

1. Suggested Problems

Problem 1 (5.4.3). Assume the mapping $T : \mathbb{P}_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{P}_2$ defined by

$$T(a_0 + a_1t + a_2t^2) = 3a_0 + (5a_0 - 2a_1)t + (4a_1 + a_2)t^2$$

is linear. Find the matrix representation of T relative to the basis $\mathcal{B} = \{1, t, t^2\}$.

Problem 2 (5.4.5). Let $\mathcal{B} = \{b_1, b_2, b_3\}$ be a basis for a vector space V . Find $T(3b_1 - 4b_2)$ when T is a linear transformation from V to V whose matrix relative to \mathcal{B} is

$$[T]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -6 & 1 \\ 0 & 5 & -1 \\ 1 & -2 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$$

Problem 3 (5.4.10). Define $T : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ by $T(x) = Ax$ with

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -3 \\ -7 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Find a basis \mathcal{B} for \mathbb{R}^2 with the property that $[T]_{\mathcal{B}}$ is diagonal.

Provide justification for each statement in Problems 4-6. In each case, the matrices are square.

Problem 4 (5.4.22). If A is similar to B , then A^2 is similar to B^2 .

Problem 5 (5.4.23). If B is similar to A and C is similar to A , then B is similar to C .

Problem 6 (5.4.24). If A is diagonalizable and B is similar to A , then B is also diagonalizable.

Worksheet 20 Solution
MATH 240 (Spring 2024)

Problem 1. The matrix representation $[T]_{\mathcal{B}}$ of T relative to \mathcal{B} is given by

$$\begin{aligned} & [[T(1)]_{\mathcal{B}} \quad [T(t)]_{\mathcal{B}} \quad [T(t^2)]_{\mathcal{B}}] \\ T(1) &= 3 + 5t \quad \Rightarrow \quad [T(1)]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ T(t) &= -2t + 4t^2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad [T(t)]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \\ T(t^2) &= t^2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad [T(t^2)]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$[T]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 5 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Problem 2. The \mathcal{B} -coordinate of $T(3b_1 - 4b_2)$ is given by

$$[T(3b_1 - 4b_2)]_{\mathcal{B}} = [T]_{\mathcal{B}}[3b_1 - 4b_2]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -6 & 1 \\ 0 & 5 & -1 \\ 1 & -2 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -4 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 24 \\ -20 \\ 11 \end{bmatrix}$$

Therefore, $T(3b_1 - 4b_2) = 24b_1 - 20b_2 + 11b_3$.

Problem 3. We diagonalize A . The characteristic polynomial is given by

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} 5 - \lambda & -3 \\ -7 & 1 - \lambda \end{bmatrix} = (5 - \lambda)(1 - \lambda) - 21 = \lambda^2 - 6\lambda - 16 = (\lambda - 8)(\lambda + 2)$$

Hence the eigenvalues are $\lambda = 8, -2$.

$$A - 8I = \begin{bmatrix} -3 & -3 \\ -7 & -7 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightsquigarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ is an eigenvector for } 8$$

$$A + 2I = \begin{bmatrix} 7 & -3 \\ -7 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 7 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightsquigarrow \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} \text{ is an eigenvector for } -2$$

Therefore $[T]_{\mathcal{B}}$ is diagonal for the basis

$$\mathcal{B} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

Problem 4. If A is similar to B , there exists an invertible matrix P such that $A = PBP^{-1}$. Then

$$A^2 = (PBP^{-1})(PBP^{-1}) = PBBP^{-1} = PB^2P^{-1}$$

Therefore, A^2 is similar to B^2 .

Problem 5. If B is similar to A , then there exists an invertible matrix P such that

$$B = PAP^{-1} \Rightarrow A = P^{-1}BP$$

If C is similar to A , then there exists an invertible matrix Q such that

$$C = QAQ^{-1}$$

Combining the two equality, we get

$$C = QAQ^{-1} = QP^{-1}BPQ^{-1}$$

Since QP^{-1} is invertible and $PQ^{-1} = (QP^{-1})^{-1}$, we see that C is similar to B .

Problem 6. A is diagonalizable by definition means that A is similar to some diagonal matrix D . Since B is similar to A , by problem 23 above, B is similar to D . Hence B is diagonalizable.