

8/4/22

Note Title

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Q. Does \exists a smallest subspace containing a given set S ?

• Intersection of two subspaces of a vector space is again a subspace.

Proof. Let W_1 & W_2 be any two subspaces of V .

claim. $W_1 \cap W_2$ is a subspace.

Let $u, v \in W_1 \cap W_2$ & $\alpha \in \mathbb{F}$.

$$u \in W_1 \cap W_2 \Rightarrow u \in W_1 \text{ \& } u \in W_2$$

$$\text{likewise } v \in W_1 \cap W_2 \Rightarrow v \in W_1 \text{ \& } v \in W_2.$$

$$\text{Now, } u, v \in W_1 \text{ \& } \alpha \in \mathbb{F} \Rightarrow \alpha u + v \in W_1 \quad (\because W_1 \text{ is a subspace})$$

$$\text{Also, } u, v \in W_2 \text{ \& } \alpha \in \mathbb{F} \Rightarrow \alpha u + v \in W_2 \quad (\because W_2 \text{ is a subspace})$$

Therefore, $\alpha u + v \in W_1 \cap W_2$
i.e., $W_1 \cap W_2$ is a subspace.

• Arbitrary intersection of subspaces is again a subspace.

Proof. Let $\{W_\alpha : \alpha \in \Lambda\}$ be a collection of subspaces of a vector space V .

claim. $\bigcap_{\alpha \in \Lambda} W_\alpha$ is a subspace.

Let $u, v \in \bigcap_{\alpha \in \Lambda} W_\alpha$ & $\beta \in \mathbb{F}$.

\wedge - wedge
- lambda

$$u \in \bigcap_{\alpha \in \Lambda} W_\alpha \Rightarrow u \in W_\alpha \quad \forall \alpha \in \Lambda$$

$$\text{likewise } v \in \bigcap_{\alpha \in \Lambda} W_\alpha \Rightarrow v \in W_\alpha \quad \forall \alpha \in \Lambda$$

$$\text{For any } \alpha \in \Lambda, \quad u, v \in W_\alpha \quad \& \quad \beta \in \mathbb{F} \Rightarrow \beta u + v \in W_\alpha \quad (\because W_\alpha \text{ is a subspace})$$

Since α is arbitrary, $\beta u + v \in W_\alpha \quad \forall \alpha \in \Lambda$
i.e., $\beta u + v \in \bigcap_{\alpha \in \Lambda} W_\alpha$

$\Rightarrow \bigcap_{\alpha \in \Lambda} W_\alpha$ is a subspace.

• Let S be any nonempty subset of a vector space V . Let

$$W(S) = \bigcap \{W \subseteq V : W \text{ is a subspace of } V \text{ containing } S\}$$

- $W(\mathcal{S})$ is a subspace containing \mathcal{S} .
- $W(\mathcal{S})$ is the smallest among all the subspaces containing \mathcal{S} .
 Let W' be any subspace of V containing \mathcal{S} .
 $\Rightarrow W'$ is one among the collection of all subspaces containing \mathcal{S} .
 $\Rightarrow \bigcap_{W \in \mathcal{C}} W \subseteq W'$
 $\quad \quad \quad \begin{array}{l} W \text{ is a subspace} \\ \text{containing } \mathcal{S} \end{array}$
 i.e., $W(\mathcal{S}) \subseteq W'$
 $\Rightarrow W(\mathcal{S})$ is the smallest among all subspaces containing \mathcal{S} .

Linear combination.

$$\begin{array}{ll} v_1, v_2 & \alpha v_1 + \beta v_2 \\ v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n & \alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n \end{array}$$

Let \mathcal{S} be a nonempty subset of V .

$$\text{span}(\mathcal{S}) = \{ \alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n : \alpha_i \in \mathbb{F}, v_i \in \mathcal{S} \forall 1 \leq i \leq n \}$$

Example

Let $V = \mathbb{F}[x]$

$$\mathcal{S} = \{1, x, x^2, x^3, \dots\} \subseteq \mathbb{F}[x]$$

$$\text{span}(\mathcal{S}) = \mathbb{F}[x].$$

Ex. Show that $\text{Span}(\mathcal{S})$ is a subspace of V containing \mathcal{S} .