

# Tutorial Exercise 4

MA2.101: Linear Algebra (Spring 2022)

April 19, 2022

## Problem 1

Determine which of the following sets are subspaces of  $R^3$

1.  $\{(x, y, z) \in R^3 | x + 2y = 3z\}$

Answer:  $\{(x, y, z) \in R^3 | x + 2y - 3z = 0\}$

This is a subspace since it is the set of solutions to a homogeneous linear equation

2.  $\{(x, y, z) \in R^3 | Ax = 0, A \text{ is a } 2 \times 3 \text{ matrix}\}$

Answer: Consider  $A, B$  and  $C \in \text{Field}$

Now,  $(cA + B)x = (cA)x + Bx = c(Ax) + Bx = c(0) + 0 = 0 \forall A, B \text{ in set}, C \in \text{Field}. cA + B \in \text{set}.$

$\therefore$  Given set is a subspace of  $R^3$

3.  $\{(0, a, a + 1) | a \in R\}$

Answer: If  $(0, 0, 0) = (0, \alpha, \alpha + 1)$  then  $\alpha = 0$  and  $\alpha + 1 = 0$ .

No solutions for  $\alpha$ , so  $(0, 0, 0)$  is not in the set

$\therefore$  The set is not a subspace.

4.  $\{a(1, 0, 2) + b(5, 5, 7) | a, b \in R\}$

**Answer:**  $\{a(1, 0, 2) + b(5, 5, 7) | a, b \in R\} = \text{Span}\{(1, 0, 2), (5, 5, 7)\}$

$\therefore$  The set is a subspace

5.  $\{(k, m, n) \in R^3 | k^2 = n^2\}$  **Answer:**  $(1, 0, 1)$  is in the set since  $1^2 = 1^2$

$(1, 0, -1)$  is in the set since  $1^2 = (-1)^2$

but  $(1, 0, 1) + (1, 0, -1) = (2, 0, 0)$  is not in the set since  $2^2 \neq 0^2$ . So the set is not a subspace since it is not closed under vector addition

## Problem 2

Let  $\{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\}$  be a set of nonzero vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  such that the dot product  $v_i \cdot v_j = 0 \forall i \neq j$ . Prove that the set is linearly independent.

**Answer:**  $\{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\}$  non zero vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  such that  $v_i \cdot v_j = 0 \forall i \neq j$

Assume  $\{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\}$  are linearly dependent

For some non zero scalars  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n$

$$c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 + \dots + c_n v_n = 0$$

Dot Products with  $v_1$

$$c_1 |v_1|^2 + c_2 (0) + \dots + c_n (0) = 0 \implies c_1 |v_1|^2 = 0 \implies |v_1|^2 = 0, c_1 \neq 0$$

But  $v_1$  is non zero. Contradicting initial conditions because of wrong assumptions.

$\therefore \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\}$  are linearly independent.

### Problem 3

Let  $V$  be a vector space:

1. Suppose  $v \in V$ , is the set  $\{0, v\}$  linearly dependent? Explain.

**Answer:** Yes. Let  $\lambda$  be any nonzero scalar. Then

$$\lambda 0 + 0v = 0$$

is a nontrivial linear combination of  $0$  and  $v$  that yields  $0$ , so this set is linearly dependent.

2. Suppose  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  is a set of vectors and  $u \in \text{span}(v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n)$ . Show that  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n, u\}$  is linearly dependent.

**Answer:** Since  $u \in \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_n)$ , we know there exist numbers  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  so that

$$u = \lambda_1 v_1 + \lambda_2 v_2 + \dots + \lambda_n v_n.$$

But then

$$\lambda_1 v_1 + \lambda_2 v_2 + \dots + \lambda_n v_n - u = u - u = 0$$

is a nontrivial linear combination of the vectors  $\{v_1, \dots, v_n, u\}$  (since the coefficient of  $u$  is  $-1 \neq 0$ ) that produces  $0$ , so this set is linearly dependent.

### Problem 4

If  $A$  is a subspace of  $V$ , must its complement be a subspace?

**Answer:** If  $A$  is a subspace of  $V$  then  $A$  contains the zero vector.  $V-A$  (complement of  $A$ ) does not contain the zero vector so the complement of  $A$  is not a subspace of  $V$ .