

MATH 204 LINEAR ALGEBRA, HOMEWORK 4

Name:

Due: Friday, February 19th, 2010

You should print these pages out two-sided (if possible) to save paper, money, and trees. Staple your sheets together. Write your answers clearly.

- (1) Let  $A$  be an  $m \times p$  matrix, and let  $B$  be an  $p \times n$  matrix. Show that the range of  $A$  contains the range of  $AB$ . Show that the kernel of  $B$  is contained in the kernel of  $AB$ . Is the reverse inclusion true in either case.

(i) range (A)  $\supset$  range (AB)

Suppose that  $\vec{x} \in \text{range}(AB)$ , then there is a vector  $\vec{y}$  such that  $\vec{x} = AB\vec{y} = A(B\vec{y})$ . The vector  $A(B\vec{y})$  is in range (A), so  $\vec{x} \in \text{range}(A)$ .

(ii) ker (B)  $\subset$  ker (AB)

Let  $\vec{x} \in \text{ker}(B)$   $B\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ , multiplying by  $A$  we get  $(AB)(\vec{x}) = A(B\vec{x}) = A(\vec{0}) = \vec{0}$ . Hence,  $\vec{x} \in \text{ker}(AB)$ .

Reverse inclusions are false:

(i) let  $A = I_n$ ,  $B = 0$ , so  $\text{range}(A) = \mathbb{R}^n$ ,

$\text{range}(AB) = \{\vec{0}\}$

(ii)  $B = I_n$ ,  $A = 0$ .  $\text{ker}(B) = \{\vec{0}\}$  and  $\text{ker}(AB) = \mathbb{R}^n$ .

(2) Consider the matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 4 & 1 \\ 3 & 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 4 & 1 & 13 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$ . Find a basis for the range and a basis for the null space of  $A$ .

Row reduce  $A$ .

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 4 & 1 \\ 3 & 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 4 & 1 & 13 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{III} \leftarrow \text{III} - 4\text{I} \\ \text{II} \leftarrow \text{II} - 3\text{I} \end{array} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 4 & 1 \\ 0 & -3 & -11 & -10 \\ 0 & -3 & -3 & -12 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{III} \leftarrow \text{III} - \text{II}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 4 & 1 \\ 0 & -3 & -11 & -10 \\ 0 & 0 & 8 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

From this we see that  $\text{rank}(A) = 3$ , so  $\text{nullity}(A) = 1$

$x_4$  is free.

Null space: Solve  $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$  or  $\text{ref}(A)\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ .

$$\text{So } 8x_3 = 2x_4 \Rightarrow x_3 = \frac{1}{4}x_4$$

$$-3x_2 - 11x_3 - 10x_4 = 0 \Rightarrow x_2 = -\frac{11}{3}x_3 - \frac{10}{3}x_4 = -\frac{11}{12}x_4 - \frac{10}{3}x_4$$

$$x_2 = -\frac{54}{12}x_4 = -\frac{9}{2}x_4$$

$$x_1 = -x_2 - 4x_3 - x_4 = -\frac{9}{2}x_4 - x_4 - x_4 = -\frac{13}{2}x_4$$

$$\text{So } \begin{bmatrix} -13/2 \\ -9/2 \\ 1/4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ spans null}(A)$$

range(A)

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -11 \\ 8 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

- (3) Suppose that  $A$  is an  $n \times n$  matrix. Show that the equation  $Ax = b$  has a unique solution for every choice of  $b$  if and only if the only solution to  $Ax = 0$  is  $x = 0$ .

Suppose  $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$  has a unique solution.

If  $A\vec{x}_1 = A\vec{x}_2 = \vec{b}$ , then  $A(\vec{x}_1 - \vec{x}_2) = \vec{0}$  so  $\vec{x}_1 - \vec{x}_2 = \vec{0}$

which gives  $\vec{x}_1 = \vec{x}_2$ .

This shows that there can be at most one solution.

Now we need to show there is at least one solution.

This follows by noting that if  $\text{ref}(A)\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  does not have a solution for some  $\vec{b}$ , then neither does

$A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ . Hence  $\text{ref}(A) = I_n$  and so  $A$  is invertible.

If  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  has a unique solution for every choice of  $\vec{b}$ , then, in particular, this is true for  $\vec{b} = \vec{0}$ .

Hence  $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$  has a unique solution,  $\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ .

(4) Suppose that  $W$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Define the subspace perpendicular to  $W$  by

$$W^\perp = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : x \cdot w = 0 \text{ for all } w \in W\}.$$

Show that  $W^\perp$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . If the dimension of  $W$  is  $m$ , then what is the dimension of  $W^\perp$ ? You do not need to prove your answer.

(i) Let  $\vec{x}, \vec{y} \in W^\perp$ ,  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ . Let  $\vec{w} \in W$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{We have } (c\vec{x} + \vec{y}) \cdot \vec{w} &= c\vec{x} \cdot \vec{w} + \vec{y} \cdot \vec{w} \\ &= 0 \quad (\text{since } \vec{x} \cdot \vec{w} = \vec{y} \cdot \vec{w} = 0) \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $W^\perp$  is closed under linear combinations.

Clearly  $\vec{0} \cdot \vec{w} = 0$ , so  $W^\perp \neq \emptyset$ .

(ii)  $\dim(W^\perp) = n - \dim(W)$ .

(5) Show that the intersection of the subspaces  $W$  and  $W^\perp$  is the zero subspace.

Suppose  $\vec{x} \in W \cap W^\perp$ .

then  $\|\vec{x}\|^2 = \vec{x} \cdot \vec{x} = 0$ , so  $\vec{x} = 0$ .