

Instructions: Give concise answers, but clearly indicate your reasoning. Most of the problems have rather short answers, so if you find yourself involved in a lengthy calculation, it might be a good idea to move on and come back to that problem if you have time.

I. Find a basis for and the dimension of the solution space of this homogeneous system:

(8)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 & 0 & 0 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Using back substitution to write down the solutions, the free parameters correspond to  $x_2 = a$ ,  $x_4 = b$ , and  $x_5 = c$ , and we have  $x_3 = 3x_5 = 3c$  and  $x_1 = -5x_2 + 3x_5 = -5a + 3c$ , so the general solution is

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -5a + 3c \\ a \\ 3c \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix}.$$

By the usual method of putting one parameter equal to 1 and the others 0, we obtain the basis

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}.$$

The dimension of the solution space is 3.

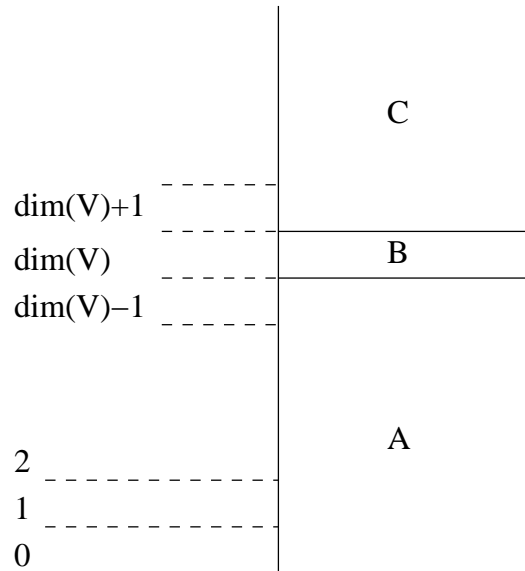
II. Recall that if  $\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$  is a subset of a vector space  $V$ , then the span of  $\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$  is  $\text{span}(\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}) = \{\lambda_1 v_1 + \dots + \lambda_k v_k \mid \text{the } \lambda_i \text{ are numbers.}\}$ . Verify that  $\text{span}(\{v_1, \dots, v_k\})$  is closed under addition and scalar multiplication.

(5)

Take any  $\lambda_1 v_1 + \dots + \lambda_k v_k$  and  $\mu_1 v_1 + \dots + \mu_k v_k$  in  $\text{span}(\{v_1, \dots, v_k\})$ . Adding these gives  $(\lambda_1 + \mu_1)v_1 + \dots + (\lambda_k + \mu_k)v_k$ , which is also in  $\text{span}(\{v_1, \dots, v_k\})$ . Also, for any number  $\lambda$ ,  $\lambda(\lambda_1 v_1 + \dots + \lambda_k v_k) = (\lambda\lambda_1)v_1 + \dots + (\lambda\lambda_k)v_k$ , which is again in  $\text{span}(\{v_1, \dots, v_k\})$ .

**III.** The regions  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  in this diagram represent *some* of the finite subsets of the finite subsets of a vector space  $V$ , specifically *those which either span, or are linearly independent, or both*. The number of elements in the subsets is indicated by the numbers to the left,  $0, 1, 2, \dots, \dim(V) - 1, \dim(V), \dim(V) + 1, \dots$  and so on. For each of the following, tell which region or regions comprise the subsets that:

- (a) are linearly independent [ $A$  and  $B$ ]
- (b) span [ $B$  and  $C$ ]
- (c) are bases [ $B$ ]



**IV.** Consider the vector space  $V = \{(x, y, z) \mid x, y, z \text{ are in } \mathbb{R}\}$  with the operations  $(x, y, z) \oplus (x', y', z') = (x + x', y + y', z + z')$  and  $\lambda \odot (x, y, z) = (x, 1, z)$ .

- (a) Verify that  $V$  satisfies the vector space axiom  $\lambda \odot (\mu \odot v) = (\lambda\mu) \odot v$ . [Hint: write  $v$  as  $(x, y, z)$ .]

For any numbers  $\lambda$  and  $\mu$ , and any  $(x, y, z)$  in  $V$ ,

$$\lambda \odot (\mu \odot (x, y, z)) = \lambda \odot (x, 1, z) = (x, 1, z)$$

and

$$(\lambda\mu) \odot (x, y, z) = (x, 1, z) .$$

- (b) Tell one of the eight vector space axioms that  $V$  fails to satisfy, and verify that  $V$  fails to satisfy it.

