

*The aesthetic appreciation of mathematics may require a strenuous apprenticeship, but the success or failure of a mathematical text should be measured, ultimately, by how far it succeeds in conveying to the reader the fundamental beauty of the subject.*

Lipman Bers

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Determinants and matrices</b>	<b>5</b>
1.1	Laplace's Theorem . . . . .	5
1.2	Vandermonde's determinant . . . . .	7
1.3	Circulants . . . . .	8
1.4	Rank. Elementary transformations. . . . .	8
<b>2</b>	<b>Vectors</b>	<b>17</b>
2.1	Vectors . . . . .	17
2.2	Scalar product and vector product . . . . .	18
2.3	Triple vector product . . . . .	20
2.4	Triple scalar product . . . . .	21
<b>3</b>	<b>Lines and planes in space</b>	<b>25</b>
3.1	Planes in space . . . . .	25
3.2	Straight lines in space . . . . .	27
3.3	Distance from a point to a line. Distance from a point to a plane . . . . .	29
<b>4</b>	<b>Linear spaces</b>	<b>41</b>
4.1	The definition of a linear space . . . . .	41
4.2	Linear subspaces . . . . .	43
4.3	Linear dependence, bases, dimension . . . . .	44
4.4	Coordinates. Change of bases . . . . .	46

---

<del>5</del>	<b>Inner product spaces</b>	<b>57</b>
5.1	Inner products . . . . .	57
5.2	Norm and distance . . . . .	59
5.3	Orthonormal bases . . . . .	60
6	<b>Linear transformations</b>	<b>67</b>
6.1	Linear transformations . . . . .	67
6.2	The matrix of a linear transformation . . . . .	69
6.3	Invariant subspaces. Eigenvalues and eigenvectors .	72
6.4	The Cayley-Hamilton Theorem . . . . .	74
6.5	The diagonal form . . . . .	75
6.6	Reduction to diagonal form . . . . .	78
6.7	The Jordan canonical form . . . . .	80
7	<b>Conics and quadrics</b>	<b>93</b>
	<b>Bibliography</b>	<b>101</b>

# PREFACE

The aim of these lecture notes is to give a grasp of some important ideas of Linear Algebra and Analytic Geometry and an ability to use their language and their techniques. The book is intended for students who will apply these theories in engineering.

Traditional notation and terminology are preserved; rigor is used as an aid rather than as an impediment to understanding. Some key theorems are explained and used without proof.

The exercises serve to develop skills and to strengthen understanding. Few of them, if any, should present difficulties to a student who read the corresponding parts of the theory. Of course, a mathematical text must be read slowly and, if possible, with pencil in hand. The reader should verify the calculations and supply the omitted steps.

As an invitation to Linear Algebra and Analytic Geometry, this book has an introductory character. It is intended to open the way to advanced books like those listed in the Bibliography.



---

# CHAPTER 1

---

## Determinants and matrices

The reader is assumed to have some knowledge of the elementary properties of determinants and matrices.

### 1.1 Laplace's Theorem

Let us consider a determinant  $D$  of order  $n$ . Let  $k$  be an integer,  $1 \leq k \leq n$ . Consider the rows  $i_1, \dots, i_k$  and the columns  $j_1, \dots, j_k$ . By deleting the other rows and columns we obtain a determinant of order  $k$ , called a *minor* of  $D$  and denoted by  $M_{j_1, \dots, j_k}^{i_1, \dots, i_k}$ .

Now, let us delete the rows  $i_1, \dots, i_k$  and the columns  $j_1, \dots, j_k$ ; we obtain a determinant of order  $n - k$ . It is called the *complementary minor* of  $M_{j_1, \dots, j_k}^{i_1, \dots, i_k}$  and is denoted by  $\widetilde{M}_{j_1, \dots, j_k}^{i_1, \dots, i_k}$ . Finally, let us denote  $A_{j_1, \dots, j_k}^{i_1, \dots, i_k} = (-1)^{i_1 + \dots + i_k + j_1 + \dots + j_k} \widetilde{M}_{j_1, \dots, j_k}^{i_1, \dots, i_k}$ .  $A_{j_1, \dots, j_k}^{i_1, \dots, i_k}$  is called the *cofactor* of  $M_{j_1, \dots, j_k}^{i_1, \dots, i_k}$ .

Using this notation we shall state (without proof) Laplace's Theorem:

**Theorem 1.1**  $D = \sum M_{j_1, \dots, j_k}^{i_1, \dots, i_k} A_{j_1, \dots, j_k}^{i_1, \dots, i_k}$ , where:

- 1) The indices  $i_1, \dots, i_k$  are fixed
- 2) The indices  $j_1, \dots, j_k$  take on all the possible values, such that  $1 \leq j_1 < j_2 < \dots < j_k \leq n$ .

**Remark 1.2** a) For  $k = 1$ , the above formula is the well-known expansion of a determinant using a fixed row.

b) In Theorem 1.1 we have used  $k$  fixed rows; a similar result obviously holds by using  $k$  fixed columns.

We shall use Laplace's formula in order to prove

**Theorem 1.3** Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_{n1} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $B = \begin{pmatrix} b_{11} & \dots & b_{1n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \\ b_{n1} & \dots & b_{nn} \end{pmatrix}$  where  $a_{ij}$  and  $b_{ij}$  are real or complex numbers. Then  $\det(A \cdot B) = \det A \cdot \det B$ .

**Proof.** Consider the determinant

$$D = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \dots & a_{nn} & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & b_{11} & b_{12} & \dots & b_{1n} \\ 0 & -1 & \dots & 0 & b_{21} & b_{22} & \dots & b_{2n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & -1 & b_{n1} & b_{n2} & \dots & b_{nn} \end{vmatrix}$$

Let us expand it with Laplace's formula, by using the first  $n$  rows. We obtain  $D = \det A \cdot (-1)^{n(n+1)} \det B = \det A \cdot \det B$ .

On the other hand, denote  $C = A \cdot B$ . The entries of the matrix  $C$  are  $c_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik} b_{kj}$ , for  $i, j = 1, \dots, n$ .

We shall transform  $D$ : the purpose is to replace the entries  $b_{ij}$  by 0.

1) To the column  $n + 1$  we add: column 1 multiplied by  $b_{11}$ , column 2 multiplied by  $b_{21}, \dots$ , column  $n$  multiplied by  $b_{n1}$ .

2) To the column  $n + 2$  we add: column 1 multiplied by  $b_{12}$ , column 2 multiplied by  $b_{22}, \dots$ , column  $n$  multiplied by  $b_{n2}$ .

...

- n) To the column  $2n$  we add: column 1 multiplied by  $b_{1n}, \dots$ , column  $n$  multiplied by  $b_{nn}$ .

Performing these operations, we obtain

$$D = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1n} & c_{11} & \dots & c_{1n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_{n1} & \dots & a_{nn} & c_{n1} & \dots & c_{nn} \\ -1 & \dots & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & -1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \end{vmatrix}$$

Now apply Laplace's formula by choosing the last  $n$  rows. It follows that  $D = (-1)^n (-1)^{1+2+\dots+2n} \det C = \det C = \det(A \cdot B)$ .

Hence  $\det(A \cdot B) = D = \det A \cdot \det B$ .  $\square$

## 1.2 Vandermonde's determinant

The following determinant of order  $n$ :

$$V(a_1, \dots, a_n) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ a_1 & a_2 & \dots & a_n \\ a_1^2 & a_2^2 & \dots & a_n^2 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_1^{n-1} & a_2^{n-1} & \dots & a_n^{n-1} \end{vmatrix}$$

is called the Vandermonde's determinant of the (real or complex) numbers  $a_1, \dots, a_n$ . By induction it can be proved that:

$$V(a_1, \dots, a_n) = \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (a_j - a_i)$$



### 1.3 Circulants

The following determinant is called a circulant:

$$C(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}) = \begin{vmatrix} a_0 & a_1 & a_2 & \dots & a_{n-1} \\ a_{n-1} & a_0 & a_1 & \dots & a_{n-2} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 & \dots & a_0 \end{vmatrix}$$

Let  $\epsilon_k = \cos \frac{2k\pi}{n} + i \sin \frac{2k\pi}{n}$ ,  $k = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$ . We have  $\epsilon_k^n = 1$ ,  $k = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$ . Let us denote  $f(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_{n-1}x^{n-1}$ .

**Theorem 1.4**  $C(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}) = f(\epsilon_0)f(\epsilon_1) \dots f(\epsilon_{n-1})$ .

**Proof.** We have a wonderful opportunity to emphasize the usefulness of the previous results concerning multiplication of determinants and Vandermonde determinants. In fact, Theorem 1.3 gives us

$$\begin{aligned} C(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}) \cdot V(\epsilon_0, \epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_{n-1}) &= \\ &= \begin{vmatrix} f(\epsilon_0) & f(\epsilon_1) & \dots & f(\epsilon_{n-1}) \\ \epsilon_0 f(\epsilon_0) & \epsilon_1 f(\epsilon_1) & \dots & \epsilon_{n-1} f(\epsilon_{n-1}) \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \epsilon_0^{n-1} f(\epsilon_0) & \epsilon_1^{n-1} f(\epsilon_1) & \dots & \epsilon_{n-1}^{n-1} f(\epsilon_{n-1}) \end{vmatrix} = \\ &= f(\epsilon_0)f(\epsilon_1) \dots f(\epsilon_{n-1})V(\epsilon_0, \epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_{n-1}). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\epsilon_0, \epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_{n-1}$  are pairwise distinct, we have  $V(\epsilon_0, \epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_{n-1}) \neq 0$  and hence  $C(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}) = f(\epsilon_0)f(\epsilon_1) \dots f(\epsilon_{n-1})$ .  $\square$

### 1.4 Rank. Elementary transformations.

Let  $K$  be the field of real numbers or the field of complex numbers. By  $\mathcal{M}_{n,m}(K)$  we shall denote the set of all matrices with  $n$  rows,  $m$  columns and having entries from  $K$ . The number  $r \in \mathbb{N}$  is called the rank of the matrix  $A \in \mathcal{M}_{n,m}(K)$  if

- 1) There exists a square submatrix  $M$  of  $A$ , with  $r$  rows and columns, such that  $\det M \neq 0$ .
- 2) If  $p > r$ , for every submatrix  $N$  of  $A$  having  $p$  rows and columns we have  $\det N = 0$ .

We shall denote the rank of  $A$  by  $r_A$ . It can be proved that if  $A \in \mathcal{M}_{n,m}(K)$  and  $B \in \mathcal{M}_{m,p}(K)$ , then

$$r_A + r_B - m \leq r_{AB} \leq \min\{r_A, r_B\}. \quad (1.1)$$

**Theorem 1.5** *Let  $A, B \in \mathcal{M}_{n,n}(K)$ ,  $\det A \neq 0$ . Then  $r_{AB} = r_B$ .*

**Proof.** Clearly  $r_A = n$ . By using (1.1) with  $m = p = n$  we obtain  $r_B \leq r_{AB} \leq r_B$ . Hence  $r_{AB} = r_B$ .  $\square$

**Definition 1.6** The following operations are called *elementary row transformations on the matrix  $A$* :

- 1) *The interchange of any two rows;*
- 2) *The multiplication of a row by any non-zero number;*
- 3) *The addition of one row to another.*

Similarly we can define the elementary column transformations.

Consider an arbitrary determinant. If it is nonzero, it will be nonzero after performing any elementary transformation; if it is equal to zero, it will remain equal to zero.

We conclude that *the rank of a matrix does not change if we perform any elementary transformation on the matrix*. So we can use elementary transformations in order to compute the rank of a matrix. Namely, given a matrix  $A \in \mathcal{M}_{n,m}(K)$ , we transform it - by an appropriate succession of elementary transformations - into a matrix  $B$  such that

- (i) the diagonal entries of  $B$  are either 0 or 1, all the 1's preceding all the 0's on the diagonal,

(ii) all the other entries of  $B$  are equal to 0.

Since the rank is invariant under elementary transformations, we have  $r_A = r_B$ ; but  $r_B$  is obviously equal to the number of 1's on the diagonal. The following example illustrates this method.

$$\begin{aligned}
 A &= \begin{pmatrix} -2 & -1 & 0 & -5 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 & 6 & -2 & -1 \\ 3 & 1 & -1 & 8 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 2 & -4 & -1 \\ -1 & -2 & -7 & 3 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 & 0 & -5 & -1 \\ -2 & 1 & 6 & -2 & -1 \\ -1 & 3 & -1 & 8 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 & -4 & -1 \\ 2 & -1 & -7 & 3 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \sim \\
 &\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & -3 & 6 & -12 & -3 \\ -1 & 1 & -1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 & -4 & -1 \\ 2 & 3 & -7 & 13 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 4 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 & -4 & -1 \\ 0 & 3 & -7 & 13 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \sim \\
 &\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 4 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \sim \\
 &\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{It follows that } r_A = 3.
 \end{aligned}$$

The following theorem offers a procedure to compute the inverse of a matrix (if this inverse exists).

**Theorem 1.7** *If a square matrix is reduced to the identity matrix by a sequence of elementary row operations, the same sequence of elementary row transformations performed on the identity matrix produces the inverse of the given matrix.*

**Example 1.4.1** Find the inverse of the matrix  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 6 & 7 & 6 \\ -1 & 2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ .

We write the given matrix and the identity:

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 6 & 7 & 6 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

Now we perform a succession of elementary *row* transformations in order to transform  $A$  into the identity; the same transformations are performed on the identity.

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -6 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -6 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 19 & -3 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 0 & 0 & -12 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -6 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 19 & -3 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

It follows that  $A^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} -12 & 2 & -1 \\ -6 & 1 & 0 \\ 19 & -3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

## Exercices

**1.1** Evaluate the following  $n^{th}$  order determinants by reduction to triangular form:

$$\begin{array}{ll}
\text{a)} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & \dots & n \\ -1 & 0 & 3 & \dots & n \\ -1 & -2 & 0 & \dots & n \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ -1 & -2 & -3 & \dots & 0 \end{vmatrix}; & \text{b)} \begin{vmatrix} b_1 & a_{12} & a_{13} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ b_1 & b_2 & a_{23} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 & \dots & a_{3n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 & \dots & b_n \end{vmatrix}; \\
\text{c)} \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 2 & 2 & \dots & 2 \\ 2 & 3 & 2 & \dots & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 3 & \dots & 2 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 2 & 2 & 2 & \dots & 3 \end{vmatrix}; & \text{d)} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & \dots & n-2 & n-1 & n \\ 2 & 3 & 4 & \dots & n-1 & n & n \\ 3 & 4 & 5 & \dots & n & n & n \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ n & n & n & \dots & n & n & n \end{vmatrix}.
\end{array}$$

**1.2** Calculate the determinant  $C(1, 2, \dots, n)$ .

**1.3** Calculate the determinant  $C(C_{n-1}^0, C_{n-1}^1, \dots, C_{n-1}^{n-1})$ .

**1.4** Calculate the  $n^{\text{th}}$  order determinant  $C(a, b, b, \dots, b)$ , with  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**1.5** For  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in \mathbf{C}$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, n$ , calculate the determinant

$$V_k(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ a_1 & a_2 & \dots & a_n \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_1^{k-1} & a_2^{k-1} & \dots & a_n^{k-1} \\ a_1^{k+1} & a_2^{k+1} & \dots & a_n^{k+1} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_1^n & a_2^n & \dots & a_n^n \end{vmatrix},$$

called the lacunary Vandermonde.

**1.6** Prove the following identities without expanding the determinants:

$$\begin{array}{ll}
\text{a)} \begin{vmatrix} 0 & a & b & c \\ a & 0 & c & b \\ b & c & 0 & a \\ c & b & a & 0 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & c^2 & b^2 \\ 1 & c^2 & 0 & a^2 \\ 1 & b^2 & a^2 & 0 \end{vmatrix}; & \text{b)} \begin{vmatrix} a & b & c \\ x & y & z \\ \alpha & \beta & \gamma \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a & -b & c \\ -x & y & -z \\ \alpha & -\beta & \gamma \end{vmatrix};
\end{array}$$

$$c) \begin{vmatrix} a & b & c \\ p & q & r \\ a\alpha & b\beta & c\gamma \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ bcp & acq & abr \\ \alpha & \beta & \gamma \end{vmatrix}.$$

**1.7** Compute the determinants by using Laplace's Rule:

$$a) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix}; \quad b) \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 9 & 4 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 7 \\ 4 & 5 & 1 & -1 & 2 & 4 \\ 3 & 8 & 3 & 7 & 6 & 9 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 7 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix}.$$

$$1.8 \text{ Calculate the determinant of order } 2n, D_{2n} = \begin{vmatrix} a & 0 & \dots & 0 & b \\ 0 & a & \dots & b & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & b & \dots & a & 0 \\ b & 0 & \dots & 0 & a \end{vmatrix}.$$

**1.9** Find the inverse of the matrix of order  $n$ :

$$a) A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & \dots & 1 & 1 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}; \quad b) B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & \dots & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & \dots & 1 & 1 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 1 & 1 & \dots & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$1.10 \text{ Find the inverse of the matrix } A = \begin{pmatrix} \hat{2} & \hat{3} & \hat{1} \\ \hat{0} & \hat{1} & \hat{4} \\ \hat{5} & \hat{6} & \hat{2} \end{pmatrix} \text{ in } \mathbb{Z}_7.$$

## Solutions

$$\boxed{1.1} \quad a) n!; \quad b) b_1(b_2 - a_{12})(b_3 - a_{23}) \cdots (b_n - a_{n-1,n}); \quad c) 1 + 2n; \quad d) (-1)^{n+1}n.$$

**1.2**  $C(1, 2, \dots, n) = \prod_{k=0}^n P(\varepsilon_k)$ , where  $\varepsilon_k^n = 1$  and  $P(X) = 1 + 2X + 3X^2 + \dots + nX^{n-1}$ . For  $\varepsilon_k \neq 1$ , we get  $P(\varepsilon_k) = \frac{n}{\varepsilon_k - 1}$  and  $P(1) = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$ .  $C(1, 2, \dots, n) = \frac{n^n(n+1)}{2} \prod_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{\varepsilon_k - 1}$ . The values  $\varepsilon_k, k = 1, \dots, n-1$  are the roots of the equation  $z^{n-1} + z^{n-2} + \dots + z + 1 = 0$ , so  $\prod_{k=1}^{n-1} (z - \varepsilon_k) = z^{n-1} + z^{n-2} + \dots + z + 1$ . Taking  $z = 1$ , we obtain  $\prod_{k=1}^{n-1} (\varepsilon_k - 1) = (-1)^{n-1} n$ , so  $C(1, 2, \dots, n) = (-1)^{n-1} \frac{n^{n-1}(n+1)}{2}$ .

**1.3**  $P(X) = C_{n-1}^0 + C_{n-1}^1 X + C_{n-1}^2 X^2 + \dots + C_{n-1}^{n-1} X^{n-1} = (1 + X)^{n-1}$ . The determinant has then the value  $\prod_{k=1}^{n-1} (1 + \varepsilon_k)^{n-1} = [(-1)^n ((-1)^n - 1)]^{n+1}$ .

**1.4**  $P(X) = a + bX + bX^2 + \dots + X^{n-1} = a + b \frac{X^n - X}{X - 1}$ , for  $X \neq 1$ , and  $P(1) = a + b(n-1)$ .  $C(a, b, \dots, b) = [a + (n-1)b](a-b)^{n-1}$ . The same result can be obtained also directly, using the properties of determinants.

**1.5** Consider another Vandermonde determinant:

$$\begin{aligned} V(a_1, \dots, a_n, X) &= V(a_1, \dots, a_n) \prod_{k=1}^n (X - a_k) = \\ &= V(a_1, \dots, a_n) (X^n - S_1 X^{n-1} + \dots + (-1)^{n-k} S_{n-k} X^k + \dots + (-1)^n S_n), \end{aligned}$$

where  $S_k$  are the Viète sums corresponding to the polynomial with the roots  $a_1, \dots, a_n$ . On the other hand, expanding the same determinant by the last column we get:  $V(a_1, \dots, a_n, X) = (-1)^{n+2} V_0(a_1, \dots, a_n) + \dots + (-1)^{n+2+k} X^k V_k(a_1, \dots, a_n) + \dots + (-1)^{2n+2} X^n V_n(a_1, \dots, a_n)$ . From the two expressions we obtain  $V_k(a_1, \dots, a_n) = V(a_1, \dots, a_n) S_{n-k}$ .

**1.6** a) Multiply the second column of the determinant in the left-hand member of the identity by  $bc$ , the third column by  $ac$  and the fourth by  $ab$ . b) Multiply the second column and the second row by  $(-1)$ . c) Multiply the second row of the determinant by  $abc$  then divide the first column by  $a$ , the second by  $b$  and the third by  $c$ .

**1.7** a) 9; b) For example, we expand after the last two rows: 1000.

**1.8** Using Laplace's formula with rows  $n$  and  $n+1$  we get the recurrence relationship  $D_{2n} = \begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ b & a \end{vmatrix} (-1)^{n+n+1+n+n+1} D_{2n-2} = (a^2 - b^2) D_{2n-2}$ , and by induction  $D_{2n} = (a^2 - b^2)^n$ .

**1.9** a) Subtracting each row from the row above it, follows:

1	1	...	1	1	1	0	0	...	0	0	
0	1	...	1	1	1	0	1	0	...	0	0
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
0	0	...	1	1	1	0	0	0	...	1	0
0	0	...	0	1	1	0	0	0	...	0	1
1	0	...	0	0	0	1	-1	0	...	0	0
0	1	...	0	0	0	0	1	-1	...	0	0
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
0	0	...	1	0	0	0	0	0	...	1	-1
0	0	...	0	1	0	0	0	0	...	0	1

b) We can apply the following succession of elementary transformations: add all rows to the first one, multiply row one by  $\frac{1}{n-1}$ , subtract row one from all the other rows, add again all the rows to the first one and finally multiply all the rows (except the first) by  $-1$ . The inverse matrix

$$\text{is } B^{-1} = \frac{1}{n-1} \begin{pmatrix} 2-n & 1 & \dots & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2-n & \dots & 1 & 1 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 1 & 1 & \dots & 2-n & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 & 2-n \end{pmatrix}.$$

**1.10**  $A^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \hat{5} & \hat{0} & \hat{1} \\ \hat{5} & \hat{5} & \hat{5} \\ \hat{4} & \hat{6} & \hat{4} \end{pmatrix}.$





---

# CHAPTER 2

---

## Vectors

### 2.1 Vectors

A vector  $\vec{v}$  in space is characterized by *magnitude* (denoted by  $||\vec{v}||$ ), *direction* and *sense*. The vectors are added by either the *triangle law* or the *parallelogram law*.

Vector addition obeys the following postulates:

1.  $\vec{u} + (\vec{v} + \vec{w}) = (\vec{u} + \vec{v}) + \vec{w}$  (associative law);
2.  $\vec{u} + \vec{v} = \vec{v} + \vec{u}$  (commutative law);
3. There is a unique vector called the *null vector*, denoted by  $\vec{0}$ , such that  $\vec{0} + \vec{v} = \vec{v}$  for all  $\vec{v}$ ;
4. For every vector  $\vec{v}$  there is a unique vector called its *negative* and denoted by  $-\vec{v}$ , such that  $\vec{v} + (-\vec{v}) = \vec{0}$ .

Thus, if we denote by  $\mathcal{V}_3$  the set of all vectors in the space, then  $(\mathcal{V}_3, +)$  is a *commutative group*. The following postulates hold for the multiplication of vectors by numbers:

5.  $1\vec{a} = \vec{a}$
6.  $s(t\vec{a}) = (st)\vec{a}$

$$7. (s+t)\vec{a} = s\vec{a} + t\vec{a}$$

$$8. s(\vec{a} + \vec{b}) = s\vec{a} + s\vec{b}$$

for all  $\vec{a}, \vec{b} \in \mathcal{V}_3$  and all  $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

In talking about vectors, numbers are often called *scalars*. The vector  $t\vec{v}$  is called a scalar multiple of the vector  $\vec{v}$ .

Consider now the axes  $Ox, Oy, Oz$ , mutually perpendicular, forming a right-handed rectangular Cartesian co-ordinate frame. Let  $\vec{i}, \vec{j}, \vec{k}$  be the unit vectors for this system. Every vector  $\vec{v}$  can be written, uniquely, in the form  $\vec{v} = a\vec{i} + b\vec{j} + c\vec{k}$ , where  $a, b, c$  are scalars (called the *components* of  $\vec{v}$ ). Other important formulas are  $\|a\vec{v}\| = |a|\|\vec{v}\|$  and  $\|\vec{u} + \vec{v}\| \leq \|\vec{u}\| + \|\vec{v}\|$  for all  $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in \mathcal{V}_3$  and  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ .

