

Name:

1. A function $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is linear if it satisfies two properties related to vector addition and scalar multiplication. State the two properties.

$$f(x+y) = f(x) + f(y) \quad \text{for all } x, y \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$f(\alpha x) = \alpha f(x) \quad \text{for all numbers } \alpha \text{ and all } x \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^n.$$

2. Consider the function $f : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if each } x_i > 0, i = 1, 2, 3. \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

For example $f(1, 1, -1) = 0$ and $f(2, 1, 7) = 1$. Determine if f is linear function or not and fully justify your claim.

$$\text{Let } x = (1, 2, 3) \text{ and } y = (1, 1, 5).$$

$$\text{Then } x+y = (2, 3, 8).$$

$$\text{Since } f(x) = 1, f(y) = 1 \text{ we know } f(x) + f(y) = 1+1 \\ = 2$$

$$\text{But } f(x+y) = 1. \text{ Since } f(x+y) \neq f(x) + f(y),$$

f is not linear.

3. The function $f : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is linear. It satisfies $f(1, 0, 0) = 5$, $f(0, 1, 0) = -2$ and $f(0, 0, 1) = 9$. Compute the value $f(3, 2, 1)$. Hint: $3(1, 0, 0) + 2(0, 1, 0) = (3, 2, 0)$.

$$(3, 2, 1) = 3(1, 0, 0) + 2(0, 1, 0) + (0, 0, 1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } f(3, 2, 1) &= 3f(1, 0, 0) + 2f(0, 1, 0) + f(0, 0, 1) \\ &= 3 \cdot 5 + 2 \cdot (-2) + 9 \\ &= 20 \end{aligned}$$