

10. True or False. (If true, explain why or give a proof. If false, give a counter example.) If v_1, v_2, v_3 are linearly independent vectors in \mathbb{R}^4 and v_4 is a vector in \mathbb{R}^4 which is not a linear combination of v_1, v_2 , and v_3 , then v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4 are linearly independent vectors in \mathbb{R}^4 .

True Suppose $(c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 + c_3 v_3 + c_4 v_4 = 0)$ $(**)$ If $c_4 \neq 0$ then

$$v_4 = -\frac{c_1}{c_4} v_1 - \frac{c_2}{c_4} v_2 - \frac{c_3}{c_4} v_3 \quad \text{and we have expressed}$$

v_4 as a linear combination of v_1, v_2, v_3 , which is not possible according to the hypothesis. It follows that

$$c_4 \text{ must be zero. Now we have } c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 + c_3 v_3 = 0.$$

The hypothesis also tells us that v_1, v_2, v_3 are linearly independent. We thus ~~$c_1 = c_2 = c_3 = 0$~~ $c_1 = c_2 = c_3 = 0$. We have

shown that the only numbers $c_1, c_2, c_3, \text{ and } c_4$ which satisfy $(**)$ are $c_1 = c_2 = c_3 = c_4 = 0$. It follows that v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4 are linearly independent.