

VECTOR SPACES

Internal Operations

Def: Let A, B, C be sets with $A \times B \neq \emptyset$ and $C \neq \emptyset$.

An operation is a mapping $f: A \times B \rightarrow C$ such that every $(a, b) \in A \times B$ is mapped to $a \circ b \in C$.

- $a \circ b$ = the result of the operation.
- notation: We typically represent operations with notations such as:

$$a + b, a \cdot b, a * b, a \circ b$$

with $+, \cdot, *, \circ$ being the operations.

- remark: Let $*: A \times B \rightarrow C$ be an operation. An immediate consequence of the definition of the operation as a mapping is the following statements:

$$\forall a, b \in A: \forall c \in B: (a = b \Rightarrow a * c = b * c)$$

$$\forall a, b \in B: \forall c \in A: (a = b \Rightarrow c * a = c * b)$$

Def: Let $A \neq \emptyset$ be a set. An internal operation on A is any mapping $f: A \times A \rightarrow A$ such that all $(a, b) \in A \times A$ are mapped to $a \circ b \in A$.

Def : Let $*$ be an internal operation on A . Let $A_1 \subseteq A$ with $A_1 \neq \emptyset$. We say that

$$* \text{ closed on } A_1 \Leftrightarrow \forall a, b \in A_1 : a * b \in A_1$$

→ Properties of operations

Def : Let $*$ be an internal operation on A . We say that

$$\begin{aligned} * \text{ commutative} &\Leftrightarrow \forall a, b \in A : a * b = b * a \\ * \text{ associative} &\Leftrightarrow \forall a, b, c \in A : (a * b) * c = a * (b * c) \\ e \text{ unit element of } (A, *) &\Leftrightarrow \forall a \in A : a * e = e * a = a \end{aligned}$$

Def : Let $*$ be an internal operation on A with unit element $e \in A$. We say that

$$a, a' \text{ symmetric with respect to } * \Leftrightarrow a * a' = a' * a = e$$

- We now show that if $(A, *)$ has a unit element, then it is unique. Likewise, given a unique unit element $e \in A$, every $a \in A$ can have no more than one symmetric element $a' \in A$.

Thm : Let $*$ be an internal operation on A .

$$a) \quad e_1, e_2 \text{ unit elements of } (A, *) \Rightarrow e_1 = e_2$$

$$b) \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} * \text{ associative} \\ (A, *) \text{ has unit element } e \in A \\ a, a_1 \text{ symmetric} \\ a, a_2 \text{ symmetric} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow a_1 = a_2$$

Proof

a) Assume that e_1, e_2 unit elements of $(A, *)$. Then

$$e_1 * e_2 = e_2 \quad [e_1 \text{ unit element}]$$

$$e_1 * e_2 = e_1 \quad [e_2 \text{ unit element}]$$

$$\text{Then } e_1 = e_2 \quad \square$$

$$b) \quad a_1 = a_1 * e \quad [e \text{ unit element}]$$

$$= a_1 * (a * a_2) \quad [a, a_2 \text{ symmetric}]$$

$$= (a_1 * a) * a_2 \quad [\text{associative}]$$

$$= e * a_2 \quad [a, a_1 \text{ symmetric}]$$

$$= a_2 \quad [e \text{ unit element}] \quad \square$$

EXAMPLES

a) Addition in \mathbb{R} .

- 1) "+" in \mathbb{R} is associative and commutative
- 2) $0 \in \mathbb{R}$ is a unit element of $(\mathbb{R}, +)$
- 3) If $a \in \mathbb{R}$, then $-a$ is symmetric to a with respect to "+".

b) Multiplication in \mathbb{R}

- 1) "." in \mathbb{R} is associative and commutative
- 2) $1 \in \mathbb{R}$ is a unit element of (\mathbb{R}, \cdot)
- 3) If $a \in \mathbb{R} - \{0\}$, then $1/a$ is symmetric to a with respect to ".".

c) Multiplication in $M_n(\mathbb{R})$

- 1) "." in $M_n(\mathbb{R})$ is associative but NOT commutative
- 2) The identity matrix $I = [\delta_{ab}]$ with
$$\delta_{ab} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } a=b \\ 0, & \text{if } a \neq b \end{cases}$$

is the unique unit element of $(M_n(\mathbb{R}), \cdot)$ since

$$\forall A \in M_n(\mathbb{R}): AI = IA.$$

- 3) If $\det(A) \neq 0$, then A^{-1} is the symmetric element of A because $AA^{-1} = A^{-1}A = I$.

EXAMPLES

a) Let $A = \mathbb{R} - \{2\}$ and define

$$x * y = xy - \lambda(x+y) + \lambda(\lambda+1)$$

i) Show that "*" is closed on A.

ii) Show that "*" is commutative

iii) Show that "*" has a unit element on A.

Solution

i) It is sufficient to show that $\forall x, y \in A: x * y \in A$.

Let $x, y \in A$ be given. To derive a contradiction, let us assume that $x * y \notin A$. Then:

$$\begin{aligned} x * y \notin A &\Leftrightarrow x * y \notin \mathbb{R} - \{2\} \Leftrightarrow x * y = 2 \Leftrightarrow xy - \lambda(x+y) + \lambda(\lambda+1) = 2 \\ &\Leftrightarrow xy - \lambda x - \lambda y + \lambda^2 + \lambda = 2 \Leftrightarrow xy - \lambda x - \lambda y + \lambda^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow \\ &\Leftrightarrow x(y - \lambda) - \lambda(y - \lambda) = 0 \Leftrightarrow (x - \lambda)(y - \lambda) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \\ &\Leftrightarrow x - \lambda = 0 \vee y - \lambda = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = \lambda \vee y = \lambda \Leftrightarrow x \notin \mathbb{R} - \{2\} \vee y \notin \mathbb{R} - \{2\} \\ &\Leftrightarrow x \notin A \vee y \notin A \longleftarrow \text{contradiction, since } x \in A \wedge y \in A. \end{aligned}$$

It follows that $x * y \in A$. We have thus shown that $(\forall x, y \in A: x * y \in A) \Rightarrow$ "*" closed under A.

ii) Sufficient to show that $\forall x, y \in A: x * y = y * x$

Let $x, y \in A$ be given. Then:

$$x * y = xy - \lambda(x+y) + \lambda(\lambda+1) = yx - \lambda(y+x) + \lambda(\lambda+1) = y * x$$

It follows that

$(\forall x, y \in A: x * y = y * x) \Rightarrow$ "*" commutative on A.

iii) It is sufficient to find an $e \in A$ such that

$$\forall x \in A : x * e = e * x = x$$

We note that

$$\begin{aligned} x * e - x &= ex - \lambda(e * x) + \lambda(\lambda + 1) - x = \\ &= \underline{ex} - \lambda \underline{e} - \lambda \underline{x} + \lambda^2 + \lambda - x = \\ &= x(e - \lambda - 1) - \lambda(e - \lambda - 1) = \\ &= (x - \lambda)(e - \lambda - 1) \end{aligned}$$

and therefore

$$\begin{aligned} x * e = x &\Leftrightarrow x * e - x = 0 \Leftrightarrow (x - \lambda)(e - \lambda - 1) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \\ &\Leftrightarrow x - \lambda = 0 \vee e - \lambda - 1 = 0 \Leftrightarrow e - \lambda - 1 = 0 \text{ [since } x \in A \Rightarrow x \neq \lambda] \\ &\Leftrightarrow e = \lambda + 1. \end{aligned}$$

It follows that for $e = \lambda + 1$, $\forall x \in A : x * e = x$ } \Rightarrow
" * " commutative on A

$\Rightarrow \forall x \in A : (x * e = e * x = x) \Rightarrow e = \lambda + 1$ is a unit element of " * " on A.

\hookrightarrow We note that in the argument above:

a) We use proof by contradiction in part (i) to show that $x * y \in A$.

b) We have also used the following theorem:
 $\forall a, b \in R : (ab = 0 \Leftrightarrow a = 0 \vee b = 0)$.

b) We define $x * y = xy + 2ax + by$, $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}$. Find all $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ such that " $*$ " is associative on \mathbb{R} .

Solution

Let $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$. We note that

$$\begin{aligned} x * (y * z) &= x * (yz + 2ay + bz) = \\ &= x(yz + 2ay + bz) + 2ax + b(yz + 2ay + bz) = \\ &= \underline{xyz} + \underline{2axy} + \underline{bxz} + 2ax + \underline{byz} + \underline{2aby} + b^2z = \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (x * y) * z &= (xy + 2ax + by) * z = \\ &= (xy + 2ax + by)z + 2a(xy + 2ax + by) + bz = \\ &= xyz + 2axz + byz + 2axy + 2a^2x + 2aby + bz = \\ &= \underline{xyz} + \underline{2axy} + \underline{2axz} + 4a^2x + \underline{byz} + \underline{2aby} + bz \end{aligned}$$

and it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} x * (y * z) - (x * y) * z &= (bxz + 2ax + b^2z) - (2axz + 4a^2x + bz) = \\ &= (b - 2a)xz + (2a - 4a^2)x + (b^2 - b)z = \\ &= (b - 2a)xz + 2a(1 - 2a)x + b(b - 1)z. \end{aligned}$$

It follows that:

$$" * " \text{ is associative on } \mathbb{R} \Leftrightarrow \forall x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}: x * (y * z) = (x * y) * z$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \forall x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}: (x * (y * z) - (x * y) * z = 0) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \forall x, z \in \mathbb{R}: (b - 2a)xz + 2a(1 - 2a)x + b(b - 1)z = 0 \stackrel{(*)}{\Leftrightarrow}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} b - 2a = 0 \\ 2a(1 - 2a) = 0 \\ b(b - 1) = 0 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} b = 2a \\ a = 0 \vee \\ b = 0 \end{cases} \vee \begin{cases} b = 2a \\ a = 1/2 \vee \\ b = 0 \end{cases} \vee \begin{cases} b = 2a \\ a = 0 \vee \\ b = 1 \end{cases} \vee \begin{cases} b = 2a \\ a = 1/2 \\ b = 1 \end{cases}$$

contradictions

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} a=0 \\ b=0 \end{cases} \vee \begin{cases} a=1/2 \\ b=1 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow (a,b) \in \{(0,0), (1/2, 1)\}$$

↳ In the above solution, the main argument is:

"*" associative on $\mathbb{R} \Leftrightarrow \dots \Leftrightarrow$

$$\Leftrightarrow (a,b) \in \{(0,0), (1/2, 1)\}$$

The preceding calculations are the preamble of the solution. The purpose of the proof

EXERCISES

① Show that $a * b = a + b + 5$ defined on \mathbb{R} is both commutative and associative.

② We define on \mathbb{R} the operation $a * b = ab + a + b$. Show that

a) $*$ is commutative and associative

b) Find the unit element of $*$

c) Find which elements of \mathbb{R} have an inverse with respect to the operation $*$.

③ We define on \mathbb{R} the following operations:

$$x * y = x^2 y^2 \quad \text{and} \quad x \circ y = y(x + y)$$

Explore whether

a) the operations are commutative

b) the operations are associative

c) the operations have a unit element

d) every element of \mathbb{R} has an inverse.

④ We define on the set $(0, +\infty)$ the operation

$$x * y = \frac{xy}{x+y}, \quad \forall x, y \in (0, +\infty)$$

Show that

a) $*$ is commutative and associative, using the definition

b) $\forall x, y \in (0, +\infty): \frac{1}{x} * \frac{1}{y} = \frac{1}{x+y}$

c) Use (b) to provide an alternate proof of (a).

⑤ We define on \mathbb{R} the operation $a * b = (a-1)b^2 - (a-1)ab$.
Find (if it exists) the unit element of this operation.

⑥ Given the set

$$A = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & 0 \\ 2a & 0 \end{bmatrix} \mid a \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

show that the matrix $E = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ is a

unit element with respect to regular matrix multiplication restricted to the set A . Also show that A is closed with respect to matrix multiplication.

⑦ Let A be a set with an operation $*$ and unit element e such that

$$\forall a, b, c, d \in A : (a * b) * (c * d) = (a * c) * (b * d)$$

Show that $*$ is associative and commutative.

⑧ Let A be a set with an operation $*$ and unit element e such that

$$\forall x, y, z \in A : (x * y) * z = x * (z * y)$$

Show that $*$ is associative and commutative.

↳ From exercise 6 we see that the same operation may have a different unit element, if it is restricted into a smaller set.

Groups

Def : Let G be a set with "*" an internal operation on U with $G \subseteq U$. We say that :

a) $(G, *)$ is a group if and only if :

1) "*" is closed on G

2) $\forall a, b, c \in G : a * (b * c) = (a * b) * c$

3) $\exists e \in G : \forall a \in G : e * a = a * e = a$

4) $\forall a \in G : \exists a' \in G : a' * a = a * a' = e$

b) $(G, *)$ is an abelian group if and only if :

1) $(G, *)$ is a group

2) $\forall a, b \in G : a * b = b * a$.

- Therefore, $(G, *)$ is a group if and only if "*" is closed on G , "*" is associative, has a unit element, and every element of G has a symmetric element.

$(G, *)$ is an abelian group if and only if it is already a group and furthermore "*" is commutative.

EXAMPLES

a) $(\mathbb{R}, +)$ and $(\mathbb{R} - \{0\}, \cdot)$ are abelian groups.

b) $(M_n(\mathbb{R}), +)$ is an abelian group.

c) We define the general linear group

$$GL(n, \mathbb{R}) = \{A \in M_n(\mathbb{R}) \mid \det(A) \neq 0\}$$

Then $(GL(n, \mathbb{R}), \cdot)$ is a group but NOT an abelian group. Note that

1) Matrix multiplication is NOT commutative

2) We need the restriction $\det(A) \neq 0$ to ensure that every A has a symmetric element.

→ Sufficient condition

- To show that $(G, *)$ is a group, we may in fact weaken conditions (c) and (d) according to the following theorem:

Thm: Let $(G, *)$ with G a set and "*" an internal operation on U with $G \subseteq U$. Assume that:

a) $\forall a, b \in G: a * b \in G$

b) $\forall a, b, c \in G: a * (b * c) = (a * b) * c$

c) $\exists e \in G: \forall a \in G: e * a = a$

d) $\forall a \in G: \exists a' \in G: a' * a = e$

Then $(G, *)$ is a group.

Proof

Let $a \in G$ be given. Let a' be the symmetric element of a such that $a' * a = e$. (exists by hypothesis (d)).

Let $a'' \in G$ be the symmetric element of a' such that $a'' * a' = e$ (exists by hypothesis (d)).

It is sufficient to show that $a * a' = e \wedge a * e = a$.

