

MAT 67 Homework 8

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Fall 2013

1. Let V and W be vector spaces over \mathbb{F} and suppose that $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$ is injective.

Given a linearly independent list (v_1, \dots, v_n) of vectors in V , prove that the list $(T(v_1), \dots, T(v_n))$ is linearly independent in W .

Proof. Suppose $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{F}$ and $a_1T(v_1) + a_2T(v_2) + \dots + a_nT(v_n) = 0$.

Now since T is a linear map,

$$0 = a_1T(v_1) + a_2T(v_2) + \dots + a_nT(v_n) = T(a_1v_1 + a_2v_2 + \dots + a_nv_n)$$

And since T is injective we have that there is one vector, namely 0, in its kernel by proposition 6.2.6.

That is:

$$a_1v_1 + a_2v_2 + \dots + a_nv_n = 0$$

Now since (v_1, \dots, v_n) is linearly independent, $a_1 = a_2 = \dots = a_n = 0$.

From this, we see that $a_1T(v_1) + a_2T(v_2) + \dots + a_nT(v_n) = 0$ must be linearly independent. \square

2. Let V and W be vector spaces over \mathbb{F} and suppose that $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$ is surjective.

Given a spanning list (v_1, \dots, v_n) for V , prove that $\text{span}(T(v_1), \dots, T(v_n)) = W$.

Proof. Suppose $\exists w \in W$, then since T is surjective, we have a $v \in V$ such that $T(v) = w$.

Since (v_1, \dots, v_n) spans V , we can make a linear combination for v

$$a_1v_1 + a_2v_2 + \dots + a_nv_n = v, \text{ where } a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{F}$$

Now, since T is a linear map,

$$\begin{aligned} w &= T(v) \\ &= T(a_1v_1 + a_2v_2 + \dots + a_nv_n) \\ &= T(a_1v_1) + T(a_2v_2) + \dots + T(a_nv_n) \\ &= a_1T(v_1) + a_2T(v_2) + \dots + a_nT(v_n) \end{aligned}$$

Since our choice for w was arbitrary, we can find all $w \in W$ this way.

So we have that $\forall w \in W, w \in \text{span}(T(V))$.

Or put another way, $\text{span}(T(v_1), \dots, T(v_n)) = W$ \square

3. Let V be a finite-dimensional vector space over \mathbb{F} with $S, T \in \mathcal{L}(V, V)$.

Prove that $T \circ S$ is invertible if and only if both S and T are invertible.

Proof. We need to show both ways.

(a) Suppose $T \circ S$ is invertible.

We only need to check that $\text{null}(T) = \{0\}$ and $\text{null}(S) = \{0\}$

In order for $T \circ S$ to be invertible we must have that $T(0) = 0$. So there must exist some $v \in V$ such that $S(v) = 0$.

If $v \neq 0$, then $(T \circ S)(v) = T(S(v)) = T(0) = 0$ but that would imply that $\text{null}(T \circ S) \neq \{0\}$, which contradicts the fact that $T \circ S$ is invertible.

So $v = 0$ and $S(0) = 0 \implies T(0) = 0$.

These two imply that $\text{null}(S) = \{0\}$ and $\text{null}(T) = \{0\}$.

Thus S and T are invertible.

(b) Suppose T, S are invertible. It suffices to check that $\text{null}(T \circ S) = \{0\}$

For some $v \in V$,

If $v \in \text{null}(T \circ S)$, then $S(v) \in \text{null}(T)$.

So, $S(v) = 0$.

This means that $v \in \text{null}(S)$ and so $v = 0$.

So, $\text{null}(T \circ S) = \{0\}$.

Thus $T \circ S$ is invertible.

Thus, from (a) and (b) we have that $T \circ S$ is invertible if and only if both S and T are invertible. \square