

# Vector Spaces and Subspaces

MATH 204: Linear Algebra  
Prepare for class October 29, 2018

Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

After re-reading Section 4.1, work through the following ideas.

1. (The first part of this was on your last worksheet. Here it is all together!) Example 4 on page 194 is an important example. Work through carefully (more carefully than the text!) through the example by filling in the details here...

Let  $n \geq 0$  be an integer and let

$\mathbb{P}_n$  = the set of polynomials of degree at most  $n \geq 0$ .

Members of  $\mathbb{P}_n$  have the form

$$\vec{p}(t) = a_0 + a_1t + a_2t^2 + \cdots + a_nt^n$$

where  $a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  are real numbers and  $t$  is a real variable. We will prove that  $\mathbb{P}_n$  is a vector space.

Let  $\vec{p}(t) = a_0 + a_1t + a_2t^2 + \cdots + a_nt^n$ ,  $\vec{q}(t) = b_0 + b_1t + b_2t^2 + \cdots + b_nt^n$ , and  $\vec{r}(t) = c_0 + c_1t + c_2t^2 + \cdots + c_nt^n$  be elements of  $\mathbb{P}_n$ . Let  $c$  and  $d$  be scalars.

**Prove Axiom 1 Holds:**

The polynomial  $\vec{p} + \vec{q}$  is defined as follows:  $(\vec{p} + \vec{q})(t) = \vec{p}(t) + \vec{q}(t)$ .

Therefore,  $(\vec{p} + \vec{q})(t) =$  \_\_\_\_\_  
= \_\_\_\_\_

which is also a \_\_\_\_\_ of degree at most \_\_\_\_\_.

So \_\_\_\_\_.

**Prove Axiom 2 Holds:**

Let  $\vec{p}$  and  $\vec{q}$  be in  $\mathbb{P}_n$  and as defined above.

Then  $\vec{p} + \vec{q} =$  \_\_\_\_\_

while

$\vec{q} + \vec{p} =$  \_\_\_\_\_

Since addition of real numbers is \_\_\_\_\_,  $a_i + b_i =$  \_\_\_\_\_.

So \_\_\_\_\_.

**Prove Axiom 3 Holds:** (You provide all the details to this one...)

**Prove Axiom 4 Holds:**

The zero vector in  $\mathbb{P}_n$  is defined as  $\vec{0} = 0 + 0t + \cdots + 0t^n$ .

Then  $(\vec{p} + \vec{0})(t) = \vec{p}(t) + \vec{0} =$  \_\_\_\_\_  
= \_\_\_\_\_

So \_\_\_\_\_.

**Prove Axiom 5 Holds:**

If  $\vec{p}$  is the polynomial in  $\mathbb{P}_n$  as defined above then  $-\vec{p} =$  \_\_\_\_\_

because

$\vec{p} + (-\vec{p}) =$  \_\_\_\_\_

So \_\_\_\_\_.

**Prove Axiom 6 Holds:** (You provide all the details to this one...)

**Prove Axiom 7 Holds:** (You provide all the details to this one...)

**Prove Axiom 8 Holds:** (You provide all the details to this one...)

**Prove Axiom 9 Holds:** (You provide all the details to this one...)

**Prove Axiom 10 Holds:** (You provide all the details to this one...)

Thus \_\_\_\_\_.

2. What is the definition of subspace?

3. Give an example of a subspace **including of what it is a subspace**. You do not need to prove it, just write down what it is.

4. Give an example of something that is NOT a subspace **including of what it is NOT a subspace**. You do not need to prove it, just write down what it is.

5. State Theorem 4.1: The Spans are Subspaces Theorem.

6. Write down any questions you have on the reading.