We note that:

$$\begin{aligned} a * a' &= e * (a * a') = && \text{[hypothesis (c)]} \\ &= (a'' * a') * (a * a') = && \text{[definition]} \\ &= a'' * [a' * (a * a')] = && \text{[associative]} \\ &= a'' * [(a' * a) * a'] = && \text{[associative]} \\ &= a'' * (e * a') = && \text{[definition]} \\ &= a'' * a' = && \text{[hypothesis (c)]} \\ &= e && \text{[hypothesis (d)]} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} a * e &= a * (a' * a) = && \text{[definition]} \\ &= (a * a') * a = && \text{[associative]} \\ &= e * a = && \text{[definition]} \\ &= a && \text{[hypothesis (c)]} \end{aligned}$$

From (a), (b), (c), (d) and the above results it follows that $(G, *)$ is a group \square

\rightarrow Consequences of group definition

Then: Let $(G, *)$ be a group. Then:

$$\begin{aligned} \forall a, b \in G: (a * b)' &= b' * a' \\ \forall a \in G: a'' &= a \end{aligned}$$

Proof

a) To show $\forall a, b \in G: (a * b)' = b' * a'$

Let $a, b \in G$ be given. Then

$$\begin{aligned}(a * b) * (b' * a') &= a * [b * (b' * a')] && \text{[associative]} \\ &= a * [(b * b') * a'] && \text{[associative]} \\ &= a * (e * a') && \text{[b, b' symmetric]} \\ &= a * a' && \text{[unit element]} \\ &= e && \text{[a, a' symmetric]}\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}(b' * a') * (a * b) &= b' * [a' * (a * b)] && \text{[associative]} \\ &= b' * [(a' * a) * b] && \text{[associative]} \\ &= b' * (e * b) && \text{[a', a symmetric]} \\ &= b' * b && \text{[unit element]} \\ &= e && \text{[b', b symmetric]}\end{aligned}$$

It follows, by uniqueness of the symmetric element, that

$$\begin{cases} (a * b) * (b' * a') = e \Rightarrow (a * b)' = b' * a' \\ (b' * a') * (a * b) = e \end{cases}$$

b) To show $\forall a \in G: a'' = a$

Let $a \in G$ be given. Then

$$\begin{aligned}a'' &= a'' * e && \text{[unit element]} \\ &= a'' * (a' * a) && \text{[a', a symmetric]} \\ &= (a'' * a') * a && \text{[associative]} \\ &= e * a && \text{[a'', a' symmetric]} \\ &= a && \text{[unit element]}\end{aligned}$$

□

↳ For the multiplication group $(M_n(\mathbb{R}), \cdot)$ of matrices, this theorem gives:

$$\forall A, B \in M_n(\mathbb{R}) : (AB)^{-1} = B^{-1}A^{-1}$$

$$\forall A \in M_n(\mathbb{R}) : (A^{-1})^{-1} = A.$$

EXAMPLE

Show that $(\mathbb{R} - \{1/3\}, *)$ with $a * b = a + b - 3ab$ is an abelian group.

Proof

• Closure : Let $a, b \in \mathbb{R} - \{1/3\}$ with $a \neq 1/3$ and $b \neq 1/3$ be given.

To show that $a * b \neq 1/3$, assume that $a * b = 1/3$.

It follows that:

$$\begin{aligned}(a * b) - (1/3) &= a + b - 3ab - (1/3) = (b - 3ab) - (1/3 - a) = \\ &= b(1 - 3a) - (1/3)(1 - 3a) = \\ &= (1 - 3a)(b - (1/3)) = 3(1/3 - a)(b - 1/3):\end{aligned}$$

and therefore:

$$\begin{aligned}a * b = 1/3 &\Rightarrow (a * b) - 1/3 = 0 \Rightarrow 3(1/3 - a)(b - 1/3) = 0 \\ &\Rightarrow 1/3 - a = 0 \vee b - 1/3 = 0 \Rightarrow \\ &\Rightarrow a = 1/3 \vee b = 1/3 \leftarrow \text{Contradiction.}\end{aligned}$$

Therefore: $a * b \neq 1/3 \Rightarrow a * b \in \mathbb{R} - \{1/3\}$.

Thus: $\forall a, b \in \mathbb{R} - \{1/3\} : a * b \in \mathbb{R} - \{1/3\} \Rightarrow$

\Rightarrow "*" closed on $\mathbb{R} - \{1/3\}$.

- Commutative : Let $a, b \in \mathbb{R} - \{1/3\}$ be given. Then:

$$a * b = a + b - 3ab = b + a - 3ba = b * a, \forall a, b \in G \Rightarrow$$

\Rightarrow "*" commutative.

- Associative : Let $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R} - \{1/3\}$ be given. Then:

$$\begin{aligned} a * (b * c) &= a * (b + c - 3bc) = \\ &= a + (b + c - 3bc) - 3a(b + c - 3bc) = \\ &= a + b + c - 3bc - 3ab - 3ac + 9abc = \\ &= (a + b + c) - 3(ab + bc + ca) + 9abc \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} (a * b) * c &= (a + b - 3ab) * c = \\ &= (a + b - 3ab) + c - 3(a + b - 3ab)c = \\ &= a + b - 3ab + c - 3ac - 3bc + 9abc = \\ &= (a + b + c) - 3(ab + bc + ca) + 9abc \quad (2) \end{aligned}$$

From (1) and (2):

$$\forall a, b, c \in \mathbb{R} - \{1/3\} : a * (b * c) = (a * b) * c \Rightarrow$$

\Rightarrow "*" associative.

- Unit element : Let $a \in \mathbb{R} - \{1/3\}$ be given.

We solve the equation:

$$\begin{aligned} e * a = a &\Leftrightarrow e + a - 3ea = a \Leftrightarrow e - 3ea = 0 \Leftrightarrow \\ &\Leftrightarrow e(1 - 3a) = 0 \Leftrightarrow e = 0 \vee 1 - 3a = 0. \quad (3) \end{aligned}$$

Note that $a \in \mathbb{R} - \{1/3\} \Rightarrow a \neq 1/3 \Rightarrow 1 - 3a \neq 0$

and therefore (3) $\Leftrightarrow e = 0$.

Thus $\forall a \in \mathbb{R} - \{1/3\} : 0 * a = a$.

- Symmetric elements:

Let $a \in \mathbb{R} - \{1/3\}$ be given. We solve the equation
 $b * a = 0 \Leftrightarrow b + a - 3ba = 0 \Leftrightarrow b(1 - 3a) + a = 0 \Leftrightarrow$
 $\Leftrightarrow b(1 - 3a) = -a \Leftrightarrow b(3a - 1) = a.$

Since $a \in \mathbb{R} - \{1/3\} \Rightarrow a \neq 1/3 \Rightarrow 3a - 1 \neq 0$, and therefore:
 $b * a = 0 \Leftrightarrow b = \frac{a}{3a - 1}$

To show that $\frac{a}{3a - 1} \neq \frac{1}{3}$, assume that $\frac{a}{3a - 1} = \frac{1}{3}$

Then:

$$\frac{a}{3a - 1} = \frac{1}{3} \Leftrightarrow 3a = 3a - 1 \Leftrightarrow \underline{0a = -1} \leftarrow \text{inconsistent}$$

It follows that $\frac{a}{3a - 1} \neq \frac{1}{3} \Rightarrow b = \frac{a}{3a - 1} \in \mathbb{R} - \left\{ \frac{1}{3} \right\}$

- It follows that $(\mathbb{R} - \{1/3\}, *)$ is an abelian group.

EXERCISES

(9) Given the set $A = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid -1 < x < 1\}$ we define the operation $*$ with $a * b = (a+b)/2$.

Explore whether $(A, *)$ is a group.

(10) Given the set $G = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid -1 < x < 1\}$ we define the operation $*$ with $a * b = \frac{a+b}{1+ab}$.

Show that $(G, *)$ is an abelian group.

(11) We define on \mathbb{R} the operation $*$ with $x * y = x + y + 1$. Show that $(\mathbb{R}, *)$ is a group.

(12) We define on $G = \mathbb{R} - \{2\}$ the operation $*$ with $x * y = 2(x+y-1) - xy$. Show that $(G, *)$ is an abelian group.

(13) We define on $G = \mathbb{R} - \{1\}$ the operation $*$ with $x * y = xy - x - y + 2$. Show that $(G, *)$ is an abelian group.

(14) We define on $G = (-\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{2})$ the operation $*$ with $x * y = \frac{2x+2y}{xy+2}$. Show that $(G, *)$ is an abelian group.

(15) Let $(G, *)$ be a group, and let $x, y \in G$ such that $x * y = y$. Show that x is the unit element of $(G, *)$.

(16) Let $(G, *)$ be a group such that $\forall a, b \in G: (a * b) * (a * b) = (a * a) * (b * b)$. Show that $(G, *)$ is an abelian group.

▼ Vector spaces

Def: An external operation on A with coefficients from G is any mapping $f: G \times A \rightarrow A$ such that every $(\lambda, a) \in G \times A$ is mapped into $\lambda a \in A$.

► notation: For external operations we prefer to use multiplicative notation. In the expression $\lambda a \in A$ we say that λ is the coefficient of λa .

Def: Let $(V, +, \cdot)$ be endowed with an internal operation $"+" : V \times V \rightarrow V$ and an external operation $"\cdot" : \mathbb{R} \times V \rightarrow V$. We say that $(V, +, \cdot)$ is a real vector space if and only if the following conditions are satisfied:

- a) $(V, +)$ is a group
- b) $\forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R} : \forall x, y \in V : \lambda(x+y) = \lambda x + \lambda y$
- c) $\forall \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R} : \forall x \in V : (\lambda + \mu)x = \lambda x + \mu x$
- d) $\forall \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R} : \forall x \in V : \lambda(\mu x) = (\lambda \mu)x$
- e) $\forall x \in V : 1x = x$

► In the above definition, $\lambda + \mu$ and $\lambda \mu$ represent regular addition and multiplication in \mathbb{R} .

→ $(V, +)$ is an abelian group

We will now show that if $(V, +, \cdot)$ is a real vector space then, although not demanded by the above definition, $(V, +)$ will be an abelian group.

The proof is dependent on the following general property of groups:

Lemma: Let $(G, *)$ be a group. Then:

$$\boxed{\forall a, b, c \in G: (c * a = c * b \vee a * c = b * c \Rightarrow a = b)}$$

Proof

Let $a, b, c \in G$ be given. Let $e \in G$ be the unit element of G .

Case 1: Assume that $c * a = c * b$. Then:

$$\begin{aligned} a &= e * a = (c * c') * a = c' * (c * a) = c' * (c * b) \\ &= (c' * c) * b = e * b = b. \end{aligned}$$

Case 2: Assume that $a * c = b * c$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} a &= a * e = a * (c * c') = (a * c) * c' = (b * c) * c' = \\ &= b * (c * c') = b * e = b \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

Thm: $(V, +, \cdot)$ real vector space $\Rightarrow (V, +)$ abelian group

Proof

By definition:

$(V, +, \cdot)$ real vector space $\Rightarrow (V, +)$ group (1)

Let $x, y \in V$ be given. Then

$$(1+1)(x+y) = (1+1)x + (1+1)y = x+x+ty+ty \quad (2)$$

$$(1+1)(x+y) = 1(x+y) + 1(x+y) = x+ty+x+ty \quad (3)$$

From (2) and (3), using the above lemma we have:

$$\begin{aligned} x+x+ty+ty &= x+ty+x+ty \Rightarrow x+x+ty &= x+ty+x \Rightarrow \\ &\Rightarrow x+ty &= ty+x. \end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$\forall x, y \in V: x+ty = ty+x \Rightarrow \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{"+" commutative} \\ (V, +) \text{ group} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow (V, +) \text{ abelian group. } \quad \square$$

Properties of vector spaces.

- Let $\mathbf{0} \in V$ be the unit element of the abelian group $(V, +)$.
- Denote as $-x$ the symmetric element of $x \in V$.
- By definition, we know that for all $\lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}$ and for all $x, y, z \in V$, we have:

$$\begin{array}{l|l} (x+ty) + z = x + (ty+z) & \lambda(x+ty) = \lambda x + \lambda ty \\ x+ty = ty+x & (\lambda+\mu)x = \lambda x + \mu x \\ x+\mathbf{0} = x & \lambda(\mu x) = (\lambda\mu)x \\ x+(-x) = \mathbf{0} & 1x = x \end{array}$$

- We will now show that:

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \boxed{\forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R} : \lambda \mathbf{0} = \mathbf{0}}$$

Proof

Let $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ and $x \in V$ be given. Then:

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda x + \lambda \mathbf{0} &= \lambda (x + \mathbf{0}) = \lambda x = \lambda x + \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow \\ \Rightarrow \lambda \mathbf{0} &= \mathbf{0}. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \boxed{\forall x \in V : 0x = \mathbf{0}}$$

Proof

Let $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ and $x \in V$ be given. Then

$$\lambda x + 0x = (\lambda + 0)x = \lambda x = \lambda x + \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow 0x = \mathbf{0}. \quad \square$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad \boxed{\forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R} : \forall x \in V : (\lambda x = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow \lambda = 0 \vee x = \mathbf{0})}$$

Proof

Let $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ and $x \in V$ be given with $\lambda x = \mathbf{0}$.

Case 1: If $\lambda = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda = 0 \vee x = \mathbf{0}$

Case 2: If $\lambda \neq 0 \Rightarrow \lambda^{-1}\lambda = 1$. It follows that

$$x = 1x = (\lambda^{-1}\lambda)x = \lambda^{-1}(\lambda x) = \lambda^{-1}0 = 0 \Rightarrow \\ \Rightarrow \lambda = 0 \quad \forall x = 0 \quad \square$$

$$\textcircled{4} \quad \boxed{\forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R}: \forall x \in V: (-\lambda)x = \lambda(-x) = -\lambda x}$$

Proof

Let $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ and $x \in V$ be given. We note that
 $(-\lambda)x + \lambda x = [(-\lambda) + \lambda]x = 0x = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda x$ symmetric of $(-\lambda)x$
 $\Rightarrow (-\lambda)x = -\lambda x.$

Similarly:

$$\lambda(-x) + \lambda x = \lambda[(-x) + x] = \lambda 0 = 0 \Rightarrow \\ \Rightarrow \lambda x \text{ symmetric of } \lambda(-x) \Rightarrow \lambda(-x) = -\lambda x.$$

It follows that $(-\lambda)x = \lambda(-x) = -\lambda x \quad \square$

- From the above properties we can also show that:

$$\boxed{\begin{aligned} \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R} - \{0\}: \forall x, y \in V: (\lambda x = \lambda y \Rightarrow x = y) \\ \forall \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}: \forall x \in V - \{0\}: (\lambda x = \mu x \Rightarrow \lambda = \mu) \\ \forall \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}: \forall x, y \in V: \begin{cases} \lambda(x-y) = \lambda x - \lambda y \\ (\lambda - \mu)x = \lambda x - \mu x \end{cases} \\ \forall x \in V: (-1)x = -x \end{aligned}}$$

↙ Basic Vector Spaces

① → The space \mathbb{R}^2

For $(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ we define:

$$(x_1, y_1) = (x_2, y_2) \Leftrightarrow x_1 = x_2 \wedge y_1 = y_2$$

$$(x_1, y_1) + (x_2, y_2) = (x_1 + x_2, y_1 + y_2)$$

$$\forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R}: \lambda(x_1, y_1) = (\lambda x_1, \lambda y_1)$$

Then $(\mathbb{R}^2, +, \cdot)$ is a vector space.

② → The space \mathbb{R}^n

The previous vector space can be generalized for n dimensions as follows:

Let $[n] = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$, let $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$, and let $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ with $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ and $y = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)$.

We define:

$$x = y \Leftrightarrow \forall a \in [n]: x_a = y_a$$

Let $z \in \mathbb{R}^n$ with $z = (z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n)$. Then define:

$$z = x + y \Leftrightarrow \forall a \in [n]: z_a = x_a + y_a$$

$$z = \lambda x \Leftrightarrow \forall a \in [n]: z_a = \lambda x_a$$

Then $(\mathbb{R}^n, +, \cdot)$ is a vector space.

③ → The space $F(A)$

We define $F(A)$ as the set of all functions $f: A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$. Let $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ and let $f, g, h \in F(A)$.

We define:

$$f = g \Leftrightarrow \forall x \in A: f(x) = g(x)$$

$$h = f + g \Leftrightarrow \forall x \in A: h(x) = f(x) + g(x)$$

$$h = \lambda f \Leftrightarrow \forall x \in A: h(x) = \lambda f(x).$$

Then $(F(A), +, \cdot)$ is a vector space.

④ → The space $M_{nm}(A)$

Recall that we have defined $M_{nm}(\mathbb{R})$ as the set of all $n \times m$ matrices. Combined with matrix addition "+" and scalar multiplication "\cdot", $(M_{nm}(\mathbb{R}), +, \cdot)$ is a vector space.

EXAMPLES

a) Show vector addition, defined on \mathbb{R}^2 is associative.

