

## SPS Problem of the Week 9/12/2020-9/19/2020

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**Problem 1.** Given  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and the standard basis vectors  $\mathbf{e}_i$ , we define a notion of multiplication by the following rules:

$$\mathbf{e}_i \cdot \mathbf{e}_j + \mathbf{e}_j \cdot \mathbf{e}_i = 2\delta_{ij}$$

Where  $\delta_{ij}$  is the **Kronecker delta**.

(a) Notice that the space of matrices is quite similar to  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and if we suppose that the  $\mathbf{e}_i$ s are matrices then we can identify our product  $(\cdot)$  with matrix multiplication. Provide 3 matrices  $\mathbf{e}_i$  which satisfy our requirements for  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

(b) Assuming that realisations exist for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Prove that the  $\mathbf{e}_i$  and their products give rise to a vector space of dimension  $2^n$ .

\*(c) Now for the real problem, suppose you have 2 vectors  $\gamma_1, \gamma_2$  equal to some linear combination of  $p$ -vectors of  $\mathbf{e}_i$ . Explicitly, a **p-vector** of  $\mathbf{e}_i$  is any product of the form  $\mathbf{e}_{i_1}\mathbf{e}_{i_2}\dots\mathbf{e}_{i_p}$  where  $(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_p)$  is a permutation of a subset of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . For instance  $\mathbf{e}_2\mathbf{e}_1\mathbf{e}_5$  is a 3-vector in  $\mathbb{R}^5$ .  $\gamma_1 \cdot \gamma_2$  gives rise to  $p$ -vectors,  $(p-1)$ -vectors,.. etc.

Determine an expression for obtaining only the  $p$ -vectors which occur in the product.