

5. h) Solution: No

Now we need to show it.

Suppose that  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  is in the span of  $S$

We know that  $\text{span}(S) = \{M: M = a \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + b \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + c \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mid a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}\}$ .

Then from  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in \text{span}(S)$ , we have:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = a \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + b \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + c \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ -a & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & b \\ 0 & b \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} c & c \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} a+c & b+c \\ -a & b \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Then we get a system of linear equations:

$$\begin{cases} a+c = 1 & \textcircled{1} \\ b+c = 1 & \textcircled{2} \\ -a = 0 & \textcircled{3} \\ b = 1 & \textcircled{4} \end{cases}$$

$\textcircled{1} + \textcircled{3}, \textcircled{2} - \textcircled{4}$ :

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} c = 1 & \textcircled{1} \\ c = 0 & \textcircled{2} \\ a = 0 & \textcircled{3} \\ b = 1 & \textcircled{4} \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} c = 1 & \textcircled{1} \\ 0 = -1 & \textcircled{2} \\ a = 0 & \textcircled{3} \\ b = 1 & \textcircled{4} \end{cases}$$

Then there is a contradiction in  $\textcircled{2}$

$\Rightarrow$  There is no solution to this system of linear equations.

Hence  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  is not in the span(S).

10. Proof:

We know that:

$\forall M \in \text{span}\{M_1, M_2, M_3\}$ , there exists a pair of  $(a, b, c)$  ( $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ ), s.t.

$$M = aM_1 + bM_2 + cM_3$$

$$= a \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + b \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + c \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & b \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & c \\ c & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} a & c \\ c & b \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\therefore a_{12} = c \quad a_{21} = c$$

$$\therefore a_{12} = a_{21} = c$$

$\therefore \begin{pmatrix} a & c \\ c & b \end{pmatrix}$  is symmetric  $2 \times 2$  matrix.

$\Rightarrow$  All the vectors in  $\text{span}\{M_1, M_2, M_3\}$  are symmetric  $2 \times 2$  matrices

Now we need to prove that all symmetric  $2 \times 2$  matrices are in  $\text{span}\{M_1, M_2, M_3\}$

Suppose that there is a symmetric  $2 \times 2$  matrix  $M'$  which is not in the span  $\{M_1, M_2, M_3\}$ .

$$M' = \begin{pmatrix} a' & c' \\ c' & b' \end{pmatrix}.$$

But we find that:

$$a' \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + b' \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + c' \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} a' & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & b' \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & c' \\ c' & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} a' & c' \\ c' & b' \end{pmatrix} = M'$$

which means that  $M'$  can be generated

by  $M_1, M_2, M_3$ , hence it is in span  $\{M_1, M_2, M_3\}$ .  
There is a contradiction.

Hence the span of  $\{M_1, M_2, M_3\}$  is the set of all symmetric  $2 \times 2$  matrices.