Module V: Vector Spaces

What is a vector space?

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Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

At the end of this module, students will be able to...

V1. Vector spaces. ... explain why a given set with defined addition and scalar multiplication does satisfy a given vector space property, but nonetheless isn't a vector space.

V2. Linear combinations. ... determine if a Euclidean vector can be written as a linear combination of a given set of Euclidean vectors.

V3. Spanning sets. ... determine if a set of Euclidean vectors spans $\mathbb{R}^n$.

V4. Subspaces. ... determine if a subset of $\mathbb{R}^n$ is a subspace or not.

V5. Linear independence. ... determine if a set of Euclidean vectors is linearly dependent or independent.

V6. Basis verification. ... determine if a set of Euclidean vectors is a basis of $\mathbb{R}^n$.

V7. Basis computation. ... compute a basis for the subspace spanned by a given set of Euclidean vectors.

V8. Dimension. ... compute the dimension of a subspace of $\mathbb{R}^n$.

V9. Abstract vector spaces. ... compute a basis for the subspace spanned by a given set of polynomials or matrices.

V10. Basis of solution space. ... find a basis for the solution set of a homogeneous system of equations.

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Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Readiness Assurance Outcomes

Before beginning this module, each student should be able to...

- Add Euclidean vectors and multiply Euclidean vectors by scalars.

- Add complex numbers and multiply complex numbers by scalars.

- Add polynomials and multiply polynomials by scalars.

- Perform basic manipulations of augmented matrices and linear systems **E1,E2,E3**.

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Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

The following resources will help you prepare for this module.

- Adding and subtracting Euclidean vectors (Khan Acaemdy):
  http://bit.ly/2y8AOwa
- Linear combinations of Euclidean vectors (Khan Academy):
  http://bit.ly/2nK3wne
- Adding and subtracting complex numbers (Khan Academy):
  http://bit.ly/1PE3ZMQ
- Adding and subtracting polynomials (Khan Academy):
  http://bit.ly/2d5SLGZ

Module V Section 0

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Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.0.1 *(∼20 min)*

Consider each of the following properties of the real numbers $\mathbb{R}^1$. Label each property as **valid** if the property also holds for two-dimensional Euclidean vectors $\vec{\mathbf{u}}, \vec{\mathbf{v}}, \vec{\mathbf{w}} \in \mathbb{R}^2$ and scalars $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$, and **invalid** if it does not.

1. $\vec{\mathbf{u}} + (\vec{\mathbf{v}} + \vec{\mathbf{w}}) = (\vec{\mathbf{u}} + \vec{\mathbf{v}}) + \vec{\mathbf{w}}$.

2. $\vec{\mathbf{u}} + \vec{\mathbf{v}} = \vec{\mathbf{v}} + \vec{\mathbf{u}}$.

3. There exists some $\vec{\mathbf{z}}$ where $\vec{\mathbf{v}} + \vec{\mathbf{z}} = \vec{\mathbf{v}}$.

4. There exists some $-\vec{\mathbf{v}}$ where $\vec{\mathbf{v}} + (-\vec{\mathbf{v}}) = \vec{\mathbf{z}}$.

5. If $\vec{\mathbf{u}} \neq \vec{\mathbf{v}}$, then $\frac{1}{2}(\vec{\mathbf{u}} + \vec{\mathbf{v}})$ is the only vector equally distant from both $\vec{\mathbf{u}}$ and $\vec{\mathbf{v}}$

6. $a(b\vec{\mathbf{v}}) = (ab)\vec{\mathbf{v}}$.

7. $1\vec{\mathbf{v}} = \vec{\mathbf{v}}$.

8. If $\vec{\mathbf{u}} \neq \vec{\mathbf{0}}$, then there exists some scalar c such that $c\vec{\mathbf{u}} = \vec{\mathbf{v}}$.

9. $a(\vec{\mathbf{u}} + \vec{\mathbf{v}}) = a\vec{\mathbf{u}} + a\vec{\mathbf{v}}$.

10. $(a + b)\vec{\mathbf{v}} = a\vec{\mathbf{v}} + b\vec{\mathbf{v}}$.

Linear Algebra

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Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Definition V.0.2

A **vector space** V is any collection of mathematical objects with associated addition $\oplus$ and scalar multiplication $\odot$ operations that satisfy the following properties. Let $\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w}$ belong to V, and let a, b be scalar numbers.

- $\vec{u} \oplus (\vec{v} \oplus \vec{w}) = (\vec{u} \oplus \vec{v}) \oplus \vec{w}$.
- $\vec{u} \oplus \vec{v} = \vec{v} \oplus \vec{u}$.
- There exists some $\vec{z}$ where $\vec{v} \oplus \vec{z} = \vec{v}$.
- There exists some $-\vec{v}$ where $\vec{v} \oplus (-\vec{v}) = \vec{z}$.