Solution

Sufficient to show that

$$\forall x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x + (y + z) = (x + y) + z$$

Let $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}^2$ be given with $x = (x_1, x_2)$, $y = (y_1, y_2)$ and $z = (z_1, z_2)$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} x + (y + z) &= (x_1, x_2) + [(y_1, y_2) + (z_1, z_2)] = \\ &= (x_1, x_2) + (y_1 + z_1, y_2 + z_2) = \\ &= (x_1 + y_1 + z_1, x_2 + y_2 + z_2) = \\ &= (x_1 + y_1, x_2 + y_2) + (z_1, z_2) = \\ &= [(x_1, x_2) + (y_1, y_2)] + (z_1, z_2) = \\ &= (x + y) + z \end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \forall x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x + (y + z) &= (x + y) + z \Rightarrow \\ \Rightarrow "+" \text{ associative on } \mathbb{R}^2. \end{aligned}$$

b) Show that function addition, defined on $F(A)$ with $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ is associative.

Solution

Sufficient to show that

$$\forall f, g, h \in F(A) : \forall x \in A : (f + (g + h))(x) = ((f + g) + h)(x)$$

Let $f, g, h \in F(A)$ and $x \in A$ be given. Then

$$\begin{aligned}(f + (g + h))(x) &= f(x) + (g + h)(x) = \\ &= f(x) + g(x) + h(x) = \\ &= (f + g)(x) + h(x) = \\ &= ((f + g) + h)(x)\end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned}\forall f, g, h \in F(A) : \forall x \in A : (f + (g + h))(x) &= ((f + g) + h)(x) \Rightarrow \\ \Rightarrow \forall f, g, h \in F(A) : f + (g + h) &= (f + g) + h \\ \Rightarrow \text{"+" associative on } F(A).\end{aligned}$$

EXERCISES

- (17) Give the detailed proof that \mathbb{R}^2 is a vector space with respect to vector addition and scalar multiplication, defined as:

$$(x_1, y_1) + (x_2, y_2) = (x_1 + x_2, y_1 + y_2)$$

$$\lambda(x, y) = (\lambda x, \lambda y), \quad \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$$

- (18) Give the detailed proof that $F(A)$ with $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ is a vector space with respect to function addition and scalar multiplication, defined as

$$h = f + g \iff \forall x \in A: h(x) = f(x) + g(x)$$

$$h = \lambda f \iff \forall x \in A: h(x) = \lambda f(x).$$

▼ Vector subspaces

Def: Let $(V, +, \cdot)$ be a vector space. We say that

$$V_0 \text{ subspace of } V \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} V_0 \subseteq V \wedge V_0 \neq \emptyset \\ (V_0, +, \cdot) \text{ is a vector space} \end{cases}$$

↙ Subspace criteria

① Main subspace criterion

Thm: Let $(V, +, \cdot)$ be a vector space and let $V_0 \subseteq V$ and $V_0 \neq \emptyset$. Then:

$$V_0 \text{ subspace of } V \Leftrightarrow \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R} : \forall x, y \in V_0 : (x+y \in V_0 \wedge \lambda x \in V_0)$$

② Condensed subspace criterion

Thm: Let $(V, +, \cdot)$ be a vector space and let $V_0 \subseteq V$ and $V_0 \neq \emptyset$. Then:

$$V_0 \text{ subspace of } V \Leftrightarrow \forall \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R} : \forall x, y \in V_0 : \lambda x + \mu y \in V_0$$

Proof

(\Rightarrow): Assume that V_0 subspace of $V \Rightarrow$

$$\Rightarrow \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R} : \forall x, y \in V_0 : (x+y \in V_0 \wedge \lambda x \in V_0).$$

Let $\lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}$ and $x, y \in V_0$ be given. Then:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \lambda \in \mathbb{R} \wedge x \in V_0 \Rightarrow \lambda x \in V_0 \\ \mu \in \mathbb{R} \wedge y \in V_0 \Rightarrow \mu y \in V_0 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \lambda x + \mu y \in V_0$$

It follows that

$$\forall \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R} : \forall x, y \in V_0 : \lambda x + \mu y \in V_0.$$

(\Leftarrow): Assume that:

$$\forall \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R} : \forall x, y \in V_0 : (\lambda x + \mu y \in V_0).$$

Let $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ and $x, y \in V_0$ be given. Then:

$$\lambda x + 1y \in V_0 \Rightarrow x+y \in V_0$$

$$\lambda x + 0y \in V_0 \Rightarrow \lambda x \in V_0$$

It follows that

$$\forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R} : \forall x, y \in V_0 : (\lambda x \in V_0 \wedge x+y \in V_0) \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow V_0 \text{ subspace of } V.$$

③ \rightarrow Unit element belongs to every subspace

Thm: Let $(V, +, \cdot)$ be a vector space with $\mathbf{0} \in V$ the unit element of the group $(V, +)$ and let $V_0 \subseteq V$ and $V_0 \neq \emptyset$. Then:

$$\boxed{V_0 \text{ subspace of } V \Rightarrow \mathbf{0} \in V_0}$$

Proof

Assume that V_0 is a subspace of V . Since $V_0 \neq \emptyset$, choose an $x \in V_0$.

Then: $x \in V_0 \Rightarrow 0x \in V_0 \Rightarrow 0 \in V_0$ \square

\hookrightarrow The contrapositive statement is:

$$\boxed{0 \notin V_0 \Rightarrow V_0 \text{ NOT a subspace of } V}$$

Thus showing $0 \notin V_0$ is sufficient to show that V_0 is not a subspace of V .

④ \rightarrow Intersection of subspaces

Thm: Let $(V, +, \cdot)$ be a vector space. Then:

$$\boxed{\begin{cases} V_1 \text{ subspace of } V \\ V_2 \text{ subspace of } V \end{cases} \Rightarrow V_1 \cap V_2 \text{ subspace of } V}$$

Proof

Assume that V_1, V_2 are subspaces of V .

Then: $\begin{cases} \forall \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}: \forall x, y \in V_1: \lambda x + \mu y \in V_1 \\ \forall \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}: \forall x, y \in V_2: \lambda x + \mu y \in V_2 \end{cases}$

Let $\lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}$ and $x, y \in V_1 \cap V_2$ be given. Then:

$$\begin{aligned} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R} \\ x, y \in V_1 \cap V_2 \end{array} \right. &\Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R} \\ x, y \in V_1 \end{array} \right. \wedge \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R} \\ x, y \in V_2 \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow \\ &\Rightarrow \lambda x + \mu y \in V_1 \wedge \lambda x + \mu y \in V_2 \Rightarrow \\ &\Rightarrow \lambda x + \mu y \in V_1 \cap V_2. \end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} &\forall \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R} : \forall x, y \in V_1 \cap V_2 : \lambda x + \mu y \in V_1 \cap V_2 \Rightarrow \\ &\Rightarrow V_1 \cap V_2 \text{ subspace of } V. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

EXAMPLES

a) Let $V = \{(a, b) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid 2a + 3b = 0\}$. Show that V is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^2 .

Solution

Let $\lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}$ and $x, y \in V$ be given.

$$x \in V \Rightarrow \exists a_1, b_1 \in \mathbb{R} : (x = (a_1, b_1) \wedge 2a_1 + 3b_1 = 0)$$

$$y \in V \Rightarrow \exists a_2, b_2 \in \mathbb{R} : (y = (a_2, b_2) \wedge 2a_2 + 3b_2 = 0)$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda x + \mu y &= \lambda(a_1, b_1) + \mu(a_2, b_2) = \\ &= (\lambda a_1, \lambda b_1) + (\mu a_2, \mu b_2) = \\ &= (\lambda a_1 + \mu a_2, \lambda b_1 + \mu b_2) = (c_1, c_2) \Rightarrow \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} c_1 = \lambda a_1 + \mu a_2 \\ c_2 = \lambda b_1 + \mu b_2 \end{cases} \Rightarrow$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow 2c_1 + 3c_2 &= 2(\lambda a_1 + \mu a_2) + 3(\lambda b_1 + \mu b_2) = \\ &= \lambda(2a_1 + 3b_1) + \mu(2a_2 + 3b_2) = \\ &= \lambda \cdot 0 + \mu \cdot 0 = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda x + \mu y = (c_1, c_2) \in V \end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$\forall \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R} : \forall x, y \in V : \lambda x + \mu y \in V \} \Rightarrow V \text{ subspace of } \mathbb{R}^2 \cap \emptyset \neq V \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$$

↳ Note that the belonging condition for V is:
 $x \in V \Leftrightarrow \exists a, b \in \mathbb{R} : (x = (a, b) \wedge 2a + 3b = 0)$.

b) Let $V = \{f \in F(\mathbb{R}) \mid f \text{ continuous in } \mathbb{R}\}$. Show that V is a subspace of $F(\mathbb{R})$.

Solution

Let $\lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}$ and $f, g \in V$ be given. Then
 $f \in V \Rightarrow f$ continuous in $\mathbb{R} \Rightarrow \forall x_0 \in \mathbb{R}: \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} f(x) = f(x_0)$

$g \in V \Rightarrow g$ continuous in $\mathbb{R} \Rightarrow \forall x_0 \in \mathbb{R}: \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} g(x) = g(x_0)$.

It follows that:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} [(\lambda f + \mu g)(x)] = \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} [(\lambda f)(x) + (\mu g)(x)] =$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} [\lambda f(x) + \mu g(x)] = \lambda \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} f(x) + \mu \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} g(x) =$$

$$= \lambda f(x_0) + \mu g(x_0) = (\lambda f)(x_0) + (\mu g)(x_0) =$$

$$= (\lambda f + \mu g)(x_0), \forall x_0 \in \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow$$

$\Rightarrow \lambda f + \mu g$ continuous in $\mathbb{R} \Rightarrow \lambda f + \mu g \in V$.

It follows that:

$$\forall \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}: \forall f, g \in V: \lambda f + \mu g \in V \Rightarrow$$

$\Rightarrow V$ subspace of $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{R}}$ \square .

c) Let $A \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$ be an $n \times n$ matrix and let $V = \{X \in M_n(\mathbb{R}) \mid AX = XA\}$. Show that V is a subspace of $M_n(\mathbb{R})$.

Solution

Let $\lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}$ and $X, Y \in V$ be given. Then:

$$X \in V \Rightarrow AX = XA$$

$$Y \in V \Rightarrow AY = YA.$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} A(\lambda X + \mu Y) &= A(\lambda X) + A(\mu Y) = \lambda(AX) + \mu(A Y) = \\ &= \lambda(XA) + \mu(YA) = (\lambda X)A + (\mu Y)A = \\ &= (\lambda X + \mu Y)A \Rightarrow \lambda X + \mu Y \in V \end{aligned}$$

and therefore:

$$\forall \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R} : \forall X, Y \in V : \lambda X + \mu Y \in V \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow V \text{ subspace of } M_n(\mathbb{R}).$$

d) Show that $V = \{f \in F(\mathbb{R}) \mid f \text{ even}\}$ is a subspace of $F(\mathbb{R})$. Recall that we define on $F(\mathbb{R})$:

$$f \text{ even} \Leftrightarrow \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: f(-x) = f(x)$$

Solution

Let $\lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}$ and $f, g \in V$ be given.

$$f, g \in V \Rightarrow \begin{cases} f \text{ even} \\ g \text{ even} \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: f(-x) = f(x) \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: g(-x) = g(x) \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

Let $x \in \mathbb{R}$ be given. Then

$$\begin{aligned} (\lambda f + \mu g)(-x) &= (\lambda f)(-x) + (\mu g)(-x) = \\ &= \lambda f(-x) + \mu g(-x) = \lambda f(x) + \mu g(x) = \\ &= (\lambda f)(x) + (\mu g)(x) = (\lambda f + \mu g)(x) \end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: (\lambda f + \mu g)(-x) &= (\lambda f + \mu g)(x) \Rightarrow \\ \Rightarrow \lambda f + \mu g \text{ even} &\Rightarrow \lambda f + \mu g \in V \end{aligned}$$

Consequently:

$$\begin{aligned} \forall \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}: \forall f, g \in V: \lambda f + \mu g &\in V \Rightarrow \\ \Rightarrow V \text{ subspace of } F(\mathbb{R}). \end{aligned}$$

EXERCISES

- (19) Show that $V = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid 3x + 7y = 0\}$ is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^2 .
- (20) Show that
 $V = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid x + 2y + 2z = 0 \wedge x - y - 3z = 0\}$
is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 .
- (21) Show that $V = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid 4x + y = 2\}$ is NOT a subspace of \mathbb{R}^2 .
- (22) Show that $V = \{f \in F(\mathbb{R}) \mid f \text{ odd}\}$ is a subspace of $F(\mathbb{R})$.
Recall that: $f \text{ odd} \Leftrightarrow \forall x \in \mathbb{R} : f(-x) = -f(x)$.
- (23) Show that $V = \{f \in F(\mathbb{R}) \mid f \text{ periodic}\}$ is a subspace of $F(\mathbb{R})$. Recall that
 $f \text{ periodic} \Leftrightarrow \exists T > 0 : \forall x \in \mathbb{R} : f(x+T) = f(x)$
- (24) Show that
 $V = \{f \in F(\mathbb{R}) \mid \forall a, b \in \mathbb{R} : |f(a) - f(b)| \leq k|a - b|\}$
is a subspace of $F(\mathbb{R})$, with $k \in (0, +\infty)$.
[Hint: Use the following properties of absolute values:
 $\forall a, b \in \mathbb{R} : |a+b| \leq |a| + |b|$
 $\forall a, b \in \mathbb{R} : |ab| = |a||b|$]
- (25) Show that
 $V = \{f \in F(\mathbb{R}) \mid f \text{ differentiable in } \mathbb{R} \wedge f' + 3f = 0\}$
is a subspace of $F(\mathbb{R})$.

(26) Let $A, B \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$ be two $n \times n$ matrices and let $V = \{X \in M_n(\mathbb{R}) \mid AX + XB = \mathbf{0}\}$.

Show that V is a subspace of $M_n(\mathbb{R})$.

(27) Let $A \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$ be a non-singular $n \times n$ matrix and let $V = \{X \in M_n(\mathbb{R}) \mid AXA^{-1} = I\}$

Show that V is NOT a subspace of $M_n(\mathbb{R})$.

(28) Let V be a vector space and let A, B be subspaces of V . We define

$$A+B = \{x+y \mid x \in A \wedge y \in B\}$$

Show that $A+B$ is a subspace of V .

▼ Subspaces spanned by vectors

Let $(V, +, \cdot)$ be a vector space and let $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in V$ be n vectors of V .

Def: The set V_0 spanned by $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ is defined as:

$$V_0 = \text{span}\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\} = \left\{ \sum_{a=1}^n \lambda_a x_a \mid \forall a \in [n] : \lambda_a \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

• We note that the belonging condition for V_0 reads:

$$x \in \text{span}\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\} \Leftrightarrow \exists \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n \in \mathbb{R} : x = \sum_{a=1}^n \lambda_a x_a$$

• We will now show that V_0 is a subspace of V .

Thm: $A = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\} \subseteq V \} \Rightarrow \text{span}(A)$ subspace
 $(V, +, \cdot)$ vector space of V .

Proof

Let $\lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}$ and $x, y \in \text{span}(A)$ be given.

It follows that:

$$x \in \text{span}(A) \Rightarrow \exists p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n \in \mathbb{R}: x = \sum_{a=1}^n p_a x_a$$

$$y \in \text{span}(A) \Rightarrow \exists q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n \in \mathbb{R}: y = \sum_{a=1}^n q_a x_a$$

and therefore:

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda x + \mu y &= \lambda \sum_{a=1}^n p_a x_a + \mu \sum_{a=1}^n q_a x_a = \\ &= \sum_{a=1}^n (\lambda p_a + \mu q_a) x_a \Rightarrow \lambda x + \mu y \in \text{span}(A). \end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$\forall \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}: \forall x, y \in \text{span}(A): \lambda x + \mu y \in \text{span}(A) \Rightarrow \\ \Rightarrow \text{span}(A) \text{ subspace of } V. \quad \square$$

→ Basic properties of spanned spaces

Let $A \subseteq V$ and $B \subseteq V$ with A, B finite sets. Then

$$\begin{array}{l} \blacktriangleright A \subseteq \text{span}(A) \\ A \subseteq B \Rightarrow \text{span}(A) \subseteq \text{span}(B) \end{array}$$

Proof

a) To show $A \subseteq \text{span}(A)$.

