

Assignment 6 = Exam 2:  
Linear Functions (Section 3B)  
Due Tuesday March 8, 2022

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**Problem 1** *Let  $V$  and  $W$  be vector spaces over the same field. Prove the following:*

(a) *If  $L : V \rightarrow W$  is linear, then  $L(\mathbf{0}_V) = \mathbf{0}_W$ .*

(b) *If  $h : V \rightarrow W$  is homogeneous, then  $h(\mathbf{0}_V) = \mathbf{0}_W$ .*

(c) *If  $\alpha : V \rightarrow W$  is additive, then  $\alpha(\mathbf{0}_V) = \mathbf{0}_W$ .*

**Problem 2** *(Axler 3B10) If  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  spans a vector space  $V$  and  $L : V \rightarrow W$  is linear, then  $\{L(v_1), L(v_2), \dots, L(v_n)\}$  spans the image of  $L$ .*

**Problem 3** *(Axler 3B14) If  $L : V \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^5$  is linear and has null space a three-dimensional subspace of a complex vector space  $V$  with  $\dim(V) = 8$ , then show  $L$  is surjective.*

**Problem 4** *(Axler 3B17) Let  $V$  and  $W$  be finite dimensional vector spaces over the same field.*

(a) *Show that if  $\dim(V) \leq \dim(W)$ , then there exists an injective linear function  $L : V \rightarrow W$ .*

(b) *Show that if there exists an injective linear function  $L : V \rightarrow W$ , then  $\dim(V) \leq \dim(W)$ .*

**Problem 5** (Axler 3B20) Let  $W$  be a finite dimensional vector space and consider a linear function  $L : V \rightarrow W$ . Show the following:

- (a) If there exists a linear function  $T : W \rightarrow V$  such that the composition  $TL = T \circ L = \text{id}_V$ , then  $L$  is injective.
- (b) If  $L$  is injective, then there exists a linear function  $T : W \rightarrow V$  such that the composition  $TL = T \circ L = \text{id}_V$ .

**Problem 6** (Axler 3B22) If  $V$  and  $W$  are finite dimensional vector spaces and  $L : V \rightarrow W$  and  $T : W \rightarrow Z$  are linear, then (show that)

$$\dim \mathcal{N}(T \circ L) \leq \dim \mathcal{N}(L) + \dim \mathcal{N}(T) \quad (1)$$

where  $\mathcal{N}$  denotes the null space of a linear function.

**Problem 7** (Axler 3B22) Find an example of linear functions  $L : V \rightarrow W$  and  $T : W \rightarrow Z$  satisfying the hypotheses of the previous problem and for which **equality** holds in (1).

**Problem 8** (systems of linear equations) Show that a homogeneous system of 26 linear equations

$$a_{i1}x_1 + a_{i2}x_2 + \cdots + a_{i,27}x_{27} = 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, 26$$

in 27 unknowns  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{27}$  has a solution

$$\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_{27}) \in F^{27} \setminus \{\mathbf{0}\}.$$

**Problem 9** (Axler 3B27) Let  $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{P}(F)$  denote the vector space of polynomials with subspaces  $\mathcal{P}_n = \mathcal{P}_n(F)$  of polynomials of degree no more than  $n$  as usual.

- (i) Using what you know about the properties of differentiation from calculus, show that  $D : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}$  by

$$Dp = \frac{d}{dx}p$$

is linear.

- (ii) If  $D$  is restricted to  $\mathcal{P}_n$ , what is the image of the restriction?

- (iii) Show that  $L : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}$  given by  $Lq = 5DDq + 3Dq$  is a linear function.

(iv) Use the linear function  $L$  of the previous part to show that given any  $p \in \mathcal{P}$  there exists a polynomial  $q \in \mathcal{P}$  for which  $Lq = p$ . Hint(s): Restrict  $L$  to an appropriate subspace and find the null space of  $L$ .

**Problem 10** (Axler 3B30) Let  $V$  be a vector space over the field  $F$  and  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  two elements of  $\mathcal{L}(V \rightarrow F)$ . Sometimes the functions in  $\mathcal{L}(V \rightarrow F)$  are called **linear functionals**. Show that if the null spaces of  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  satisfy

$$\mathcal{N}(\phi) = \mathcal{N}(\psi),$$

then there exists a constant  $c \in F$  such that  $\phi = c\psi$ .