## 2.2 Scalar product and vector product

One associates with any two vectors  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$  a number called their *scalar product* (or inner product) and denoted by  $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}$ . The definition reads:

$$\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = \|\vec{a}\| \|\vec{b}\| \cos \theta, \quad \theta = \text{angle between } \vec{a} \text{ and } \vec{b}$$

$$\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = 0 \text{ if either } \vec{a} = \vec{0} \text{ or } \vec{b} = \vec{0}.$$

For all  $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c} \in \mathcal{V}_3$  and  $s \in \mathbb{R}$  we have

$$1) \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = \vec{b} \cdot \vec{a}$$

$$2) \vec{a} \cdot (\vec{b} + \vec{c}) = \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} + \vec{a} \cdot \vec{c}$$

$$3) (s\vec{a}) \cdot \vec{b} = s(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b})$$

$$4) \vec{a} \cdot \vec{a} \geq 0; \vec{a} \cdot \vec{a} = 0 \iff \vec{a} = \vec{0}.$$

Let us note that  $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{a} = \|\vec{a}\|^2$  and  $\cos \theta = \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}}{\|\vec{a}\| \|\vec{b}\|}$ . In particular,  
 $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = 0 \iff \vec{a} \perp \vec{b}.$

On the other hand,  $\vec{i} \cdot \vec{i} = \vec{j} \cdot \vec{j} = \vec{k} \cdot \vec{k} = 1$ ,  $\vec{i} \cdot \vec{j} = \vec{j} \cdot \vec{k} = \vec{k} \cdot \vec{i} = 0$ . Let  $\vec{a}, \vec{b} \in \mathcal{V}_3$ ,  $\vec{a} = a_1 \vec{i} + a_2 \vec{j} + a_3 \vec{k}$ ,  $\vec{b} = b_1 \vec{i} + b_2 \vec{j} + b_3 \vec{k}$ .

By using the properties of the scalar product, mentioned above, we deduce  $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = (a_1 \vec{i} + a_2 \vec{j} + a_3 \vec{k}) \cdot (b_1 \vec{i} + b_2 \vec{j} + b_3 \vec{k}) = a_1 b_1 \vec{i} \cdot \vec{i} + a_2 b_1 \vec{j} \cdot \vec{i} + a_3 b_1 \vec{k} \cdot \vec{i} + a_1 b_2 \vec{i} \cdot \vec{j} + a_2 b_2 \vec{j} \cdot \vec{j} + a_3 b_2 \vec{k} \cdot \vec{j} + a_1 b_3 \vec{i} \cdot \vec{k} + a_2 b_3 \vec{j} \cdot \vec{k} + a_3 b_3 \vec{k} \cdot \vec{k}$ .

Thus we have the following important formula:

$$\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2 + a_3 b_3.$$

Combining the previous results we can write:

$$\begin{aligned} \|\vec{a}\| &= \sqrt{a_1^2 + a_2^2 + a_3^2} \\ \cos \theta &= \frac{a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2 + a_3 b_3}{\sqrt{a_1^2 + a_2^2 + a_3^2} \sqrt{b_1^2 + b_2^2 + b_3^2}} \\ \vec{a} \perp \vec{b} &\iff a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2 + a_3 b_3 = 0. \end{aligned}$$

The vector product of the vectors  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$  is the vector, denoted by  $\vec{a} \times \vec{b}$ , characterized by:

- 1)  $\|\vec{a} \times \vec{b}\| = \|\vec{a}\| \|\vec{b}\| \sin \theta$
- 2)  $\vec{a} \times \vec{b}$  is perpendicular to both  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$
- 3) The triad of vectors  $\{\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{a} \times \vec{b}\}$  is oriented like the triad  $\{\vec{i}, \vec{j}, \vec{k}\}$ .

For all  $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c} \in \mathcal{V}_3$  and  $s \in \mathbb{R}$  we have

- I)  $\vec{a} \times \vec{b} = -\vec{b} \times \vec{a}$
- II)  $(s\vec{a}) \times \vec{b} = \vec{a} \times (s\vec{b}) = s(\vec{a} \times \vec{b})$
- III)  $\vec{a} \times (\vec{b} + \vec{c}) = \vec{a} \times \vec{b} + \vec{a} \times \vec{c}$
- IV)  $\vec{a} \times \vec{0} = \vec{0}$ ,  $\vec{a} \times \vec{a} = \vec{0}$
- V)  $\vec{a} \times \vec{b} = \vec{0} \iff \vec{a} \parallel \vec{b}$

VI)  $\|\vec{a} \times \vec{b}\|$  equals the numerical value of the area of the parallelogram constructed on  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$ .

It is easy to construct the following table:

$\times$	$\vec{i}$	$\vec{j}$	$\vec{k}$
$\vec{i}$	0	$\vec{k}$	$-\vec{j}$
$\vec{j}$	$-\vec{k}$	0	$\vec{i}$
$\vec{k}$	$\vec{j}$	$-\vec{i}$	0

Let  $\vec{a} = a_1 \vec{i} + a_2 \vec{j} + a_3 \vec{k}$ ,  $\vec{b} = b_1 \vec{i} + b_2 \vec{j} + b_3 \vec{k}$ .

Then we can write:

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{a} \times \vec{b} &= (a_1 \vec{i} + a_2 \vec{j} + a_3 \vec{k}) \times (b_1 \vec{i} + b_2 \vec{j} + b_3 \vec{k}) = \\ &= a_1 b_1 \vec{i} \times \vec{i} + a_2 b_1 \vec{j} \times \vec{i} + a_3 b_1 \vec{k} \times \vec{i} + a_2 b_2 \vec{j} \times \vec{j} + \\ &+ a_3 b_2 \vec{k} \times \vec{j} + a_1 b_3 \vec{i} \times \vec{k} + a_2 b_3 \vec{j} \times \vec{k} + a_3 b_3 \vec{k} \times \vec{k} = \\ &= (a_2 b_3 - a_3 b_2) \vec{i} + (a_3 b_1 - a_1 b_3) \vec{j} + (a_1 b_2 - a_2 b_1) \vec{k}. \end{aligned}$$

Finally we have

$$\vec{a} \times \vec{b} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \end{vmatrix}$$

This is a remarkable formula! Its simplicity enables us to compute easily the vector product.



## 2.3 Triple vector product

The vector  $\vec{a} \times (\vec{b} \times \vec{c})$  is called the triple vector product of the vectors  $\vec{a}$ ,  $\vec{b}$ ,  $\vec{c}$ . It has no important geometrical meaning but is expressed by a formula which is of use for applications. To deduce this formula let us choose the Cartesian axes in such a way that the  $x$ -axis is directed along the vector  $\vec{b}$  and the  $y$ -axis lies in the plane of vectors  $\vec{b}$  and  $\vec{c}$ . Clearly we have  $\vec{b} = b_1 \vec{i}$ ,  $\vec{c} = c_1 \vec{i} + c_2 \vec{j}$ ,  $\vec{a} = a_1 \vec{i} + a_2 \vec{j} + a_3 \vec{k}$ .

$$\vec{a} \times \vec{b} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ b_1 & 0 & 0 \\ c_1 & c_2 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = b_1 c_2 \vec{k}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{a} \times (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) &= \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ 0 & 0 & b_1 c_2 \end{vmatrix} = a_2 b_1 c_2 \vec{i} - a_1 b_1 c_2 \vec{j} = \\ &= (a_1 c_1 + a_2 c_2) b_1 \vec{i} - a_1 b_1 (c_1 \vec{i} + c_2 \vec{j}) = \\ &= (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c}) \vec{b} - (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}) \vec{c} \text{ (check up these formulas!).} \end{aligned}$$

Thus we have

$$\vec{a} \times (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) = (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c}) \vec{b} - (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}) \vec{c}.$$

This final formula no longer contains any components and therefore does not depend on the particular choice of the axes.

## 2.4 Triple scalar product

The triple scalar product of the vectors  $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$  is denoted by  $(\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c})$  and is defined by  $(\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}) = \vec{a} \cdot (\vec{b} \times \vec{c})$ .

Clearly we have

$$\begin{aligned} (\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}) &= (a_1 \vec{i} + a_2 \vec{j} + a_3 \vec{k}) \cdot \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} = \\ &= a_1(b_2 c_3 - b_3 c_2) + a_2(b_3 c_1 - b_1 c_3) + a_3(b_1 c_2 - b_2 c_1). \end{aligned}$$

Finally we have

$$(\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}) = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}$$

Taking into account this formula, it is easy to prove that

- 1)  $(\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}) = (\vec{c}, \vec{a}, \vec{b}) = (\vec{b}, \vec{c}, \vec{a})$
- 2)  $(\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}) = -(\vec{a}, \vec{c}, \vec{b})$
- 3)  $(s\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}) = s(\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c})$

$$4) (\vec{u} + \vec{v}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}) = (\vec{u}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}) + (\vec{v}, \vec{b}, \vec{c})$$

We have also  $|(\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c})| = |(\vec{a}(\vec{b} \times \vec{c}))| = \text{volume of the parallelepiped constructed on } \vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}.$

In particular

$(\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}) = 0 \iff \vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$  are parallel to the same plane.

## Exercises

---

~~2.1~~ Consider a triangle  $ABC$  and the heights  $AA_1 \perp BC$ ,  $A_1 \in (BC)$ ,  $BB_1 \perp AC$ ,  $B_1 \in (AC)$  with the intersection point  $H$ . Prove that  $CH \perp AB$ .

~~2.2~~ Consider four points  $A, B, C$  and  $D$  in space.  
~~a)~~ Prove that  $\overrightarrow{DA} \cdot \overrightarrow{BC} + \overrightarrow{DB} \cdot \overrightarrow{CA} + \overrightarrow{DC} \cdot \overrightarrow{AB} = 0$ .  
~~b)~~ If  $DA \perp BC$  and  $DB \perp CA$  then  $DC \perp AB$ .

~~2.3~~ Let  $G$  be the weight center of the triangle  $ABC$ .  
~~a)~~ Prove that  $\overrightarrow{AG} + \overrightarrow{BG} + \overrightarrow{CG} = 0$ .  
~~b)~~ If  $M$  is an arbitrary point then  $3\overrightarrow{MG} = \overrightarrow{MA} + \overrightarrow{MB} + \overrightarrow{MC}$ .

~~2.4~~ Let  $ABC$  and  $MNP$  be two triangles (in the same plane or different planes). Prove that, if  $\overrightarrow{AM} + \overrightarrow{BN} + \overrightarrow{CP} = 0$ , then the weight centers of the two triangles coincide.

~~2.5~~ If  $\vec{a} = (3, -1, \alpha)$ ,  $\vec{b} = (0, 1, -2)$  and  $\vec{c} = (1, 0, -1)$ , determine  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  such that the vector  $\vec{a} \times (\vec{b} \times \vec{c})$  is parallel to the plane  $yOz$ .

~~2.6~~ Find the angle between  
~~a)~~ the vector  $\vec{a} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\vec{i} + \frac{1}{2}\vec{k}$  and the axis  $Ox$   
~~b)~~  $\vec{AB}$  and  $\vec{AC}$  where  $A(3, 1, -2)$ ,  $B(2, 1, -1)$  and  $C(3, 0, -1)$ .

~~2.7~~ Let  $\vec{a} = 3\vec{i} - \vec{j} + 2\vec{k}$  and  $\vec{b} = \vec{j} - 2\vec{k}$ . Determine the height of the parallelogram with the edges  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$ , considering  $\vec{a}$  as the basis.

~~2.8~~ Determine the vector  $\vec{w}$  such that  $\|\vec{w}\|=2$ ,  $\vec{w}$  is perpendicular on the axis  $Oz$  and makes a  $45^\circ$  angle with the positive direction of  $Ox$ .

~~2.9~~ Let  $\vec{a} = \vec{i} + \vec{j} + \vec{k}$  and  $\vec{b} = 2\vec{i} - \vec{j}$ ,  $\vec{c} = \vec{j} + 3\vec{k}$ . Determine the height of the parallelepiped with the edges  $\vec{a}$ ,  $\vec{b}$ ,  $\vec{c}$  considering the parallelogram with edges  $\vec{a}$ ,  $\vec{b}$  as basis.

~~2.10~~ Prove the identity of Lagrange  $\|\vec{a} \times \vec{b}\|^2 + (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b})^2 = \|\vec{a}\|^2 \|\vec{b}\|^2$ , for any vectors  $\vec{a}$ ,  $\vec{b}$ .

~~2.11~~ Prove that  $(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \cdot (\vec{c} \times \vec{d}) = (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c})(\vec{b} \cdot \vec{d}) - (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{d})(\vec{b} \cdot \vec{c})$ , for any vectors  $\vec{a}$ ,  $\vec{b}$ ,  $\vec{c}$ ,  $\vec{d}$ .

~~2.12~~ Let  $\vec{a}$ ,  $\vec{b}$  and  $\vec{c}$  be three non-coplanar vectors, making two by two, angles of measures  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$ . Prove that, if

$$\vec{a} \times (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) + \vec{b} \times (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) + \vec{c} \times (\vec{c} \times \vec{a}) = 0$$

then  $\cos \alpha \cos \beta \cos \gamma = 1$ .

## Solutions

**2.1** Use, for instance the fact that  $\overrightarrow{AH} \cdot \overrightarrow{BC} = 0$ ,  $\overrightarrow{BH} \cdot \overrightarrow{AC} = 0$ ,  $\overrightarrow{AH} = \overrightarrow{AC} + \overrightarrow{CH}$ ,  $\overrightarrow{BH} = \overrightarrow{BC} + \overrightarrow{CH}$ .

**2.2** a) Using the triangle rule we get that  $\overrightarrow{BC} = \overrightarrow{BD} + \overrightarrow{DC} = \overrightarrow{DC} - \overrightarrow{DB}$ ,  $\overrightarrow{CA} = \overrightarrow{DA} - \overrightarrow{DC}$ ,  $\overrightarrow{AB} = \overrightarrow{DB} - \overrightarrow{DA}$  and the equality follows. b) Follows directly from a).

**2.3** a) Let  $A_1$  be the middle of  $(BC)$ . Use the relations  $\overrightarrow{BG} = \overrightarrow{BA_1} + \overrightarrow{A_1G}$ ,  $\overrightarrow{CG} = \overrightarrow{CA_1} + \overrightarrow{A_1G}$ ,  $\overrightarrow{AG} = 2\overrightarrow{GA_1}$ .

**2.4**  $\overrightarrow{G_1G_2} = \overrightarrow{G_1A} + \overrightarrow{AM} + \overrightarrow{MG_2}$ ,  $\overrightarrow{G_1G_2} = \overrightarrow{G_1B} + \overrightarrow{BN} + \overrightarrow{NG_2}$ ,  $\overrightarrow{G_1G_2} = \overrightarrow{G_1C} + \overrightarrow{CP} + \overrightarrow{PG_2}$ . Add the three relations and use the previous exercise.



**2.5**  $\vec{b} \times \vec{c} = -\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} - \vec{k} = (-1, -2, -1)$ ,  $\vec{a} \times (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) = (1 + 2\alpha, 3 - \alpha, -7)$ . If the vector is parallel to the plane  $yOz$ , then it is perpendicular on the axis  $Ox$ , that is the dot product is zero. This gives  $1 + 2\alpha = 0$ , so  $\alpha = -\frac{1}{2}$ .

**2.6** a)  $\cos \alpha = \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{j}}{\|\vec{a}\|} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$ , so  $\alpha = \frac{\pi}{6}$ . b)  $\vec{AB} = -\vec{i} + \vec{k}$ ,  $\vec{AC} = \vec{j} + \vec{k}$ ,  $\alpha = \frac{\pi}{3}$ .

**2.7** The area of the parallelogram is  $\|\vec{a} \times \vec{b}\| = 6\vec{j} + 3\vec{k} = 3\sqrt{5}$ . On the other hand,  $area = h\|\vec{a}\|$ , so we get  $h = \frac{3\sqrt{5}}{\sqrt{14}}$ .

**2.8** If  $\vec{w} = a\vec{i} + b\vec{j} + c\vec{k}$ , from  $\vec{w} \perp \vec{k}$ , we get  $c = 0$ . We have  $\vec{w} \cdot \vec{i} = \|\vec{w}\| \cos \pi/4 = \sqrt{2}$ . On the other hand,  $\vec{w} \cdot \vec{i} = a$ , so  $a = \sqrt{2}$ . Finally, since  $\|\vec{w}\| = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2} = \sqrt{2}$ , it follows that  $b = \sqrt{2}$  or  $b = -\sqrt{2}$ .

**2.9** The volume of the parallelepiped is given by the mixed product  $volume = |(\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c})| = 7$ . The area of the basis is  $area = \|\vec{a} \times \vec{b}\| = \sqrt{14}$ . The height is  $h = \frac{7}{\sqrt{14}}$ .

**2.10** Denoting by  $\alpha$  the angle formed by the two vectors, we have  $\|\vec{a} \times \vec{b}\| = \|\vec{a}\|\|\vec{b}\| \sin \alpha$ ,  $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = \|\vec{a}\|\|\vec{b}\| \cos \alpha$  and the identity follows immediately.

**2.11** We use the properties of the triple product:

$$\begin{aligned} (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \cdot (\vec{c} \times \vec{d}) &= (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}, \vec{c}, \vec{d}) = (\vec{d}, \vec{a} \times \vec{b}, \vec{c}) = \vec{d} \cdot ((\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \times \vec{c}) = \\ &= -\vec{d}((\vec{c} \cdot \vec{b})\vec{a} - (\vec{c} \cdot \vec{a})\vec{b}) = \vec{d} \cdot (\vec{c} \cdot \vec{a})\vec{b} - \vec{d} \cdot (\vec{c} \cdot \vec{b})\vec{a}. \end{aligned}$$

**2.12** We get  $(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} - \vec{c} \cdot \vec{c})\vec{a} + (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{c} - \vec{a} \cdot \vec{a})\vec{b} + (\vec{c} \cdot \vec{a} - \vec{b} \cdot \vec{b})\vec{c} = 0$ . Since the three vectors are non-coplanar, this means  $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = \vec{c} \cdot \vec{c}$ ,  $\vec{b} \cdot \vec{c} = \vec{a} \cdot \vec{a}$ ,  $\vec{c} \cdot \vec{a} = \vec{b} \cdot \vec{b}$ . It follows that  $\|\vec{a}\|\|\vec{b}\| \cos \alpha = \|\vec{c}\|^2$ ,  $\|\vec{b}\|\|\vec{c}\| \cos \beta = \|\vec{a}\|^2$  and  $\|\vec{c}\|\|\vec{a}\| \cos \gamma = \|\vec{b}\|^2$ . Multiplying the last three relationships we get now the desired equality.

~~aii am rones~~

---

## ~~CHAPTER 3~~

---

# ~~Lines and planes in space~~

### ~~3.1 Planes in space~~

We shall use the language of the vectors to introduce the basic concepts of solid analytic geometry. We assume that a fixed Cartesian coordinate system in space defined by the origin  $O$  and the triad  $\{\vec{i}, \vec{j}, \vec{k}\}$  has been chosen. Every point  $M$  has a position vector  $\vec{r}$ ; the components of  $\vec{r}$  are the coordinates of  $M$ , that is, we have  $M(x, y, z)$  and  $\vec{r} = x\vec{i} + y\vec{j} + z\vec{k}$ .

#### 1) Plane determined by a point and a normal vector

Let  $M_0(x_0, y_0, z_0)$  be a point in space and let  $\vec{n} = a\vec{i} + b\vec{j} + c\vec{k}$ ,  $\vec{n} \neq 0$ . Let  $P$  be the plane that passes through  $M_0$  and is perpendicular to  $\vec{n}$ .

Let  $M(x, y, z)$  be an arbitrary point of  $P$ . Then  $\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0$  is perpendicular to  $\vec{n}$ , that is  $\vec{n}(\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0) = 0$ .

Since  $\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0 = (x - x_0)\vec{i} + (y - y_0)\vec{j} + (z - z_0)\vec{k}$ , we obtain

$$a(x - x_0) + b(y - y_0) + c(z - z_0) = 0.$$

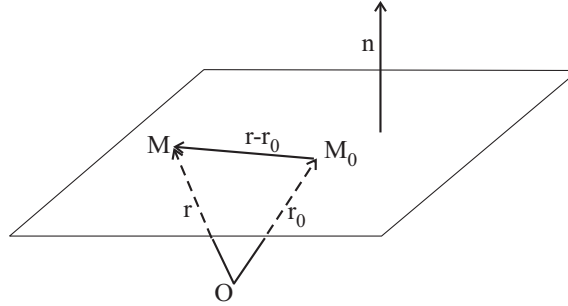
This is the equation of the plane  $P$ . If we denote  $d = -ax_0 - by_0 - cz_0$ , then it reads:

$$ax + by + cz + d = 0.$$

This is the general form of the equation of a plane. The vector  $\vec{n} = a\vec{i} + b\vec{j} + c\vec{k}$  is called *normal* to the plane.

In particular, the plane  $xOy$  passes through the origin and  $\vec{k}$  is normal to it. Hence we can take  $x_0 = y_0 = z_0$ ,  $a = b = 0$ ,  $c = 1$ .

Therefore the equation of the plane  $xOy$  is simply  $z = 0$ .



## 2) Plane determined by three non-collinear points.

Let  $M_i(x_i, y_i, z_i)$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$  be three non-collinear points and let  $P$  be the plane determined by them. Let  $M(x, y, z)$  be an arbitrary point of  $P$ . Then  $M, M_1, M_2, M_3$  are coplanar and hence

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & x & y & z \\ 1 & x_1 & y_1 & z_1 \\ 1 & x_2 & y_2 & z_2 \\ 1 & x_3 & y_3 & z_3 \end{vmatrix} = 0.$$

This is the equation of the plane  $P$ .

## 3) Plane determined by a point and two non-collinear vectors.

Let  $P$  be the plane that passes through a given point  $M_0(x_0, y_0, z_0)$  and is parallel to two non-collinear given vectors  $\vec{v}_i = x_i\vec{i} + y_i\vec{j} + z_i\vec{k}$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ .

Let  $M(x, y, z)$  be an arbitrary point of  $P$ . Then the vectors  $\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0, \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2$  are coplanar, that is  $(\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0, \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2) = 0$ . Thus the equation

of the plane  $P$  can be written in the form:

$$\begin{vmatrix} x - x_0 & y - y_0 & z - z_0 \\ x_1 & y_1 & z_1 \\ x_2 & y_2 & z_2 \end{vmatrix} = 0.$$

#### 4) An important result is the following:

The equation of a plane passing through the line of intersection of the planes

$$(1) \quad a_1x + b_1y + c_1z + d_1 = 0$$

$$(2) \quad a_2x + b_2y + c_2z + d_2 = 0$$

is of the form

$$(3) \quad a_1x + b_1y + c_1z + d_1 + \lambda(a_2x + b_2y + c_2z + d_2) = 0, \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Indeed, (3) is the equation of a plane  $P$ . The coordinates of any point of the line verify (1) and (2) - and hence also (3). Thus the line is contained in the plane  $P$ .

## 3.2 Straight lines in space

Consider a direction in space, determined by the vector

$$\vec{v} = l\vec{i} + m\vec{j} + n\vec{k} \neq \vec{0}.$$

The numbers  $(l, m, n)$  are called the *direction ratios* of this direction. Clearly any other numbers proportional to them are also direction ratios for the same direction.

Now suppose that  $\vec{v}$  is a unit vector, that is,  $\|\vec{v}\| = 1$ . Then  $l^2 + m^2 + n^2 = 1$ . On the other hand,  $l = \vec{v} \cdot \vec{i} = \cos \alpha$ ,  $m = \vec{v} \cdot \vec{j} = \cos \beta$ ,  $n = \vec{v} \cdot \vec{k} = \cos \gamma$  where  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  are the angles between  $\vec{v}$  and the axes. Hence the direction ratios are now  $(\cos \alpha, \cos \beta, \cos \gamma)$ . They are called *direction-cosines*.

Since  $l^2 + m^2 + n^2 = 1$ , we have  $\cos^2 \alpha + \cos^2 \beta + \cos^2 \gamma = 1$ .