Possible choices are

$c \odot (v \oplus w) = (c \odot v) \oplus (c \odot w)$  [sample counterexample:  $1 \odot ((1, 1, 1) \oplus (1, 1, 1)) = 1 \odot (2, 2, 2) = (2, 1, 2)$  but  $(1 \odot (1, 1, 1)) \oplus (1 \odot (1, 1, 1)) = (1, 1, 1) \oplus (1, 1, 1) = (2, 2, 2)$ ],

$(c + d) \odot u = (c \odot u) \oplus (d \odot u)$  [sample counterexample:  $(1 + 1) \odot (1, 1, 1) = 2 \odot (1, 1, 1) = (1, 1, 1)$  but  $(1 \odot (1, 1, 1)) \oplus (1 \odot (1, 1, 1)) = (1, 1, 1) \oplus (1, 1, 1) = (2, 2, 2)$ ]

$1 \odot u = u$  [sample counterexample:  $1 \odot (2, 2, 2) = (2, 1, 2) \neq (2, 2, 2)$ ]

- V.** Using the definition of linear independence, verify that the set  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  is linearly independent.  
 (5)

Suppose that

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \lambda_1 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + \lambda_2 \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3\lambda_1 - 3\lambda_2 \\ 2\lambda_1 + 2\lambda_2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

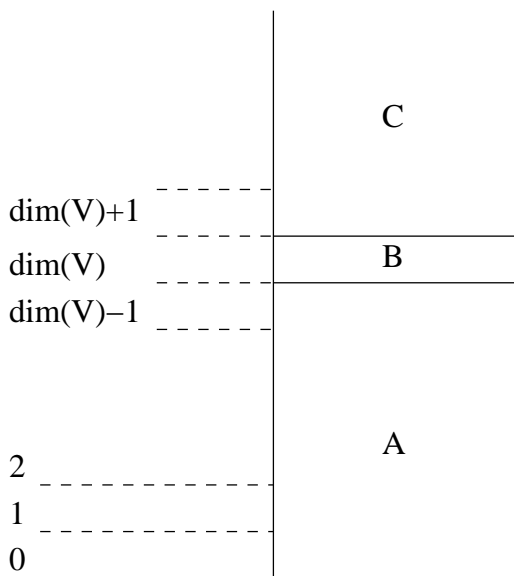
Solving this linear system by Gauss-Jordan elimination gives

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & -3 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

so the only solution is  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = 0$ .

- VI.** The regions  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  in this diagram represents *all* of the finite subsets of a vector space  $V$ . The number of elements in the subsets is indicated by the numbers to the left,  $0, 1, 2, \dots, \dim(V) - 1, \dim(V), \dim(V) + 1, \dots$  and so on. For each of the following, tell which region or regions comprise the subsets that:

- (a) might span  $[B$  and  $C]$   
 (b) cannot span  $[A]$   
 (c) might be linearly independent  $[A$  and  $B]$   
 (d) cannot be linearly independent  $[C]$



- VII.** Define what it means to say that a subset  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  of a vector space  $V$  is a *basis*. Define the *dimension* of  $V$ .  
 (4)

To say that the subset  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  is a basis means that it spans  $V$  and is linearly independent. The dimension of  $V$  is the number of elements in a basis.

- VIII.** (a) The rank of a certain  $6 \times 3$  matrix  $A$  is 2. What is the dimension of the solution space of the homogeneous linear system  $AX = 0$ ? Why?

The dimension of the solution space is 1. Since  $A$  is  $6 \times 3$ , the number of variables is  $n = 3$ . The rank is given as 2, so the nullity must be  $3 - 2 = 1$ . That is, the dimension of the solution space of the homogeneous linear system  $AX = 0$  is 1.

- (b) A certain matrix  $B$  is the coefficient matrix of a homogeneous linear system of five equations. If the dimension of the solution space of the homogeneous linear system  $BX = 0$  is 3, and the dimension of the column space of  $B$  is 4, how many variables does the linear system have? Why?

There are seven variables. The dimensions of  $B$  are  $5 \times n$ , where  $n$  is the number of variables. The nullity of  $B$  is 3. The rank of  $B$  is the same as the dimension of the column space, which is 4. Since  $n$  is the rank plus the nullity, there must be seven variables.

- IX.** Find a basis for the row space of the matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 2 \\ 3 & -3 & 3 \\ -2 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Putting it in row echelon form, we have

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 2 \\ 3 & -3 & 3 \\ -2 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -3 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1/3 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2/3 \\ 0 & 1 & -1/3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

So a basis for the row space is  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2/3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & -1/3 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ .