

# Math 341: Midterm 2

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## §1

Let

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}, \text{ and } \mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} e \\ f \end{pmatrix} \quad (1)$$

- a. Suppose that  $a \neq 0$ , compute the solution of  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$  using row reduction and provide the conditions on  $a, b, c, d$  such that your computations are valid. Express the result as a simplified expression. (**Hint:** recall that you can not divide by zero)

*Proof.* We perform reduced row echelon form (rref) on the augmented matrix

$$\begin{aligned} (A|b) &= \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} a & b & e \\ c & d & f \end{array} \right] \\ R_2 &\leftarrow R_2 - \frac{c}{a}R_1 \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} a & b & e \\ 0 & d - \frac{cb}{a} & f - \frac{ce}{a} \end{array} \right] \\ &\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} a & b & e \\ 0 & \frac{ad-cb}{a} & \frac{af-ce}{a} \end{array} \right] \\ R_2 &\leftarrow \frac{a}{ad-cb}R_2 \quad \text{Assuming that } ad-cb \neq 0 \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} a & b & e \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{af-ce}{ad-cb} \end{array} \right] \\ R_1 &\leftarrow R_1 - bR_2 \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} a & 0 & e - b\frac{af-ce}{ad-cb} \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{af-ce}{ad-cb} \end{array} \right] \\ R_1 &\leftarrow \frac{R_1}{a} \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & \frac{1}{a}(e - b\frac{af-ce}{ad-cb}) \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{af-ce}{ad-cb} \end{array} \right] \\ &\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & \frac{de-bf}{ad-cb} \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{af-ce}{ad-cb} \end{array} \right] \\ x &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{de-bf}{ad-cb} \\ \frac{af-ce}{ad-cb} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{where } ad-cb \neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

□

- b. If  $a = 0$ , and  $c \neq 0$ , is your above computation still valid? How would you modify it? (explain briefly) (**Hint:** recall that you can swap the equations and the result is the same)

*Proof.* If  $a = 0$ , and  $c \neq 0$ , then the above computation will not be valid as we divided by  $a$  multiple times when we computed the rref. I would swap the first and second rows so that it would look like

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} c & d & f \\ 0 & b & e \end{array} \right]$$

and compute the rref, assuming that  $b \neq 0$ . We obtain the rref,

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & \frac{bf-de}{bc} \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{e}{b} \end{array} \right]$$

□

- c. If  $a = 0$ ,  $c = 0$ , but  $b \neq 0$ ,  $d \neq 0$ , what are the conditions on  $e$  and  $f$  such that the system  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$  has a solution? Is the solution unique? (**Hint:** recall that  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$  has a solution if and only if  $\mathbf{b}$  can be written as a linear combination of the columns of  $\mathbf{A}$ )

*Proof.* If  $a = 0$ ,  $c = 0$ ,  $b \neq 0$ ,  $d \neq 0$ , we get the augmented matrix

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 0 & b & e \\ 0 & d & f \end{array} \right]$$

Performing row reduction,

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 0 & 1 & \frac{e}{b} \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{f}{d} \end{array} \right]$$

So the condition of the solution is,

$$x_2 = \frac{e}{b} = \frac{f}{d}$$

Thus, there exists a infinite amount of solution.

□

- d. Solve the system

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{2} & 3\sqrt{2} \\ 2\sqrt{2} & \sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5\sqrt{2} \\ 5\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (2)$$

(**Hint:** You may want to use the formula you just deduced)

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= \frac{de - bf}{ad - cb} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{2}(5\sqrt{2}) - 3\sqrt{2}(5\sqrt{2})}{\sqrt{2}\sqrt{2} - 3\sqrt{2}(2\sqrt{2})} \\ &= \frac{10 - 30}{2 - 12} \\ &= \frac{-20}{-10} \\ &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x_2 &= \frac{\sqrt{2}(5\sqrt{2}) - 2\sqrt{2}(5\sqrt{2})}{\sqrt{2}\sqrt{2} - 3\sqrt{2}(2\sqrt{2})} \\ &= \frac{10 - 20}{-10} \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

□

## §2

Let

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\alpha & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 & 3 \\ -2 & -2 & 4 & 2\alpha \\ 0 & \alpha & -1 & 2\alpha + 1/2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \text{and } \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 4 \\ 2 + \alpha \\ 2\beta + \alpha - 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (3)$$

What are the conditions on  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  such that the system  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$ :

a. Has no solution?