### 1) Line determined by a point and a vector.

Consider the line  $d$  determined by the point  $M_0(x_0, y_0, z_0)$  and the vector  $\vec{v} = l\vec{i} + m\vec{j} + n\vec{k} \neq \vec{0}$ . Let  $M(x, y, z)$  be an arbitrary point of  $d$ . The vectors  $\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0$  and  $\vec{v}$  are collinear, hence  $\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0 = t\vec{v}$ , with  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ . Thus we obtain the *parametric equations* of the line  $d$ :

$$x = x_0 + lt, \quad y = y_0 + mt, \quad z = z_0 + nt, \quad t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

By eliminating the parameter  $t$  between these equations, we deduce the canonical equations of  $d$ :

$$\frac{x - x_0}{l} = \frac{y - y_0}{m} = \frac{z - z_0}{n}$$

Since  $\vec{v} \neq \vec{0}$ , at least one denominator is nonnull. If a denominator equals 0, the corresponding numerator must also equal 0.

**Example 3.2.1** For the  $x$ -axis we can take  $M_0 = 0$  and  $\vec{v} = \vec{i}$ . Hence  $x_0 = y_0 = z_0 = 0$ ,  $l = 1$ ,  $m = n = 0$ .

The canonical equations are  $\frac{x}{1} = \frac{y}{0} = \frac{z}{0}$ . They are equivalent to  $\begin{cases} y = 0 \\ z = 0 \end{cases}$ .

### 2) Equations of the line joining the points $M_0(x_0, y_0, z_0)$ and $M_1(x_1, y_1, z_1)$

Let  $\vec{r}_0$  and  $\vec{r}_1$  be the position vectors of these points. Then the line is determined by the point  $M_0$  and the vector  $\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_0$ . Consequently, we can take  $(x_1 - x_0, y_1 - y_0, z_1 - z_0)$  as direction-ratios.

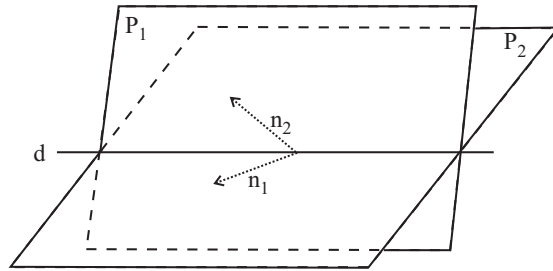
The canonical equations of the line will be

$$\frac{x - x_0}{x_1 - x_0} = \frac{y - y_0}{y_1 - y_0} = \frac{z - z_0}{z_1 - z_0}.$$

**3) Line determined by the intersection of two planes** Let  $d$  be the intersection of the planes  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ . Then the equations of  $d$  are

$$\begin{cases} a_1x + b_1y + c_1z + d_1 = 0 \\ a_2x + b_2y + c_2z + d_2 = 0 \end{cases}$$

The normal vectors to  $P_1$ , respectively  $P_2$ , are  $\vec{n}_1 = a_1 \vec{i} + b_1 \vec{j} + c_1 \vec{k}$  and  $\vec{n}_2 = a_2 \vec{i} + b_2 \vec{j} + c_2 \vec{k}$ .

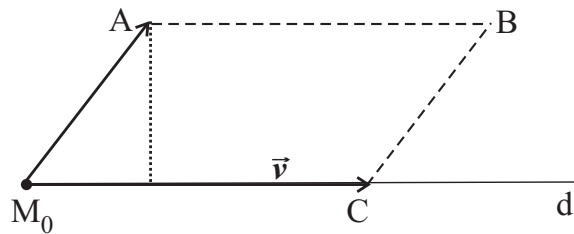


They are both perpendicular to  $d$ , so  $d$  is parallel to  $\vec{n} = \vec{n}_1 \times \vec{n}_2$ . This enables us to take as direction-ratios of  $d$  the components of  $\vec{n}$ , that is

$$\left( \begin{vmatrix} b_1 & c_1 \\ b_2 & c_2 \end{vmatrix}, \begin{vmatrix} c_1 & a_1 \\ c_2 & a_2 \end{vmatrix}, \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 \end{vmatrix} \right).$$

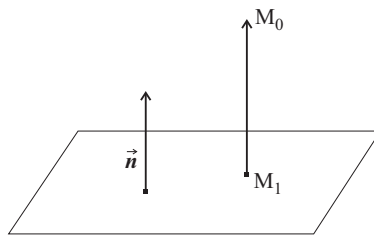
### 3.3 Distance from a point to a line. Distance from a point to a plane

- 1) Consider a line  $d$  determined by a point  $M_0$  and a vector  $\vec{v}$ . The distance from the point  $A$  to the line  $d$  equals the length of the height of the parallelogram  $M_0ABC$ .



Hence  $dist(A, d) = \frac{\|\vec{v} \times \overrightarrow{M_0A}\|}{\|\vec{v}\|}$

- 2) Consider the plane  $P : ax + by + cz + d = 0$  and the point  $M_0(x_0, y_0, z_0)$ . Let  $M_1$  be the projection of  $M_0$  on the plane  $P$ . The vector  $\vec{n} = a \vec{i} + b \vec{j} + c \vec{k}$  is normal to  $P$ .



Let  $(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  be the coordinates of  $M_1$ . Then  $ax_1 + by_1 + cz_1 + d = 0$ . We have also  $\overrightarrow{M_1M_0} = (x_0 - x_1)\vec{i} + (y_0 - y_1)\vec{j} + (z_0 - z_1)\vec{k}$ . Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{n} \cdot \overrightarrow{M_1M_0} &= a(x_0 - x_1) + b(y_0 - y_1) + c(z_0 - z_1) = \\ &= ax_0 + by_0 + cz_0 + d - (ax_1 + by_1 + cz_1 + d) = \\ &= ax_0 + by_0 + cz_0 + d.\end{aligned}$$

On the other hand,

$$|\vec{n} \cdot \overrightarrow{M_1M_0}| = \|\vec{n}\| \cdot \|\overrightarrow{M_1M_0}\| = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2} \text{dist}(M_0, P).$$

It follows that

$$\text{dist}(M_0, P) = \frac{|ax_0 + by_0 + cz_0 + d|}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}.$$

## Exercices

**3.1** Write the equations of the straight line  $d$  that passes through the point  $M(3, -1, 0)$  and is parallel to the line  $l : \begin{cases} x - 2y + 7 = 0 \\ x + y + z - 6 = 0 \end{cases}$ .

**3.2** Write the equation of the plane  $(P)$  such that:

- a)  $M(-1, 2, -3) \in (P)$  and  $Oz \perp (P)$
- b)  $M(-1, 2, -3) \in (P)$  and  $Oz \parallel (P)$ ,  $Ox \parallel (P)$ .

**3.3** Write the equation of the plane  $(Q)$  knowing that it is symmetrical to the plane  $(P) : x - 3y + 2z - 1 = 0$  with respect to the point  $M(0, -1, 1)$ .

**3.4** Let  $A(2, 2, 2)$ ,  $B(0, 1, 1)$ ,  $C(1, 1, 0)$  and  $D(1, 0, 1)$ . Find the equations and the length of the height of the tetrahedron  $ABCD$  with the basis  $BCD$ .

**3.5** Let  $A(3, -1, 3)$ ,  $B(5, 1, -1)$ ,  $C(0, 4, -3)$ . Find the parametric and canonical equations of the lines  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  if:

a)  $D_1 = AB$  and  $D_2 = BC$

b)  $D_1$  is parallel to  $AC$  and passes through  $B$  and  $D_2$  is perpendicular to  $D_1$  and passes through  $C$ .

**3.6** Considering  $A, B$  and  $C$  from the exercise 3.5, calculate the distances between these three points and find the angles formed by  $AB$ ,  $AC$  and  $BC$ .

**3.7** Considering  $A$  and  $B$  from the exercise 3.5, find the equation of a plane with respect to which  $A$  and  $B$  are symmetrical.

**3.8** Find the equation of a plane which passes through the point  $M$  and is parallel to the plane  $(P)$  if:

a)  $M(2, -1, 3)$  and  $(P) : x - 3y + 5z + 2 = 0$

b)  $M(0, -2, 4)$  and  $(P) : 7x + 4y - 3z - 1 = 0$

c)  $M(1, 0, -1)$  and  $(P) : 2y - 5x - 11z = 0$ .

**3.9** Find the equation of a plane  $(P)$  if:

a)  $M(2, 3, -5) \in (P)$  and  $OM \perp (P)$

b)  $A(2, 1, -6)$  and  $B(6, -1, -2)$  are symmetrical about the plane  $(P)$ .

**3.10** Write the equations of three planes that contain  $M(3, 2, -1)$  and each contains a different coordinate axis.

**3.11** Find the equation of a plane which passes through  $A$  and is perpendicular to the planes  $(P_1)$  and  $(P_2)$  if:

a)  $A(-1, 1, 0)$ ,  $(P_1) : x - 2y + z - 5 = 0$  and  $(P_2) : y - 5z + 2 = 0$

b)  $A(1, 0, 1)$ ,  $(P_1) : 3x + y - 1 = 0$  and  $(P_2) : x + y - z - 1 = 0$



**3.12** Write the equations of three planes that contain  $A(2, -1, -1)$  and  $B(3, 1, 2)$  and each, is parallel to a different coordinate axis.

**3.13** Find the equation of a plane which contains the point  $A$  and is perpendicular to  $AB$ , if:

- a)  $A(1, 2, -1)$ ,  $B(2, 3, 5)$
- b)  $A(1, 3, 2)$ ,  $B(-3, -1, 0)$
- c)  $A(2, 0, 1)$ ,  $B(1, 1, -1)$ .

**3.14** A plane cuts, on the coordinate axes, segments equal to 3, 10 and 5. Find the equation of the plane and the angles formed by the plane and the axes.

**3.15** Find the equation of a plane determined by the lines  
 $D_1: \begin{cases} x + y - 3z = 0 \\ 2x + 3y - z - 1 = 0 \end{cases}$  and  $D_2: \begin{cases} x + 5y + 4z - 3 = 0 \\ x + 2y + 2z - 1 = 0 \end{cases}$ .

**3.16** Write the equation of a plane which contains  $M(-1, 1, 1)$  and is perpendicular to the line  $D$ , if:

- a)  $D: \frac{x-2}{3} = \frac{y}{2} = \frac{z+1}{-1}$
- b)  $D: \frac{x}{4} = \frac{y-2}{-4} = \frac{z-3}{5}$
- c)  $D: \begin{cases} x + y = 0 \\ x + y - 2z + 1 = 0 \end{cases}$ .

**3.17** Let  $D_1, D_2$  be two lines parallel to the vectors  $d_1 = (-1, 0, 1)$  and  $d_2 = (1, 1, 0)$ . Find:

- a) the angle between  $D_1$  and  $D_2$
- b) the parametric equations of the line  $D_3$  perpendicular to  $D_1$  and  $D_2$ , which passes through  $M(3, 2, 1)$ .

**3.18** Calculate the distance between the point  $A(3, -1, 1)$  and the line  $D_1$  if:

- a)  $D_1: \begin{cases} 2x - y + 2z - 3 = 0 \\ x - y - 3z + 2 = 0 \end{cases}$
- b)  $D_1: \frac{x-1}{4} = \frac{y}{-5} = \frac{z+2}{3}$ .

**3.19** Write the equation of a plane which passes through the point  $M(1, -1, 1)$  and is perpendicular to the line  $D$  if:

a)  $D: \frac{x-3}{2} = \frac{y}{3} = \frac{z+1}{-1}$

b)  $D: \begin{cases} x - z + 3 = 0 \\ 2x - y = 0 \end{cases}$

**3.20** A plane contains the point  $A(1, 0, 1)$  and the line  $D$ . Find the equation of the plane if:

a)  $D: \begin{cases} x = 2 - 3t \\ y = 4 + t \\ z = 1 - 2t \end{cases}$

b)  $D: \frac{x}{-2} = \frac{y-1}{4} = z - 5$

c)  $D: \begin{cases} x + z + 1 = 0 \\ x - 2y + z - 3 = 0 \end{cases}$

**3.21** We consider the planes  $P_1$ ,  $P_2$  and  $P_3$  such that  $A(-1, -2, 2) \in P_1$  and the vector normal to  $P_1$  is  $(1, -2, 2)$ , the plane  $P_2$  is perpendicular to the line  $D: \frac{x}{2} = \frac{y+7}{-1} = \frac{z-1}{-2}$  and contains the point  $B(1, 1, 1)$  and  $P_3: 2x + 2y + z = 2$ .

1) Find the equations of  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ .

2) Show that each of two planes are perpendicular.

3) Find the intersection of the planes.

4) Calculate the distance from  $A(2, 4, 7)$  to  $P_1$ .

**3.22** Find the equation of a plane which contains the symmetric points of  $A(2, 3, -1)$ ,  $B(1, 2, 4)$  and  $C(0, 1, -1)$  with respect to the plane  $P: x - y + 2z + 2 = 0$ .

**3.23** Find the projection of  $M(2, 1, 1)$ , on the plane  $P: x + y + 3z + 5 = 0$  and calculate the distance from  $M$  to  $P$ .

**3.24** Find the equations of two planes  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  if both pass through the line  $D: \begin{cases} 2x + y - 3z + 2 = 0 \\ 5x + 5y - 4z + 3 = 0 \end{cases}$ ,  $P_1 \perp P_2$  and  $P_1$  contains  $M(4, -3, 1)$ .

**3.25** Find the position of the line  $D$  relative to the plane  $P$  if:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a) } D: & \begin{cases} x = t \\ y = 1 + 2t \\ z = -6t \end{cases} \text{ and } P: 4x + y + z = 4 \\ \text{b) } D: & \begin{cases} x = 13 + 8t \\ y = 1 + 2t \\ z = 4 + 3t \end{cases} \text{ and } P: 4x + y + z = 4. \end{aligned}$$

**3.26** Find the distance between two lines  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  and the equation of the common perpendicular if it exists, for:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a) } D_1: & \frac{x-1}{-5} = y-2 = z \quad D_2: \begin{cases} x+2z = 4 \\ y = 0 \end{cases} \\ \text{b) } D_1: & \frac{x}{3} = \frac{y-1}{2} = z-5 \text{ and } D_2: \begin{cases} x = 1+3t \\ y = 2t \\ z = 1+t \end{cases} \\ \text{c) } D_1: & \frac{x-1}{3} = \frac{y+2}{2} = z-4 \text{ and } D_2: \begin{cases} x = 1+t \\ y = 2t-2 \\ z = 4+5t \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

## Solutions

**3.1** We find first the direction vector of  $l$ , for instance  $\vec{l} = \vec{n}_1 \times \vec{n}_2$ , where  $\vec{n}_1 = (1, -2, 0)$  and  $\vec{n}_2 = (1, 1, 1)$  are the normals to the planes that determine  $l$ . So  $\vec{l} = (-2, -1, 3)$  and the equations of the line  $d$  are  $\frac{x-3}{-2} = \frac{y+1}{-1} = \frac{z}{3}$  or, in another form,  $d: \begin{cases} x-2y-5=0 \\ 3y+z+3=0 \end{cases}$ .

**3.2** a)  $0z$  has the direction vector  $\vec{k}$  and is normal to the requested plane (P). The equation is  $0 \cdot (x+1) + 0 \cdot (y-2) + 1 \cdot (z+3) = 0$ , that is  $z+3=0$ . b) The plane is determined by a point and two vectors,  $\begin{vmatrix} x+1 & y-2 & z+3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = 0$ , that is  $y-2=0$ . (In fact, the plane is perpendicular to  $0y$ ).

**3.3** We choose three points that belong to the plane ( $P$ ), for instance  $A(1, 0, 0)$ ,  $B(0, 1, 2)$  and  $C(-1, 0, 1)$ . We determine their symmetrical points  $A_1, B_1, C_1$  with respect to  $M$ , from the fact that  $M$  is the middle of the segments  $[AA_1]$ ,  $[BB_1]$ ,  $[CC_1]$ , getting  $A_1(-1, -2, 2)$ ,  $B_1(0, -3, 0)$ ,  $C_1(1, -2, 1)$ . The plane ( $Q$ ) is determined by these three points:  $x - 3y + 2z - 9 = 0$ .

**3.4** The plane  $BCD$  has the equation  $x + y + z - 2 = 0$ , so the normal is  $\vec{n} = (1, 1, 1)$ . The equations of the height from  $A$  are  $x = y$  and  $x = z$  and the intersection point between the height and the plane  $BCD$  is  $H(\frac{2}{3}, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{2}{3})$ . The length of the height is  $AH = \frac{4}{3}\sqrt{3}$ .

**3.5** a)  $D_1 = AB = \frac{x-3}{2} = \frac{y+1}{2} = \frac{z-3}{-4}$   
 b)  $D_1 \parallel AC$  means the direction of  $D_1$  is  $\vec{D}_1 = \vec{AC} = (-3, 5, -6)$ , then  $D_1 : \frac{x-5}{-3} = \frac{y-1}{5} = \frac{z+1}{-6}$ .  
 Let  $CM \perp D_1$  and  $M(a, b, c) \in D_1$ , then  $D_2 = CM$ . We know  $D_2$  is perpendicular to  $D_1$ , so  $(-3, 5, -6) \cdot (a, b-4, c+3) = 0$ . Also  $M \in D_1 \Leftrightarrow \frac{a-5}{-3} = \frac{b-1}{5} = \frac{c+1}{-6}$  and after finding  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  from this system, we obtain the line  $D_2 = CM$ .

**3.6**  $d(A, B) = \sqrt{(5-3)^2 + (1+1)^2 + (-1-3)^2} = 2\sqrt{6}$ , etc.

Let  $\alpha = \angle(AB, AC)$ , then we have  $\cos \alpha = \frac{\vec{AB} \cdot \vec{AC}}{\|\vec{AB}\| \cdot \|\vec{AC}\|}$ , if  $\vec{AB} = (2, 2, -4)$  and  $\vec{AC} = (-3, 5, -6)$ .

**3.7** Consider  $M(x, y, z)$  an arbitrary point on the plane  $P$ . Then  $\|AM\| = \|MB\|$  which implies  $P : x + y - 2z - 2 = 0$ .

**3.8** a) Let  $P_1$  be the plane parallel to  $P$ , then the vector normal to  $P_1$  is the vector normal to  $P$ ,  $\vec{n} = (1, -3, 5)$ . The equation of the plane is  $P_1: x - 2 - 3(y + 1) + 5(z - 3) = 0$ .

**3.9** c) Consider  $A(a, 0, 0) \in Ox$  and  $B(0, 0, a) \in Oz$ ,  $\|OA\| = \|OB\|$ .

We write the plane  $P$  in two ways:

$$(AM_1M_2) : \begin{vmatrix} x & y & z & 1 \\ a & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 6 & 6 & 8 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 0, \quad (BM_1M_2) : \begin{vmatrix} x & y & z & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & a & 1 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 6 & 6 & 8 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

and obtain  $P : 2x - 5y + 2z + 2 = 0$

$$\boxed{3.10} \quad (MOx) : \begin{vmatrix} x & y & z \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 2 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = 0 \text{ and obtain } (MOx) : y + 2z = 0, \text{ etc.}$$

$$\boxed{3.11} \quad \text{a) The normals } \vec{n}_1 \text{ and } \vec{n}_2 \text{ of the planes } P_1 \text{ and } P_2 \text{ are parallel to the plane } P, \text{ so we get } P : \begin{vmatrix} x+1 & y-1 & z \\ 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -5 \end{vmatrix} = 0, 9x + 5y + z + 4 = 0.$$

$$\boxed{3.12} \quad P_1 : \begin{vmatrix} x-3 & y-1 & z-2 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{vmatrix} = 0, \text{ etc.}$$

$$\boxed{3.13} \quad \text{a) The normal of the plane is the vector } \vec{AB} = (1, 1, 6), \text{ so the equation of the plane, which contains } A, \text{ is } x - 1 + y - 2 + 6(z + 1) = 0.$$

$$\boxed{3.14} \quad \text{The equation of the plane is } P: 10x + 3y + 6z - 30 = 0. \text{ Consider the normal to the plane } \vec{n}, \text{ and for the coordinates axes we have the unit vectors } \vec{i}, \vec{j}, \vec{j}. \text{ By denoting } \alpha = \angle(\vec{i}, \vec{n}), \text{ we have } \sin \alpha = \frac{\vec{i} \cdot \vec{n}}{\|\vec{i}\| \cdot \|\vec{n}\|} =$$

$$\frac{10}{\sqrt{145}}, \text{ etc.}$$

$$\boxed{3.15} \quad P : x + 2y + 2z - 1 = 0$$

$$\boxed{3.16} \quad \text{c) The direction of the line } D \text{ is}$$

$$d = \left( \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -2 \end{vmatrix}, \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -2 & 1 \end{vmatrix}, \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \right) = (-2, 2, 0)$$

and this line is normal to the plane. The equation of the plane is  $P : x - y + 2 = 0$

**3.17** a)  $\cos \alpha = 2\pi/3$

b)

$$\bar{d}_1 \times \bar{d}_2 = \begin{vmatrix} i & j & k \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = -i + j - k.$$

Then the equation of the line is  $D: \begin{cases} x = 3 - t \\ y = 2 + t \\ z = 1 - t \end{cases}$

**3.18** a)  $\vec{d}_1 = (-5, -8, 1)$ , so  $\|\vec{d}_1\| = 3\sqrt{10}$ , then the distance is calculated from  $d(A, D_1) = \frac{\|\vec{MA} \times \vec{d}_1\|}{\|\vec{d}_1\|}$ .

**3.19** b)  $P : x + 2y + z = 0$

**3.20** c) The pencil of planes which pass through  $D$  is  $x - 2y + z - 3 + \lambda(x + z + 1) = 0$  and we need the plane which contains  $A$ , so,  $\lambda = 1/3$  then the plane is  $P : 4x - 6y + 4z - 8 = 0$ .

**3.21** 1)  $P_1 : x - 2y + 2z - 7 = 0$ ,  $P_2 : 2x - y - 2z + 1 = 0$ .

2) We verify that the scalar product between the normals of two planes is zero.

3)  $P_1 \cap P_2 \cap P_3 = M(1, -1, 2)$ .

4)  $d(A, P_1) = 1/3$ .

**3.22** Consider  $A', B', C'$  the symmetrical points of  $A, B$ , and  $C$  with respect to the plane  $P$ . We take  $C_0 = CC' \cap P$ ,  $C_0 \in P$  and obtain  $C_0(1/6, 5/6, -2/3)$  after we solve the system obtained from the equations of the line  $CC' : \frac{x}{1} = \frac{y-1}{-1} = \frac{z+1}{2}$  and the plane  $P$ . Then we find the coordinates of  $C'$  by knowing  $\|CC_0\| = \|C_0C'\|$ . By using the same procedure we find  $A'$  and  $B'$ .

**3.23** Consider  $M' \in P$  the projection of  $M$  on  $P$ ,  $MM' : x - 2 = y - 1 = \frac{z-1}{3}$ , then  $M'(1, 0, -2)$  and  $d(M', P) = 11/\sqrt{11}$ .

**3.24** The pencil of planes passing through  $D$  is

$P_\mu : 2x + y - 3z + 2 + \mu(5x + 5y - 4z + 3) = 0$ .  $M \in P_1$  and  $P_1 \subset P_\mu \implies M \in P_\mu$  which gives us  $\mu = -1$ , so  $P_1 : 3x + 4y - z + 1 = 0$ .

Let  $P_2 : ax + by + cz + d = 0$ , from  $P_1 \perp P_2$  we have  $3a + 4b - c = 0$  and considering also  $P_2 \subset P_\mu$  we obtain the relations  $a = 2 + 5\mu, b = 1 + 5\mu, c = -3 - 4\mu$ . Then, for  $\mu = -1/3$ , we obtain  $P_2 : x - 2y - 5z + 3 = 0$ .

**3.25** a) Consider the system 
$$\begin{cases} 2x = y - 1 \\ -6x = z \\ 4x + y + z = 4 \end{cases}$$

which have the determinant zero and the rank of the corresponding matrix 2 and observe the system is inconsistent, so  $D \parallel P$ . This could be, also, observed if we check that the normal to the plane is perpendicular to the line  $D$ .

b) The system is consistent but undetermined, so  $D \subset P$ . This could be obtained if we find two points on  $D$  and show they are in  $P$ .

