

1. Which of the following are subspaces of \mathbf{R}^3 ?

$U = \{(x - 2y, x + y, 3x - y) \mid x, y \in \mathbf{R}\} = \text{span}\{(1, 1, 3), (-2, 1, -1)\}$, so U is a s.s.
 $V = \{(x, y^2, x + y) \mid x, y \in \mathbf{R}\}$ See below
 $W = \{(x, y, z) \mid -3x + y = 0\}$ is a plane through the origin and so is a s.s.
 $X = \{(x, z, -z) \mid x, z \in \mathbf{R}\} = \text{span}\{(1, 0, 0), (0, 1, -1)\}$, so X is a s.s.

- A. U and V only
 B. U and W only
 C. W and X only
 D. U , W and X only
 E. U , V and X only
 F. V and W only

V is not a s.s., since $(0, 1, 1) \in V$
 but $2 \cdot (0, 1, 1) = (0, 2, 2) \notin V$. So
 V is not closed under mult by
 scalars.

2. Which of the following statements is/are true?

- I. The set $\{(1, 2, 3)\}$ spans a line through the origin in \mathbf{R}^3 . True
 II. Any two different vectors in \mathbf{R}^2 are linearly independent. False; $\{(1, 0), (0, 0)\}$ is not l.i.
 III. The set $\{(1, 0, 1), (2, 0, 2)\}$ spans \mathbf{R}^3 . False: $\dim \mathbf{R}^3 = 3$.
 IV. The set $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ spans \mathbf{M}_{22} . False: $\dim \mathbf{M}_{22} = 4$
 V. In a vector space V which contains u, v and w , if every vector in V is a linear combination of v and $u + v + w$, then $V = \text{span}\{u, v, w\}$. True:

- A. I only
 B. II only
 C. II and III only
 D. I and V only
 E. I, II, IV, and V only
 F. All of the statements are true.

If $v = au + b(u + v + w)$ then
 $v = (a+b)u + bv + bw$, so
 $\{u, v, w\}$ spans V .

3. Let $W = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbf{R}^3 \mid x + 2y = 0\}$.

- Explain *very briefly* why W is a subspace of \mathbf{R}^3 . (You will not need to use the Subspace Test.)
- Find a spanning set for W .
- Find a basis for W .
- Give a complete geometric description of W .

(Remember that you must justify your answers.)

a) W is a plane through 0 in $\mathbf{R}^3 \therefore W$ is a s.s. of \mathbf{R}^3

b) Note that $(x, y, z) \in W \Leftrightarrow x = -2y$ so

$$W = \{(-2y, y, z) \mid y, z \in \mathbf{R}\} = \text{span} \left\{ \underbrace{(-2, 1, 0)}_{v_1}, \underbrace{(0, 0, 1)}_{v_2} \right\}$$

so $\{v_1, v_2\}$ spans W .

c) Since neither v_1 nor v_2 is a multiple of the other, $\{v_1, v_2\}$ is l.i.c. (OR: $yv_1 + zv_2 = (0, 0, 0) \Rightarrow (-2y, y, z) = (0, 0, 0) \Rightarrow y = z = 0$) Hence $\{v_1, v_2\}$ spans W and is l.i.c., so $\{v_1, v_2\}$ is a basis of W .

d) W is the plane through 0 with normal $(1, 2, 0)$.

4. Let M_{22} denote the vector space of 2 by 2 matrices with real entries, and define

$$U = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ b & a+c \end{bmatrix} \in M_{22} \mid a, b, c \in \mathbf{R} \right\}.$$

$$a \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + b \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + c \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

a) Either check that U is closed under addition, or express U in another form so you can simply state a theorem that guarantees that U is a subspace.

(For parts (b) and (c) you may assume that U is a subspace of M_{22} .)

b) Find a basis for U , and hence find $\dim U$.

c) Give a basis for U , different from the one you gave in (b).

