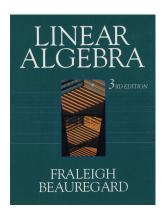
#### Linear Algebra

#### **Chapter 3. Vector Spaces**

Section 3.3. Coordinatization of Vectors—Proofs of Theorems



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**Page 211 Number 6.** Find the coordinate vector of  $\vec{v} = [9, 6, 11, 0] \in \mathbb{R}^4$  relative to the ordered basis

$$B = ([1,0,1,0],[2,1,1,-1],[0,1,1,-1],[2,1,3,1]).$$

**Solution.** By Definition 3.8, "Coordinate Vector Relative to an Ordered Basis," we need to find scalars  $r_1$ ,  $r_2$ ,  $r_3$ ,  $r_4$  such that

$$r_1[1,0,1,0] + r_2[2,1,1,-1] + r_3[0,1,1,-1] + r_4[2,1,3,1] = [9,6,11,0];$$

that is, we need

$$[r_1 + 2r_2 + 2r_4, r_2 + r_3 + r_4, r_1 + r_2 + r_3 + 3r_4, -r_2 - r_3 + r_4] = [9, 6, 11, 0].$$

**Page 211 Number 6.** Find the coordinate vector of  $\vec{v} = [9, 6, 11, 0] \in \mathbb{R}^4$  relative to the ordered basis B = ([1, 0, 1, 0], [2, 1, 1, -1], [0, 1, 1, -1], [2, 1, 3, 1]).

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So we need

$$r_1 + 2r_2 + r_3 + 2r_4 = 9$$
  
 $r_2 + r_3 + r_4 = 6$   
 $r_1 + r_2 + r_3 + 3r_4 = 11$   
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 $r_1 + r_2 + r_3 + 3r_4 = 11$   
 $r_2 - r_3 + r_4 = 0$ .

# Page 211 Number 6 (continued 1)

**Solution (continued).** We consider the augmented matrix for the system of equations and now reduce it:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & 2 & 9 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 6 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 3 & 11 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_3 \to R_3 - R_1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & 2 & 9 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 6 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_1 \to R_1 - 2R_2 \atop R_3 \to R_3 + R_2 \atop R_4 \to R_4 + R_2}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2 & 0 & | & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & | & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 2 & | & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & | & 6 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_3 \to R_3/2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2 & 0 & | & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & | & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & | & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & | & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Page 211 Number 6 (continued 2)

#### Solution (continued).

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2 & 0 & | & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & | & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & | & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & | & 3 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_1 \to R_1 + 2R_3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 & | & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & | & 2 & | \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & | & 2 & | \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & | & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & | & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} R_1 \to R_1 - 2R_4 \\ R_3 \to R_3 - R_4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

So we need 
$$r_1=-1$$
,  $r_2=2$ ,  $r_3=1$ , and  $r_4=3$ . Hence  $\vec{v}_B=[-1,2,1,3]$ .  $\square$ 

# Page 211 Number 6 (continued 2)

#### Solution (continued).

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2 & 0 & | & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & | & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & | & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & | & 3 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_1 \to R_1 + 2R_3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 & | & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & | & 2 & | \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & | & 2 & | \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & | & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & | & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} R_1 \to R_1 - 2R_4 \\ R_3 \to R_3 - R_4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

So we need 
$$r_1 = -1$$
,  $r_2 = 2$ ,  $r_3 = 1$ , and  $r_4 = 3$ . Hence  $\vec{v}_B = [-1, 2, 1, 3]$ .  $\square$ 

# Theorem 3.3.A. The Fundamental Theorem of Finite Dimensional Vectors Spaces

Theorem 3.3.A. The Fundamental Theorem of Finite Dimensional Vectors Spaces. If V is a finite dimensional vector space (say  $\dim(V) = n$ ) then V is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

**Proof.** Let  $B = (\vec{b_1}, \vec{b_2}, \dots, \vec{b_n})$  be an ordered basis for V and for  $\vec{v} \in V$  with  $\vec{v_B} = [r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n]$  define  $\alpha : V \to \mathbb{R}^n$  as  $\alpha(\vec{v}) = [r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n] = \vec{v_B}$ . Then "clearly"  $\alpha$  is one-to-one and onto.

