

Linear algebra I
Tutorial solutions #1

- 1.** Find the equation of the line through $(1, 2, 4)$ which is perpendicular to the plane

$$x - 2y + 3z = 4.$$

The line passes through $(1, 2, 4)$ with direction $\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$, so its equation is

$$x = 1 + t, \quad y = 2 - 2t, \quad z = 4 + 3t.$$

- 2.** Find the equation of the plane that passes through the points

$$A(1, 0, 2), \quad B(2, 3, 1), \quad C(3, 2, 1).$$

The normal vector of the plane is given by the cross product

$$\overrightarrow{AB} \times \overrightarrow{AC} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Since the plane contains the point $A(1, 0, 2)$, its equation is then

$$-(x - 1) - (y - 0) - 4(z - 2) = 0 \implies x + y + 4z = 9.$$

- 3.** Consider the line that passes through $P(2, 4, 1)$ and $Q(4, 1, 5)$. At which point does this line intersect the plane $x - 2y + 3z = 37$?

The line passes through $P(2, 4, 1)$ with direction $\overrightarrow{PQ} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$, so its equation is

$$x = 2 + 2t, \quad y = 4 - 3t, \quad z = 1 + 4t.$$

The point at which the line intersects the plane is the point that satisfies both the equation of the line and that of the plane. This gives

$$\begin{aligned} x - 2y + 3z = 37 &\implies (2 + 2t) - 2(4 - 3t) + 3(1 + 4t) = 37 \\ &\implies 20t = 40, \end{aligned}$$

so $t = 2$ and the point of intersection is the point

$$(x, y, z) = (2 + 2t, 4 - 3t, 1 + 4t) = (6, -2, 9).$$

4. Show that $\|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\|^2 = \|\mathbf{u}\|^2 + \|\mathbf{v}\|^2$, if the vectors \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} are perpendicular to one another. Which well-known theorem does that prove? Hint: one has $\|\mathbf{x}\|^2 = \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{x}$.

Since the vectors \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} are perpendicular, one has $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0$ and $\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$, so

$$\begin{aligned}\|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\|^2 &= (\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}) \cdot (\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}) \\ &= \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v} = \|\mathbf{u}\|^2 + \|\mathbf{v}\|^2.\end{aligned}$$

Now, the vectors $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}$ may represent the three sides of a triangle. If the first two are perpendicular, then the triangle is a right triangle with the third vector as a hypotenuse, so the statement we just proved is Pythagoras' theorem.

5. Find the equation of the plane which contains both the point $(3, 2, 4)$ and the line

$$x = 1 + 3t, \quad y = 1 + t, \quad z = 4 - t.$$

Let $P(3, 2, 4)$ be the given point and pick any two points on the line, say

$$Q(1, 1, 4) \quad \text{and} \quad R(4, 2, 3),$$

obtained for $t = 0$ and $t = 1$, respectively. The normal vector of the plane is given by

$$\overrightarrow{PQ} \times \overrightarrow{PR} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Since the plane contains the point $P(3, 2, 4)$, its equation is then

$$(x - 3) - 2(y - 2) + (z - 4) = 0 \quad \implies \quad x - 2y + z = 3.$$

Linear algebra I
Tutorial solutions #2

1. Let a be some fixed parameter. Solve the system of linear equations

$$\begin{cases} x + y = a \\ ax + y = 2 \end{cases}.$$

Using row reduction of the associated matrix, one finds that

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

When $a = 1$, the second equation reads $0y = 1$ and we have no solutions. When $a \neq 1$, on the other hand, one may divide through by $1 - a$ to conclude that

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & a \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{2-a^2}{1-a} \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & a + \frac{a^2-2}{1-a} \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{2-a^2}{1-a} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \frac{a-2}{1-a} \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{2-a^2}{1-a} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Thus, a unique solution exists whenever $a \neq 1$ and this solution is given by

$$x = \frac{a-2}{1-a}, \quad y = \frac{2-a^2}{1-a}.$$

2. For which value of a does the following system fail to have solutions?

$$\begin{cases} x - 2y + 2z = 3 \\ 2x - 3y + 4z = 1 \\ x - 4y + az = 5 \end{cases}.$$

