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# MATHEMATICS-II

## *UNIT-4 : VECTOR SPACES*

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# Vector Spaces

Vector space is a nonempty set of objects that satisfies several axioms. These objects are called *vectors*. In this chapter, we mainly work with two operations: addition of two objects and multiplication between a scalar and an object.

## 6.1 Tutorial : Real Vector Spaces

### Definition

Let  $V$  be a nonempty set of objects on which two operations are defined: addition and multiplication by a scalar. *Addition* is a rule that associates with each pair of objects  $u$  and  $v$  in  $V$  an object  $u + v$ ; *scalar multiplication* is a rule that associates with each scalar  $k$  and each object  $u$  an object  $ku$ . Then  $V$  is called *vector space* if for all objects  $u, v, w$  in  $V$  and all scalars  $k$  and  $m$ , the following axioms are satisfied:

- (1)  $V$  is closed under addition, i.e.  $u, v \in V \Rightarrow u + v \in V$ ;
- (2)  $u + v = v + u$ ;
- (3)  $u + (v + w) = (u + v) + w$ ;
- (4) There is an object  $0 \in V$ , called the *zero* for  $V$ , such that  $u + 0 = 0$  for all  $u \in V$ ;
- (5) For each  $u \in V$ , there is an object  $-u \in V$ , called the *negative* of  $u$ , such that  $u + (-u) = 0$ ;
- (6)  $V$  is closed under scalar multiplication, i.e.  $u \in V \Rightarrow ku \in V$  for every scalar  $k$ ;
- (7)  $k(u + v) = ku + kv$ ;
- (8)  $(k + m)u = ku + mu$ ;
- (9)  $k(mu) = (km)u$ ;
- (10)  $1u = u$ .

**Remark.** In the above definition, scalars may be real numbers or complex numbers. Vector spaces in which the scalars are real numbers are called *real vector spaces*, and those in which the scalars are complex numbers are called *complex vector spaces*. We will discuss real vector spaces only. Complex vector spaces are beyond the scope of this book.

**Examples of Standard Vector Spaces**

- (1) The set  $\mathbb{R}^n = \{(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n) \mid u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n \in \mathbb{R}\}$  is a vector space under the operations defined as follows:

If  $u = (u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)$  and  $v = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n)$  are in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $k$  is any scalar, then

$$u + v = (u_1 + v_1, u_2 + v_2, \dots, u_n + v_n) \quad \text{and} \quad ku = (ku_1, ku_2, \dots, ku_n).$$

These operations on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  are called the *standard operations*.

- (2) The set  $M_{22} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \mid a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$  is a vector space with the operations defined as follows:

If  $A = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $B = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 & b_2 \\ b_3 & b_4 \end{bmatrix}$  are in  $M_{22}$  and  $k$  is any scalar, then

$$A + B = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 + b_1 & a_2 + b_2 \\ a_3 + b_3 & a_4 + b_4 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad kA = \begin{bmatrix} ka_1 & ka_2 \\ ka_3 & ka_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

These operations are standard matrix addition and scalar multiplication.

- (3) The set  $P_n = \{a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n \mid a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{R}\}$  is a vector space under the operations defined as follows:

If  $p(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n$  and  $q(x) = b_0 + b_1x + \dots + b_nx^n$  are in  $P_n$  and  $k$  is any scalar, then

$$p(x) + q(x) = (a_0 + b_0) + (a_1 + b_1)x + \dots + (a_n + b_n)x^n$$

and

$$kp(x) = ka_0 + ka_1x + \dots + ka_nx^n.$$

**Note:** It is worth checking that above are vector spaces.

**Solved Examples**

**Example 6.1.1.** Check whether the set  $V = \mathbb{R}^2$  is a vector space under the operations

$$(u_1, u_2) + (v_1, v_2) = (u_1 + u_2 - 1, v_1 + v_2 - 1) \quad \text{and} \quad k(u_1, u_2) = (ku_1, ku_2).$$

**Solution.** Let  $u = (u_1, u_2)$ ,  $v = (v_1, v_2)$ ,  $w = (w_1, w_2)$  be in  $V$  and  $k, m$  be any scalars.

**Axiom 1.** Observe that

$$u + v = (u_1, u_2) + (v_1, v_2) = (u_1 + v_1 - 1, u_2 + v_2 - 1) \in V$$

because  $u_1 + v_1 - 1, u_2 + v_2 - 1 \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**Axiom 2.** Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} u + v &= (u_1, u_2) + (v_1, v_2) \\ &= (u_1 + v_1 - 1, u_2 + v_2 - 1) \\ &= (v_1 + u_1 - 1, v_2 + u_2 - 1) \quad (\because u_i, v_i, 1 \in \mathbb{R}) \\ &= (v_1, v_2) + (u_1, u_2) \end{aligned}$$

$$= v + u.$$

**Axiom 3.** Observe that

$$\begin{aligned}
 u + (v + w) &= (u_1, u_2) + [(v_1, v_2) + (w_1, w_2)] \\
 &= (u_1, u_2) + (v_1 + w_1 - 1, v_2 + w_2 - 1) \\
 &= [u_1 + (v_1 + w_1 - 1) - 1, u_2 + (v_2 + w_2 - 1) - 1] \\
 &= [(u_1 + v_1 - 1) + w_1 - 1, (u_2 + v_2 - 1) + w_2 - 1] \quad (\because u_i, v_i, w_i, 1 \in \mathbb{R}) \\
 &= (u_1 + v_1 - 1, u_2 + v_2 - 1) + (w_1, w_2) \\
 &= [(u_1, u_2) + (v_1, v_2)] + (w_1, w_2) \\
 &= (u + v) + w.
 \end{aligned}$$

**Axiom 4.** For any  $u = (u_1, u_2) \in V$ , let  $0 = (1, 1)$ . Then  $0 \in V$ . Also,

$$u + 0 = (u_1, u_2) + (1, 1) = (u_1 + 1 - 1, u_2 + 1 - 1) = (u_1, u_2) = u.$$

Thus  $(1, 1)$  is the zero of  $V$ .