(Remember that you must justify your answers.) A_1 A_2 A_3

a) Note that $U = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$, and
 so U is a subspace of M_{22} .

b) We know $\{A_1, A_2, A_3\}$ spans U by (a). Suppose scalars a, b, c satisfy $aA_1 + bA_2 + cA_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$. Then

$$aA_1 + bA_2 + cA_3 = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ b & a+c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ which implies}$$

$a=0, b=0$ and $a+c=0$. The latter implies $a=b=c=0$.

Hence $\{A_1, A_2, A_3\}$ is l.i., and thus is a basis of U . Thus $\dim U = 3$.

c) Let $B_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$, $B_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $B_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$. Then

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ b & a+c \end{bmatrix} = \frac{a}{2}B_1 + \frac{b}{2}B_2 + \frac{c}{2}B_3, \text{ so } U = \text{span}\{B_1, B_2, B_3\}.$$

If $xB_1 + yB_2 + zB_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$, then $\begin{bmatrix} 2x & 2y \\ 2y & 2x+2z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$, which implies $x=y=z=0$. Hence $\{B_1, B_2, B_3\}$ is also l.i., and thus is a basis for U .

5. State whether each of the following statements is (always) true, or is (possibly) false, in the box after the statement.

- If you say the statement may be false, you must give an explicit example - with numbers, or functions, as is appropriate!
- If you say the statement is always true, you must give a clear explanation.

a) $X = \{f \in \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{R}) \mid f(x) \geq -1 \text{ for all } x \in \mathbf{R}\}$ is a subspace of $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{R})$. This is false. Let $f(x) = -1$ for all $x \in \mathbf{R}$ be the constant function whose value is -1 for all $x \in \mathbf{R}$. Then $f \in X$, but $2f \notin X$, since $2f(x) = -2 \neq -1$ for all $x \in \mathbf{R}$. Hence X is not a subspace.

ANSWER

FALSE

b) If V is a vector space and $\{v_1, v_2, v_3\} \subset V$ spans V , then $\{v_1, v_2, v_3\} \subset V$ is linearly independent.

This is false; here's an example. Let $V = \mathbf{R}^2$ and $v_1 = (1, 0)$, $v_2 = (0, 1)$, $v_3 = (0, 0)$. Then $\{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$ spans \mathbf{R}^2 ($(a, b) = av_1 + bv_2 + 0v_3, \forall a, b \in \mathbf{R}$) but $\{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$ is not l.i. because it contains the zero vector.

ANSWER

FALSE

5 (cont.).

c) $Y = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbf{M}_{22} \mid a + c = 0 \right\}$ is a subspace of \mathbf{M}_{22} .

$$\text{Note } Y = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ -a & d \end{bmatrix} \mid a, b, d \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

$$= \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\},$$

and hence Y is a subspace of \mathbf{M}_{22} .

ANSWER

TRUE

d) If u_1, u_2 and u_3 are vectors in a vector space U , and $\{u_1, u_2, u_3\}$ spans U , then $\dim U = 3$.

This is false: see the example in (b).

If $U = \mathbb{R}^2$, $\{(1,0), (0,1), (0,0)\}$ spans \mathbb{R}^2 but we know $\dim \mathbb{R}^2 = 2 < 3$.

ANSWER

FALSE

6. [Bonus] Suppose that u, v, w are non-zero vectors in \mathbf{R}^{2016} such that $u \cdot v = u \cdot w = v \cdot w = 0$. Prove that $\{u, v, w\}$ is linearly independent.

(Your proof must work for *all* choices of non-zero vectors in \mathbf{R}^{2016} such that $u \cdot v = u \cdot w = v \cdot w = 0$ — do not choose the vectors yourself. Use the definition. No ‘geometric’ argument - e.g. “they are not co-planar” - will suffice, and in any case is meaningless to low-dimensional beings like your instructor and marker.)

Please see the other version for a solution.