In this case, row reduction of the associated matrix gives

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & -3 & 4 & 1 \\ 1 & -4 & a & 5 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -5 \\ 0 & -2 & a-2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 & -7 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -5 \\ 0 & 0 & a-2 & -8 \end{bmatrix}.$$

When $a \neq 2$, one may divide the last row by $a - 2$ and proceed to find a unique solution. When $a = 2$, on the other hand, the last equation reads $0z = -8$ and no solutions exist.

3. Show that the reduced row echelon form of A is the identity matrix I_2 when

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}, \quad ad - bc \neq 0.$$

We consider two cases. When $a \neq 0$ and $ad - bc \neq 0$, we have

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & b/a \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & b/a \\ 0 & (ad - bc)/a \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & b/a \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

When $a = 0$ and $bc \neq 0$, on the other hand, we similarly get

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} c & d \\ 0 & b \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & d/c \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

4. Compute the products AB , BC , CB and ABC in the case that

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Using the definition of matrix multiplication, one easily finds that

$$AB = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 1 & 8 \\ 4 & 1 & 5 \end{bmatrix}, \quad BC = \begin{bmatrix} 8 & 8 \\ 4 & 5 \end{bmatrix}, \quad CB = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 1 & 8 \\ 9 & 3 & 6 \\ 4 & 1 & 5 \end{bmatrix}.$$

As for the last product ABC , this is given by

$$A \cdot BC = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 8 & 8 \\ 4 & 5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 16 & 18 \\ 12 & 13 \end{bmatrix}.$$

5. A square matrix A is called upper triangular, if all the entries below its diagonal are zero, namely if $A_{ij} = 0$ whenever $i > j$. Suppose that both A and B are $n \times n$ upper triangular matrices. Show that their product AB is upper triangular as well.

Suppose that $i > j$ and consider the (i, j) th entry of AB , namely

$$(AB)_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^n A_{ik} B_{kj}.$$

If $i > k$, then $A_{ik} = 0$ and the summand is zero. Otherwise, $k \geq i > j$ so $B_{kj} = 0$ and the summand is still zero. This implies that $(AB)_{ij} = 0$, as needed.

Linear algebra I
Tutorial solutions #3

1. Show that $A \cdot \text{adj } A = (\det A)I_2$ for every 2×2 matrix A .

Consider the matrix $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$. Its cofactors are easily found to be

$$C_{11} = d, \quad C_{12} = -c, \quad C_{21} = -b, \quad C_{22} = a.$$

The adjoint matrix is the transpose of the cofactor matrix C , namely

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} d & -c \\ -b & a \end{bmatrix} \implies \text{adj } A = C^t = \begin{bmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{bmatrix}.$$

To establish the given identity, it thus remains to check that

$$A \cdot \text{adj } A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} ad - bc & 0 \\ 0 & ad - bc \end{bmatrix} = (\det A)I_2.$$

2. Compute the adjoint of A and also the product $A \cdot \text{adj } A$ when

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 3 & a & 2 \\ 4 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

First of all, we compute the cofactors of A which are given by

$$\begin{aligned} C_{11} &= \det \begin{bmatrix} a & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = a - 4, & C_{12} &= -\det \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = 5, & C_{13} &= \det \begin{bmatrix} 3 & a \\ 4 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = 6 - 4a, \\ C_{21} &= -\det \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = 0, & C_{22} &= \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = -3, & C_{23} &= -\det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 4 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = 6, \\ C_{31} &= \det \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ a & 2 \end{bmatrix} = 4 - a, & C_{32} &= -\det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = 1, & C_{33} &= \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & a \end{bmatrix} = a - 6. \end{aligned}$$

