

Finitely Generated Modules over a P.I.D.

Note Title

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Let R be a P.I.D. (say \mathbb{Z} or $K[x]$, K field)

and $I \subseteq R$ an ideal. So $I = (a)$ for some $a \in R$.

Let M be a finitely generated R -module, say
 $M = \langle m_1, m_2, \dots, m_n \rangle$.

Consider the R -module homomorphism $\varphi: R^n \rightarrow M$ given
by $\varphi(e_i) = m_i$, $i = 1, \dots, n$, $e_i = (0, \dots, \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ i\text{th place}}}{1}, \dots, 0)$.

Since φ is onto we see that
 $M = \text{Im } \varphi \cong R^n / \ker \varphi$.

Example: $R = \mathbb{Z}$, say $M = \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} / \langle (5, 2), (3, 4) \rangle$,

$\varphi: \mathbb{Z}^2 \rightarrow M$, $\varphi(1, 0) = \overline{(1, 0)}$ and $\varphi(0, 1) = \overline{(0, 1)}$.

We'll see that $M = \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} / \langle (5, 2), (3, 4) \rangle$
 $\cong \mathbb{Z}_{14}$.

Note that $\det \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix} = 14!$

Indeed, $\begin{pmatrix} 5 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -6 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -6 \\ 0 & -14 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 14 \end{pmatrix}$

and $M \cong \mathbb{Z}^2 / \langle (5, 2), (3, 4) \rangle = \mathbb{Z}^2 / \langle (1, 0), (0, 14) \rangle = \mathbb{Z} / 14\mathbb{Z} \cong \mathbb{Z}_{14}$.

Smith Normal Form:

Let R be a P.I.D. and $M = \langle m_1, \dots, m_n \rangle$ finitely generated R -module.

$$\varphi: R^n \rightarrow M, \quad \varphi(e_i) = m_i, \quad e_i = (0, \dots, 1, \dots, 0), \quad i=1, \dots, n.$$

$$M \cong R^n / \ker \varphi. \quad \ker \varphi = \langle f_i \mid i \in \Lambda \rangle$$

Let $f_i = a_{i1}e_1 + \dots + a_{in}e_n$ and consider the coefficient matrix (possibly infinite size!)

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} & e_1 & e_2 & \dots & e_n \\ a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{i1} & a_{i2} & \dots & a_{in} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \end{pmatrix}$$

Consider the following row and column operations that will correspond to "base change operations" for R^n and the submodule $\ker \varphi$.

$$C_1) \quad e_j \rightarrow e_j + \lambda e_i, \quad \lambda \in R$$

$$\langle e_1, \dots, e_j, \dots, e_i, \dots, e_n \rangle \mapsto \langle e_1, \dots, e_j + \lambda e_i, \dots, e_i, \dots, e_n \rangle$$

$$C_2) \quad e_i \leftrightarrow e_j, \quad \langle e_1, \dots, e_i, \dots, e_j, \dots, e_n \rangle \mapsto \langle e_1, \dots, e_j, \dots, e_i, \dots, e_n \rangle$$

$$C_3) \quad e_i \rightarrow u e_i, \quad u \in R \text{ is a unit}$$

$$\langle e_1, \dots, e_i, \dots, e_n \rangle \mapsto \langle e_1, \dots, u e_i, \dots, e_n \rangle.$$

In terms of the coefficient matrix these are just the following column operations:

$$C_1) f_k = a_{k1}e_1 + \dots + a_{ki}e_i + \dots + a_{kj}e_j + \dots + a_{kn}e_n$$

$$= a_{k1}e_1 + \dots + (a_{ki} - \lambda a_{kj})e_i + \dots + a_{kj}(e_j + \lambda e_i) + \dots + a_{kn}e_n$$

So C_1 is the column operation which replaces the j -th column with the j -th column + λ i -th column.

$C_2) e_i \leftrightarrow e_j$ interchanges the i -th and j -th columns of the matrix A .

$C_3) u e_i \rightarrow e_i$ just multiplies the i -th column by the unit $u \in R$.

