

§1.4

1-f. Every system of linear equations has a solution. False.

2-f. Solve the system of linear equations:

$$\begin{array}{rcl} x + 2y + 6z = -1 & (1) & \Rightarrow x = -1 - 2y - 6z \\ 2x + y + z = 8 & (2) & \\ 3x + y - z = 15 & (3) & \\ x + 3y + 10z = -5 & (4) & \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{rcl} (2) - 2(1) & \Rightarrow & -3y - 11z = 10 \quad (i) \\ (4) - (1) & \Rightarrow & y + 4z = -4 \quad (ii) \Rightarrow y = -4 - 4z \\ & (i) + 3(ii) & \Rightarrow z = -2 \\ & & \Rightarrow y = -4 - 4(-2) = 4 \\ & & \Rightarrow x = -1 - 2(4) - 6(-2) = 3 \end{array}$$

Answer:  $(x, y, z) = (3, 4, -2)$

3-f. Determine whether the first vector can be written as a linear combination of the other two.

$$(-2, 2, 2) \quad (1, 2, -1) \quad (-3, -3, 3)$$

Suppose that it can, then let  $(-2, 2, 2) = a(1, 2, -1) + b(-3, -3, 3) = (a-3b, 2a-3b, -a+3b)$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} * a - 3b = -2 & \Rightarrow a = 3b - 2 \\ 2a - 3b = 2 & \Rightarrow 2(3b - 2) - 3b = 2 \Rightarrow b = 2 \Rightarrow a = 3(2) - 2 = 4 \\ -a + 3b = 2 & \text{notice that this equation agrees with } * \Rightarrow \text{this is a consistent system} \end{cases}$$

Answer:  $(-2, 2, 2)$  can be written as  $4(1, 2, -1) + 2(-3, -3, 3)$  or  $(-2, 2, 2) \in \text{span}\{(1, 2, -1), (-3, -3, 3)\}$

4-f. Determine whether the first polynomial can be expressed as a linear combination of the other two.

$$6x^3 - 3x^2 + x + 2, \quad x^3 - x^2 + 2x + 3, \quad 2x^3 - 3x + 1$$

Assume that it can, then let  $(6x^3 - 3x^2 + x + 2) = a(x^3 - x^2 + 2x + 3) + b(2x^3 - 3x + 1)$

Notice that the last polynomial does not have  $x^2$  term,

so if the first polynomial can be written as l.c. of the other two, then  $-3x^2 = -ax^2 \Rightarrow a = 3$

Now consider constant terms in all three polynomials,  $2 = a(3) + b(1) = 3(3) + b = 9 + b$

$$\Rightarrow b = -7 \quad *$$

Now consider  $x^3$  terms in all three,  $6x^3 = ax^3 + b(2x^3) = 3x^3 + 2bx^3 \Rightarrow 2b + 3 = 6$

$$\Rightarrow b = \frac{3}{2} \quad \text{a contradiction with } *$$

Answer: No, it cannot.

**5-h.** Determine whether vector  $w$  is in the span of  $S$ .

$$w = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \quad S = \left\{ \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 \end{vmatrix}, \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix}, \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix} \right\}$$

Solution: Let  $S = \{ \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z} \}$

Suppose that  $w \in \text{span}(S)$ , then  $w$  can be written as a linear combination of  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}$ .

Let  $w = ax + by + cz$  \* where  $a, b, c \in F$

Consider all 4 matrices, notice that  $\mathbf{x}$  is the only matrix with a nonzero southwest entry.

So  $a = 0$ .  $\Rightarrow$  equation \* becomes  $w = by + cz$ .

Notice that the southeast entry of  $\mathbf{z}$  is 0, but those of  $w$  and  $\mathbf{y}$  are both 1.

$\Rightarrow b = 1$ .

Similarly, the northwest entry of  $\mathbf{y}$  is 0, but those of  $w$  and  $\mathbf{z}$  are both 1.

$\Rightarrow c = 1$ .

$\Rightarrow w = by + cz = (1)y + (1)z = y + z$

$$\text{but } y + z = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \neq w \quad \Rightarrow \quad * \text{ does not hold} \quad \Rightarrow$$

Answer:  $w \notin \text{span}(S)$

**10.** show that if  $X = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix}$ ,  $Y = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$ ,  $Z = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{vmatrix}$

then the span of  $\{X, Y, Z\}$  is the set of all symmetric  $2 \times 2$  matrices.

Proof:

$$\text{By definition, a } 2 \times 2 \text{ symmetric matrix } M \text{ is of the form } \begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ b & c \end{vmatrix} = a \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix} + c \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} + b \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad M = aX + cY + bZ$$

$\Rightarrow M$  can be written as a linear combination of  $X, Y,$  and  $Z$ .  $\Leftrightarrow M \in \text{span}(\{X, Y, Z\})$ .

If an arbitrary  $2 \times 2$  symmetric matrix  $M$  is in  $\text{span}\{X, Y, Z\}$ , then all are in. □