Linear Algebra - Exercise sheet

September 11, 2025

1 Lecture 1 - Vector spaces, linear maps

Exercise 1

For

$$v = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad w = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

describe graphically all points cv with:

- (a) c being an integer, that is $c \in \mathbb{Z} = \{\dots, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$.
- (b) $c \in \mathbb{R}$, with $c \ge 0$.

Describe cv + dw where $d \in \mathbb{R}$ and c is like in (a) or (b).

Exercise 2

Is

$$z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

in the span of

$$x = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad y = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}?$$

If so, find $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $z = \alpha x + \beta y$.

Exercise 3

1. Prove that

$$\mu_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mu_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mu_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

are linearly independent.

2. Is $\{\mu_1, \mu_2, \mu_3\}$ a basis of \mathbb{R}^3 ?

Hint to Exercise 3

(1) solve $\lambda_1\mu_1 + \lambda_2\mu_2 + \lambda_3\mu_3 = 0$. (2) A free family of the same size as the dimension of the vector space.

Exercise 4

Consider the following transformations:

$$L_1: \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}^2, \quad \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} y \\ x \end{pmatrix}$$
$$L_2: \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}^2, \quad \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} x^2 \\ y \end{pmatrix}$$
$$L_3: \mathbb{R}^3 \to \mathbb{R}^3, \quad \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} z+y \\ z-y \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Are they linear? Justify your answers.

Hint to Exercise 4

Use the definition of a linear transformation.

Exercise 5

- 1. Prove that if $T: U \to V$ is a linear transformation, then $T(0_U) = 0_V$.
- 2. Prove that a linear transformation $T:U\to V$ is injective if and only if

$$\ker(T) = \{0_U\}.$$

Hint to Exercise 5

(1) Use $0_U = 0_U - 0_U$ then linearity. (2) Prove one implication, then the other.

Exercise 6

Determine whether the following functions are injective, surjective, or bijective:

1. $f_1: \{a, b, c\} \to \{a, b, c, d\}$ defined by:

$$f_1(a) = a, \quad f_1(b) = b, \quad f_1(c) = c$$

2. $f_2: \{a, b, c\} \rightarrow \{a, b, c, d\}$ defined by:

$$f_2(a) = a$$
, $f_2(b) = a$, $f_2(c) = c$

3. $f_3: \{a, b, c\} \to \{a, b, c\}$ defined by:

$$f_3(a) = b$$
, $f_3(b) = c$, $f_3(c) = a$

Hint to Exercise 6

(1) injective by not surjective, (2) not injective, not surjective (3) bijective.