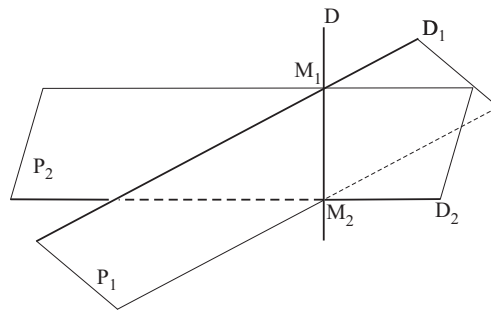
**3.26** a) The direction of the common perpendicular of  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  is

$$\vec{d} = (-5, 1, 1) \times (2, 0, -1) = \begin{vmatrix} i & j & k \\ -5 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = -i - 3j - 2k = (-1, -3, -2)$$

The equation of the plane which contains  $D_1$  and  $D$  is

$$P_1 : \begin{vmatrix} x - 1 & y - 2 & z \\ -5 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -3 & -2 \end{vmatrix} = 0 \Leftrightarrow x - 11y + 16z + 21 = 0.$$

Similarly, the equation of the plane which contains  $D_2$  and  $D$  is  $P_2 : -3x + 5y - 6z + 12 = 0$ . The common perpendicular is  $D : \begin{cases} P_1 \\ P_2 \end{cases}$ .



The distance is  $d(D_1, D_2) = \|M_1 M_2\|$ , where  $\{M_1\} = D_1 \cap D$  and  $\{M_2\} = D_2 \cap D$ .

b)  $D_1 \parallel D_2$ , let  $A_1 \in D_1$  and  $A_2 \in D_2$ , then

$$d(D_1, D_2) = d(A_1, D_2) = \frac{\|\vec{d}_2 \times M_1 M_2\|}{\|\vec{d}_2\|}.$$

c)  $D_1 \cap D_2 = (1, -2, 4)$ , so the distance is zero.





---

## CHAPTER 4

---

# Linear spaces

### 4.1 The definition of a linear space

Let  $K$  be the field of real numbers or the field of complex numbers.

**Definition 4.1** A set  $V$  is called a *linear space* (or a *vector space*) over the field  $K$  if it satisfies the following conditions:

- I) There exists an internal binary operation on  $V$ , called addition and denoted by  $+$ , such that  $(V, +)$  is a commutative group.
- II) There exists an external binary operation called scalar multiplication, in which each element  $k \in K$  can be combined with each element  $v \in V$  to give an element  $kv \in V$ , and such that, for all  $k, l \in K$  and  $x, y \in V$ ,

$$1) \quad k(x + y) = kx + ky$$

$$2) \quad (k + l)x = kx + lx$$

$$3) \quad (kl)x = k(lx)$$

$$4) \quad 1x = x.$$

We must be careful to distinguish between the two types of elements: those belonging to  $V$  called *vectors*, and those belonging to  $K$  called

scalars.

**Example 4.1.1** 1) The set  $\mathcal{V}_3$  of the vectors in space with the usual definitions of addition and multiplication by a real number, forms a linear space over the field  $\mathbb{R}$ .

2) Let  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ ,  $y = (y_1, \dots, y_n)$  ( $x_i, y_i \in K$ ) be two elements of  $K^n$  (the set of  $n$ -tuples of elements of  $K$ ). The addition  $x + y$  and scalar multiplication  $\lambda x$  ( $\lambda \in K$ ) may be defined by

$$x + y = (x_1 + y_1, \dots, x_n + y_n)$$

$$\lambda x = (\lambda x_1, \dots, \lambda x_n)$$

With these operations it is easily verified that  $K^n$  is a linear space over the field  $K$ .

3) An obvious generalization of the previous example is the set  $\mathcal{M}_{n,m}(K)$  with the usual definitions of addition of matrices and multiplication of a matrix by an element of  $K$ .

4) Let  $S$  be any set and  $F = \{f | f : S \longrightarrow K\}$ .

With the usual definitions of addition of functions and multiplication of a function by a number,  $F$  is a linear space over  $K$ .

We see that the structure of linear space appears in various and quite natural situations.

The first theorem gives a number of elementary deductions from the definition of a linear space. We must be careful to distinguish between 0, the zero of  $K$ , and 0, the zero vector of  $V$ .

**Theorem 4.2** *In any linear space  $V$  over  $K$  we have*

$$(i) \ 0v = 0;$$

$$(ii) \ k0 = 0;$$

$$(iii) \ (-1)v = -v,$$

for all  $v \in V$  and  $k \in K$ . ( $-v$  is the negative of  $v$  in the group  $(V, +)$ ).

**Proof.**

- (i) Since  $0v = (0 + 0)v = 0v + 0v$ , we infer that  $0v = 0$ .
- (ii)  $k0 = k(0 + 0) = k0 + k0$ , hence  $k0 = 0$ .
- (iii)  $v + (-1)v = 1v + (-1)v = [1 + (-1)]v = 0v = 0$ , therefore  $(-1)v = -v$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 4.3** (a) If  $k \in K, v \in V$  and  $kv = 0$ , then either  $k = 0$  or  $v = 0$ .

(b) If  $lv = kv$  and  $v \neq 0$ , then  $l = k$ .

(c) If  $kv = kw$  and  $k \neq 0$ , then  $v = w$ .

**Proof.**

(a) Suppose that  $k \neq 0$ . Then there exists  $k^{-1} \in K$ . We have  $k^{-1}(kv) = k^{-1} \cdot 0$ , hence  $(k^{-1}k)v = 0$ . It follows that  $1v = 0$  and finally  $v = 0$ , q.e.d.

(b)  $lv = kv$  implies  $(l - k)v = 0$ . Since  $v \neq 0$  we may apply (a) and deduce  $l - k = 0$ , that is,  $l = k$ .

(c) is left to the reader.  $\square$

## 4.2 Linear subspaces

Let  $V$  be a linear space over  $K$ . A non-empty subset  $W$  of  $V$  is called a *linear subspace* (or a *vector subspace*) of  $V$  if  $kx + ly \in W$  for all  $k, l \in K$  and  $x, y \in W$ .

Let us remark that this condition is equivalent to the following two conditions:

- (1)  $x + y \in W$  for all  $x, y \in W$
- (2)  $kx \in W$  for all  $k \in K$  and  $x \in W$ .

Any linear subspace  $W$  contains the vector  $0$ ; indeed, for any  $v \in W$  we have  $0v \in W$  and hence  $0 \in W$ .

**Example 4.2.1** (1)  $\{0\}$  and  $V$  are linear subspaces of  $V$ . These two subspaces are called *improper subspaces* of  $V$ ; all other subspaces are *proper subspaces*.

(2)  $\{a \vec{i} \mid a \in \mathbb{R}\}$  and  $\{a \vec{i} + b \vec{j} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{R}\}$  are linear subspaces of  $\mathcal{V}_3$ .

(3)  $\{(0, x_2, \dots, x_n) \mid x_2, \dots, x_n \in K\}$  is a linear subspace of  $K^n$ .

Let  $S \subset V, S \neq \emptyset$ . A vector  $v \in V$  of the form  $v = k_1 v_1 + \dots + k_n v_n$ , where  $n \in \mathbb{N}^*, k_i \in K$  and  $v_i \in S$  is called a *linear combination* of elements of  $S$ . It is easy to verify that the set of all linear combinations of elements of  $S$  is a linear subspace of  $V$ , called the subspace *generated* by  $S$ .

**Theorem 4.4** Let  $U$  and  $W$  be linear subspaces of the space  $V$ .

a)  $U \cap W$  is a linear subspace of  $V$ .

b) The set  $U + W = \{u + w \mid u \in U, w \in W\}$  is a linear subspace of  $V$ , called the *sum* of  $U$  and  $W$ .

The (easy) proof is left to the reader.

## 4.3 Linear dependence, bases, dimension

A subset  $X$  of a linear space  $V$  is called a *linearly dependent set* if it contains a finite subset  $\{x_1, \dots, x_r\} (r \geq 1)$  for which there exist scalars  $k_1, \dots, k_r \in K$ , not all zero, such that  $k_1 x_1 + \dots + k_r x_r = 0$ . Such a linear relation, where not all the  $k_i$  are zero, will be called *non-trivial*.

A subset of a linear space is linearly independent if it is not linearly dependent. An alternative definition, equivalent to this is: A set  $X$  is linearly independent if every linear relation  $k_1 x_1 + \dots + k_r x_r = 0$  ( $k_i \in K$ ) between the vectors  $x_i$  of  $X$  has zero coefficients. In other words, every linear relation between the vectors of  $X$  is trivial.

**Example 4.3.1** 1) Every subset  $X \subset V$  which contains 0 is linearly dependent.

- 2) If  $v \in V, v \neq 0$ , then  $\{v\}$  is linearly independent.
- 3) Let  $V = \{f \mid f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}\}$ . Let  $f_i \in V, f_i(t) = t^i, i = 0, 1, \dots, n$ . Then  $\{f_0, f_1, \dots, f_n\}$  is linearly independent.
- 4)  $\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w} \in V_3$  are linearly dependent if and only if they are coplanar.

**Definition 4.5** Any linearly independent subset of a vector space  $V$ , which has the property that it generates  $V$ , is called a *basis* of  $V$ .

It can be shown that every vector space  $V \neq \{0\}$  possesses a basis. Also, if  $V$  has a finite basis with  $r$  elements, then every basis of  $V$  has  $r$  elements. We say that the *dimension* of  $V$  is  $r$  and write  $\dim V = r$ .

If  $V$  has no finite bases, it is called infinite-dimensional. In this case we can find arbitrarily large linearly independent finite subsets of  $V$ . On the other hand, we write  $\dim\{0\} = 0$ .

**Example 4.3.2** 1)  $\{\vec{i}, \vec{j}, \vec{k}\}$  is a basis of  $\mathcal{V}_3$ .

- 2) The vectors  $e_1 = (1, 0, 0, \dots, 0), e_2 = (0, 1, 0, \dots, 0), \dots, e_n = (0, \dots, 0, 1)$  form a basis of  $K^n$ , called the *canonical basis* of  $K^n$ . Thus,  $\dim K^n = n$ .
- 3) Let  $K_n[X]$  be the linear space of all polynomials of degree  $\leq n$ , with coefficients in  $K$ . A basis of this space is  $\{1, X, X^2, \dots, X^n\}$ .
- 4) Let  $K[X]$  be the space of all polynomials with coefficients in  $K$ . A basis of it is  $\{1, X, X^2, \dots, X^n, \dots\}$ . Hence  $K[X]$  is infinite-dimensional.

Let  $V$  be finite-dimensional. It can be shown that if  $U$  and  $W$  are linear subspaces of  $V$ , then

$$\dim(U + W) + \dim(U \cap W) = \dim U + \dim W.$$

**Theorem 4.6** Let  $T = \{v_1, \dots, v_m\} \subset V$  be a linearly independent set which is not a basis. Then there exists  $v \in V$  such that  $\{v_1, \dots, v_m, v\}$  is linearly independent.

**Theorem 4.7** a) Every linearly independent subset of  $V_n$  with  $n$  elements is a basis of  $V_n$ .

b) Every linearly independent subset of  $V_n$  is a part of a basis.

## 4.4 Coordinates. Change of bases

Let  $B = \{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$  be a basis of the  $n$ -dimensional linear space  $V_n$  over  $K$ .

**Theorem 4.8** Each  $v \in V_n$  can be written uniquely in the form

$$v = x_1 b_1 + \dots + x_n b_n$$

with  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in K$ . (The scalars  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  are called the coordinates of the vector  $v$  relative to the basis  $B$ .)

**Proof.** Let  $v \in V_n$ . Since  $B$  generates  $V_n$ , there exist scalars  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  such that  $v = x_1 b_1 + \dots + x_n b_n$ . We have to prove that they are uniquely determined.

Suppose that  $x'_1, \dots, x'_n \in K$  and  $v = x'_1 b_1 + \dots + x'_n b_n$ . Then it follows  $(x_1 - x'_1)b_1 + \dots + (x_n - x'_n)b_n = 0$ . Since  $b_1, \dots, b_n$  are linearly independent, it follows that  $x'_1 = x_1, \dots, x'_n = x_n$  and the theorem is proved.  $\square$

Consider now the above basis  $B$  and let  $B' = \{b'_1, \dots, b'_n\} \subset V_n$ . Then we have  $b'_j = \sum_{i=1}^n c_{ij} b_i$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, n$ , with  $c_{ij} \in K$ .

**Theorem 4.9**  $B'$  is a basis of  $V_n$  if and only if  $\det(c_{ij}) \neq 0$ .

**Proof.** Since  $B'$  has  $n$  elements, the following two statements are equivalent:

- (1)  $B'$  is a basis
- (2)  $B'$  is linearly independent

Clearly (2) is equivalent to

$$(3) \quad k_1 b'_1 + \cdots + k_n b'_n = 0 \implies k_1 = \cdots = k_n = 0.$$

$$\text{We have } \sum_{j=1}^n k_j b'_j = \sum_{j=1}^n k_j \sum_{i=1}^n c_{ij} b_i = \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^n c_{ij} k_j b_i = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n c_{ij} k_j b_i = \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \sum_{j=1}^n c_{ij} k_j \right) b_i.$$

Thus the first equality in (3) is equivalent to  $\sum_{i=1}^n \left( \sum_{j=1}^n c_{ij} k_j \right) b_i = 0$ , which is equivalent (due to the linear independence of  $B$ ) to  $\sum_{j=1}^n c_{ij} k_j = 0$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . Hence (3) is equivalent to

$$(4) \quad \text{The linear homogeneous system } \sum_{j=1}^n c_{ij} k_j = 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, n, \text{ has only the trivial solution. Finally, (4) is equivalent to}$$

$$(5) \quad \det(c_{ij}) \neq 0$$

We conclude that (1) and (5) are equivalent and the theorem is proved.

Let us remark that the columns of the matrix  $C = (c_{ij})$ ,  $i, j = 1, \dots, n$  are formed with the coordinates of  $b'_j$  relative to the basis  $B$ . Suppose that  $C$  is nonsingular; this means that  $B'$  is also a basis of  $V_n$ .  $C$  is called the *transition matrix* from  $B$  to  $B'$ .

Let  $x \in V_n$ . We have  $x = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i b_i$  and  $x = \sum_{j=1}^n x'_j b'_j$ , with  $x_i, x'_j \in K$ .

$$\text{Then } x = \sum_{j=1}^n x'_j \sum_{i=1}^n c_{ij} b_i = \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^n c_{ij} x'_j b_i = \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \sum_{j=1}^n c_{ij} x'_j \right) b_i.$$

$$\text{Hence } \sum_{i=1}^n x_i b_i = \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \sum_{j=1}^n c_{ij} x'_j \right) b_i. \text{ It follows that}$$

$$(6) \quad x_i = \sum_{j=1}^n c_{ij} x'_j, \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

We have here the relationship between the coordinates of  $x$  relative to the basis  $B$  and the coordinates of the same  $x$  relative to the basis  $B'$ .

Let us denote

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}, \quad X' = \begin{pmatrix} x'_1 \\ \vdots \\ x'_n \end{pmatrix}$$



Then (6) is equivalent to  $X = CX'$ . □

Finally, let us mention-without proof - the following important result.

Let  $B = \{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$  be a basis of  $V_n$  and let  $v_1, \dots, v_p \in V$ . Write  $v_j = \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ij}b_i$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, p$ , with  $a_{ij} \in K$ . Consider the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1p} \\ \dots & & \\ a_{n1} & \dots & a_{np} \end{pmatrix}$$

**Theorem 4.10** *The dimension of the linear subspace of  $V_n$  generated by  $\{v_1, \dots, v_p\}$  equals  $r_A$ .*

---

## Exercises

---

~~4.1~~ Let  $V = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x > 0\}$  be endowed with the internal operation  $x \oplus y = xy$ . Prove that  $(V, \oplus)$  is a linear space over  $\mathbb{R}$  with the external operation  $\alpha * x = x^\alpha$ , for each  $x \in V$ ,  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**4.2** Prove that all square matrices of order  $n$  with real elements, form a vector space over the field of real numbers, if the operations involved are addition of matrices and multiplication of a matrix by a scalar. Find the basis and dimension of this space.

**4.3** Prove that all polynomials of degree  $\leq n$  with real coefficients form a vector space if the operations involved are ordinary addition of polynomials and multiplication of a polynomial by a scalar. Find the basis and dimension of this space.

~~4.4~~ Determine which of the following sets are linear subspaces of the corresponding linear spaces.

- a)  $W_1 = \{(x_1, \dots, x_n) \mid x_1 + \dots + x_n = 0\}$ , in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  over  $\mathbb{R}$
- b)  $W_2 = \{(x_1, \dots, x_n) \mid x_1 + \dots + x_n = 1\}$ , in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  over  $\mathbb{R}$

- c)  $W_3 = \{(x_1, \dots, x_n) \mid x_i \in \mathbb{Z}, i = 1, \dots, n\}$ , in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  over  $\mathbb{R}$   
d)  $W_4 = \{(x, y, z) \mid 2x - 3y + z = 0\}$ , in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  over  $\mathbb{R}$   
e)  $W_5 = \{(x, y, z) \mid 2x - 3y + z + 6 = 0\}$ , in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  over  $\mathbb{R}$   
f)  $W_6 = \{(x, y, z) \mid \frac{x}{3} = \frac{y}{-2} = \frac{z}{8}\}$ , in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  over  $\mathbb{R}$   
g)  $W_7 = \{(x, y, z) \mid \frac{x-1}{3} = \frac{y}{-2} = \frac{z}{8}\}$ , in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  over  $\mathbb{R}$   
h)  $W_8 = \{f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid f \text{ differentiable on } I\}$ , in  $C(I)$  over  $\mathbb{R}$ , the space of continuous functions on the interval  $I \in \mathbb{R}$   
i)  $W_9 = \{P \mid P \text{ is a polynomial of odd degree}\}$ , in  $\mathbb{R}_n[X]$  over  $\mathbb{R}$ , the space of polynomials of degree at most  $n$  with real coefficients.

**4.5** Prove that the following sets of vectors are subspaces and find the basis and dimension of each:

- a) All  $n$ -dimensional vectors with the first and last coordinates equal.  
b) All  $n$ -dimensional vectors of the form  $(\alpha, \beta, \alpha, \beta, \dots)$ , where  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are any numbers.

~~4.6~~ Find out if the following matrices are linearly independent in the space  $\mathcal{M}_2(\mathbb{R})$ , for  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 & a \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**4.7** Determine a basis in the linear subspace generated by the set of functions  $\{1, \sin^2 x, \cos^2 x, \cos 2x\}$ .

~~4.8~~ Determine the dimension and a basis for the linear subspace  $V$  generated:

a) in  $\mathbb{R}^4$  by the vectors:  $v_1 = (0, 2, -1, 3)$ ,  $v_2 = (1, 1, 2, -1)$ ,  $v_3 = (2, 5, -2, 3)$  and  $v_4 = (-1, 0, 2, 2)$ ,

b) in  $\mathbb{R}^4$  by the vectors:  $v_1 = (2, 1, 3, 0)$ ,  $v_2 = (-3, 1, 1, 2)$ ,  $v_3 = (-1, 2, 4, 2)$  and  $v_4 = (-1, 0, 2, -2)$ ,

c) in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  by the vectors:  $v_1 = (-1, 3, 2)$ ,  $v_2 = (1, 4, 1)$ ,  $v_3 = (0, 1, 2)$ .

~~4.9~~ Find the dimensions and bases of the linear subspaces spanned (generated) by the following sets of vectors:

a)  $a_1 = (1, 0, 0, -1)$ ,  $a_2 = (1, 1, 1, 1)$ ,  $a_3 = (2, 1, 1, 0)$ ,  $a_4 = (1, 2, 3, 4)$  and  $a_5 = (0, 1, 2, 3)$ .

b)  $a_1 = (1, 1, 1, 1, 0)$ ,  $a_2 = (1, 1, -1, -1, -1)$ ,  $a_3 = (2, 2, 0, 0, -1)$ ,  $a_4 = (1, 1, 5, 5, 2)$  and  $a_5 = (1, -1, -1, 0, 0)$

~~4.10~~ Find the dimensions of the union and intersection of the linear subspaces  $S_1 = \text{span}\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k\}$  and  $S_2 = \text{span}\{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_m\}$ , if:

a)  $a_1 = (1, 2, 0, 1)$ ,  $a_2 = (1, 1, 1, 0)$  and  $b_1 = (1, 0, 1, 0)$ ,  $b_2 = (1, 3, 0, 1)$

b)  $a_1 = (1, 1, 1, 1)$ ,  $a_2 = (1, -1, 1, -1)$ ,  $a_3 = (1, 3, 1, 3)$  and  $b_1 = (1, 2, 0, 2)$ ,  $b_2 = (1, 2, 1, 2)$ ,  $b_3 = (3, 1, 3, 1)$ .

~~4.11~~ Find the bases of the unions and intersections of the linear subspaces  $S_1 = \text{span}\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k\}$  and  $S_2 = \text{span}\{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_m\}$ :

a)  $a_1 = (1, 2, 1)$ ,  $a_2 = (1, 1, -1)$ ,  $a_3 = (1, 3, 3)$  and  $b_1 = (2, 3, -1)$ ,  $b_2 = (1, 2, 2)$ ,  $b_3 = (1, 1, -3)$ .

b)  $a_1 = (1, 2, 1, -2)$ ,  $a_2 = (2, 3, 1, 0)$ ,  $a_3 = (1, 2, 2, -3)$  and  $b_1 = (1, 1, 1, 1)$ ,  $b_2 = (1, 0, 1, -1)$ ,  $b_3 = (1, 3, 0, -4)$ .

~~4.12~~ Consider in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  the linear subspaces  $P$  and  $Q$  given by  $P : 5x - 2y + z = 0$ ,  $Q : x + y - 3z = 0$ . Determine bases in  $P$ ,  $Q$ ,  $P \cap Q$  and in  $\text{sp}(P \cup Q)$ .

~~4.13~~ Find the coordinates of the vector  $v = (-3, 1, 2)$  in the basis  $B' = \{(1, -1, 0), (1, 0, -1), (0, 1, -1)\}$ .

~~4.14~~ Show that the vectors  $e_1 = (1, 1, 1)$ ,  $e_2 = (1, 1, 2)$ ,  $e_3 = (1, 2, 3)$  form a basis in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  and find the coordinates of the vector  $a = (6, 2, -7)$  in this basis.

~~4.15~~ Show that the vectors  $e_1 = (1, 2, -1, -2)$ ,  $e_2 = (2, 3, 0, -1)$ ,  $e_3 = (1, 2, 1, 4)$  and  $e_4 = (1, 3, -1, 0)$  form a basis in  $\mathbb{R}^4$  and find the coordinates of the vector  $b = (7, 14, -1, 2)$  in this basis.

~~4.16~~ Prove that each of the two sets of vectors is a basis in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  and find the relationship between the coordinates of one and the same vector in

the two bases:

$a_1 = (1, 2, 1)$ ,  $a_2 = (2, 3, 3)$ ,  $a_3 = (3, 7, 1)$  and  $b_1 = (3, 1, 4)$ ,  $b_2 = (5, 2, 1)$ ,  $b_3 = (1, 1, -6)$ .

**4.17** Let  $P_1 = (X-b)(X-c)$ ,  $P_2 = (X-a)(X-c)$ ,  $P_3 = (X-a)(X-b)$  be polynomials from  $\mathbb{R}_2[X]$ ,  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ .

a) Determine the condition under which  $P_1, P_2, P_3$  are linearly independent.

b) Considering the condition of (a) satisfied, write the polynomial  $P = 1 + X + X^2$  as a linear combination of  $P_1, P_2$  and  $P_3$ .

**4.18** In the space of polynomials of degree at most two over  $\mathbb{R}$ , consider the canonical basis  $B = \{1, X, X^2\}$  and another basis  $B' = \{1, X - a, (X - a)^2\}$ , where  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ .

a) Determine the transition matrix from  $B$  to  $B'$ ,

b) Determine the coordinates of the polynomial  $f = \alpha + \beta X + \gamma X^2$  in the new basis  $B'$ .

**4.19** Find the coordinates of the polynomial  $f(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots + a_nx^n$  in the following bases:

a)  $1, x, x^2, \dots, x^n$ .

a)  $1, x - \alpha, (x - \alpha)^2, \dots, (x - \alpha)^n$ .