The adjoint matrix is the transpose of the cofactor matrix C , namely

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} a - 4 & 5 & 6 - 4a \\ 0 & -3 & 6 \\ 4 - a & 1 & a - 6 \end{bmatrix} \implies \text{adj } A = C^t = \begin{bmatrix} a - 4 & 0 & 4 - a \\ 5 & -3 & 1 \\ 6 - 4a & 6 & a - 6 \end{bmatrix}.$$

As for the product $A \cdot \text{adj } A$, one can easily check that $A \cdot \text{adj } A = (12 - 3a)I_3$.

3. Let $x_1, x_2, x_3 \in \mathbb{R}$ be arbitrary. Use row reduction to show that

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & x_1^2 \\ 1 & x_2 & x_2^2 \\ 1 & x_3 & x_3^2 \end{bmatrix} = (x_2 - x_1)(x_3 - x_1)(x_3 - x_2).$$

We let A denote the given matrix and use row reduction to get

$$\det A = \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & x_1^2 \\ 0 & x_2 - x_1 & x_2^2 - x_1^2 \\ 0 & x_3 - x_1 & x_3^2 - x_1^2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Taking out the common factors from the last two rows, we conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} \det A &= (x_2 - x_1)(x_3 - x_1) \cdot \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & x_1^2 \\ 0 & 1 & x_2 + x_1 \\ 0 & 1 & x_3 + x_1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= (x_2 - x_1)(x_3 - x_1) \cdot \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & x_1^2 \\ 0 & 1 & x_2 + x_1 \\ 0 & 0 & x_3 - x_2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= (x_2 - x_1)(x_3 - x_1)(x_3 - x_2). \end{aligned}$$

4. Let A be a square matrix with integer entries. Show that $\det A$ is an integer as well.

The result holds for 1×1 matrices because $\det[a] = a$. Assume that it holds for $n \times n$ matrices and that A is $(n+1) \times (n+1)$. Then expansion by minors gives

$$\det A = \sum_{i=1}^n (-1)^{i+1} a_{i1} \det M_{i1}$$

and each $\det M_{i1}$ is an integer by the induction hypothesis. Since the coefficients a_{i1} are integers as well, we conclude that $\det A$ is itself an integer.

5. Show that $(AB)^t = B^t A^t$ for all $n \times n$ matrices A, B . Hint: compare entries.

The (i, j) th entry of the matrix $(AB)^t$ is given by

$$(AB)^t_{ij} = (AB)_{ji} = \sum_{k=1}^n A_{jk} B_{ki}.$$

This is also the (i, j) th entry of the matrix $B^t A^t$ because

$$(B^t A^t)_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^n (B^t)_{ik} (A^t)_{kj} = \sum_{k=1}^n A_{jk} B_{ki}.$$

Linear algebra I
Tutorial solutions #4

1. Express \mathbf{w} as a linear combination of \mathbf{v}_1 , \mathbf{v}_2 and \mathbf{v}_3 in the case that

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{w} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 5 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Let B denote the matrix whose columns are the vectors \mathbf{v}_i . In order to express \mathbf{w} as a linear combination of these vectors, one has to solve the system $B\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{w}$. Since

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 5 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & -5 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

the unique solution is $(x_1, x_2, x_3) = (-5, 1, 3)$ and this means that $\mathbf{w} = -5\mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_2 + 3\mathbf{v}_3$.

2. Are the following vectors linearly independent? Do they form a complete set for \mathbb{R}^4 ?

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \\ 2 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}.$$

If B is the matrix whose columns are the vectors \mathbf{v}_i , then row reduction gives

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 5 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 3 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Since there is a pivot in every column, the given vectors are linearly independent. Since there is no pivot in the last row, they do not form a complete set for \mathbb{R}^4 .