- $a \odot (b \odot \vec{v}) = (ab) \odot \vec{v}$.
- $1 \odot \vec{v} = \vec{v}$.
- $a \odot (\vec{u} \oplus \vec{v}) = a \odot \vec{u} \oplus a \odot \vec{v}$.
- $(a + b) \odot \vec{v} = a\vec{v} \oplus b\vec{v}$.

Every **Euclidean vector space**

$$\mathbb{R}^n = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} \middle| \ x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

satisfies all eight requirements for the usual definitions of addition and scalar multiplication, but we will also study other types of vector spaces.

Module V Section 1

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Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Remark V.1.1

Previously, we defined a **vector space** V to be any collection of mathematical objects with associated addition and scalar multiplication operations that satisfy the following eight properties for all $\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w}$ in V, and all scalars (i.e. real numbers) a, b.

- $\vec{u} \oplus (\vec{v} \oplus \vec{w}) = (\vec{u} \oplus \vec{v}) \oplus \vec{w}$.
- $\vec{u} \oplus \vec{v} = \vec{v} \oplus \vec{u}$.
- There exists some $\vec{z}$ where $\vec{v} \oplus \vec{z} = \vec{v}$.
- There exists some $-\vec{v}$ where $\vec{v} \oplus (-\vec{v}) = \vec{z}$.

- $a \odot (b \odot \vec{v}) = (ab) \odot \vec{v}$.

- $1 \odot \vec{v} = \vec{v}$.

- $a \odot (\vec{u} \oplus \vec{v}) = a \odot \vec{u} \oplus a \odot \vec{v}$.

- $(a + b) \odot \vec{v} = a\vec{v} \oplus b\vec{v}$.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Remark V.1.2

Every Euclidean space $\mathbb{R}^n$ is a vector space, but there are other examples of vector spaces as well.

For example, consider the set $\mathbb{C}$ of complex numbers with the usual defintions of addition and scalar multiplication, and let $\vec{\mathbf{u}} = a + b\mathbf{i}$, $\vec{\mathbf{v}} = c + d\mathbf{i}$, and $\vec{\mathbf{w}} = e + f\mathbf{i}$. Then

$$
\begin{aligned}
\vec{\mathbf{u}} + (\vec{\mathbf{v}} + \vec{\mathbf{w}}) &= (a + b\mathbf{i}) + ((c + d\mathbf{i}) + (e + f\mathbf{i})) \\
&= a + b + c + d\mathbf{i} + e\mathbf{i} + f\mathbf{i} \\
&= ((a + b\mathbf{i}) + (c + d\mathbf{i})) + (e + f\mathbf{i}) \\
&= (\vec{\mathbf{u}} + \vec{\mathbf{v}}) + \vec{\mathbf{w}}
\end{aligned}
$$

All eight properties can be verified in this way.

Linear Algebra

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Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Remark V.1.3

The following sets are just a few examples of vector spaces, with the usual/natural operations for addition and scalar multiplication.

- $\mathbb{R}^n$: Euclidean vectors with n components.

- $\mathbb{C}$: Complex numbers.

- $M_{m,n}$: Matrices of real numbers with m rows and n columns.

- $\mathcal{P}^n$: Polynomials of degree n or less.

- $\mathcal{P}$: Polynomials of any degree.

- $C(\mathbb{R})$: Real-valued continuous functions.

Linear Algebra

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Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.1.4 *($\sim$20 min)*

Consider the set $V = \{(x, y) \mid y = e^x\}$ with operations defined by

$$(x, y) \oplus (z, w) = (x + z, yw) \qquad c \odot (x, y) = (cx, y^c)$$

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.1.4 *($\sim$20 min)*

Consider the set $V = \{(x, y) \,|\, y = e^x\}$ with operations defined by

$$(x, y) \oplus (z, w) = (x + z, yw) \qquad c \odot (x, y) = (cx, y^c)$$

Part 1: Show that V satisfies the distribution property

$$(a + b) \odot \vec{\mathbf{v}} = (a \odot \vec{\mathbf{v}}) \oplus (b \odot \vec{\mathbf{v}})$$

by substituting $\vec{\mathbf{v}} = (x, y)$ and showing both sides simplify to the same expression.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.1.4 *(∼20 min)*

Consider the set $V = \{(x, y) \mid y = e^x\}$ with operations defined by

$$(x, y) \oplus (z, w) = (x + z, yw) \qquad c \odot (x, y) = (cx, y^c)$$

Part 1: Show that V satisfies the distribution property

$$(a + b) \odot \vec{\mathbf{v}} = (a \odot \vec{\mathbf{v}}) \oplus (b \odot \vec{\mathbf{v}})$$

by substituting $\vec{\mathbf{v}} = (x, y)$ and showing both sides simplify to the same expression.