**4.20** Prove that each of the two sets of vectors is a basis in the space of polynomials of degree  $\leq 3$  with real coefficients and find the transition matrix between the two bases:

$e_1 = 1, e_2 = x, e_3 = x^2$  and  $e_4 = x^3$  and  $e'_1 = 1 - x, e'_2 = 1 + x^2, e'_3 = x^2 - x$  and  $e'_4 = x^3 + x^2$

~~**4.21**~~ Find a basis in the real space of the solutions of the following systems:

$$\text{a) } \begin{cases} x + y - z + 2t = 0 \\ x - 2y + t = 0 \end{cases} \quad \text{b) } \begin{cases} x + y - z + t = 0 \\ x - y + 2z - t = 0 \\ 2x + y - z - t = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\text{c) } \begin{cases} x + 2y + 4z - 3t = 0 \\ 3x + 5y + 6z - 4t = 0 \\ 3x + 8y + 24z - 19t = 0 \\ 4x + 5y - 2z + 3t = 0 \end{cases} \quad \text{d) } \begin{cases} x - 2y + z - t = 0 \\ 2x - y + 3z - 3t = 0 \\ x + y + z + t = 0 \\ 2x - y + 2z = 0 \end{cases}$$

**4.22** In  $\mathbb{R}^3$  consider the subspaces

$$D = \{(x, y, z) \mid \frac{x}{\alpha} = \frac{y}{\beta} = \frac{z}{\gamma}, \alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{R}^*\}$$

and

$$P = \{(x, y, z) \mid ax + by + cz = 0, a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}\}.$$

Find the condition wherefore  $\mathbb{R}^3 = D \oplus P$ .

## Solutions

---

**4.1**  $(V, \oplus)$  is a commutative group. We check also the other axioms, for  $x, y \in V$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha * (x \oplus y) &= (xy)^\alpha = x^\alpha y^\alpha = (\alpha * x) \oplus (\alpha * y), \\ (\alpha + \beta) * x &= x^{\alpha+\beta} = x^\alpha x^\beta = \alpha * x \oplus \beta * x, \\ \alpha * (\beta * x) &= (\beta * x)^\alpha = (x^\beta)^\alpha = x^{\alpha\beta} = (\alpha\beta) * x, \\ 1 * x &= x^1 = x. \end{aligned}$$

**4.2** The basis is formed, for example, by the matrices  $E_{ij}$  ( $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ) whose elements in the  $i$ th row and the  $j$ th column is equal to unity and all other elements are zero. The dimension is  $n^2$ .

**4.3** The basis is formed, for example, by the polynomials  $1, x, x^2, \dots, x^n$ . The dimension is  $n + 1$ .

**4.4** a) Yes, b) No, c) No, d) Yes, e) No, f) Yes, g) No, h) Yes, i) No.

**4.5** a) The basis is formed, for example, by the vectors  $(1, 0, 0, \dots, 0, 1)$ ,  $(0, 1, 0, \dots, 0, 0)$ ,  $(0, 0, 1, \dots, 0, 0)$ , ...,  $(0, 0, 0, \dots, 1, 0)$  and the dimension is  $n - 1$ .

b) The basis is formed, for example, by the two vectors  $(1, 0, 1, 0, \dots)$ ,  $(0, 1, 0, 1, \dots)$  and the dimension is 2.

**4.6** Let  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$  such that

$$\alpha \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \beta \begin{pmatrix} 2 & a \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \gamma \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

that is  $\begin{cases} \alpha + 2\beta = 0 \\ a\beta + \gamma = 0 \\ -\alpha + 2\gamma = 0 \\ \alpha + \beta - \gamma = 0 \end{cases}$ . We can notice that if  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  satisfy the first

and third equation they also satisfy the last one, so we have the linear

homogeneous system  $\begin{cases} \alpha + 2\beta = 0 \\ a\beta + \gamma = 0 \\ -\alpha + 2\gamma = 0 \end{cases}$ . If the determinant of the system

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & a & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 2a - 2 \text{ is zero, then the only solution is the trivial one}$$

$\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 0$ . For  $a \neq 1$  the three matrices are linearly independent, and for  $a = 1$  they are linearly dependent, for instance  $B = 2A + C$ .

**4.7** Since  $\sin^2 x = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 1 - \frac{1}{2} \cdot \cos 2x$ ,  $\cos^2 x = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 1 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \cos 2x$  it means that only two of the elements can be linearly independent. From  $\alpha \cdot 1 + \beta \cdot \cos 2x = 0$  follows  $\alpha = \beta = 0$  so a basis for the subspace is  $\{1, \cos 2x\}$ .

**4.8** a) The order 4 determinant having the four vectors as rows has the value 0, so  $\dim(V) < 4$ . We can find order 3 minors that are different from 0, so  $\dim(V) = 3$ . A basis can be, for instance  $\{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$ , or  $\{v_1, v_2, v_4\}$ ; b) The rank of the matrix is 2,  $\dim(V) = 2$ , a basis is for instance  $\{v_1, v_2\}$ ; c)  $\dim(V) = 3$ , so the subspace coincides with the whole space  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

**4.9** a) The basis is formed, for example, by the vectors  $a_1, a_3$  and  $a_4$ , so the dimension is 3.

b) The basis is formed, for example, by the vectors  $a_1, a_2$  and  $a_5$  and the dimension is 3.

**4.10** a) The dimensions of the union is 3 and of the intersection is 1.

b) The dimensions of the union is 3 and of the intersection is 2.

**4.11** a) The basis of the union (sum) is formed, for example, by the vectors  $a_1, a_2$  and  $b_1$  and the basis of the intersection consist of the single vector  $x = 2a_1 + a_2 = b_1 + b_2 = (3, 5, 1)$ . b) The basis of the union (sum) is formed, for example, by the vectors  $a_1, a_2, a_3$  and  $b_2$  and the basis of the intersection consist of  $b_1 = -2a_1 + a_2 + a_3$  and  $b_3 = 5a_1 - a_2 - 2a_3$ .

**4.12**  $P = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid 5x - 2y + z = 0\} = \{(x, y, -5x + 2y) \mid x, y \in \mathbb{R}\} = \{x(1, 0, -5) + y(0, 1, 2) \mid x, y \in \mathbb{R}\}$ , so  $\{(1, 0, -5), (0, 1, 2)\}$  is a basis for  $P$ . Similarly,  $Q = \text{sp}\{(1, -1, 0), (0, 3, 1)\}$ . To find  $P \cap Q$  we solve the system  $\begin{cases} 5x - 2y + z = 0 \\ x + y - 3z = 0 \end{cases}$  and get  $z = \frac{7}{5}x, y = \frac{16}{5}x$ , so

$$P \cap Q = \text{sp}\left\{\left(1, \frac{7}{5}, \frac{16}{5}\right)\right\} = \text{sp}\{(5, 7, 16)\}.$$

$$\text{sp}(P \cup Q) = \text{sp}\{(1, 0, -5), (0, 1, 2), (1, -1, 0), (0, 3, 1)\} =$$

$$= \text{sp}\{(1, 0, -5), (0, 1, 2), (1, -1, 0)\} = \mathbb{R}^3.$$

**4.13** The transition matrix from the canonical basis to the basis  $B'$  is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}. \text{ Denoting by } a, b, c \text{ the coordinates in the new basis we}$$

$$\text{have } \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix} \text{ and we get } a = -1, b = -2, c = 0.$$

$$\text{Indeed, } v = -(1, -1, 0) - 2(1, 0, -1).$$

**4.14**  $(1, 1, 1)$ .

**4.15**  $(0, 2, 1, 2)$ .

**4.16** We consider the same vector in the first basis  $(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3)$  and in the second basis  $(\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3)$ . Then  $\alpha_1 = -27\beta_1 - 71\beta_2 - 41\beta_3$ ,  $\alpha_2 = 9\beta_1 + 20\beta_2 + 9\beta_3$  and  $\alpha_3 = 4\beta_1 + 12\beta_2 + 8\beta_3$ .

**4.17** Let  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\alpha P_1 + \beta P_2 + \gamma P_3 = 0$ . This means

$$\alpha(X-b)(X-c) + \beta(X-a)(X-c) + \gamma(X-a)(X-b) = 0, \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Assigning to  $X$  the values  $a, b$  or  $c$  it follows that  $\alpha(a-b)(a-c) = 0$ ,  $\beta(b-a)(b-c) = 0$  and  $\gamma(c-a)(c-b) = 0$ . If  $a, b, c$  are distinct two by two we get  $\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 0$ , so  $P_1, P_2, P_3$  are linearly independent. If, for instance,  $a = b$ , for  $\alpha = 1, \beta = -1, \gamma = 0$ , we have  $P_1 - P_2 = 0$ , so they are not linearly independent. The same for  $a = c$  or  $b = c$ . In conclusion the condition of linear independence is  $(a-b)(a-c)(b-c) \neq 0$ . b) We must determine  $l, m, n$  such that  $1 + X + X^2 = l(X-b)(X-c) + m(X-a)(X-c) + n(X-a)(X-b)$ . Assigning to  $X$  the values  $a, b$  or  $c$  we get  $l = \frac{1+a+a^2}{(a-b)(a-c)}, m = \frac{1+b+b^2}{(b-a)(b-c)}, n = \frac{1+c+c^2}{(c-a)(c-b)}$ .

**4.18** a) The transition matrix is  $C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -a & a^2 \\ 0 & 1 & -2a \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ , b)  $f = \alpha + \beta a +$

$$\gamma a^2 + (\beta + 2\gamma a)(X-a) + \gamma(X-a)^2 \text{ or } f = f(a) + \frac{f'(a)}{1!}(X-a) + \frac{f''(a)}{2!}(X-a)^2.$$

**4.19** a)  $a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$ . b)  $f(\alpha), f'(\alpha), f''(\alpha)/2!, \dots, f^{(n)}(\alpha)/n!$ .

**4.20**  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

**4.21** a)  $(1, 0, -1, -1), (0, 1, 5, 2)$ . b)  $(2, -7, -4, 1)$ . c)  $(8, -6, 1, 0), (-7, 5, 0, 1)$ . d)  $(-10/3, -2/3, 3, 1)$ .

**4.22**  $\alpha a + \beta b + \gamma c \neq 0$ .





---

## CHAPTER 5

---

# Inner product spaces

### 5.1 Inner products

**Definition 5.1** An inner product on a real or complex linear space  $V$  is any scalar-valued function, defined on  $V^2$  (the set of ordered pairs  $(x, y)$  of elements of  $V$ ) and denoted by  $(x|y)$ , which satisfies the following three axioms: for all  $x, x_1, x_2, y \in V$  and  $k_1, k_2 \in K$ ,

- (1)  $(x|y) = \overline{(y|x)}$
- (2)  $(k_1x_1 + k_2x_2|y) = k_1(x_1|y) + k_2(x_2|y)$
- (3)  $(x|x) \geq 0$ , and  $(x|x) = 0$  if and only if  $x = 0$ .

In (1) the bar denotes the complex conjugate, and so may be omitted if the vector space is real. Because of (1),  $(x|x)$  is real (even if  $V$  is a complex vector space) and so the inequality of (3) is meaningful. Corresponding to (2) is the relation

$$(2') \quad (x|k_1y_1 + k_2y_2) = \overline{k_1}(x|y_1) + \overline{k_2}(x|y_2),$$

which can be deduced, using (1), from (2) and is equivalent to it. Both (2) and (2') extend, in an obvious manner, to the case where more than two terms occur in either the first or second position in the inner product. We have also  $(x|0) = (0|y) = 0$  for all  $x, y \in V$ .

**Example 5.1.1** (1) For  $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in \mathcal{V}_3$  define  $(\vec{u}|\vec{v}) = \vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}$ . In this way we have an inner product on  $\mathcal{V}_3$ .

(2) Let  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $y = (y_1, \dots, y_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . The formula  $(x|y) = x_1y_1 + \dots + x_ny_n$  defines an inner product on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , called *the canonical inner product* on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

(3) Let  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{C}^n$ ,  $y = (y_1, \dots, y_n) \in \mathbb{C}^n$ . Then  $(x|y) = x_1\bar{y}_1 + \dots + x_n\bar{y}_n$  defines the *canonical inner product* on  $\mathbb{C}^n$ .

(4) Let  $C[a, b] = \{f : [a, b] \longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid f \text{ continuous on } [a, b]\}$ . For  $f, g \in C[a, b]$ , define

$$(f|g) = \int_a^b f(x)g(x)dx$$

Then we have an inner product on  $C[a, b]$ .

An *inner product space* is any linear space on which an inner product is defined. A finite-dimensional real inner product space is known as a *Euclidean space*; a finite-dimensional complex inner product space is known as a *unitary space*.

**Theorem 5.2** (*Schwarz' inequality*). Let  $V$  be an inner product space and  $u, v \in V$ . Then

$$|(u|v)|^2 \leq (u|u)(v|v).$$

**Proof.** If  $v = 0$ , the inequality reduces to  $0 \leq 0$ . So, let  $v \neq 0$ ; then  $(v|v) > 0$ . We have

$$(i) \quad (u - kv|u - kv) \geq 0, \quad \forall k \in K.$$

It follows immediately that

$$(ii) \quad (u - kv|u) - \bar{k}(u - kv|v) \geq 0, \quad \forall k \in K$$

For  $k_0 = \frac{(u|v)}{(v|v)}$  the second inner product equals zero and hence (ii) implies

$$(u|u) - k_0(v|u) \geq 0, \text{ that is,}$$

$$(u|u) - \frac{(u|v)}{(v|v)}(v|u) \geq 0.$$

Since  $(u|v)(v|u) = (u|v)\overline{(u|v)} = |(u|v)|^2$  we deduce the desired inequality  $|(u|v)|^2 \leq (u|u)(v|v)$ .  $\square$

## 5.2 Norm and distance

**Definition 5.3** Let  $V$  be a linear space over  $K$ . A norm on  $V$  is any real-valued function defined on  $V$  (its value at  $x$  being denoted by  $\|x\|$ ) which satisfies the following axioms:

- (1)  $\|x\| \geq 0$ , and  $\|x\| = 0$  if and only if  $x = 0$
- (2)  $\|kx\| = |k|\|x\|$
- (3)  $\|x_1 + x_2\| \leq \|x_1\| + \|x_2\|$  for all  $x, x_1, x_2 \in V$  and all  $k \in K$ .

Any linear space on which a norm is defined is known as a *normed vector space*.

Let  $V$  be a normed vector space. Define  $d : V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$d(x, y) = \|x - y\| \quad \forall x, y \in V.$$

It is easy to verify that

- (4)  $d(x, y) \geq 0$ , and  $d(x, y) = 0$  if and only if  $x = y$
- (5)  $d(x, y) = d(y, x)$
- (6)  $d(x, y) \leq d(x, z) + d(z, y)$

for all  $x, y, z \in V$ .

Thus  $d$  is a *metric* on  $V$ , and  $V$  is a *metric space*. The value  $d(x, y)$  is called the *distance* between  $x$  and  $y$ . We refer to  $\|x\|$  as the *length* of the vector  $x$ , and call  $x$  a *unit vector* if  $\|x\| = 1$ .

The following result is a very important one.

**Theorem 5.4** Every inner product space is a normed space with norm defined by

$$\|x\| = \sqrt{(x|x)}.$$

**Proof.** Since  $(x|x) \geq 0$  for all  $x \in V$ ,  $\|x\| \geq 0$ . Moreover,  $\|x\| = 0 \iff (x|x) = 0 \iff x = 0$  and so axiom (1) from the definition of a norm is satisfied.

Now  $\|kx\| = \sqrt{(kx|kx)} = \sqrt{k\bar{k}(x|x)} = \sqrt{|k|^2\|x\|^2} = |k|\|x\|$ , which proves (2).

Finally,

$$\begin{aligned} \|x + y\|^2 &= (x + y|x + y) = (x|x) + (x|y) + (y|x) + (y|y) = \\ &= (x|x) + (x|y) + \overline{(x|y)} + (y|y) = \\ &= \|x\|^2 + 2\operatorname{Re}(x|y) + \|y\|^2 \\ &\quad (\text{where } \operatorname{Re} \text{ signifies the real part}) \\ &\leq \|x\|^2 + 2|(x|y)| + \|y\|^2 \leq \\ &\leq \|x\|^2 + 2\sqrt{(x|x)}\sqrt{(y|y)} + \|y\|^2 \\ &\quad \text{by the Schwarz inequality} \\ &= \|x\|^2 + 2\|x\|\|y\| + \|y\|^2 = (\|x\| + \|y\|)^2 \end{aligned}$$

This implies  $\|x + y\| \leq \|x\| + \|y\|$  and so axiom (3) is also satisfied.  $\square$

### 5.3 ~~Orthonormal~~ bases

Let  $V$  be an inner product space. Two vectors  $x, y \in V$  are *orthogonal* if  $(x|y) = 0$ ; this definition extends the well-known situation that has appeared in the study of  $\mathcal{V}_3$ .

A set of vectors  $\{x_1, \dots, x_r\} \subset V$  is called *orthonormal* if

$$(x_i|x_j) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i = j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Thus each  $x_i$  is of unit length, and each pair of vectors is orthogonal. Finding an orthonormal set in an inner product space is analogous to choosing a set of mutually perpendicular unit vectors in elementary vector analysis.

**Theorem 5.5** *An orthonormal set in an inner product space  $V$  is linearly independent.*

**Proof.** Suppose that  $\{x_1, \dots, x_r\}$  is the given orthonormal set and

$$k_1x_1 + \dots + k_rx_r = 0.$$

Then for each  $i$ ,  $0 = (0|x_i) = (k_1x_1 + \dots + k_rx_r|x_i) = k_1(x_1|x_i) + \dots + k_i(x_i|x_i) + \dots + k_r(x_r|x_i) = k_i$  since  $(x_j|x_i) = 0$  unless  $j = i$ . Thus each coefficient  $k_i$  is zero, and so the vectors are linearly independent.  $\square$

Let now  $V_n$  be an  $n$ -dimensional inner product space and  $B \subset V_n$  an orthonormal set with  $n$  elements. As a consequence of the above theorem we deduce that  $B$  is a basis of  $V_n$ , called an *orthonormal basis*.

**Theorem 5.6** *Let  $B = \{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$  be an orthonormal basis of  $V_n$ . The coordinates of a vector  $v \in V_n$  relative to  $B$  are the numbers*

$$(v|b_1), \dots, (v|b_n).$$

**Proof.** Let  $k_1, \dots, k_n \in K$  be the coordinates of  $v$ , that is  $v = \sum_{i=1}^n k_i b_i$ .

Then  $(v|b_j) = (\sum_{i=1}^n k_i b_i | b_j) = \sum_{i=1}^n k_i (b_i | b_j) = k_j$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, n$ . Thus the theorem is proved and we have a very simple procedure for calculating the coordinates of any vector relative to an orthonormal basis.  $\square$

Finally, let  $B = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$  be any basis of  $V_n$ . The following procedure enables us to construct an orthonormal basis in  $V$ .

Let  $x_1 = \frac{v_1}{\|v_1\|}$ . Then  $\{x_1\}$  is an orthonormal set with one element.

Take  $x_2 = \frac{v_2 - cx_1}{\|v_2 - cx_1\|}$ ; note that  $v_2 - cx_1 = v_2 - \frac{c}{\|v_1\|}v_1 \neq 0$  for all  $c \in K$ .

Clearly  $\|x_2\| = 1$ ; we shall determine  $c \in K$  such that  $(x_2|x_1) = 0$ . In fact, we find immediately  $c = \frac{(v_2|x_1)}{(x_1|x_1)}$ . So  $\{x_1, x_2\}$  is an orthonormal set and  $c = (v_2|x_1)$  (since  $(x_1|x_1) = 1$ ).

Now take  $x_3 = \frac{v_3 - c_1x_1 - c_2x_2}{\|v_3 - c_1x_1 - c_2x_2\|}$ . As above, we deduce that the set  $\{x_1, x_2, x_3\}$  is orthonormal if  $c_1 = (v_3|x_1)$  and  $c_2 = (v_3|x_2)$ .

Proceeding in this way, after  $n$  steps we arrive at an orthonormal set  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  with  $n$  elements, that is to say, an orthonormal basis of  $V_n$ .

The above procedure for constructing an orthonormal basis of  $V$  from an arbitrary basis is known as the *Gram-Schmidt orthogonalisation process*.

**Definition 5.7** Let  $W$  be a linear subspace of the inner product space  $V$ . The *orthogonal complement* of  $W$  is defined by

$$W^\perp = \{v \in V \mid (v|w) = 0, \forall w \in W\}.$$

---

## Exercises

---

~~5.1~~ Let  $S$  be the set of solutions of the following systems and find bases in  $S$  and in the orthogonal complement  $S^\perp$ :

~~a)~~ 
$$\begin{cases} x_1 + x_2 + 2x_3 = 0 \\ 2x_1 + 2x_2 + x_3 = 0 \\ x_1 + x_2 - x_3 = 0 \end{cases}.$$

~~b)~~ 
$$\begin{cases} 2x_1 + x_2 - x_3 + x_4 = 0 \\ x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 - x_4 = 0 \\ x_2 + 7x_3 - 3x_4 = 0 \end{cases}.$$

~~5.2~~ Let  $S$  be the set of solutions of the system

$$\begin{cases} x + y + t = 0 \\ 2x + y + z - 3v = 0 \\ x - y + 2z - 3t - 6v = 0 \end{cases}.$$

Find an orthonormal basis in  $S$ .

~~5.3~~ Verify that the following sets of vectors  $\{v_1, v_2\}$  are orthogonal and complete them to form **orthogonal bases** of  $\mathbb{R}^4$ :

a)  $v_1 = (1, 0, -2, 1)$  and  $v_2 = (1, 1, 1, 1)$ .

b)  $v_1 = (1, 0, 2, -1)$  and  $v_2 = (1, 2, 0, 1)$ .

c)  $v_1 = (1, -2, 2, -3)$  and  $v_2 = (2, -3, 2, 4)$ .

d)  $v_1 = (1, 1, 1, 2)$  and  $v_2 = (1, 2, 3, -3)$ .

*clasa  
semin →* ~~5.4~~ If  $V$  and  $W$  are linear subspaces of the inner product space  $U$  then:

a)  $(V + W)^\perp = V^\perp \cap W^\perp$

b)  $(V \cap W)^\perp = V^\perp + W^\perp$ .

~~5.5~~ Let  $\mathbb{R}^4$  be the inner product space with the canonical inner product. Apply the Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization to construct **orthogonal bases** for the subspaces spanned by the following sets of vectors:

a)  $(1, 2, 2, -1), (1, 1, -5, 3), (3, 2, 8, -7)$ .

b)  $(1, 1, -1, -2), (5, 8, -2, -3), (3, 9, 3, 8)$ .

~~5.6~~ Find an orthonormal basis for the subspace spanned by the vectors  $v_1 = (1, -1, 1, -1), v_2 = (5, 1, 1, 1), v_3 = (-3, 3, 1, -3)$ .

~~5.7~~ Show that the vectors  $(1, 0, 1), (1, 1, 0)$  and  $(0, 1, 1)$  form a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  and find an orthonormal basis of this space, by using the Gram-Schmidt process.

**5.8** For  $f, g \in C[1, e]$  denote

$$(f|g) = \int_1^e f(x)g(x)(\ln x) dx.$$

~~a)~~ Prove that this defines an inner product in  $C[1, e]$ .

~~b)~~ Find the norm of  $f(x) = x$ .

c) Find the polynomials of degree 1 which are orthogonal on the constant functions.

**5.9** Let  $p, q \in \mathbb{R}_2[X], p = a_1X^2 + b_1X + c_1, q = a_2X^2 + b_2X + c_2$ . Define

$$(p|q) = a_1a_2 + b_1b_2 + c_1c_2.$$

a) Prove that this defines an inner product in  $\mathbb{R}_2[X]$ .

b) Let  $p_1 = 3X^2 + 2X + 1, p_2 = -X^2 + 2X + 1, p_3 = 3X^2 + 2X + 5, p_4 = 3X^2 + 5X + 2$ . Find  $p \in \mathbb{R}_2[X]$  which is equidistant with respect to  $p_1, p_2, p_3$  and  $p_4$ . Find also the common distance.



