

1. Which of the following subsets of  $\mathbf{R}^4$  are closed under (the standard operation of) multiplication by scalars?

- A.  $\{(a, b, c, d) \mid abc = 0\}$   
 B.  $\{(a, b, c, d) \mid a = 1, b = 0 \text{ and } c + d = 0\}$   
 C.  $\{(a, b, c, d) \mid a > 1 \text{ and } b < 1\}$   
 D.  $\{(a, b, c, d) \mid a > 0 \text{ and } b > 0\}$   
 E.  $\{(a, b, c, d) \mid a - b + 2c = 0\}$

Recall for  $s \in \mathbf{R}$  we have  $s(a, b, c, d) = (sa, sb, sc, sd)$

(A) If  $abc = 0$  then  $(sa)(sb)(sc) = s^3 abc = 0$  so (A) is closed

(B) If  $a = 1$ , then  $sa \neq 1$  in general, e.g. for  $s = 2$ , so (B) is not closed

(C) If  $a > 1$ , then  $sa > 1$  in general, e.g. for  $s = -1$ , so (C) is not closed.

(D) Not closed, same argument as in (C)

(E)  $(sc) - (sb) + 2(sc) = s(a - b + 2c) = 0$ , ANSWER  
 so (E) is closed.

A, E

2. Which of the following are subspaces of  $\mathbf{F}[\mathbf{R}] = \{f \mid f: \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}\}$ ?

$$U = \{f \in \mathbf{F}[\mathbf{R}] \mid f(-1)f(1) = 0\}$$

$$V = \{f \in \mathbf{F}[\mathbf{R}] \mid f(1) + f(2) = 0\}$$

$$S = \{f \in \mathbf{F}[\mathbf{R}] \mid f(x) = f(-x), \forall x \in \mathbf{R}\}$$

$$T = \{f \in \mathbf{F}[\mathbf{R}] \mid f(1) \leq 0\}$$

U not closed under addition: Let  $f \in \mathbf{F}[\mathbf{R}]$  be given by  $f(x) = x + 1$ . Then  $f(-1) = 0$ , so  $f \in U$ . Also, consider the function  $g \in \mathbf{F}[\mathbf{R}]$ ,  $g(x) = x - 1$ . Then  $g \in U$  since  $g(1) = 0$  so  $g(1)g(4) = 0$ . But  $(f+g)(-1) = f(-1) + g(-1) = 0 - 2 = -2$ ,  $(f+g)(1) = f(1) + g(1) = 2 + 0 = 2$ , so  $(f+g)(1)(f+g)(-1) = (-2)(2) = -4 \neq 0$ , and  $f+g \notin U$ .

V is a subspace (apply subspace test)

S yes, is a subspace (apply subspace test)

T no, not closed under scalar multiplication:

Let  $f \in \mathbf{F}[\mathbf{R}]$ ,  $f(x) = -1$  (constant function!), so  $f \in T$ .

But  $-2f$  is the constant function  $(-2)(-1) = 2$ , so  $-2f \notin T$ .

V, S

Question 2)

V is a subspace. We check the conditions of the subspace test

- $0_{\mathbb{F}[\mathbb{R}]} \in V$ , since  $(0_{\mathbb{F}[\mathbb{R}]}) (1) + (0_{\mathbb{F}[\mathbb{R}]}) (2) = 0 + 0 = 0$
- Suppose  $f, g \in V$ , i.e.,  $f(1) + f(2) = 0 = g(1) + g(2)$ . But then also  $(f+g)(1) + (f+g)(2) = f(1) + g(1) + f(2) + g(2) = 0 + 0 = 0$
- Suppose  $f \in V$ , and  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then  $(af)(1) + (af)(2) = a f(1) + a f(2) = a(f(1) + f(2)) = a \cdot 0 = 0$

S is a subspace. We check the conditions of the subspace test:

- $0_{\mathbb{F}[\mathbb{R}]} \in S$  since for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  we have  $0_{\mathbb{F}[\mathbb{R}]}(x) = 0 = 0_{\mathbb{F}[\mathbb{R}]}(-x)$ .
- Suppose  $f, g \in S$ . Then  $(f+g)(x) = f(x) + g(x) \stackrel{f, g \in S}{=} f(-x) + g(-x) = (f+g)(-x)$ , so  $f+g \in S$ .
- Suppose  $f \in S$ ,  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then  $(af)(x) = a f(x) \stackrel{f \in S}{=} a f(-x) = (af)(-x)$ , so  $af \in S$ .

~~three~~

3. Which ~~two~~ of the following statements are true?

I. The span of any vector in  $\mathbf{R}^3$  is a line through the origin.

II. The span of any two distinct vectors in  $\mathbf{R}^2$  is all of  $\mathbf{R}^2$ .

III. A set of vectors  $\{u, v, w\}$  in a vector space spans  $V$  if every vector on  $V$  is a linear combination of  $u, u+v$  and  $u+v+w$ .

