

## Linear Algebra's Extra Problems #1

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1. For a set of vectors  $S = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ , prove that  $\text{span}(S)$  is the intersection of all subspaces that contain  $S$ .
2. Determine the dimensions of each of the following vector spaces:
  - a) The space of polynomials having degree  $n$  or less.
  - b) The space  $\mathbf{R}^{m \times n}$  of  $m \times n$  matrices.
  - c) The space of  $n \times n$  symmetric matrices.
3. Let  $B = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n\}$  be a basis for a vector space  $V$ . Prove that each  $v \in V$  can be expressed as a linear combination of the  $b_i$ 's

$$v = \alpha_1 b_1 + \alpha_2 b_2 + \dots + \alpha_n b_n ,$$

in only one way—i.e., the coordinates  $\alpha_i$  are unique.

4. If  $V$  is a vector space over  $\mathbb{C}$  of dimension  $n$ , prove that  $V$  can be regarded as a vector space over  $\mathbb{R}$  of dimension  $2n$ .
5. Let  $P_0(X), P_1(X), \dots, P_n(X)$  be polynomials in  $\mathbb{R}_n[X]$  such that, for each  $i$ , the degree of  $P_i(X)$  is  $i$ , prove that  $\{P_0(X), P_1(X), \dots, P_n(X)\}$  is a basis for  $\mathbb{R}_n[X]$ .
6. Prove that if  $V$  and  $W$  are three-dimensional subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^5$ , then  $V$  and  $W$  must have a nonzero vector in common.
7. Suppose  $V$  is known to have dimension  $k$ . Prove that
  - a) any  $k$  independent vectors in  $V$  form a basis;
  - b) any  $k$  vectors that span  $V$  form a basis.

In other words, if the number of vectors is known to be correct, either of the two properties of a basis implies the other.