

Linear Algebra  
Exam 2  
July 16, 2022

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ UID: \_\_\_\_\_

- The exam consists of FOUR problems.
- Unsupported answers will receive little or no credit.
- Anyone caught writing after time has expired will be given a mark of zero.
- Upload your answers to Gradescope as a pdf only. Make sure to allocate your work to the appropriate question.
- Missing or blank pages will result in an automatic zero for the question.
- Time: 75 minutes.

Problem	Score	Points
1		10
2		8
3		8
4		16
Total		42

Best wishes!

*Dr. Eslam Badr*

**Problem 1, Part 1.** (5 points) Determine if each of the following sets is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . If so, find a basis and the dimension of the subspace. Explain your answer.

(i)  $W = \{(x, y, z) : 2xz = y\}$ .

Clearly,  $W$  is not a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . To prove this, let us take  $\vec{u} = (1, 2, 1)$  and  $\vec{v} = (1, 4, 2)$  from  $W$ , then

$$\vec{u} + \vec{v} = (1, 2, 1) + (1, 4, 2) = (2, 6, 3) \notin W$$

because the condition  $2xz = y$  does not hold, i.e.,

$$2(2)(3) \neq 6.$$

(ii)  $W = \text{Span} \{ \overset{v_1}{(1, 1, 0)}, \overset{v_2}{(1, -1, 3)}, \overset{v_3}{(1, 5, -6)} \}$ .

According to the theorem 4.7, the span of a set of vectors in a vector space  $V$  is a subspace of  $V$ .

Therefore,  $W$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . To find its basis, we consider the matrix  $A$  having its rows as  $v_1, v_2$  and  $v_3$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 3 \\ 1 & 5 & -6 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow[\substack{R_2 - R_1 \rightarrow R_2 \\ R_3 - R_1 \rightarrow R_3}]{R_2 - R_1 \rightarrow R_2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 3 \\ 0 & 4 & -6 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_3 - 2R_2 \rightarrow R_3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Thus, the non-zero row vectors  $(1, 1, 0)$  and  $(0, -2, 3)$  form

a basis of the row space of  $A$ . That is, they form a basis of the subspace spanned by  $\{(1, 1, 0), (1, -1, 3), (1, 5, -6)\}$ .

Consequently  $\dim W = 2$ .

**Problem 1, Part 2.** (5 points) Determine the value(s) of  $k$  for which the set of vectors

$$S = \{1 - x, 1 + x - kx^2 + x^3, x - x^3\}$$

is linearly independent in  $\mathcal{P}_{\leq 3}$ , the vector space of polynomials in  $x$  of degree  $\leq 3$ .

Can we consider  $S$  as a basis for  $\mathcal{P}_{\leq 3}$  for some values of  $k$ ? Justify.

Consider the equation  $c_1(1-x) + c_2(1+x-kx^2+x^3) + c_3(x-x^3) = 0$ ,

This eq. gives rise to a homogeneous system of equations having the augmented matrix,

$$\begin{array}{l} 1 \\ x \\ x^2 \\ x^3 \end{array} \begin{array}{ccc|c} c_1 & c_2 & c_3 & \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -k & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \end{array} \xrightarrow{R_2+R_1 \rightarrow R_2} \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -k & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \end{array} \xrightarrow{R_2+R_3 \rightarrow R_2} \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -k & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \end{array}$$

Now, from the 2nd row, we have  $3c_2 = 0 \Rightarrow c_2 = 0$ .

From the 3rd row, we have  $c_2 - c_3 = 0 \Rightarrow c_3 = 0$ .

From the 1st row, we have  $c_1 + c_2 = 0 \Rightarrow c_1 = -c_2 = 0$ .

Consequently, the system has a unique solution  $(0, 0, 0)$  regardless the value of  $k$ .

This shows that the vectors  $1-x$ ,  $1+x-kx^2+x^3$ ,  $x-x^3$  are linearly independent for all  $k \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Since  $S$  contains 3 linearly independent vectors, but  $\dim \mathcal{P}_{\leq 3} = 4$ , so,  $S$  cannot be a basis for  $\mathcal{P}_{\leq 3}$  (whatever the value of  $k$ ).



