5E Commuting Operators

5.71 definition: *commute*

- Two operators S and T on the same vector space *commute* if $ST = TS$.
- Two square matrices A and B of the same size *commute* if $AB = BA$.

5.74 *commuting operators correspond to commuting matrices*

Suppose $S, T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$ and $v_1, \ldots, v_n$ is a basis of V. Then S and T commute if and only if $\mathcal{M}(S, (v_1, \ldots, v_n))$ and $\mathcal{M}(T, (v_1, \ldots, v_n))$ commute.

5.75 *eigenspace is invariant under commuting operator*

Suppose $S, T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$ commute and $\lambda \in \mathbf{F}$. Then $E(\lambda, S)$ is invariant under T.

5.76 *simultaneous diagonalizablity $\Longleftrightarrow$ commutativity*

Two diagonalizable operators on the same vector space have diagonal matrices with respect to the same basis if and only if the two operators commute.

5.78 *common eigenvector for commuting operators*

Every pair of commuting operators on a finite-dimensional nonzero complex vector space has a common eigenvector.

5.80 *commuting operators are simultaneously upper triangularizable*

Suppose V is a finite-dimensional complex vector space and S, T are commuting operators on V. Then there is a basis of V with respect to which both S and T have upper-triangular matrices.

5.81 *eigenvalues of sum and product of commuting operators*

Suppose V is a finite-dimensional complex vector space and S, T are commuting operators on V. Then

- every eigenvalue of $S + T$ is an eigenvalue of S plus an eigenvalue of T,
- every eigenvalue of ST is an eigenvalue of S times an eigenvalue of T.