Let $A = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$. Let $u \in A$ be given.

Then $u \in A \Rightarrow \exists a \in [n]: u = x_a$

$$\text{Define } \delta_{ab} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } a=b \\ 0, & \text{if } a \neq b \end{cases}$$

Then $u = xa = \lambda_1 x_1 + \lambda_2 x_2 + \dots + \lambda_n x_n \Rightarrow u \in \text{span}(A)$.

It follows that $\forall u \in A : u \in \text{span}(A) \Rightarrow A \subseteq \text{span}(A)$.

b) To show $A \subseteq B \Rightarrow \text{span}(A) \subseteq \text{span}(B)$

For $A=B$, the statement is trivial, so we assume with no loss of generality that $A \neq B$ and write

$A = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p\}$ and $B = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ with $p < n$.

Let $u \in \text{span}(A)$ be given. Since

$u \in \text{span}(A) \Rightarrow \exists \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_p \in \mathbb{R} : u = \lambda_1 x_1 + \dots + \lambda_p x_p$

Therefore,

$$u = \lambda_1 x_1 + \lambda_2 x_2 + \dots + \lambda_p x_p =$$

$$= \lambda_1 x_1 + \lambda_2 x_2 + \dots + \lambda_p x_p + 0 x_{p+1} + \dots + 0 x_n \Rightarrow$$

$\Rightarrow u \in \text{span}(B)$.

It follows that

$\forall u \in \text{span}(A) : u \in \text{span}(B) \Rightarrow \text{span}(A) \subseteq \text{span}(B)$

EXAMPLES

a) Define the vector space spanned by the vectors $x_1 = (1, 3, 0)$ and $x_2 = (0, 2, -1)$.

Solution

We note that

$$\begin{aligned} ax_1 + bx_2 &= a(1, 3, 0) + b(0, 2, -1) = \\ &= (a, 3a, 0) + (0, 2b, -b) \\ &= (a, 3a + 2b, -b) \end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} V = \text{span} \{x_1, x_2\} &= \{ax_1 + bx_2 \mid a, b \in \mathbb{R}\} = \\ &= \{(a, 3a + 2b, -b) \mid a, b \in \mathbb{R}\}. \end{aligned}$$

b) Show that $V = \{(a+b, 2b, b-3a) \mid a, b \in \mathbb{R}\}$ is a vector space.

Solution

We note that

$$\begin{aligned} (a+b, 2b, b-3a) &= (a, 0, -3a) + (b, 2b, b) = \\ &= a(1, 0, -3) + b(1, 2, 1) \\ &= ax + by \end{aligned}$$

with $x = (1, 0, -3)$ and $y = (1, 2, 1)$. It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} V &= \{(a+b, 2b, b-3a) \mid a, b \in \mathbb{R}\} = \{ax + by \mid a, b \in \mathbb{R}\} \\ &= \text{span} \{x, y\} \Rightarrow V \text{ subspace of } \mathbb{R}^3 \Rightarrow \\ &\Rightarrow (V, +, \cdot) \text{ is a vector space.} \end{aligned}$$

c) Define by description the vector subspace of $F(\mathbb{R})$ spanned by the functions:

$$f(x) = \sin x, \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$g(x) = \cos x, \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Solution

Let $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ and note that

$$\begin{aligned} (af + bg)(x) &= (af)(x) + (bg)(x) = af(x) + bg(x) = \\ &= a \sin x + b \cos x, \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R} \end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$V = \text{span} \{f, g\} = \{af + bg \mid a, b \in \mathbb{R}\} =$$

$$= \{h \in F(\mathbb{R}) \mid \exists a, b \in \mathbb{R} : h = af + bg\}$$

$$= \{h \in F(\mathbb{R}) \mid \exists a, b \in \mathbb{R} : \forall x \in \mathbb{R} : h(x) = (af + bg)(x)\}$$

$$= \{h \in F(\mathbb{R}) \mid \exists a, b \in \mathbb{R} : \forall x \in \mathbb{R} : h(x) = a \sin x + b \cos x\}.$$

d) Show that the space defined as

$$V = \{f \in F(\mathbb{R}) \mid \exists a, b \in \mathbb{R} : \forall x \in \mathbb{R} : f(x) = (ax + b) \sin x + (ax^2 + bx + b) \cos x\}$$

is a subspace of $F(\mathbb{R})$

Solution

$$f \in V \Leftrightarrow \exists a, b \in \mathbb{R} : \forall x \in \mathbb{R} :$$

$$: f(x) = (ax + b) \sin x + (ax^2 + bx + b) \cos x =$$

$$= ax \sin x + b \sin x + ax^2 \cos x + b(x+1) \cos x$$

$$= a(x \sin x + x^2 \cos x) + b(\sin x + (x+1) \cos x)$$

$$= a g_1(x) + b g_2(x) = (a g_1)(x) + (b g_2)(x) =$$

$$= (a g_1 + b g_2)(x)$$

with $g_1, g_2 \in V$ defined as

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{R}: g_1(x) = x \sin x + x^2 \cos x$$

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{R}: g_2(x) = \sin x + (x+1) \cos x$$

It follows that:

$$f \in V \Leftrightarrow \exists a, b \in \mathbb{R}: \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: f(x) = (ag_1 + bg_2)(x) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \exists a, b \in \mathbb{R}: f = ag_1 + bg_2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow f \in \text{span}\{g_1, g_2\}$$

and therefore

$$V = \text{span}\{g_1, g_2\} \Rightarrow V \text{ subspace of } F(\mathbb{R}).$$

e) Consider the space

$$V = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & 2c & c \\ 2b+c & b & -2b \\ a+3c & 2a+b & 3a \end{bmatrix} \mid a, b, c \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

Show that V is a subspace of $M_3(\mathbb{R})$.

Solution

We note that

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & 2c & c \\ 2b+c & b & -2b \\ a+3c & 2a+b & 3a \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ a & 2a & 3a \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 2b & b & -2b \\ 0 & b & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2c & c \\ c & 0 & 0 \\ 3c & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= a \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} + b \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + c \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} =$$

$$= aA_1 + bA_2 + cA_3$$

and it follows that

$$V = \{ aA_1 + bA_2 + cA_3 \mid a, b, c \in \mathbb{R} \} =$$

$$= \text{span} \{ A_1, A_2, A_3 \} \Rightarrow V \text{ subspace of } M_3(\mathbb{R}).$$

EXERCISES

29) Define the vector space spanned by:

a) $x_1 = (2, 1, 3)$ and $x_2 = (1, 3, 5)$

b) $x_1 = (1, -1, 3, 2)$ and $x_2 = (2, -2, 5, 3)$

c) $x_1 = (0, 3, 2, 5)$, $x_2 = (1, -3, -4, 2)$, and $x_3 = (-2, 1, 3, -1)$

30) Show that the following sets are vector spaces that are subspaces of \mathbb{R}^n for some n .

a) $V = \{(a+3b, b, 2a) \mid a, b \in \mathbb{R}\}$

b) $V = \{(a-2b+c, 3b, c+2a, b-c) \mid a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}\}$

c) $V = \{(2a-b, b+a, 4b) \mid a, b \in \mathbb{R}\}$.

31) Define by description the vector spaces of $F(\mathbb{R})$ spanned by

a) $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: f(x) = e^x \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: g(x) = e^{-x} \end{array} \right.$

b) $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: f(x) = 2x \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: g(x) = x^2 - 1 \end{array} \right.$

c) $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: f(x) = xe^x \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: g(x) = (x+1)^2 e^x \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: h(x) = (x-1)^2 e^x \end{array} \right.$

32) Show that the following sets are vector spaces that are subspaces of $F(\mathbb{R})$.

a) $V = \{f \in F(\mathbb{R}) \mid \exists a, b \in \mathbb{R}: \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: f(x) = x^2(ax+b)\}$

b) $V = \{f \in F(\mathbb{R}) \mid \exists a, b \in \mathbb{R}: \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: f(x) = e^{-x}(a \sin x + b \cos x)\}$

c) $V = \{f \in F(\mathbb{R}) \mid \exists a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}: \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: f(x) = xe^x(ax^2+bx+c)\}$

33) Show that the following sets are vector spaces that are subspaces of $M_n(\mathbb{R})$ for some n .

$$a) V = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a+b & 3b \\ 2b & a-b \end{bmatrix} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

$$b) V = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a+c & 2a+b \\ 2a-b & a-c \end{bmatrix} \mid a, b, c \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

$$c) V = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a+2c & 2a-b & 3c \\ b+c & a+c & 2a+c \\ 3c & 2b-c & a+b \end{bmatrix} \mid a, b, c \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

▼ Linear Independence

Let $(V, +, \cdot)$ be a vector space and let $A = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\} \subseteq V$ be a set of vectors in V .

Def: A linearly dependent $\Leftrightarrow \exists x \in A : x \in \text{span}(A - \{x\})$
 A linearly independent $\Leftrightarrow A$ NOT linearly dependent

- It follows that A is linearly dependent if at least one vector $x \in A$ belongs to the subspace $\text{span}(A - \{x\})$ generated by all vectors in A except for x .
- By negating the definition of linear dependence, we can rewrite the definition of linear independence as follows:

A linearly independent $\Leftrightarrow \forall x \in A : x \notin \text{span}(A - \{x\})$

↪ Characterization of linear independence/dependence

Thm: A linearly dependent \Leftrightarrow
 $\Leftrightarrow \exists (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n : \begin{cases} (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) \neq \mathbf{0} \\ \lambda_1 x_1 + \lambda_2 x_2 + \dots + \lambda_n x_n = \mathbf{0} \end{cases}$

Proof

(\Rightarrow): Assume that A is linearly dependent.

Since A linearly dependent \Rightarrow

$$\Rightarrow \exists x \in A : x \in \text{span}(A - \{x\}).$$

Without loss of generality assume a reordering of the elements of A such that:

$$x_n \in \text{span}(A - \{x_n\}) \Rightarrow x_n \in \text{span}\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}\}$$

$$\Rightarrow \exists \mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_{n-1} \in \mathbb{R} : x_n = \mu_1 x_1 + \mu_2 x_2 + \dots + \mu_{n-1} x_{n-1}$$

It follows that:

$$x_n = \mu_1 x_1 + \mu_2 x_2 + \dots + \mu_{n-1} x_{n-1} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu_1 x_1 + \mu_2 x_2 + \dots + \mu_{n-1} x_{n-1} - x_n = 0$$

For $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) = (\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_{n-1}, -1)$ we have

$$\begin{cases} (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) \neq \mathbf{0} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \lambda_1 x_1 + \lambda_2 x_2 + \dots + \lambda_n x_n = \mathbf{0} \end{cases}$$

This concludes the argument.

(\Leftarrow): Assume that:

$$\exists (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n : \begin{cases} (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) \neq \mathbf{0} \\ \lambda_1 x_1 + \lambda_2 x_2 + \dots + \lambda_n x_n = \mathbf{0} \end{cases}$$

Note that

$$(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) \neq \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow \lambda_1 \neq 0 \vee \lambda_2 \neq 0 \vee \dots \vee \lambda_n \neq 0.$$

Assume without loss of generality that $\lambda_1 \neq 0$.

It follows that:

$$\begin{aligned}
\lambda_1 x_1 + \lambda_2 x_2 + \dots + \lambda_n x_n &= \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow \\
\Rightarrow \lambda_1 x_1 &= -\lambda_2 x_2 - \dots - \lambda_n x_n \Rightarrow \\
\Rightarrow x_1 &= \frac{-\lambda_2}{\lambda_1} x_2 + \frac{-\lambda_3}{\lambda_1} x_3 + \dots + \frac{-\lambda_n}{\lambda_1} x_n \Rightarrow \\
\Rightarrow x_1 &\in \text{span} \{x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n\} \Rightarrow \\
\Rightarrow x_1 &\in \text{span}(A - \{x_1\}) \Rightarrow A \text{ linearly dependent. } \square
\end{aligned}$$

↕ The negation of the previous theorem gives the following equivalent statement.

$$\boxed{A \text{ linearly independent} \Leftrightarrow \forall (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n : (\lambda_1 x_1 + \dots + \lambda_n x_n = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow \lambda_1 = \dots = \lambda_n = 0)}$$

- Note that for $A = \{u\}$ with $u \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $u \neq \mathbf{0}$, A is linearly independent because $\lambda u = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow \lambda = 0 \forall u = \mathbf{0} \Big\} \Rightarrow \lambda = 0$.
 $u \neq \mathbf{0}$
- For $A = \{\mathbf{0}\}$, A is linearly dependent because $1 \cdot \mathbf{0} = \mathbf{0}$ and $1 \neq 0$.

↕ Properties of linear dependence/independence

$$\textcircled{1} \rightarrow \boxed{B \subset A \wedge B \text{ linearly dependent} \Rightarrow A \text{ linearly dependent}}$$

Proof

Let $A = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ and $B = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p\}$
with $p < n$ (since $B \subset A$).

Assume that B is linearly dependent.

Since: B linearly dependent \Rightarrow

$$\rightarrow \exists (\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_p) \in \mathbb{R}^p : \begin{cases} (\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_p) \neq \mathbf{0} & (1) \\ \mu_1 x_1 + \mu_2 x_2 + \dots + \mu_p x_p = \mathbf{0} & (2) \end{cases}$$

Define $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) = (\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_p, 0, \dots, 0)$

From (1): $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) \neq \mathbf{0}$. (3)

Furthermore:

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_1 x_1 + \lambda_2 x_2 + \dots + \lambda_n x_n &= \mu_1 x_1 + \dots + \mu_p x_p + 0 x_{p+1} + \dots + 0 x_n \\ &= \mu_1 x_1 + \mu_2 x_2 + \dots + \mu_p x_p = \mathbf{0} \quad (4) \end{aligned}$$

From (3) and (4):

$A = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ is linearly dependent. \square

$$\textcircled{2} \rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} B \subset A \\ A \text{ linearly independent} \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow B \text{ linearly independent}$$

Proof

Assume that A linearly independent and $B \subset A$.

To show that B linearly independent, assume that B is NOT linearly independent.

Since: B NOT linearly independent \Rightarrow

$$\Rightarrow \left. \begin{array}{l} B \text{ linearly dependent} \\ B \subset A \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow$$

$\Rightarrow A$ linearly dependent \leftarrow Contradiction with hypothesis.

It follows that B linearly independent. \square

③ \rightarrow
 \downarrow

A linearly independent } $\Rightarrow u \in \text{span}(A)$.
 $A \cup \{u\}$ linearly dependent }

Proof

Let $A = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$.

Assume that A is linearly independent and $A \cup \{u\}$ linearly dependent.

Since: $A \cup \{u\}$ linearly dependent \Rightarrow

$$\Rightarrow \exists (\lambda_0, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} : \begin{cases} (\lambda_0, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n) \neq \mathbf{0} & (1) \\ \lambda_0 u + \lambda_1 x_1 + \dots + \lambda_n x_n = \mathbf{0} & (2) \end{cases}$$

We claim that $\lambda_0 \neq 0$.

To show that $\lambda_0 \neq 0$, assume that $\lambda_0 = 0$.

From (2):

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \lambda_1 x_1 + \lambda_2 x_2 + \dots + \lambda_n x_n &= \mathbf{0} \\ A = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\} &\text{ linearly independent} \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = \dots = \lambda_n = 0 \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n) = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow (\lambda_0, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n) = \mathbf{0} \leftarrow \text{Contra-} \\ \text{diction.}$$

It follows that $\lambda_0 \neq 0$, and therefore from (2):

$$\lambda_0 u = -\lambda_1 x_1 - \lambda_2 x_2 - \dots - \lambda_n x_n \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow u = -(\lambda_1/\lambda_0)x_1 - (\lambda_2/\lambda_0)x_2 - \dots - (\lambda_n/\lambda_0)x_n$$

$$\Rightarrow u \in \text{span} \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow u \in \text{span}(A). \quad \square$$

EXAMPLES

a) Let $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^3$ with $x = (3, 1, 2)$ and $y = (1, 0, 3)$.
Show that x, y are linearly independent.

