

# Linear Algebra Coursework 2

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**Problem 1.** Let  $T_A : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^4$  be defined by  $T_A(\mathbf{v}) = A\mathbf{v}$  where  $A$  is the matrix,

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 & -2 \\ 2 & -4 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \\ -1 & 2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

1. Find a basis for  $\text{Ker}(T_A)$  and a basis for  $\text{Range}(T_A)$ .
2. Hence verify the Rank-Nullity Theorem holds for  $T_A$ .

**Solution 1.** We can take  $A$  and perform row reduction and get the reduced row echelon form,

$$A_{rref} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

and so we read off the solutions and get that,

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 - 2x_2 &= 0 \\ x_3 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

and hence we let  $x_2 = a$ ,  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then we can easily write the kernel of  $A$  is,

$$\text{Ker}(T_A) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 2a \\ a \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} : a \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

We can now go back to the  $A_{rref}$  and note the fact that there isn't a pivot in column 2 of the matrix. This tells us for the range we can remove the second column vector of the matrix from the column space as it isn't linearly independent. Hence we get the range as,

$$\text{Range}(T_A) = \text{span} \left( \left[ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right] \right)$$

(ii) Now we can verify the Rank-Nullity theorem, after knowing that the rank and null are just the dimensions of the Range and Ker respectively,

$$\begin{aligned} \dim V &= \text{rank } T_A + \text{null } T_A \\ &= \dim \text{Range } T_A + \dim \text{Ker } T_A \\ &= 2 + 1 = 3 \end{aligned}$$

and as we know that  $V = \mathbb{R}^3$ , then  $\dim V = 3$ . Hence verified.

**Problem 2.** Are the following true or false? Justify your ‘true’ answers using the Rank-Nullity Theorem and ‘false’ answers with counterexamples.

1. An  $n \times n$  matrix is always surjective.
2. A  $5 \times 4$  matrix can never be surjective.
3. A  $5 \times 4$  matrix can never be injective.

**Solution 2.** (i) False, Corollary 8.13 says that if an  $n \times n$  matrix is injective it’s surjective and if it’s surjective it’s injective. Hence a square matrix is bijective or neither. We need to find a matrix that isn’t bijective. Keeping it simple take,

$$B = (0)$$

This has a rank of 0, which is not equal to 1. Hence it is not injective and so not surjective, however it is an  $n \times n$  matrix. So a square matrix is not necessarily surjective. We can also say that  $\text{null } B \neq 0$  and so not surjective (which is slightly more direct).

(ii) True, We have a  $n \times m$  matrix and so  $m > n$ , this means, by Corollary 8.13, this is true. The proof is as such for the general case, If  $n < m$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \text{rank } T &= \dim V - \text{null } T \\ &= n - \text{null } T \\ &\leq n \\ &< m = \dim W \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $T$  cannot be surjective (by Corollary 8.10).

(iii) False, take the following  $5 \times 4$  matrix,

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

This has the following kernel,

$$\text{Ker } C = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

which then has dimension 0. Hence  $C = 0$  which then implies it’s injective, by Corollary 8.10.

**Problem 3.** Consider the linear transformation  $T : P_2(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  defined by

$$T(p) = \begin{pmatrix} p(1) \\ p(2) \\ p(3) \end{pmatrix}$$

1. Show that  $T$  is bijective.

2. Using the result in (i), find the unique polynomial  $q \in P_2(\mathbb{R})$  that passes through the coordinates  $(1, 3), (2, 5), (3, -1)$ ; why must this polynomial be unique?

**Solution 3.** We start by plugging in the basis vectors for  $P_2(\mathbb{R})$  into the linear transformation and providing a matrix that we can work off of.

$$T(p_0) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad T(p_1) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \quad T(p_2) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

Hence, we can write a matrix down,

$$[T]_E^P = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 1 & 3 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

(i) Let us look at the row reduced form of  $[T]_E^P$ ,

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

This matrix has a pivot in every row and column, hence it is bijective (by Remark 8.15).

(ii) Let  $P$  be the basis for  $\mathbb{R}^3$  and  $E$  be the basis for  $P_2(\mathbb{R})$ . We now want to calculate  $[T]_E^P[\mathbf{v}]_P$ , we can find  $[T]_E^P$  by  $([T]_E^P)^{-1}$  (by Corollary 7.13 and some fiddling). Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} [\mathbf{v}]_E &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 1 & 3 & 9 \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} -7 \\ 14 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

and hence,  $p(x) = -7 + 14x - 4x^2$ . This is unique as  $[T]_E^P$  is bijective.