3. Suppose that $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n$ form a basis of \mathbb{R}^n and let $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ be arbitrary. Show that there is a unique way of expressing \mathbf{v} as a linear combination of the vectors \mathbf{v}_i .

The vectors \mathbf{v}_i form a complete set for \mathbb{R}^n , so one may certainly express \mathbf{v} as a linear combination of them. Suppose that this can be done in two ways, say

$$\mathbf{v} = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \mathbf{v}_i, \quad \mathbf{v} = \sum_{i=1}^n y_i \mathbf{v}_i$$

for some scalar coefficients x_i, y_i . Subtracting these two equations, we then get

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - y_i) \mathbf{v}_i = 0.$$

Since the vectors \mathbf{v}_i are linearly independent, this actually gives $x_i = y_i$ for all i . In other words, there is a unique way of expressing \mathbf{v} as a linear combination of the vectors \mathbf{v}_i .

4. Suppose that $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3$ are linearly independent vectors in \mathbb{R}^3 and let

$$\mathbf{w}_1 = \mathbf{v}_2 + \mathbf{v}_3, \quad \mathbf{w}_2 = \mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_3, \quad \mathbf{w}_3 = \mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_2.$$

Show that the vectors $\mathbf{w}_1, \mathbf{w}_2, \mathbf{w}_3$ are linearly independent as well.

Suppose that some linear combination of the vectors \mathbf{w}_i is zero, say

$$x_1 \mathbf{w}_1 + x_2 \mathbf{w}_2 + x_3 \mathbf{w}_3 = 0 \implies x_1(\mathbf{v}_2 + \mathbf{v}_3) + x_2(\mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_3) + x_3(\mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_2) = 0.$$

Rearranging terms, one may express the last equation in the form

$$(x_2 + x_3) \mathbf{v}_1 + (x_1 + x_3) \mathbf{v}_2 + (x_1 + x_2) \mathbf{v}_3 = 0.$$

Since the vectors $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3$ are linearly independent, it easily follows that

$$x_2 + x_3 = x_1 + x_3 = x_1 + x_2 = 0 \implies x_1 = x_2 = x_3 = 0.$$

5. Find a subset of the vectors $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3, \mathbf{v}_4$ that forms a basis of \mathbb{R}^3 when

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \\ 8 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{v}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

If B is the matrix whose columns are the vectors \mathbf{v}_i , then row reduction gives

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 3 & 6 & 3 \\ 3 & 5 & 8 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 6 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

This includes a pivot in every row, so the vectors \mathbf{v}_i form a complete set for \mathbb{R}^3 . Since the third column is the only column without a pivot, a basis is formed by $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2$ and \mathbf{v}_4 .

Linear algebra I
Tutorial solutions #5

1. Show that the vectors $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3$ form a basis of \mathbb{R}^3 and compute the coordinate vector of \mathbf{v} with respect to this basis when

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The first three vectors form a basis of \mathbb{R}^3 because

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & -5 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = -1.$$

The coordinate vector of \mathbf{v} is merely the last column in the row reduction

$$\left[\begin{array}{c|c|c|c} | & | & | & | \\ \mathbf{v}_1 & \mathbf{v}_2 & \mathbf{v}_3 & \mathbf{v} \\ | & | & | & | \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 1 & 3 & 4 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 3 \end{array} \right] \longrightarrow \left[\begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right].$$

2. Find a linear transformation $T: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ such that

$$T \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}, \quad T \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}, \quad T \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}.$$

We are given $T(\mathbf{v}_1), T(\mathbf{v}_2), T(\mathbf{v}_3)$ and we need to find $T(\mathbf{x})$ for any vector \mathbf{x} , so we need to express \mathbf{x} as a linear combination of $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2$ and \mathbf{v}_3 . Using row reduction, we now get

$$\left[\begin{array}{c|c|c|c} | & | & | & | \\ \mathbf{v}_1 & \mathbf{v}_2 & \mathbf{v}_3 & \mathbf{x} \\ | & | & | & | \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 1 & 1 & x \\ 1 & 2 & 2 & y \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & z \end{array} \right] \longrightarrow \left[\begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 2x - y \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & y - z \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & z - x \end{array} \right].$$

