{W}) \leq \dim(\mathcal{L}^{-1}[\mathbf{W}]) \leq \dots$$

Because  $\dim(\mathcal{L}^{-k}[\mathbf{W}]) \leq \dim(\mathbf{V})$  for any  $k \geq 0$ , there exists an  $\mathcal{L}^{-h}[\mathbf{W}]$ ,  $h \geq 0$ , that is an invariant subspace in the chain with the highest dimension where  $h$  is maximal. It follows that  $\dim(\mathcal{L}^{-(h+1)}[\mathbf{W}]) = \dim(\mathcal{L}^{-h}[\mathbf{W}])$  is maximal. But because  $\mathcal{L}^{-h}[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathcal{L}^{-(h+1)}[\mathbf{W}]$ ,  $\mathcal{L}^{-h}[\mathbf{W}] = \mathcal{L}^{-(h+1)}[\mathbf{W}]$ . As a result,  $\mathcal{L}^{-h}[\mathbf{W}] = \mathcal{L}^{-j}[\mathbf{W}]$  for any  $j \geq h$ , which follows from (b). Therefore, the chain in part 1. stabilizes in the “inclusion” direction.

A similar argument can be given to show that the chain in part 1. also stabilizes in the “inclusion by” direction. Since  $0 \leq \dim(\mathcal{L}^l[\mathbf{W}])$  for any  $l \geq 0$ , there exists an  $\mathcal{L}^l[\mathbf{W}]$  in the chain with the lowest dimension but  $l$  is minimal. It follows that  $\dim(\mathcal{L}^{(l+1)}[\mathbf{W}]) = \dim(\mathcal{L}^l[\mathbf{W}])$  is minimal. But because  $\mathcal{L}^{(l+1)}[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathcal{L}^l[\mathbf{W}]$ ,  $\mathcal{L}^{(l+1)}[\mathbf{W}] = \mathcal{L}^l[\mathbf{W}]$ . As a result,  $\mathcal{L}^k[\mathbf{W}] = \mathcal{L}^l[\mathbf{W}]$  for any  $k \geq l$ , which follows from (a). Therefore, the chain in part 1. stabilizes in the “inclusion by” direction as well.

We claim that for every *proper* inclusion, there is a dimension loss. Revisiting  $\mathcal{L}^{-h}[\mathbf{W}]$ , we know that  $\dim(\mathcal{L}^{-h}[\mathbf{W}]) \leq \dim(\mathbf{V})$ . Consider the first proper inclusion:

$$\dots \mathcal{L}^{-(h+j)}[\mathbf{W}] \subsetneq \mathcal{L}^{-(h+j-1)}[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \dots \subseteq \mathcal{L}^{-h}[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \dots$$

This implies  $\dim(\mathcal{L}^{-(h+j)}[\mathbf{W}]) < \dim(\mathcal{L}^{-h}[\mathbf{W}]) \leq \dim(\mathbf{V})$ . Suppose  $\dim(\mathcal{L}^{-h}[\mathbf{W}]) = \dim(\mathbf{V})$ , i.e., maximal, then

$$\dim(\mathcal{L}^{-(h+j)}[\mathbf{W}]) \leq \dim(\mathbf{V}) - 1.$$

By assuming equality is satisfied and consider the next proper inclusion in the chain, a similar argument shows that the invariant subspace of interest has at most  $\dim(\mathbf{V}) - 2$  dimensions. It follows that, at the  $\dim(\mathbf{V})^{\text{th}}$  proper inclusion, the considered invariant subspace has at most  $\dim(\mathbf{V}) - \dim(\mathbf{V}) = 0$  dimensions; i.e. the subspace is  $\{\mathbf{0}_{\mathbf{V}}\}$ . At this point, no further proper inclusion is possible. Therefore, the chain in part 1. has at most  $\dim(\mathbf{V})$  proper inclusion.

3. Let  $\mathcal{L}^{(k+1)}[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathbf{M} \subseteq \mathcal{L}^k[\mathbf{W}]$  be given for some nonnegative integer  $k$ .  $\mathbf{M}$  is a subspace. We have that

$$\mathcal{L}[\mathbf{M}] \subseteq \mathcal{L}[\mathcal{L}^k[\mathbf{W}]] = \mathcal{L}^{(k+1)}[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathbf{M}^{(i)}.$$

Let  $\mathcal{L}^{-h}[\mathbf{W}] \subseteq \mathbf{M} \subseteq \mathcal{L}^{-(h+1)}[\mathbf{W}]$  be given for some nonnegative integer  $h$ . We have that

$$\mathcal{L}[\mathbf{M}] \subseteq \mathcal{L}[\mathcal{L}^{-(h+1)}[\mathbf{W}]] = \mathcal{L}[\mathcal{L}^{-1}[\mathcal{L}^{-h}[\mathbf{W}]]] \subseteq \mathcal{L}[\mathcal{L}^{-1}[\mathbf{M}]].$$

But because  $\mathcal{L}^{-1}[\mathbf{M}] = \{v \in \mathbf{V} | \mathcal{L}(v) \in \mathbf{M}\}$ ,  $\mathcal{L}[\mathcal{L}^{-1}[\mathbf{M}]] \subseteq \mathbf{M}$ . Therefore, we have  $\mathcal{L}[\mathbf{M}] \subseteq \mathbf{M}^{(ii)}$ .

From (i) and (ii),  $\mathbf{M}$  is invariant under  $\mathcal{L}$  if  $\mathbf{M}$  is a subspace that falls between two consecutive subspaces in the chain shown in part 1..

### 25.3 Problem set 3