**Axiom 5.** For any  $u = (u_1, u_2) \in V$ , let  $-u = (-u_1 + 2, -u_2 + 2) \in V$ . Then,

$$u + (-u) = (u_1, u_2) + (-u_1 + 2, -u_2 + 2) = (u_1 - u_1 + 2 - 1, u_2 - u_2 + 2 - 1) = (1, 1) = 0.$$

**Axiom 6.** Observe that

$$ku = k(u_1, u_2) = (ku_1, ku_2) \in V$$

because  $ku_1, ku_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**Axiom 7.** Observe that

$$\begin{aligned}
 k(u + v) &= k[(u_1, u_2) + (v_1, v_2)] \\
 &= k(u_1 + v_1 - 1, u_2 + v_2 - 1) \\
 &= (ku_1 + kv_1 - k, ku_2 + kv_2 - k)
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 ku + kv &= k(u_1, u_2) + k(v_1, v_2) \\
 &= (ku_1, ku_2) + (kv_1, kv_2) \\
 &= (ku_1 + kv_1 - 1, ku_2 + kv_2 - 1)
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$k(u + v) \neq ku + kv \quad \text{if } k \neq 1.$$

Hence  $V$  is not a vector space. ■

**Example 6.1.2.** Show that the set of all pairs of real numbers of the form  $(1, y)$  is a not vector space with the standard operations.

**Solution.** Let  $V = \{(1, y) \mid y \in \mathbb{R}\}$  and let  $u = (1, y_1)$  and  $v = (1, y_2)$  in  $V$ . Then

$$u + v = (1, y_1) + (1, y_2) = (1 + 1, y_1 + y_2) = (2, y_1 + y_2).$$

Since the first coordinate is not 1,  $u + v \notin V$ . Thus  $V$  is not a vector space. ■

**Example 6.1.3.** Show that the set of all  $2 \times 2$  matrices of the form  $\begin{bmatrix} a & 1 \\ 1 & b \end{bmatrix}$  is a vector space under the operations

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & 1 \\ 1 & b \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} c & 1 \\ 1 & d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a+c & 1 \\ 1 & b+d \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad k \begin{bmatrix} a & 1 \\ 1 & b \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} ka & 1 \\ 1 & kb \end{bmatrix}$$

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**Solution.** Let  $V = \left\{ A \in M_{22} \mid A = \begin{bmatrix} a & 1 \\ 1 & b \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ . We verify all the axioms for the vector space.

For that, let  $A_1 = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & 1 \\ 1 & b_1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} a_2 & 1 \\ 1 & b_2 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $A_3 = \begin{bmatrix} a_3 & 1 \\ 1 & b_3 \end{bmatrix}$  in  $V$  and  $k, m$  be any scalars.

**Axiom 1.** Observe that

$$A_1 + A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & 1 \\ 1 & b_1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} a_2 & 1 \\ 1 & b_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 + a_2 & 1 \\ 1 & b_1 + b_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

which is of the form given in  $V$  because  $a_1 + a_2, b_1 + b_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ . Thus  $A_1 + A_2 \in V$ .

**Axiom 2.** Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} A_1 + A_2 &= \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & 1 \\ 1 & b_1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} a_2 & 1 \\ 1 & b_2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} a_1 + a_2 & 1 \\ 1 & b_1 + b_2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} a_2 + a_1 & 1 \\ 1 & b_2 + b_1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} a_2 & 1 \\ 1 & b_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & 1 \\ 1 & b_1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= A_2 + A_1. \end{aligned}$$

**Axiom 3.** Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} A_1 + (A_2 + A_3) &= \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & 1 \\ 1 & b_1 \end{bmatrix} + \left( \begin{bmatrix} a_2 & 1 \\ 1 & b_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} a_3 & 1 \\ 1 & b_3 \end{bmatrix} \right) \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & 1 \\ 1 & b_1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} a_2 + a_3 & 1 \\ 1 & b_2 + b_3 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} a_1 + (a_2 + a_3) & 1 \\ 1 & b_1 + (b_2 + b_3) \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} (a_1 + a_2) + a_3 & 1 \\ 1 & (b_1 + b_2) + b_3 \end{bmatrix} \quad (\because a_i, b_i \in \mathbb{R}) \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} a_1 + a_2 & 1 \\ 1 & b_1 + b_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} a_3 & 1 \\ 1 & b_3 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \left( \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & 1 \\ 1 & b_1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} a_2 & 1 \\ 1 & b_2 \end{bmatrix} \right) + \begin{bmatrix} a_3 & 1 \\ 1 & b_3 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= (A_1 + A_2) + A_3. \end{aligned}$$

**Axiom 4.** For any  $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & 1 \\ 1 & b \end{bmatrix} \in V$ , let  $0 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ . Then  $0 \in V$ . Also

$$A + 0 = \begin{bmatrix} a & 1 \\ 1 & b \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a+0 & 1 \\ 1 & b+0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & 1 \\ 1 & b \end{bmatrix} = A.$$

**Axiom 5.** For any  $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & 1 \\ 1 & b \end{bmatrix} \in V$ , let  $-A = \begin{bmatrix} -a & 1 \\ 1 & -b \end{bmatrix}$ . Then  $-A \in V$ . Also

$$A + (-A) = \begin{bmatrix} a & 1 \\ 1 & b \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -a & 1 \\ 1 & -b \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a-a & 1 \\ 1 & b-b \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = 0.$$

**Axiom 6.** Observe that

$$kA_1 = k \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & 1 \\ 1 & b_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} ka_1 & 1 \\ 1 & kb_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

which is of the form given in  $V$  because  $ka_1, kb_1 \in \mathbb{R}$ . Thus  $kA_1 \in V$ .

