

Name: Key

M511: Linear Algebra (Spring 2018)

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Good Problems 2: Sections 3.2, 3.3



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Instructions Complete all problems, showing enough work. A selection of problems will be graded based on the organization and clarity of the work shown in addition to the final solution (provided one exists).

1. Determine the null space of the matrix.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & -1 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & -3 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 & 0 & -5 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} R_2 - 2R_1 \rightarrow R_2 \\ R_3 + R_1 \rightarrow R_3 \end{array} \right\} \left(\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 1 & -1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & -3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & -3 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} R_2 - R_3 \rightarrow R_2 \\ (-1)R_2 \rightarrow R_2 \end{array} \right\} \left(\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 1 & -1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$\left. R_1 + R_2 \rightarrow R_1 \right\} \left(\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

↑ lead ↑ free

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= -4 - 5t \\ x_2 &= u \\ x_3 &= -3t \\ x_4 &= t \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{so } N(A) = u \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 0 \\ -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

2. Determine whether the following are subspaces of $\mathbb{P}_4$. Clearly explain your answers.

1. The set of polynomials in $\mathbb{P}_4$ of even degree.
2. The set of polynomials of degree 3.
3. The set of all polynomials $p \in \mathbb{P}_4$ such that $p(0) = 0$.
4. The set of all polynomials in $\mathbb{P}_4$ having at least one real root.

2.1. No. Example: $p(x) = x^2 + x$, $q(x) = -x^2$, $(p+q)(x) = x$ is not of even degree.

2.2. No. Same reasoning as 2.1., or $\overline{0}(x) = 0x^3 + 0x^2 + 0x + 0$ is not of degree 3.

2.3. Yes. $(p+q)(0) = p(0) + q(0)$, $(\alpha p)(0) = \alpha(p(0)) = \alpha \cdot 0 = 0$.
 $= 0 + 0$
 $= 0$.

2.4. No. Example: $p(x) = x^3 + x^2$, $q(x) = 4 - x^3$, but $(p+q)(x) = x^2 + 4$ does not have a real root.
 $\text{roots} = 0, -1$ $\text{real root} = \sqrt[3]{4}$

3. Which of the following are spanning sets for $\mathbb{P}_3$? Justify your answers.

1. $\{1, x^2, x^2 - 2\}$

2. $\{2, x^2, x, 2x + 3\}$

3. $\{x + 2, x + 1, x^2 - 1\}$

4. $\{x + 2, x^2 - 1\}$

3.1. No: It's impossible to get a non-zero x -term.

3.2. Yes: $2c_1 + c_2x^2 + c_3x + c_4(2x+3) = ax^2 + bx + c$
put $c_1 = \frac{c}{2}$ $c_2 = a$ $c_3 = b$ $c_4 = 0$.

3.3. Yes: Build the coefficient vectors: $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$.
The determinant of the matrix is

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

3.4. No: Not enough vectors in the set.

4. Prove that any finite set of vectors that contains the zero vector must be linearly dependent.

Consider the set $\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_{n-1}, \vec{0}\}$, and

$$c_1 \vec{v}_1 + c_2 \vec{v}_2 + \dots + c_{n-1} \vec{v}_{n-1} + c_n \vec{0} = \vec{0} \quad (*)$$

We can put $c_1 = c_2 = \dots = c_{n-1} = 0$ and $c_n = 1$ and $(*)$ is satisfied.

Therefore $\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_{n-1}, \vec{0}\}$ are linearly dependent. $\square$

5. Prove that any nonempty subset of a linearly independent set of vectors $\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n\}$ is also linearly independent.

Let $\{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_m\}$ be a subset of $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ and suppose there exist $b_{k_1}, b_{k_2}, \dots, b_{k_m}$, not all zero, such that

$$b_{k_1} \vec{v}_{k_1} + b_{k_2} \vec{v}_{k_2} + \dots + b_{k_m} \vec{v}_{k_m} = \vec{0}$$

Now consider

$$c_1 \vec{v}_1 + c_2 \vec{v}_2 + \dots + c_n \vec{v}_n = \vec{0}, \quad (*)$$

and put $c_i = b_{k_j}$ if $i = k_j$. Then equation $(*)$ is satisfied and not all c 's are zero. This contradicts the assumption that $\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n\}$ are linearly independent.

Hence the subset $\{\vec{v}_{k_1}, \vec{v}_{k_2}, \dots, \vec{v}_{k_m}\}$ must be linearly independent. $\square$