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Understanding the problem statement is crucial before diving into the solution. The task is to find a non-zero 2×2 matrix A such that $A = B$, where $B = [8]$. At first glance, this appears to be a straightforward assignment; however, the challenge lies in interpreting the notation and the hint provided. The hint suggests letting $A = C$ and performing matrix multiplication to achieve the desired result. This article explores the problem step by step, offering detailed explanations and examples to clarify the process of constructing such matrices.

Deciphering the Problem Statement

Understanding the Notation

The given notation $B = [8]$ can be interpreted in multiple ways, but in the context of matrix algebra, it often signifies a scalar or a very simple matrix. Since the problem asks for a 2×2 matrix A such that $A = B$, and A is non-zero, it implies that B might be scaled or related to a matrix that can be expanded into a 2×2 form.

Most likely, the notation $B = [8]$ refers to a scalar value 8, which can be represented as a scalar matrix (a multiple of the identity matrix) or as part of the process to generate A .

Constructing the Matrix A

Using the Hint: Let $A = C$ and Perform the Matrix Multiplication

The hint suggests defining $A = C$, where C is some matrix, and then performing matrix multiplication to obtain A . To understand this, we can consider the general approach:

- Define a matrix C .
- Multiply C by another matrix X (or perhaps itself) to produce the matrix A .
- Ensure that A matches the given scalar or desired form.

This approach aligns with common matrix multiplication techniques, where the product of two matrices results in a specific target matrix.

Step-by-Step Approach to Find the Matrix A

Step 1: Define the Matrices

Since the problem is to find a non-zero 2×2 matrix (A) , let's choose a general form:

$$\begin{aligned} & \backslash \\ A &= \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \\ & \backslash \end{aligned}$$

Our goal is to find specific values of (a, b, c, d) such that the conditions outlined are satisfied.

Step 2: Incorporate the Scalar $(B = [8])$

Given that $(B = 8)$, a scalar, and the problem involves matrix multiplication, a natural approach is to consider (A) as a scalar multiple of the identity matrix:

$$\begin{aligned} & \backslash \\ A &= 8I = 8 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 8 & 0 \\ 0 & 8 \end{bmatrix} \\ & \backslash \end{aligned}$$

This matrix is non-zero and satisfies $(A = B)$ if we interpret (A) as a scalar multiple of the identity.

Step 3: Defining Matrices (C) and Performing Multiplication

Suppose we define:

$$\begin{aligned} & \backslash \\ C &= \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \\ & \backslash \end{aligned}$$

and consider a matrix (X) such that:

$$\begin{aligned} & \backslash \\ A &= C \times X \end{aligned}$$

$\backslash$

To produce $(A = 8I)$, an effective choice is:

```

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad X = 8I$$

```

since:

```

$$A = C \times X = I \times 8I = 8I$$

```

which results in:

```

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 8 & 0 \\ 0 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$$

```

This satisfies the non-zero criterion and aligns with the scalar (B) .

Examples of Non-zero 2x2 Matrices A

Identity Matrix Scaled by 8

One simple solution is:

```

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 8 & 0 \\ 0 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$$

```

which is clearly a non-zero matrix and directly relates to the scalar $(B = 8)$.

Alternative Matrices Satisfying the Conditions

While the identity scaled by 8 is straightforward, other matrices can also be valid, provided they are non-zero and can be associated with the scalar (8) through multiplication. For example:

- Diagonal matrices with entries summing or related to 8, such as:

```
\[
A = \begin{bmatrix}
4 & 0 \\
0 & 4
\end{bmatrix}
```

which would require a different multiplication context to relate to 8.

- Matrices with off-diagonal elements, such as:

```
\[
A = \begin{bmatrix}
0 & 8 \\
0 & 0
\end{bmatrix}
```

but these are less straightforward unless additional conditions are specified.

Summary and Final Remarks

In conclusion, the most straightforward non-zero 2x2 matrix (A) such that $(A = B)$ with $(B = [8])$ is the scalar multiple of the identity matrix:

```
\[
A = \begin{bmatrix}
8 & 0 \\
0 & 8
\end{bmatrix}
```

This fits seamlessly with the hint to let $(A = C)$ and perform matrix multiplication, with (C) being the identity matrix and the scalar 8 being the multiple.

Key Takeaways:

- Scalar matrices are effective for representing scalar values like 8 in matrix form.
- Matrix multiplication can produce desired matrices when appropriate factors are chosen.
- The identity matrix scaled by 8 is a canonical example fulfilling the problem's criteria.

Final Note: When working with matrix problems involving scalar values, always consider scalar multiples of the identity matrix as natural and simple solutions, especially when the problem emphasizes non-zero matrices and straightforward relations.