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 $= [r_1, r_2, \ldots, r_n] + [s_1, s_2, \ldots, s_n] = \alpha(\vec{v}) + \alpha(\vec{w}).$ 

# Theorem 3.3.A. The Fundamental Theorem of Finite Dimensional Vectors Spaces

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**Proof.** Let  $B = (\vec{b_1}, \vec{b_2}, \dots, \vec{b_n})$  be an ordered basis for V and for  $\vec{v} \in V$ with  $\vec{v_B} = [r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n]$  define  $\alpha : V \to \mathbb{R}^n$  as  $\alpha(\vec{v}) = [r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n] = \vec{v}_B$ . Then "clearly"  $\alpha$  is one-to-one and onto. Also for  $\vec{v}, \vec{w} \in V$  suppose  $\vec{v}_B = [r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n]$  and  $\vec{w}_B = [s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n]$  so that  $(\vec{v} + \vec{w})_B = ((r_1\vec{b}_1 + r_2\vec{b}_2 + \cdots + r_n\vec{b}_n) + (s_1\vec{b}_1 + s_2\vec{b}_2 + \cdots + s_n\vec{b}_n))_B =$  $((r_1+s_1)\vec{b}_1+(r_2+s_2)\vec{b}_2+\cdots+(r_n+s_n)\vec{b}_n)_{n}=$  $[r_1 + s_1, r_2 + s_2, \dots, r_n + s_n]$  and so  $\alpha(\vec{v} + \vec{w}) = [r_1 + s_1, r_2 + s_2, \dots, r_n + s_n]$ 

$$\alpha(\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}) = [r_1 + s_1, r_2 + s_2, \dots, r_n + s_n] = [r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n] + [s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n] = \alpha(\vec{\mathbf{v}}) + \alpha(\vec{\mathbf{w}}).$$

# Theorem 3.3.A. The Fundamental Theorem of Finite Dimensional Vectors Spaces (continued)

# Theorem 3.3.A. The Fundamental Theorem of Finite Dimensional Vectors Spaces.

If V is a finite dimensional vector space (say  $\dim(V) = n$ ) then V is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

**Proof (continued).** For a scalar  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $t\vec{v} = t(r_1\vec{b}_1 + r_2\vec{b}_2 + \dots + r_n\vec{b}_n) = (tr_1)\vec{b}_1 + (tr_2)\vec{b}_2 + \dots + (tr_n)\vec{b}_n$  and so  $(t\vec{v})_B = [tr_1, tr_2, \dots, tr_n]$ . Hence

$$\alpha(t\vec{v}) = [tr_1, tr_2, \dots, tr_n] = t[r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n] = t\alpha(\vec{v}).$$

So  $\alpha$  is an isomorphism and V is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

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#### Example 3.3.B. Isomorphism of $\mathcal{P}_n$

**Example.** Consider  $\mathcal{P}_n$ , the vector space of all polynomials of degree n or less (see Exercise 3.1.16). Since  $\dim(\mathcal{P}_n) = n+1$  (see Section 3.2), so  $\mathcal{P}_n$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ . Find an isomorphism and prove that it is an isomorphism.

**Proof.** For  $p(x) \in \mathcal{P}_n$ , say  $p(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \cdots + a_1 x + a_0$ , define  $\alpha : \mathcal{P}_n \to \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  as  $\alpha(p(x)) = [a_n, a_{n-1}, \dots, a_1, a_0]$ . Clearly  $\alpha$  is one to one (each vector in  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  is the image of only one polynomial in  $\mathcal{P}_n$ ) and onto (each vector in  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  is the image of some polynomial in  $\mathcal{P}_n$ ).

#### Example 3.3.B. Isomorphism of $\mathcal{P}_n$

**Example.** Consider  $\mathcal{P}_n$ , the vector space of all polynomials of degree n or less (see Exercise 3.1.16). Since  $\dim(\mathcal{P}_n) = n+1$  (see Section 3.2), so  $\mathcal{P}_n$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ . Find an isomorphism and prove that it is an isomorphism.

