

Assignment 12

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Download codes from

<https://github.com/KUSUMAPRIYAPULAVARTY/assignment12>

1 QUESTION

Let \mathbf{V} be the set of real numbers. Regard \mathbf{V} as a vector space over the field of rational numbers, with usual operations. Prove that this vector space is not finite-dimensional.

2 SOLUTION

Given \mathbf{V} is a vector space over field \mathcal{Q} (rational numbers)
It is finite dimensional with dimensionality n if every vector \mathbf{v} in \mathbf{V} can be written as

$$\mathbf{v} = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} c_i \alpha_i \quad (2.0.1)$$

$$\text{where } c_i \in \mathcal{Q} \quad (2.0.2)$$

$$\text{and } \mathbf{B} = \{\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{n-1}\} \quad (2.0.3)$$

is the basis with linearly independent α_i

Let us consider the set of polynomials in k of degree less than equal to n

$$f(k) = a_0 + a_1 k + a_2 k^2 + \dots + a_{n-1} k^{n-1} \quad (2.0.4)$$

Checking if it is a subspace of \mathbf{V}

Any function of the form $f(ck_1 + k_2)$ (where $c \in \mathcal{Q}$) becomes

$$f(ck_1 + k_2) = a_0 + a_1(ck_1 + k_2) + \quad (2.0.5)$$

$$a_2(ck_1 + k_2)^2 + \dots + a_{n-1}(ck_1 + k_2)^{n-1} \quad (2.0.6)$$

which is also a polynomial of degree less than equal to n implying it is closed under scalar multiplication and vector addition.

Hence it forms a subspace with basis

$$\mathbf{B} = \{1, k, k^2, \dots, k^{n-1}\} \quad (2.0.7)$$

Clearly the set of vectors $\{1, k, k^2, k^3, \dots, k^{n-1}\}$ forms a linearly independent set since for $\beta_0, \beta_1, \beta_2, \dots \in \mathcal{Q}$

$$\beta_0(1) + \beta_1(k) + \beta_2(k^2) + \dots = 0 \quad (2.0.8)$$

$$\implies \beta_0 = 0, k(\beta_1 + \beta_2(k) + \dots) = 0 \quad (2.0.9)$$

$$\implies \beta_1 = 0, k(\beta_2 + \beta_3(k) + \dots) = 0 \quad (2.0.10)$$

$$\text{Therefore } \beta_0(1) + \beta_1(k) + \beta_2(k^2) + \dots = 0 \quad (2.0.11)$$

$$\iff \beta_0, \beta_1, \beta_2, \dots = 0 \quad (2.0.12)$$

and they also span the subspace as

$$f(k) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a_i k^i \quad (2.0.13)$$

So, \mathbf{B} forms a basis for the subspace

We know that e^k is a vector that lies in \mathbf{V}

$$e^k = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{k^i}{i!} \quad (2.0.14)$$

$$= 1 + \frac{k}{1!} + \frac{k^2}{2!} + \frac{k^3}{3!} + \dots \quad (2.0.15)$$

Representing e^k as a polynomial function,

$$f(k) = e^k = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} c_i k^i \quad (2.0.16)$$

$$\text{where } c_i = \frac{1}{i!} \in \mathcal{Q} \quad (2.0.17)$$

Since, (2.0.16) refers to an infinite summation, n is ∞

So, a subspace \mathbf{V} is not finite dimensional over \mathcal{Q}

So, the vector space \mathbf{V} of real numbers is not finite dimensional over the field of rational numbers \mathcal{Q}