

§ 2 Vectors

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Vector

DEF | n-Vector

Let \mathbb{F} be a field, we call an element

$$x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{F} \times \mathbb{F} \times \mathbb{F} \dots \times \mathbb{F} = \mathbb{F}^n$$

an n-vector

You can think of a vector $\vec{v} \in \mathbb{F}^n$ as a function

$$1 \longrightarrow x_1$$

$$2 \longrightarrow x_2$$

$$n \longrightarrow x_n$$

OPERATIONS

1. Vector Addition: $\vec{v}, \vec{w} \in \mathbb{F}^n$

$$\vec{v} + \vec{w} = [v_1 + w_1 + v_2 + w_2 + \dots v_n + w_n] = \vec{u}$$

2. Scalar-vector multiplication: Let $\alpha \in \mathbb{F}$

$$\alpha \vec{v} = [\alpha v_1, \alpha v_2, \dots \alpha v_n]$$

Example 1. Let $\vec{u} = [1, 2, 3]$, $\vec{v} = [2, 4, 6]$, $\alpha = \frac{1}{2}$

Find $\vec{u} + \alpha \vec{v} = [1, 2, 3] + \frac{1}{2}[2, 4, 6]$

$= [1, 2, 3] + [1, 2, 3] = [2, 4, 6]$ **Example 2.**

- (a) How can we span the line segment $(0,0)$ to $(1,1)$ using $\vec{v} = [1,1]$? NOTE: Span means generate every point.

Answer. $\frac{1}{2}[1, 1] = [\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}] \longrightarrow$ generates $(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$

$0.01[1, 1] = [0.01, 0.01] \longrightarrow$ generates $(0.01, 0.01)$

$\alpha[1, 1] \mid 0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$

- (b) How can we span the line segment from $(0.5, 1)$ to $(3.5, 3)$?

Answer. The slope of the line segment is going to be given by

$$m = \frac{3 - 1}{3.5 - 0.5} = \frac{2}{3}$$

This has the same slope as the line segment from $(0,0)$ to $(3,2)$. Therefore, the vector $[3,2]$ runs parallel to the given line segment. This implies

$$\alpha[3, 2] \mid 0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$$

will generate the line segment $(0, 0)$ to $(3, 2)$.

Hence, $\alpha[3, 2] + [0.5, 1]$ will generate the line segment $(0.5, 1)$ to $(3.5, 3)$ for $0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$

$$[3\alpha, 2\alpha] + [0.5, 1] = [3\alpha + 0.5, 2\alpha + 1]$$

$$[3\alpha + 0.5, 2\alpha + 1] \quad 0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$$

DEF | Convex Combination

Let $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{F}$ and $\vec{u}, \vec{w} \in \mathbb{F}^n$

The vector $\vec{u} \in \mathbb{F}^n$

$$\vec{u} = \alpha \vec{u} + \beta \vec{w}$$

is called a convex combination if $\alpha + \beta = 1$

Example 3. Express the line segment between $(0.5, 1)$ and $(3.5, 3)$ as a convex combination of $\vec{v} = [0.5, 1]$ and $\vec{w} = [3.5, 3]$

From Ex2(b), $\alpha[3, 2] \rightarrow [0.5, 1]$ spans the segment.

$$\alpha([3.5, 3] - [0.5, 1]) + [0.5, 1]$$

$$\alpha[3.5, 3] - \alpha[0.5, 1] + [0.5, 1]$$

$$\alpha[3.5, 3] + (1 - \alpha)[0.5, 1]$$

$$\alpha[3.5, 3] + \beta[0.5, 1]$$

where $\beta = 1 - \alpha$ and $\alpha + \beta = 1$

DEF | Dot Product

Let $\vec{v}, \vec{w} \in \mathbb{F}^n$

$$\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = v_1w_1 + v_2w_2 + \dots v_nw_n$$