*Proof.* We begin by putting the augmented matrix  $(\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{b})$  in its reduced form.

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{b}) &= \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 0 & -\alpha & 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ -2 & -2 & 4 & 2\alpha & 2 + \alpha \\ 0 & \alpha & -1 & 2\alpha + 1/2 & 2\beta + \alpha - 2 \end{array} \right] \\
 R_5 \leftarrow R_5 + R_1 &\left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 0 & -\alpha & 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ -2 & -2 & 4 & 2\alpha & 2 + \alpha \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2\alpha + 1/2 & 2\beta + \alpha \end{array} \right] \\
 R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - 2R_2 &\left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 0 & -\alpha & 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 2 \\ -2 & -2 & 4 & 2\alpha & 2 + \alpha \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2\alpha + 1/2 & 2\beta + \alpha \end{array} \right] \\
 R_4 \leftarrow R_4 + 2R_2 &\left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 0 & -\alpha & 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 2\alpha + 2 & 4 + \alpha \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2\alpha + 1/2 & 2\beta + \alpha \end{array} \right] \\
 R_4 \leftarrow R_4 - 2R_3, R_5 \leftarrow R_5 - \frac{1}{2}R_3 &\left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 0 & -\alpha & 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2\alpha & \alpha \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2\alpha & 2\beta + \alpha + 1 \end{array} \right] \\
 R_5 \leftarrow R_5 - R_4 &\left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 0 & -\alpha & 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2\alpha & \alpha \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2\beta - 1 \end{array} \right] \\
 R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2 &\left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -\alpha & 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2\alpha & \alpha \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2\beta - 1 \end{array} \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

By Theorem 3.11, a system is consistent if and only if  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{b})$ . Thus this

system will have no solution if  $2\beta - 1 \neq 0$ , which is when  $\beta \neq \frac{1}{2}$ . We observe that there will be no conditions on  $\alpha$ .  $\square$

- b. Has an unique solution? Find the solution. (**Hint:** you will need to row reduce the augmented system to echelon form, and then use the theorems seen in class to impose the conditions on  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ ).

*Proof.* Combining Theorem 3.10 and the corollary to Theorem 4.7, we get that a system has a unique solution if and only if  $\det(\mathbf{A}) \neq 0$ . The determinant of an upper triangular matrix is the product of its diagonal entries by property 4 of determinants in section 4.4. Using this fact we can compute the condition of  $\alpha$  as such that

$$\begin{aligned} 1 * -\alpha * 2 * 2\alpha &\neq 0 \\ -4\alpha^2 &\neq 0 \\ \alpha &\neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

and from (a),  $\beta = \frac{1}{2}$ . Combining these two conditions we get the following system,

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -\alpha & 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2\alpha & \alpha \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

By performing back substitution we compute the unique solution as

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2\alpha} \\ -\frac{1}{2\alpha} \\ \frac{3}{4} \\ \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$\square$

- c. Has infinite amount of solutions? Find the solution set in parametric form. (**Hint:** You may have one equations for  $\alpha$  and one for  $\beta$  that have to be satisfied simultaneously).

*Proof.* Having an infinite amount of solutions is by definition another way of saying that a system that is consistent and that the solutions are not unique. A system is consistent if and only if  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{b})$  by Theorem 3.11. If  $\det(\mathbf{A}) = 0$ , the solution, if it exists, is not unique by Theorem 3.10 and the corollary to Theorem 4.7.

Using this fact we can compute the condition of  $\alpha$  as such that

$$\begin{aligned} 1 * -\alpha * 2 * 2\alpha &= 0 \\ -4\alpha^2 &= 0 \\ \alpha &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Given that  $\alpha = 0$ , and that  $\beta = \frac{1}{2}$  from part (a) we get the following system,

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

It is clear that  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{b})$  because  $\mathbf{b}$  is a linear combination of the second and third column from  $\mathbf{A}$ . Hence, this system is consistent.