**Axiom 7.** Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} k(A_1 + A_2) &= k \begin{bmatrix} a_1 + a_2 & 1 \\ 1 & b_1 + b_2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} k(a_1 + a_2) & 1 \\ 1 & k(b_1 + b_2) \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} ka_1 + ka_2 & 1 \\ 1 & kb_1 + kb_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (\because k, a_1, a_2, b_1, b_2 \in \mathbb{R}) \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} ka_1 & 1 \\ 1 & kb_1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} ka_2 & 1 \\ 1 & kb_2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= k \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & 1 \\ 1 & b_1 \end{bmatrix} + k \begin{bmatrix} a_2 & 1 \\ 1 & b_2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= kA_1 + kA_2. \end{aligned}$$

**Axiom 8.** Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} (k + m)A_1 &= (k + m) \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & 1 \\ 1 & b_1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} (k + m)a_1 & 1 \\ 1 & (k + m)b_1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} ka_1 + ma_1 & 1 \\ 1 & kb_1 + mb_1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (\because k, m, a_1, b_1 \in \mathbb{R}) \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} ka_1 & 1 \\ 1 & kb_1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} ma_1 & 1 \\ 1 & mb_1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= k \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & 1 \\ 1 & b_1 \end{bmatrix} + m \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & 1 \\ 1 & b_1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= kA_1 + mA_1. \end{aligned}$$

**Axiom 9.** Observe that

$$\begin{aligned}
 (km)A_1 &= (km) \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & 1 \\ 1 & b_1 \end{bmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{bmatrix} (km)a_1 & 1 \\ 1 & (km)b_1 \end{bmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{bmatrix} k(ma_1) & 1 \\ 1 & k(mb_1) \end{bmatrix} \quad (\because k, m, a_1, b_1 \in \mathbb{R}) \\
 &= k \begin{bmatrix} ma_1 & 1 \\ 1 & mb_1 \end{bmatrix} \\
 &= k \left( m \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & 1 \\ 1 & b_1 \end{bmatrix} \right) \\
 &= k(mA_1).
 \end{aligned}$$

**Axiom 10.** Observe that

$$1A_1 = 1 \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & 1 \\ 1 & b_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1a_1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1b_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & 1 \\ 1 & b_1 \end{bmatrix} = A_1.$$

Hence  $V$  is a vector space. ■

### Exercises

**Exercise 6.1.1.** Show that the set of all pairs of real numbers of the form  $(1, y)$  is a vector space under the operations

$$(1, y_1) + (1, y_2) = (1, y_1 + y_2) \quad \text{and} \quad k(1, y) = (1, ky).$$

**Remark.** You must have observed that the same set was shown as not forming a vector space in Example 6.1.2. In fact, a set along with operations will make a vector space.

**Exercise 6.1.2.** Show that the set of all triples of real numbers  $(u_1, u_2, u_3)$  is not a vector space with the operations

$$(u_1, u_2, u_3) + (v_1, v_2, v_3) = (u_1 + v_1, u_2 + v_2, u_3 + v_3) \quad \text{and} \quad k(u_1, u_2, u_3) = (0, 0, 0).$$

**Exercise 6.1.3.** Show that the set  $V = \mathbb{R}^3$  is not a vector space under the operations

$$(u_1, u_2, u_3) + (v_1, v_2, v_3) = (u_1 + v_1, u_2 + v_2, u_3 + v_3) \quad \text{and} \quad k(u_1, u_2, u_3) = (u_1, u_2, ku_3).$$

**Exercise 6.1.4.** Determine whether the set of all  $2 \times 2$  matrices of the form  $\begin{bmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & b \end{bmatrix}$  is a vector space under the standard matrix addition and scalar multiplication.

**Exercise 6.1.5.** Show that the set of polynomials of the form  $a + bx$  ( $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ ) is a vector space under the operations

$$(a_0 + a_1x) + (b_0 + b_1x) = (a_0 + b_0) + (a_1 + b_1)x \quad \text{and} \quad k(a_0 + a_1x) = (ka_0) + (ka_1)x.$$



**Exercise 6.1.6.** Check whether  $V = \mathbb{R}^2$  is a vector space with respect to the operations

$$(u_1, u_2) + (v_1, v_2) = (u_1 + v_1 - 2, u_2 + v_2 - 3) \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha(u_1, u_2) = (\alpha u_1 + 2\alpha - 2, \alpha u_2 - 3\alpha + 3).$$

Clearly mention the axioms which are failed to be hold.

**Exercise 6.1.7.** Check whether the set  $V = \mathbb{R}^+$  is a vector space under the operations

$$x + y = xy, \quad \text{and} \quad kx = x^k.$$

**Exercise 6.1.8.** Check whether the set  $V = \mathbb{R}^2$  is a vector space under the operations

$$(x, y) + (x', y') = (x + x', 2y + y') \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha(x, y) = (\alpha x, \alpha y).$$

**Exercise 6.1.9.** Why  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is not a vector space with the following operations? Justify.

(a)  $(x, y) + (x', y') = (x + x', y + y') \quad \text{and} \quad k(x, y) = (k^2 x, k^2 y)$

(b)  $(x, y) + (x', y') = (x + x', y + y') \quad \text{and} \quad k(x, y) = (2kx, 2ky)$

(c)  $(x, y) + (x', y') = (y + y', x + x') \quad \text{and} \quad k(x, y) = (kx, ky)$

### Answers

**6.1.4** yes    **6.1.6** no    **6.1.7** yes    **6.1.8** no



## 6.2 Tutorial : Subspaces

### Definition

Let  $V$  be a vector space and  $W$  be any subset of  $V$ . Then  $W$  is called a *subspace* of  $V$  if  $W$  itself is a vector space under the addition and scalar multiplication defined on  $V$ .