On the other hand, the corresponding operations on the generating set $\{f_i\}$ correspond now operations on A .

$$R_1) f_i \rightarrow f_i + \lambda f_j$$

$$\langle f_1, \dots, f_i, \dots, f_j, \dots \rangle \rightarrow \langle f_1, \dots, f_i, \dots, f_j + \lambda f_i, \dots \rangle$$

$$f_j = a_{j1}e_1 + \dots + a_{jn}e_n$$

$$f_j + \lambda f_i = (a_{j1} + \lambda a_{i1})e_1 + \dots + (a_{jn} + \lambda a_{in})e_n$$

So, the j -th row is replaced by j -th row + λ i -th row.

$R_2) f_i \leftrightarrow f_j$ just replaces the i -th and j -th rows.

$R_3) f_i \rightarrow u f_i$, just multiplies the i -th row by $u \in R$.

Since R is a P.R.D. it is a Unique Factorization Domain. So any element of R has a unique factorization into prime elements.

Example 1) $R = \mathbb{Z}$, $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, $n = p_1^{r_1} \dots p_k^{r_k}$, p_i prime

2) $R = K[x]$, $f \in R$, $f = p_1^{r_1} \dots p_k^{r_k}$, $p_i \in K[x]$ irreducible polynomials.

Let $o(x)$ denote the number of prime elements in the prime decomposition of x .

For example, if $R = \mathbb{Z}$, $o(1) = 0$, $o(5) = 1$, $o(35) = 2$,
 $o(16) = 4$.

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Back to Smith Normal Form:

$M = \langle m_1, \dots, m_n \rangle$ R -module, $\varphi: R^n \rightarrow M$, $\varphi(e_i) = m_i$.

Let $L = \ker \varphi$, so that $M \cong R^n / L$.

Say $L = \langle f_j \rangle$, $j \in \Lambda$.

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{s1} & a_{s2} & & a_{sn} \end{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} f_1 \\ f_2 \\ \vdots \\ f_s \end{matrix}$$

If A is not the zero matrix by replacing rows and columns we may assume that $a_{11} \neq 0$. If $a_{11} | a_{k1}$ then by the row

operation $R_k \rightarrow R_k - \lambda R_1$, where $\lambda a_{11} = a_{k1}$, we can make $a_{k1} = 0$. If $a_{11} \nmid a_{k1}$ but $a_{k1} | a_{11}$ then replace $R_1 \leftrightarrow R_k$ so that we obtain $a_{11} | a_{k1}$. Then we can

again make $a_{k1} = 0$ as before. If $a_{11} \neq a_{k1}$ and $a_{k1} \neq a_{11}$ let $c = (a_{11}, a_{k1})$. Then $0 < c < a_{11}$ and $0 < c < a_{k1}$. Say $c = \sigma a_{11} + \tau a_{k1}$, $\sigma, \tau \in \mathbb{R}$. Then

$$\sigma \frac{a_{11}}{c} + \tau \frac{a_{k1}}{c} = 1. \quad \text{Now the invertible operation}$$

$e_1, e_2 \mapsto e_1' = \sigma e_1 + \tau e_2, e_2' = -\frac{a_{k1}}{c} e_1 + \frac{a_{11}}{c} e_2$, which corresponds to the matrix multiplication

$$(*) \begin{pmatrix} \sigma & \tau & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ -\frac{a_{k1}}{c} & \frac{a_{11}}{c} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} c & * & * \\ 0 & * & * \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}$$

(here we took $k=2$, for simplicity. **This matrix operation may not be an elementary row/column operation!**)
Performing these operations finitely many times we may bring the matrix A to the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} c & * & * \\ 0 & * & * \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & * & \end{pmatrix}$$

Then we perform column operation to bring the matrix to a form $\begin{pmatrix} d & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ * & & & \\ * & & & \\ * & & & \end{pmatrix}$.