Part 2: Show that V contains an additive identity element satisfying

$$(x, y) \oplus \vec{\mathbf{z}} = (x, y)$$

for all $(x, y) \in V$ by choosing appropriate values for $\vec{\mathbf{z}} = (\,?\,,\,?\,)$.

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Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Remark V.1.5

It turns out $V = \{(x, y) \mid y = e^x\}$ with operations defined by

$$(x, y) \oplus (z, w) = (x + z, yw) \qquad c \odot (x, y) = (cx, y^c)$$

satisifes all eight properties.

- $\vec{\mathbf{u}} \oplus (\vec{\mathbf{v}} \oplus \vec{\mathbf{w}}) = (\vec{\mathbf{u}} \oplus \vec{\mathbf{v}}) \oplus \vec{\mathbf{w}}$.
- $\vec{\mathbf{u}} \oplus \vec{\mathbf{v}} = \vec{\mathbf{v}} \oplus \vec{\mathbf{u}}$.
- There exists some $\vec{\mathbf{z}}$ where $\vec{\mathbf{v}} \oplus \vec{\mathbf{z}} = \vec{\mathbf{v}}$.
- There exists some $-\vec{\mathbf{v}}$ where $\vec{\mathbf{v}} \oplus (-\vec{\mathbf{v}}) = \vec{\mathbf{z}}$.

- $a \odot (b \odot \vec{\mathbf{v}}) = (ab) \odot \vec{\mathbf{v}}$.

- $1 \odot \vec{\mathbf{v}} = \vec{\mathbf{v}}$.

- $a \odot (\vec{\mathbf{u}} \oplus \vec{\mathbf{v}}) = a \odot \vec{\mathbf{u}} \oplus a \odot \vec{\mathbf{v}}$.

- $(a + b) \odot \vec{\mathbf{v}} = a\vec{\mathbf{v}} \oplus b\vec{\mathbf{v}}$.

Thus, V is a vector space.

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Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.1.6 $(\sim 15\ min)$

Let $V = \{(x, y) \mid x, y \in \mathbb{R}\}$ have operations defined by

$$(x, y) \oplus (z, w) = (x + y + z + w, x^2 + z^2) \qquad c \odot (x, y) = (x^c, y + c - 1).$$

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.1.6 $(\sim 15 \text{ min})$

Let $V = \{(x, y) \mid x, y \in \mathbb{R}\}$ have operations defined by

$$(x, y) \oplus (z, w) = (x + y + z + w, x^2 + z^2) \qquad c \odot (x, y) = (x^c, y + c - 1).$$

Part 1: Show that 1 an the scalar multiplication identity satisfying

$$1 \odot (x, y) = (x, y)$$

by simplifying $1 \odot (x, y)$ to (x, y).

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.1.6 *(∼15 min)*
Let $V = \{(x, y) \mid x, y \in \mathbb{R}\}$ have operations defined by

$$(x, y) \oplus (z, w) = (x + y + z + w, x^2 + z^2) \qquad c \odot (x, y) = (x^c, y + c - 1).$$

Part 1: Show that 1 an the scalar multiplication identity satisfying

$$1 \odot (x, y) = (x, y)$$

by simplifying $1 \odot (x, y)$ to (x, y).

Part 2: Show that there cannot exist an addition identity property satisfying

$$\vec{\mathbf{v}} \oplus \vec{\mathbf{z}} = \vec{\mathbf{v}}$$

for all vectors $\vec{\mathbf{v}} \in V$ by showing that $(0, -1) \oplus \vec{\mathbf{z}} \neq (0, -1)$ no matter how
$\vec{\mathbf{z}} = (z_1, z_2)$ is chosen.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.1.6 *(∼15 min)*

Let $V = \{(x, y) \,|\, x, y \in \mathbb{R}\}$ have operations defined by

$$(x, y) \oplus (z, w) = (x + y + z + w, x^2 + z^2) \qquad c \odot (x, y) = (x^c, y + c - 1).$$

Part 1: Show that 1 an the scalar multiplication identity satisfying

$$1 \odot (x, y) = (x, y)$$

by simplifying $1 \odot (x, y)$ to (x, y).

Part 2: Show that there cannot exist an addition identity property satisfying

$$\vec{\mathbf{v}} \oplus \vec{\mathbf{z}} = \vec{\mathbf{v}}$$

for all vectors $\vec{\mathbf{v}} \in V$ by showing that $(0, -1) \oplus \vec{\mathbf{z}} \neq (0, -1)$ no matter how
$\vec{\mathbf{z}} = (z_1, z_2)$ is chosen.

Part 3: Is V a vector space?