Example 4. Find $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{w}$

$$\vec{u} = [2, 3, 4], \vec{w} = [-1, 1]$$

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{w} = 2 - 2 + 0 + 4 = 2$$

Example 5. Express the equation

$$a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + \dots a_nx_n = c$$

as a dot product of two vectors. Let

$$\vec{a} = [a_1, a_2, \dots a_n]$$

$$\vec{x} = [x_1, x_2, \dots x_n]$$

$$\vec{a} \cdot \vec{x} = c$$

DEF | Vector Space

A set of V vectors is called vector space if it satisfies

1. that it contains a zero vector $\vec{0} \in V$

- a) $\forall \vec{u} \in V \quad \vec{u} + \vec{0} = \vec{u}$

- b) $\vec{u} - \vec{u} = \vec{0}$

2. For any $\alpha \in \mathbb{F}$ and for any $\vec{v} \in V$

$$\alpha \vec{v} \in V$$

closed under scalar multiplication

3. $\forall \vec{u}, \vec{v} \in V$ closed under vector addition

Example 5. Is \mathbb{R}^5 a vector space?

$$\mathbb{R}^5 = [x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5] | x_i \in \mathbb{R}$$

1. Pick $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^5$ $\vec{x} + \vec{0} = \vec{x} = \vec{0} + \vec{x}$ means $\vec{0} = [0, 0, 0, 0, 0] \in \mathbb{R}^5$

2. Pick some $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ and some $\vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^5$

$$\alpha \vec{v} = [\alpha v_1, \dots, \alpha v_5] \in \mathbb{R}^5$$

because

3. Pick $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^5$

$$\vec{u} + \vec{v} = [u_1 + v_1, \dots, u_5 + v_5] \in \mathbb{R}^5$$

because ... and is closed under addition

DEF | Subspace

A subset W of a vector space V is a subspace of V if it is a vector space over the field \mathbb{F} . i.e. W is a subspace of V

1. $W \subseteq V$

2. W is a vector space

Example 1. Show that $W = \{a[2, 1] | a \in \mathbb{R}\}$

1. Pick a vector $\vec{w} \in W$, then $\vec{w} = [2\alpha, \alpha]$ for some $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$. Since $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$, $2\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ and $[2\alpha, \alpha] \in \mathbb{R}^2$
i.e. $\forall \vec{w} (\vec{w} \in W \Rightarrow \vec{w} \in \mathbb{R}^2)$

2. NTS: W is a vector space

$\vec{0} \in W$ because $\alpha = 0 \in \mathbb{R}$ therefore $0 \cdot [2, 1] \in W$

$\vec{0} + \vec{w} = [0, 0] + [2\alpha, \alpha] = [0 + 2\alpha, 0 + \alpha] = [2\alpha, \alpha]$

$\vec{w} + -(\vec{w}) = [2\alpha, \alpha] + [-2\alpha, -\alpha] = [0, 0] = \vec{0}$

For any $\vec{u}, \vec{w} \in W$, $\vec{u} = [2\alpha, \alpha]$ $\vec{w} = [2\beta, \beta]$

$\vec{u} + \vec{w} = [2\alpha + 2\beta, \alpha + \beta] = [2(\alpha + \beta), \alpha + \beta] = (\alpha + \beta)[2, 1] \in W$ because $\alpha + \beta \in \mathbb{R}$

For some real number σ , $\sigma w = \sigma\alpha[2, 1] \in W$ because $\sigma\alpha \in \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow W$ is a vector space
 $\Rightarrow W$ is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^2 .