Note that we will have $0 < d < c$. Then we repeat these operations and obtain

$$\begin{pmatrix} * & * & * \\ 0 & & \\ \vdots & & \\ 0 & d & \end{pmatrix}$$

again. Since $0 < c$ will decrease each time we'll finally get the matrix of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} d_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \boxed{} & & \\ \vdots & & & \\ 0 & & & \end{pmatrix}$$

Now we repeat similar operation for the submatrix B and so on. Finally we'll obtain a matrix of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} d_1 & & 0 \\ & d_2 & \\ 0 & & d_n \end{pmatrix}$$

Indeed by performing more operations we may assume that $d_1 | d_2, d_2 | d_3, \dots, d_{n-1} | d_n$.

Now we have $\mathbb{R}^n = \langle e_1, \dots, e_n \rangle \cong \langle f_j \mid j \in \Lambda \rangle = L$

$$\mathbb{R}^n = \langle e'_1, \dots, e'_n \rangle \cong \langle f'_i, \dots, f'_n \rangle = L.$$

This implies that $f'_i = d_i e'_i$, for all $i=1, \dots, n$.

$$\text{Hence, } M \cong \mathbb{R}^n / L = \frac{\langle e'_1, \dots, e'_n \rangle}{\langle f'_1, \dots, f'_n \rangle} = \frac{\langle e'_1, \dots, e'_n \rangle}{\langle d_1 e'_1, \dots, d_n e'_n \rangle}$$

$$\cong \mathbb{R}/d_1 \mathbb{R} \oplus \mathbb{R}/d_2 \mathbb{R} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbb{R}/d_n \mathbb{R}.$$

Remark: let R be a Euclidean domain, say $R = \mathbb{Z}$ or $K[x]$

Then there is a function $n: R \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ so that for any $x, y \in R$, with $y \neq 0$, we have $x = qy + r$ for some $q \in R$ and $r \in R$ with $n(r) < n(y)$. This case all invertible operations we apply to the matrix A can be chosen as row or column operations. (See the matrix operation $*$)

Theorem: The elements d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n satisfying

$d_1 | d_2, \dots, d_{n-1} | d_n$ are uniquely determined up to multiplication by units. They will be called invariant factors of the R -module M .

Proof: $\Delta_1 = \text{g.c.d. of all } 1 \times 1 \text{ minors of } A$
 $= \text{g.c.d. of all } 1 \times 1 \text{ minors of } D$
 $= d_1$

$$A = (a_{ij}) \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} d_1 & & \\ & d_2 & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & d_n \end{pmatrix} = D.$$

This statement is true because our operations do not change the g.c.d. of the minors of A .

Similarly, let $\Delta_2 = \text{g.c.d. of all } 2 \times 2 \text{ minors of } A$
 $= \text{g.c.d. of all } 2 \times 2 \text{ minors of } D$, and so on until

$$\Delta_n = \text{determinant of } A \\ = \text{determinant of } D.$$

$$\text{In particular, } d_1 = \Delta_1, d_2 = \frac{\Delta_2}{\Delta_1}, \dots, d_n = \frac{\Delta_n}{\Delta_{n-1}}.$$

That finishes the proof. =

Example: let $R = \mathbb{Z}$, then any finitely generated R -module is nothing but an abelian group. Then by the above considerations

$$M \cong \mathbb{Z}/d_1\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/d_2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbb{Z}/d_n\mathbb{Z}, \text{ where}$$

$d_1 | d_2, \dots, d_{n-1} | d_n$. Note that if some $d_i = 0$ then $\mathbb{Z}/d_i\mathbb{Z} = \mathbb{Z}/(0) \cong \mathbb{Z}$.

So we get $M \cong \mathbb{Z}_{d_1} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbb{Z}_{d_k} \oplus \mathbb{Z} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbb{Z}$.

For instance if $(d_1, d_2, \dots, d_5) = (2, 6, 18, 0, 0)$ then

$$M \cong \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_6 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_{18} \oplus \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}.$$

Canonical Forms of Operators on Finite dim'd Vector Spaces:

K a field, $V = K^n$ and $T: V \rightarrow V$ an operator.

$R = K[x]$ is a Euclidean domain and hence a P.R.D.