**Problem 2.** (8 points) Let  $V = \mathbb{R}^2$ , the set of all ordered pairs of real numbers. Define an **addition** and **scalar multiplication** by

$$(x, y) + (x', y') = (x + x' + 1, y + y' - 2),$$

$$\alpha \cdot (x, y) = (\alpha x, \alpha y),$$

for all  $(x, y), (x', y') \in \mathbb{R}^2$  and  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ .

First, we remark that  $V = \mathbb{R}^2$  is **NOT** a vector space under the operations  $+$  and  $\cdot$ .

Verify if each of the following axioms holds; (i) Additive identity, (ii) Additive inverse, (iii) Associativity, and (iv) Distributivity.

Justify your answer.

(i) Additive identity.

Let  $\vec{0} = (x_0, y_0)$ , the element  $\vec{0} \in V$  is the additive identity if  $\vec{u} + \vec{0} = \vec{u}$  for all  $\vec{u} \in V$ .

$$\text{Now, } (x, y) + (x_0, y_0) = (x, y) \Rightarrow (x + x_0 + 1, y + y_0 - 2) = (x, y)$$

$$\text{which gives, } x + x_0 + 1 = x \Rightarrow x_0 = -1$$

$$y + y_0 - 2 = y \Rightarrow y_0 = 2$$

This establishes the existence of an additive identity, i.e.,  $\vec{0} = (-1, 2)$ .

So, the axiom holds.

(ii) Additive Inverse Let  $\vec{u} = (x, y) \in V$ , to show that each  $\vec{u} \in V$  has an additive inverse  $-\vec{u} = (a, b)$ , we must have:

$$\vec{u} + (-\vec{u}) = \vec{0}.$$

$$\text{Now, } (x, y) + (a, b) = (-1, 2) \Rightarrow (x + a + 1, y + b - 2) = (-1, 2)$$

$$\text{This gives, } x + a + 1 = -1 \Rightarrow a = -x - 2$$

$$\text{and } y + b - 2 = 2 \Rightarrow b = -y - 4$$

Thus, the additive inverse  $-\vec{u} = (-x - 2, -y - 4)$ .

So the axiom holds.

### (iii) Associativity

Let  $\vec{u} = (x_1, y_1)$ ,  $\vec{v} = (x_2, y_2)$  and  $\vec{w} = (x_3, y_3) \in V$

We need to check that

$$(\vec{u} + \vec{v}) + \vec{w} = \vec{u} + (\vec{v} + \vec{w}).$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{L.H.S, } (\vec{u} + \vec{v}) + \vec{w} &= ((x_1, y_1) + (x_2, y_2)) + (x_3, y_3) \\ &= (x_1 + x_2 + 1, y_1 + y_2 - 2) + (x_3, y_3) \\ &= (x_1 + x_2 + 1 + x_3 + 1, y_1 + y_2 - 2 + y_3 - 2) \\ &= (x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + 2, y_1 + y_2 + y_3 - 4) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{R.H.S, } \vec{u} + (\vec{v} + \vec{w}) &= (x_1, y_1) + ((x_2, y_2) + (x_3, y_3)) \\ &= (x_1, y_1) + (x_2 + x_3 + 1, y_2 + y_3 - 2) \\ &= (x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + 1 + 1, y_1 + y_2 + y_3 - 2 - 2) \\ &= (x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + 2, y_1 + y_2 + y_3 - 4) \end{aligned}$$

Thus the axiom holds.

### (iv) Distributivity

Let  $\vec{u} = (x_1, y_1)$ ,  $\vec{v} = (x_2, y_2) \in V$  and  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(\vec{u} + \vec{v}) &= \alpha((x_1, y_1) + (x_2, y_2)) \\ &= \alpha(x_1 + x_2 + 1, y_1 + y_2 - 2) = (\alpha x_1 + \alpha x_2 - \alpha, \alpha y_1 + \alpha y_2 - 2\alpha) \end{aligned}$$

but

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha\vec{u} + \alpha\vec{v} &= \alpha(x_1, y_1) + \alpha(x_2, y_2) \\ &= (\alpha x_1, \alpha y_1) + (\alpha x_2, \alpha y_2) \\ &= (\alpha x_1 + \alpha x_2 + 1, \alpha y_1 + \alpha y_2 - 2) \end{aligned}$$

So, the axiom  $\alpha(\vec{u} + \vec{v}) = \alpha\vec{u} + \alpha\vec{v}$  does NOT hold.