~~5.10~~ Prove Pythagoras' Theorem: If  $V$  is an inner product space and  $x, y \in V$  are orthogonal, then

$$\|x + y\|^2 = \|x\|^2 + \|y\|^2.$$

## Solutions

**5.1** a) The system has the determinant zero, and since  $\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \neq 0$ , we choose  $x_2, x_3$  the primary unknowns and  $x_1 = \alpha$  the secondary unknown. We get  $x_2 = -\alpha$ ,  $x_3 = 0$  so  $S = \{(\alpha, -\alpha, 0) \mid \alpha \in \mathbb{R}\}$  with  $\{(1, -1, 0)\}$  a basis. The orthogonal complement is  $S^\perp = \{(a, b, c) \mid (a, b, c) \perp (1, -1, 0)\}$ . We obtain  $a - b = 0$ , so  $S = \{(a, a, c) \mid a, c \in \mathbb{R}\} = \{a(1, 1, 0) + c(0, 0, 1) \mid a, c \in \mathbb{R}\}$ . A basis in  $S^\perp$  is  $\{(1, 1, 0), (0, 0, 1)\}$ .  
b) A basis in  $S$  is, for example  $\{(4, -7, 1, 0), (-2, 3, 0, 1)\}$  and a basis in  $S^\perp$  is  $\{(1, 0, -4, 2), (0, 1, 7, -3)\}$ .

**5.2** The solution set of the system is  $S = \{(-\alpha + \beta + 3\gamma, \alpha - 2\beta - 3\gamma, \alpha, \beta, \gamma) \mid \alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{R}\}$ , with a basis  $\{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$ , where  $v_1 = (-1, 1, 1, 0, 0)$ ,  $v_2 = (1, -2, 0, 1, 0)$ ,  $v_3 = (3, -3, 0, 0, 1)$ . To get an orthonormal basis we use the Gram-Schmidt procedure. First,  $x_1 = v_1$ . Then  $x_2 = v_2 - c_1 x_1 = (0, -1, 1, 1, 0)$  ( $c_1 = \frac{(v_2|x_1)}{(x_1|x_1)} = -1$ ). Finally,  $x_3 = v_3 - c_1 x_1 - c_2 v_2 = (1, 0, 1, -1, 1)$ . This basis is orthogonal, in order to get an orthonormal one, we divide each vector to its own norm:  $x'_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}(-1, 1, 1, 0, 0)$ ,  $x'_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}(0, -1, 1, 1, 0)$  and  $x'_3 = \frac{1}{2}(1, 0, 1, -1, 1)$ .

**5.3** a) Is clear that  $(v_1|v_2) = 0$ . We need two more vectors to form a basis. Let  $v = (a, b, c, d)$ . From  $(v_1|v) = 0$  and  $(v_2|v) = 0$  we have  $\begin{cases} a - 2c + d = 0 \\ a + b + c + d = 0 \end{cases}$  so  $a = 2c - d$ ,  $b = -3c$ . Choosing  $c = 0$ ,  $d = 1$  we get  $v_3 = (-1, 0, 0, 1)$ . Now  $v_4$  has to be orthogonal also on  $v_3$ , that gives  $c = d$ . Choosing  $c = d = 1$  we have  $v_4 = (1, -3, 1, 1)$ . Obviously, the

solution is not unique.

b) For example, they may be completed by adjoining the vectors  $v_3 = (1, -1, 0, 1)$  and  $v_4 = (-1, 0, 1, 1)$ .

c)  $v_3 = (2, 2, 1, 0)$  and  $v_4 = (5, -2, -6, -1)$ .

d)  $v_3 = (1, -2, 1, 0)$  and  $v_4 = (25, 4, -17, -6)$ .

**5.4** a) Let  $x \in (V+W)^\perp$ . Then, for any  $v \in V$  and  $w \in W$ ,  $(x|v+w) = 0$ . Taking  $w = 0$  follows that  $(x|v) = 0$ , for any  $v \in V$ , that is  $x \in V^\perp$ . Taking  $v = 0$  follows  $x \in W^\perp$ . So  $(V+W)^\perp \subset V^\perp \cap W^\perp$ . Conversely, let  $x \in V^\perp \cap W^\perp$ . Let  $y = v+w \in V+W$ . Then  $(x|y) = (x|v) + (x|w) = 0$  so  $x \in (V+W)^\perp$ . b) In the relation (a) we replace  $V$  by  $V^\perp$  and  $W$  by  $W^\perp$ . We get  $(V^\perp + W^\perp)^\perp = (V^\perp)^\perp \cap (W^\perp)^\perp$  that is  $(V^\perp + W^\perp)^\perp = V \cap W$  and further  $V^\perp + W^\perp = (V \cap W)^\perp$ .

**5.5** a)  $(1, 2, 2, -1), (2, 3, -3, 2), (2, -1, -1, -2)$ .

b)  $(1, 1, -1, -2), (2, 5, 1, 3)$ .

**5.6** A basis of the generated subspace is  $v_1, v_2$ . Applying the orthogonalisation, we obtain the orthogonal basis  $u_1 = (1, -1, 1, -1)$  and  $u_2 = (4, 2, 0, 2)$ . An orthonormal basis is  $w_1, w_2$ , where  $w_1 = u_1 / \|u_1\| = 1/2(1, -1, 1, -1)$  and  $w_2 = u_2 / \|u_2\| = 1/\sqrt{6}(2, 1, 0, 1)$ .

**5.7** An orthonormal basis is formed by the three vectors  $1/\sqrt{2}(1, 0, 1)$ ,  $1/\sqrt{6}(1, 2, -1)$  and  $1/\sqrt{3}(-1, 1, 1)$ .

**5.8** b)  $\|f\| = \frac{1}{3}\sqrt{2e^3 + 1}$ . c)  $p(x) = a \left( x - \frac{e^2 + 1}{4} \right)$ ,  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**5.9** b)  $p = X^2 + 3X + 3$ . The common distance is 3.



---

## CHAPTER 6

---

# Linear transformations

## 6.1 Linear transformations

Mappings between two vector spaces are, in many respects, more interesting than vector spaces themselves. This applies especially to linear transformations.

Let  $V, W$  be two vector spaces over the same field  $K$ . Then a mapping  $\mathcal{T} : V \longrightarrow W$  is called a *linear transformation* from  $V$  to  $W$  if it satisfies the following conditions:

- (1)  $\mathcal{T}(x + y) = \mathcal{T}(x) + \mathcal{T}(y), \forall x, y \in V$
- (2)  $\mathcal{T}(kx) = k\mathcal{T}(x), \forall k \in K, x \in V$ .

An immediate consequence of (2) is that the zero vector of  $V$  is mapped by every linear transformation into the zero vector of  $W$ , that is  $\mathcal{T}(0) = 0$ .

Sometimes we shall write  $\mathcal{T}x$  instead of  $\mathcal{T}(x)$ .

**Example 6.1.1** 1)  $\mathcal{T} : \mathbb{R}^2 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^3, \mathcal{T}(x_1, x_2) = (2x_1, -x_2, x_1 + x_2)$  defines a linear transformation from  $\mathbb{R}^2$  to  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

- 2)  $\mathcal{D} : K[X] \longrightarrow K[X], \mathcal{D}(p) = p' \forall p \in K[X]$  is a linear transformation, the well-known derivation of polynomials.

It is not difficult to verify that  $\mathcal{T} : V \longrightarrow W$  is linear if and only if for any given integer  $r \geq 2$  we have

$$\mathcal{T}(k_1x_1 + \cdots + k_rx_r) = k_1\mathcal{T}(x_1) + \cdots + k_r\mathcal{T}(x_r) \quad \forall x_i \in V, \forall k_i \in K$$

An important consequence of this property is expressed in the following theorem:

**Theorem 6.1** *A linear transformation  $\mathcal{T} : V_n \longrightarrow W$  is uniquely determined by the images  $\mathcal{T}(b_1), \dots, \mathcal{T}(b_n)$  of a basis  $\{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$  of  $V_n$ .*

**Proof.** Each vector  $x \in V_n$  can be expressed uniquely in the form  $x = k_1b_1 + \cdots + k_nb_n, k_i \in K$ . Then  $\mathcal{T}x = \mathcal{T}(k_1b_1 + \cdots + k_nb_n) = k_1\mathcal{T}b_1 + \cdots + k_n\mathcal{T}b_n$ , hence  $\mathcal{T}x$  is uniquely determined.  $\square$

For a linear transformation  $\mathcal{T} : V \longrightarrow W$  denote

$$\text{Ker}(\mathcal{T}) = \{x \in V \mid \mathcal{T}x = 0\}, \quad \text{Im}(\mathcal{T}) = \{\mathcal{T}x \mid x \in V\}.$$

$\text{Ker}(\mathcal{T})$  is called the *kernel* of  $\mathcal{T}$  and  $\text{Im}(\mathcal{T})$  the *range* of  $\mathcal{T}$ .

**Theorem 6.2**  *$\text{Ker}(\mathcal{T})$  is a linear subspace of  $V$ .  $\text{Im}(\mathcal{T})$  is a linear subspace of  $W$ .*

The (easy) proof is left to the reader.

Suppose that  $\dim V = n$ ; it can be shown that

$$\dim \text{Ker}(\mathcal{T}) + \dim \text{Im}(\mathcal{T}) = n.$$

**Definition 6.3** A linear transformation  $\mathcal{T} : V \longrightarrow W$  is called an *isomorphism* if it is both one-to-one and onto  $W$ .  $V$  and  $W$  are called *isomorphic*.

The concept of isomorphism is of importance since any two isomorphic vector spaces have identical structure in the sense that any algebraic statement that is true for one space will necessarily be true for the other.

The next theorem is fundamental:

**Theorem 6.4** *Two finite dimensional vector spaces over the same field are isomorphic if and only if they have the same dimension.*

We omit the proof but we mention the following obvious

**Corollary 6.5** *Any vector space  $V$  over  $K$  and of dimension  $n$  is isomorphic to  $K^n$ .*

The reader may question why, in view of this result, we do not restrict our attention to the vector spaces  $K^n$  since these exhibit all the algebraic properties of abstract finite-dimensional vector spaces. The answer is that to do so would lead to unnecessary complications, in exactly the same way as in elementary vector analysis it is simpler to work with vectors as such, rather than to reduce every vector to a set of components.

Finally, denote by  $\mathcal{L}(V, W)$  the set of all linear transformations from  $V$  to  $W$ . In  $\mathcal{L}(V, W)$  we define addition and scalar multiplication by

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathcal{T} + \mathcal{S})(x) &= \mathcal{T}x + \mathcal{S}x \\ (k\mathcal{T})(x) &= k\mathcal{T}x \end{aligned} \quad \forall x \in V, k \in K.$$

It is very easy to verify that, with these operations,  $\mathcal{L}(V, W)$  forms a vector space over  $K$ .

Moreover, let  $V, W, U$  be three linear spaces over the same field  $K$  and let  $\mathcal{T} \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$ ,  $\mathcal{S} \in \mathcal{L}(W, U)$ . Consider the *composition*  $\mathcal{S} \circ \mathcal{T} : V \longrightarrow U$  (called also the *product* and denoted simply by  $\mathcal{ST}$ ). Then  $\mathcal{ST} \in \mathcal{L}(V, U)$ ; we leave the proof to the reader.

The elements of  $\mathcal{L}(V, V)$  are called the *endomorphisms* of the linear space  $V$ . Instead of  $\mathcal{L}(V, V)$  we shall write simply  $\mathcal{L}(V)$ .

Denote by  $I$  the identity transformation of  $V$ , that is  $Ix = x$ ,  $\forall x \in V$ . For  $\mathcal{T} \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  let  $\mathcal{T}^0 = I$ ,  $\mathcal{T}^1 = \mathcal{T}$ ,  $\mathcal{T}^2 = \mathcal{T}\mathcal{T}$ ,  $\dots$ .

## 6.2 The matrix of a linear transformation

Let  $U, V$  be vector spaces over the same field  $K$  and let  $\{u_1, \dots, u_m\}$ ,  $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$  be bases of  $U, V$  respectively. If  $\mathcal{T} \in \mathcal{L}(U, V)$  then  $\mathcal{T}v_j \in U$

and so we may write

$$\mathcal{T}v_j = \sum_{i=1}^m t_{ij}u_i, \quad t_{ij} \in K \quad (6.1)$$

The scalars  $(t_{1j}, \dots, t_{mj})$  are, for each  $j$ , the coordinates of  $\mathcal{T}v_j$  relative to the given basis of  $U$ , and so are uniquely determined by  $\mathcal{T}$ .

Conversely, if we are given any set  $\{t_{ij} | i = 1, \dots, m; j = 1, \dots, n\}$  of scalars, and bases  $\{u_1, \dots, u_m\}, \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$  of  $U$  and  $V$ , then equation (6.1) determines a unique linear transformation  $\mathcal{T} \in \mathcal{L}(V, U)$  (see Th.6.1, Section 5.1).

Write  $T$  for the matrix  $(t_{ij})_{i=1, \dots, m; j=1, \dots, n}$ . Then  $T \in \mathcal{M}_{m,n}(K)$  will be called *the matrix of  $\mathcal{T}$* , or *the matrix representing  $\mathcal{T}$* , relative to the given bases of  $U$  and  $V$ . The columns of  $T$  are formed with the coordinates of  $\mathcal{T}v_1, \dots, \mathcal{T}v_n$  relative to the basis  $\{u_1, \dots, u_m\}$ .

Since the definition of the scalars  $t_{ij}$  by (5.1) depends upon the arbitrarily chosen bases of  $U$  and  $V$ , many different matrices represent the same linear transformation.

Let  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  be the coordinates of  $x \in V$  relative to the basis  $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ . Let  $(y_1, \dots, y_m)$  be the coordinates of  $\mathcal{T}x \in U$  relative to the basis  $\{u_1, \dots, u_m\}$ . Denote

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}, \quad Y = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_m \end{pmatrix}$$

**Theorem 6.6** *The coordinates of  $x$  and the coordinates of  $\mathcal{T}x$  are connected by the equation*

$$Y = TX. \quad (6.2)$$

**Proof.** We have  $x = \sum_{j=1}^n x_j v_j$  and  $\mathcal{T}x = \sum_{i=1}^m y_i u_i$ . On the other hand,

$$\mathcal{T}x = \mathcal{T}\left(\sum_{j=1}^n x_j v_j\right) = \sum_{j=1}^n x_j \mathcal{T}v_j = \sum_{j=1}^n x_j \sum_{i=1}^m t_{ij} u_i = \sum_{i=1}^m \left(\sum_{j=1}^n t_{ij} x_j\right) u_i.$$

Since the representation of the vector  $\mathcal{T}x$  as a linear combination of the elements of the basis  $\{u_1, \dots, u_m\}$  is unique, we may equate the

coefficients of  $u_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, m$  and so obtain

$$y_i = \sum_{j=1}^n t_{ij} x_j, \quad i = 1, \dots, m.$$

This system is equivalent to (6.2).  $\square$

When  $U = V$ , to obtain a matrix representation of  $\mathcal{T} \in \mathcal{L}(V, V)$  it is only necessary to choose one basis  $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$  of  $V$ . In this case the theorem must be modified by writing  $v_i$  for  $u_i$  throughout the statement and proof.

We now interpret, in the language of matrices, the operations on linear transformations defined in Section 5.1.

**Theorem 6.7** *Let  $U, V, W$  be three vector spaces over the same field  $K$ , of dimensions  $m, n, p$  respectively, and let  $\{u_1, \dots, u_m\}$ ,  $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ ,  $\{w_1, \dots, w_p\}$  be bases of  $U, V, W$ . Then, relative to these bases:*

- 1) *The zero linear transformation  $0 \in \mathcal{L}(V, U)$  is represented by the zero matrix  $0 \in \mathcal{M}_{m,n}(K)$ .*
- 2) *The identity transformation  $I \in \mathcal{L}(V, V)$  is represented by the unit matrix  $I \in \mathcal{M}_{n,n}(K)$ .*
- 3) *If  $\mathcal{T} \in \mathcal{L}(V, U)$  is represented by the matrix  $T \in \mathcal{M}_{m,n}(K)$ , then for all  $k \in K$  the transformation  $k\mathcal{T}$  is represented by the matrix  $kT$ .*
- 4) *If  $\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{S} \in \mathcal{L}(V, U)$  are represented by the matrices  $T, S \in \mathcal{M}_{m,n}(K)$  respectively, then  $\mathcal{T} + \mathcal{S}$  is represented by the matrix  $T + S$ .*
- 5) *If  $\mathcal{T} \in \mathcal{L}(V, U)$  and  $\mathcal{S} \in \mathcal{L}(U, W)$  are represented by  $T \in \mathcal{M}_{m,n}(K)$  and  $S \in \mathcal{M}_{p,m}$  respectively, then  $\mathcal{ST}$  is represented by  $ST$ .*
- 6) *If  $\mathcal{T} \in \mathcal{L}(V, V)$  is non-singular and is represented by the matrix  $T \in \mathcal{M}_{n,n}(K)$ , then the inverse transformation  $\mathcal{T}^{-1}$  is represented by the inverse matrix  $T^{-1}$ .*



**Proof.** All the statements follow immediately from the definitions, and we omit the details. We need also the following result:

Let  $\mathcal{T} \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  be represented by the matrix  $T$  relative to the basis  $B = \{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$  of  $V$ , and by a matrix  $T'$  relative to the basis  $B' = \{b'_1, \dots, b'_n\}$  of  $V$ . Let  $C$  be the transition matrix from  $B$  to  $B'$ . Then  $T' = C^{-1}TC$ .  $\square$

### 6.3 Invariant subspaces. Eigenvalues and eigenvectors

We now begin a more detailed study of linear transformations. Throughout the remainder of this chapter we shall be concerned only with linear transformations of a vector space  $V$  into itself, that is, with endomorphisms of  $V$ .

**Definition 6.8** Let  $\mathcal{T} \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  and  $W$  be a subspace of  $V$  with the property that  $\mathcal{T}(W) \subset W$ . Then  $\mathcal{T}$  is called an *invariant subspace* of  $V$  under the endomorphism  $\mathcal{T}$ , or - more briefly -  $W$  is said to be  $\mathcal{T}$ -invariant.

**Example 6.3.1** 1) The improper subspaces  $V$  and  $\{0\}$  are invariant under every endomorphism of  $V$ . Every subspace of  $V$  is invariant under both the identity and zero transformations.

2)  $K_n[X]$  is an invariant subspace of  $K[X]$  under the endomorphism  $\mathcal{D}$  described in Example 5.1.1.

3)  $\mathcal{T}\vec{i} = \vec{j}, \mathcal{T}\vec{j} = -\vec{i}$  define an endomorphism of the space  $V = \{a\vec{i} + b\vec{j} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{R}\}$ . It can be shown that  $V$  has no proper invariant subspaces under  $\mathcal{T}$ . (Exercise!)

**Definition 6.9** Let  $\mathcal{T} \in \mathcal{L}(V)$ . A scalar  $\lambda \in K$  is called an *eigenvalue* (or proper value) of  $\mathcal{T}$  if there exists a non-zero vector  $x \in V$  such that  $\mathcal{T}x = \lambda x$ . The vector  $x$  is called an *eigenvector* (or proper vector) of  $\mathcal{T}$ .

Let  $\lambda$  be an eigenvalue of  $\mathcal{T}$ . Denote  $E(\lambda) = \{x \in V \mid \mathcal{T}x = \lambda x\}$ . Clearly  $E(\lambda)$  consists of all the eigenvectors of  $\mathcal{T}$  corresponding to  $\lambda$ , together with the vector zero.

It is easy to verify that  $E(\lambda)$  is a linear subspace of  $V$  and, moreover, it is  $\mathcal{T}$ -invariant. (Exercise!) It will be called the proper subspace of  $\mathcal{T}$  corresponding to the eigenvalue  $\lambda$ .

Let now  $V_n$  be an  $n$ -dimensional linear space over  $K$  and let  $B = \{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$  be a basis of  $V_n$ . Let  $\lambda \in K$  be an eigenvalue and let  $x = x_1 b_1 + \dots + x_n b_n$  be an eigenvector of  $\mathcal{T}$  corresponding to  $\lambda$ . Hence we have  $\mathcal{T}x = \lambda x$  and  $x \neq 0$ . Denote

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}$$

Then  $(\mathcal{T} - \lambda I)(x) = 0$ , which is equivalent to  $(T - \lambda I)X = 0$ , where  $T$  is the matrix of  $\mathcal{T}$  relative to the basis  $B$  (see Section 5.2).

The equation  $(T - \lambda I)X = 0$  may be written in the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} t_{11} - \lambda & t_{12} & \dots & t_{1n} \\ t_{21} & t_{22} - \lambda & \dots & t_{2n} \\ \dots & & & \\ t_{n1} & t_{n2} & \dots & t_{nn} - \lambda \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (6.3)$$

This is a linear homogeneous system. Since  $x \neq 0$ , it has non-trivial solutions, that is  $\det(T - \lambda I) = 0$ . Let us denote  $P(\lambda) = \det(T - \lambda I)$ ; remark that  $P(\lambda)$  is a polynomial of degree  $n$ .

**Theorem 6.10**  $P(\lambda)$  does not depend on the choice of the basis  $B$ .

**Proof.** Let  $B'$  be another basis of  $V_n$  and let  $T'$  be the matrix of  $\mathcal{T}$  relative to  $B'$ . Let  $C$  be the transition matrix from  $B$  to  $B'$ . Then  $T' = C^{-1}TC$ ; see Section 5.2. We have to prove that  $\det(T' - \lambda I) = \det(T - \lambda I)$  for all  $\lambda \in K$ . Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned} \det(T' - \lambda I) &= \det(C^{-1}TC - C^{-1}(\lambda I)C) = \det(C^{-1}(T - \lambda I)C) = \\ &= \det C^{-1} \cdot \det(T - \lambda I) \cdot \det C = \\ &= (\det C)^{-1} \det(T - \lambda I) \det C = \det(T - \lambda I), \end{aligned}$$

so the theorem is proved.  $\square$

Since the polynomial  $P(\lambda)$  is independent of the choice of the basis  $B$ , it will be called the *characteristic polynomial* of  $\mathcal{T}$ . If a matrix  $T$  represents  $\mathcal{T}$  with respect to some basis,  $P(\lambda)$  will be also called the characteristic polynomial of  $T$ , and we have simply  $P(\lambda) = \det(T - \lambda I)$ .

Returning to the eigenvalues of  $\mathcal{T}$ , we see that they are exactly the roots in  $K$  of the characteristic polynomial of  $\mathcal{T}$ . There exist  $n$  roots, real or complex. If  $K = \mathbb{C}$ , all of them are eigenvalues; if  $K = \mathbb{R}$ , only the real roots (if there exist real roots!) are eigenvalues of  $\mathcal{T}$ .

Now suppose that  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $\mathcal{T}$ . Then (6.3) has non-trivial solutions. Every such non-trivial solution gives us an eigenvector  $x$  by means of the formula  $x = x_1 b_1 + \cdots + x_n b_n$ .

## 6.4 The Cayley-Hamilton Theorem

Let  $P \in K[X]$  be an arbitrary polynomial,  $P(X) = a_m X^m + \cdots + a_1 X + a_0$ ,  $a_i \in K$ . For a matrix  $A \in \mathcal{M}_{n,n}(K)$  let us denote  $P(A) = a_m A^m + \cdots + a_1 A + a_0 I$ . The Cayley-Hamilton Theorem asserts that *if  $P(\lambda) = \det(T - \lambda I)$  is the characteristic polynomial of a matrix  $T \in \mathcal{M}_{n,n}(K)$ , then  $P(T) = 0$ .*

We shall use this result in order to prove

**Theorem 6.11** *Let  $A \in \mathcal{M}_{n,n}(K)$ . Then for each  $p \geq n$ ,  $A^p$  can be expressed as a linear combination of  $I, A, A^2, \dots, A^{n-1}$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $P(\lambda) = \det(A - \lambda I)$  be the characteristic polynomial of the matrix  $A$ . By virtue of the Cayley-Hamilton Theorem, we have  $P(A) = 0$ .

Clearly  $P(\lambda) = (-1)^n \lambda^n + k_{n-1} \lambda^{n-1} + \cdots + k_1 \lambda + k_0$ , with  $k_i \in K$ . Hence

$$(-1)^n A^n + k_{n-1} A^{n-1} + \cdots + k_1 A + k_0 I = 0.$$

It follows that

$$A^n = c_{n-1}A^{n-1} + \cdots + c_1A + c_0I, \quad c_i \in K. \quad (6.4)$$

Thus  $A^n$  is a linear combination of  $I, A, A^2, \dots, A^{n-1}$ .

From (6.4) we deduce

$$A^{n+1} = c_{n-1}A^n + c_{n-2}A^{n-1} + \cdots + c_1A^2 + c_0A \quad (6.5)$$

If we substitute  $A^n$  taking into account (6.4), we obtain  $A^{n+1}$  as a linear combination of  $I, A, \dots, A^{n-1}$ . By repeating this argument we finish the proof.  $\square$

## 6.5 The diagonal form

Let  $V$  be a linear space over  $K$ .