Solution

Let $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ be given and assume that $ax + by = \mathbf{0}$.

We note that:

$$ax + by = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow a(3, 1, 2) + b(1, 0, 3) = (0, 0, 0) \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} 3a + b = 0 \\ a + 2b = 0 \\ 2a + 3b = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} 3(-2b) + b = 0 \\ a = -2b \\ 2(-2b) + 3b = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} -6b + b = 0 \\ a = -2b \\ -4b + 3b = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} -5b = 0 \\ a = -2b \\ -b = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} a = -2b \\ b = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} a = 0 \\ b = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \underline{a = b = 0}.$$

It follows that

$$\forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}: (ax + by = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow a = b = 0) \Rightarrow$$

$\Rightarrow x, y$ linearly independent.

↳ Note that the steps taken to solve $ax + by = \mathbf{0}$ are valid in both directions:

$$ax + by = \mathbf{0} \Leftrightarrow \dots \Leftrightarrow \dots \Leftrightarrow a = b = 0$$

however the definition of linear independence only requires the " \Rightarrow " direction.

b) Let $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}^3$ with $x = (1, 2, 2)$, $y = (3, 1, 4)$, and $z = (-1, 3, 0)$. Show that x, y, z is linearly dependent.

Solution

Let $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$. Note that

$$ax + by + cz = \mathbf{0} \Leftrightarrow a(1, 2, 2) + b(3, 1, 4) + c(-1, 3, 0) = (0, 0, 0)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} a + 3b - c = 0 \\ 2a + b + 3c = 0 \\ 2a + 4b = 0 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} (-2b) + 3b - c = 0 \\ 2(-2b) + b + 3c = 0 \\ a = -2b \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} b - c = 0 \\ -4b + b + 3c = 0 \\ a = -2b \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} b - c = 0 \\ -3b + 3c = 0 \\ a = -2b \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} b - c = 0 \\ a = -2b \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} c = b \\ a = -2b \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow (a, b, c) = (-2b, b, b) = b(-2, 1, 1)$$

Thus: For $(a, b, c) = (-2, 1, 1) \Rightarrow$

$$\Rightarrow -2x + y + z = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow x, y, z \text{ linearly dependent.}$$

\hookrightarrow Note that in solving $ax + by + cz = \mathbf{0}$ we only need the " \Leftarrow " direction so we can claim that: $(a, b, c) = (-2, 1, 1) \Rightarrow ax + by + cz = \mathbf{0}$. Contrast this remark with the previous example.

c) Let $f, g \in F(\mathbb{R})$ with $f(x) = \sin x, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$ and $g(x) = \cos x, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$. Show that f, g are linearly independent.

Solution

Let $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ be given such that $af + bg = \mathbf{0}$.

We note that

$$\begin{aligned} af + bg = \mathbf{0} &\Rightarrow \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: af(x) + bg(x) = 0 \Rightarrow \\ &\Rightarrow \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: a \sin x + b \cos x = 0. \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

From (1), for $x = 0$:

$$a \sin 0 + b \cos 0 = 0 \Rightarrow a \cdot 0 + b \cdot 1 = 0 \Rightarrow \underline{b = 0}$$

From (1), for $x = \pi/2$:

$$a \sin(\pi/2) + b \cos(\pi/2) = 0 \Rightarrow a \cdot 1 + b \cdot 0 = 0 \Rightarrow \underline{a = 0}$$

It follows that

$$\forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}: (af + bg = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow a = b = 0) \Rightarrow$$

$\Rightarrow f, g$ linearly independent. \square

d) Let $f, g \in F(\mathbb{R})$ with $f(x) = 2x, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$ and $g(x) = x^2, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$. Show that f, g linearly independent.

Solution

Let $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ be given such that $af + bg = \mathbf{0}$.

We note that:

$$\underline{af+bg=0} \Rightarrow \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: af(x)+bg(x)=0 \Rightarrow \\ \Rightarrow \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: a(2x)+bx^2=0. \quad (1).$$

From (1), for $x=1$: $2a+b=0$ (2)

From (1), for $x=2$: $4a+4b=0$ (3)

From (2) and (3):

$$\begin{cases} 2a+b=0 \\ 4a+4b=0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} 2a+b=0 \\ a+b=0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} a+(a+b)=0 \\ a+b=0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} a=0 \\ a+b=0 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} a=0 \\ 0+b=0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} a=0 \\ b=0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \underline{a=b=0}.$$

It follows that

$$\forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}: (af+bg=0 \Rightarrow a=b=0) \Rightarrow \\ \Rightarrow f, g \text{ linearly independent.}$$

e) Let $f, g, h \in F(\mathbb{R})$ with $f(x) = \cos x$, $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$,
 $g(x) = \cos x \cos 2x$, $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$, and $h(x) = \sin x \sin 2x$, $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$.
 Show that f, g, h are linearly dependent.

Solution

We note that

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \cos x = \cos(2x-x) = \cos 2x \cos x + \sin 2x \sin x = \\ &= g(x) + h(x), \forall x \in \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow f = g + h \Rightarrow f \in \text{span}\{g, h\} \\ &\Rightarrow f, g, h \text{ linearly dependent.} \end{aligned}$$

EXERCISES

(34) Let $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^3$ with $x = (1, 2, 1)$ and $y = (3, -1, 1)$. Show that x, y are linearly independent.

(35) Let $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}^4$ with $x = (2, 1, 1, 3)$, $y = (-1, 2, 1, -1)$, and $z = (0, 5, 3, 1)$. Show that x, y, z are linearly dependent.

(36) Let $f, g, h \in F(\mathbb{R})$ be 3 functions that belong to ~~$F(\mathbb{R})$~~ the vector space $F(\mathbb{R})$. Show that given the following definitions, f, g, h are linearly independent.

$$\text{a) } \begin{cases} \forall x \in \mathbb{R} : f(x) = 3x \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R} : g(x) = x+2 \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R} : h(x) = (x-1)^2 \end{cases} \quad \text{b) } \begin{cases} \forall x \in \mathbb{R} : f(x) = \sin x \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R} : g(x) = \cos x \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R} : h(x) = x \end{cases}$$

$$\text{c) } \begin{cases} \forall x \in \mathbb{R} : f(x) = 1-x \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R} : g(x) = 1+x \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R} : h(x) = 1-x^2 \end{cases}$$

(37) Let $f, g, h \in F(\mathbb{R})$ be 3 functions that belong to the vector space $F(\mathbb{R})$. Show that given the following definitions, f, g, h are linearly dependent.

$$\text{a) } \begin{cases} \forall x \in \mathbb{R} : f(x) = x-1 \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R} : g(x) = x^3-1 \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R} : h(x) = x-x^3 \end{cases} \quad \text{b) } \begin{cases} \forall x \in \mathbb{R} : f(x) = \sin^2 x \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R} : g(x) = \cos 2x \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R} : h(x) = 2 - \cos 2x \end{cases}$$

$$\text{c) } \begin{cases} \forall x \in \mathbb{R} : f(x) = \cos 2x \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R} : g(x) = \cos^2 x \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R} : h(x) = \sin^2 x \end{cases} \quad (\text{Hint: Use your trigonometric identities from precalculus})$$

(38) Let $f, g, h \in F(\mathbb{R})$ with

$$\begin{cases} \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: f(x) = 1 \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: g(x) = e^x \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: h(x) = e^{2x} \end{cases}$$

Show that f, g, h are linearly independent.

(Hint: Starting with $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}: a + be^x + ce^{2x} = 0$

we can obtain additional equations by differentiating twice with respect to x . Then set $x=0$ to obtain a 3×3 system of equations for a, b, c).

(39) Let $f, g, h \in F(\mathbb{R})$ with

$$\begin{cases} \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: f(x) = 1 \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: g(x) = e^x \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: h(x) = xe^x \end{cases}$$

Show that f, g, h are linearly independent.

(40) Let $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n \in F(\mathbb{R})$ with

$$\forall k \in [n]: \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: f_k(x) = \sin(kx)$$

with $[n] = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$.

a) For any $k, m \in [n]$, evaluate the integral

$$I_{km} = \int_{-n}^n f_k(x) f_m(x) dx.$$

(Hint: Distinguish between the cases $k=m$ and $k \neq m$ and use the identity

$$2\sin a \sin b = \cos(a-b) - \cos(a+b)$$

to do the integral).

b) Use (a) to show that f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n are linearly independent.

(41) Let $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in (0, 2\pi)$ with $\alpha \neq \beta \neq \gamma \neq \alpha$. Show that

a) $\sin(x+\alpha)\sin(\gamma-\beta) + \sin(x+\beta)\sin(\alpha-\gamma) + \sin(x+\gamma)\sin(\beta-\alpha) = 0$

b) Let $f, g, h \in F(\mathbb{R})$ with

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \forall x \in \mathbb{R} : f(x) = \sin(x+\alpha) \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R} : g(x) = \sin(x+\beta) \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R} : h(x) = \sin(x+\gamma) \end{array} \right.$$

Show that f, g, h are linearly dependent.

(42) Let $x, y, z \in V$ with V a vector space. Show that

a) x, y, z linearly independent $\Rightarrow x+y, y+z, z+x$ linearly independent.

b) x, y, z linearly independent

$\Rightarrow x+y, y-x, y+z-2x$ linearly independent.

→ Linear Independence in \mathbb{R}^n

In the previous examples we have used the following characterizations directly to establish linear independence and linear dependence:

• For $A = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\} \subset V$

a) A linearly dependent \Leftrightarrow

$$\exists (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n : \begin{cases} (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) \neq \mathbf{0} \\ \lambda_1 x_1 + \lambda_2 x_2 + \dots + \lambda_n x_n = \mathbf{0} \end{cases}$$

b) A linearly independent \Leftrightarrow

$$\forall (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n : (\lambda_1 x_1 + \lambda_2 x_2 + \dots + \lambda_n x_n = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) = \mathbf{0})$$

For the special case of the vector space $V = \mathbb{R}^n$, linear dependence and independence can be determined via the following specialized theory:

Def: Let $A = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ be a set of k n -dimensional vectors. We define a corresponding matrix

$$M = \text{Mat}(A) = [x_1 \ x_2 \ \dots \ x_k] \in M_{n \times k}(\mathbb{R})$$

as an $n \times k$ matrix where for $a \in \mathbb{N}$ with $1 \leq a \leq k$, the a^{th} column of M consists of the components of the vector x_a .

In other words: $M_{ab} = (x_a)_b$

Def: Let $M \in M_{n \times k}(\mathbb{R})$ be an $n \times k$ matrix with $k \leq n$ (i.e. more rows than columns). We define the set $\text{Sub}(M)$ of submatrices of M as the set of all matrices $S \in M_{k \times k}(\mathbb{R})$ obtained from M by deleting any arbitrary selection of $n-k$ rows.

↳ For a square matrix $M \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$, no rows can be deleted therefore $\text{Sub}(M) = \{M\}$.

EXAMPLE

For $x_1 = (2, 5, 3, 1)$ and $x_2 = (3, 1, 4, 7)$ it follows that

$$M = \text{Mat}(\{x_1, x_2\}) = [x_1 \ x_2] = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 5 & 1 \\ 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 7 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ and}$$

$$\text{Sub}(M) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 5 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 7 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 1 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 1 \\ 1 & 7 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \quad \square$$

Thm: Let $A = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ with $k \leq n$. Then

A linearly independent $\Leftrightarrow \exists M \in \text{Sub}(\text{Mat}(A)) : \det(M) \neq 0$
 A linearly dependent $\Leftrightarrow \forall M \in \text{Sub}(\text{Mat}(A)) : \det(M) = 0$

↕ → For the case $k=n$, the above theorem reduces to the following simpler statement:

Corollary: Let $A = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$. Then

$\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ linearly independent $\Leftrightarrow \det([x_1 \dots x_n]) \neq 0$
$\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ linearly dependent $\Leftrightarrow \det([x_1 \dots x_n]) = 0$

EXAMPLES

a) Show that the vectors $x_1 = (1, 0, 2)$, $x_2 = (1, 1, 2)$, and $x_3 = (2, 2, 2)$ are linearly dependent.

Solution

$$\det([x_1 \ x_2 \ x_3]) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 \end{vmatrix} \begin{array}{l} (-1) \\ \leftarrow \\ \leftarrow \end{array} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{vmatrix} =$$

$$= (+1) \cdot 2 \cdot \begin{vmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = (+1) \cdot 2 \cdot ((-1) \cdot 1 - 0 \cdot 1) =$$

$$= 2(-1-0) = -2 \neq 0 \Rightarrow \{x_1, x_2, x_3\} \text{ linearly dependent.}$$

b) Show that $x_1 = (1, 2, 1)$ and $x_2 = (2, -1, 1)$ are linearly independent.

Solution

$$\text{Let } B = [x_1 \ x_2] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Sub}(B) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$$\text{Since } \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = 1(-1) - 2 \cdot 2 = -1 - 4 = -5 \neq 0 \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \exists M \in \text{Sub}(B) : \det(M) \neq 0 \Rightarrow \{x_1, x_2\} \text{ linearly independent.}$$

c) Show that $x_1 = (1, 2, 0, 1)$, $x_2 = (2, 1, 3, 2)$, and $x_3 = (2, 2, 2, 2)$ are linearly dependent

Solution

$$\text{Let } B = [x_1, x_2, x_3] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Sub}(B) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\} = \{B_1, B_2, B_3, B_4\}$$

We note that

$$\det(B_1) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 & (-1) \\ 2 & 1 & 2 & \leftarrow \\ 0 & 3 & 2 & \leftarrow \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \end{vmatrix} =$$

$$= (+1) \cdot 2 \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = (+1) \cdot 2 \cdot [1 \cdot 1 - (-1)(-1)] =$$

$$= 2(1-1) = 0$$

$$\det(B_2) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 \end{vmatrix} \leftarrow = 0, \quad \det(B_3) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 \end{vmatrix} \leftarrow = 0,$$

$$\det(B_u) = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 \end{vmatrix} \begin{matrix} \leftarrow \\ \leftarrow \\ \leftarrow \end{matrix} = - \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & 2 \end{vmatrix} \begin{matrix} \leftarrow \\ \leftarrow \\ \leftarrow \end{matrix} = + \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & 2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \det(B_i) = 0$$

and therefore

$$\forall M \in \text{Sub}(B) : \det(M) = 0 \Rightarrow$$

$\Rightarrow \{x_1, x_2, x_3\}$ linearly dependent.

d) Let $x = (1, 2, 1)$, $y = (1, 1, 0)$, $z = (a, 2a+3, 2)$. Find all $a \in \mathbb{R}$ such that x, y, z are linearly dependent.

Solution

$$\det([x \ y \ z]) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & a \\ 2 & 1 & 2a+3 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 \end{vmatrix} \xrightarrow{(-1)} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & a \\ 1 & 0 & a+3 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 \end{vmatrix} =$$
$$= (-1) \cdot 1 \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 1 & a+3 \\ 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = -(1 \cdot 2 - 1 \cdot (a+3)) = -2 + (a+3) =$$
$$= a+1.$$

It follows that

$$x, y, z \text{ linearly dependent} \Leftrightarrow \det([x \ y \ z]) = 0$$
$$\Leftrightarrow a+1 = 0 \Leftrightarrow a = -1$$

Thus:

$$x, y, z \text{ linearly dependent} \Leftrightarrow a = -1.$$

e) Let $x = (3, 9, 1)$ and $y = (a, 2a-1, 1-3a)$. Find all $a \in \mathbb{R}$ such that x, y linearly independent.