### Necessary and Sufficient Conditions for Subspace

Let  $W$  be a subset of a vector space  $V$ . Then  $W$  is a subspace of  $V$  if and only if

- (1)  $W$  is nonempty;
- (2)  $W$  is closed under addition:  $u, v \in W \Rightarrow u + v \in W$ ;
- (3)  $W$  is closed scalar multiplication:  $u \in W \Rightarrow ku \in W$  for every scalar  $k$ .

**Remark.** We will use these for checking subspaces.

### Solved Examples

**Example 6.2.1.** Determine whether the following sets are subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

- (a) all vectors of the form  $(a, b, 0)$ ;
- (b) all vectors of the form  $(a, b, 1)$ ;
- (c) all vectors of the form  $(a, b, c)$ , where  $c = a + b$ ;

**Solution.** (a) Let  $W = \{(a, b, 0) : a, b \in \mathbb{R}\}$ .

- Observe that  $0 = (0, 0, 0) \in W$  since the third component of  $0$  is  $0$ . So  $W$  is nonempty.
- For any  $u = (a, b, 0), v = (c, d, 0) \in W$ ,

$$u + v = (a, b, 0) + (c, d, 0) = (a + c, b + d, 0) \in W$$

because the third component of  $u + v$  is  $0$  and  $a + c, b + d \in \mathbb{R}$ .

- For any  $u = (a, b, 0) \in W$  and for any scalar  $k$ ,

$$ku = k(a, b, 0) = (ka, kb, 0) \in W$$

because the third component of  $ku$  is  $0$  and  $ka, kb \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Thus  $W$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

- (b) Let  $W = \{(a, b, 1) : a, b \in \mathbb{R}\}$ . If we take  $u = (2, 3, 1), v = (-1, 2, 1) \in W$ , then

$$u + v = (2, 3, 1) + (-1, 2, 1) = (1, 5, 2) \notin W$$

because the third component is not  $1$ . Thus  $W$  is not a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

- (c) Let  $W = \{(a, b, c) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : c = a + b\}$ .

- Observe that  $0 = (0, 0, 0) \in W$  since  $0 = 0 + 0$ .

- Let  $u = (a_1, b_1, c_1), v = (a_2, b_2, c_2) \in W$ . Then  $c_1 = a_1 + b_1$  and  $c_2 = a_2 + b_2$ . Now

$$u + v = (a_1, b_1, c_1) + (a_2, b_2, c_2) = (a_1 + a_2, b_1 + b_2, c_1 + c_2).$$

Since  $c_1 + c_2 = (a_1 + b_1) + (a_2 + b_2) = (a_1 + a_2) + (b_1 + b_2)$ , we get  $u + v \in W$ .

- Let  $u = (a, b, c) \in W$  and  $k$  be any scalar. Then  $c = a + b$ . Now

$$ku = k(a, b, c) = (ka, kb, kc).$$

Since  $kc = k(a + b) = ka + kb$ , we get  $ku \in W$ .

Thus  $W$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . ■

**Example 6.2.2.** Show that the set  $W = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & -a \end{bmatrix} \mid a, b, c \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$  is a subspace of  $M_{22}$ .

**Solution.** We verify all the conditions for the subspace.

- Observe that  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in W$  because  $0 = -0$ .
- Let  $A_1 = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ c_1 & -a_1 \end{bmatrix}, A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} a_2 & b_2 \\ c_2 & -a_2 \end{bmatrix} \in W$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} A_1 + A_2 &= \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ c_1 & -a_1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} a_2 & b_2 \\ c_2 & -a_2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} a_1 + a_2 & b_1 + b_2 \\ c_1 + c_2 & -a_1 - a_2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} a_1 + a_2 & b_1 + b_2 \\ c_1 + c_2 & -(a_1 + a_2) \end{bmatrix} \in W \end{aligned}$$

because it is of the form given in  $W$ .

- Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & -a \end{bmatrix} \in W$  and  $k$  be any scalar. Then

$$kA = k \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & -a \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} ka & kb \\ kc & -ka \end{bmatrix} \in W$$

because it is of the form given in  $W$ .

Thus  $W$  is a subspace. ■

**Example 6.2.3.** Check whether the set  $W = \{A \in M_{22} \mid \det(A) = 0\}$  is a subspace of  $M_{22}$ .

**Solution.** Consider the following matrices:

$$A_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Since  $\det(A_1) = 0$  and  $\det(A_2) = 0$ , we have  $A_1, A_2 \in W$ . Now

$$A_1 + A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

So,  $\det(A_1 + A_2) = -1 \neq 0$ . Thus  $A_1 + A_2 \notin W$ . Hence  $W$  is not a subspace of  $M_{22}$ . ■

**Example 6.2.4.** Check whether the set

$$W = \{a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3, \text{ where } a_0 + a_1 + a_2 + a_3 = 0; a_i \in \mathbb{R}, i = 0, 1, 2, 3\}$$

is a subspace of  $P_3$ .

[GTU, May 2012]

**Solution.** We verify all the conditions for the subspace.

- Observe that  $0 = 0 + 0x + 0x^2 + 0x^3 \in W$  since  $0 + 0 + 0 + 0 = 0$ . Thus  $W$  is nonempty.
- Let  $p(x), q(x) \in W$ . Then

$$p(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3, \text{ where } a_0 + a_1 + a_2 + a_3 = 0.$$

and

$$q(x) = b_0 + b_1x + b_2x^2 + b_3x^3, \text{ where } b_0 + b_1 + b_2 + b_3 = 0.$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned} p(x) + q(x) &= (a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3) + (b_0 + b_1x + b_2x^2 + b_3x^3) \\ &= (a_0 + b_0) + (a_1 + b_1)x + (a_2 + b_2)x^2 + (a_3 + b_3)x^3. \end{aligned}$$

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} &(a_0 + b_0) + (a_1 + b_1) + (a_2 + b_2) + (a_3 + b_3) \\ &= (a_0 + a_1 + a_2 + a_3) + (b_0 + b_1 + b_2 + b_3) \\ &= 0 + 0 = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $p(x) + q(x) \in W$ .