Keywords: matrix algebra, 2x2 matrices, scalar matrices, identity matrix, matrix multiplication, non-zero matrices, linear algebra, matrix construction

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main goal when finding a non-zero 2x2 matrix A such that $A = B$, where $B = [8]$?

The main goal is to determine a 2x2 matrix A that satisfies the condition $A = B$, given that B is specified as [8], and to ensure A is non-zero and conforms to the problem's constraints.

How can we interpret $B = [8]$ as a matrix in the context of finding matrix A?

Since $B = [8]$ is a scalar, it can be viewed as a 1x1 matrix. To find a 2x2 matrix A such that $A = B$, we often need to extend or interpret B appropriately, or consider B as a scalar multiple of the identity matrix.

What does the hint 'Let $A = C$ ' imply in solving for matrix A?

The hint suggests defining A as another matrix C, which can help in setting up the problem or performing matrix operations, such as multiplication or scalar multiplication, to find a suitable A.

How do you perform matrix multiplication to find A when given B and the hint to let $A = C$?

You identify the matrices involved, express A as C, and perform matrix multiplication accordingly. If B is scalar (8), then A could be 8 times the identity matrix or another appropriate matrix that satisfies the conditions.

What is an example of a non-zero 2x2 matrix A that satisfies $A = B$, given $B = [8]$?

A common example is the scalar matrix $A = 8I$, where I is the 2x2 identity matrix:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 8 & 0 \\ 0 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$$

Why must the matrix A be non-zero in this problem?

The problem specifies that A must be non-zero to exclude the trivial solution $A = \text{zero matrix}$, ensuring the matrix has meaningful, non-trivial values.

Can A be any 2x2 matrix satisfying $A = B = [8]$? How does the structure of B influence A?

Since B is scalar 8, A must be a 2x2 matrix with all entries equal to 8 to satisfy $A = B$ if B is interpreted as scalar multiplication of the identity. Otherwise, A must match the form dictated by the problem context.

What role does the identity matrix play in constructing A from B?

The identity matrix acts as a basis for scalar multiplication, so A can be constructed as B times the identity matrix, i.e., $A = 8I$, ensuring A is a 2x2 matrix with 8 on the diagonal and zeros elsewhere.

How does the concept of matrix multiplication help verify that A equals B in this context?

By multiplying the candidate matrix A (such as $8I$) with other matrices or through scalar multiplication, we can verify if the resulting matrix matches the given B or satisfies the problem's conditions.

Additional Resources

Let $B = [8]$ Find A Non-zero 2 X 2 Matrix A Such That $A = B \cdot A$ Hint: Let $A = C$ Perform The Matrix Multiplication

In the realm of linear algebra, the process of identifying specific matrices that satisfy certain conditions is both fundamental and intriguing. The problem statement, "Let $B = [8]$ Find A Non-zero 2 X 2 Matrix A Such That $A = B \cdot A$ Hint: Let $A = C$ Perform The Matrix Multiplication," encapsulates a common task: determining a matrix A, with particular properties, that relates to a given matrix B through matrix multiplication. This task involves understanding matrix multiplication, matrix properties, and sometimes making strategic assumptions to simplify calculations. In this article, we will explore this problem thoroughly, breaking down the steps to find such a matrix A, analyzing the role of the hint, and discussing the broader context and applications of matrix multiplication in linear algebra.

Understanding the Problem: Clarifying the Requirements

Before diving into calculations, it's essential to interpret what the problem is asking:

- $B = [8]$: This suggests that B is a 1x1 matrix containing the element 8. In matrix notation, B is a 1x1 matrix:

```
\[
B = \begin{bmatrix} 8 \end{bmatrix}
\]
```

- Find a non-zero 2x2 matrix A such that $A = B \cdot A$: Since A is a 2x2 matrix, and B is 1x1, the equality seems problematic at first glance because matrices of different sizes are not directly equal in standard matrix algebra.

- $A = ?$: The problem asks us to find such a matrix A .

- Hint: Let $A = C$ Perform the Matrix Multiplication: The hint suggests we should consider A as some matrix C , possibly involving matrix multiplication, to satisfy the conditions.

Key observations:

- The phrase " $A = B$ " in the context of different-sized matrices indicates that perhaps the problem is about expressing B as a product involving A , rather than A being equal to B directly.

- Since B is a scalar (1×1 matrix), perhaps the problem is to find a 2×2 matrix A that, when multiplied appropriately, results in B , or such that B can be expressed as a product involving A .

- The phrase "Let $A = C$ Perform The Matrix Multiplication" hints at defining A in terms of another matrix C , and performing multiplication to relate A and B .

Interpreting the Hint: A Strategy for Solution

Given the ambiguity, a plausible interpretation is that the problem asks us to find a non-zero 2×2 matrix A such that:

$$A \times C = B$$

or perhaps

$$C \times A = B$$

where C is some matrix, and the goal is to determine A based on B .

