

Worksheet 5 - Due 11/3

1. Extend $\{(1, -1, 0, 0), (1, 0, -1, 0)\}$ to a basis for the subspace, W , defined by $w + x + y + z = 0$. In other words, find a basis for W that includes $(1, -1, 0, 0)$ and $(1, 0, -1, 0)$.

Solution: The subspace W is 3-dimensional because the associated linear system has 3 free variables. $(1, 0, 0, -1)$ is not in the span of $(1, -1, 0, 0)$ and $(1, 0, -1, 0)$ so including in the set will form a basis.

2. Let P be the plane given by $2x + y + z = 0$ in \mathbb{R}^3 .

(a) What is a normal vector to P ?

Solution: $(2, 1, 1)$.

(b) Give a basis for \mathbb{R}^3 that includes a normal vector to P and 2 vectors that lie on P .

Solution: $\{(2, 1, 1), (1, -2, 0), (1, 0, -2)\}$.

(c) Let $T : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ be the linear transform that reflects all vectors across P . This means that $T(n) = -n$ whenever n is normal to P and $T(v) = v$ if v lies on P . Find A such that $T(x) = Ax$.

Solution: We know that

$$T(2, 1, 1) = (-2, -1, -1), \quad T(1, -2, 0) = (1, -2, 0), \quad T(1, 0, -2) = (1, 0, -2).$$

So we can use the technique described in problem 2 of worksheet 4. We know that the linear transform with associated matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}^{-1}$$

sends $(2, 1, 1)$ to e_1 , $(1, -2, 0)$ to e_2 , and $(1, 0, -2)$ to e_3 . The linear transform with associated matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -2 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

sends e_1 to $(-2, -1, -1)$, e_2 to $(1, -2, 0)$, and e_3 to $(1, 0, -2)$. It follows that

$$\begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -2 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{3} & -\frac{2}{3} & -\frac{2}{3} \\ -\frac{2}{3} & \frac{2}{3} & -\frac{1}{3} \\ -\frac{2}{3} & -\frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} \end{bmatrix}$$

will send $(2, 1, 1)$ to $(-2, -1, -1)$, $(1, -2, 0)$ to $(1, -2, 0)$, and $(1, 0, -2)$ to $(1, 0, -2)$.

(d) What is the rank of T ? What is the nullity of T ?

Solution: The associated matrix to T was defined as a product of invertible matrices and is therefore invertible as well. This implies that T has rank 3 and nullity 0.

3. Let $T : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ be the linear transform defined by $T(1, 1, 1) = (1, 0)$, $T(1, 0, 1) = (1, 1)$, and $T(1, 1, 0) = (0, 2)$.

- (a) Before doing a single computation, what can you already say about the rank and nullity of T ?

Solution: It should be clear that T is onto since $(1, 0)$ and $(1, 1)$ spans the codomain. Therefore, T has rank 2 and nullity 1.

- (b) Give a matrix A such that $T(x) = Ax$. You may express A as a product of matrices and their inverses.

Solution: This is similar to the previous problem with the reflection. We have that

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^{-1}.$$

- (c) What is the rank and nullity of T ?

Solution: See first part.

4. Give an example of each of the following. If it is not possible, write NOT POSSIBLE.

- (a) Find an invertible 3×3 matrix A and a 3×3 matrix B such that $\text{rank}(AB) \neq \text{rank}(BA)$.

Solution: NOT POSSIBLE. This is because since A is invertible, we know that $\text{rank}(AB) = \text{rank}(BA) = \text{rank}(B)$.

Since A is invertible, it is equivalent to the identity matrix. This means that $A = E_1 E_2 \dots E_m I_3$, where each E_i is some row operation matrix and I_3 is the identity matrix. We then have $AB = E_1 E_2 \dots E_m B$. This means that AB is equivalent to B so $\text{rank}(AB) = \text{rank}(B)$.

To establish $\text{rank}(BA) = \text{rank}(B)$, we will take advantage of transposes. We have

$$\text{rank}(BA) = \text{rank}((BA)^t) = \text{rank}(A^t B^t) = \text{rank}(B^t) = \text{rank}(B).$$

The first equality is because $\text{rank}(X) = \text{rank}(X^t)$ for any matrix X because the dimension of the column space of X is the same as the dimension of the row space of X^t and these are both the rank. The second equality is a basic property of transposes. The third equality is because since A is invertible, A^t is also invertible so we can use the argument in the 2nd paragraph. The fourth equality is the same as the first equality.

- (b) Find two 3×3 matrices A and B , each with nullity 1 such that AB is the zero matrix.

Solution: NOT POSSIBLE. Let T be the linear transform defined by $T(x) = Ax$ and S be the linear transform defined by $S(x) = Bx$. We know that the dimension of the range of T is 2 while the dimension of the kernel of S is 1. This means some element in the range of T is not in the kernel of S . This means that $S \circ T$ is not the zero transformation. This means that AB is not the zero matrix.

- (c) Find two 3×3 matrices A and B , each with rank 1 such that AB is the zero matrix.

Solution: Let A be the matrix such that Ax is the projection onto the 1st coordination and B be the matrix such that Bx is the projection onto the 2nd coordination. Since AB is the zero matrix.

- (d) Find two 3×3 matrices A and B , each with nullity 2 such that AB is the zero matrix.

Solution: By the rank-nullity theorem, this problem is the same as part (c).

- (e) Find two 3×3 matrices A and B , each with rank 2 such that AB is the zero matrix.

Solution: By the rank-nullity theorem, this problem is the same as part (b).