~~IV. Any spanning set for  $M_{2,2}$  contains at least four elements.~~

V. The set  $\{(1, 1), (2, 3)\}$  spans  $\mathbf{R}^2$ .

(I) False: The span of  $0_{\mathbf{R}^3}$  is  $\{0_{\mathbf{R}^3}\}$ .

(II) False: The span of  $0_{\mathbf{R}^2}$  and a  $0 \neq d \in \mathbf{R}^2$  is the line through  $d$ .

(III) True (since every  $x \in V$  has the form  $x = a(u) + b(u+v) + c(u+v+w)$   
 $= (a+b+c)u + (b+c)v + cw$  for  $a, b, c \in \mathbf{R}$ ).

(IV) True by the Fundamental Theorem

(V) True: (a,b)

ANSWER

III, IV, V

$$(a, b) = (3a - 2b)(1, 1) + (b - a)(1, 1)$$

4. For which value of  $s$  does the vector  $(6, 3, s)$  belong to the subspace of  $\mathbf{R}^3$  spanned by  $(1, 2, 3)$  and  $(0, 1, 2)$ ?

We need to find  $x, y \in \mathbf{R}$  such that

$$x(1, 2, 3) + y(0, 1, 2) = (6, 3, s)$$

Equivalently, for which  $s$  is

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} x = 6 \\ 2x + y = 3 \\ 3x + 2y = s \end{array} \right\} \text{solvable.}$$

We get  $x = 6, y = 3 - 2x = 3 - 12 = -9$ , so  $s = 3x + 2y = 3 \cdot 6 + 2 \cdot (-9) = 18 - 18 = 0$

ANSWER

$s = 0$

5. If we give  $X = \mathbf{R}^2$  the *non-standard* operations

$$(x, y) \oplus (x', y') = (x + x' - 1, y + y' + 2) \quad (\text{vector addition})$$

and

$$k \odot (x, y) = (kx - k + 1, ky + 2k - 2) \quad (\text{multiplication by scalars}),$$

then  $X$  is a real vector space.

- What is the zero vector of  $X$ ?
- If  $\mathbf{v} = (x, y)$  is in  $X$  then what is  $-\mathbf{v}$ ?

ANSWER

$$0 = (1, -2) \quad -\mathbf{v} = (-x+2, -y+4)$$

Let  $0 = (x', y')$ . Then  $(x, y) \oplus (x + x' - 1, y + y' + 2) = (x, y)$

$$\text{so } \begin{cases} x + x' - 1 = x \\ y + y' + 2 = y \end{cases} \iff \begin{cases} x' = 1 \\ y' = -2 \end{cases}$$

$-\mathbf{v} = (-1) \odot (\mathbf{v})$ , in general. So, if  $\mathbf{v} = (x, y)$  we get

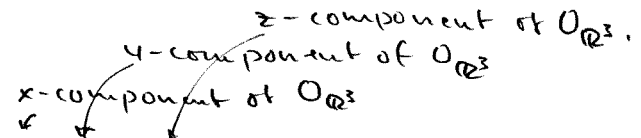
$$\begin{aligned} -\mathbf{v} &= (-1) \odot = ((-1)x - (-1) + 1, (-1)y + 2(-1) - 2) \\ &= (-x + 1 + 1, -y - 2 - 2) = (-x + 2, -y - 4) \end{aligned}$$

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

2 a) Is  $W$  a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ?

2.5 b) Find a spanning set for  $W$ .

1.5 c) Give a complete geometric description of  $W$ .  
(You must justify your answers.)



(a) Subspace test:

•  $0_{\mathbb{R}^3} = (0, 0, 0) \in W$  since  $0 - 0 + 0 = 0$

1.5 points for justification

• Suppose  $u = (x, y, z) \in W$  and  $v = (x', y', z') \in W$ . Then  $u + v = (x + x', y + y', z + z')$ , and  $(x + x') - (y + y') + (z + z') = (x - y + z) + (x' - y' + z') = 0 + 0$  (using  $u, v \in W$ ) = 0 so  $u + v \in W$ .

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• Suppose  $u = (x, y, z) \in W$  and  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then  $au = (ax, ay, az)$ ,  $ax - ay + az = a(x - y + z) = a \cdot 0 = 0$ , so  $au \in W$ .

Answer: **Yes**,  $W$  is a subspace.

(b)  $(x, y, z) \in W \iff z = y - x$ , so  $W = \{(x, y, z) : z = y - x\} = \{(x, y, y - x) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x, y \in \mathbb{R}\} = \{x(1, 0, -1) + y(0, 1, 1) : x, y \in \mathbb{R}\} = \text{span}\{(1, 0, -1), (0, 1, 1)\}$

Any correct answer

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Hence  $\{(1, 0, -1), (0, 1, 1)\}$  is a spanning set.

plus 1.5 points for justification

NOTE: You can first solve (b), then write  $W$  as a span, and then quote Theorem 4 in §5.1 (or Theorem 1 in §4.1) to conclude that  $W$  is a subspace, i.e. solve (a).

(c)  $W$  is a **plane** with normal  **$\vec{n} = (1, -1, 1)$** , **through the origin**.

