

1. The dimension of  $\mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R})$  is

- (a) 0            (b) 1            (c) 2            (d) 3            (e) 4            (f) 5

**Answer.** (d) Since  $\{1, x, x^2\}$  is a basis and has three elements,  $\dim(\mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R}))=3$ .

2. True or False: There exist real numbers  $a, b$  so that  $a(-7, 4) + b(5, -2) = (12, 11)$ .

**Answer.** True. Since  $(-7, 4), (5, -2)$  is an independent list of two vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , which is two dimensional, it is a basis. Hence,  $\text{span}((-7, 4), (5, -2)) = \mathbb{R}^2$ . In particular,  $(12, 11) \in \text{span}((-7, 4), (5, -2))$ .

3. Which one of the following lists of vectors is independent?

- (a)  $(2, 3, 0, 4), (4, 6, 0, 8)$   
(b)  $(1, 2, 3), (0, 0, 0)$   
(c)  $(1, 1, 1), (1, 0, 0), (2, 1, 1)$   
(d)  $(1, 1, 1), (1, 2, 3), (-3, 8, 1), (3, 10, 15)$   
(e)  $(0, 2, 0, 4), (0, 2, 0, 5), (1, 2, 3, 4)$

**Answer.**  $(0, 2, 0, 4), (0, 2, 0, 5), (1, 2, 3, 4)$  is independent. To see this, observe that the first two vectors are not multiples of one another. Any linear combination of  $(0, 2, 0, 4), (0, 2, 0, 5)$  will have 0 as the first entry, so  $(1, 2, 3, 4)$  is not a linear combination of  $(0, 2, 0, 4), (0, 2, 0, 5)$ .

(a) is dependent since  $(4, 6, 0, 8) = 2(2, 3, 0, 4)$ . (b) is dependent since it contains the zero vector. (c) is dependent since  $(2, 1, 1) = (1, 1, 1) + (1, 0, 0)$  and (d) is dependent since it's a list of four vectors in a three dimensional space.

4. True or False: If  $\dim(V) = 4$  and  $v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4$  is a linearly independent list of four vectors from  $V$  then  $\text{span}(v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4) = V$ .

**Answer.** True. Four linearly independent vectors in a four dimensional space must be a basis, hence spans.

5. Which one of the following lists of polynomials is linearly dependent?

- (a)  $1, x, x^3$   
(b)  $1, x, x^2, x^3, x^4, x^5$   
(c)  $x^2 + 2x + 3, x^2 - x, 3x^2 + x + 1, 2x^2 + 1$   
(d)  $1 - x, 1 + x$

(e)  $5x^2 + 1, x^2 + 1, x^2 + x + 4$

**Answer.** (c) is dependent since it's a list of four vectors from the three dimensional space  $\mathcal{P}_2(\mathbb{R})$ .

6. Which of the following is a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^3$  ?

(a)  $(1, 2, 0), (0, 0, 5), (1, 0, 3), (1, 2, 3)$

(b)  $(1, 2, 0), (0, 0, 5), (1, 0, 3)$

(c)  $(1, 2, 0), (0, 1, 5)$

(d)  $(1, 0, 0), (0, 0, 1), (1, 0, 1)$

(e)  $(1, 2, 3), (4, 5, 8), (9, 6, 7), (3, 2, 8)$

**Answer.** Since  $\mathbb{R}^3$  is three dimensional, any basis has three elements. So, (a), (c), and (e) are wrong. Also, (d) is wrong since  $(0, 5, 0)$  is not in the span of  $(1, 0, 0), (0, 0, 1), (1, 0, 1)$  (any linear combination of  $(1, 0, 0), (0, 0, 1), (1, 0, 1)$  has 0 for the second entry).

This leaves (b). It suffices to note that the three vectors  $(1, 2, 0), (0, 0, 5), (1, 0, 3)$  are linearly independent. To see that, note that any linear combination of the first two will have the form  $(a, 2a, b)$  for some real numbers  $a, b$  and  $(1, 0, 3)$  does not have that form.

