

MTH 237-60

Name:

Homework 4. Projection maps. Due Tuesday 6/28 before the exam.

Let $\mathbf{x} = [2, 0, 1]^t$ and $\mathbf{y} = [0, -3, 1]^t$ in the vector space \mathbf{R}^3 . Fix a third vector \mathbf{z} that is linearly independent of \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} . Then, any vector \mathbf{v} in \mathbf{R}^3 can be written

$$\mathbf{v} = \alpha_1\mathbf{x} + \alpha_2\mathbf{y} + \alpha_3\mathbf{z}$$

for unique scalars $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3$.

Let $\pi : \mathbf{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^3$ be the map defined by

$$\pi(\alpha_1\mathbf{x} + \alpha_2\mathbf{y} + \alpha_3\mathbf{z}) = \alpha_1\mathbf{x} + \alpha_2\mathbf{y}.$$

The map π is called a projection map since $\pi^2(\mathbf{v}) = \pi(\pi(\mathbf{v})) = \pi(\mathbf{v})$ for all $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{R}^3$.

1. Verify that π is linear.

2. Compute $\text{im } \pi$ and verify that it is a subspace of \mathbf{R}^3 . Interpret it geometrically in relation to $P(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$, the plane spanned by \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} . What is the rank of π ?

3. Compute $\ker \pi$ and verify that it is a subspace of \mathbf{R}^3 . Interpret it geometrically in relation to $P(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$. What is the nullity of π ?

4. Compute the matrix for π according to the standard basis $\{\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \mathbf{e}_3\}$.

5. Give the eigenvalues for π , their corresponding eigenvectors, and interpret them geometrically. If possible, diagonalize the matrix you found in (4).