**Proof.** For  $p(x) \in \mathcal{P}_n$ , say  $p(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$ , define  $\alpha: \mathcal{P}_n \to \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  as  $\alpha(p(x)) = [a_n, a_{n-1}, \dots, a_1, a_0]$ . Clearly  $\alpha$  is one to one (each vector in  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  is the image of only one polynomial in  $\mathcal{P}_n$ ) and onto (each vector in  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  is the image of some polynomial in  $\mathcal{P}_n$ ). To show that  $\alpha$  is an isomorphism we consider  $p(x), q(x) \in \mathcal{P}_n$  (say  $g(x) = b_n x^n + b_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \cdots + b_1 x + b_0$  and scalar  $r \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then  $\alpha(p(x) + q(x)) = \alpha((a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 x + a_0))$  $+(b_nx^n+b_{n-1}x^{n-1}+\cdots+b_1x+b_0)$  $= \alpha((a_n + b_n)x^n + (a_{n-1} + b_{n-1})x^{n-1} + \cdots$  $+(a_1+b_1)x+(a_0+b_0)$ 

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#### Example 3.3.B. Isomorphism of $\mathcal{P}_n$

**Example.** Consider  $\mathcal{P}_n$ , the vector space of all polynomials of degree n or less (see Exercise 3.1.16). Since  $\dim(\mathcal{P}_n) = n+1$  (see Section 3.2), so  $\mathcal{P}_n$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ . Find an isomorphism and prove that it is an isomorphism.

**Proof.** For  $p(x) \in \mathcal{P}_n$ , say  $p(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \cdots + a_1 x + a_0$ , define  $\alpha : \mathcal{P}_n \to \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  as  $\alpha(p(x)) = [a_n, a_{n-1}, \dots, a_1, a_0]$ . Clearly  $\alpha$  is one to one (each vector in  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  is the image of only one polynomial in  $\mathcal{P}_n$ ) and onto (each vector in  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  is the image of some polynomial in  $\mathcal{P}_n$ ). To show that  $\alpha$  is an isomorphism we consider  $p(x), q(x) \in \mathcal{P}_n$  (say  $q(x) = b_n x^n + b_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \cdots + b_1 x + b_0$ ) and scalar  $r \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then

$$\alpha(p(x) + q(x)) = \alpha((a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 x + a_0) + (b_n x^n + b_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + b_1 x + b_0))$$

$$= \alpha((a_n + b_n) x^n + (a_{n-1} + b_{n-1}) x^{n-1} + \dots + (a_1 + b_1) x + (a_0 + b_0))$$

#### Example 3.3.B. Isomorphism of $\mathcal{P}_n$ (continued)

#### Proof (continued).

$$\alpha(p(x) + q(x)) = \alpha((a_n + b_n)x^n + (a_{n-1} + b_{n-1})x^{n-1} + \cdots + (a_1 + b_1)x + (a_0 + b_0))$$

$$= [a_n + b_n, a_{n-1} + b_{n-1}, \dots, a_1 + b_1, a_0 + b_0]$$

$$= [a_n, a_{n-1}, \dots, a_1, a_0] + [b_n, b_{n-1}, \dots, b_0]$$

$$= \alpha(a_nx^n + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + \dots + a_1x + a_0) + \alpha(b_nx^n + b_{n-1}x^{n-1} + \dots + b_1x + b_0)$$

$$= \alpha(p(x)) + \alpha(q(x)).$$
Also,  $\alpha(rp(x)) = \alpha(r(a_nx^n + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + \dots + a_1x + a_0))$ 

$$= \alpha((ra_n)x^n + (ra_{n-1})x^{n-1} + \dots + (ra_1)x + (ra_0))$$

$$= [ra_n, ra_{n-1}, \dots, ra_1, ra_0] = r[a_n, a_{n-1}, \dots, a_1, a_0]$$

$$= r\alpha(a_nx^n + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + \dots + a_1x + a_0) = r\alpha(p(x)).$$

So  $\alpha$  satisfies the definition of an isomorphism, as required.

#### Example 3.3.B. Isomorphism of $\mathcal{P}_n$ (continued)

#### Proof (continued).

$$\alpha(p(x) + q(x)) = \alpha((a_n + b_n)x^n + (a_{n-1} + b_{n-1})x^{n-1} + \cdots + (a_1 + b_1)x + (a_0 + b_0))$$

$$= [a_n + b_n, a_{n-1} + b_{n-1}, \dots, a_1 + b_1, a_0 + b_0]$$

$$= [a_n, a_{n-1}, \dots, a_1, a_0] + [b_n, b_{n-1}, \dots, b_0]$$

$$= \alpha(a_nx^n + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + \dots + a_1x + a_0) + \alpha(b_nx^n + b_{n-1}x^{n-1} + \dots + b_1x + b_0)$$

$$= \alpha(p(x)) + \alpha(q(x)).$$
Also,  $\alpha(rp(x)) = \alpha(r(a_nx^n + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + \dots + a_1x + a_0))$ 

$$= \alpha((ra_n)x^n + (ra_{n-1})x^{n-1} + \dots + (ra_1)x + (ra_0))$$

$$= [ra_n, ra_{n-1}, \dots, ra_1, ra_0] = r[a_n, a_{n-1}, \dots, a_1, a_0]$$

$$= r\alpha(a_nx^n + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + \dots + a_1x + a_0) = r\alpha(p(x)).$$

So  $\alpha$  satisfies the definition of an isomorphism, as required.