Solution

$$\text{Let } M = [x \ y] = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & a \\ 9 & 2a-1 \\ 1 & 1-3a \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Sub}(M) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 9 & 2a-1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 & a \\ 1 & 1-3a \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 9 & 2a-1 \\ 1 & 1-3a \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$
$$= \{M_1, M_2, M_3\}$$

and note that

$$\det M_1 = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 9 & 2a-1 \end{vmatrix} = 3(2a-1) = 6a-3$$

$$\det M_2 = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & a \\ 1 & 1-3a \end{vmatrix} = 3(1-3a) - 1 \cdot a = 3 - 9a - a = 3 - 10a$$

$$\det M_3 = \begin{vmatrix} 9 & 2a-1 \\ 1 & 1-3a \end{vmatrix} = 9(1-3a) - (2a-1) = 9 - 27a - 2a + 1 =$$
$$= -29a + 10$$

It follows that:

$$x, y \text{ linearly independent} \Leftrightarrow \forall A \in \text{Sub}(M) : \det A \neq 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \det M_1 \neq 0 \wedge \det M_2 \neq 0 \wedge \det M_3 \neq 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 6a-3 \neq 0 \wedge 3-10a \neq 0 \wedge -29a+10 \neq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow a \neq 1/2 \wedge a \neq 3/10 \wedge a \neq 10/29$$

$$\Leftrightarrow a \in \mathbb{R} - \{1/2, 3/10, 10/29\}.$$

EXERCISES

(43) Show that the following vectors are linearly independent

a) $x = (1, 2)$ and $y = (-1, 1)$

b) $x = (3, 1, 1)$ and $y = (0, 4, 5)$

c) $x = (2, 1, 0, 3)$, $y = (1, 3, 3, 1)$, and $z = (3, 4, 3, 2)$

(44) Show that the following vectors are linearly dependent

a) $x = (3, 2)$, $y = (4, -1)$, and $z = (5, -2)$

b) $x = (9, -3, 7)$, $y = (1, 8, 8)$, and $z = (5, -5, 1)$

c) $x = (2, -1, 5, 7)$, $y = (3, 1, 5, -2)$, and $z = (1, 1, 1, -4)$

(45) Let $x = (1, 3, -1)$, $y = (1, a, 4)$, and $z = (3, -2, b)$. Find the set of all $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ such that x, y, z are linearly independent on \mathbb{R}^3 .

(46) Find all $a \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $x = (1, 1, 1)$, $y = (1, a, -1)$, and $z = (a, 1, 1)$ are linearly independent on \mathbb{R}^3 .

(47) Find all $a \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $x = (3, 1, -4, 6)$, $y = (1, 1, 4, 4)$, and $z = (1, 0, -4, a)$ are linearly dependent on \mathbb{R}^4 .

(48) Find the set of all $(a, b) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ such that $x = (3, -2, -1, 3)$, $y = (1, 0, 2, 4)$, and $z = (1, -3, a, b)$ are linearly dependent on \mathbb{R}^4 .

(49) Show that the vectors $x = (1, 3, 5, p)$, $y = (a, 3a, 5a, p)$, and $z = (-b, -3b, -5b, r)$ are always linearly dependent on \mathbb{R}^4 .

(50) Let $x = (1, a, a^2)$, $y = (1, b, b^2)$, and $z = (1, c, c^2)$. Show that x, y, z linearly dependent $\Leftrightarrow x = y \vee y = z \vee z = x$.

▼ Basis and dimension of vector spaces

Let $(V, +, \cdot)$ be a vector space and let $B = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \subseteq V$. We use the notation $|B| = n$ to denote the cardinality of B (i.e. the number of elements in the set B).

Def : B basis of $V \iff \begin{cases} B \text{ linearly independent} \\ V = \text{span}(B) \end{cases}$

Thm : Assume that B is a basis of the vector space V . Then:

$$\forall u \in V : \exists! (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n : u = \lambda_1 x_1 + \dots + \lambda_n x_n$$

(For all $u \in V$, there is a unique $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ such that $u = \lambda_1 x_1 + \dots + \lambda_n x_n$).

Proof

Assume that B is a basis of V . Let $u \in V$ be given.

$$B \text{ basis of } V \Rightarrow \left. \begin{array}{l} V = \text{span}(B) \\ u \in V \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow u \in \text{span}(B) \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \exists (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n : u = \lambda_1 x_1 + \lambda_2 x_2 + \dots + \lambda_n x_n.$$

To show that $(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$ is unique, assume that it is not unique and therefore:

$$\exists (\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n : \begin{cases} (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_n) \neq (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n) \\ \mu_1 x_1 + \mu_2 x_2 + \dots + \mu_n x_n = u \end{cases}$$

Then :

$$\sum_{a=1}^n (\lambda_a - \mu_a) x_a = \sum_{a=1}^n \lambda_a x_a - \sum_{a=1}^n \mu_a x_a = u - u = \mathbf{0} \quad (1)$$

and

B basis of $V \Rightarrow x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ linearly independent. (2)

From (1) and (2):

$$\forall a \in [n] : \lambda_a - \mu_a = 0 \Rightarrow \forall a \in [n] : \lambda_a = \mu_a \Rightarrow \\ \Rightarrow (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) = (\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_n) \leftarrow \text{Contradiction}$$

It follows that $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n)$ is unique.

and therefore

$$\forall u \in V : \exists! (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n : u = \lambda_1 x_1 + \dots + \lambda_n x_n. \quad \square$$

\uparrow This result shows that the basis B functions as a coordinate system for the vector space V which allows every vector $u \in V$ to be written as

$$u = \lambda_1 x_1 + \lambda_2 x_2 + \dots + \lambda_n x_n$$

in a unique way. The numbers $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n)$ are the coordinates of the vector u with respect to the coordinate system defined by the basis B .

↔ Dimension of vector space V

Let $(V, +, \cdot)$ be a vector space and let $A = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \subseteq V$ and $B = \{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m\} \subseteq V$. We show that:

$$\textcircled{1} \rightarrow \boxed{\begin{cases} B \text{ basis of } V \Rightarrow A \text{ linearly dependent} \\ |A| > |B| \end{cases}}$$

Proof

$$\begin{aligned} B \text{ basis of } V &\Rightarrow V = \text{span}(B) \} \Rightarrow \forall a \in [n]: x_a \in \text{span}(B) \\ &\forall a \in [n]: x_a \in V \\ \Rightarrow \forall a \in [n]: &\exists (M_{a1}, \dots, M_{am}) \in \mathbb{R}^m: x_a = \sum_{b=1}^m M_{ab} y_b \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

Let $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and solve:

$$\lambda_1 x_1 + \lambda_2 x_2 + \dots + \lambda_n x_n = \mathbf{0} \Leftrightarrow \sum_{a=1}^n \lambda_a x_a = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sum_{a=1}^n \lambda_a \left[\sum_{b=1}^m M_{ab} y_b \right] = \mathbf{0} \Leftrightarrow \sum_{b=1}^m \left[\sum_{a=1}^n \lambda_a M_{ab} \right] y_b = \mathbf{0} \quad (2)$$

Since B basis of $V \Rightarrow y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m$ linearly independent (3)

From (2) and (3), it follows that

$$\sum_{a=1}^n \lambda_a M_{ab} = 0, \forall b \in [m]. \quad (4)$$

Since (4) is a system of m equations with n unknowns and since $|A| > |B| \Rightarrow n > m$ it follows that (4) is either inconsistent or has non-zero solutions. Since $\forall a \in [n]: \lambda a = 0$ satisfies (4), it follows that (4) is not inconsistent and therefore it has a non-zero solution $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) \neq \mathbf{0}$.

Therefore:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) \neq \mathbf{0} \\ \lambda_1 x_1 + \lambda_2 x_2 + \dots + \lambda_n x_n = 0 \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow$$

$\Rightarrow x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ linearly dependent

$\Rightarrow A$ linearly dependent.

$$\textcircled{2} \rightarrow \boxed{\left. \begin{array}{l} B_1 \text{ basis of } V \\ B_2 \text{ basis of } V \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow |B_1| = |B_2|}$$

Proof

Assume that B_1 and B_2 are basis of V .

To show that $|B_1| = |B_2|$, assume with no loss of generality that $|B_1| > |B_2|$. Then:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} |B_1| > |B_2| \\ B_2 \text{ basis of } V \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow B_1 \text{ linearly dependent} \Rightarrow$$

$\Rightarrow B_1$ NOT linearly independent \Rightarrow

$\Rightarrow B_1$ NOT basis of V \leftarrow Contradiction.

Similar argument if $|B_1| < |B_2|$. It follows that $|B_1| = |B_2|$.

↳ From this statement we conclude that any basis B of a vector space V has the same number n of elements. We call this number, the dimension of V and write $\dim V = n$.

↳ Let V be a vector space with $\dim V = n \in \mathbb{N}$ and let $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p\} \subseteq V$. From property ① it immediately follows that

$$p > \dim V \Rightarrow \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p\} \text{ linearly dependent}$$

The contrapositive statement gives:

$$\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p\} \text{ linearly independent} \Rightarrow p \leq \dim V$$

↳ Let V be a vector space and let $\mathbf{0}$ be the unit element of the group $(V, +)$. Then:

a) $\{\mathbf{0}\}$ is a subspace of V

b) $\{\mathbf{0}\} = \text{span}\{\mathbf{0}\}$

c) However, $\{\mathbf{0}\}$ does not have a basis since $\{\mathbf{0}\}$ is linearly dependent.

d) Consequently, the dimension of $\{\mathbf{0}\}$ is defined to be $\dim\{\mathbf{0}\} = 0$

↳ It is possible to have vector spaces with no finite set basis B . For example $F(A)$, the set of all functions $f: A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$.

→ Dimension and canonical basis of \mathbb{R}^n

► We define the n -dimensional vectors

$$e_1 = (1, 0, 0, \dots, 0)$$

$$e_2 = (0, 1, 0, \dots, 0)$$

$$e_3 = (0, 0, 1, \dots, 0)$$

⋮

$$e_n = (0, 0, 0, \dots, 1)$$

Then it follows that

a) $B = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$ is a basis of \mathbb{R}^n

b) $\dim(\mathbb{R}^n) = n$

Proof

$$a) \det([e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n]) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{vmatrix} =$$

$$= \det(I) = 1 \neq 0 \Rightarrow$$

$\Rightarrow B = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$ is linearly independent (1)

Since $B \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \Rightarrow \text{span}(B) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$. (2)

It is sufficient to show that $\mathbb{R}^n \subseteq \text{span}(B)$.

Let $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ be given. Then

$$x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) =$$

$$= (x_1, 0, \dots, 0) + (0, x_2, \dots, 0) + \dots + (0, 0, \dots, x_n)$$

$$= x_1(1, 0, \dots, 0) + x_2(0, 1, \dots, 0) + \dots + x_n(0, 0, \dots, 1)$$

$$= x_1 e_1 + x_2 e_2 + \dots + x_n e_n \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow x \in \text{span}\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\} \Rightarrow x \in \text{span}(B).$$

It follows that $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n : x \in \text{span}(B) \Rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \subseteq \text{span}(B)$. (3)

From (1), (2), (3):

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} B \text{ linearly independent} \\ \text{span}(B) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \\ \mathbb{R}^n \subseteq \text{span}(B) \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} B \text{ linearly independent} \\ \text{span}(B) = \mathbb{R}^n \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow \\ \Rightarrow B \text{ basis of } \mathbb{R}^n$$

b) B basis of $\mathbb{R}^n \Rightarrow$

$$\Rightarrow \dim V = |B| = |\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}| = n. \quad \square$$

\uparrow Using similar arguments, it can be shown that
 $\dim M_{mn}(\mathbb{R}) = m \cdot n$
 $\dim M_n(\mathbb{R}) = n^2$.

→ Basis of a vector space with known dimension

- Let V be a vector space with $\dim V = n$ and let $A = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\} \subseteq V$. The problem is to explore whether A is a basis of V .
- We note that by definition:

A linearly dependent \Rightarrow A NOT basis of V

What happens if A is linearly independent?

▶ $A \subseteq V$ linearly independent $\left. \vphantom{A \subseteq V} \right\} \Rightarrow A$ is basis of V
 $\dim V = |A|$

Proof

Assume that $\dim V = n$ and $A = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\} \subseteq V$ be linearly independent.

It is sufficient to show that $\text{span}(A) \subseteq V \wedge V \subseteq \text{span}(A)$.

(a) To show $\text{span}(A) \subseteq V$:

Since $\begin{cases} A \subseteq V \\ V \text{ vector space} \end{cases} \Rightarrow \underline{\text{span}(A) \subseteq V}$.

(b) To show $V \subseteq \text{span}(A)$.

Let $u \in V$ be given.

Case 1 : If $\exists a \in [n] : u = x_a$

Then since $x_a \in A$
 $A \subseteq \text{span}(A)$ } $\Rightarrow u = x_a \in \text{span}(A) \Rightarrow$

$\Rightarrow u \in \text{span}(A)$

Case 2 : If $\forall a \in [n] : u \neq x_a$

Then, it follows that

$|\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, u\}| = n+1 > n = \dim V \Rightarrow$

$\Rightarrow \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, u\}$ linearly dependent } \Rightarrow
 $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ linearly independent

$\Rightarrow u \in \text{span}\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\} = \text{span}(A)$

It follows that

$\forall u \in V : u \in \text{span}(A) \Rightarrow \underline{V \subseteq \text{span}(A)}$

In both cases above we find that $V \subseteq \text{span}(A)$.

It follows that

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} V \subseteq \text{span}(A) \\ \text{span}(A) \subseteq V \\ A \text{ linearly independent} \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} V = \text{span}(A) \\ A \text{ linearly independent} \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow$
 $\Rightarrow A \text{ basis of } V \quad \square$

\hookrightarrow Recall that we have shown previously that
 B basis of V } $\Rightarrow A$ linearly dependent
 $|A| > |B|$

It follows that

$p > \dim V \Rightarrow \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p\} \subseteq V$ linearly dependent
 $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p\}$ linearly independent $\Rightarrow p \leq \dim V$.

EXAMPLES

a) Let $x = (2, 1, 3)$, $y = (1, 3, 0)$, and $z = (1, 2, 3)$.
Show that $B = \{x, y, z\}$ is a basis of \mathbb{R}^3 .

Solution

$$\det([x \ y \ z]) = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 & 2 \\ 3 & 0 & 3 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 3 & 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix} =$$

$$= (+1) \cdot 3 \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 3 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \xrightarrow{(-1) \rightarrow \uparrow} = 3(1 \cdot 1 - (-1) \cdot 3) = 3(1 + 3) = 12 \neq 0$$

$\Rightarrow \{x, y, z\}$ linearly independent $\Rightarrow \{x, y, z\}$ basis of \mathbb{R}^3 .
 $\dim \mathbb{R}^3 = 3$

b) Let $x = (1, 1, 0)$, $y = (2, 0, 1)$, and $z = (6, 2, 2)$. Show that
 $B = \{x, y, z\}$ is NOT basis of \mathbb{R}^3 .

Solution

$$\det([x \ y \ z]) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 6 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} \xrightarrow{(-1) \leftarrow \uparrow} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 6 \\ 0 & -2 & -4 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} =$$

$$= (+1) \cdot 1 \cdot \begin{vmatrix} -2 & -4 \\ 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} \xrightarrow{\downarrow} = (-2) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} \xrightarrow{\leftarrow \uparrow} = (-2) \cdot 0 = 0$$

$\Rightarrow \{x, y, z\}$ linearly dependent $\Rightarrow \{x, y, z\}$ NOT basis of \mathbb{R}^3 .

c) Show that $B = \{(a, a+1), (a+1, a+2)\}$ is a basis of \mathbb{R}^2 for all $a \in \mathbb{R}$.

Solution

Define $x = (a, a+1)$ and $y = (a+1, a+2)$. It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \det([x \ y]) &= \begin{vmatrix} a & a+1 \\ a+1 & a+2 \end{vmatrix} = a(a+2) - (a+1)^2 = \\ &= (a^2 + 2a) - (a^2 + 2a + 1) = \\ &= a^2 + 2a - a^2 - 2a - 1 = -1 \neq 0 \Rightarrow \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow x, y$ linearly independent (1).

