

This weeks problem set provides some review questions in the lead up to the second midterm. A question marked with a  $\dagger$  is difficult and probably too hard for an exam (though still illustrates a useful point). A question marked with a  $*$  is especially important.

**Homework 3:** due Tuesday 26 May: questions 3 and 6 below.

1. From section 5.2, problems 1, 3a, d, e, 8, 9, 10, 11, 18\*, 19, 20 $\dagger$ .
2. From section 6.1, problems 1, 2, 3, 4, 8\*, 9, 12, 16, 17\*, 23, 29.
3. We say that two linear operators  $S$  and  $T$  *commute* if  $S \circ T = T \circ S$ . Let  $T : V \rightarrow V$  be a diagonalisable linear operator. Define

$$C(T) = \{S \in \text{Hom}(V, V) \mid S \text{ and } T \text{ commute}\}.$$

- (a) If  $T$  has  $n = \dim V$  distinct eigenvalues, show that any  $S \in C(T)$  is diagonalisable.
  - (b) Describe explicitly  $C(T)$  in the case  $T = x \frac{d}{dx} : \mathbb{C}_1[x] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_1[x]$ .
  - (c) Show that part (a) does not necessarily hold if  $T$  does not have  $n$  distinct eigenvalues.
4. Suppose  $U, W$  are subspaces of a finite dimensional vector space  $V$  and that  $U + W = V$ . Show that  $U \oplus W = V$  if and only if  $\dim U + \dim W = \dim V$ .

The previous question, motivates the following definition.

**Definition:** If  $U_i$ , for  $1 \leq i \leq k$ , are subspaces of a vector space  $V$ , then we say  $V = U_1 \oplus U_2 \dots \oplus U_k$  if  $V = U_1 + U_2 + \dots + U_k$ , i.e. every vector  $v \in V$  can be written as a sum  $v = \sum_{i=1}^k u_i$  with  $u \in U_i$ , and  $\dim V = \sum_{i=1}^k \dim U_i$ .

- 5\* Suppose that  $V$  is a finite dimensional vector space over  $\mathbb{F}$  and  $T : V \rightarrow V$  is a linear operator, with distinct eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k$ . Prove that

$$V = E_{\lambda_1} \oplus E_{\lambda_2} \oplus \dots \oplus E_{\lambda_k}$$

if and only if  $T$  is diagonalisable.

- 6\* Let  $V$  be a vector space and  $\mathcal{A} \subset \text{Hom}(V, V)$  a subset such that every  $X \in \mathcal{A}$  is diagonalisable. We say  $\mathcal{A}$  is diagonalisable if there exists a basis  $B$  of  $V$  such that  $B$  is an eigenbasis for all  $X \in \mathcal{A}$ .
  - (a) Show that  $\mathcal{A}$  is diagonalisable if and only if for every pair of elements  $X, Y \in \mathcal{A}$ , we have  $X \circ Y = Y \circ X$ .
  - (b) Give an example of a set  $\mathcal{A}$  that is *not* diagonalisable. Every element of  $\mathcal{A}$  must be diagonalisable, it must contain at least two elements.

- 7\* Suppose  $(A, B)$  is a pair of linear operators on  $V$ . We say  $v \in V$  is a  $(\lambda, \mu)$ -eigenvector if

$$A(v) = \lambda v \text{ and } B(v) = \mu v$$

Let  $E_{(\lambda, \mu)}$  be the set of all  $(\lambda, \mu)$ -eigenvectors. We say  $(A, B)$  has *simple spectrum* if  $\{A, B\}$  is diagonalisable (see previous question) and all the  $E_{(\lambda, \mu)}$  are one dimensional (or zero).

Now consider the linear maps  $S_{12}, S_{23}, S_{13} : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  given by

$$S_{12} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b \\ a \\ c \end{pmatrix}, \quad S_{23} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a \\ c \\ b \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{and } S_{13} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} c \\ b \\ a \end{pmatrix}$$

And let  $H_1 = uS_{12} + S_{13}$  and  $H_2 = (1 - u)S_{12} + S_{23}$  for any  $u \in \mathbb{R}$ .

- (a) Show that  $\{H_1, H_2\}$  is diagonalisable.
- (b) Show that  $(H_1, H_2)$  has simple spectrum.