**Page 212 Number 12.** Find the coordinate vector of the polynomial  $p(x) = 4x^3 - 9x^2 + x$  relative to the ordered basis  $B' = ((x-1)^3, (x-1)^2, (x-1), 1)$  of the vector space  $\mathcal{P}_3$  of polynomials of degree 3 or less.

**Solution.** We express each basis vector in B' as a coordinate vector relative to the basis  $B = (x^3, x^2, x, 1)$  of  $\mathcal{P}_3$ , so that

$$(x-1)_B^3 = (x^3 - 3x^2 + 3x - 1)_B = [1, -3, 3, -1] = \vec{b}_1$$
  
 $(x-1)_B^2 = (x^2 - 2x + 1)_B = [0, 1, -2, 1] = \vec{b}_2$   
 $(x-1)_B = [0, 0, 1, -1] = \vec{b}_3$ , and  
 $1_B = [0, 0, 0, 1] = \vec{b}_4$ .

Also,  $p(x)_B = [4, -9, 1, 0].$ 

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**Page 212 Number 12.** Find the coordinate vector of the polynomial  $p(x) = 4x^3 - 9x^2 + x$  relative to the ordered basis  $B' = ((x-1)^3, (x-1)^2, (x-1), 1)$  of the vector space  $\mathcal{P}_3$  of polynomials of degree 3 or less.

**Solution.** We express each basis vector in B' as a coordinate vector relative to the basis  $B = (x^3, x^2, x, 1)$  of  $\mathcal{P}_3$ , so that

$$(x-1)_B^3 = (x^3 - 3x^2 + 3x - 1)_B = [1, -3, 3, -1] = \vec{b}_1$$
  
 $(x-1)_B^2 = (x^2 - 2x + 1)_B = [0, 1, -2, 1] = \vec{b}_2$   
 $(x-1)_B = [0, 0, 1, -1] = \vec{b}_3$ , and  
 $1_B = [0, 0, 0, 1] = \vec{b}_4$ .

Also,  $p(x)_B = [4, -9, 1, 0].$ 

# Page 212 Number 12 (continued)

Solution. Now we use techniques of Note 3.3.A and we consider

$$[\vec{b}_1 \ \vec{b}_2 \ \vec{b}_3 \ \vec{b}_4 \mid p(x)_B] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 4 \\ -3 & 1 & 0 & 0 & -9 \\ 3 & -2 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \to R_2 + 3R_1 \atop R_3 \to R_3 - 3R_1 \atop R_4 \to R_4 + R_1$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & | & 3 \\ 0 & -2 & 1 & 0 & | & -11 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 1 & | & 4 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_3 \to R_3 + 2R_2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & | & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & | & -5 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 & | & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} R_4 \rightarrow R_4 + R_3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & | & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & | & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & | & -5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & | & -4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

So  $[4,3,-5,-4] \in \mathbb{R}^4$  is the representation of p with respect to basis B';

$$p(x)_{B'} = [4, 3, -5, -4].$$

# Page 212 Number 12 (continued)

Solution. Now we use techniques of Note 3.3.A and we consider

$$[\vec{b}_1 \ \vec{b}_2 \ \vec{b}_3 \ \vec{b}_4 \mid p(x)_B] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 4 \\ -3 & 1 & 0 & 0 & -9 \\ 3 & -2 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \to R_2 + 3R_1 \atop R_3 \to R_3 - 3R_1}_{R_4 \to R_4 + R_1}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & | & 3 \\ 0 & -2 & 1 & 0 & | & -11 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 1 & | & 4 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_3 \to R_3 + 2R_2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & | & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & | & -5 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 & | & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix}
R_4 \to R_4 + R_3 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & | & 4 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & | & 3 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & | & -5 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & | & -4
\end{bmatrix}$$