Linear Algebra

Clontz & Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Definition V.1.7
A **linear combination** of a set of vectors $\{\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2, \ldots, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_m\}$ is given by $c_1\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 + c_2\vec{\mathbf{v}}_2 + \cdots + c_m\vec{\mathbf{v}}_m$ for any choice of scalar multiples $c_1, c_2, \ldots, c_m$.

For example, we can say $\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$ is a linear combination of the vectors $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

since

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} = 2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + 1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
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Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Definition V.1.8

The **span** of a set of vectors is the collection of all linear combinations of that set:

$$\text{span}\{\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2, \ldots, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_m\} = \{c_1\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 + c_2\vec{\mathbf{v}}_2 + \cdots + c_m\vec{\mathbf{v}}_m \mid c_i \in \mathbb{R}\}.$$

For example:

$$\text{span}\left\{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}\right\} = \left\{a\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + b\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \,\middle|\, a, b \in \mathbb{R}\right\}$$

Linear Algebra

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Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.1.9 *(∼10 min)*

Consider span $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.1.9 *(∼10 min)*

Consider span $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$.

Part 1: Sketch

$$1\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \qquad 3\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}, \qquad 0\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \qquad \text{and } -2\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}$$

in the *xy* plane.

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Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.1.9 *(∼10 min)*

Consider span $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$.

Part 1: Sketch

$1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$, $3 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$, $0 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$,   and $-2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}$

in the *xy* plane.

Part 2: Sketch a representation of all the vectors belonging to

span $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\} = \left\{ a \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \;\middle|\; a \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$ in the *xy* plane.

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Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.1.10 *(∼10 min)*

Consider span $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$.

Linear Algebra

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Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.1.10 *(∼10 min)*

Consider span $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$.

Part 1: Sketch the following linear combinations in the *xy* plane.

$$1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + 0 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \qquad 0 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + 1 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \qquad 1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + 1 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$-2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + 1 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \qquad -1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + -2 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Linear Algebra

Clontz & Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.1.10 *(∼10 min)*

Consider span $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$.

Part 1: Sketch the following linear combinations in the *xy* plane.

$$1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + 0 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \qquad 0 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + 1 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \qquad 1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + 1 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$-2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + 1 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \qquad -1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + -2 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Part 2: Sketch a representation of all the vectors belonging to span $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ in the *xy* plane.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.1.11 *(∼5 min)*

Sketch a representation of all the vectors belonging to span $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ in the

xy plane.

Module V Section 2

Linear Algebra

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Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Remark V.2.1

Recall these definitions from last class:

- A **linear combination** of vectors is given by adding scalar multiples of those vectors, such as:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} = 2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + 1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- The **span** of a set of vectors is the collection of all linear combinations of that set, such as:

$$\text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} = \left\{ a \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + b \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \ \middle| \ a, b \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.2.2 *(∼15 min)*

The vector $\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -6 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ belongs to span $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ exactly when there exists a

solution to the vector equation $x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -6 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

Linear Algebra

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Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.2.2 *(∼15 min)*

The vector $\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -6 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ belongs to span $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ exactly when there exists a

solution to the vector equation $x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -6 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

Part 1: Reinterpret this vector equation as a system of linear equations.

Linear Algebra

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Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.2.2 *(∼15 min)*

The vector $\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -6 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ belongs to span $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ exactly when there exists a

solution to the vector equation $x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -6 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

Part 1: Reinterpret this vector equation as a system of linear equations.

Part 2: Find its solution set, using technology to find RREF of its corresponding augmented matrix.

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Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.2.2 *(∼15 min)*

The vector $\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -6 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ belongs to span $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ exactly when there exists a

solution to the vector equation $x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -6 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

Part 1: Reinterpret this vector equation as a system of linear equations.

Part 2: Find its solution set, using technology to find RREF of its corresponding augmented matrix.

Part 3: Given this solution set, does $\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -6 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ belong to span $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$?

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Fact V.2.3
A vector $\vec{\mathbf{b}}$ belongs to $\text{span}\{\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \ldots, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_n\}$ if and only if the linear system
corresponding to $[\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 \ldots \vec{\mathbf{v}}_n \,|\, \vec{\mathbf{b}}]$ is consistent.

Put another way, $\vec{\mathbf{b}}$ belongs to $\text{span}\{\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \ldots, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_n\}$ exactly when $\text{RREF}[\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 \ldots \vec{\mathbf{v}}_n \,|\, \vec{\mathbf{b}}]$
doesn't have a row $[0 \cdots 0 \,|\, 1]$ representing the contradiction $0 = 1$.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.2.4 *(~10 min)*

Determine if $\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -2 \\ 1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$ belongs to span $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -3 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ by row-reducing an

appropriate matrix.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.2.5 *(∼5 min)*

Determine if $\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -9 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ belongs to span $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ by row-reducing an appropriate matrix.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.2.6 $(\sim 10$ min)
Does the third-degree polynomial $3y^3 - 2y^2 + y + 5$ in $\mathcal{P}^3$ belong to
span$\{y^3 - 3y + 2, -y^3 - 3y^2 + 2y + 2\}$?