- Let  $p(x) \in W$  and  $k$  be any scalar. Then

$$p(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3, \text{ where } a_0 + a_1 + a_2 + a_3 = 0.$$

Now

$$kp(x) = k(a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3) = ka_0 + ka_1x + ka_2x^2 + ka_3x^3.$$

Observe that

$$ka_0 + ka_1 + ka_2 + ka_3 = k(a_0 + a_1 + a_2 + a_3) = k(0) = 0.$$

Thus  $kp(x) \in W$ .

Hence  $W$  is a subspace of  $P_3$  ■

## Exercises

**Exercise 6.2.1.** Determine whether the following sets are subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

(a) all vectors of the form  $(a, 0, 0)$

(b) all vectors of the form  $(a, 1, 1)$

(c) all vectors of the form  $(a, b, c)$ , where  $b = a + c + 1$

[GTU, June 2013]

**Exercise 6.2.2.** Show that  $V = \{(x, y) \mid x = 3y\}$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . State all possible subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

[GTU, June 2009]

**Exercise 6.2.3.** Check whether  $W = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid ax + by + cz = 0; a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}\}$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

[GTU, July 2011]

**Exercise 6.2.4.** Check whether  $W = \{A \in M_{22} \mid \det(A) \neq 0\}$  is a subspace of  $M_{22}$ .

**Exercise 6.2.5.** Check whether  $W = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \in M_{22} \mid a + b + c + d = 1 \right\}$  is a subspace of  $M_{22}$ .

**Exercise 6.2.6.** Check whether  $W = \{A \in M_n(\mathbb{R}) \mid \text{tr}(A) = 0\}$  is a subspace of  $M_n(\mathbb{R})$ .

**Exercise 6.2.7.** Show that the set of all  $n \times n$  symmetric matrices is a subspace of  $M_n(\mathbb{R})$ .

**Exercise 6.2.8.** Check whether  $W = \{a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3 \in P_3 \mid a_0 = 0\}$  is a subspace of  $P_3$ .

**Exercise 6.2.9.** Check whether the set

$$W = \{a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3 \in P_3 \mid a'_i \text{ are integers for } i = 0, 1, 2, 3\}$$

is a subspace of  $P_3$ .

**Exercise 6.2.10.** Determine which of the following sets are subspaces of  $P_n$ ?

(a)  $W = \{p(x) \in P_n \mid \deg p(x) \leq 2\}$

(b)  $W = \{p(x) \in P_n \mid \deg p(x) \geq 2\}$

(c)  $W = \{p(x) \in P_n \mid p(x) = a_0 + a_1x^2 + a_2x^4 + \cdots + a_nx^{2n}\}$

**Exercise 6.2.11.** Check whether  $W = \{f \in F(-\infty, \infty) \mid f(x) \leq 0, \forall x\}$  is a subspace of  $F(-\infty, \infty)$ .

[GTU, June 2010]

**Exercise 6.2.12.** Check whether  $W = \{f \in F(-\infty, \infty) \mid f(0) = 1\}$  is a subspace of  $F(-\infty, \infty)$ .

## Answers

**6.2.1** (a) yes (b) no (c) no **6.2.2** origin, a line through origin,  $\mathbb{R}^2$  **6.2.3** yes

**6.2.4** no **6.2.5** no **6.2.6** yes **6.2.7** yes **6.2.8** yes **6.2.9** no

**6.2.10** (a) yes (b) no (c) yes **6.2.11** no **6.2.12** no



## 6.3 Tutorial : Linear Dependence & Independence

### Definition

The vectors  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  are said to be *linear dependent* if there exist scalars  $k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n$ , not all zero such that

$$k_1 v_1 + k_2 v_2 + \dots + k_n v_n = 0$$

and *linearly independent* if

$$k_1 v_1 + k_2 v_2 + \dots + k_n v_n = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad k_1 = k_2 = \dots = k_n = 0.$$

### Theorems on Linear Dependence & Independence

- (1) Let  $S = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  be a set of  $n$  vectors. Then  $S$  is linearly dependent if and only if one of the vectors in  $S$  can be expressed as a linear combination of the other vectors in  $S$ .
- (2) A set of two vectors is linearly dependent if and only if one vector is a scalar multiple of the other.
- (3) A set containing zero vector is linearly dependent.
- (4) If  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k$  are vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $k > n$ , then the vectors are linearly dependent.

### Solved Examples

**Example 6.3.1.** Prove that the set of vectors  $\{(1, 2, 2), (2, 1, 2), (2, 2, 1)\}$  is linearly independent in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . [GTU, July 2011]

**Solution.** Let  $v_1 = (1, 2, 2), v_2 = (2, 1, 2), v_3 = (2, 2, 1)$ . Suppose that

$$\begin{aligned} k_1 v_1 + k_2 v_2 + k_3 v_3 &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow k_1(1, 2, 2) + k_2(2, 1, 2) + k_3(2, 2, 1) &= (0, 0, 0) \\ \Rightarrow (k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3, 2k_1 + k_2 + 2k_3, 2k_1 + 2k_2 + k_3) &= (0, 0, 0) \end{aligned}$$

Comparing the corresponding coefficients, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3 &= 0 \\ 2k_1 + k_2 + 2k_3 &= 0 \\ 2k_1 + 2k_2 + k_3 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

The coefficient matrix of the system is

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Observe that

$$\det(A) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 1(1 - 4) - 2(2 - 4) + 2(4 - 2) = -3 + 4 + 4 = 5 \neq 0.$$

Therefore, the system has only the trivial solution (see Remark in Tutorial 1.5).

$$k_1 = 0, \quad k_2 = 0, \quad k_3 = 0.$$

Hence  $v_1, v_2, v_3$  are linearly independent. ■

**Example 6.3.2.** Determine whether the vectors  $(-2, 0, 1), (3, 2, 5), (6, -1, 1), (7, 0, -2)$  are linearly independent or dependent in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