This implies that $\mathbf{x} = (2x - y)\mathbf{v}_1 + (y - z)\mathbf{v}_2 + (z - x)\mathbf{v}_3$, so we also have

$$T(\mathbf{x}) = (2x - y) \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} + (y - z) \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} + (z - x) \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3x + y - z \\ x + 2y + z \end{bmatrix}.$$

3. Suppose $T: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ is a linear transformation. Show that T is left multiplication by the matrix A whose columns are the vectors $T(\mathbf{e}_1)$ and $T(\mathbf{e}_2)$.

Consider the images of the standard vectors \mathbf{e}_1 and \mathbf{e}_2 , say

$$T\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix}, \quad T\left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} c \\ d \end{bmatrix}.$$

Since every vector in \mathbb{R}^2 is a linear combination of \mathbf{e}_1 and \mathbf{e}_2 , it easily follows that

$$T\left(\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}\right) = T\left(x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}\right) = x_1 \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} c \\ d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} ax_1 + cx_2 \\ bx_1 + dx_2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

In particular, T is left multiplication by the matrix A because

$$T(\mathbf{x}) = T\left(\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} ax_1 + cx_2 \\ bx_1 + dx_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = A\mathbf{x}.$$

4. Suppose $T: \mathbb{R}^6 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^4$ is left multiplication by a matrix A and T is surjective. How many pivots does the reduced row echelon form of A have? Can T be injective?

Since T is surjective, every vector in \mathbb{R}^4 is a linear combination of the columns of A , so these columns form a complete set. Thus, the reduced row echelon form must have a pivot in every row. Since A is a 4×6 matrix, there should be 4 pivots.

In order for T to be injective, the reduced row echelon form of A must contain a pivot in every column, hence 6 pivots. This is not the case, however, so T is not injective.

5. Consider the linear transformation $T: M_{22} \rightarrow M_{22}$ which is defined by

$$T(A) = A + A^t.$$

Find a basis for both the kernel and the image of this linear transformation.

First of all, we express the given equation in terms of the entries of A to get

$$T(A) = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2a & b+c \\ b+c & 2d \end{bmatrix}.$$

Since the entries a, b, c, d are all arbitrary, it easily follows that the image of T is

$$\text{im } T = \text{Span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}.$$

The kernel of T consists of the matrices A such that $T(A) = 0$ and this implies that

$$\ker T = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -c \\ c & 0 \end{bmatrix} : c \in \mathbb{R} \right\} = \text{Span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}.$$

Linear algebra I
Tutorial solutions #6

1. Define a function $T: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ by letting $T(x, y) = (9x + 2y, 4x + y)$. Show that T is bijective and find the inverse of this function explicitly.

The given function is a linear transformation that can also be expressed in the form

$$T\left(\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 9x + 2y \\ 4x + y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 9 & 2 \\ 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}.$$

This means that T is left multiplication by a matrix A . Since $\det A = 1$, the matrix A is invertible, so its reduced row echelon form is the identity matrix. This includes a pivot in every row, so T is surjective, and also a pivot in every column, so T is injective. As for the inverse of T , this is obviously left multiplication by A^{-1} , namely

$$T^{-1}\left(\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 9 & 2 \\ 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ -4 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x - 2y \\ 9y - 4x \end{bmatrix}.$$

2. Consider the linear transformation $T: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ and the basis B of \mathbb{R}^2 , where

$$T\left(\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} x - y \\ 2x + 3y \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}.$$

Find the matrix of T with respect to the basis B .