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.2.6 *(∼10 min)*
Does the third-degree polynomial $3y^3 - 2y^2 + y + 5$ in $\mathcal{P}^3$ belong to
$\mathrm{span}\{y^3 - 3y + 2, -y^3 - 3y^2 + 2y + 2\}$?
Part 1: Reinterpret this question as an equivalent exercise involving Euclidean
vectors in $\mathbb{R}^4$. (Hint: What four numbers must you know to write a $\mathcal{P}^3$
polynomial?)

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.2.6 *(∼10 min)*

Does the third-degree polynomial $3y^3 - 2y^2 + y + 5$ in $\mathcal{P}^3$ belong to
$\text{span}\{y^3 - 3y + 2, -y^3 - 3y^2 + 2y + 2\}$?

Part 1: Reinterpret this question as an equivalent exercise involving Euclidean
vectors in $\mathbb{R}^4$. (Hint: What four numbers must you know to write a $\mathcal{P}^3$
polynomial?)

Part 2: Solve this equivalent exercise, and use its solution to answer the original
question.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.2.7 (∼5 min)

Does the matrix $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & -2 \\ 1 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$ belong to span $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -3 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -3 \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$?

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.2.8 *(∼5 min)*
Does the complex number $2i$ belong to span$\{-3+i, 6-2i\}$?

Module V Section 3

Linear Algebra

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Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.3.1 *(∼5 min)*

How many vectors are required to span $\mathbb{R}^2$? Sketch a drawing in the *xy* plane to support your answer.

(a) 1

(b) 2

(c) 3

(d) 4

(e) Infinitely Many

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.3.2 (∼5 min)

How many vectors are required to span $\mathbb{R}^3$?

(a) 1

(b) 2

(c) 3

(d) 4

(e) Infinitely Many

Linear Algebra
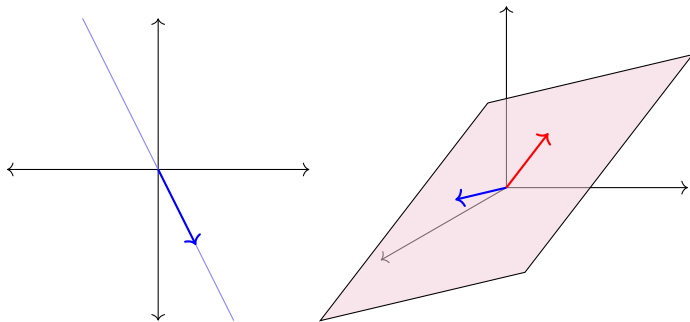
Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Fact V.3.3

At least n vectors are required to span $\mathbb{R}^n$.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.3.4 *(∼15 min)*

Choose a vector $\begin{bmatrix} ? \\ ? \\ ? \end{bmatrix}$ in $\mathbb{R}^3$ that is not in span $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ by using CoCalc

to verify that RREF $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & | & ? \\ -1 & 0 & | & ? \\ 0 & 1 & | & ? \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & | & 1 \end{bmatrix}$. (Why does this work?)

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Fact V.3.5

The set $\{\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \ldots, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_m\}$ fails to span all of $\mathbb{R}^n$ exactly when $\text{RREF}[\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 \ldots \vec{\mathbf{v}}_m]$ has a non-pivot row of zeros.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & -2 & a \\ -1 & 0 & b \\ 0 & 1 & c \end{array}\right] \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array}\right] \text{ for some choice of vector } \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix}$$

Linear Algebra

Clontz & Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.3.6 *(∼5 min)*

Consider the set of vectors $S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -4 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \\ 5 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 13 \\ 7 \\ 16 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$. Does

$\mathbb{R}^4 = \text{span } S$?

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.3.7 (∼10 min)

Consider the set of third-degree polynomials

$$S = \{2x^3 + 3x^2 - 1, 2x^3 + 3, 3x^3 + 13x^2 + 7x + 16,$$
$$- x^3 + 10x^2 + 7x + 14, 4x^3 + 3x^2 + 2\}.$$

Does $\mathcal{P}^3 = \text{span } S$? (Hint: first rewrite the question so it is about Euclidean vectors.)

Linear Algebra

Clontz & Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.3.8 *(∼5 min)*
Consider the set of matrices

$$S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

Does $M_{2,2} = \text{span } S$?

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.3.9 (~5 min)
Let $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3 \in \mathbb{R}^7$ be three vectors, and suppose $\vec{w}$ is another vector with $\vec{w} \in \text{span}\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3\}$. What can you conclude about $\text{span}\{\vec{w}, \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3\}$?

(a) $\text{span}\{\vec{w}, \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3\}$ is larger than $\text{span}\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3\}$.