We may regard $V = K^n$ as an $R = K[x]$ -module as follows:

$$R \times V \rightarrow V, (p(x), v) \mapsto p(x) \cdot v = p(T)(v)$$

Example: Let $p(x) = 3x^2 - 5x + 4$, then $p(T) = 3T^2 - 5T + 4I$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So, for any } v \in V, p(x) \cdot v &= p(T)(v) \\ &= 3T^2(v) - 5T(v) + 4v \end{aligned}$$

Define the following R -module homomorphism

$\varphi: R^n \rightarrow V$, given by $\varphi(e_i^R) = e_i$, $i = 1, \dots, n$, where

$e_i \in V = K^n$, $e_i = (0, \dots, 1, \dots, 0)$ and $e_i^R \in R^n$, $e_i^R = (0, \dots, 1, \dots, 0)$

By its definition φ is clearly onto: $V = \text{Im } \varphi$.

Hence, $V = \text{Im } \varphi \cong R^n / \ker \varphi$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Note that } \varphi(p_1(x), \dots, p_n(x)) &= \varphi\left(\sum_{i=1}^n p_i(x) e_i^R\right) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n p_i(x) (\varphi(e_i^R)) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \varphi(p_1(x), \dots, p_n(x)) = \sum_{i=1}^n p_i(x) e_i$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n p_i(T) e_i.$$

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For the basis $B = \{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$ of $V = K^n$, let

$$C = [T]_B^B. \text{ Hence, } T e_i = \sum_{j=1}^n c_{ji} e_j.$$

This implies that $-c_{1i} e_1 - \dots + (T - c_{ii}) e_i - \dots - c_{ni} e_n = 0$.
In other words, $(-c_{1i}, -c_{2i}, \dots, T - c_{ii}, \dots, -c_{ni}) \in \ker \varphi$.

Note that $(-c_{1i}, -c_{2i}, \dots, T - c_{ii}, \dots, -c_{ni})^T$ is the i^{th} column of

$$xI - C = \begin{bmatrix} x - c_{11} & -c_{12} & \dots & -c_{1i} & \dots & -c_{1n} \\ -c_{21} & x - c_{22} & & -c_{2i} & & -c_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ x - c_{ii} & & & & & \\ \vdots & & & -c_{ni} & & \\ -c_{n1} & -c_{n2} & & & & x - c_{nn} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Lemma: The submodule $\ker \varphi$ is generated by the columns of $xI - C$.

Proof: We have already seen that $\ker \varphi$ contains the columns of $xI - C$. For the other direction we proceed as follows.

Let D be the Smith Normal Form of $xI - C$.

$$xI - C \rightsquigarrow D = \begin{bmatrix} d_1 & & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & d_n \end{bmatrix} \quad d_i \mid d_{i+1}, \quad i=1, \dots, n-1.$$

Let U be the submodule generated by the columns of $xI - C$. Then U is generated by the columns of D . (Recall that in our discussion of Smith Normal Form f_i 's we use the rows of the matrix A , not the columns. However, this does not cause any problems! Why?)

Now the above observation implies

$$R^n / U \cong R^n / \langle d_1 e_1, \dots, d_n e_n \rangle \cong R / d_1 R \oplus \dots \oplus R / d_n R$$

Note that $d_1 \cdot d_2 \cdot \dots \cdot d_n = \det D = \det (xI - C)u$, for some $u \in K \setminus \{0\}$, units of $R = K[x]$.

$\deg(d_1 \dots d_n) = \deg(xI - C) = n \Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^n \deg(d_i) = n$, where each $d_i = x^{k_i} + a_{k_i-1} x^{k_i-1} + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$, for some $a_j \in K$.

Thus, $R / d_i R = K[x] / (d_i) \cong \langle 1, x, \dots, x^{k_i-1} \rangle$ as R -modules.