**Solution.** Here the number of vectors is 4 and the vector space is  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . Since  $4 > 3$ , the vectors are linearly dependent. ■

**Example 6.3.3.** Show that  $S = \{2x^2 - x + 7, x^2 + 4x + 2, x^2 - 2x + 4\}$  is linearly dependent in  $P_2$ .

**Solution.** Let  $p_1(x) = 2x^2 - x + 7, p_2(x) = x^2 + 4x + 2, p_3(x) = x^2 - 2x + 4$ . Suppose

$$\begin{aligned} k_1(2x^2 - x + 7) + k_2(x^2 + 4x + 2) + k_3(x^2 - 2x + 4) &= 0x^2 + 0x + 0 \\ \Rightarrow (2k_1 + k_2 + k_3)x^2 + (-k_1 + 4k_2 - 2k_3)x + (7k_1 + 2k_2 + 4k_3) &= 0x^2 + 0x + 0 \end{aligned}$$

Equating the corresponding coefficients of  $x^2, x, 1$  on both sides, we get

$$\begin{aligned} 2k_1 + k_2 + k_3 &= 0 \\ -k_1 + 4k_2 - 2k_3 &= 0 \\ 7k_1 + 2k_2 + 4k_3 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

The coefficient matrix of the system is

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 4 & -2 \\ 7 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Observe that

$$\det(A) = 2(16 + 4) - 1(-4 + 14) + 1(-2 - 28) = 40 - 10 - 30 = 0.$$

Consequently, the system will have a nontrivial solution. Thus there exist  $k_1, k_2, k_3$ , not all zero such that  $k_1p_1(x) + k_2p_2(x) + k_3p_3(x) = 0$ . Hence  $p_1(x), p_2(x), p_3(x)$  are linearly dependent. ■

**Example 6.3.4.** Determine whether the following vectors are linearly dependent or independent:

$$(i) \quad A_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 \\ -3 & 2 \end{bmatrix}; \quad A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -5 \\ 3 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \text{ in } M_{22}$$

$$(ii) \quad p_1 = 1 - x^2; \quad p_2 = 6 + 3x - 4x^2 \text{ in } P_2$$

**Solution.** It is known that two vectors are linearly dependent if and only if one is a scalar multiple of the other.

(i) Observe that  $A_1 = -A_2$ . Thus  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are linearly dependent.

(ii) Since  $p_1 \neq kp_2$  for any value of  $k$ ,  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  are linearly independent. ■

## Exercises

**Exercise 6.3.1.** Show that the set of vectors  $\{(2, 1, 1), (1, 2, 2), (1, 1, 1)\}$  is linearly dependent in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . **[GTU, July 2011]**

**Exercise 6.3.2.** Check whether the vectors  $(0, 0, 2, 2), (3, 3, 0, 0), (1, 1, 0, -1)$  are linearly independent in  $\mathbb{R}^4$  or not.

**Exercise 6.3.3.** Check whether  $S = \{(2, 2, 2), (-1, 3, 4), (0, 0, 1), (3, 0, 0)\}$  is linearly dependent or independent in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

**Exercise 6.3.4.** Show that  $S = \{1 - t - t^3, -2 + 3t + t^2 + 2t^3, 1 + t^2 + 5t^3\}$  is linearly independent in  $P_3$ . **[GTU, June 2010]**

**Exercise 6.3.5.** Show that the set  $S = \{1, x, e^x\}$  is linearly independent in  $C^2(-\infty, \infty)$ .

**Exercise 6.3.6.** Show that the set  $S = \{e^x, xe^x, x^2e^x\}$  in  $C^2(-\infty, \infty)$  is linearly independent. **[GTU, June 2010]**

## Answers

**6.3.2** yes    **6.3.3** linearly dependent





## 6.4 Tutorial : Basis and Dimension

### Basis

Let  $S = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  be a set of vectors in a vector space  $V$ . Then  $S$  is called a *basis* for  $V$  if it satisfies the following conditions:

- (1)  $S$  is linearly independent;
- (2)  $S$  spans  $V$ .

### Some Standard Bases

- (1) The set  $\{(1, 0, 0), (0, 1, 0), (0, 0, 1)\}$  is the standard basis for  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .
- (2) The set  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  is the standard basis for  $M_{22}$ .
- (3) The set  $\{1, x, x^2, \dots, x^n\}$  is the standard basis for  $P_n$ .

### Basis for span(S)

Let  $S = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  be a linearly independent set in vector space  $V$ . Then  $S$  is a basis for the subspace  $\text{span}(S)$  since the set  $S$  spans  $\text{span}(S)$  by definition of  $\text{span}(S)$ .

### Dimension

Let  $V$  be a vector space and  $S$  be any basis for  $V$ . Then the number of vectors in  $S$  is called the *dimension* of  $V$ . It is denoted by  $\dim(V)$ .

### Finite Dimensional Vector Space

A nonzero vector space  $V$  is called *finite-dimensional* if it contains a finite set of vectors  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  that forms a basis. If no such set exists, then  $V$  is called *infinite-dimensional*.

For example, the vector spaces  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ,  $M_{22}$  and  $P_n$  are finite-dimensional while  $F(-\infty, \infty)$ ,  $C(-\infty, \infty)$ ,  $C^n(-\infty, \infty)$  are infinite-dimensional.

### Theorems on Basis and Dimension

- (1) Let  $V$  be a vector space with  $\dim(V) = n$ .
  - (a) If a set has more than  $n$  vectors, then it is linearly dependent.
  - (b) If a set has fewer than  $n$  vectors, then it does not span  $V$ .
- (2) All bases for a finite dimensional vector space have the same number of vectors.
- (3) If  $S = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  is a basis for a vector space  $V$ , then every vector  $v \in V$  can be uniquely represented in the form

$$v = k_1 v_1 + k_2 v_2 + \dots + k_n v_n.$$

- (4) *Plus/Minus Theorem*: Let  $S$  be a nonempty subset of a vector space  $V$  and  $v$  be any vector in  $V$ .