(b) $\text{span}\{\vec{w}, \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3\} = \text{span}\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3\}$.

(c) $\text{span}\{\vec{w}, \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3\}$ is smaller than $\text{span}\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3\}$.

Module V Section 4

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
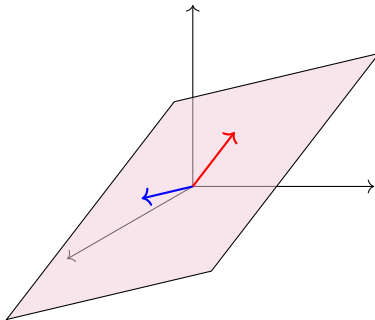Section V.6
Section V.7

Definition V.4.1

A subset of a vector space is called a **subspace** if it is a vector space on its own.

For example, the span of these two vectors forms a planar subspace inside of the larger vector space $\mathbb{R}^3$.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Fact V.4.2

Any nonempty sub**set** S of a vector space V satisfies the eight vector space properties automatically, since it is a collection of known vectors.

However, to verify that it's a sub**space**, we need to check that addition and multiplication still make sense using only vectors from S. So we need to check two things:

- The set is **closed under addition**: for any $\vec{x}, \vec{y} \in S$, the sum $\vec{x} + \vec{y}$ is also in S.
- The set is **closed under scalar multiplication**: for any $\vec{x} \in S$ and scalar $c \in \mathbb{R}$, the product $c\vec{x}$ is also in S.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.4.3 *(∼15 min)*

Let $S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \middle| \; x + 2y + z = 0 \right\}$.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.4.3 (~15 min)

Let $S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \,\middle|\, x + 2y + z = 0 \right\}$.

Part 1: Let $\vec{\mathbf{v}} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$ and $\vec{\mathbf{w}} = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix}$ be vectors in S, so $x + 2y + z = 0$ and

$a + 2b + c = 0$. Show that $\vec{\mathbf{v}} + \vec{\mathbf{w}} = \begin{bmatrix} x + a \\ y + b \\ z + c \end{bmatrix}$ also belongs to S by verifying that

$(x + a) + 2(y + b) + (z + c) = 0$.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.4.3 *($\sim$15 min)*

Let $S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \middle| x + 2y + z = 0 \right\}$.

Part 1: Let $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$ and $\vec{w} = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix}$ be vectors in S, so $x + 2y + z = 0$ and

$a + 2b + c = 0$. Show that $\vec{v} + \vec{w} = \begin{bmatrix} x + a \\ y + b \\ z + c \end{bmatrix}$ also belongs to S by verifying that

$(x + a) + 2(y + b) + (z + c) = 0$.

Part 2: Let $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \in S$, so $x + 2y + z = 0$. Show that $c\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} cx \\ cy \\ cz \end{bmatrix}$ also belongs

to S for any $c \in \mathbb{R}$ by verifying an appropriate equation.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.4.3 *(∼15 min)*

Let $S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \middle| x + 2y + z = 0 \right\}$.

Part 1: Let $\vec{\mathbf{v}} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$ and $\vec{\mathbf{w}} = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix}$ be vectors in S, so $x + 2y + z = 0$ and

$a + 2b + c = 0$. Show that $\vec{\mathbf{v}} + \vec{\mathbf{w}} = \begin{bmatrix} x + a \\ y + b \\ z + c \end{bmatrix}$ also belongs to S by verifying that

$(x + a) + 2(y + b) + (z + c) = 0$.

Part 2: Let $\vec{\mathbf{v}} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \in S$, so $x + 2y + z = 0$. Show that $c\vec{\mathbf{v}} = \begin{bmatrix} cx \\ cy \\ cz \end{bmatrix}$ also belongs

to S for any $c \in \mathbb{R}$ by verifying an appropriate equation.

Part 3: Is S is a subspace of $\mathbb{R}^3$?

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.4.4 *(∼10 min)*

Let $S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \;\middle|\; x + 2y + z = 4 \right\}$. Choose a vector $\vec{\mathbf{v}} = \begin{bmatrix} ? \\ ? \\ ? \end{bmatrix}$ in S and a real

number $c = ?$, and show that $c\vec{\mathbf{v}}$ isn't in S. Is S a subspace of $\mathbb{R}^3$?

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Remark V.4.5

Since 0 is a scalar and $0\vec{v} = \vec{z}$ for any vector $\vec{v}$, a nonempty set that is closed under scalar multiplication must contain the zero vector $\vec{z}$ for that vector space.

Put another way, you can check any of the following to show that a nonempty subset W isn't a subspace:

- Show that $\vec{0} \notin W$.
- Find $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in W$ such that $\vec{u} + \vec{v} \notin W$.
- Find $c \in \mathbb{R}, \vec{v} \in W$ such that $c\vec{v} \notin W$.

