Math 110 HW7

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Problem 1.

Suppose V is finite-dimensional and U, W are its subpaces. Prove that

$$(U \cap W)^0 = U^0 + W^0.$$

Proof. First we need the *Lemma:* $U^0 \cap W^0 = (U+W)^0$. Consider $\phi \in U^0 \cap W^0$ and $v = u + w \in U + W$, then

$$\phi(v) = \phi(u+w) = \phi(u) + \phi(w) = 0 + 0 = 0.$$

Hence $\phi \in (U+W)^0$ and $U^0 \cap W^0 \subseteq (U+W)^0$. Now consider $\varphi \in (U+W)^0$, indeed for $u \in U$,

$$\varphi(u) = \varphi(u+0) = 0,$$

and for $w \in W$,

$$\varphi(w) = \varphi(0+w) = 0$$

[notice $u+0$ and $0+w$ are both in $U+W$]. Therefore, $\varphi \in U^0 \cap W^0$ and $(U+W)^0 \subseteq U^0 \cap W^0$. The *Lemma* is proved.

Now we back to the original problem. Consider $\phi \in U^0 + W^0$ and $v \in U \cap W$, then

$$\phi(v) = \varphi_u(v) + \varphi_w(v) = 0 + 0 = 0 \qquad (\varphi_u \in U^0, \varphi_w \in W^0).$$

Hence, $\phi \in (U+W)^0$ and $U^0 + W^0 \subseteq (U+W)^0$.

Now consider the dimension of $(U \cap W)^0$ and $U^0 + W^0$.

$$\begin{aligned}
\dim(U \cap W)^0 &= \dim V - \dim(U \cap W) \\
&= \dim V - \dim U - \dim W + \dim(U+W) \\
&= \dim V - (\dim V - \dim U^0) - (\dim V - \dim W^0) + (\dim V - \dim(U+W)^0) \\
&= \dim U^0 + \dim W^0 - \dim(U+W)^0 \\
&= \dim U^0 + \dim W^0 - \dim(U^0 \cap W^0) \\
&= \dim(U^0 + W^0).
\end{aligned}$$

Since $U^0 + W^0 \subseteq (U+W)^0$ and $\dim(U^0+W^0) = \dim(U \cap W)^0$, we have $(U \cap W)^0 = U^0 + W^0$. □

Problem 2.

Suppose V and W are finite-dimensional, $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$, and $\operatorname{null} T' = \operatorname{span}(\varphi)$ for some $\varphi \in W'$. Prove that $\operatorname{range} T = \operatorname{null} \varphi$. Give an example of such a pair $T \neq 0$, $\varphi \neq 0$ for $V = \mathbb{R}^2$, $W = \mathbb{R}^3$.

Proof. Notice $\text{null}T' = (\text{range}T)^0 = \text{span}(\varphi)$. Consider $w \in \text{range}T$ and arbitrary $\lambda \in \mathbb{F}$, then

$$\lambda\varphi(w) = 0 \quad (\lambda\varphi \in (\text{range}T)^0) \implies \varphi(w) = 0.$$

Hence, $\text{range}T \subseteq \text{null}\varphi$.

Then we show that $\dim \text{range}T = \dim \text{null}\varphi$. For $\varphi \neq 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} \dim \text{range}T &= \dim W - \dim(\text{range}T)^0 \\ &= \dim W - \dim \text{span}(\varphi) \\ &= \dim W - 1 \\ &= \dim W - \dim \text{range}\varphi \qquad (1) \\ &= \dim \text{null}\varphi. \end{aligned}$$

(1) is true because $\varphi \neq 0$, so $\text{range}\varphi = \mathbb{R}$. If $\varphi = 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} \dim \text{range}T &= \dim W - \dim(\text{range}T)^0 \\ &= \dim W - \dim \text{span}(\varphi) \\ &= \dim W - 0 \\ &= \dim \text{null}\varphi. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\text{range}T \subseteq \text{null}\varphi$ and $\dim \text{range}T = \dim \text{null}\varphi$, we have $\text{range}T = \text{null}\varphi$.

Example: Let $T : (x, y) \mapsto (x, y, 0)$ and $\varphi : (x, y, z) \mapsto z$. Then indeed, $\text{null}T' = \text{span}(\varphi)$ [very obviously because φ annihilates $\text{range}T$], and

$$\text{range}T = (x, y, 0) = \text{null}\varphi.$$

□

Problem 3.