**Problem 4.** Consider the following set of coupled real linear difference equations:

$$\begin{aligned}x_1(n) &= \frac{7}{5}x_1(n-1) - \frac{1}{5}x_2(n-1) \\x_2(n) &= \frac{4}{5}x_1(n-1) + \frac{2}{5}x_2(n-1)\end{aligned}$$

1. Use diagonalisation to solve the system for arbitrary initial conditions  $x_1(0) = a$  and  $x_2(0) = b$ .
2. Assuming  $b \neq 4a$ , what is the long term ratio  $x_1 : x_2$ ?
3. Assuming  $b \neq 4a$ , what are the long term growth rates of  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ ?

**Solution 4.** We can write the system as,

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1(n) \\ x_2(n) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1.4 & -0.2 \\ 0.8 & 0.4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1(n-1) \\ x_2(n-1) \end{pmatrix}$$

Then we can find the eigenvectors of the matrix in the system,

$$\begin{aligned}|A - \lambda I| &= \left| \begin{pmatrix} \frac{7}{5} - \lambda & -\frac{1}{5} \\ \frac{4}{5} & \frac{2}{5} - \lambda \end{pmatrix} \right| \\&= \left( \frac{7}{5} - \lambda \right) \left( \frac{2}{5} - \lambda \right) + \frac{4}{25} \\&= \left( \frac{6}{5} - \lambda \right) \left( \frac{3}{5} - \lambda \right)\end{aligned}$$

Hence we have eigenvalues of  $\lambda_1 = \frac{6}{5}$  and  $\lambda_2 = \frac{3}{5}$ . We can now find the eigenvectors of,  $\underline{x}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\underline{x}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{4} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Now by the method shown in the notes, we need to find  $A^n$  and multiply it by the initial conditions and we have the solution, and so,

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{x}(n) &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{4} \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{6}{5}^n & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{3}{5}^n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{4} \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} \\&= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{4}{3} \left( \frac{6}{5} \right)^n - \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{3}{5} \right)^n & \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{3}{5} \right)^n - \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{6}{5} \right)^n \\ \frac{4}{3} \left( \frac{6}{5} \right)^n - \frac{4}{3} \left( \frac{3}{5} \right)^n & \frac{4}{3} \left( \frac{3}{5} \right)^n - \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{6}{5} \right)^n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} \\&= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{6}{5} \right)^n (4a - b) + \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{3}{5} \right)^n (b - a) \\ \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{6}{5} \right)^n (4a - b) + \frac{4}{3} \left( \frac{3}{5} \right)^n (b - a) \end{pmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

(ii) As we let  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\left( \frac{3}{5} \right)^n \rightarrow 0$  and so  $\mathbf{x}(n)$  goes to,

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{6}{5} \right)^n (4a - b) \\ \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{6}{5} \right)^n (4a - b) \end{pmatrix}$$

which then has a ratio of 1 : 1.

(iii) Hence looking at our  $\mathbf{x}(n)$ , the long term growth rate is 1.2 as all the other terms go to 0.

**Problem 5.** Consider the data points  $\{(1, 3), (2, 5), (3, -1)\}$ .

1. Find a line of best fit (in the sense of least squares) through the points and find the error. Is this line unique?
2. Now find a polynomial of degree 2 of best fit and find the error.
3. Explain how the result in (ii) relates to question 3.

**Solution 5.** We can set up a least squares problem using the points,

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} b_0 \\ b_1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

We notice that  $A$  isn't square and so we are going to multiply both sides by  $A^T$  (by Theorem 13.28), and so the problem above is the same as,

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 6 \\ 6 & 14 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} b_0 \\ b_1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 10 \end{pmatrix}$$

and this is easily solvable by just left multiplying the inverse of  $A^T A$  and we get that,

$$\begin{pmatrix} b_0 \\ b_1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 19 \\ -6 \end{pmatrix}$$

and hence the least squares line of best fit is,  $\frac{19}{6} - 2x$ . Now we calculate the error,

$$\left\| \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} \frac{13}{3} \\ \frac{7}{3} \\ \frac{1}{3} \end{pmatrix} \right\| = \frac{4\sqrt{6}}{3}$$

We also note that as  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$  are linearly independent this solution is unique.

Now for the degree 2 case, it is actually a lot easier as we get a square matrix in the original problem,

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 1 & 3 & 9 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} b_0 \\ b_1 \\ b_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

and hence, just left multiplying by  $A^{-1}$  we get that,

$$\begin{pmatrix} b_0 \\ b_1 \\ b_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -7 \\ 14 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$$

and hence the degree solution is,  $p(x) = -7 + 14x - 4x^2$ . We can also now calculate error, which we can tell without even doing the calculation as we have three data points and three degrees of freedom and hence this polynomial is going to fit the data exactly and hence error is 0.

(iii)  $T$  is the same transformation as in Q3, as it's just the way we produce a least squares matrix for  $x = \{1, 2, 3\}$  and as it's the same transformation it's the same matrix as every transformation matrix is unique.