

HW 2 Advanced Linear Algebra

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1 Intersections of Subspaces

Question: Suppose that U, W are subspaces of a vector space V . Prove that $U \cap W$ is also a subspace.

Proof: Since U is a subspace, it must contain the zero vector. Since W is a subspace, it must also contain the zero vector. The zero vector then is contained in $U \cap W$.

Now choose x, y such that:

$$x, y \in U \cap W$$

Then :

$$x, y \in U$$

$$x, y \in W$$

Since U is a subspace, and therefore closed under addition:

$$x + y \in U$$

Similarly:

$$x + y \in W$$

Since $(x+y)$ is contained in both U and W :

$$x + y \in U \cap W$$

x and y were arbitrary within $U \cap W$, and so the set $U \cap W$ is closed under addition.

Choose scalar s and vector z such that $s \in \mathbb{R}$, and $z \in U \cap W$. Because U is a subspace, and therefore closed under scalar multiplication:

$$sz \in U$$

Similarly:

$$sz \in W$$

And so:

$$sz \in U \cap W$$

s and z were arbitrary within their bounds, so $U \cap W$ is closed under scalar multiplication. $U \cap W$ is then a subspace.

2 Even and odd functions

Setup: In general, the notation Y^X denotes the collection of all functions from a set X to a set Y . So in particular, $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{R}}$ denotes the set of all functions $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, and note that $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{R}}$ is a vector space in a natural way. Recall that a function f is called even if $f(x) = f(-x)$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$, and odd if $f(x) = -f(-x)$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

2.1 Even Functions as a Subspace

Question: Let U_e denote the set of all even functions in $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{R}}$, and let U_o denote the set of odd functions. Prove that U_e is a subspace of $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{R}}$. (Make sure you see that the argument for U_o would be very similar.)

Proof: The zero function is both an odd and even function, so $0 \in U_e$ (and $0 \in U_o$).

Now take $f_1(x), f_2(x) \in U_e$. Then:

$$f_1(x) = f_1(-x)$$

$$f_2(x) = f_2(-x)$$

Define $g(x) = f_1(x) + f_2(x)$. Because $f_1(x), f_2(x) \in U_e$, we can then show:

$$g(-x) = f_1(-x) + f_2(-x) = f_1(x) + f_2(x) = g(x)$$

$$g(-x) = g(x)$$

The sum $g(x) = f_1(x) + f_2(x)$ is then even. Since $f_1(x), f_2(x)$ were arbitrary even functions, U_e is closed under addition.

Now choose scalar $s \in \mathbb{R}$ and $f_3(x) \in U_e$.

$$sf_3(-x) = sf_3(x)$$

So even functions are closed under scalar multiplication. Thus, The set of all even functions, U_e is a subspace.

2.2 The Direct Sum of all Even and Odd Functions

Question: Prove that $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{R}} = U_e \oplus U_o$ (Hint: The tricky part is figuring out how to express an arbitrary function as a sum of an even function and an odd function. An inspiring example might be the function $f(x) = e^x$, which can be expressed as the sum $f_{\text{even}}(x) = (e^x + e^{-x})/2$ and $f_{\text{odd}}(x) = (e^x - e^{-x})/2$.)

Proof: Choose the function $f(x) \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{R}}$. We can show:

$$f(x) = \frac{2}{2}f(x)$$

$$f(x) = \frac{2f(x)}{2}$$

$$f(x) = \frac{2f(x) + (f(-x) - f(-x))}{2}$$

$$f(x) = \frac{f(x) + f(-x)}{2} + \frac{f(x) - f(-x)}{2}$$

We now look at each term of the above equation, defining them as:

$$f_e(x) = \frac{f(x) + f(-x)}{2} \text{ and } f_o(x) = \frac{f(x) - f(-x)}{2}$$

We can then find $f_e(-x)$ and $f_o(-x)$.

$$f_e(-x) = \frac{f(-x) + f(x)}{2} = \frac{f(x) + f(-x)}{2} = f_e(x)$$

$$f_o(-x) = \frac{f(-x) - f(x)}{2} = \frac{-f(x) + f(-x)}{2} = -f_o(x)$$

So then, by definition, $f_e(x)$ is even, and $f_o(x)$ is odd. But $f_e(x) + f_o(x) = f(x)$ and $f(x)$ was an arbitrary function, so any function in $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{R}}$ can be written as the direct sum of an even and an odd function.