The isomorphism is also a K -vector space isomorphism. Note that $\{1, x, \dots, x^{k_i-1}\}$ is a K -basis for $R / d_i R$. Hence, $\dim_K R / d_i R = k_i$. Hence, K -vector spaces,

$$R / U \cong R / d_1 R \oplus \dots \oplus R / d_n R \cong \underbrace{K^{\deg(d_1)} \oplus \dots \oplus K^{\deg(d_n)}}_{\cong K^n}$$

Since $U \subseteq \ker \varphi$ we have $K^n \cong R^n / U \xrightarrow{\phi} R^n / \ker \varphi \cong K^n$ where ϕ is induced by the identity map $R^n \rightarrow R^n$. Clearly, ϕ is onto. Since both vector spaces are

Isomorphic to K^n they have the same dimension n and thus $\hat{\phi}$ is an isomorphism. This implies $\{0\} = \ker \hat{\phi} = \ker \phi / U \Rightarrow U = \ker \phi$, which finishes the proof. \square

Corollary $V \cong K^n \cong R^n / \ker \phi \cong R^n / U \cong R / d_1 R \oplus \dots \oplus R / d_n R$

Note that the above isomorphisms are both R -module isomorphisms and K -vector space isomorphisms.

$$V = K^n \longrightarrow K[x] / d_1 K[x] \oplus \dots \oplus K[x] / d_n K[x]$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} V & \xrightarrow{\phi} & R^n / U \\ \tau \downarrow & & \downarrow x \\ V & \xrightarrow{\phi} & R^n / U \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} v & \longmapsto & [p(v)] \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \tau(v) & \longmapsto & [x p(x)] \end{array}$$

Observation:

1) Cayley Hamilton Theorem:

We know that $f(x) = \det(xI - C) = d_1 d_2 \dots d_n$.

Thus, $f(\tau)(v) \longrightarrow [f(x)p(v)] = 0$ in

$$K[x] / d_1 \oplus \dots \oplus K[x] / d_n.$$

Hence, $f(\tau)(v) = 0$, for all $v \in V$. This implies

$f(T) = 0$ is the zero operator. So we have just proved

Theorem (Cayley-Hamilton Thm)

For any operator $T: V \rightarrow V$, ($V \approx \mathbb{K}^n$) we have $f(T) = 0$, where $f(x) = \det(xI - T)$, the characteristic polynomial of T .

2) Since each $d_i \mid d_n$, $i=1, \dots, n$, we see that d_n is the lowest degree polynomial in $\mathbb{K}[x]$ so that $d_n(T) = 0$. Therefore, d_n will be called the minimal polynomial of $T: V \rightarrow V$.

$$3) V = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n \mathbb{K}[x]/d_i$$

Let $d_i = a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_{k-1}x^{k-1} + x^k$. So, $\{1, x, \dots, x^{k-1}\}$ is a basis for the subspace $\mathbb{K}[x]/d_i$.

Since $x \cdot 1 = x$, $x \cdot x = x^2$, \dots , $x \cdot x^{k-1} = x^k = -a_0 - a_1x - \dots - a_{k-1}x^{k-1}$, because $d_i = a_0 + \dots + x^k = 0$ in $\mathbb{K}[x]/d_i$.

It follows that T has matrix representation

$$[T] = \left[\begin{array}{c|ccc} A_1 & & & \\ \hline & A_2 & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & A_n \end{array} \right], \text{ where } A_i \text{ is the}$$

representation of $T/\mathbb{K}[x]/d_i$, and $A_i = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \dots & 0 & -a_0 \\ 1 & & & -a_1 \\ \vdots & \ddots & & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 1 & -a_{k-1} \end{bmatrix}$

This is called the rational form of T .

Indeed, we can do more. Say $d_i(x) = p_1^{r_1} p_2^{r_2} \dots p_k^{r_k}$, where each p_i is irreducible polynomial in $K[x]$.

Then

$$K[x] / d_i \cong K[x] / p_1^{r_1} \oplus \dots \oplus K[x] / p_k^{r_k}.$$

5) Jordan Canonical Form:

Now assume that the characteristic polynomial $f(x) = \det(xI - T)$ is a product of linear terms. Hence, each d_i is a product of linear terms. Say, $d_i = (x - \lambda_1)^{r_1} \dots (x - \lambda_k)^{r_k}$. Note that if $K = \mathbb{C}$ this is always the case.

$$\text{Now } K[x] / d_i \cong K[x] / (x - \lambda_1)^{r_1} \oplus \dots \oplus K[x] / (x - \lambda_k)^{r_k}.$$

The subspace $K[x] / (x - \lambda)^r$ has basis

$$\{v_0 = 1, v_1 = x - \lambda, v_2 = (x - \lambda)^2, \dots, v_{r-1} = (x - \lambda)^{r-1}\}.$$