Also: $|B| = |\{x, y\}| = 2 = \dim \mathbb{R}^2$ (2)

From (1) and (2): B basis of \mathbb{R}^2 .

d) Let $B = \{(3a-1, a), (3a, a+1)\}$. Find all $a \in \mathbb{R}$ such that B is a basis of \mathbb{R}^2 .

Solution

Define $x = (3a-1, a)$ and $y = (3a, a+1)$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \det([x \ y]) &= \begin{vmatrix} 3a-1 & 3a \\ a & a+1 \end{vmatrix} = (3a-1)(a+1) - 3a^2 = \\ &= 3a^2 + 3a - a - 1 - 3a^2 = 2a - 1. \end{aligned}$$

Since $|B| = |\{x, y\}| = 2 = \dim \mathbb{R}^2$, it follows that

B basis of $\mathbb{R}^2 \Leftrightarrow x, y$ linearly independent \Leftrightarrow

$$\Leftrightarrow \det([x \ y]) \neq 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2a - 1 \neq 0 \Leftrightarrow 2a \neq 1 \Leftrightarrow a \neq 1/2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow a \in \mathbb{R} - \{1/2\}.$$

e) Let $B = \{x, y\}$ be a basis of \mathbb{R}^2 . Let $u = x + 3y$ and $v = 2x - y$. Show that $B = \{u, v\}$ is also a basis of \mathbb{R}^2 .

Solution

$B = \{x, y\}$ basis of $\mathbb{R}^2 \Rightarrow x, y$ linearly independent \Rightarrow
 $\Rightarrow \forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}: (ax + by = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow (a, b) = (0, 0))$ (1)

Let $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ be given and assume that $au + bv = \mathbf{0}$.

We note that

$$\begin{aligned} au + bv &= a(x + 3y) + b(2x - y) = ax + 3ay + 2bx - by = \\ &= (a + 2b)x + (3a - b)y \end{aligned}$$

and therefore

$$au + bv = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow (a + 2b)x + (3a - b)y = \mathbf{0} \stackrel{(1)}{\Rightarrow} \begin{cases} a + 2b = 0 \\ 3a - b = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$\text{Since } \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = 1 \cdot (-1) - 2 \cdot 3 = -1 - 6 = -7 \neq 0$$

it follows that $a = b = 0 \Rightarrow \underline{(a, b) = (0, 0)}$.

We have thus shown that

$$\forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}: (au + bv = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow (a, b) = (0, 0)) \Rightarrow$$

$\Rightarrow u, v$ linearly independent \Rightarrow

$\Rightarrow B = \{u, v\}$ basis of \mathbb{R}^2 (since $|B| = 2 = \dim \mathbb{R}^2$). \square

EXERCISES

51) Show that the following sets are a basis for \mathbb{R}^2 .

a) $B = \{(1, 1), (0, 1)\}$

b) $B = \{(a, 0), (a, b)\}$ with $ab \neq 0$

c) $B = \{(\cos \theta, \sin \theta), (-\sin \theta, \cos \theta)\}$ with $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$.

d) $B = \{(\cos \theta - \sin \theta, -\cos \theta - \sin \theta), (\cos \theta + \sin \theta, \cos \theta - \sin \theta)\}$

52) Find all $a \in \mathbb{R}$ such that the following sets are a basis of \mathbb{R}^2

a) $x = (a-1, 3)$ and $y = (-a+1, a+1)$

b) $x = (a-1, a^2-2a+1)$ and $y = (0, a+1)$

53) Let $B = \{x, y\}$ be a basis of \mathbb{R}^2 . Show that $B' = \{u, v\}$ with $u = 3x - y$ and $v = x + 2y$ is also a basis of \mathbb{R}^2 .

54) Let $x = (2, 1, 0)$, $y = (2, 1, 1)$, $z = (2, 2, 1)$. Show that $B = \{x, y, z\}$ is a basis of \mathbb{R}^3 .

55) Let $x = (-1, 1, 1)$, $y = (1, a^2, 2)$, and $z = (-2, 2a, 1)$. Find all $a \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $B = \{x, y, z\}$ is a basis of \mathbb{R}^3 .

56) Let $B = \{x, y, z\}$ be a basis of \mathbb{R}^3 , and let $u = 2x + y$, $v = z$, $w = u + 2v$. Show that $B' = \{u, v, w\}$ is also a basis of \mathbb{R}^3 .

57) Show that $B = \{x, y, z, w\}$ is a basis of \mathbb{R}^4 with

a) $x = (0, 1, 1, 1)$, $y = (1, 0, 1, 1)$, $z = (1, 1, 0, 1)$, and $w = (1, 1, 1, 0)$

b) $x = (2, -1, 0, 1)$, $y = (1, 3, 2, 0)$, $z = (0, -1, -1, 0)$, and $w = (-2, 1, 2, 1)$

c) $x = (1, -1, 2, 0)$, $y = (1, 1, 2, 0)$, $z = (3, 0, 0, 1)$, and $w = (2, 1, -1, 0)$

(58) Let $B = \{x, y, z, w\}$ be a basis of \mathbb{R}^4 . Let $u = x + y$, $v = z + w$, $p = -x + z + w$, and $q = w - y$. Show that $B' = \{u, v, p, q\}$ is also a basis of \mathbb{R}^4 .

(59) Let V be a vector space with $\dim V = 4$. Let $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 \in V$ with x_1, x_2, x_3 linearly independent. Define $u = \lambda_1 x_1 + \lambda_2 x_2 + \lambda_3 x_3 + \lambda_4 x_4$ with $\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_3 + \lambda_4 \neq 1$. Show that $B = \{u - x_1, u - x_2, u - x_3, u - x_4\}$ is a basis of V .

→ Dimension of span(B)

- Let V be a vector space, let $B = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \subseteq V$ be a set of n vectors and consider the subspace of V given by $V_0 = \text{span}(B)$. The problem is to determine the dimension $\dim V_0$.
- By the basis definition, it follows immediately that

$$\boxed{B \text{ linearly independent} \Rightarrow \dim(\text{span}(B)) = |B| = n}$$

So the question becomes, what if B is linearly dependent?

Thm : Let V be a vector space, and $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in V$, and let $p < n$. Then

$$\boxed{\left. \begin{array}{l} \{x_1, \dots, x_p\} \text{ linearly independent} \\ \forall u \in \{x_{p+1}, \dots, x_n\} : \{x_1, \dots, x_p, u\} \text{ linearly dependent} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \Rightarrow \{x_1, \dots, x_p\} \text{ basis of } \text{span}\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}}$$

Proof

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Since } \{x_1, \dots, x_p\} \subseteq \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} &\Rightarrow \\ \Rightarrow \text{span}(\{x_1, \dots, x_p\}) &\subseteq \text{span}(\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}) \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

It is sufficient to show that

$$\text{span}(\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}) \subseteq \text{span}(\{x_1, \dots, x_p\})$$

Preliminary argument:

Let $a \in \mathbb{N}$ with $1 \leq a \leq n-p$. Then

$$x_{p+a} \in \{x_{p+1}, \dots, x_n\} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \left. \begin{array}{l} \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p, x_{p+a}\} \text{ linearly dependent} \\ \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p\} \text{ linearly independent} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow x_{p+a} \in \text{span}\{x_1, \dots, x_p\} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \exists \mu_{a1}, \mu_{a2}, \dots, \mu_{ap} \in \mathbb{R} : x_{p+a} = \mu_{a1}x_1 + \dots + \mu_{ap}x_p.$$

Main argument:

Let $u \in \text{span}\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ be given. Then

$$\exists \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n \in \mathbb{R} : u = \lambda_1 x_1 + \lambda_2 x_2 + \dots + \lambda_n x_n.$$

It follows that

$$u = \sum_{a \in [n]} \lambda_a x_a = \sum_{b \in [p]} \lambda_b x_b + \sum_{a \in [n-p]} \lambda_{p+a} x_{p+a} =$$

$$= \sum_{b \in [p]} \lambda_b x_b + \sum_{a \in [n-p]} \lambda_{p+a} \left[\sum_{b \in [p]} \mu_{ab} x_b \right]$$

$$= \sum_{b \in [p]} \lambda_b x_b + \sum_{b \in [p]} \left[\sum_{a \in [n-p]} \lambda_{p+a} \mu_{ab} \right] x_b =$$

$$= \sum_{b \in [p]} \left[\lambda_b + \sum_{a \in [n-p]} (\lambda_{p+a} \mu_{ab}) \right] x_b \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow u \in \text{span}\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p\}.$$

It follows that $\text{span}\{x_1,$

$$\forall u \in \text{span}\{x_1, \dots, x_n\} : u \in \text{span}\{x_1, \dots, x_p\} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{span}\{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \subseteq \text{span}\{x_1, \dots, x_p\}. \quad (2)$$

From (1) and (2):

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{span}(\{x_1, \dots, x_p\}) = \text{span}(\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}) \\ \{x_1, \dots, x_p\} \text{ linearly independent} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \\ \Rightarrow \{x_1, \dots, x_p\} \text{ basis of } \text{span}(\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}). \quad \square$$

↔ Belonging condition to $\text{span}(B)$

Let $V = \text{span}(B)$. If B is shown to be a basis of B , then the following proposition gives a belonging condition to V . We stress that that if B is linearly dependent, then the theorem below will not work.

Prop: If $V = \text{span}(B)$ and $B = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ be a basis of V .

Then

$$x \in V \Leftrightarrow x, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \text{ linearly dependent}$$

Proof

(\Rightarrow): Assume $x \in V$. Then

$$x \in V \Rightarrow x \in \text{span}\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow x, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \text{ linearly dependent.}$$

(\Leftarrow): Assume that x, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n linearly dependent. Then

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \text{ basis of } V \\ \Rightarrow \end{array} \right.$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} x, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \text{ linearly dependent} \end{array} \right.$$

$$\Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \text{ linearly independent} \\ x, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \text{ linearly dependent} \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow x \in \text{span}\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$$

$$\Rightarrow x \in V.$$

EXAMPLES

a) Let $V = \text{span}\{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4\}$ with $x_1 = (1, 2, 0, 3)$,
 $x_2 = (2, 0, 3, 1)$, $x_3 = (-1, 2, -3, 2)$, $x_4 = (3, -2, 6, -1)$.

Find $\dim V$ and a belonging condition for $(a, b, c, d) \in V$.

Solution

Sufficient to find a basis B of V .

• Check x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 :

$$\det([x_1 \ x_2 \ x_3 \ x_4]) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & 3 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & 3 & -3 & 6 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 & -1 \end{vmatrix} \begin{array}{l} (-2) \ (-3) \\ \swarrow \\ \swarrow \\ \swarrow \end{array} =$$

$$= \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & -4 & 4 & -8 \\ 0 & 3 & -3 & 6 \\ 0 & -5 & 5 & -10 \end{vmatrix} = 0 \Rightarrow x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 \text{ linearly dependent.}$$

• Check x_1, x_2, x_3 .

$$\text{Let } A_{123} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & -3 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Sub}(A_{123}) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 3 & -3 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & -3 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$$= \{ A_{123}^{(1)}, A_{123}^{(2)}, A_{123}^{(3)}, A_{123}^{(4)} \}$$

Since:

$$\det A_{123}^{(1)} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & -3 \end{vmatrix} \xrightarrow{(+1)} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$\det A_{123}^{(2)} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} \xrightarrow{\begin{matrix} (-2) \uparrow \\ (+1) \uparrow \end{matrix}} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & -4 & 4 \\ 3 & -5 & 5 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$\det A_{123}^{(3)} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 3 & -3 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} \xrightarrow{(+1)} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 & 3 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$\det A_{123}^{(4)} = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & -3 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} \xrightarrow{(+1)} \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 & 3 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

it follows that

$\forall B \in \text{Sub}(A_{123}) : (\det B = 0) \Rightarrow x_1, x_2, x_3$ linearly dependent.

• Check x_1, x_2, x_4

$$\text{Let } A_{124} = [x_1, x_2, x_4] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 3 & 6 \\ 3 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow$$

$$\text{Sub}(A_{124}) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 3 & 6 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 0 & -2 \\ 3 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 3 & 6 \\ 3 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 3 & 6 \\ 3 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} =$$

$$= \{ A_{124}^{(1)}, A_{124}^{(2)}, A_{124}^{(3)}, A_{124}^{(4)} \}$$

Since

$$\det A_{124}^{(1)} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 3 & 6 \end{vmatrix} \xrightarrow{(+1)} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 6 \end{vmatrix} \rightarrow = (-1) \cdot 2 \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ 3 & 6 \end{vmatrix} =$$

$$= (-1) \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = (-1) \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 0 = 0$$

$$\det A_{124}^{(2)} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 0 & -2 \\ 3 & 1 & -1 \end{vmatrix} \xrightarrow{(+1)} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} \Rightarrow = (-1) \cdot 2 \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} =$$

$$= (-1) \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$\det A_{124}^{(3)} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 3 & 6 \\ 3 & 1 & -1 \end{vmatrix} \xrightarrow{(-3)} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 3 & 6 \\ 0 & -5 & -10 \end{vmatrix} = (+1) \cdot 1 \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 6 \\ -5 & -10 \end{vmatrix} =$$

$$= (+1) \cdot 1 \cdot 3 \cdot (-5) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$\det A_{124}^{(4)} = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 3 & 6 \\ 3 & 1 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 6 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} \xrightarrow{+} = (+1) \cdot 2 \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 6 \\ 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} =$$

$$= (1) \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

and therefore:

$\forall B \in \text{Sub}(A_{124}) : (\det B = 0) \Rightarrow x_1, x_2, x_4$ linearly dependent.

• Check x_1, x_2 .

$$\text{Let } A_{12} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Sub}(A_{12}) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} = \{A_{12}^{(1)}, \dots, A_{12}^{(6)}\}$$

$$\det A_{12}^{(1)} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = 1 \cdot 0 - 2 \cdot 2 = -4 \neq 0 \Rightarrow$$

$\Rightarrow \exists B \in \text{Sub}(A_{12}) : (\det B \neq 0) \Rightarrow x_1, x_2$ linearly independent.

• Basis of V .

It follows from the above results that:

$$\begin{cases} x_1, x_2 \text{ linearly independent} \\ x_1, x_2, x_3 \text{ linearly dependent} \Rightarrow \\ x_1, x_2, x_4 \text{ linearly dependent} \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow V = \text{span}\{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4\} = \text{span}\{x_1, x_2\}$$

and therefore:

$$\begin{cases} V = \text{span}\{x_1, x_2\} \\ x_1, x_2 \text{ linearly independent} \end{cases} \Rightarrow \{x_1, x_2\} \text{ basis of } V \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \dim V = |\{x_1, x_2\}| = 2.$$

• Belonging condition for V .