**Theorem 6.12** *Let  $\mathcal{T} \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  and let  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  be eigenvectors of  $\mathcal{T}$  associated with mutually distinct eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ . Then the vectors  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  are linearly independent.*

**Proof.** Suppose that

- (1)  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  is a linearly dependent set

Then there exist  $k_1, \dots, k_n \in K$ , not all zero, such that

- (2)  $k_1x_1 + \cdots + k_nx_n = 0$ .

Renumbering the variables if necessary, we may suppose that

- (3)  $k_1 \neq 0$ .

From (2) we obtain  $k_1\mathcal{T}x_1 + \cdots + k_n\mathcal{T}x_n = 0$ . Since  $\mathcal{T}x_i = \lambda_ix_i$ , it follows that

- (4)  $k_1\lambda_1x_1 + \cdots + k_n\lambda_nx_n = 0$

Now (2) and (4) imply

$$(5) \quad k_2(\lambda_2 - \lambda_1)x_2 + \cdots + k_n(\lambda_n - \lambda_1)x_n = 0.$$

We claim that  $\{x_2, \dots, x_n\}$  must be linearly dependent. Indeed, if we suppose that they are linearly independent, then  $k_2 = \cdots = k_n = 0$  since  $\lambda_i - \lambda_1 \neq 0$ ,  $i = 2, \dots, n$ . But (2) implies  $k_1x_1 = 0$ . Since  $x_1$  is an eigenvector, it is non-zero. Hence  $k_1 = 0$ , which contradicts (3).

Thus (1) implies:

$$(6) \quad \{x_2, \dots, x_n\} \text{ is a linearly dependent set.}$$

Now we repeat the same arguments and conclude that (6) implies:

$$(7) \quad \{x_3, \dots, x_n\} \text{ is a linearly dependent set.}$$

In this manner we deduce finally that  $\{x_n\}$  is a linearly dependent set. On the other hand, the same set is linearly independent, since  $x_n \neq 0$  as an eigenvector. This contradiction shows that (1) is false and the theorem is proved.  $\square$

**Theorem 6.13** *Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be an endomorphism of a linear space  $V_n$  of finite dimension  $n \geq 1$  over  $K$ . Suppose that the characteristic polynomial  $P(\lambda)$  of  $\mathcal{T}$  has  $n$  simple roots  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  in the field  $K$ . Then there exists a basis of  $V_n$  relative to which the matrix of  $\mathcal{T}$  is*

$$\begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \cdots & & & & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}$$

**Proof.** Since the roots  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  are in  $K$ , they are eigenvalues of  $\mathcal{T}$ . For each  $i$  choose an eigenvector  $x_i$  of  $\mathcal{T}$  corresponding to the eigenvalue  $\lambda_i$ . By hypothesis  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  are mutually distinct. Theorem 6.12 shows that  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  are linearly independent. Since  $\dim V_n = n$ ,  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  is a basis. We have  $\mathcal{T}x_i = \lambda_i x_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , hence the matrix of  $\mathcal{T}$  with respect to this basis is the diagonal matrix of the theorem.  $\square$

**Corollary 6.14** *Let  $T \in \mathcal{M}_{n,n}(K)$ . Suppose that the characteristic polynomial of  $T$  has  $n$  simple roots in  $K$ . Then there exists a matrix  $C \in \mathcal{M}_{n,n}(K)$  such that*

$$C^{-1}TC = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \dots & & & & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix},$$

$\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  being the roots.

**Proof.** Let  $B$  be the canonical basis of  $K^n$ . Let  $\mathcal{T} \in \mathcal{L}(K^n)$  be the endomorphism which has the matrix  $T$  relative to the basis  $B$ . Theorem 6.13 shows that there exists a basis  $B'$  of  $K^n$  relative to which the matrix of  $\mathcal{T}$  is

$$T' = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \dots & & & & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}$$

Let  $C$  be the transition matrix from  $B$  to  $B'$ . We know that  $T' = C^{-1}TC$  and the proof is complete.  $\square$

We shall denote

$$\text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n) = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \dots & & & & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}$$

The algebra of matrices applies especially smoothly to diagonal matrices: to add or multiply any two diagonal matrices, one simply adds or multiplies corresponding diagonal entries.

For instance, let  $T$  be as in the above corollary. Then it is easy to compute  $T^p$  for any  $p \geq 1$ . Indeed, let  $T' = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$ . Then  $C^{-1}TC = T'$ , that is  $T = CT'C^{-1}$ .

We have

$$T^p = (CT'C^{-1}) \cdot (CT'C^{-1}) \cdot \dots \cdot (CT'C^{-1}) = C(T')^p C^{-1}$$

But  $(T')^p = \text{diag}(\lambda_1^p, \dots, \lambda_n^p)$  and hence

$$T^p = C \cdot \text{diag}(\lambda_1^p, \dots, \lambda_n^p) \cdot C^{-1}.$$

## 6.6 Reduction to diagonal form

We want to characterize the endomorphisms that can be "diagonalized", that is, for which there exists a basis relative to which the matrix is a diagonal one.

Let  $V_n$  be a linear space of finite dimension  $n \geq 1$  over the field  $K$ . Let  $\mathcal{T} \in \mathcal{L}(V_n)$  and let  $\lambda_0$  be an eigenvalue of  $\mathcal{T}$ . We know that  $\lambda_0$  is a root in  $K$  of the characteristic polynomial of  $\mathcal{T}$ . Denote by  $m(\lambda_0)$  the multiplicity of  $\lambda_0$  as a root of this polynomial.

Consider also the proper subspace corresponding to  $\lambda_0$ :

$$E(\lambda_0) = \{x \in V_n \mid \mathcal{T}x = \lambda_0 x\}.$$

Let  $B = \{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$  be an arbitrary basis of  $V_n$  and let  $T$  be the matrix of  $\mathcal{T}$  relative to this basis.

**Theorem 6.15**  $\dim E(\lambda_0) = n - \text{rank}(T - \lambda_0 I) \leq m(\lambda_0)$

**Proof.** Let  $x \in V_n$ ,  $x = x_1 b_1 + \dots + x_n b_n$ . As usual, denote

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}$$

Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (1)  $x \in E(\lambda_0)$
- (2)  $(\mathcal{T} - \lambda_0 I)(x) = 0$

$$(3) (T - \lambda_0 I) \cdot X = 0$$

We conclude that  $E(\lambda_0)$  can be identified with the set of the solutions of the linear homogeneous system

$$\begin{pmatrix} t_{11} - \lambda_0 & t_{12} & \dots & t_{1n} \\ t_{21} & t_{22} - \lambda_0 & \dots & t_{2n} \\ \dots & & & \\ t_{n1} & t_{n2} & \dots & t_{nn} - \lambda_0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

But this set is a linear subspace of  $K^n$  of dimension  $n - \text{rank}(T - \lambda_0 I)$ . Thus  $\dim E(\lambda_0) = n - \text{rank}(T - \lambda_0 I)$ , and the first statement of the theorem is proved.

Now denote  $q = \dim E(\lambda_0)$  and let  $\{v_1, \dots, v_q\}$  be a basis of  $E(\lambda_0)$ . Let us complete it in order to obtain a basis  $\{v_1, \dots, v_q, v_{q+1}, \dots, v_n\}$  of  $V_n$ .

We have  $\mathcal{T}v_j = \lambda_0 v_j$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, q$  and  $\mathcal{T}v_j = t_{1j}v_1 + \dots + t_{nj}v_n$ ,  $j = q+1, \dots, n$ ,  $t_{ij} \in K$ .

Hence the matrix  $T'$  of  $\mathcal{T}$  relative to the basis  $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$  is

$$T' = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & t_{1,q+1} & \dots & t_{1n} \\ 0 & \lambda_0 & \dots & 0 & t_{2,q+1} & \dots & t_{2n} \\ \dots & \dots & & & & & \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \lambda_0 & t_{q,q+1} & \dots & t_{qn} \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & t_{q+1,q+1} & \dots & t_{q+1,n} \\ \dots & \dots & & & & & \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & t_{n,q+1} & \dots & t_{n,n} \end{pmatrix}$$

The characteristic polynomial of  $\mathcal{T}$  is  $P(\lambda) = \det(T' - \lambda I)$ . If we take account of the form of  $T'$  we conclude that  $P(\lambda)$  is of the form  $P(\lambda) = (\lambda_0 - \lambda)^q \cdot Q(\lambda)$ , where  $Q(\lambda)$  is a polynomial. Now it is clear that the multiplicity of  $\lambda_0$  as a root of  $P(\lambda)$  is at least  $q$ , that is  $m(\lambda_0) \geq q$ .

Thus  $n - \text{rank}(T - \lambda_0 I) \leq m(\lambda_0)$  and the theorem is proved.  $\square$



**Definition 6.16** Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be an endomorphism of a vector space  $V_n$  of finite dimension  $n$  over  $K$ . The endomorphism  $\mathcal{T}$  is said to be *diagonalizable* if there exists a basis of  $V_n$  consisting of eigenvectors of  $\mathcal{T}$ , in other words a basis relative to which the matrix of  $\mathcal{T}$  is diagonal.

Theorem 6.13, Section 5.5 gives a sufficient condition for this to be the case: namely that the roots of the characteristic polynomial of  $\mathcal{T}$  all lie in  $K$  and are all distinct. But it is easily seen that this condition is not necessary: a trivial example is the identity endomorphism whose matrix with respect to any basis of  $V_n$  is diagonal, but whose characteristic polynomial, namely  $(1 - \lambda)^n$  has no simple roots (assuming that  $n > 1$ ).

## 6.7 The Jordan canonical form

Let  $\mathcal{T} \in \mathcal{L}(V_n)$ ; suppose that all the roots of the characteristic polynomial are in  $\mathbb{K}$ . Let  $\lambda$  be such a root, i.e., an eigenvalue of  $\mathcal{T}$ . Let  $m$  be the algebraic multiplicity of  $\lambda$ , and  $q = \dim E(\lambda)$ . Then  $m \geq q \geq 1$ .

It is possible to find  $q$  eigenvectors in  $E(\lambda)$  and  $m - q$  principal vectors, all of them linearly independent; an eigenvector  $v$  and the principal vectors  $u_1, \dots, u_r$  ( $r \geq 0$ ) corresponding to it satisfy:

$$\mathcal{T}v = \lambda v; \mathcal{T}u_1 = \lambda u_1 + v; \mathcal{T}u_2 = \lambda u_2 + u_1; \dots; \mathcal{T}u_r = \lambda u_r + u_{r-1}.$$

All these eigenvectors and principal vectors, associated to all the eigenvalues of  $\mathcal{T}$ , form a basis of  $V_n$ , called a *Jordan basis* with respect to  $\mathcal{T}$ . The matrix of  $\mathcal{T}$  relative to a Jordan basis is called a *Jordan matrix* of  $\mathcal{T}$ .

Such a matrix has the form 
$$\begin{pmatrix} J_1 & & \\ & J_2 & \\ & & \dots \\ & & & J_p \end{pmatrix},$$
 where  $J_1, \dots, J_p$  are called

*Jordan cells*. Each cell represents the contribution of an eigenvector  $v$  and the corresponding principal vectors

$$u_1, \dots, u_r : \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 1 & & \\ & \lambda & 1 & \\ & & \lambda & 1 \\ & & & \ddots & 1 \\ & & & & \ddots \\ & & & & & \lambda \end{pmatrix} \in M_{r+1}(\mathbb{K}).$$

We see that: the Jordan matrix is a diagonal matrix  $\iff$  there are no principal vectors  $\iff m(\lambda) = \dim E(\lambda)$  for each eigenvalue  $\lambda$ .

Let  $T$  be the matrix of  $\mathcal{T}$  with respect to a given basis  $B$ , and  $J$  the Jordan matrix with respect to a Jordan basis  $B'$ . Let  $C$  be the transition matrix from  $B$  to  $B'$ . Then  $J = C^{-1}TC$ , hence  $T = CJC^{-1}$ . It follows that  $T^n = CJ^nC^{-1}$ .

The exponential of the matrix  $T$  is defined by

$$e^T = I + \frac{1}{1!}T + \frac{1}{2!}T^2 + \dots + \frac{1}{n!}T^n + \dots$$

**Example 6.7.1** 1. Let  $\mathcal{T} \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{R}^3)$  have the matrix

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 2 & -5 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

with respect to the canonical basis.

We find  $\lambda_1 = 2$ ,  $m(\lambda_1) = 1$ ,

$$E(\lambda_1) = \left\{ \alpha \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \mid \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \right\}, \text{ hence } q(\lambda_1) = 1.$$

$\lambda_2 = 1$ ,  $m(\lambda_2) = 2$ ,

$$E(\lambda_2) = \left\{ \alpha \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \mid \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \right\}, \text{ hence } q(\lambda_2) = 1.$$

So  $v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ; the principal vector  $u_1$  associated

with  $v_2$  satisfies  $Tu_1 = u_1 + v_2$ . Let  $u_1 = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}$ ; then

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \\ 2 & -5 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We get  $x = y - 1$ ,  $z = y + 1$ ,  $y \in \mathbb{R}$ . Choosing  $y = 1$ , we obtain

$$u_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The Jordan basis is  $B = \{v_1, v_2, u_1\}$ .

Since

$$\begin{aligned} Tv_1 &= 2v_1 + 0v_2 + 0u_1 \\ Tv_2 &= 0v_1 + v_2 + 0u_1 \\ Tu_1 &= 0v_1 + v_2 + u_1, \end{aligned}$$

the Jordan matrix will be

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The transition matrix from the canonical basis to the Jordan basis is

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 4 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We have  $J = C^{-1}TC$ ,  $T = CJC^{-1}$ ,  $T^n = CJ^nC^{-1}$ ,  $J^n = \begin{pmatrix} 2^n & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & n \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

$$2. T = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & -3 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

In this case  $\lambda_1 = -1$ ,  $m(\lambda_1) = q(\lambda_1) = 1$ ,  $\lambda_2 = 0$ ,  $m(\lambda_2) = 2$ ,  $q(\lambda_2) = 1$ .

$$v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}, u_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The Jordan matrix is

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$3. T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ -4 & -2 & 1 \\ 4 & 1 & -2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We find  $\lambda_1 = -1$ ,  $m(\lambda_1) = 3$ ,  $q(\lambda_1) = 1$ .

$v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ . The principal vectors  $u_1$  and  $u_2$  associated with  $v_1$  satisfy

$$Tu_1 = -u_1 + v_1$$

$$Tu_2 = -u_2 + u_1.$$

We obtain  $u_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $u_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

The Jordan basis is  $\{v_1, u_1, u_2\}$  and the Jordan matrix is

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

## Exercices

**6.1** Let  $\mathcal{T} : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  be the linear transformation defined by:  
 $\mathcal{T}(0, 1, 2) = (1, 0)$ ,  $\mathcal{T}(-1, 1, 1) = (-1, 1)$ ,  $\mathcal{T}(3, 0, -1) = (2, 1)$ . Determine:

- a) the matrix of  $\mathcal{T}$  relative to the canonical basis in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  and  $\mathbb{R}^2$
- b) bases in the subspaces  $\text{Ker}\mathcal{T}$  and  $\text{Im}\mathcal{T}$

**6.2** Let  $\mathcal{T} : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  be the linear transformation given by:  
 $\mathcal{T}(-1, 2) = (-7, 6, 3)$ ,  $\mathcal{T}(1, 3) = (2, 9, 7)$ . Determine:

- a) the image of an arbitrary vector of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  through  $\mathcal{T}$
- b)  $\text{Ker}\mathcal{T}$  and  $\text{Im}\mathcal{T}$

**6.3** Let  $\mathcal{T} \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{R}^3)$  be defined by  $\mathcal{T}x = (x_1 + x_2 + x_3, x_1 + x_2 + x_3, x_1 + x_2 + x_3)$ . Determine bases in  $\text{Ker}\mathcal{T}$  and  $\text{Im}\mathcal{T}$ .

**6.4** Consider the basis  $B' = \{(1, 1, 0), (1, 0, 1), (0, 1, 1)\}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  and the linear transformation  $\mathcal{T} : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ ,  $\mathcal{T}(x_1, x_2, x_3) = (x_1 + x_2 - x_3, x_3, 2x_2 + 3x_3)$ . Determine the matrix of  $\mathcal{T}$  with respect to the basis  $B'$ .

**6.5** Determine the eigenvalues and the eigenvectors for the matrix of order  $n$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 1 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

**6.6** Determine the eigenvalues and the eigenvectors for the matrix of order  $n$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

**6.7** Denoting by  $P_2$  the space of polynomial functions of degree at most two, let  $\mathcal{T} : P_2 \rightarrow P_2$  be the linear transformation given by  $\mathcal{T}(1 + X) = 1 - X^2$ ,  $\mathcal{T}(1 + X^2) = -4X$  and  $\mathcal{T}(2X^2) = 4X^2$ . Find the eigenvalues and the eigenvectors of  $\mathcal{T}$ .

**6.8** Let  $V = C(0, 1)$ , let  $T : V \rightarrow V$  be an endomorphism defined by  $T(f)(x) = xf(x)$ . Determine the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of  $T$ .

**6.9** Let  $V = C^\infty(a, b)$ , where  $0 \notin (a, b)$ , let  $T : V \rightarrow V$  be an endomorphism defined by  $T(f)(x) = \frac{1}{x}f'(x)$ . Determine the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of  $T$ .

**6.10** Find the Jordan form and the corresponding Jordan basis for:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a) } A &= \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 6 & -15 \\ 1 & 5 & -5 \\ 1 & 2 & -2 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ b) } B = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \text{c) } C &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

**6.11** Find the Jordan form and the transfer matrix for:

$$\text{a) } A = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 1 & 1 \\ -2 & 1 & -2 \\ 1 & 1 & 4 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ b) } B = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & -1 & 1 \\ 5 & -1 & 4 \\ 5 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**6.12** Determine  $A^n$ ,  $n \in \mathbf{N}$  for:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a) } A &= \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 6 & 2 \\ -2 & 6 & 1 \\ 2 & -4 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ b) } A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2 & -3 \\ 4 & 7 & -12 \\ 3 & 6 & -10 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \text{c) } A &= \begin{pmatrix} -2 & -1 & 1 \\ 5 & -1 & 4 \\ 5 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ d) } A = \begin{pmatrix} -61 & 36 \\ -105 & 62 \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

**6.13** Determine  $e^A$ , for:

$$\text{a) } A = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & -4 \\ 3 & 5 \end{pmatrix},$$

b)  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -2 \\ 6 & -3 \end{pmatrix}.$

**6.14** For the matrix  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  determine  $e^A$  and  $\sin A$ .

**6.15** A matrix  $A \in M_n(\mathbf{C})$  is called *self-adjoint* if  $\overline{A}^t = A$ . Prove that if  $A$  is self-adjoint then all the roots of its characteristic polynomial are real, and the eigenvectors corresponding to distinct values are orthogonal.

**6.16** A matrix  $T \in M_n(\mathbf{C})$  is called *unitary* if  $(\overline{T}^t)T = I$ . Prove that if  $T$  is unitary then

- a) For each eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of  $T$  we have  $|\lambda| = 1$ .
- b) The eigenvectors corresponding to distinct values are orthogonal.

## Solutions

**6.1** a) Denoting by  $e_1, e_2$  and  $e_3$  the vectors of the canonical basis in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , we get the system 
$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{T}e_2 + 2\mathcal{T}e_3 = (1, 0) \\ -\mathcal{T}e_1 + \mathcal{T}e_2 + \mathcal{T}e_3 = (-1, 1) \\ 3\mathcal{T}e_1 - \mathcal{T}e_3 = (2, 1) \end{cases}$$
 with the solutions  $\mathcal{T}e_1 = (1, 0)$ ,  $\mathcal{T}e_2 = (-1, 2)$  and  $\mathcal{T}e_3 = (1, -1)$ . So the matrix of  $\mathcal{T}$  relative to the canonical basis is  $T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$

b) For  $(x_1, x_2, x_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3$  we have

$$\mathcal{T}(x_1, x_2, x_3) = x_1(1, 0) + x_2(-1, 2) + x_3(1, -1) = (x_1 - x_2 + x_3, 2x_2 - x_3).$$

The kernel of  $\mathcal{T}$  is  $\text{Ker}\mathcal{T} = \{(x_1, x_2, x_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid (x_1 - x_2 + x_3, 2x_2 - x_3) = (0, 0)\} = \{(-\alpha, \alpha, 2\alpha) \mid \alpha \in \mathbb{R}\}$ , and  $\{(-1, 1, 2)\}$  is a basis of  $\text{Ker}\mathcal{T}$ .

The image is  $\text{Im}\mathcal{T} = \{(x_1 - x_2 + x_3, 2x_2 - x_3) \mid x_1, x_2, x_3 \in \mathbb{R}\} = \text{sp}\{(1, 0), (-1, 2), (1, -1)\} = \text{sp}\{(1, 0), (-1, 2)\} = \mathbb{R}^2.$

**6.2** We have  $\mathcal{T}e_1 = (5, 0, 1)$ ,  $\mathcal{T}e_2 = (-1, 3, 2)$  and so  $\mathcal{T}(x_1, x_2) = (5x_1 - x_2, 3x_2, x_1 + 2x_2)$ .  $\text{Ker}\mathcal{T} = \{(0, 0)\}$ . The image is  $\text{Im}\mathcal{T} = \{(5x_1 - x_2, 3x_2, x_1 + 2x_2) \mid x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R}\}$ , with a basis  $\{(5, 0, 1), (-1, 3, 2)\}$ . Denoting  $5x_1 - x_2 = x$ ,  $3x_2 = y$ ,  $x_1 + 2x_2 = z$  and eliminating the variables  $x_1, x_2$  we get  $\text{Im}\mathcal{T} = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid 3x + 11y - 15z = 0\}$ .

**6.3** A basis in  $\text{Ker}\mathcal{T}$  is  $\{(1, 0, -1), (0, 1, -1)\}$  and in  $\text{Im}\mathcal{T}$  is  $\{(1, 1, 1)\}$ .

**6.4** The matrix of  $\mathcal{T}$  relative to the canonical basis is  $T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$ .

The matrix relative to the new basis  $B'$  is  $T' = C^{-1}TC$ , where  $C$  is the transition matrix from the canonical basis to  $B'$ . We have

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}; \quad C^{-1} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ so } T' = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & -2 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Another method to find the same matrix is to write the images of the vectors from the basis  $B'$  through  $\mathcal{T}$ :

$$\mathcal{T}(1, 1, 0) = (2, 0, 2) = 2(1, 0, 1)$$

$$\mathcal{T}(1, 0, 1) = (0, 1, 3) = -(1, 1, 0) + (1, 0, 1) + 2(0, 1, 1)$$

$$\mathcal{T}(0, 1, 1) = -2(1, 1, 0) + 2(1, 0, 1) + 3(0, 1, 1).$$

**6.5** The characteristic polynomial is  $P(\lambda) = (-\lambda - 1)^{n-1}(-\lambda + n - 1)$ , so the eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = \dots = \lambda_{n-1} = -1$  and  $\lambda_n = n - 1$ . For  $\lambda = -1$ , the eigenvectors are the solutions of the "system"

$$x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n = 0,$$



that is,  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \dots, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$ . For  $\lambda = n - 1$ , we get the system

$$\begin{cases} (1 - n)x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n = 0 \\ x_1 + (1 - n)x_2 + \dots + x_n = 0 \\ \dots\dots\dots \\ x_1 + x_2 + \dots + (1 - n)x_n = 0 \end{cases}$$

Expressing  $x_n = (n - 1)x_1 - x_2 - \dots - x_{n-1}$  from the first equation and plugging it into the other equations, we get  $x_2 = x_1, x_3 = x_1, \dots, x_n = x_1$

and the only linearly independent eigenvector is  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

**6.6** It is easier to calculate the characteristic polynomial by transposing the determinant, which is a circular determinant:

$$P(\lambda) = C(-\lambda, 0, \dots, 0, 0, 1) = C(-\lambda, 1, \dots, 0, 0, 0) = (-1)^n(\lambda^n - 1).$$

The eigenvalues are  $\lambda_k = \varepsilon_k, k = 0, \dots, n - 1$  (the  $n$ -th roots of 1). For each eigenvalue  $\varepsilon_k$ , we determine the eigenvectors as the solutions of the system:

$$\begin{cases} -\varepsilon_k x_1 + x_n = 0 \\ x_1 - \varepsilon_k x_2 = 0 \\ x_2 - \varepsilon_k x_3 = 0 \\ \dots\dots\dots \\ x_{n-1} - \varepsilon_k x_n = 0 \end{cases}$$

that is  $v_k = \begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon_k^{n-1} \\ \varepsilon_k^{n-2} \\ \vdots \\ \varepsilon_k \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

**6.7** From the given data we get  $\mathcal{T}(1) = -4X - 2X^2$ ,  $\mathcal{T}(X) = 1 + 4X + X^2$ ,  $\mathcal{T}(X^2) = 2X^2$ , so the matrix of the transformation, in the canonical

basis  $1, X, X^2$  is  $T = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -4 & 4 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ . It has a triple eigenvalue  $\lambda = 2$ , and

the subspace of eigenvectors has dimension 2. Two linearly independent eigenvectors are  $v_1 = 1 + 2X$  and  $v_2 = X^2$ .