Possible interpretations:

1. A is a 2×2 matrix, and B is scalar:

Since $B = 8$, and A is 2×2 , perhaps the problem wants A such that, when multiplied by some matrix C , the result is B , or A times some matrix yields B .

2. A is to be constructed as some scalar multiple of a matrix C , which when multiplied appropriately, yields B .

3. Alternatively, the problem may want us to assume that A is a scalar multiple of the identity matrix, scaled to produce B .

To clarify, consider the following possibilities:

- If A is a 2×2 matrix, and B is scalar, then perhaps the problem wants A to be a scalar multiple of the

identity matrix:

$$A = \lambda I$$

such that the multiplication involving A yields B.

- Alternatively, perhaps the problem wants A to be a matrix satisfying the relation:

$$A \times C = B$$

for some matrix C.

Given the statement "Let $A = C$ ", it seems the problem might be simplified to:

$$A = C$$

and the task is to perform matrix multiplication involving A (or C) to get B.

Constructing the Solution: Approaching the Problem Step-by-Step

Given the clues and typical matrix algebra principles, here's a logical approach:

Step 1: Recognize the role of B

Since B is a 1x1 matrix [8], it acts like a scalar. To relate this to a 2x2 matrix A, we might consider scalar multiplication:

$$A = \lambda I$$

where I is the 2x2 identity matrix:

$$I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

and λ is a scalar.

Step 2: Find A such that $A = B$ in some sense

Because A and B are of different sizes, they are not equal directly. But perhaps the problem wants a

matrix A such that:

$$\begin{aligned} & A \times (\text{some matrix}) = B \\ \text{or} \\ & (\text{some matrix}) \times A = B \end{aligned}$$

Alternatively, perhaps the problem is to find a matrix A such that:

$$A \times A = B$$

or similar.

Step 3: Explore the simplest solution: Scalar multiples

Suppose we interpret the problem as: Find a non-zero 2x2 matrix A such that, when multiplied by a suitable matrix C, the result is B.

Given the hint "Let A = C," perhaps the simplest assumption is:

$$A = C$$

and we need to perform a matrix multiplication to get B.

Since B is scalar, to perform matrix multiplication resulting in scalar B, the most straightforward way is:

$$A \times v = b$$

where (v) is a vector, and (b) is scalar.

However, this may complicate the interpretation unnecessarily.

Step 4: The most plausible interpretation

Given the limited information, the most reasonable interpretation is:

- Find a non-zero 2x2 matrix A such that scalar multiplication of A yields B in some form.

In particular, because B is a scalar, perhaps A is a scalar multiple of the identity matrix:

$$A$$

$$A = \lambda I$$

and the scalar λ is chosen such that when A acts on some vector, or in some multiplication, the result is 8.

Alternatively, since the problem mentions performing matrix multiplication, perhaps the goal is to find matrices A and C such that:

$$A \times C = B$$

with B being the 1×1 matrix $[8]$.

Explicit Solution: Constructing a 2×2 Matrix A

Given the above considerations, one straightforward approach is:

Let's assume:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$$

and the goal is for A to be non-zero, and perhaps to satisfy:

$$A \times D = B$$

for some matrix D .

But since B is scalar, the simplest assumption is:

- Set A as a scalar multiple of the identity matrix:

$$A = \lambda I = \lambda \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Determine λ such that the properties align with B .

Suppose we want A such that its trace or some key property relates to B .

If the problem is about reconstructing A as a matrix that, through some operation, yields B , then:

$$\lambda$$

$$A \times \textbf{x} = 8$$

\]

for some vector $(\textbf{x})$.

Alternatively, perhaps the simplest conclusion is:

Final Constructed Matrix A

Given the limited context, the most intuitive solution is:

\[

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 8 & 0 \\ 0 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$$

\]

which is a non-zero 2x2 matrix, scalar multiple of the identity, and relates directly to B, which is 8 in scalar form.

Verification:

- Matrix multiplication:

\[

$$A \times I = A$$

\]

- A has the property:

\[

$$A = 8 I$$

\]

which satisfies the requirement of being non-zero, 2x2, and related to B.

Summary of the Approach and Key Takeaways

- The problem, as presented, appears to involve understanding the relation between a scalar matrix B and a 2x2 matrix A.

- The most straightforward solution is to set:

\[

$$A = 8 \times I = \begin{bmatrix} 8 & 0 \\ 0 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$$

\]

which is a non-zero 2×2 matrix, scalar multiple of the identity, and directly related to B .

- The hint about performing matrix multiplication suggests that multiplying A by an appropriate vector or matrix can produce B , or that A itself can be constructed via scalar multiplication.

Features and Advantages of the Chosen Solution

- Simplicity: Using scalar multiples of the identity matrix simplifies calculations and conceptual understanding.

- Flexibility: The approach

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