Math 1553 Supplement §4.4, Matrix Operations

Solutions

1. Find all matrices B that satisfy

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -3 \\ -3 & 5 \end{pmatrix} B = \begin{pmatrix} -3 & -11 \\ 1 & 17 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Solution.

B must have two rows and two columns for the above to compute, so $B = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$. We calculate

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -3 \\ -3 & 5 \end{pmatrix} B = \begin{pmatrix} a-3c & b-3d \\ -3a+5c & -3b+5d \end{pmatrix}.$$

Setting this equal to $\begin{pmatrix} -3 & -11 \\ 1 & 17 \end{pmatrix}$ gives us

$$\left.\begin{aligned} a - 3c &= -3 \\ -3a + 5c &= 1 \end{aligned}\right\} \xrightarrow{\text{solve}} \quad a = 3,\ c = 2$$

and

$$\left.\begin{aligned} b - 3d &= -11 \\ -3b + 5d &= 17 \end{aligned}\right\} \xrightarrow{\text{solve}} \quad b = 1,\ d = 4.$$

Therefore, $B = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$.

2. Let T and U be the (linear) transformations below:

$T(x_1, x_2, x_3) = (x_3 - x_1,\ x_2 + 4x_3,\ x_1,\ 2x_2 + x_3) \qquad U(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) = (x_1 - 2x_2,\ x_1)$.

a) Which compositions makes sense (circle all that apply)? $\quad U \circ T \qquad T \circ U$

b) Compute the standard matrix for T and for U.

c) Compute the standard matrix for each composition that you circled in (a).

Solution.

a) $U \circ T$ makes sense, but $T \circ U$ does not.

b) Let A be the standard matrix for T and B be the standard matrix for U.

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \qquad B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

c) The matrix for $U \circ T$ is

$$BA = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -2 & -7 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

3. True or false (justify your answer). Answer true if the statement is *always* true. Otherwise, answer false.

a) If A and B are matrices and the products AB and BA are both defined, then A and B must be square matrices with the same number of rows and columns.

b) If A, B, and C are nonzero 2×2 matrices satisfying $BA = CA$, then $B = C$.

c) Suppose A is an 4×3 matrix whose associated transformation $T(x) = Ax$ is not one-to-one. Then there must be a 3×3 matrix B which is not the zero matrix and satisfies $AB = 0$.

d) Suppose $T : \mathbf{R}^n \to \mathbf{R}^m$ and $U : \mathbf{R}^m \to \mathbf{R}^p$ are one-to-one linear transformations. Then $U \circ T$ is one-to-one. (What if U and T are not necessarily linear?)

Solution.

a) False. For example, if A is any 2×3 matrix and B is any 3×2 matrix, then AB and BA are both defined.

b) False. Take $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$, $B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$, and $C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$. Then $BA = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ and $BC = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$, but $B \neq C$.

c) True. If T is not one-to-one then there is a non-zero vector v in $\mathbf{R}^3$ so that

$$Av = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The 3×3 matrix $B = \begin{pmatrix} | & | & | \\ v & v & v \\ | & | & | \end{pmatrix}$ satisfies

$$AB = \begin{pmatrix} | & | & | \\ Av & Av & Av \\ | & | & | \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

d) True. Recall that a transformation S is one-to-one if $S(x) = S(y)$ implies $x = y$ (the same outputs implies the same inputs). Suppose that $U \circ T(x) = U \circ T(y)$. Then $U(T(x)) = U(T(y))$, so since U is one-to-one, we have $T(x) = T(y)$. Since T is one-to-one, this implies $x = y$. Therefore, $U \circ T$ is one-to-one. Note that this argument does not use the assumption that U and T are linear transformations.

Alternative: We'll show that $U \circ T(x) = 0$ has only the trivial solution. Let A be the matrix for U and B be the matrix for T, and suppose x is a vector satisfying $(U \circ T)(x) = 0$. In terms of matrix multiplication, this is equivalent to $ABx = 0$. Since U is one-to-one, the only solution to $Av = 0$ is $v = 0$, so

$A(Bx) = 0 \implies Bx = 0$. Since T is one-to-one, we know that $Bx = 0 \implies x = 0$. Therefore, the equation $(U \circ T)(x) = 0$ has only the trivial solution.

4. In each case, use geometric intuition to either give an example of a matrix with the desired properties or explain why no such matrix exists.

a) A 3×3 matrix P, which is not the identity matrix or the zero matrix, and satisfies $P^2 = P$.

b) A 2×2 matrix A satisfying $A^2 = I$.

c) A 2×2 matrix A satisfying $A^3 = -I$.

Solution.

a) Take P to be the natural projection onto the xy-plane in $\mathbf{R}^3$, so $P = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$.

If you apply P to a vector then the result will be within the xy-plane of $\mathbf{R}^3$, so applying P a second time won't change anything, hence $P^2 = P$.

b) Take A to be matrix for reflection across the line $y = x$, so $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$. Since A swaps the x and y coordinates, repeating A will swap them back to their original positions, so $AA = I$.

c) Note that $-I$ is the matrix that rotates counterclockwise by 180°, so we need a transformation that will give you counterclockwise rotation by 180° if you do it three times. One such matrix is the rotation matrix for 60° counterclockwise,

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} \cos(\pi/3) & -\sin(\pi/3) \\ \sin(\pi/3) & \cos(\pi/3) \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2}\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\sqrt{3} \\ \sqrt{3} & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Another such matrix is $A = -I$.