We can compute a solution space to  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$  as outlined in Theorem 3.9. We start by first computing the solution set to  $\mathbf{Ax} = 0$  denoted by  $K_H$ . It is clear that  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = 3$  because the first two columns are the same and the rest of the columns are linearly independent from each other. By Theorem 3.8,  $\dim(K_H) = 4 - 3 = 1$ . Thus any nonzero solution constitutes a basis for  $K$ . For example, since

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

is a solution to the  $\mathbf{Ax} = 0$ , it is a basis for  $K_H$  by Corollary 2 of Theorem 1.10. So a solution set to  $K_H$  would be

$$K_H = \left\{ t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} : t \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

A solution to  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$  is

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

Therefore, by Theorem 3.9 we compute solution space when this system has infinite amount of solutions, which is when  $\alpha = 0$  and  $\beta = \frac{1}{2}$  as

$$K = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} : t \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

□

### §3

Let  $A \in M_{n \times n}(F)$ , for a field  $F$ . We want to prove that  $\text{rank}(A^2) - \text{rank}(A^3) \leq \text{rank}(A) - \text{rank}(A^2)$ . The solution to this exercise requires the notion of quotient spaces. Even though you should already be familiar with quotient spaces we will prove a few properties that will be useful.

Let  $W$  be a subspace of a vector space  $V$  over a field  $F$ . For any  $v \in V$  the set  $\{v\} + W = \{v + w : w \in W\}$  is called the coset of  $W$  containing  $v$ . It is customary to denote this coset by  $v + W$  rather than  $\{v\} + W$ . Following this notation we write  $V/W = \{v + W : v \in V\}$ , which is usually called the quotient space  $V$  module  $W$ . Addition and scalar multiplication by scalars can be defined in the collection  $V/W$  as follows:

$$(v_1 + W) + (v_2 + W) = (v_1 + v_2) + W$$

for all  $v_1, v_2 \in V$  and

$$a(v + W) = av + W$$

for all  $v \in V$  and  $a \in F$

a. Prove that  $v_1 + W = v_2 + W$  if and only if  $v_1 - v_2 \in W$ . (**Hint:** recall that  $v_1 + W$  is a set,

thus you need to prove equality between sets)

*Proof.*

i.  $v_1 + W = v_2 + W \Rightarrow v_1 - v_2 \in W$

If  $v_1 + W = v_2 + W$ , then  $\exists w_1, w_2 \in W$  such that  $v_1 + w_1 = v_2 + w_2$

$$v_1 - v_2 = w_2 - w_1$$

Since,  $w_2 - w_1 \in W$  (closure under addition)

Therefore,  $v_1 - v_2 \in W$

ii.  $v_1 - v_2 \in W \Rightarrow v_1 + W = v_2 + W$

This means  $v_1 - v_2 = w$  where  $w \in W$  (\*)

Now let  $x \in v_1 + W$

By definition,  $\exists w_x \in W$  such that  $x = v_1 + w_x$

By (\*)  $v_1 = v_2 + w$

So,  $x = v_2 + w + w_x$

Since,  $w + w_x \in W$  (closure under addition)

We have  $x \in v_2 + W$

So,  $v_1 + W \subseteq v_2 + W$

Without loss of generality, we can show  $v_2 + W \subseteq v_1 + W$

Therefore,  $v_1 + W = v_2 + W$

Therefore,  $v_1 + W = v_2 + W$  if and only if  $v_1 - v_2 \in W$

□

b. Show that  $V/W$  with the operations defined above is a linear vector space.