**Problem 3, Part 1.** (4 points) Suppose that  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  are two non-zero vectors in an inner product space  $V$ . Prove that the projection of  $\mathbf{u}$  onto  $\mathbf{v}$ , denoted by  $\text{Proj}_{\mathbf{v}} \mathbf{u}$ , is given by

$$\text{Proj}_{\mathbf{v}} \mathbf{u} = \frac{\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle}{\|\mathbf{v}\|^2} \mathbf{v}.$$

As show in the figure,

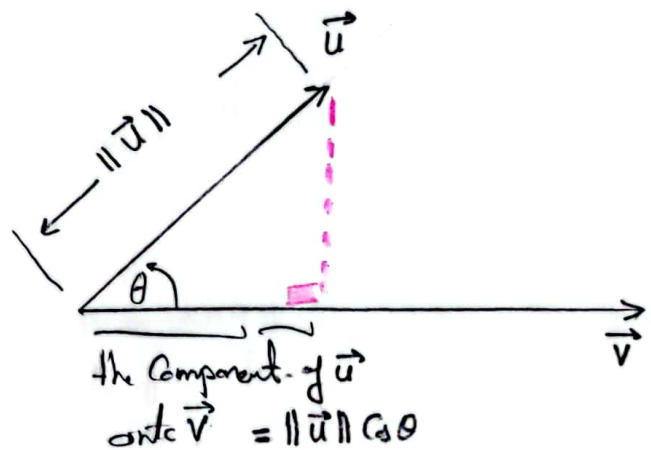
The orthogonal projection of the vector  $\vec{u}$  onto  $\vec{v}$  is

$$\text{Proj}_{\vec{v}} \vec{u} = \|\vec{u}\| \cos \theta \cdot \frac{\vec{v}}{\|\vec{v}\|}$$

$$\text{but } \cos \theta = \frac{\langle \vec{u}, \vec{v} \rangle}{\|\vec{u}\| \|\vec{v}\|}, \text{ then}$$

$$\text{Proj}_{\vec{v}} \vec{u} = \|\vec{u}\| \frac{\langle \vec{u}, \vec{v} \rangle}{\|\vec{u}\| \|\vec{v}\|} \frac{\vec{v}}{\|\vec{v}\|}$$

$$= \frac{\langle \vec{u}, \vec{v} \rangle}{\|\vec{v}\|^2} \vec{v}.$$



**Problem 3, Part 2.** (4 points) Let  $W$  be the set that consists of all the vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  orthogonal to  $(1, 4, -1)$ .

Show that  $W$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , find a basis  $B$  for it, and determine the dimension of  $W$ .

Symbolically, we can write  $W$  as

$$W = \{ w = (x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid (1, 4, -1) \cdot (x, y, z) = 0 \}.$$

Now, the condition of orthogonality gives

$$(1, 4, -1) \cdot (x, y, z) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x + 4y - z = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad z = x + 4y.$$

Consequently, we can rewrite  $W$  as

$$W = \{ (x, y, x+4y) \mid x, y \in \mathbb{R} \}$$

$$= \{ x(1, 0, 1) + y(0, 1, 4) \mid x, y \in \mathbb{R} \}$$

clearly  $W = \text{span} \{ (1, 0, 1), (0, 1, 4) \}$

hence  $W$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

Moreover, the vectors  $(1, 0, 1)$  and  $(0, 1, 4)$  are linearly independent. because  $(1, 0, 1) \neq \lambda(0, 1, 4), \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  
hence  $\dim W = 2$ .



**Problem 4.** (4 points each) True or False (circle one and state your reason):

- (i) If the three vectors  $\{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$  are **not** linearly independent in  $V$ , then so are the two vectors  $\{v_1 - v_2, v_3 - v_2\}$ .

