

**MATHEMATICS 213 L01 WINTER 2010**  
**ASSIGNMENT 4 SOLUTION**

Due at 12:00 on Monday, April 12, 2010. Students should try to do all problems. However, only one question will be marked for credit.

1. Consider the vector space  $V$ , and  $\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w} \in V$ . Prove or disprove each of the following statements:

- (a) If  $\{\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w}\}$  is linearly independent then  $\{\vec{u} + \vec{v} + \vec{w}\}$  is linearly independent.  
 (b) The set  $\{\vec{u} - \vec{v}, \vec{u} + \vec{v}, \vec{u} + 2\vec{v}\}$  is linearly dependent.  
 (c)  $\text{span}\{\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w}\} = \text{span}\{\vec{u} - \vec{v}, \vec{v} - \vec{w}, \vec{w} - \vec{u}\}$ .  
 (d)  $\{\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w}\}$  is linearly independent if and only if  $\{\vec{u} - \vec{v}, \vec{v} - \vec{w}, \vec{w} - \vec{u}\}$  is linearly independent.

**Solution:**

(a) This statement is true and here is a proof. Suppose that  $\{\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w}\}$  is linearly independent. We prove that  $\{\vec{u} + \vec{v} + \vec{w}\}$  is linearly independent. Suppose that  $a(\vec{u} + \vec{v} + \vec{w}) = \vec{0}$  for some  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then  $a\vec{u} + a\vec{v} + a\vec{w} = \vec{0}$  and so  $a = 0$  by the independence of  $\{\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w}\}$ .

(b) This statement is false. The set  $\{\vec{u} - \vec{v}, \vec{u} + \vec{v}, \vec{u} + 2\vec{v}\}$  is not linearly dependent because  $1(\vec{u} - \vec{v}) - 3(\vec{u} + \vec{v}) + 2(\vec{u} + 2\vec{v}) = \vec{0}$ .

(c) This statement is false, i.e., there exists a vector space  $V$  and vectors  $\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w} \in V$  such that  $\text{span}\{\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w}\} \neq \text{span}\{\vec{u} - \vec{v}, \vec{v} - \vec{w}, \vec{w} - \vec{u}\}$ . For example, let  $V = \mathbb{R}^3$  and choose  $\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  such that  $\{\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w}\}$  is linearly independent. We note that  $\{\vec{u} - \vec{v}, \vec{v} - \vec{w}, \vec{w} - \vec{u}\}$  is not linearly independent (because  $1(\vec{u} - \vec{v}) + 1(\vec{v} - \vec{w}) + 1(\vec{w} - \vec{u}) = \vec{0}$ ). Hence,  $\dim(\text{span}\{\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w}\}) = 3$  and  $\dim(\text{span}\{\vec{u} - \vec{v}, \vec{v} - \vec{w}, \vec{w} - \vec{u}\}) < 3$ , and so  $\text{span}\{\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w}\} \neq \text{span}\{\vec{u} - \vec{v}, \vec{v} - \vec{w}, \vec{w} - \vec{u}\}$ .

(d) This statement is false as seen in part (c)

2. Prove or disprove each of the following:

- (a) There is a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  that includes the vector  $(1, 1, 1)$ .  
 (b) There is a basis of  $\mathbb{P}_3$  consisting of polynomials whose coefficients sum to 4.  
 (c) There is a basis of  $\mathbb{P}_3$  consisting of polynomials whose coefficients sum to 0.  
 (d) There is a basis of  $\mathbb{M}_{22}$  consisting of matrices with the property that  $A^2 = A$ .

**Solution:**

(a) This statement is true. We prove that  $B = \{(1, 1, 1), (0, 1, 0), (0, 0, 1)\}$  is a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . In fact, since  $\dim(\mathbb{R}^3) = 3$ , we only need to prove that  $B$  is linearly independent. Suppose that  $a(1, 1, 1) + b(0, 1, 0) + c(0, 0, 1) = (0, 0, 0)$  for some  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ . Thus,  $a = 0, a - b = 0$  and  $a - b + c = 0$  which clearly implies that  $a = b = c = 0$ . Thus,  $B$  is linearly independent and so  $B$  is a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

(b) This statement is true. In this case, such a basis is  $\{4, 4x, 4x^2, 4x^3\}$ .