So  $[4,3,-5,-4] \in \mathbb{R}^4$  is the representation of p with respect to basis B';

$$p(x)_{B'} = [4, 3, -5, -4].$$

#### Page 212 Number 20. Prove the set

$$\{(x-a)^n,(x-a)^{n-1},\ldots,(x-a),1\}$$
 is a basis for  $\mathcal{P}_n$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\vec{v}_0, \vec{v}_1, \ldots, \vec{v}_{n+1}$  be the coordinate vectors of  $(x-a)^n, (x-a)^{n-1}, \ldots, (x-a), 1$  in terms of the ordered basis  $(x^n, x^{n-1}, \ldots, x^2, x, 1)$ . Form a matrix A with the  $\vec{v}_k$ s as the columns:

$$A = [\vec{v}_0 \ \vec{v}_1 \ \cdots \ \vec{v}_n].$$

Page 212 Number 20. Prove the set

$$\{(x-a)^n,(x-a)^{n-1},\ldots,(x-a),1\}$$
 is a basis for  $\mathcal{P}_n$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\vec{v}_0, \vec{v}_1, \ldots, \vec{v}_{n+1}$  be the coordinate vectors of  $(x-a)^n, (x-a)^{n-1}, \ldots, (x-a), 1$  in terms of the ordered basis  $(x^n, x^{n-1}, \ldots, x^2, x, 1)$ . Form a matrix A with the  $\vec{v}_k$ s as the columns:

$$A = [\vec{v}_0 \ \vec{v}_1 \ \cdots \ \vec{v}_n].$$

By the Binomial Theorem,

$$(x-a)^k = \sum_{i=0}^k {k \choose i} x^{k-i} (-a)^i$$
 where  ${k \choose i} = \frac{k!}{(k-i)!i!}$ .

So 
$$\vec{v}_{n-k} = \left[0, 0, \dots, 0, 1, -ka, \frac{k(k-1)}{2}a^2, \dots, \frac{k(k-1)}{2}(-a)^{k-2}, k(-a)^{k-1}, (-a)^k\right]$$
, where the first  $n-k$  components of  $\vec{v}_k$  are 0.

#### Page 212 Number 20. Prove the set

$$\{(x-a)^n,(x-a)^{n-1},\ldots,(x-a),1\}$$
 is a basis for  $\mathcal{P}_n$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\vec{v}_0, \vec{v}_1, \ldots, \vec{v}_{n+1}$  be the coordinate vectors of  $(x-a)^n, (x-a)^{n-1}, \ldots, (x-a), 1$  in terms of the ordered basis  $(x^n, x^{n-1}, \ldots, x^2, x, 1)$ . Form a matrix A with the  $\vec{v}_k$ s as the columns:

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$$\left[0,0,\ldots,0,1,-ka,\frac{k(k-1)}{2}a^2,\ldots,\frac{k(k-1)}{2}(-a)^{k-2},k(-a)^{k-1},(-a)^k\right],$$

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# Page 212 Number 20 (continued)

**Solution (continued).** Notice that *A* is "lower triangular":

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -na & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{n(n-1)}{2}a^2 & -(n-1)a & 1 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \frac{n(n-1)}{2}(-a)^{n-2} & \frac{(n-1)(n-2)}{2}(-a)^{n-3} & \frac{(n-2)(n-3)}{2}(-a)^{n-4} & \cdots & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ n(-a)^{n-1} & (n-1)(-a)^{n-2} & (n-2)(-a)^{n-3} & \cdots & -2 & 1 & 0 \\ (-a)^n & (-a)^{n-1} & (-a)^{n-2} & \cdots & a^2 & -a & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Now the rank of A and the rank of  $A^T$  are the same (by Theorem 2.4, say).  $A^T$  is "upper triangular" and so has rank equal to the number of columns n+1. So the rank of A is n+1, A is row equivalent to the identity and so the  $\vec{v_k}$  are linearly independent.

# Page 212 Number 20 (continued)

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$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -na & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{n(n-1)}{2}a^2 & -(n-1)a & 1 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \frac{n(n-1)}{2}(-a)^{n-2} & \frac{(n-1)(n-2)}{2}(-a)^{n-3} & \frac{(n-2)(n-3)}{2}(-a)^{n-4} & \cdots & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ n(-a)^{n-1} & (n-1)(-a)^{n-2} & (n-2)(-a)^{n-3} & \cdots & -2 & 1 & 0 \\ (-a)^n & (-a)^{n-1} & (-a)^{n-2} & \cdots & a^2 & -a & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$\{(x-a)^n, (x-a)^{n-1}, \dots, (x-a), 1\}$$

is a set of n+1 linearly independent vectors, then this set is a basis for  $\mathcal{P}_n$ 

# Page 212 Number 20 (continued)

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