

1. Let L be the line defined by $\begin{cases} x + y + 5z = -2 \\ x - y - z = 0 \end{cases}$.

Ler R be the line $R = \{(1, 2, -1) + t(-2, 1, 1)\}$. Moreover let $P = (1, 1, 1)$.

(a) Is there a plane containing both L and P ? If the answer is yes, find its cartesian equation.

(b) Compute $L \cap R$.

(c) Is there a plane containing both L and R ? If yes, find its cartesian equation.

Solution. (a) The answer is YES in any case (if P is not contained in L there is a unique plane containing L and P . If P belongs to L , infinitely many planes). We have:

$$\begin{cases} x + y + 5z = -2 \\ x - y - z = 0 \end{cases} \rightarrow \begin{cases} x + y + 5z = -2 \\ -y - 3z = 0 \end{cases}$$

Therefore $y = -3z$ and $x = -2 + 3z - 5z$. In conclusion, the line $L: (-2 - 2z, -3z, z) = (-2, 0, 0) + z(-2, -3, 1) = Q + zA$. The required plane is

$$Q + t(P - Q) + sA = (-2, 0, 0) + t(3, 1, 1) + z(2, -3, 1), \quad t, s \in \mathbf{R}$$

Its cartesian equation is

$$4x - y - 11z = -8$$

(b) Substituting the parametric equation of R into the cartesian equation of L we get $t = 0$. Therefore $L \cap R = (1, 2, -1) + 0(-2, 1, 1) = (1, 2, -1)$.

(c) The answer is YES. The parametric equation of the required plane is $(1, 2, -1) + t(-2, -3, 1) + s(-2, 1, 1)$. The cartesian equation: $x + 2z = -1$.

2. Let us consider a parabola \mathcal{C} with focus in the origin, directrix of equation $4x - 3y = k$ and such that \mathcal{C} contains the point $(1, 0)$.

(a) Assume that $k > 0$. Find k . Find the vertex of \mathcal{C} .

(b) Assume that $k < 0$. Find k .

Solution. Second session 2012.

3. Let W be the linear subspace of V_4 defined by the equation $x + y - z + t = 0$. Find an orthogonal basis of V_4 such that three of its vectors belong to W .

Solution. The vector $\mathbf{u} = (1, 1, -1, 1)$ is orthogonal to W . We can take \mathbf{u} as one of the vectors of the required basis. To construct the other three vectors as requested we need to find a basis of W and orthogonalize it. To find a basis of W : setting $y = 1, z = t = 0$

we get $(1, -1, 0, 0)$. Setting $y = t = 0$ and $z = 1$ we get $(1, 0, 1, 0)$. Setting $y = z = 0$ and $t = 1$ we get $(1, 0, 0, -1)$. Hence a basis of W is $\{(1, -1, 0, 0), (1, 0, 1, 0), (1, 0, 0, -1)\}$.

Now we orthogonalize it:

we take $\mathbf{w}_1 = (1, -1, 0, 0)$

$(1, 0, 1, 0) - \frac{1}{2}(1, -1, 0, 0) = (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, 1, 0)$. We take $\mathbf{w}_2 = (1, 1, 2, 0)$.

$(1, 0, 0, -1) - \frac{1}{2}(1, -1, 0, 0) - \frac{1}{6}(1, 1, 2, 0) = (\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, -\frac{1}{3}, -1)$.

In conclusion, as basis as required is

$$\{(1, -1, 0, 0), (1, 1, 2, 0), (1, 1, -1, -3), (1, 1, -1, 1)\}$$

4. Let us consider the following basis of V_3 : $\mathcal{B} = \{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w}\} = \{(1, 1, 0), (1, 0, 1), (1, 0, -1)\}$. Let $T : V_3 \rightarrow V_3$ be the linear transformation such that $T(\mathbf{u}) = (1, 0, 0)$, $T(\mathbf{v}) = (0, 1, 0)$, $T(\mathbf{w}) = (0, 0, 0)$. Let $\mathcal{E} = \{(1, 0, 0), (0, 1, 0), (0, 0, 1)\}$ be the standard basis of V_3 .