- (a) If  $S$  is linearly independent and  $v \notin \text{Span}(S)$ , then the set  $S \cup \{v\}$  is also linearly independent.
- (b) If  $v \in S$  and it can be expressed as a linear combination of other vectors in  $S$ , then  $S$  and  $S - \{v\}$  span the same space, i.e.,

$$\text{span}(S) = \text{span}(S - \{v\}).$$

- (5) Let  $V$  be a vector space with  $\dim(V) = n$ . Then a set  $S$  in  $V$  with exactly  $n$  vectors is a basis for  $V$  if either  $S$  is linearly independent or  $S$  spans  $V$ .
- (6) Let  $V$  be a finite dimensional vector space and  $S$  be a finite subset of  $V$ .
  - (a) If  $S$  spans  $V$  but it is not a basis for  $V$ , then  $S$  can be reduced to a basis for  $V$  by removing appropriate vectors from  $S$ .
  - (b) If  $S$  is linearly independent but it is not a basis for  $V$ , then  $S$  can be extended to a basis for  $V$  by inserting appropriate vectors into  $S$ .
- (7) Let  $W$  be a subspace of a finite-dimensional vector space  $V$ . Then  $\dim(W) \leq \dim(V)$ . Further, if  $\dim(W) = \dim(V)$ , then  $W = V$ .

### Coordinate Vector Relative to a Basis

Let  $S = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  be a basis for a vector space  $V$  and

$$v = k_1v_1 + k_2v_2 + \cdots + k_nv_n$$

be the representation of a vector  $v$  in terms of the basis  $S$ . Then the scalars  $k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n$  are called the *coordinates* of  $v$  relative to the basis  $S$  and the vector

$$(v)_S = (k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n)$$

is called the *coordinate vector* of  $v$  relative to  $S$ .

### Solved Examples

**Example 6.4.1.** Show that  $S = \{(1, 3, 4), (-1, 0, 1), (4, 1, 2)\}$  forms a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

**Solution.** Since  $S$  has 3 vectors and  $\dim(\mathbb{R}^3) = 3$ , it is enough to show that  $S$  is linearly independent. Suppose that

$$\begin{aligned} k_1(1, 3, 4) + k_2(-1, 0, 1) + k_3(4, 1, 2) &= (0, 0, 0) \\ (3k_1 - k_2 + 4k_3, 3k_1 + k_3, 4k_1 + k_2 + 2k_3) &= (0, 0, 0) \end{aligned}$$

Comparing the corresponding components on both sides, we get

$$\begin{aligned} 3k_1 - k_2 + 4k_3 &= 0 \\ 3k_1 + 0k_2 + k_3 &= 0 \\ 4k_1 + k_2 + 2k_3 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

The coefficient matrix of the system is

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 & 4 \\ 3 & 0 & 1 \\ 4 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Observe that

$$\det(A) = 3(0 - 4) + 1(6 - 16) + 4(3 - 0) = -12 - 10 + 12 = -10 \neq 0.$$

Therefore, the system has only the trivial solution

$$k_1 = 0, \quad k_2 = 0, \quad k_3 = 0.$$

Thus  $S$  is linearly independent and hence forms a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . ■

**Example 6.4.2.** Check whether the set  $S = \{(2, 2, 2), (1, -1, -1), (0, 1, 1)\}$  forms a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^3$  or not.

**Solution.** Since  $S$  has 3 vectors and  $\dim(\mathbb{R}^3) = 3$ , it is enough to check whether  $S$  is linearly independent or not. Suppose that

$$\begin{aligned} k_1(2, 2, 2) + k_2(1, -1, -1) + k_3(0, 1, 1) &= (0, 0, 0) \\ (2k_1 + k_2, 2k_1 - k_2 + k_3, 2k_1 - k_2 + k_3) &= (0, 0, 0) \end{aligned}$$

Comparing the corresponding components on both sides, we get

$$\begin{aligned} 2k_1 + k_2 + 0k_3 &= 0 \\ 2k_1 - k_2 + k_3 &= 0 \\ 2k_1 - k_2 + k_3 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

The coefficient matrix of the system is

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 2 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Observe that

$$\det(A) = 2(-1 + 1) - 1(2 - 2) = 0 - 0 = 0.$$

Consequently, the system will have a nontrivial solution. Thus  $S$  is linearly dependent and hence does not form a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . ■

**Example 6.4.3.** Check whether the following polynomials form a basis for  $P_2$  or not.

$$p_1(x) = 5 + x^2, \quad p_2(x) = 5 - x + 2x^2, \quad p_3(x) = -x + x^2$$

**Solution.** Since the number of polynomials is 3 and  $\dim(P_2) = 3$ , it is enough to check whether the polynomials are linearly independent or not. Suppose that

$$\begin{aligned} k_1p_1(x) + k_2p_2(x) + k_3p_3(x) &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow k_1(5 + x^2) + k_2(5 - x + 2x^2) + k_3(-x + x^2) &= 0 + 0x + 0x^2 \\ \Rightarrow (5k_1 + 5k_2) + (-k_2 - k_3)x + (k_1 + 2k_2 + k_3)x^2 &= 0 + 0x + 0x^2 \end{aligned}$$

Comparing the corresponding coefficients of 1,  $x$  and  $x^2$  on both sides, we get

$$\begin{aligned} 5k_1 + 5k_2 + 0k_3 &= 0 \\ 0k_1 - k_2 - k_3 &= 0 \\ k_1 + 2k_2 + k_3 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

The coefficient matrix of the system is

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 5 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Observe that

$$\det(A) = 5(-1 + 2) - 5(0 + 1) = 5 - 5 = 0.$$

Consequently, the system will have a nontrivial solution. Thus  $p_1(x)$ ,  $p_2(x)$ ,  $p_3(x)$  are linearly dependent and hence do not form a basis for  $P_2$ . ■