(c) This statement is false. We prove that any set of 4 polynomials in  $\mathbb{P}_3$  whose coefficients sum to 0 can not be a basis of  $\mathbb{P}_3$ . Let  $B = \{a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3, b_0 + b_1x + b_2x^2 + b_3x^3, c_0 + c_1x + c_2x^2 + c_3x^3, d_0 + d_1x + d_2x^2 + d_3x^3\}$  where  $a_0 + a_1 + a_2 + a_3 = b_0 + b_1 + b_2 + b_3 = c_0 + c_1 + c_2 + c_3 = d_0 + d_1 + d_2 + d_3 = 0$ . Then for any  $p(x) \in \text{span}B$ ,  $p(x) = a(a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3) + b(b_0 + b_1x + b_2x^2 + b_3x^3) +$

$c(c_0 + c_1x + c_2x^2 + c_3x^3) + d(d_0 + d_1x + d_2x^2 + d_3x^3)$  for some  $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then the sum of the coefficients of  $p(x)$  is  $a(a_0 + a_1 + a_2 + a_3) + b(b_0 + b_1 + b_2 + b_3) + c(c_0 + c_1 + c_2 + c_3) + d(d_0 + d_1 + d_2 + d_3) = 0$ .

Thus, we proved that if  $p(x) \in \text{span}B$  then the sum of the coefficients of  $p(x)$  is 0. This implies that  $1 + x \notin \text{span}B$ , and so  $b$  is not a basis of  $\mathbb{P}_3$ .

(d) This statement is true. In this case, such a basis is  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ .

**3.** Let  $T : V \rightarrow W$  be a linear transformation. Prove or disprove each of the following

(a) If  $\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_k\}$  is linearly independent then  $\{T(\vec{v}_1), T(\vec{v}_2), \dots, T(\vec{v}_k)\}$  is linearly independent.

(b) If  $\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_k\}$  is linearly independent and  $T$  is one-to-one then  $\{T(\vec{v}_1), T(\vec{v}_2), \dots, T(\vec{v}_k)\}$  is linearly independent.

(c) If  $\{T(\vec{v}_1), T(\vec{v}_2), \dots, T(\vec{v}_k)\}$  is linearly independent then  $\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_k\}$  is linearly independent.

(d) If  $\dim(\ker T) \leq \dim W$  then  $\dim W \geq \frac{1}{2} \dim V$ .

**Solution:**

(a) This statement is false. For example,  $V = W = \mathbb{R}$ , and  $T : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by  $T(x) = 0$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , that is,  $T$  is the zero operator. Now, the set  $\{1\}$  is linearly independent in  $\mathbb{R}$ , but  $\{T(1)\} = \{0\}$  is not linearly independent in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

(b) This statement is true. Suppose that  $\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_k\}$  is linearly independent and  $T$  is one-to-one. We prove that  $\{T(\vec{v}_1), T(\vec{v}_2), \dots, T(\vec{v}_k)\}$  is linearly independent.

Suppose that  $a_1T(\vec{v}_1) + a_2T(\vec{v}_2) + \dots + a_kT(\vec{v}_k) = \vec{0}$ . Then since  $T$  is linear, this is the same as  $T(a_1\vec{v}_1 + a_2\vec{v}_2 + \dots + a_k\vec{v}_k) = \vec{0} = T(\vec{0})$ . This implies that  $a_1\vec{v}_1 + a_2\vec{v}_2 + \dots + a_k\vec{v}_k = \vec{0}$  (because  $T$  is one-to-one) and so by the independence of  $\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_k\}$ , we get  $a_1 = a_2 = \dots = a_k = 0$ . Thus,  $\{T(\vec{v}_1), T(\vec{v}_2), \dots, T(\vec{v}_k)\}$  is linearly independent.

(c) This statement is true. Suppose that  $\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_k\}$  is linearly independent and  $T$  is one-to-one. We prove that  $\{T(\vec{v}_1), T(\vec{v}_2), \dots, T(\vec{v}_k)\}$  is linearly independent.

Suppose that  $a_1T(\vec{v}_1) + a_2T(\vec{v}_2) + \dots + a_kT(\vec{v}_k) = \vec{0}$ . Then since  $T$  is linear, this is the same as  $T(a_1\vec{v}_1 + a_2\vec{v}_2 + \dots + a_k\vec{v}_k) = \vec{0} = T(\vec{0})$ . This implies that  $a_1\vec{v}_1 + a_2\vec{v}_2 + \dots + a_k\vec{v}_k = \vec{0}$  (because  $T$  is one-to-one) and so by the independence of  $\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_k\}$ , we get  $a_1 = a_2 = \dots = a_k = 0$ . Thus,  $\{T(\vec{v}_1), T(\vec{v}_2), \dots, T(\vec{v}_k)\}$  is linearly independent.

(d) This statement is true. Suppose that  $\dim(\ker T) \leq \dim W$ . By the Dimension Theorem,  $\dim V = \dim(\ker T) + \dim(\text{im} T) \leq \dim W + \dim W = 2 \dim W$  and so  $\dim W \geq \frac{1}{2} \dim V$ .