Let $x = (a, b, c, d) \in \mathbb{R}^4$ and define

$$A = [x_1 \ x_2 \ x] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & a \\ 2 & 0 & b \\ 0 & 3 & c \\ 3 & 1 & d \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \text{Sub}(A) &= \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & a \\ 2 & 0 & b \\ 0 & 3 & c \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & a \\ 2 & 0 & b \\ 3 & 1 & d \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & a \\ 0 & 3 & c \\ 3 & 1 & d \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & b \\ 0 & 3 & c \\ 3 & 1 & d \end{bmatrix} \right\} \\ &= \{A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4\}. \end{aligned}$$

We calculate the determinants of A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4 :

$$\det A_1 = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & a \\ 2 & 0 & b \\ 0 & 3 & c \end{vmatrix} \begin{matrix} (-2) \\ \swarrow \\ \downarrow \end{matrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & a \\ 0 & -4 & -2a+b \\ 0 & 3 & c \end{vmatrix} =$$

$$= \begin{vmatrix} -4 & -2a+b \\ 3 & c \end{vmatrix} = (-4c) - 3(-2a+b) = 6a - 3b - 4c$$

$$\det A_2 = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & a \\ 2 & 0 & b \\ 3 & 1 & d \end{vmatrix} \begin{matrix} \leftarrow \\ \\ (-2) \end{matrix} = \begin{vmatrix} -5 & 0 & a-2d \\ 2 & 0 & b \\ 3 & 1 & d \end{vmatrix} =$$

$$= (-1) \cdot 1 \cdot \begin{vmatrix} -5 & a-2d \\ 2 & b \end{vmatrix} = -(-5b - 2(a-2d)) =$$

$$= 2a + 5b - 4d$$

$$\det A_3 = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & a \\ 0 & 3 & c \\ 3 & 1 & d \end{vmatrix} \begin{matrix} (-3) \\ \\ \leftarrow \end{matrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & a \\ 0 & 3 & c \\ 0 & -5 & -3a+d \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & c \\ -5 & -3a+d \end{vmatrix} =$$

$$= 3(-3a+d) - (-5)c = -9a + 5c + 3d$$

$$\det A_4 = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 0 & b \\ 0 & 3 & c \\ 3 & 1 & d \end{vmatrix} \begin{matrix} \leftarrow \\ \\ (-3) \end{matrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 0 & b \\ -9 & 0 & c-3d \\ 3 & 1 & d \end{vmatrix} = (-1) \cdot 1 \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 2 & b \\ -9 & c-3d \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= -[2(c-3d) - (-9)b] = -9b - 2c + 6d$$

Main argument:

$$x \in V \Leftrightarrow x \in \text{span}\{x_1, x_2\} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x_1, x_2, x \text{ linearly dependent} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \forall A \in \text{Sub}([x_1, x_2, x]): \det A = 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \det A_1 = 0 \wedge \det A_2 = 0 \wedge \det A_3 = 0 \wedge \det A_4 = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 6a - 3b - 4c = 0 \wedge 2a + 5b - 4d = 0 \wedge -9a + 5c + 3d = 0$$

$$\wedge -9b - 2c + 6d = 0.$$

b) Let $f, g, h \in F(\mathbb{R})$ with:

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{R}: f(x) = 1$$

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{R}: g(x) = \sin^2 x$$

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{R}: h(x) = \cos^2 x$$

Find the dimension of $V = \text{span}\{f, g, h\}$.

Solution

• Check f, g, h .

We note that

$$\begin{aligned} \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: (g+h)(x) &= g(x) + h(x) = \sin^2 x + \cos^2 x = \\ &= 1 = f(x) \Rightarrow \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow f = g+h \Rightarrow f \in \text{span}\{g, h\} \Rightarrow f, g, h$ linearly dependent. (1)

• Check g, h

We will show that $\forall \lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in \mathbb{R}: (\lambda_1 g + \lambda_2 h = \mathbf{0}) \Rightarrow \lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = 0$.

Let $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ be given. Assume that $\lambda_1 g + \lambda_2 h = \mathbf{0}$ (2)

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: (\lambda_1 g + \lambda_2 h)(x) &= (\lambda_1 g)(x) + (\lambda_2 h)(x) = \lambda_1 g(x) + \lambda_2 h(x) \\ &= \lambda_1 \sin^2 x + \lambda_2 \cos^2 x \quad (3) \end{aligned}$$

From (2) and (3): $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}: \lambda_1 \sin^2 x + \lambda_2 \cos^2 x = 0$

For $x=0$: $\lambda_1 \sin^2 0 + \lambda_2 \cos^2 0 = 0 \Rightarrow 0\lambda_1 + 1\lambda_2 = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda_2 = 0$

For $x=\pi/2$: $\lambda_1 \sin^2(\pi/2) + \lambda_2 \cos^2(\pi/2) = 0 \Rightarrow 1\lambda_1 + 0\lambda_2 = 0 \Rightarrow$
 $\Rightarrow \lambda_1 = 0$.

It follows that

$\forall \lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in \mathbb{R}: (\lambda_1 g + \lambda_2 h = \mathbf{0}) \Rightarrow \lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = 0 \Rightarrow$

$\Rightarrow g, h$ linearly independent (4).

From (1) and (4):

$$\begin{cases} f, g, h \text{ linearly dependent} \\ g, h \text{ linearly independent} \end{cases} \Rightarrow$$
$$\rightarrow V = \text{span} \{f, g, h\} = \text{span} \{g, h\}. \quad (5)$$

From (4) and (5):

$$\begin{cases} V = \text{span} \{g, h\} \\ g, h \text{ linearly independent} \end{cases} \Rightarrow \{g, h\} \text{ basis of } V \Rightarrow$$
$$\rightarrow \dim V = |\{g, h\}| = 2.$$

c) Let us define

$$M(a,b,c) = \begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \\ 3c & a-3c & b \\ 3b & -3b+3c & a-3c \end{bmatrix}$$

and consider the set

$$V = \{M(a,b,c) \mid (a,b,c) \in \mathbb{R}^3\}$$

Show that V is a subspace of $M_3(\mathbb{R})$ and determine the dimension $\dim V$.

Solution

We note that

$$\begin{aligned} M(a,b,c) &= \begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \\ 3c & a-3c & b \\ 3b & -3b+3c & a-3c \end{bmatrix} = \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} a & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & b \\ 3b & -3b & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & c \\ 3c & -3c & 0 \\ 0 & 3c & -3c \end{bmatrix} = \\ &= a \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + b \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 3 & -3 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + c \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 3 & -3 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & -3 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= aA_1 + bA_2 + cA_3 \end{aligned}$$

with

$$A_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 3 & -3 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad A_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 3 & -3 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} V &= \{M(a, b, c) \mid a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}\} = \\ &= \{aA_1 + bA_2 + cA_3 \mid a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}\} = \\ &= \text{span} \{A_1, A_2, A_3\} \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

From (1): V subspace of $M_2(\mathbb{R})$

• Check A_1, A_2, A_3 dependence

Let $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ be given. Assume that $aA_1 + bA_2 + cA_3 = \mathbf{0}$.

It follows that

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \\ 3c & a-3c & b \\ 3b & -3b+3c & a-3c \end{bmatrix} = M(a, b, c) = aA_1 + bA_2 + cA_3 = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow a=0 \wedge b=0 \wedge c=0 \Rightarrow (a, b, c) = (0, 0, 0).$$

We have thus shown

$$\forall a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}: (aA_1 + bA_2 + cA_3 = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow (a, b, c) = (0, 0, 0)) \Rightarrow$$

$\Rightarrow A_1, A_2, A_3$ linearly independent. (2)

From (1) and (2):

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} V = \text{span} \{A_1, A_2, A_3\} \\ A_1, A_2, A_3 \text{ linearly independent} \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \{A_1, A_2, A_3\} \text{ basis of } V \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \dim V = |\{A_1, A_2, A_3\}| = 3.$$

d) Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ and consider the space V given by

$$V = \{X \in M_2(\mathbb{R}) : AX = XA\}$$

Show that V is a subspace of $M_2(\mathbb{R})$ and evaluate $\dim V$.

Solution

• Determine V .

Let $X = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$. We note that

$$X \in V \Leftrightarrow X \in \{X \in M_2(\mathbb{R}) : AX = XA\} \Leftrightarrow AX = XA \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} a+2c & b+2d \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & 2a+b \\ c & 2c+d \end{bmatrix} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} a+2c = a \\ c = c \\ b+2d = 2a+b \\ d = 2c+d \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} 2c = 0 \\ 2d = 2a \\ 2c = 0 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} a = d \\ c = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow X = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & a \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & a \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \\ = a \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + b \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = aA_1 + bA_2$$

$$\text{with } A_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

It follows that

$$x \in V \Leftrightarrow \exists a, b \in \mathbb{R} : x = aA_1 + bA_2 \Leftrightarrow x \in \text{span}\{A_1, A_2\}$$

and therefore $V = \text{span}\{A_1, A_2\}$ (1)

From (1): V subspace of $M_2(\mathbb{R})$.

• Check dependence of A_1, A_2 .

Let $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ be given. Assume that $aA_1 + bA_2 = \mathbf{0}$.

It follows that

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & a \end{bmatrix} = aA_1 + bA_2 = \mathbf{0} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow a = b = 0.$$

Thus:

$$\forall a, b \in \mathbb{R} : (aA_1 + bA_2 = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow a = b = 0) \Rightarrow$$

$\Rightarrow A_1, A_2$ linearly independent. (2)

From (1) and (2):

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} V = \text{span}\{A_1, A_2\} \\ A_1, A_2 \text{ linearly independent} \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow \{A_1, A_2\} \text{ basis of } V$$

$$\rightarrow \dim V = |\{A_1, A_2\}| = 2.$$

e) Given $x = (1, 2, 3)$, $y = (-1, 4, 5)$, $z = (-5, 2, 1)$, and $w = (9, 12, 19)$. Show that $\text{span}\{x, y\} = \text{span}\{z, w\}$.

Solution

$$\text{Let } A_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \in \text{Sub}([x \ y]) \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \det A_1 = 1 \cdot 4 - (-1) \cdot 2 = 4 + 2 = 6 \neq 0 \Rightarrow$$

$\Rightarrow x, y$ linearly independent. (1)

$$\text{Let } A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -5 \\ 4 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \in \text{Sub}([z \ w]) \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \det A_2 = (-1) \cdot 9 - (-5) \cdot 4 = -9 + 20 = 11 \neq 0 \Rightarrow$$

$\Rightarrow z, w$ linearly independent (2)

We also note that

$$\det([x \ y \ z]) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -1 & -5 \\ 2 & 4 & 2 \\ 3 & 5 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \begin{matrix} (-2) (-3) \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \leftarrow \end{matrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -1 & -5 \\ 0 & 6 & 12 \\ 0 & 8 & 16 \end{vmatrix} =$$

$$= 6 \cdot 8 \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -1 & -5 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} \begin{matrix} \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \leftarrow \end{matrix} = 0 \Rightarrow$$

$\Rightarrow \left. \begin{array}{l} x, y, z \text{ linearly dependent} \\ x, y \text{ linearly independent} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \underline{z \in \text{span}\{x, y\}}$ (3)

$$\det([x \ y \ w]) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -1 & 9 \\ 2 & 4 & 12 \\ 3 & 5 & 19 \end{vmatrix} \begin{matrix} (-2) (-3) \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \leftarrow \end{matrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -1 & 9 \\ 0 & 6 & -6 \\ 0 & 8 & -8 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= 6 \cdot 8 \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -1 & 9 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = 0 \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \left. \begin{array}{l} x, y, w \text{ linearly dependent} \\ x, y \text{ linearly independent} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \underline{w \in \text{span}\{x, y\}}. \quad (4)$$

From (3), (4):

$$\begin{aligned} w, z \in \text{span}\{x, y\} &\Rightarrow \forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}: (az + bw) \in \text{span}\{x, y\} \Rightarrow \\ &\Rightarrow \text{span}\{z, w\} = \{az + bw \mid a, b \in \mathbb{R}\} \subseteq \text{span}\{x, y\} \Rightarrow \\ &\Rightarrow \underline{\text{span}\{z, w\} \subseteq \text{span}\{x, y\}} \quad (5) \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore:

$$\begin{aligned} \det([x \ z \ w]) &= \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -5 & 9 \\ 2 & 2 & 12 \\ 3 & 1 & 19 \end{vmatrix} \begin{array}{l} (-2) \ (-3) \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \end{array} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -5 & 9 \\ 0 & 12 & -6 \\ 0 & 16 & -8 \end{vmatrix} = \\ &= 6 \cdot 8 \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -5 & 9 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 \end{vmatrix} \begin{array}{l} \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \end{array} = 0 \Rightarrow \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left. \begin{array}{l} x, z, w \text{ linearly dependent} \\ z, w \text{ linearly independent} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \underline{x \in \text{span}\{z, w\}} \quad (6)$$

$$\det([y \ z \ w]) = \begin{vmatrix} -1 & -5 & 9 \\ 4 & 2 & 12 \\ 5 & 1 & 19 \end{vmatrix} \begin{array}{l} 4 \ 5 \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \end{array} = \begin{vmatrix} -1 & -5 & 9 \\ 0 & -18 & 48 \\ 0 & -24 & 64 \end{vmatrix} =$$

$$= 6 \cdot 8 \cdot \begin{vmatrix} -1 & -5 & 9 \\ 0 & -3 & 8 \\ 0 & -3 & 8 \end{vmatrix} \begin{matrix} \leftarrow \\ \leftarrow \\ \leftarrow \end{matrix} = 0 \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \left. \begin{array}{l} y, z, w \text{ linearly dependent} \\ z, w \text{ linearly independent} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \underline{y \in \text{span}\{z, w\}}. \quad (7)$$

From (6) to (7):

$$\begin{aligned} x, y \in \text{span}\{z, w\} &\Rightarrow \forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}: (ax + by) \in \text{span}\{z, w\} \Rightarrow \\ &\Rightarrow \text{span}\{x, y\} = \{ax + by \mid a, b \in \mathbb{R}\} \subseteq \text{span}\{z, w\} \Rightarrow \\ &\Rightarrow \underline{\text{span}\{x, y\} \subseteq \text{span}\{z, w\}}. \quad (8) \end{aligned}$$

From (5) and (8):

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{span}\{z, w\} \subseteq \text{span}\{x, y\} \\ \text{span}\{x, y\} \subseteq \text{span}\{z, w\} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \underline{\underline{\text{span}\{x, y\} = \text{span}\{z, w\}}}.$$

EXERCISES

- ⑥0 Let $x = (1, -1, 2, 1)$, $y = (1, 2, 1, 0)$, and $z = (-1, 1, -2, -1)$. Find a basis and the dimension of $V = \text{span}\{x, y, z\}$.
- ⑥1 Let $x = (1, 4, -5, 2)$ and $y = (1, 2, 3, 1)$, and define $V = \text{span}\{x, y\}$. Explore whether $u = (2, 14, -34, 7)$ belongs to V .
- ⑥2 Let $x = (2, 1, 0)$, $y = (1, -1, 2)$, and $z = (0, 3, 4)$, and define $V = \text{span}\{x, y, z\}$. Show that
- $$(a, b, c) \in V \Leftrightarrow 2a - 4b - 3c = 0$$
- ⑥3 Let $x = (1, 1, 1)$, $y = (1, -1, 0)$, $z = (0, 2, 1)$, and $w = (3, 1, 2)$. Show that $\text{span}\{x, y\} = \text{span}\{z, w\}$.
(Hint: First we use linear dependence and independence to show that $z, w \in \text{span}\{x, y\}$ and $x, y \in \text{span}\{z, w\}$.)
- ⑥4 Let $x = (1, -1, 2)$, $y = (2, 1, 3)$, and $z = (3, 3, 4)$. Show that $z \in \text{span}\{x, y\}$.
- ⑥5 Find the dimension and a basis for the subspace $F(\mathbb{R})$ spanned by:
- a) $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: f(x) = \sin x \cos x \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: g(x) = \sin 2x \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: h(x) = \cos 2x \end{array} \right.$
- b) $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: f(x) = \sin^2 x \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: g(x) = \cos 2x \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: h(x) = 1 + \cos 2x \end{array} \right.$
- c) $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: f(x) = \sin^2 x \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: g(x) = \cos^2 x \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: h(x) = \cos 2x \end{array} \right.$
- d) $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: f(x) = x e^x \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: g(x) = x^2 e^x \\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}: h(x) = x^3 e^x \end{array} \right.$

(66) Let $M(a,b) = \begin{bmatrix} 3a+b & 2a \\ 2b & a+b \end{bmatrix}$ and define

$$V = \{M(a,b) \mid a,b \in \mathbb{R}\}.$$

Show that V is a subspace of $M_2(\mathbb{R})$ and find a basis and the dimension of V .

(67) Let $M(a,b,c) = \begin{bmatrix} a+b+c & b+c & a+b \\ a-b+c & c+a & b+c \\ a+b-c & a+b & c+a \end{bmatrix}$

and define $V = \{M(a,b,c) \mid a,b,c \in \mathbb{R}\}$. Show that V is a subspace of $M_3(\mathbb{R})$ and find a basis and the dimension of V .