Also note that

$$x \cdot v_0 = x \cdot 1 = x - \lambda + \lambda \cdot 1 = \lambda v_0 + 1 \cdot v_1$$

$$x \cdot v_1 = x(x - \lambda) = x^2 - \lambda x = (x - \lambda)^2 + \lambda(x - \lambda) = \lambda v_1 + v_2$$

$$x \cdot v_{r-2} = x(x - \lambda)^{r-2} = (x - \lambda)^{r-1} + \lambda(x - \lambda)^{r-2} = \lambda v_{r-2} + v_{r-1}$$

$$x \cdot v_{r-1} = x(x - \lambda)^{r-1} = (x - \lambda)^r + \lambda(x - \lambda)^{r-1} = 0 + \lambda v_{r-1} = \lambda v_{r-1}.$$

Hence, the matrix representation of T in this subspace is

$$J_{\lambda, r} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 1 & \lambda & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \\ 0 & & & 1 & \lambda \end{bmatrix}_{r \times r}$$

This is called a Jordan block. So, T has a matrix representation consisting of Jordan blocks:

$$[T] = \begin{bmatrix} J_{\lambda_1, r_1} & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & J_{\lambda_n, r_n} \end{bmatrix}$$

6) Characterization of Diagonalizability:

Theorem: $T: V \rightarrow V$, $V \cong K^n$, is diagonalizable if and only if the minimal polynomial $d_n(x)$ of T is a product of distinct linear factors.

Proof: Assume that the minimal polynomial $d_n = d_n(x)$ is a product of distinct linear factors:

$$d_n(x) = (x - \lambda_1) \dots (x - \lambda_k), \quad \lambda_i \neq \lambda_j \text{ if } i \neq j$$

Since $\det(xI - T) = f(x) = d_1(x) \dots d_r(x)$ and $d_i | d_{i+1}, \forall i$, we see that each $d_i(x)$ and $f(x)$ is a product of linear factors. Moreover, each $d_i(x)$ is also a product of linear factors. Also, $f(x)$ and

$d_n(x)$ have the same linear factors, where the multiplicities in fact may not be one!

For any eigenvalue λ_i of n_i is the multiplicity of $(x - \lambda_i)$ in $f(x)$ then the solution space of $\lambda_i I - T = 0$ has dimension exactly n_i :

$(\lambda_i I - T)v = 0 \iff \begin{bmatrix} d_1(\lambda_i) \\ \vdots \\ d_n(\lambda_i) \end{bmatrix} v = 0$, because exactly n_i many of $d_1(\lambda_i), \dots, d_n(\lambda_i)$ are zero.

Since $\dim V = n = \deg f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^k n_i = \sum_{i=1}^k \dim W_{\lambda_i}$,

where W_{λ_i} is the eigenspace of the eigenvalue λ_i , we see that the operator T is diagonalizable.

Similarly, if T is diagonalizable then again by the formula

$n = \sum_{i=1}^k n_i$ we see that the solution space of $\begin{bmatrix} d_1(\lambda_i) \\ \vdots \\ d_n(\lambda_i) \end{bmatrix} v = 0$ is n_i so that each

$d_j(x)$ consists of distinct linear factors and hence $d_n(x)$ is a product of distinct linear factors.

This finishes the proof. \square

7) Similar Matrices: Let A and B be similar matrices. Hence, $B = P^{-1}AP$ for some invertible P . Then $xI - B = P^{-1}(xI - A)P$

and thus $x\mathbb{R}-A$ and $x\mathbb{R}-B$ have the same Smith Normal Form.

Conversely, if $x\mathbb{R}-A$ and $x\mathbb{R}-B$ have the same Smith Normal Form then A and B have the same canonical form, say rational form C . Then $P_1^{-1} A P_1 = C = P_2^{-1} B P_2$ for some matrices P_1 and P_2 . Then

$B = P_2 P_1^{-1} A P_1 P_2^{-1} = P^{-1} A P$, when $P = P_2 P_1^{-1}$. In particular, A and B are similar.