

# A Book of Abstract Algebra | (2nd Edition)

Chapter 28, Problem 3EB

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## Problem

Prove that  $\{f : f(1) = 0\}$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R})$ .

## Step-by-step solution

### Step 1 of 2

It is already shown that  $\mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R})$  represents a vector space as it satisfies all conditions for vector space.

Given subset for  $\mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R})$  is set of all functions which passes through a fixed point  $(1, 0)$ .

Or given condition for subspace is

$$\{f \mid f(1) = 0\}$$

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### Step 2 of 2

A 2 step check is needed to determine if given subset is a subspace. First determine if any linear combination of functions in subset is closed under given operation. Second, determine if 0 satisfies given conditions.

STEP 1: For any 2 functions  $f$  and  $g$ ,

$$f(1) = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$g(1) = 0 \quad (2)$$

Combining above 2 equations,  $s(1) + t(2)$  gives

$$sf(1) + tg(1) = 0$$

As functions are vector space in themselves, any constant multiple of function is also a function.

Also sum of 2 functions is also a function. Thus,

$$sf(1) + tg(1) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow f'(1) + g'(1) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow F(1) = 0$$

Thus linear combination of 2 functions in subset lies in subset.

STEP 2: Check if 0 function (which is 0 everywhere) satisfies given condition,

$$f_0 = 0 \quad \forall x$$

$$\Rightarrow f_0(1) = 0$$

Hence given set represents a subspace

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