If you cannot do any of these, then W can be proven to be a subspace by doing the following:

- Prove that $\vec{u} + \vec{v} \in W$ whenever $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in W$.
- Prove that $c\vec{v} \in W$ whenever $c \in \mathbb{R}, \vec{v} \in W$.

Linear Algebra

Clontz & Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.4.6 (∼20 min)

Consider these subsets of $\mathbb{R}^4$:

$$R = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \,\middle|\, y = z + 1 \right\} \qquad S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \,\middle|\, y = |z| \right\} \qquad T = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \,\middle|\, z = xy \right\}$$

Linear Algebra

Clontz & Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.4.6 (∼20 min)

Consider these subsets of $\mathbb{R}^4$:

$$R = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \;\middle|\; y = z + 1 \right\} \qquad S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \;\middle|\; y = |z| \right\} \qquad T = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \;\middle|\; z = xy \right\}$$

Part 1: Show R isn't a subspace by showing that $\vec{\mathbf{0}} \notin R$.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.4.6 (∼20 min)

Consider these subsets of $\mathbb{R}^4$:

$$R = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \,\middle|\, y = z + 1 \right\} \qquad S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \,\middle|\, y = |z| \right\} \qquad T = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \,\middle|\, z = xy \right\}$$

Part 1: Show R isn't a subspace by showing that $\vec{0} \notin R$.

Part 2: Show S isn't a subspace by finding two vectors $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in S$ such that $\vec{u} + \vec{v} \notin S$.

Linear Algebra

Clontz & Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.4.6 *($\sim$20 min)*
Consider these subsets of $\mathbb{R}^4$:

$$R = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \middle| y = z + 1 \right\} \qquad S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \middle| y = |z| \right\} \qquad T = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \middle| z = xy \right\}$$

Part 1: Show R isn't a subspace by showing that $\vec{0} \notin R$.
Part 2: Show S isn't a subspace by finding two vectors $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in S$ such that $\vec{u} + \vec{v} \notin S$.
Part 3: Show T isn't a subspace by finding a vector $\vec{v} \in T$ such that $2\vec{v} \notin T$.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.4.7 (~5 min)

Let W be a subspace of a vector space V. How are span W and W related?

(a) span W is bigger than W

(b) span W is the same as W

(c) span W is smaller than W

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Fact V.4.8

If S is any subset of a vector space V, then since span S collects all possible linear combinations, span S is automatically a subspace of V.

In fact, span S is always the smallest subspace of V that contains all the vectors in S.

Module V Section 5

Linear Algebra

Clontz & Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.5.1 *(∼10 min)*

Consider the two sets

$$S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \qquad T = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ -11 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

Which of the following is true?

(A) span S is bigger than span T.

(B) span S and span T are the same size.

(C) span S is smaller than span T.

Linear Algebra

Clontz & Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Definition V.5.2

We say that a set of vectors is **linearly dependent** if one vector in the set belongs to the span of the others. Otherwise, we say the set is **linearly independent**.
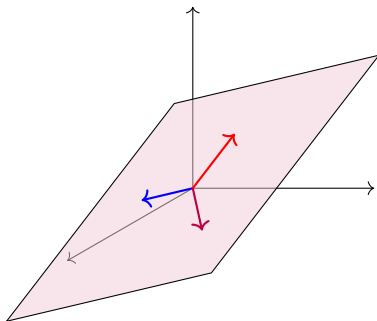
You can think of linearly dependent sets as containing a redundant vector, in the sense that you can drop a vector out without reducing the span of the set. In the above image, all three vectors lay on the same planar subspace, but only two vectors are needed to span the plane, so the set is linearly dependent.

Linear Algebra

Clontz & Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.5.3 (∼10 min)

Let $\vec{\mathbf{u}}, \vec{\mathbf{v}}, \vec{\mathbf{w}}$ be vectors in $\mathbb{R}^n$. Suppose $3\vec{\mathbf{u}} - 5\vec{\mathbf{v}} = \vec{\mathbf{w}}$, so the set $\{\vec{\mathbf{u}}, \vec{\mathbf{v}}, \vec{\mathbf{w}}\}$ is linearly dependent. Which of the following is true of the vector equation $x\vec{\mathbf{u}} + y\vec{\mathbf{v}} + z\vec{\mathbf{w}} = \vec{\mathbf{0}}$?

(A) It is consistent with one solution

(B) It is consistent with infinitely many solutions

(C) It is inconsistent.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Fact V.5.4

For any vector space, the set $\{\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \ldots \vec{\mathbf{v}}_n\}$ is linearly dependent if and only if $x_1\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 + \cdots + x_n\vec{\mathbf{v}}_n = \vec{\mathbf{z}}$ is consistent with infinitely many solutions.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.5.5 *(∼10 min)*
Find

$$\text{RREF} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 & 3 & -1 & 4 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 13 & 10 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 7 & 7 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 3 & 16 & 14 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

and mark the part of the matrix that demonstrates that

$$S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 13 \\ 7 \\ 16 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 10 \\ 7 \\ 14 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

is linearly dependent (the part that shows its linear system has infinitely many solutions).