**Example 6.4.4.** Show that  $S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  is a basis for  $M_{22}$ . [GTU, June 2010]

**Solution.** Since the number of vectors in  $S$  is 4 and  $\dim(M_{22}) = 4$ , it is enough to show that  $S$  is linearly independent. Suppose that

$$\begin{aligned} k_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} + k_2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + k_3 \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + k_4 \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} k_1 & 2k_1 - k_2 + 2k_3 \\ k_1 - k_2 + 3k_3 - k_4 & -2k_1 + k_3 + 2k_4 \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Comparing the corresponding entries in both matrices, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} k_1 &= 0 \\ 2k_1 - k_2 + 2k_3 &= 0 \\ k_1 - k_2 + 3k_3 - k_4 &= 0 \\ -2k_1 + k_3 + 2k_4 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

The coefficient matrix of the system is

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & -1 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 3 & -1 \\ -2 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Observe that

$$\det(A) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & -1 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 3 & -1 \\ -2 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 1 \begin{vmatrix} -1 & 2 & 0 \\ -1 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = -1(6 + 1) - 2(-2 + 0) = -3 \neq 0.$$

Therefore, the system has only the trivial solution

$$k_1 = 0, \quad k_2 = 0, \quad k_3 = 0 \quad k_4 = 0.$$

Thus  $S$  is linearly independent and hence forms a basis for  $M_{22}$ . ■

**Example 6.4.5.** Find the coordinate vector of  $p$  relative to the basis  $S = \{p_1, p_2, p_3\}$ , where  $p = 2 - x + x^2$ ,  $p_1 = 1 + x$ ,  $p_2 = 1 + x^2$ ,  $p_3 = x + x^2$ . [GTU, May 2012]

**Solution.** To find the coordinate vector of  $p$  relative to the basis  $S = \{p_1, p_2, p_3\}$ , we have to find  $k_1, k_2, k_3$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} p &= k_1 p_1 + k_2 p_2 + k_3 p_3 \\ \Rightarrow 2 - x + x^2 &= k_1(1 + x) + k_2(1 + x^2) + k_3(x + x^2) \\ \Rightarrow 2 - x + x^2 &= (k_1 + k_2) + (k_1 + k_3)x + (k_2 + k_3)x^2 \end{aligned}$$

Comparing the corresponding coefficients of 1,  $x$  and  $x^2$  on both sides, we get

$$\begin{aligned} k_1 + k_2 &= 2 \\ k_1 + k_3 &= -1 \\ k_2 + k_3 &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

The augmented matrix of the system is

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

Applying  $R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - R_1$ , we obtain

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

Applying  $R_3 \rightarrow R_3 + R_2$ , we obtain

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & -2 \end{array} \right]$$

Applying  $R_2 \rightarrow (-1)R_2$  and  $R_3 \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}R_3$ , we obtain

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 \end{array} \right]$$

The system corresponds to the last matrix is

$$k_1 + k_2 = 2 \quad k_2 - k_3 = 3 \quad k_3 = -1$$

Using back substitution, we obtain

$$k_1 = 0, \quad k_2 = 2, \quad k_3 = -1.$$

Thus the coordinate vector of  $p$  relative to  $S$  is  $(p)_S = (0, 2, -1)$ . ■

## Exercises

**Exercise 6.4.1.** Show that  $S = \{(3, 1, -4), (2, 5, 6), (1, 4, 8)\}$  is a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

**Exercise 6.4.2.** Show that  $S = \{(1, 6, 4), (2, 4, -1), (-1, 2, 5)\}$  is not a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

**Exercise 6.4.3.** Let  $v_1 = 1 - 3x + 2x^2$ ,  $v_2 = 1 - x + 4x^2$ ,  $v_3 = 1 - 7x$ . Show that the set  $S = \{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$  is a basis for  $P_2$ . **[GTU, June 2013]**

**Exercise 6.4.4.** Check whether the following vectors form a basis for  $M_{22}$ :

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 6 \\ 3 & -6 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -8 \\ -12 & -4 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Exercise 6.4.5.** Find a standard basis vector that can be added to the set  $S = \{(1, 0, 3), (2, 1, 4)\}$  to produce a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . **[GTU, May 2012]**

**Exercise 6.4.6.** Determine the dimension and basis for the solution space of the following system.

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 - 3x_2 + x_3 &= 0 \\ 2x_1 - 6x_2 + 2x_3 &= 0 \\ 3x_1 - 9x_2 + 3x_3 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

**Exercise 6.4.7.** Find basis and dimension of

$$W = \{(a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4) \in \mathbb{R}^4 \mid a_1 + a_2 = 0, a_2 + a_3 = 0, a_3 + a_4 = 0\}.$$

**[GTU, June 2010]**

**Exercise 6.4.8.** Find the dimension of the subspace

$$W = \{(a, b, c, d) \in \mathbb{R}^4 \mid d = a + b, c = a - b\}.$$

**Exercise 6.4.9.** If  $v_1 = (1, 2, 1)$ ,  $v_2 = (2, 9, 0)$ ,  $v_3 = (3, 3, 4)$ , show that  $S = \{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$  is a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . Find the coordinate vector of  $v = (5, -1, 9)$  w.r.t.  $S$ .

**Exercise 6.4.10.** Find the coordinate vector of  $p = 4 - 3x + x^2$  relative to the standard basis  $p_1 = 1, p_2 = x, p_3 = x^2$  of  $P_2$ .

## Answers

**6.4.4** yes    **6.4.5**  $(1, 0, 0)$

**6.4.6**  $\{(3, 1, 0), (-1, 0, 1)\}$ , 2-dimensional    **6.4.7**  $\{(-1, 1, -1, 1)\}$ , 1-dimensional

**6.4.8** 2-dimensional    **6.4.9**  $(1, -1, 2)$     **6.4.10**  $(4, -3, 1)$