VS 1: For all  $x, y$  in  $V/W$ ,  $x + y = y + x$  (commutativity of addition)

*Proof.* Let  $x = v_x + W, y = v_y + W$  where  $v_x, v_y \in V$ .

$$\begin{aligned} x + y &= (v_x + W) + (v_y + W) \\ &= (v_x + v_y) + W \\ &= (v_y + v_x) + W \\ &= (v_y + W) + (v_x + W) \\ &= y + x \end{aligned}$$

□

VS 2: For all  $x, y, z$  in  $V/W$ ,  $(x + y) + z = x + (y + z)$  (associativity of addition)

*Proof.* Let  $x = v_x + W, y = v_y + W, z = v_z + W$ , where  $v_x, v_y, v_z \in V$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (x + y) + z &= ((v_x + W) + (v_y + W)) + (v_z + W) \\ &= ((v_x + v_y) + W) + (v_z + W) \\ &= (v_y + v_x + v_z) + W \\ &= (v_x + W) + ((v_y + v_z) + W) \\ &= (v_x + W) + ((v_y + W) + (v_z + W)) \\ &= x + (y + z) \end{aligned}$$

□

VS 3: There exists an element in  $V/W$  denoted by  $\mathbf{0}$  such that  $x + \mathbf{0} = x$  for each  $x$  in  $V/W$

*Proof.* Let  $x = v_x + W$  where  $v_x \in V$ . Let  $\mathbf{0}$  in  $V/W$  be defined as  $0 + W$ , where  $0 \in V$ .

$$\begin{aligned} x + \mathbf{0} &= x + (0 + W) \\ &= (v_x + W) + (0 + W) \\ &= (v_x + 0) + W \\ &= v_x + W \\ &= x \end{aligned}$$

□

VS 4: For each element  $x$  in  $V/W$  there exists an element  $y$  in  $V/W$  such that  $x + y = \mathbf{0}$

*Proof.* Let  $x = v_x + W$  where  $v_x \in V$ . Fix  $y$  such that  $y = -v_x + W$ .

$$\begin{aligned} x + y &= (v_x + W) + (-v_x + W) \\ &= (v_x - v_x) + W \\ &= 0 + W \\ &= \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$$

□

VS 5: For each element  $x$  in  $V/W$ ,  $1x = x$

*Proof.* Let  $x = v_x + W$  where  $v_x \in V$ .

$$\begin{aligned} 1x &= 1(v_x + W) \\ &= (1v_x + W) \\ &= (v_x + W) \\ &= x \end{aligned}$$

□

VS 6: For each pair of elements  $a, b$  in  $\mathbb{F}$  and each element  $x$  in  $V/W$ ,  $(ab)x = a(bx)$

*Proof.* Let  $x = v_x + W$  where  $v_x \in V$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (ab)x &= abv_x + W \\ &= a(bv_x + W) \\ &= a(bx) \end{aligned}$$

□

VS 7: For each element  $a$  in  $\mathbb{F}$  and each pair of elements  $x, y$  in  $V/W$ ,  $a(x + y) = ax + ay$

*Proof.* Let  $x = v_x + W, y = v_y + W$  where  $v_x, v_y \in V$ .

$$\begin{aligned} a(x + y) &= a((v_x + v_y) + W) \\ &= ((av_x + av_y) + W) \\ &= (av_x + W) + (av_y + W) \\ &= a(v_x + W) + a(v_y + W) \\ &= ax + ay \end{aligned}$$

□

VS 8: For each pair of elements  $a, b$  in  $\mathbb{F}$  and each element  $x$  in  $V/W$ ,  $(a + b)x = ax + bx$

*Proof.* Let  $x = v_x + W$  where  $v_x \in V$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 (a + b)x &= (a + b)(v_x + W) \\
 &= ((a + b)v_x) + W \\
 &= (av_x + bv_x) + W \\
 &= (av_x + W) + (bv_x + W) \\
 &= a(v_x + W) + b(v_x + W) \\
 &= ax + bx
 \end{aligned}$$

□

Therefore,  $V/W$  is a vector space because it holds all the properties above.

- c. Prove that if  $\dim(V) < \infty$  then  $\dim(V/W) = \dim(V) - \dim(W)$ . (Hint: Define a linear map  $T : V \rightarrow V/W$  such that the range of  $T$  is  $V/W$ , and then use the rank-nullity theorem)

*Proof.* We define the linear map  $T : V \rightarrow V/W$  by

$$T(v) = v + W$$

We first prove that  $T$  is in fact linear, where  $v_1, v_2 \in V$  and  $c \in F$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 T(cv_1 + v_2) &= (cv_1 + v_2) + W \\
 &= (cv_1 + W) + ((v_2) + W) \\
 &= c(v_1 + W) + ((v_2) + W) \\
 &= cT(v_1) + T(v_2)
 \end{aligned}$$

We claim that  $N(T) = W$  and  $R(T) = V/W$

1.  $R(T) = V/W$

- i.  $R(T) \subseteq V/W$   
By Theorem 2.1

- ii.  $V/W \subseteq R(T)$

Let  $y = v_y + W$  where  $y \in V/W$  and  $v_y \in V$ .

For prove that  $y \in N(T)$  we need to show that  $\exists x$  such that  $T(x) = y$ .

Notice that  $x = v_y$ . Therefore,  $y \in R(T)$  so  $V/W \subseteq R(T)$ .

2.  $N(T) = W$

- i.  $N(T) \subseteq W$   
Let  $x \in N(T)$ .  
By definition,

$$\begin{aligned}
 T(x) &= \mathbf{0} \\
 &= 0 + W \\
 &= W \\
 &= w + W
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $w \in W$  and  $\mathbf{0} \in V/W$ .

This must mean that  $x = w$  and since  $w \in W$ ,  $x \in W$ . Therefore,  $N(T) \subseteq W$



- ii.  $W \subseteq N(T)$   
Let  $w \in W$ .

$$\begin{aligned} T(w) &= w + W \\ &= W \\ &= 0 + W \\ &= \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$$

So  $w \in N(T)$ . Therefore,  $W \subseteq N(T)$ .

Notice that  $V/W \subseteq V$  so  $V/W$  is finite dimensional. Since  $T$  is a linear map and that  $V$  and  $V/W$  are indeed finite dimensional vector spaces (by part b) we can use the rank-nullity theorem (Theorem 2.3).

$$\begin{aligned} \dim(N(T)) + \dim(R(T)) &= \dim(V) \\ \dim(W) + \dim(V/W) &= \dim(V) \\ \dim(V/W) &= \dim(V) - \dim(W) \end{aligned}$$

as desired. □

- d. Let  $K = F^n$ , define  $AK = R(L_A)$ , and  $A^2K = R(L_{A^2})$ . Show that  $AK/A^2K$  is a vector space of dimension  $\text{rank}(A) - \text{rank}(A^2)$ .

*Proof.* We begin by proving that  $AK/A^2K$  is a vector space. It is enough to show that  $A^2K$  is a subspace of  $AK$  to prove that  $AK/A^2K$  is a vector space, by part (b). It is clear that  $AK$  is a subspace because  $AK = R(L_A)$  and Theorem 2.3. Moreover,  $A^2K \subseteq AK$  because  $R(L_{A^2}) \subseteq R(L_A)$ . (Theorem 3.7?) **Not sure if  $R(L_{A^2}) \subseteq R(L_A)$  holds**  
Because  $A^2K = R(L_{A^2})$ ,  $A^2K$  has the properties of a vector space because of Theorem 2.1. It follows from part (c) that

$$\begin{aligned} \dim(AK/A^2K) &= \dim(AK) - \dim(A^2K) \\ &= \dim(R(L_A)) - \dim(R(L_{A^2})) \\ &= \text{rank}(A) - \text{rank}(A^2) \end{aligned}$$

as desired. □

- e. Show that  $A^2K/A^3K$  is a vector space of dimension  $\text{rank}(A^2) - \text{rank}(A^3)$ , where  $A^3K = R(L_{A^3})$ .

*Proof.* Similiar to what we did in part (d), we can prove that  $A^2K/A^3K$  is a vector space. Then it follows that,

$$\begin{aligned} \dim(A^2K/A^3K) &= \dim(A^2K) - \dim(A^3K) \\ &= \dim(R(L_{A^2})) - \dim(R(L_{A^3})) \\ &= \text{rank}(A^2) - \text{rank}(A^3) \end{aligned}$$

as desired. □

- f. Define  $T : AK/A^2K \rightarrow A^2K/A^3K$ , by  $T(v) = L_A(v)$ , i.e, we left multiply each element of  $v$  by the matrix  $A$ . Show that  $R(T) = A^2K/A^3K$ .

