

**NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE**  
**Department of Mathematics**

**AY2021, Semester 1   MA1508E Linear Algebra for Engineering   Tutorial 5**

1. Let  $\mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \\ 5 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ , and  $\mathbf{u}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

(a) If possible, express each of the following vectors as a linear combination of  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3$ .

(i)  $\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ -7 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$       (ii)  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$       (iii)  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$       (iv)  $\begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 6 \\ -13 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$

(b) Is it possible to find 2 vectors  $\mathbf{v}_1$  and  $\mathbf{v}_2$  such that they are not a multiple of each other, and both are not a linear combination of  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3$ ?

2. Let  $V = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} \mid x - y - z = 0 \right\}$  be a subset of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

(a) Let  $S = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$ . Show that  $\text{span}(S) = V$ .

(b) Let  $\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Find a vector  $\mathbf{y}$  such that  $\text{span}\{\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}\} = V$ .

(c) Let  $T = S \cup \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$ . Show that  $\text{span}(T) = \mathbb{R}^3$ .

3. (a) Which of the following sets  $S$  spans  $\mathbb{R}^4$ ?

(i)  $S = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$ .

(ii)  $S = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$ .

(iii)  $S = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 4 \\ -2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 6 \\ -3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 4 \\ -2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$ .

$$(iv) \ S = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \right\}.$$

(b) For those sets that does not span  $\mathbb{R}^4$ , find a vector  $\mathbf{x}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^4$  that does not belong to  $\text{span}(S)$ . Does  $S \cup \{\mathbf{x}\}$  span  $\mathbb{R}^4$ ?

(c) For those sets that spans  $\mathbb{R}^4$ , find a vector  $\mathbf{y}$ , if possible, in the set  $S$  such that  $\text{span}(S) = \mathbb{R}^4 = \text{span}(S - \{\mathbf{y}\})$ .

4. (a) Determine whether  $\text{span}\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3\} \subseteq \text{span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\}$  and/or  $\text{span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\} \subseteq \text{span}\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3\}$  if

$$(i) \ \mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$(ii) \ \mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 6 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 8 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix}.$$

(b) In each of the above, describe  $\text{span}\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3\}$  and  $\text{span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\}$  geometrically. If  $\text{span}\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3\}$  or  $\text{span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\}$  is a plane, find the equation of the plane.

5. Determine which of the following sets are subspaces. For those sets that are subspaces, express the set as a linear span. For those sets that are not, explain why.

$$(a) \ S = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \\ p \\ q \end{pmatrix} \mid p, q \in \mathbb{R} \right\}.$$

$$(b) \ S = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix} \mid a \geq b \text{ or } b \geq c \right\}.$$

$$(c) \ S = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ w \end{pmatrix} \mid 4x = 3y \text{ and } 2x = -3w \right\}.$$

$$(d) \ S = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \\ d \end{pmatrix} \mid \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ a & b & c & d \end{vmatrix} = 0 \right\}.$$

$$(e) \ S = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} w \\ x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} \mid w + x = y + z \right\}.$$

$$(f) \ S = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \\ d \end{pmatrix} \mid ab = cd \right\}.$$

- (g)  $S$  is the solution set of  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{0}$  where  $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 & -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 & 2 & -3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -2 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ .
- (h)  $S = \left\{ \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} \mid \mathbf{v} \in \text{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\} \right\}$  and  $\mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  is a fixed vector.

## Supplementary Problems

6. (a) Show that the solution set to any homogeneous linear system

$$S = \{ \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \mathbf{Av} = \mathbf{0} \}$$

is a subspace.

- (b) Suppose the homogeneous linear system  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{0}$  has a nontrivial solution. Prove that if the linear system  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$  is consistent, it must have infinitely many solutions.
- (c) Prove that if the linear system  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$  has two distinct solutions, then it must have infinitely many solution.
- (d) (**MATLAB**) Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be the  $10 \times 10$  *magic square*, and let  $\mathbf{b}$  be the 10-vector of all 1's. We may key these special matrices into MATLAB fairly quickly.

```
>> A=magic(10);
```

```
>> b=ones(10,1);
```

- i. Express the solution set of  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$  as

$$\{ \mathbf{x}_p + s_1 \mathbf{u}_1 + s_2 \mathbf{u}_2 + \cdots + s_k \mathbf{u}_k \mid s_1, s_2, \dots, s_k \in \mathbb{R} \}.$$

- ii. Pick a few  $s_1, s_2, \dots, s_k \in \mathbb{R}$  and compute  $\mathbf{A}(s_1 \mathbf{u}_1 + s_2 \mathbf{u}_2 + \cdots + s_k \mathbf{u}_k)$ . What is the set  $S = \text{span}\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\}$ ?
- iii. Running the `null` command outputs a collection of column vectors  $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_\ell$ .  

```
>> null(A)
```

 Show that  $\text{span}\{\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\} = \text{span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_\ell\}$ . What does this say about the vectors  $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_\ell$ ? In particular, what is the output of the `null` command in relation to the matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ ?

A subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is called an *affine space* if it is of the form  $\{ \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} \mid \mathbf{v} \in V \}$  for some subspace  $V \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ . Geometrically, an affine space is a subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  that is parallel to a subspace. This exercise shows that the solution set to the linear system  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$  is an affine space  $\{ \mathbf{x}_p + \mathbf{v} \mid \mathbf{v} \in S \}$ , where  $S$  is the solutions to homogeneous linear system  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{0}$ , and  $\mathbf{x}_p$  is any particular solution.