

## PROBLEM SETS 13 SOLUTIONS.

PROBLEM SET 13: DUE 22 SEPTEMBER 2000.

**Reading.** *Matrices and Transformations*, none.

**Supplementary reading.** Strang, sections 3.1–3.2.

- (1) Consider the set  $M_2 = \{2 \times 2 \text{ matrices}\}$  as a vector space. Let

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

- (a) Name a subspace containing  $A$  but not  $B$ .

All multiples of the array  $A$  form a subspace containing  $A$  but not  $B$ .

- (b) Name a subspace containing  $B$  but not  $A$ .

All multiples of the array  $B$  form a subspace containing  $B$  but not  $A$ .

- (c) Is there a subspace containing  $A$  and  $B$  but not the  $2 \times 2$  identity matrix?

No. A subspace must be closed under linear combination. If a subspace contains  $A$  and  $B$ , it contains  $\frac{1}{2}A - \frac{1}{3}B$ , which is the  $2 \times 2$  identity matrix.

- (2) Consider  $\mathbb{R}^2$  as a vector space. Which of the following are subspaces and which are not? If not, why not?

- (a)  $\{(a, a^2) \mid a \in \mathbb{R}\}$  Not a subspace — consider  $(1, 1) + (2, 4) = (3, 5)$ ; this set is not closed under addition.

- (b)  $\{(b, 0) \mid b \in \mathbb{R}\}$  This is a subspace.

- (c)  $\{(0, c) \mid c \in \mathbb{R}\}$  This is a subspace.

- (d)  $\{(m, n) \mid m, n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  Not a subspace — not closed under scalar multiplication: consider  $\frac{1}{2} \cdot (1, 1)$ .

- (e)  $\{(d, e) \mid d, e \in \mathbb{R}, d \cdot e = 0\}$  Not a subspace — not closed under addition: consider  $(1, 0) + (0, 1)$ .

- (f)  $\{(f, f) \mid f \in \mathbb{R}\}$  This is a subspace.

- (3) Show that for some  $b \neq 0$ , the solution set  $\{x \mid Ax = b\}$  does not form a subspace. (Hint: look at Problem set 11, problem number 7.)

Suppose that the solution set to  $Ax = b$  always forms a subset. Then, for any two solutions  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ , we have  $A(x_1 + x_2) = b$ , because subspaces are closed under addition. But then we have  $Ax_1 + Ax_2 = b$ , which, combined with either  $Ax_1 = b$  or  $Ax_2 = b$ , can be used to conclude that  $Ax_1 = 0$  or  $Ax_2 = 0$ , an absurdity. We conclude that the solution set to  $Ax = b$  is not, in general, a subspace.

- (4) Consider the set  $M_n = \{n \times n \text{ matrices}\}$  as a vector space. Which of the following are subspaces?

- (a) The symmetric matrices,  $S = \{A \mid A^T = A\}$  The symmetric matrices are a subspace.

- (b) **The non-symmetric matrices**,  $NS = \{A \mid A^T \neq A\}$  The non-symmetric matrices are not a subspace — it is easy to come up with two non-symmetric matrices whose sum is symmetric.
- (c) **The skew-symmetric matrices**,  $S = \{A \mid A^T = -A\}$  The skew-symmetric matrices are a subspace.

(5) Describe the column spaces of the following matrices.

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 \\ -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \quad D = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} C(C) &= \{c_1(1, 2, -1)' + c_2(2, 0, 3)' : (c_1, c_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2\} \\ C(D) &= \{c_1(1, 2, -1)' + c_2(2, 0, 3)' : (c_1, c_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2\} (= C(C)) \end{aligned}$$

Although  $D$  has three columns, the column that was added to  $C$  to make  $D$  is a linear combination of the two columns of  $C$ ; the column spaces of the two matrices are identical.

(6) Describe the null-space for the following matrices.

$$E = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -2 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad F = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad G = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -4 \\ -1 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 5 & -5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} N(E) &= \{c \cdot (2, -4, -3)' : c \in \mathbb{R}\} \\ N(F) &= \{0\} \\ N(G) &= \{c \cdot (10, 1, 3)' : c \in \mathbb{R}\} \end{aligned}$$

(7) Let  $P$  be the plane in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  defined by the equation

$$x - y - z = 3.$$

**Find two vectors in  $P$  and show that their sum is not in  $P$ .**

The vectors  $(1, 0, -2)$  and  $(0, 1, -4)$  are both in  $P$ , but their sum,  $(1, 1, -6)$ , is not in  $P$ .

- (a) Find a subset  $W \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$  where, for  $v, w \in W$ ,  $v + w \in W$ , but  $cv$  is not necessarily in  $W$ .  
We take as our subset all points in the nonnegative orthant, the set  $\{(x, y) : x \geq 0, y \geq 0\}$ . The sum of two points in  $W$  is again in  $W$ , but given a point in  $W$ , we cannot multiply it by a *negative* scalar to get another point in  $W$ .
- (b) Find a subset  $W \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$  where, for  $v, w \in W$ ,  $cv \in W$ , but  $v + w$  is not necessarily in  $W$ .

We take the union of the two lines  $\{(x, y) : x = y\}$  and  $\{(x, y) : x = -y\}$ . This set is closed under scalar multiplication — if we take a point on one of the lines and multiply it by a scalar, we get another point on the *same* line. However, if we add two points, each from one of the lines, say  $(1, 1)$  and  $(1, -1)$ , we get  $(1, 0)$ , which is on neither line.

- (8) Let  $A$  and  $B$  be any  $n \times n$  matrices. If  $v \in N(B)$ , show that  $v \in N(A \cdot B)$ . If  $A$  is invertible, show that if  $v \in N(A \cdot B)$ , then  $v \in N(B)$ .**

$$v \in N(B) \rightarrow Bv = 0 \rightarrow (A \cdot B)v = A(Bv) = 0 \rightarrow v \in N(A \cdot B)$$

If  $A$  is invertible, then  $A^{-1}$  exists, and we can write:

$$\begin{aligned} v \in N(A \cdot B) &\rightarrow (A \cdot B)v = 0 \\ &\rightarrow A^{-1}(A \cdot B)v = 0 \\ &\rightarrow (A^{-1}A)Bv = 0 \\ &\rightarrow IBv = 0 \\ &\rightarrow Bv = 0 \\ &\rightarrow v \in N(B) \end{aligned}$$