*Proof.* To show that  $R(T) = A^2K/A^3K$ , is another way of saying show that  $T$  is onto. We must show that  $\forall x \in AK/A^2K [\exists y \in A^2K/A^3K : T(x) = y]$ . Let  $x = Ak' + A^2K$  where

$$k' \in \mathbb{F}^n.$$

$$\begin{aligned} T(x) &= T(Ak' + A^2K) \\ &= L_A(Ak' + A^2K) \\ &= L_A(Ak') + L_A(A^2K) \\ &= A^2k' + A^3K \in A^2K/A^3K \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $T$  is onto and  $R(T) = A^2K/A^3K$ .  $\square$

- g. Use the rank-nullity theorem on  $T$  to conclude that  $\text{rank}(A^2) - \text{rank}(A^3) \leq \text{rank}(A) - \text{rank}(A^2)$ .

*Proof.* We begin by proving that  $T$  is linear. We define  $x_1 = Ak'_1 + A^2K$  and  $x_2 = Ak'_2 + A^2K$  such that  $x_1, x_2 \in AK/A^2K$  and  $k'_1, k'_2 \in F^n$  and  $c \in F$ . We use properties of matrices as outlined in Theorem 2.12.

$$\begin{aligned} T(ck'_1 + k'_2) &= L_A(ck'_1 + k'_2) \\ &= A(ck'_1 + k'_2) \\ &= A(c(Ak'_1 + A^2K) + (Ak'_2 + A^2K)) \\ &= A(c(Ak'_1 + A^2K)) + A(Ak'_2 + A^2K) \\ &= c(A(Ak'_1 + A^2K)) + A(Ak'_2 + A^2K) \\ &= cL_A(k'_1) + L_A(k'_2) \\ &= cT(k'_1) + T(k'_2) \end{aligned}$$

Since  $T$  is linear, we can use rank nullity theorem. From part (d), (e), (f), and assuming that  $\text{nullity}(T) \geq 0$  because the number of elements of a set cannot be negative

$$\begin{aligned} \text{rank}(T) + \text{nullity}(T) &= \dim(AK/A^2K) \\ &= \text{rank}(A) - \text{rank}(A^2) \\ \text{rank}(T) &\leq \text{rank}(A) - \text{rank}(A^2) \\ \text{rank}(A^2) - \text{rank}(A^3) &\leq \text{rank}(A) - \text{rank}(A^2) \end{aligned}$$

as desired.  $\square$

## §4

Let  $V$  be a finite-dimensional vector space. Let  $T$  and  $P$  be two linear transformations from  $V$  to itself, such that  $T^2 = P^2 = 0$ , and  $T \circ P + P \circ T = I$ , where  $I$  is the identity in  $V$ .

- a. Denote  $N_T = N(T)$  and  $N_P = N(P)$ , the null spaces of  $T$  and  $P$ , respectively. Show that  $N_P = P(N_T)$ , and  $N_T = T(N_P)$ , where  $T(N_P) = \{T(v) : v \in N_P\}$  and  $P(N_T) = \{P(v) : v \in N_T\}$ .

*Proof.*

- i. Show  $N_P = P(N_T)$

$$1. N_P \subseteq P(N_T)$$

Let  $x \in N_P$ . By definition,  $P(x) = 0$ .

$$P \circ T(x) + T \circ P(x) = x$$

$$P \circ T(x) + T(0) = x$$

$$P \circ T(x) = x$$

Notice that  $T(x) \in N_T$ , so  $x \in P(N_T)$ . Thus,  $N_P \subseteq P(N_T)$ .

$$2. P(N_T) \subseteq N_P$$

Let  $P(x) \in P(N_T)$  where  $x \in N_T$ .

$P \circ P(x) = 0$  so  $P(x) \in N_P$ . Thus,  $P(N_T) \subseteq N_P$ .