(a) Find the representative matrices $m_{\mathcal{E}}^{\mathcal{B}}(T)$, and $m_{\mathcal{E}}^{\mathcal{E}}(T)$.

(b) Compute $T((1, 0, 0))$.

(c) Compute the null-space of T .

(d) Is T one-to-one? If the answer is yes explain why. If the answer is no, find explicitly two vectors $\mathbf{u}_1 \neq \mathbf{u}_2$ of V_3 such that $T(\mathbf{u}_1) = T(\mathbf{u}_2)$.

Solution. (c) Clearly $N(T) = L(\mathbf{w}) = L((1, 0, -1))$.

(a) and (b) Clearly $m_{\mathcal{E}}^{\mathcal{B}}(T) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$.

The matrix $m_{\mathcal{E}}^{\mathcal{E}}(T)$ can be found using the change-of-basis formula. However in this case the calculations are so easy that it can be found directly. In fact one sees immediately that $(1, 0, 0) = \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{v} + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{w}$. Therefore $T((1, 0, 0)) = \frac{1}{2}T(\mathbf{v}) = (0, \frac{1}{2}, 0)$. (This answers to question (c)).

$(0, 1, 0) = \mathbf{u} - (\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{v} + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{w})$. Hence $T((0, 1, 0)) = T(\mathbf{u}) - \frac{1}{2}T(\mathbf{v}) = (1, -\frac{1}{2}, 0)$.

Finally: $(0, 0, 1) = \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{v} - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{w}$. Therefore $T((0, 0, 1)) = \frac{1}{2}T(\mathbf{v}) = (0, \frac{1}{2}, 0)$.

In conclusion $m_{\mathcal{E}}^{\mathcal{E}}(T) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$.

5. Let $\mathbf{u} = (1, 1, 0)$, $\mathbf{v} = (1, 0, 1)$, $\mathbf{w} = (1, 0, -1)$. Let $T : V_3 \rightarrow V_3$ be the linear transformation defined by: $T(\mathbf{u}) = 3\mathbf{u}$, $T(\mathbf{v}) = -4\mathbf{v}$, $T(\mathbf{w}) = \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}$. Find eigenvalues and eigenvectors of T . Is T diagonalizable? If the answer is no, explain why. If the answer is yes, find a basis \mathcal{B} of V_3 such that the matrix representing T with respect to the basis \mathcal{B} is diagonal.

Solution. Let us denote \mathcal{C} the basis $\{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w}\}$. The matrix representing T with respect to \mathcal{C} is

$$M = m_{\mathcal{C}}^{\mathcal{C}}(T) = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -4 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Therefore we get that:

$\lambda_1 = 3$ is an eigenvalue, of eigenspace $E(3) = L(\mathbf{u}) = L((1, 1, 0))$ (this was already clear from the beginning);

$\lambda_2 = -4$ is an eigenvalue, of eigenspace $E(-4) = L(\mathbf{v}) = L((1, 0, 1))$ (this was already clear from the beginning);

The other eigenvalue is $\lambda_3 = 1$ (this can be seen by computing the characteristic polynomial

of $m_{\mathcal{C}}^{\mathcal{C}}(T)$, or simply the trace of $m_{\mathcal{C}}^{\mathcal{C}}(T)$). Since the matrix $1I_3 - M = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ we

get, solving the corresponding homogeneous linear system, that $E(1) = L(0\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} + 5\mathbf{w}) = L(\mathbf{v} + 5\mathbf{w}) = L((1, 0, -4))$.

The linear transformation T is diagonalizable. Letting \mathcal{B} the basis $\{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v} + 5\mathbf{w}\}$ we have that $m_{\mathcal{B}}^{\mathcal{B}}(T) = \text{diag}(4, -3, 1)$.