7. True or False: The vector space  $\{f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : f \text{ is continuous}\}$  is infinite dimensional.

**Answer.** True. The given vector space has the polynomials  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R})$  as a subspace and  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R})$  is infinite dimensional.

8. True or False: If  $a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i$  are real numbers satisfying

$$a + b + c = 0 \quad d + e + f = 0 \quad g + h + i = 0$$

then  $(a, b, c), (d, e, f), (g, h, i)$  is a list of linearly dependent vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

**Answer.** True. The set  $\{(r, s, t) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : r + s + t = 0\}$  is a proper subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , hence has dimension at most two. Therefore, any list of three or more vectors from this space must be dependent.

9. Which one of the following sets of polynomials is *not* a subspace of  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R})$ ?

(a) {polynomials of degree 3}

(b) {polynomials  $p(x)$  satisfying  $p(1) = 0$  and  $p'(1) = 0$ }

(c) {even degree polynomials}

(d) {polynomials  $p(x)$  with  $\int_0^1 p(x)dx = 0$ }

(e) {polynomials of degree  $\leq 100$ }

**Answer.** (a). {polynomials of degree 3} is not a subspace since, for example, it doesn't contain the zero vector. It's also not closed under addition since, for example,  $-2x^3 - x^2 + x$  and  $2x^3 + 3x + 1$  are both degree three polynomials but their sum  $-x^2 + 4x + 1$  is not.

**10.** True or False: The list of polynomials  $1, (x - 5)^2, (x - 5)^3$  is a basis for the subspace  $U$  of  $\mathcal{P}_3(\mathbb{R})$  defined by  $U = \{p \in \mathcal{P}_3(\mathbb{R}) : p'(5) = 0\}$ .

**Answer.** True. Note that  $U$  is a proper subspace of a four dimensional space, hence it's dimension is three or less. Since  $1, (x - 5)^2, (x - 5)^3$  is a list consisting of three independent polynomials in  $U$ , it is a basis.

**11.** True or False: A list of vectors  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  is a basis for a vector space  $V$  if and only if every vector  $v \in V$  can be expressed as a unique linear combination of the vectors  $v_1, \dots, v_n$ .

**Answer.** True. Every vector can be expressed as a linear combination if and only if the list spans and the expression is unique if and only if the list is independent.

**12.** Let

$$U = \{p(x) \in \mathcal{P}_4(\mathbb{R}) : p(2) = p(5)\} \text{ and } W = \{p(x) \in \mathcal{P}_4(\mathbb{R}) : p(2) = p(5) = p(6)\}.$$

Which of the following statements is true:

(a)  $U$  is a subspace of  $W$

(b)  $\dim(U) < \dim(W)$

(c)  $U \oplus W = \mathcal{P}_4(\mathbb{R})$

(d)  $\dim(W) = 3$

(e)  $x^2 - 7x + 11 \in U \cap W$

**Answer.** Because any polynomial that has the same value at 2, 5, and 6 has the same value at 2 and 5, we see that  $W \subseteq U \subseteq \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R})$ . Since  $x \in \mathcal{P}_4(\mathbb{R}) \setminus U$  and  $(x - 2)(x - 5) \in U \setminus W$ , the containments are proper,  $\dim(W) < \dim(U) < \dim(\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R})) = 5$ , and we know  $\dim(W) \leq 3$ . Since  $1, (x - 2)(x - 5)(x - 6), (x - 2)^2(x - 5)(x - 6)$  are three independent polynomials in  $W$ , we can conclude  $\dim(W) = 3$  and we see that (d) is correct.

It also follows from the analysis above that (a) and (b) are wrong. Since  $U \cap W = W$  it follows that  $U \cap W \neq \emptyset$  so the sum  $U + W$  is not direct.

Finally, a quick check shows that  $x^2 - 7x + 11$  has different values at  $x = 2$  and  $x = 5$  and so is not an element of  $W$ .