

Submission for Tuesday 6th September 2016. Time: 15 minutes. Max Marks: 5

Consider the vector space $V = \mathbb{R}[t]$ of polynomials with real coefficients over the base field \mathbb{R} of real numbers. Let X be the set of all polynomials which have only even order terms, i.e. if $p(t) \in X$, with $p(t) = a_0 + a_1t + a_2t^2 + \dots + a_nt^n$, then $a_i = 0$ for all odd indices i . Prove or disprove: X is a subspace of V . (Note: You must clearly state PROVE or DISPROVE at the top of your answer sheet. If you fail to do so, you will get zero marks.)

(5 marks)

SOLUTION

PROVE

We will apply Proposition 8.

1. The zero polynomial $\bar{0}(t) = 0 \in X$
(all odd coefficients are zero).

2. Closure under addition:

Suppose $p(t) = a_0 + a_1t + \dots + a_nt^n \in X$

and $q(t) = b_0 + b_1t + \dots + b_mt^m \in X$.

WLOG, $n \geq m$.

Hence $p(t) + q(t) = (a_0 + b_0) + (a_1 + b_1)t + \dots + (a_n + b_n)t^n$,

where $b_i = 0$ for $i > m$.

For any odd term t^k , the coefficient of t^k
 $= (a_k + b_k) = 0 + 0 = 0$ since $p(t), q(t) \in X$.

$\therefore (p+q)(t) = p(t) + q(t) \in X$.

3. Closure under scalar multiplication. If $c \in \mathbb{R}$ and $p(t) \in X$, then

$(cp)(t) = ca_0 + ca_1t + \dots + ca_nt^n$, and for any odd term t^k , its coefficient is $ca_k = c \cdot 0 = 0$.

Result follows.

Submission for Friday 9th September 2016. Time: 15 minutes. Max Marks: 5

Consider the set $X = C^1[0,1]$ of all real-valued functions defined on the closed interval $[0,1]$ which have a continuous first derivative on $[0,1]$, i.e. $X = \{f(x): [0,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : f'(x) \text{ is continuous on } [0,1]\}$. **Prove or disprove:** X is a subspace of $C[0,1]$. (Note: You must clearly state PROVE or DISPROVE at the top of your answer sheet. If you fail to do so, you will get zero marks.)

(5 marks)

SOLUTION

PROVE.

Step 1: We need to prove that ~~$X \subseteq$~~ is a subset of $C[0,1]$, i.e. $X \subseteq C[0,1]$.

However, if $f(x)$ is differentiable at x_0 , then it is continuous at x_0 . Hence, $X = C^1[0,1] \subseteq C[0,1]$.

Step 2: To show X is a subspace, we apply Proposition 8.

1. The zero function ~~$f(x) =$~~ $\bar{0}(x) = 0$ has a continuous derivative, $\bar{0}'(x) = 0$; hence $\bar{0} \in X$.

2. ~~Suppose~~ Suppose $f(x), g(x) \in X$.

$\therefore (f+g)(x)$ is a differentiable function, and $(f+g)'(x) = f'(x) + g'(x)$.

But $f'(x)$ and $g'(x)$ are both continuous, and the sum of two continuous functions is continuous. $\therefore (f+g)'(x)$ is continuous, i.e.

$$f+g \in X.$$

This proves closure under addition.

3. If now $c \in \mathbb{R}$ and $f \in X$, then cf is differentiable and $(cf)'(x) = cf'(x)$. Since $f'(x)$ is continuous, so is $(cf)'$, i.e. $cf \in X$. This proves closure under scalar multiplication.