Reason:

Let us take  $\vec{v}_1 = (1, 0)$ ,  $\vec{v}_2 = (0, 0)$ ,  $\vec{v}_3 = (0, 1)$  which are linearly dependent vectors as  $\vec{0} = (0, 0)$  is one of them.

True **False**

Now,  $\vec{v}_1 - \vec{v}_2 = \vec{v}_1 = (1, 0)$

and  $\vec{v}_3 - \vec{v}_2 = \vec{v}_3 = (0, 1)$

which are linearly independent vectors as they represent the standard basis of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

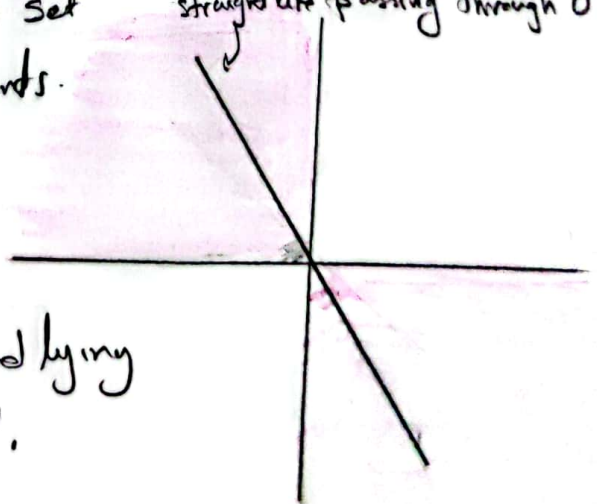
- (ii) There exists a subset  $U$  of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , which is not a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  but it contains many subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

Reason:

Let us take  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  as the set represents the 2nd and 4th quadrants.

Clearly  $U$  is not a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , but any straight line passing through the origin and lying in the set  $U$  is a subspace of  $U$ .

**True** False  
straight line passing through  $\vec{0}$ .





(iii) The map  $\langle , \rangle$  defined by:

$$\langle p(x), q(x) \rangle = p(0)q(0) + p(1)q(1)$$

for  $p(x), q(x) \in \mathcal{P}_{\leq 3}$  defines an inner product function on  $\mathcal{P}_{\leq 3}$ .

Reason:

True

False

Let us take  $p(x) = x(x-1) = x^2 - x$ ,  
clearly,  $p(x)$  is not a zero vector, but

$$\begin{aligned}\langle p(x), p(x) \rangle &= p(0)p(0) + p(1)p(1) \\ &= 0\end{aligned}$$

which contradicts the axiom  $\langle p(x), p(x) \rangle > 0$   
if  $p(x) \neq 0$ .

(iv) Let  $\{v_1, v_2\}$  be an orthonormal basis for an inner product space  $V$ . Then any  $v \in V$  can be written as  $v = \alpha \cdot v_1 + \beta \cdot v_2$  with  $\alpha = \langle v, v_1 \rangle$  and  $\beta = \langle v, v_2 \rangle$ .

Reason:

True

False

Since  $v_1$  and  $v_2$  represent a basis of  $V$ ,  
so any vector  $v \in V$  can be written as a linear  
combination of the basis. That is

$$\vec{v} = \alpha \vec{v}_1 + \beta \vec{v}_2$$

Moreover,  $\vec{v}_1$  and  $\vec{v}_2$  are orthonormal, that is  $\langle \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2 \rangle = 0$   
and  $\langle v_1, v_1 \rangle = 1$ ,  $\langle v_2, v_2 \rangle = 1$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Now, } \langle \vec{v}, \vec{v}_1 \rangle &= \langle \alpha \vec{v}_1 + \beta \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_1 \rangle = \alpha \langle \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_1 \rangle + \beta \langle \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_1 \rangle \\ &= \alpha\end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \vec{v}, \vec{v}_2 \rangle &= \langle \alpha \vec{v}_1 + \beta \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_2 \rangle = \alpha \langle \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2 \rangle + \beta \langle \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_2 \rangle \\ &= \beta.\end{aligned}$$

**Draft:**