Let $p \in \mathcal{P}_n(\mathbb{C})$ for some n and suppose there exist distinct real numbers x_0, x_1, …, x_n such that $p(x_j) \in \mathbb{R}$ for all $j = 0, \ldots, n$. Prove that all coefficients of p are real.

Proof. **Lemma:** *given distinct data sites x_j and arbitrary data y_j, $j = 0, \ldots, n$, there is a unique polynomial $p \in \mathcal{P}_n(\mathbb{R})$ such that $p(x_j) = y_j$, for all $j = 0, \ldots, n$.*

We have shown in **Problem 4** that such unique polynomial takes the form

$$p(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{n} y_k L_k(x) \quad \text{for} \quad L_k(x) = \prod_{j=0, j\neq k}^{n} \frac{x - x_j}{x_k - x_j}.$$

Then notice all the terms in this unique polynomial p are real and expanding the product $\prod_{j=0,j\neq k}^{n} \frac{x-x_j}{x_k-x_j}$ gives us a polynomial with real coefficients [no imaginary parts can arise]. □

Problem 4.

[Lagrange interpolation.] Prove *using linear algebra*: given distinct *data sites* x_j and arbitrary *data* y_j, $j = 0, \ldots, n$, there is a unique polynomial $p \in \mathcal{P}_n(\mathbb{R})$ such that $p(x_j) = y_j$, for all $j = 0, \ldots, n$.

Proof. Define the Lagrange basis polynomials

$$L_k(x) = \prod_{j=0, j\neq k}^{n} \frac{x - x_j}{x_k - x_j}.$$

Notice each L_k are of degree n and hence each $L_k \in \mathcal{P}_n(\mathbb{R})$. Then notice these basis polynomials have the property that $L_k(x_k) = 1$ and $L_k(x_j) = 0$ for $j \neq k$.

Then we can define

$$p(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{n} y_k L_k(x).$$

Indeed, $p(x_j) = y_j$ because $L_j(x_j) = 1$ and $y_j L_j(x_j) = y_j$ while $L_k(x_j) = 0$ for $k \neq j$. To show that it's unique, assume to the contrary that there exists another polynomial $q \in \mathcal{P}_n(\mathbb{R})$ such that $q(x_j) = y_j$ for all $j = 0, \ldots, n$. Then

$$p(x) - q(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{n} y_k L_k(x) - q(x) = 0.$$

Notice $p(x) - q(x)$ is a polynomial of degree n and has $n + 1$ roots, which means $p - q$ must be the zero polynomial because non-zero polynomial of degree n has at most n roots [Theorem 4.11].

Therefore, $p - q = 0 \implies p = q$.

Alternative: Define a linear map $T : \mathcal{P}_n(\mathbb{R}) \to \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ with the action

$$T : p \mapsto (p(x_0), p(x_1), \cdots, p(x_n)).$$

T is indeed a linear map because

$$T(p + q) = ((p + q)(x_0), \cdots, (p + q)(x_n)) = (p(x_0), \cdots, p(x_n)) + (q(x_0), \cdots, q(x_n)) = T(p) + T(q)$$

$$T(\lambda p) = (\lambda p(x_0), \cdots, \lambda p(x_n)) = \lambda(p(x_0), \cdots, p(x_n)) = \lambda T(p).$$

Then notice T is injective because for $T(p) = 0$, p must be zero when evaluated at distinct data sites $\{x_j : j = [0, \ldots, n]\}$, which means p must have $n + 1$ distinct roots. But an n degree polynomial can only have at most n distinct roots. Hence, p must be the zero polynomial and $\text{null}T = \{0\}$.

Since T is a linear map from $n+1$ dimension to $n+1$ dimension and is injective, it implies T is surjective. Therefore, there always exists a unique p such that

$$T(p) = (p(x_0), \cdots, p(x_n)) = (y_0, \cdots, y_n).$$

□

Problem 5.

Prove that every polynomial of odd degree with real coefficients has a real zero.

Proof. Assume for the sake of contradiction that there exists a polynomial of odd degree with real coefficients that has no real zero. Then we take the minimal example $p(x)$ with the lowest degree. Notice p can be factorized as follow

$$p(x) = (x - \lambda)(x - \bar{\lambda})q(x),$$

where λ is a complex zero of p and $q(x)$ is a polynomial of degree $n - 2$. Since we assumed p to be the minimal example, $q(x)$ must have a real zero x_0. Then we have

$$q(x) = (x - x_0)g(x) \implies p(x) = (x - \lambda)(x - \bar{\lambda})(x - x_0)g(x),$$

which means p has a real zero x_0 [contradiction]. □