

Notation: V is a vector space over a field \mathbb{F} . Do not assume V is finite dimensional (unless told otherwise). Let W_1 and W_2 be subspaces of V .

#1 Vector Space Definition Using the definition – and that’s all.

- In horrifying detail (go through all of the axioms), show that $\mathbb{R}^2 = \{(a, b) \mid a, b \in \mathbb{R}\}$ is a vector space over \mathbb{R} .
- Let $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \in V$. Prove that $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{w}$ implies that $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{w}$. Do this *only using axioms*. Cite the axioms being used.

#2 Easy Subspace Show that $W = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x + 2y = 0\}$ is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^2 . Then explain why $B = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x + 2y = 3\}$ is not a subspace.

#3 Subspace Recall that a function $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is called **even** if $f(-x) = f(x)$. A function is called **odd** if $f(-x) = -f(x)$. Recall that $V = \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{R}}$ is the vector space of all functions from the reals to the reals.

- Let E be the set of all even functions in $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{R}}$. Show that E is a subspace.
- Let O be the set of all odd functions in $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{R}}$. Show that O is a subspace.
- Notice that for any $f \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{R}}$, $g(x) = \frac{f(x) + f(-x)}{2}$ is even and $h(x) = \frac{f(x) - f(-x)}{2}$ is odd. Prove that $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{R}} = E \oplus O$. Demonstrate how $f(x) = x^3 - 5x^2 + \cos(x) + 4\sin(x) - 12$ decomposes.

“Fun” Side Note: When we decompose a function into an even function plus an odd function, we call these parts its even and odd parts. The even and odd parts of the exponential function, e^x , are called $\cosh(x)$ and $\sinh(x)$ (the hyperbolic cosine and sine functions).

#4 Unions Don’t Work Show that $W_1 \cup W_2$ is a subspace if and only if $W_1 \subseteq W_2$ or $W_2 \subseteq W_1$.

#5 Linear Independence and Spanning Let V be a vector space over $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{Q}$ (the rational numbers) with basis $\beta = \{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w}\}$ (distinct vectors).

- Prove that $S = \{\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{w} + \mathbf{u}\}$ is linearly independent (using the definition of independence).
- Prove that $T = \{\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w}\}$ spans V (using the definition of span).
- Consider $S \cup T$ and $S \cap T$. Decide whether each set is linearly independent, spans V , both spans and is linearly independent, or neither. Give proof of each assertion.

#6 Dimension For convenience, let’s assume V is finite dimensional. Note that $W_1 + W_2 = \{u + v \mid u \in W_1 \text{ and } v \in W_2\}$. Also, recall that $V = W_1 \oplus W_2$ if $V = W_1 + W_2$ and $W_1 \cap W_2 = \{\mathbf{0}\}$.

- Prove that $\dim(W_1 \cap W_2) \leq \min\{\dim(W_1), \dim(W_2)\}$.
- Prove that $\dim(W_1 + W_2) \geq \max\{\dim(W_1), \dim(W_2)\}$.
- If $V = W_1 \oplus W_2$, what is $\dim(V)$? Justify your answer.

As a general bit of advice for problems like this, assume (without loss of generality) that $\dim(W_1) = m \leq \dim(W_2) = n$ so that (for example) the minimum of the two dimensions is m and the maximum is n .