**6.8** If  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  is an eigenvalue, then  $T(f)(x) = \lambda f(x)$ , for any  $x \in (0, 1)$ . We get  $(x - \lambda)f(x) = 0$ , for any  $x \in (0, 1)$ . We study two situations. If  $\lambda \notin (0, 1)$ , then  $x - \lambda \neq 0$ , so  $f(x) = 0$ , for every  $x \in (0, 1)$ , which is not convenient for an eigenvector. If  $\lambda \in (0, 1)$ , then  $f(x) = 0$ , for  $x \neq \lambda$ , and  $f(x) = \alpha$ ,  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ , an arbitrary value. But  $f$  has to be continuous, which yields  $\alpha = 0$ , and  $f = 0$ , not convenient for an eigenvector. In conclusion,  $T$  does not possess eigenvalues.

**6.9** If  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  is an eigenvalue, then  $T(f)(x) = \lambda f(x)$ , for any  $x \in (a, b)$ . We get  $\frac{1}{x}f'(x) = \lambda f(x)$  or  $\frac{f'(x)}{f(x)} = \lambda x$ . Integrating, follows that  $\ln|f(x)| = \frac{\lambda x^2}{2} + \ln c$ , that is  $f(x) = ce^{\frac{\lambda x^2}{2}}$ ,  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ . So each  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  is an eigenvalue, with an infinity of eigenvectors,  $f(x) = ce^{\frac{\lambda x^2}{2}}$ ,  $c \in \mathbb{R}^*$ .

**6.10** a)  $J_A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$ , with the basis consisting of the eigenvectors

$\begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  and the principal vector  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . b)  $J_B = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$ ,

$v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $v_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . c)  $J_C = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $v_1 =$

$\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $v_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

**6.11** a)  $J_A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $C = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & -2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . a)  $J_B = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  
 $C = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

**6.12** a) The eigenvalues of  $A$  are  $\lambda_1 = 1$ ,  $\lambda_2 = 1$  and  $\lambda_3 = 3$ , the matrix is diagonalizable. The transition matrix from the canonical basis to the basis consisting of eigenvectors is  $C = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ , with the inverse

$$C^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \text{ Finally we get}$$

$$A^n = \begin{pmatrix} 2 - 3^n & -4 + 2^{n+1} + 2 \cdot 3^n & -2 + 2^{n+1} \\ 1 - 3^n & -2 + 2^n + 2 \cdot 3^n & -1 + 2^n \\ -1 + 3^n & 2 - 2 \cdot 3^n & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

b)  $J = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  and

$$A^n = \begin{pmatrix} (-1)^{n-1}(n-1) & 2n(-1)^{n-1} & 3n(-1)^n \\ 4n(-1)^{n-1} & (-1)^{n-1}(8n-1) & 12n(-1)^n \\ 3n(-1)^{n-1} & 6n(-1)^{n-1} & (-1)^n(9n+1) \end{pmatrix}.$$

c)  $A^n = \begin{pmatrix} (-2)^n & -n(-2)^{n-1} & n(-2)^{n-1} \\ 3^n - (-2)^n & n(-2)^{n-1} + (-2)^n & 3^n - (-2)^{n-1}(n-2) \\ 3^n - (-2)^n & n(-2)^{n-1} & 3^n - n(-2)^{n-1} \end{pmatrix}.$

d)  $A^n = \begin{pmatrix} 21(-1)^n - 20 \cdot 2^n & 12(2^n - (-1)^n) \\ 35((-1)^n - 2^n) & 21 \cdot 2^n - 20(-1)^n \end{pmatrix}.$

**6.13** a) The eigenvalues of  $A$  are  $\lambda_1 = 2$  and  $\lambda_2 = 1$ , with two cor-

responding eigenvectors  $v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$ . The diagonal form of  $A$  is  $J_A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  and the transition matrix is  $C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ -1 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$ . From  $A^n = C J_A^n C^{-1}$  we get  $A^n = \begin{pmatrix} -3 \cdot 2^n + 4 & -4 \cdot 2^n + 4 \\ 3 \cdot 2^n + 3 & 4 \cdot 2^n - 3 \end{pmatrix}$  and finally  $e^A = \begin{pmatrix} -3e^2 + 4e & -4e^2 + 4e \\ 3e^2 + 3e & 4e^2 - 3e \end{pmatrix}$ .

b)  $\lambda_1 = 0, \lambda_2 = 1$ . Using the Cayley-Hamilton Theorem we have that  $A^2 - A = 0$ , so  $A^n = A$ , for  $n \geq 1$ .  $e^A = \begin{pmatrix} 4e - 3 & 2 - 2e \\ 6e - 6 & 4 - 3e \end{pmatrix}$ .

**6.14**  $A^n = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 3^n + (-1)^n & 3^n - (-1)^n \\ 3^n - (-1)^n & 3^n + (-1)^n \end{pmatrix}, e^A = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} e^3 + e^{-1} & e^3 - e^{-1} \\ e^3 - e^{-1} & e^3 + e^{-1} \end{pmatrix},$

$$\sin A = \frac{1}{1!}A - \frac{1}{3!}A^3 + \frac{1}{5!}A^5 - \dots = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \sin 3 + \sin(-1) & \sin 3 - \sin(-1) \\ \sin 3 - \sin(-1) & \sin 3 + \sin(-1) \end{pmatrix}.$$



---

## CHAPTER 7

---

# Conics and quadrics

### Second degree curves

The general form of a second degree curve (a conic) is:

$$a_{11}x^2 + 2a_{12}xy + a_{22}y^2 + 2a_{13}x + 2a_{23}y + a_{33} = 0$$

where  $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$  and not all the coefficients  $a_{11}$ ,  $a_{12}$ ,  $a_{22}$  are 0.

We consider the third and the second order determinants obtained from the coefficients  $a_{ij}$ ,  $i, j = 1, 2, 3$  as follows:

$$\Delta = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{12} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{13} & a_{23} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \delta = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{12} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix}$$

### Classification of the conics

A) *Non degenerate conics* ( $\Delta \neq 0$ ):

- Ellipse ( $\delta > 0$ )
- Parabola ( $\delta = 0$ )
- Hyperbola ( $\delta < 0$ )

B) *Degenerate conics* ( $\Delta = 0$ ):

- One point, nothing ( $\delta > 0$ )
- Two parallel lines, one (double) line ( $\delta = 0$ )
- Two intersecting lines ( $\delta < 0$ )

The reader is assumed to know from the high school the canonical form of the conics and also their graphic representations, so, we leave this as an exercise.

## Second degree surfaces

The general form of a second degree surface (a quadric surface) is:

$$a_{11}x^2 + a_{22}y^2 + a_{33}z^2 + 2a_{12}xy + 2a_{13}xz + 2a_{23}yz + 2a_{14}x + 2a_{24}y + 2a_{34}z + a_{44} = 0$$

where  $(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3$ .

## Exercises

---

**7.1** Write the equation of the circle that passes through the points  $A(-1, 2)$ ,  $B(3, 0)$  and has the center on the line  $3x - y + 2 = 0$ .

**7.2** Write the equation of the conic who passes through the points  $M_1(2, 0)$ ,  $M_2(3, 0)$ ,  $M_3(0, 1)$ ,  $M_4(0, 4)$ ,  $M_5(5, 4)$ .

**7.3** Find the canonical form and draw the conic:

a)  $4x^2 + 6xy + 4y^2 - 10x + 10y + 1 = 0$

b)  $7x^2 - 8xy + y^2 - 6x - 12y - 9 = 0$

c)  $xy = 1$

d)  $9x^2 - 6xy + y^2 + 20x = 0$

e)  $5x^2 + 6xy + 5y^2 - 16x - 16y - 16 = 0$

f)  $3x^2 + 10xy + 3y^2 - 2x - 14y - 13 = 0$

**7.4** Determine the nature of the conics:

- a)  $x^2 + 4xy + 4y^2 - 3x - 6y = 0$
- b)  $x^2 - 4xy + y^2 + 3x - 3y + 2 = 0$
- c)  $2x^2 + 3xy + y^2 - x - 1 = 0$
- d)  $x^2 - 6xy + 9y^2 + 4x - 12y + 4 = 0$
- e)  $x^2 - 4xy + 4y^2 + 2x - 4y - 3 = 0$

**7.5** Study the type of the following conics when  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ :

- a)  $x^2 - 2xy + \alpha y^2 - 4x - 5y + 3 = 0$
- b)  $\alpha x^2 + 2xy + y^2 + 2\alpha y + \alpha = 0$ .

**7.6** Find the values of the parameters  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  for which the conics  $\alpha x^2 + 12xy + 9y^2 + 4x + \beta y - 13 = 0$

- a) Have a center;
- b) Are non degenerate conics but without a center.

**7.7** Find the values of the parameters  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$  for which the conic  $x^2 + 4xy + \alpha y^2 - 3x + 2\beta y = 0$  represents two parallel lines.

**7.8** Determine the parameters  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$  such that, the equation  $x^2 - 2\alpha xy + 2\beta y^2 + \beta x - 2\alpha y + \gamma = 0$  represents a double line.

**7.9** Find the nature of the conics and show they have the same center  $6x^2 - 5xy + y^2 - 22x + 9y - 4 = 0$  and  $3x^2 - 2xy - y^2 - 10x - 2y + 12 = 0$ .

**7.10** Find the projection of the curve

$$\begin{cases} x^2 + \frac{y^2}{9} + \frac{z^2}{4} - 1 = 0 \\ x + y + z - 1 = 0 \end{cases} \text{ on the plane } xOy.$$

**7.11** Find the canonical form of the following quadrics:

- a)  $38x^2 + 35y^2 + 26z^2 - 28xy - 8xz + 20yz - 54 = 0$
- b)  $2x^2 + 16y^2 + 2z^2 - 8xy + 8yz - 2x - y + 2z + 3 = 0$ .
- c)  $x^2 + y^2 + 5z^2 - 6xy + 2xz - 2yz - 4x + 8y - 12z + 14 = 0$
- d)  $2y^2 + 4xy - 8xz - 4yz + 6x - 5 = 0$
- e)  $x^2 + 3y^2 + 4yz - 6x + 8y + 8 = 0$



**7.12** a) Find the canonical form of the quadric  $xy = z$ .

b) Determine the straight lines that belong to the surface of the quadric and are parallel to the plane  $x + y + z = 1$ .

**7.13** Determine the center and the radius of the circle given by

$$\begin{cases} x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 2x - 4z - 4 = 0 \\ x - 2y + z + 3 = 0 \end{cases}$$

**7.14** Find the geometrical locus generated by the lines

$$\begin{cases} 2x + 3\alpha y + 6z - 6\alpha = 0 \\ 2\alpha x - 3y - 6\alpha z - 6 = 0 \end{cases}, \alpha \in \mathbb{R}.$$

**7.15** Find the intersection of the line  $x - 3 = y - 1 = \frac{z - 6}{3}$  with the elliptic hyperboloid  $\frac{x^2}{4} + y^2 - \frac{z^2}{9} + 1 = 0$ .

**7.16** Determine the straight lines that belong to the surface of the hyperboloid of one sheet  $\frac{x^2}{25} + \frac{y^2}{16} - \frac{z^2}{4} - 1 = 0$  and pass through the point  $M(-5, 4, 2)$ .

**7.17** Find the straight lines of the quadric  $Q$  which are parallel to the plane  $P$ , if:

a)  $Q: \frac{x^2}{4} + \frac{y^2}{9} - \frac{z^2}{16} - 1 = 0$  and  $P: 6x + 4y + 3z - 17 = 0$

b)  $Q: \frac{x^2}{16} - \frac{y^2}{4} = z$  and  $P: 3x + 2y - 4z = 0$ .

**7.18** Find the equation of a plane tangent to the sphere  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 2x + 6y + 2z + 8 = 0$  and containing the line  $x = 4t + 4$ ,  $y = 3t + 1$ ,  $z = t + 1$ .

---

## Solutions

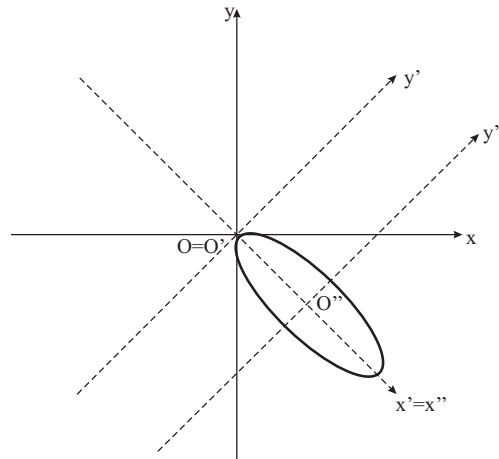
**7.1** If the center is  $C(a, b)$ , then  $a$  and  $b$  satisfy the system:

$$\begin{cases} 3a - b + 2 = 0 \\ \sqrt{(a+1)^2 + (b-2)^2} = \sqrt{(a-3)^2 + b^2} \end{cases} \quad \text{We obtain } a = -3, b = -7$$

and the radius  $r = \sqrt{85}$ . The equation is  $(x+3)^2 + (y+7)^2 = 85$ .

**7.2**  $2x^2 + 3y^2 - 10x - 15y + 12 = 0$ .

**7.3** a) The eigenvalues are 1 and 7 and a possible basis of eigenvectors is  $v_1 = (\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})$ ,  $v_2 = (\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})$ . The new system of coordinates is obtained by a rotation, by  $-\frac{\pi}{4}$ . The equation in these new coordinates is  $x'^2 + 7y'^2 - \frac{20x'}{\sqrt{2}} + 1 = 0$ . Then, by a translation  $x'' = x' - 5\sqrt{2}$ ,  $y'' = y'$ , we get the equation of an ellipse  $\frac{x''^2}{49} + \frac{y''^2}{7} = 1$ .

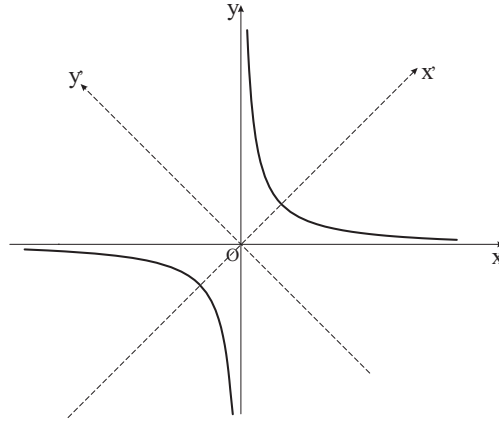


b) Determining a basis of eigenvectors  $v_1 = (\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}, \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}})$  and  $v_2 = (-\frac{2}{\sqrt{5}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}})$

we perform a rotation and get the equation  $-x'^2 + 9y'^2 - \frac{30x'}{\sqrt{5}} - 9 = 0$ .

Then, by a translation  $x'' = x' + 3\sqrt{5}$ ,  $y'' = y'$ , we get the equation of a hyperbola  $\frac{x''^2}{36} - \frac{y''^2}{4} = 1$ .

c) By a rotation of  $\frac{\pi}{4}$  the new system of coordinates is obtained and the new equation is  $\frac{1}{2}x'^2 - \frac{1}{2}y'^2 = 1$ , an equilateral hyperbola.



d)  $\lambda_1 = 0$ ,  $\lambda_2 = 10$ ,  $v_1 = (\frac{1}{\sqrt{10}}, \frac{3}{\sqrt{10}})$ ,  $v_2 = (\frac{-3}{\sqrt{10}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{10}})$ , after a rotation and a translation the equation becomes  $10y''^2 + 2\sqrt{10}x'' - 9 = 0$ , a parabola.

e)  $\frac{x''^2}{4} + \frac{y''^2}{16} - 1 = 0$ , an ellipse.

f)  $x''^2 - \frac{y''^2}{4} - 1 = 0$ , a hyperbola.

**7.4** a)  $\Delta = \delta = 0$ , so the conic is degenerate, of parabolic type, it represents two parallel lines. b)  $\Delta \neq 0$ ,  $\delta < 0$  it is a hyperbola. c)  $\Delta = 0$ ,  $\delta < 0$  degenerate, of hyperbolic type, that means two intersecting lines. The equation can be written as  $(2x + y + 1)(x + y - 1) = 0$ , which gives the two lines  $2x + y + 1 = 0$  and  $x + y - 1 = 0$ . d) One (double) line:  $(x - 3y + 2)^2 = 0$ . e) Two parallel lines:  $x - 2y - 1 = 0$  and  $x - 2y + 3 = 0$ .

**7.16** One family of straight generators is  $G_\lambda : \begin{cases} \frac{x}{5} + \frac{z}{2} = \lambda \left(1 - \frac{y}{4}\right) \\ \frac{x}{5} - \frac{z}{2} = \frac{1}{\lambda} \left(1 + \frac{y}{4}\right) \end{cases}$

From the condition  $M \in G_\lambda$  we get  $\lambda = -1$ , so one of the requested lines is  $\begin{cases} 4x - 5y + 10z + 20 = 0 \\ 4x + 5y - 10z + 20 = 0 \end{cases}$ . From the other family of generators  $G_\mu :$

$\begin{cases} \frac{x}{5} + \frac{z}{2} = \mu \left(1 + \frac{y}{4}\right) \\ \frac{x}{5} - \frac{z}{2} = \frac{1}{\mu} \left(1 - \frac{y}{4}\right) \end{cases}$  we get  $\mu = 0$  so the line will be  $\begin{cases} 2x + 5y = 0 \\ y = 4 \end{cases}$ .

**7.5** a) Hyperbola for  $\alpha \in (-\infty, -77/4) \cup (-77/4, 1)$ ; intersecting lines

for  $\alpha = -77/4$ ; ellipse for  $\alpha \in (1, \infty)$ ; parabola for  $\alpha = 1$ .

b) Hyperbola for  $\alpha \in (-\infty, 0) \cup (0, 1)$ ; intersecting lines for  $\alpha = 0$ ; ellipse for  $\alpha \in (1, \infty)$ ; parabola for  $\alpha = 1$ .

**7.6** a)  $\alpha \neq 4$ ; b)  $\alpha = 4$  and  $\beta \neq 6$ .

**7.7**  $\alpha = 4$ ,  $\beta = -3$  and the lines are  $x + 2y = 0$  and  $x + 2y - 3 = 0$ .

**7.8** For  $\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 0$  the line is  $x = 0$ ;  $\alpha = -2, \beta = 2, \gamma = 1 \Rightarrow x + 2y + 1 = 0$ ;  $\alpha = 2, \beta = 2, \gamma = 1 \Rightarrow x - 2y + 1 = 0$ .

**7.9** The common center is  $C(1, -2)$ .

**7.10** By eliminating  $z$  between the equations we obtain the curve  $45x^2 + 18xy + 13y^2 - 18x - 18y - 27 = 0$ , so the projection is an ellipse  $\begin{cases} z = 0 \\ 45x^2 + 18xy + 13y^2 - 18x - 18y - 27 = 0 \end{cases}$

**7.11** a) We have an ellipsoid of the canonical form  $\frac{x'^2}{1} + \frac{y'^2}{2} + \frac{z'^2}{3} - 1 = 0$ .

b) An elliptic paraboloid  $y''^2 = \frac{2x''^2}{3} + \frac{6z''^2}{1}$ . c)  $-\frac{1}{3}x''^2 + \frac{1}{2}y''^2 + z''^2 + 1 = 0$ .

d)  $x'' = \sqrt{6}z''^2 - \frac{2\sqrt{6}}{3}y''^2$ . e)  $-x''^2 + y''^2 + 4z''^2 - 1 = 0$ .

**7.12** a) The eigenvalues are  $-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}$  and 0. A possible basis of eigenvectors consists of  $v_1 = (\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0)$ ,  $v_2 = (\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0)$  and  $v_3 = (0, 0, 1)$ .

In the new system of coordinates the equation becomes  $z' = \frac{1}{2}(y'^2 - x'^2)$ , that is a hyperbolic paraboloid.

b) One of the families of generators is  $\begin{cases} x = \lambda \\ y = \frac{1}{\lambda}z \end{cases}$ , with the direction vector

$\vec{l}_\lambda = (0, \frac{1}{\lambda}, 1)$ . From the parallelism follows that the direction vector is perpendicular on the normal to the plane,  $\vec{n} = (1, 1, 1)$ , that is  $\vec{l}_\lambda \cdot \vec{n} = 0$ .

We get  $\lambda = -1$  and so the straight line is  $\begin{cases} x = -1 \\ y + z = 0 \end{cases}$ . From the other

family of generators  $\begin{cases} x = \mu z \\ y = \frac{1}{\mu} \end{cases}$  we obtain  $\begin{cases} x + z = 0 \\ y = -1 \end{cases}$ .

**7.13**  $C(0, 2, 1), r = \sqrt{3}.$

**7.14** By eliminating  $\alpha$  we obtain an elliptic hyperboloid of one sheet  
 $4x^2 + 9y^2 - 36z^2 - 36 = 0.$

**7.15**  $x = 4, y = 2, z = 9.$

**7.16** One family of straight generators is  $G_\lambda : \begin{cases} \frac{x}{5} + \frac{z}{2} = \lambda \left(1 - \frac{y}{4}\right) \\ \frac{x}{5} - \frac{z}{2} = \frac{1}{\lambda} \left(1 + \frac{y}{4}\right) \end{cases}$

From the condition  $M \in G_\lambda$  we get  $\lambda = -1$ , so one of the requested lines is  $\begin{cases} 4x - 5y + 10z + 20 = 0 \\ 4x + 5y - 10z + 20 = 0 \end{cases}$ . From the other family of generators  $G_\mu :$   
 $\begin{cases} \frac{x}{5} + \frac{z}{2} = \mu \left(1 + \frac{y}{4}\right) \\ \frac{x}{5} - \frac{z}{2} = \frac{1}{\mu} \left(1 - \frac{y}{4}\right) \end{cases}$  we get  $\mu = 0$  so the line will be  $\begin{cases} 2x + 5y = 0 \\ y = 4 \end{cases}.$

**7.17** a)  $6x - 4y - 3z + 12 = 0, 6x + 4y + 3z + 12 = 0$  and  $6x - 4y - 3z - 12 = 0, 6x + 4y + 3z - 12 = 0.$

b)  $x - 2y - 4z = 0, x + 2y - 4 = 0$  and  $x + 2y - 2z = 0, x - 2y - 8 = 0.$

**7.18**  $x - y - z - 2 = 0.$

# Bibliography

- [1] R. Bellman, *Introducere în analiza matriceală*, Editura Tehnică, București, 1969.
- [2] R.A. Horn, C.R. Johnson, *Analiza matriceală*, Editura Theta, București, 2001.
- [3] V. Pop, I. Corovei, *Algebră liniară*, Editura Mediamira, Cluj-Napoca, 2006.
- [4] V. Pop, I. Raşa, *Linear Algebra with Applications to Markov Chains*, Editura Mediamira, Cluj-Napoca, 2005.
- [5] I.V. Proskuryakov, *Problems in Linear Algebra*, MIR Publishing House, Moskow, 1978.
- [6] I. Raşa şi col., *Algebră, Geometrie, Ecuaţii diferenţiale. Culegere de probleme*, UTCN, Cluj-Napoca, 1995.
- [7] C. Udrişte şi col., *Algebră, Geometrie şi Ecuaţii diferenţiale*, Editura Didactică şi Pedagogică, Bucureşti, 1982.
- [8] C. Udrişte şi col., *Probleme de Algebră, Geometrie şi Ecuaţii diferenţiale*, Editura Didactică şi Pedagogică, Bucureşti, 1981.