

Assignment 1:
Complex Numbers and Vector Spaces
Due Tuesday January 25, 2022

John McCuan

January 10, 2022

Problem 1 (Axler 1A1) Given real numbers a and b find/write

$$\frac{1}{a + bi}$$

in the form $x + iy$ for real numbers x and y .

Problem 2 (Axler 1A3) Find the square roots of i .

Problem 3 Consider the subspace

$$V = \{t(1 + i, 2 - i) : t \in \mathbb{C}\}$$

in \mathbb{C}^2 . Is there a point $(3, x)$ in V ?

Problem 4 (Axler 1A11) Consider the subspace

$$V = \{t(2 - 3i, 5 + 4i, -6 + 7i) : t \in \mathbb{C}\}$$

in \mathbb{C}^3 . Is the point $(12 - 5i, 7 + 22i, -32 - 9i)$ in V ?

Problem 5 At the bottom of page 10 Axler notes that a general **field** F is a set containing elements 0 and 1 and satisfying the properties listed in the gray box on page 3. More precisely, there are two operations (multiplication and addition) with

1. $a + b = b + a$ and $ab = ba$ for all $a, b \in F$.
2. $(a + b) + c = a + (b + c)$ and $(ab)c = a(bc)$ for all $a, b, c \in F$.
3. $a + 0 = 0$ and $1a = a$ for all $a \in F$.
4. For every $a \in F$ there is some $b \in F$ with $a + b = 0$.
5. For every $a \in F \setminus \{0\}$ there is an element $b \in F$ with $ab = 1$.
6. $a(b + c) = ab + ac$ for all $a, b, c \in F$.

Look up the names of these properties on the top of page 3 and figure out which property you need to prove the following:

Every field F contains an element -1 such that $(-1)a = -a$ for every $a \in F$.

(And prove it.)

Problem 6 (Axler 1B1) Prove that $-(-v) = v$ for every vector v in a vector space V over a field F .

Problem 7 (Axler 1B2) Prove that if $av = 0$ for $a \in F$ and $v \in V$ (where F is a field and V is a vector space over F), then $a = 0$ or $v = 0$. Note: The single symbol 0 is used to denote two different things here, namely the additive identity $0 \in F$ in the field and $0 \in V$ the additive identity in the vector space. Note also that what the symbol is denoting can always be indicated by writing the set to which it belongs, as I have just done. Every time you write 0 in your statement/proof/discussion, make sure to indicate which zero you are writing.

Problem 8 (Definition 1.19 page 12) Show there can be only one additive inverse in a vector space over a field.

Problem 9 (Vector space of functions 1.23 page 14) Let S be any set and denote the set of complex valued functions on S by $V = \mathbb{C}^S$. Define operations on V and verify that these make V a complex vector space.

Problem 10 (Axler 1B5) Let W be a set and F be a field with operations of addition in W and scaling of elements of W by elements of F defined such that the following properties hold

1. $u + v = v + u$ for all $u, v \in W$.
2. $(u + v) + w = u + (v + w)$ and $(ab)v = a(bv)$ for all $u, v, w \in W$ and $a, b \in F$.
3. There is an element $0 \in W$ for which $v + 0 = v$ for every $v \in W$.
4. The scaling $0v$ (with $0 \in F$) is the element $0 \in W$ for every $v \in W$.
5. The scaling $1v$ (with $1 \in F$) is the element $v \in W$ for every $v \in W$.
6. $a(u + v) = au + av$ and $(a + b)v = av + bv$ for all $a, b \in F$ and $u, v \in W$.

Prove that for each $v \in W$, there exists an element $w \in W$ with $v + w = 0$. Note carefully which properties of W you need to prove this and which ones can be ignored/omitted.