DEF | Linear Combination

Let V be a vector space and

$$U = \vec{u}_1, \vec{u}_2, \dots, \vec{u}_k \in V$$

A vector $\vec{v} \in V$ is called a linear combination of vectors in U if

$$\vec{v} = \alpha_1 \vec{u}_1 + \alpha_2 \vec{u}_2 + \dots + \alpha_x \vec{u}_x$$

where $\alpha_i \in \mathbb{F}$

Example 2. Find all linear combinations of $S = [1, 0], [0, 1] \in \mathbb{R}^2$

$\vec{v} = \alpha_1[1, 0] + \alpha_2[0, 1]$ $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ is a linear combination.

$$\vec{v} = [\alpha_1, 0] + [0, \alpha_2] = [\alpha_1, \alpha_2]$$

All linear combinations are of this form. Hence all linear comb. = $[\alpha_1, \alpha_2] | \alpha_1, \alpha_2 \in \mathbb{R} = \mathbb{R}^2$

DEF | Span

Let $U = \vec{u}_1, \vec{u}_2, \dots, \vec{u}_k$. The set of all linear combinations of vectors in U is called the span of U .

$$\text{Span}(U) = \sum \alpha_i u_i | \alpha_i \in \mathbb{F}$$

Example 3. What is the span of $T = [1, 0, 0], [0, 1, 0]$ over \mathbb{R} ?

$$\text{Span}(T) = \alpha[1, 0, 0] + \beta[0, 1, 0] | \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$= [\alpha, 0, 0] + [0, \beta, 0] | \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R} = [\alpha, \beta, 0] | \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R} = \text{vectors on xy-plane}$$

THM | 1

Let V be a vector space and $S \leq V$. Then

(i) $\text{Span}(S)$ is a subspace of V

(ii) If T is a subspace of V and $S \leq T$, then $\text{Span}(S) \leq T$

Proof

NTS: $\text{Span}(S) \leq V$, $\text{Span}(S)$ is a vector space

1. Pick $\vec{w} \in \text{Span}(S)$, then \vec{w} must have the form $\vec{w} = \alpha_1 \vec{u}_1 + \alpha_2 \vec{u}_2 + \dots + \alpha_k \vec{u}_k$ assuming $S = \{\vec{u}_1, \dots, \vec{u}_v\}$

Since V is a vector space, it is closed under scalar multiplication and vector addition. Hence, $\alpha_i u_i \in V$ (closed under scalar mult.) and $\sum \alpha_i u_i \in V$ (closed under vector addition), $\Rightarrow \vec{w} \in V$. Hence $\forall \vec{w} (\vec{w} \in \text{Span}(S) \Rightarrow \vec{w} \in V) \Rightarrow \text{Span}(S) \subseteq V$

2. To show $\text{Span}(S)$ is a vector space:

$\vec{0} \in \text{Span}(S)$ because $\alpha = 0 \in \mathbb{R}$

1. $\vec{0} + \vec{w} = (0 \cdot \vec{u}_1 + \dots + 0 \cdot \vec{u}_k) = \sum \alpha_i u_i = \vec{w}$

2.

$$\vec{w} = \sum \alpha_i \vec{u}_i$$

$$\vec{r} = \sum \beta_i \vec{u}_i$$

$$\vec{w}, \vec{r} \in \text{Span}(S)$$

$\rightarrow \dots$

$$\lambda \in \mathbb{R} \quad \lambda \vec{w} = \lambda \alpha_1 \vec{u}_1 + \dots + \lambda \alpha_x \vec{u}_x \in \text{Span}(S) \text{ because } \lambda \alpha_i \in \mathbb{F}$$

$\Rightarrow \text{Span}(S)$ is a subspace $\Rightarrow \text{Span}(S)$ is a subspace of V

DEF || Generates A subset S of vector space V generates (or spans) V if $\text{span}(S) = V$

Example 4. Find subset of \mathbb{R}^2 that generates \mathbb{R}^2

$$S = [1, 1], [-1, 1]$$

$\text{Span}(S) = \alpha[1, 1] + \beta[-1, 1] | \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow \text{span} \mathbb{R}^2?$ **Example 5.** Does $S = [1, 2], [2, 4]$ span \mathbb{R}^2 ?

(Graphed) No, because $[2, 4] = 2[1, 2]$. Hence, any linear combination would result in the following: $\alpha[1, 2] + \beta[2, 4] = \alpha[1, 2] + 2\beta[1, 2] = (\alpha + 2\beta)[1, 2]$ — the scaling of $[1, 2]$; only generates a line.