Suppose now, for contradiction, that $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{R}} \neq U_e \oplus U_o$. Since U_e and U_o are subspaces of $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{R}}$, then this could only be true if there exists a member of $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{R}}$ that cannot be expressed as a direct sum of members of U_e and U_o . But, we just showed that any member of $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{R}}$ can be expressed as a direct sum of an even and odd function. So $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{R}} = U_e \oplus U_o$.

3 Axler 4.3

Question: Suppose m and n are positive integers with $m \leq n$, and suppose $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m \in \mathbb{C}$. Prove that there exists a polynomial $p \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{C})$ with $\deg p = n$ such that each λ_i is a root of p , and p has no other roots.

Proof: Take polynomial $p \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{C})$ defined by:

$$p(a + bi) = p(z) = \left((z - \lambda_1)(z - \lambda_2) \dots (z - \lambda_{m-1}) \right) (z - \lambda_m)^{n-m+1}$$

We can then show:

$$\deg(p) = 1 + 1 + \dots + 1 + (n - m + 1) = (m - 1) + (n - m + 1) = n$$

The polynomial p then has degree n . We can also see that if $p(z) = 0$, then $z = \lambda_i$.

So there exists a polynomial $p \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{C})$ with $\deg p = n$ such that each λ_i is a root of p , and p has no other roots.

4 Axler 4.9

Question: Suppose $p \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{C})$. Define $q: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ by $q(z) = p(z)\overline{p(\bar{z})}$. Prove that q is a polynomial with real coefficients.

Proof: For $p \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{C})$, let $\deg(p)=n$ and choose $a_0, a_1 \dots a_n \in \mathbb{C}$. Then p can be written in the form:

$$p(z) = a_0 + a_1 z + a_2 z^2 \dots a_n z^n$$

We can then write $p(\bar{z})$ as the polynomial:

$$p(\bar{z}) = a_0 + a_1 \bar{z} + a_2 \bar{z}^2 \dots a_n \bar{z}^n$$

We then can also show $\overline{p(\bar{z})}$ as the polynomial:

$$\overline{p(\bar{z})} = \overline{a_0} + \overline{a_1} z + \overline{a_2} z^2 \dots \overline{a_n} z^n$$

Define $q: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ by $q(z) = p(z)\overline{p(\bar{z})}$. Since we have shown that both $p(z)$ and $\overline{p(\bar{z})}$ are polynomials, then their product, q , is also a polynomial.

We now will determine $q(\bar{z})$:

$$\overline{q(\bar{z})} = \overline{p(\bar{z})\overline{p(z)}} = \overline{p(\bar{z})}\overline{\overline{p(z)}} = \overline{p(\bar{z})}p(z) = p(z)\overline{p(\bar{z})} = q(z)$$

$$\overline{q(\bar{z})} = q(z)$$

Now take $b_0, b_1 \dots b_{2n} \in \mathbb{C}$. Using the above result, and that $\deg(q)=2n$, we can write:

$$\overline{q(\bar{z})} = \overline{b_0} + \overline{b_1} z \dots \overline{b_{2n}} z^{2n} = b_0 + b_1 z + b_{2n} z^{2n} = q(z)$$

So for each coefficient, b_i , $\overline{b_i} = b_i$. Since this equivalence is only true for strictly real input, we know that each coefficient in $q(z)$ is real. Thus, $q(z)$ is a polynomial with strictly real coefficients.