First of all, we compute the images of the elements of B , namely

$$T\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}, \quad T\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 8 \end{bmatrix}.$$

To express these vectors in terms of the basis B , we use the row reduction

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 & 5 & 8 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -5 & -10 \\ 0 & 1 & 5 & 9 \end{bmatrix}.$$

This means that the matrix of T with respect to the given basis is

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -5 & -10 \\ 5 & 9 \end{bmatrix}.$$

3. Consider the linear transformation $T: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ and the bases B_1, B_2 defined by

$$T \left(\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} x + 2y \\ 3z - y \end{bmatrix}, \quad B_1 = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}, \quad B_2 = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}.$$

Find the matrix of T with respect to the given bases.

First of all, we compute the images of the elements of B_1 , namely

$$T \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad T \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad T \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

To express these vectors in terms of the basis B_2 , we use the row reduction

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & 3 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 & 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 5 & 1 & -5 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

This means that the matrix of T with respect to the given bases is

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 1 & -5 \\ -2 & 1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

4. Find the linear transformation $T: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ whose matrix with respect to the bases of the previous problem is given by

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Write $B_1 = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3\}$ and $B_2 = \{\mathbf{w}_1, \mathbf{w}_2\}$ for convenience. The i th column of A is the coordinate vector of $T(\mathbf{v}_i)$ with respect to the basis B_2 and this means that

$$T(\mathbf{v}_1) = \mathbf{w}_1 + 2\mathbf{w}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad T(\mathbf{v}_2) = \mathbf{w}_1 + \mathbf{w}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad T(\mathbf{v}_3) = \mathbf{w}_1 + 3\mathbf{w}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

To find $T(\mathbf{x})$ for any vector \mathbf{x} , we need to express \mathbf{x} as a linear combination of $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3$. Using row reduction, it is easy to check that

$$\left[\begin{array}{c|c|c|c} | & | & | & | \\ \mathbf{v}_1 & \mathbf{v}_2 & \mathbf{v}_3 & \mathbf{x} \\ | & | & | & | \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 1 & 1 & x \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & y \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & z \end{array} \right] \longrightarrow \left[\begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & x - y \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & y + z - x \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & x - z \end{array} \right].$$

This implies that $\mathbf{x} = (x - y)\mathbf{v}_1 + (y + z - x)\mathbf{v}_2 + (x - z)\mathbf{v}_3$, so we also have

$$T(\mathbf{x}) = (x - y) \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + (y + z - x) \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + (x - z) \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 9x - 2y - 4z \\ 5x - y - 2z \end{bmatrix}.$$

5. Suppose $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n$ form a basis of \mathbb{R}^n and let $\mathbf{w}_1, \dots, \mathbf{w}_n$ be vectors in \mathbb{R}^m . Find a linear transformation $T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ such that $T(\mathbf{v}_i) = \mathbf{w}_i$ for each $1 \leq i \leq n$.

Since T is linear, it must be left multiplication by some $m \times n$ matrix A . Consider the matrix B_1 whose columns are the vectors $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n$ and the matrix B_2 whose columns are the vectors $\mathbf{w}_1, \dots, \mathbf{w}_n$. In view of the given assumption, we must then have

$$T(\mathbf{v}_i) = \mathbf{w}_i \implies T(B_1 \mathbf{e}_i) = B_2 \mathbf{e}_i \implies AB_1 \mathbf{e}_i = B_2 \mathbf{e}_i \text{ for each } i.$$

This gives $AB_1 = B_2$ and thus $A = B_2 B_1^{-1}$. In fact, the matrix B_1 is invertible because its columns form a basis of \mathbb{R}^n , while the function $T(\mathbf{x}) = B_2 B_1^{-1} \mathbf{x}$ is linear with

$$T(\mathbf{v}_i) = T(B_1 \mathbf{e}_i) = B_2 B_1^{-1} \cdot B_1 \mathbf{e}_i = B_2 \cdot \mathbf{e}_i = \mathbf{w}_i \text{ for each } i.$$