Therefore,  $N_P = P(N_T)$ .

$$\text{ii. Show } N_T = T(N_P)$$

$$1. N_T \subseteq T(N_P)$$

Let  $x \in N_T$ . By definition,  $T(x) = 0$ .

$$P \circ T(x) + T \circ P(x) = x$$

$$P(0) + T \circ P(x) = x$$

$$T \circ P(x) = x$$

Notice that  $P(x) \in N_P$ , so  $x \in T(N_P)$ . Thus,  $N_T \subseteq T(N_P)$ .

$$2. T(N_P) \subseteq N_T$$

Let  $T(x) \in T(N_P)$  where  $x \in N_P$ .

$T \circ T(x) = 0$  so  $T(x) \in N_T$ . Thus,  $T(N_P) \subseteq N_T$ .

Therefore,  $N_P = P(N_T)$ .

□

$$\text{b. Show that } V = N_T \oplus N_P.$$

*Proof.* Need to prove the following two conditions.

$$\text{i. } N_T \cap N_P = \{0\}.$$

Let  $x \in N_T$  and  $x \in N_P$ . This means that  $T(x) = 0$  and  $P(x) = 0$ .

$$x = P \circ T(x) + T \circ P(x)$$

$$= P(0) + T(0)$$

$$= 0$$

Thus,  $N_T \cap N_P = \{0\}$ .

$$\text{ii. } N_T + N_P = V.$$

$$1. N_T + N_P \subseteq V$$

Let  $x \in N_T + N_P$ . Define  $x = n_t + n_p$  where  $n_t \in N_T \subseteq V$  and  $n_p \in N_P \subseteq V$  by Theorem 2.11. Since  $V$  is a vector space  $n_t + n_p \in V$  by closure under addition.

Thus,  $x \in V$  and it follows that  $N_T + N_P \subseteq V$ .

$$2. V \subseteq N_T + N_P$$

Let  $x \in V$ . We know that  $x = P \circ T(x) + T \circ P(x)$ .

Notice that  $P \circ T(x) \in N_P$  because  $P(P \circ T(x)) = 0$ .

Similarly,  $T \circ P(x) \in N_T$  because  $T(T \circ P(x)) = 0$ .

Thus,  $N_T + N_P \subseteq V$ .

Therefore,  $N_T + N_P = V$ .

Therefore, by definition  $V = N_T \oplus N_P$ . □

c. Prove that the dimension of  $V$  is even.

*Proof.*

**Lemma 4.1**

$$V = W_1 \oplus W_2 \Leftrightarrow \dim(V) = \dim(W_1) + \dim(W_2)$$

*Proof.* 1.6.29(b) in the textbook **Actually remember to type this in** □

By the lemma above,  $\dim(V) = \dim(N_T) + \dim(N_P)$ .

Let's construct a basis  $\beta_{N_T}$  for  $N_T$  and  $\beta_{N_P}$  for  $N_P$ .

$$\beta_{N_T} = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m\}$$

$$\beta_{N_P} = \{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n\}$$

From (a), since  $N_T = T(N_P)$ , this must mean that

$$\text{span}(\beta_{N_T}) = T(\text{span}(\beta_{N_P}))$$

Thus,  $\dim(N_P) \leq \dim(N_T)$  because  $\dim(T(N_P)) \leq \dim(N_P)$ .

Likewise, since  $N_P = P(N_T)$ , this must mean that

$$\text{span}(\beta_{N_P}) = P(\text{span}(\beta_{N_T}))$$

Thus,  $\dim(N_T) \leq \dim(N_P)$  because  $\dim(P(N_T)) \leq \dim(N_T)$ .

Thus,  $\dim(N_P) = \dim(N_T) = n = m$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \dim(V) &= \dim(N_T) + \dim(N_P) \\ &= n + m \\ &= n + n = m + m \\ &= 2n = 2m \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $\dim(V)$  is even. □

d. Suppose that the dimension of  $V$  is two. Prove that  $V$  has a basis  $\beta$ , such that

$$[T]_{\beta} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad [P]_{\beta} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (4)$$

*Proof.* □