

# Math 54 Discussion Section Problems

Rob Bayer

February 27, 2008

You should work on the following problems in groups of 3 or 4. Try to get through as many as you can, but you aren't expected to finish everything. In fact, the answers are largely unimportant; making sure **everyone** in your group knows **how** to solve all the problems is what really matters.

1. Find the  $\beta$ -coordinate vector for  $p(t) = 3 - 8t + 4t^2$  where  $\beta = \{1 + t^2, t + t^2, 1 + 2t + t^2\}$

2. Suppose you have some vector space  $V$ , a basis  $\beta = \{\mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_2, \mathbf{b}_3\}$  and vector  $\mathbf{x}$  with  $[\mathbf{x}]_\beta = \begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ -9 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Now suppose that someone gives you a new set of vectors  $\Gamma = \{\mathbf{c}_1, \mathbf{c}_2, \mathbf{c}_3\}$  and tells you that  $[\mathbf{c}_1]_\beta =$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, [\mathbf{c}_2]_\beta = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 4 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}, [\mathbf{c}_3]_\beta = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

- (a) Is  $\Gamma$  a basis for  $V$ ?
- (b) Find  $[\mathbf{x}]_\Gamma$
- (c) Find the change of coordinate matrices from (i)  $\Gamma$  to  $\beta$  and (ii)  $\beta$  to  $\Gamma$
3. Consider the transformation  $T : \mathbb{P}_3 \rightarrow \mathbb{P}_3$  given by  $T(p) = \frac{d}{dx}p$ . Prove that  $T$  is a linear transformation and determine if it is 1-1 and if it is onto.
4. Let  $A$  be some fixed  $3 \times 4$  matrix. Prove that the set  $\{B \in M_{4 \times 2} : AB = 0\}$  is a subspace of  $M_{4 \times 2}$ .
5. Determine whether each of the following are subspaces of  $\mathbb{P}_3$ <sup>1</sup>
- (a)  $\{p \in \mathbb{P}_3 : p(1) = 0\}$
- (b)  $\{p \in \mathbb{P}_3 : p(1) = 1\}$
- (c) The set of all odd functions in  $\mathbb{P}_3$

6. Do the invertible  $3 \times 3$  matrices form a subspace of  $M_{3 \times 3}$ ?<sup>2</sup> What about the matrices of the form

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \\ 0 & d & e \\ 0 & 0 & f \end{bmatrix} ? \text{ Of the form } \begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \\ 1 & d & e \\ 1 & 1 & f \end{bmatrix} ?$$

---

<sup>1</sup> $\mathbb{P}_n$  denotes the set of all polynomials with degree less than or equal to  $n$

<sup>2</sup> $M_{m \times n}$  denotes the set of all  $m \times n$  matrices