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7. Consider the vector space  $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{R}) = \{f \mid f: \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}\}$ , with the standard operations. Recall that the zero of  $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{R})$  is the function that has the value 0 for all  $x \in \mathbf{R}$ .

Let  $U = \{f \in \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{R}) \mid f(1) = f(-1)\}$  be the subspace of functions which have the same value at  $x = -1$  and  $x = 1$ .

Define functions  $g, h, j$  and  $k \in \mathbf{F}[\mathbf{R}]$  by

$$\begin{aligned} g(x) &= 2x^3 - x^2 - 2x + 1, & h(x) &= x^3 + x^2 - x + 1, \\ k(x) &= -x^3 + 5x^2 + x + 1 & \text{and } j(x) &= x^3 - x, & \forall x \in \mathbf{R}. \end{aligned}$$

1 a) Show that  $g$  and  $h$  belong to  $U$ . (note  $g(x) = 2x^3 - x^2 - 2x + 1$ )

1.5 b) Show that  $k \in \text{span}\{g, h\}$ .

2 c) Show that  $j \notin \text{span}\{g, h\}$ .

1.5 d) Show that  $\text{span}\{g, h\} \neq \text{span}\{g, h, j\}$ .

(You must justify your answers.)

(a)  $g(1) = 2 \cdot 1 - 1 - 2 \cdot 1 + 1 = 0$ ,  $g(-1) = 2 \cdot (-1) - 1 - 2(-1) + 1 = -2 - 1 + 2 + 1 = 0$

1  $h(1) = 1 + 1 - 1 + 1 = 2$ ,  $h(-1) = -1 + 1 + 1 + 1 = 2$

so  $g, h \in U$

(b) We need to find  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  satisfying  $ag + bh = k$ , i.e.

.5  $a(2x^3 - x^2 - 2x + 1) + b(x^3 + x^2 - x + 1) = -x^3 + 5x^2 + x + 1$

(i.e. knowing what 'span means')

$$= (2a + b)x^3 + (b - a)x^2 + (-2a - b)x + (a + b)$$

This means

$$2a + b = -1, \quad b - a = 5, \quad -2a - b = 1, \quad a + b = 1$$

.5 The solution to this system of linear equations is

$a = -2, b = 3$ . Indeed,

$$-2(2x^3 - x^2 - 2x + 1) + 3(x^3 + x^2 - x + 1) = -x^3 + 5x^2 + x + 1$$

Checking  $a, b$  work, or saying why match coefficients is sufficient

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(c) We know, by definition of the span, that

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$j \in \text{span}\{g, h\} \Leftrightarrow$  there exist  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  
 $ag + bh = j$

knowing what to do

(see (b)!)  $\Leftrightarrow$  there exist  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  such that

$$(2a+b)x^3 + (b-a)x^2 + (-2a-b)x + (a+b) = x^3 - x$$

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$\Leftrightarrow$  there exist  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  such that

$$(*) \quad 2a+b = 1, \quad b-a = 0, \quad -2a-b = -1, \quad a+b = 0$$

But  $b-a = 0 = a+b \Leftrightarrow a=0=b$ , and then

$2a+b = 2 \cdot 0 + 0 = 0 \neq 1$ . Hence the linear system (\*) is NOT solvable, and therefore  $j \notin \text{span}\{g, h\}$ .

(d)  $\text{span}\{g, h\} \neq \text{span}\{g, h, j\}$  since  $j \notin \text{span}\{g, h\}$  while  $j \in \text{span}\{g, h, j\}$ , namely  $j = 0g + 0h + 1j$ .

1.5 = 1- having some idea why two sets aren't the same,  
 + .5 for doing it correctly in this case.

8. [Bonus] Let  $\mathbf{E} = \{ "ax + by + cz = d" \mid a, b, c, d \in \mathbf{R} \}$  be the set of linear equations with real coefficients in the variables  $x, y$  and  $z$ . Equip  $\mathbf{E}$  with the usual operations on equations that you learned in high school: addition of equations, denoted here by  $\oplus$  and multiplication by scalars, denoted here by  $\otimes$ , as follows:

$$"ax + by + cz = d" \oplus "ex + fy + gz = h" = "(a + e)x + (b + f)y + (c + g)z = d + h"$$

and

$$\forall k \in \mathbf{R}, \quad k \otimes "ax + by + cz = d" = "kax + kby + kcz = kd"$$

You may assume without proof that  $\mathbf{E}$  is a vector space.

Find a spanning set for  $\mathbf{E}$ .

1.5 points for a well-written justification

(You must justify your answer.)

$$\begin{aligned} ("ax + by + cz = d" &= "ax = 0" \oplus "by = 0" \oplus "cz = 0" \oplus "0 = d" \\ &= a \otimes "x = 0" \oplus b \otimes "y = 0" \oplus c \otimes "z = 0" \oplus d \otimes "0 = 1" \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $\mathbf{E} = \text{span} \{ "x = 0", "y = 0", "z = 0", "0 = 1" \}$

Thus  $\{ "x = 0", "y = 0", "z = 0", "0 = 1" \}$  is a spanning set for  $\mathbf{E}$

1.5 points for a correct, well written answer