

EE5609: Matrix Theory

Assignment 14

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Abstract—This document proves the property of projection.

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1 PROBLEM

Prove that if \mathbf{E} is the projection on \mathbf{R} along \mathbf{N} , then $(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{E})$ is the projection on \mathbf{N} along \mathbf{R} .

2 THEOREM

Theorem 2.1. If \mathbf{V} is a vector space, a projection of \mathbf{V} is a linear operator \mathbf{E} on \mathbf{V} such that $\mathbf{E}^2 = \mathbf{E}$. Let \mathbf{R} be the range and let \mathbf{N} be the nullspace of \mathbf{E} . Then the vector space \mathbf{V} can be written as $\mathbf{V} = \mathbf{R} \oplus \mathbf{N}$. This operator is called as projection on \mathbf{R} along \mathbf{N} .

3 SOLUTION

It is given that \mathbf{E} is the projection. From theorem 2.1, the linear operator \mathbf{E} will satisfy $\mathbf{E}^2 = \mathbf{E}$. Let's check whether $\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{E}$ is also a projection.

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{E})^2 &= \mathbf{I}^2 + \mathbf{E}^2 - 2\mathbf{I}\mathbf{E} \\ &= \mathbf{I} + \mathbf{E} - 2\mathbf{E} \\ &= (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{E}) \end{aligned} \quad (3.0.1)$$

From (3.0.1), we can say that $(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{E})$ is also a projector. But $(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{E})$ is called as the "Complementary Projector", i.e.

$$\text{range}(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{E}) = \text{null}(\mathbf{E}) \quad (3.0.2)$$

$$\text{null}(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{E}) = \text{range}(\mathbf{E}) \quad (3.0.3)$$

Lets take a vector \mathbf{v} such that $\mathbf{E}\mathbf{v} = 0$, where \mathbf{v} is in the null space of \mathbf{E} . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{E})\mathbf{v} &= \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}\mathbf{E} \\ &= \mathbf{v} \end{aligned} \quad (3.0.4)$$

In other words, any \mathbf{v} in the nullspace of \mathbf{E} is also in the range of $(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{E})$. We know that any $\mathbf{x} \in \text{range}(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{E})$ is characterized by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x} &= (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{E})\mathbf{v} \quad , \text{ for some } \mathbf{v} \\ &= \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{E}\mathbf{v} \\ &= -(\mathbf{E}\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}) \end{aligned} \quad (3.0.5)$$

Now we need to check if \mathbf{x} is in the nullspace of \mathbf{E} . i.e. $\mathbf{E}\mathbf{x} = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}(-(\mathbf{E}\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v})) &= -(\mathbf{E}^2\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{E}\mathbf{v}) \\ &= -(\mathbf{E}\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{E}\mathbf{v}) \quad (\because \mathbf{E} \text{ is a projection}) \\ &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad (3.0.6)$$

Thus, if $\mathbf{x} \in \text{range}(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{E})$, then $\mathbf{x} \in \text{null}(\mathbf{E})$.

Therefore, we can say that $\text{null}(\mathbf{E}) = \text{range}(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{E})$.

We can use the same argument as above for proving (3.0.3), by taking $\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{I} - (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{E})$.

\therefore we can say that $(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{E})$ is the projection on \mathbf{N} along \mathbf{R} .