Linear Algebra

Clontz & Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Fact V.5.6

A set of Euclidean vectors $\{\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \ldots \vec{\mathbf{v}}_n\}$ is linearly dependent if and only if RREF $\begin{bmatrix} \vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 & \ldots & \vec{\mathbf{v}}_n \end{bmatrix}$ has a column without a pivot position.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Observation V.5.7

Compare the following results:

- A set of $\mathbb{R}^m$ vectors $\{\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \ldots \vec{\mathbf{v}}_n\}$ is linearly independent if and only if RREF $\begin{bmatrix} \vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 & \ldots & \vec{\mathbf{v}}_n \end{bmatrix}$ has all pivot columns.
- A set of $\mathbb{R}^m$ vectors $\{\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \ldots \vec{\mathbf{v}}_n\}$ spans $\mathbb{R}^m$ if and only if RREF $\begin{bmatrix} \vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 & \ldots & \vec{\mathbf{v}}_n \end{bmatrix}$ has all pivot rows.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.5.8 *(∼5 min)*

Is the set of Euclidean vectors $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 10 \\ 10 \\ 2 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 7 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ linearly dependent or

linearly independent?

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.5.9 ($\sim$10 min)
Is the set of polynomials $\left\{x^3 + 1, x^2 + 2x, x^2 + 7x + 4\right\}$ linearly dependent or linearly independent?

Linear Algebra

Clontz & Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.5.10 *(~5 min)*

What is the largest number of vectors in $\mathbb{R}^4$ that can form a linearly independent set?

(a) 3

(b) 4

(c) 5

(d) You can have infinitely many vectors and still be linearly independent.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.5.11 *(∼5 min)*

What is the largest number of vectors in

$$\mathcal{P}^4 = \left\{ ax^4 + bx^3 + cx^2 + dx + e \mid a, b, c, d, e \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

that can form a linearly independent set?

(a) 3

(b) 4

(c) 5

(d) You can have infinitely many vectors and still be linearly independent.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.5.12 *(~5 min)*
What is the largest number of vectors in

$$\mathcal{P} = \{f(x) \,|\, f(x) \text{ is any polynomial}\}$$

that can form a linearly independent set?

(a) 3

(b) 4

(c) 5

(d) You can have infinitely many vectors and still be linearly independent.

Module V Section 6

Linear Algebra

Clontz & Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Definition V.6.1

A **basis** is a linearly independent set that spans a vector space.

The **standard basis** of $\mathbb{R}^n$ is the set $\{\vec{\mathbf{e}}_1, \ldots, \vec{\mathbf{e}}_n\}$ where

$$\vec{\mathbf{e}}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \vec{\mathbf{e}}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \cdots \qquad \vec{\mathbf{e}}_n = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

For $\mathbb{R}^3$, these are the vectors $\vec{\mathbf{e}}_1 = \hat{\imath} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $\vec{\mathbf{e}}_2 = \hat{\jmath} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, and $\vec{\mathbf{e}}_3 = \hat{k} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Observation V.6.2

A basis may be thought of as a collection of building blocks for a vector space, since every vector in the space can be expressed as a unique linear combination of basis vectors.

For example, in many calculus courses, vectors in $\mathbb{R}^3$ are often expressed in their component form

$$(3, -2, 4) = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

or in their standard basic vector form

$$3\vec{\mathbf{e}}_1 - 2\vec{\mathbf{e}}_2 + 4\vec{\mathbf{e}}_3 = 3\hat{\imath} - 2\hat{\jmath} + 4\hat{k}.$$

Since every vector in $\mathbb{R}^3$ can be uniquely described as a linear combination of the vectors in $\{\vec{\mathbf{e}}_1, \vec{\mathbf{e}}_2, \vec{\mathbf{e}}_3\}$, this set is indeed a basis.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.6.3 *(∼15 min)*

Label each of the sets A, B, C, D, E as

- SPANS $\mathbb{R}^4$ or DOES NOT SPAN $\mathbb{R}^4$
- LINEARLY INDEPENDENT or LINEARLY DEPENDENT
- BASIS FOR $\mathbb{R}^4$ or NOT A BASIS FOR $\mathbb{R}^4$

by finding RREF for their corresponding matrices.

$$A = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \qquad B = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$$C = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 13 \\ 7 \\ 16 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 10 \\ 7 \\ 14 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \qquad D = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 6 \\ 1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$$E = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.6.4 (∼10 min)

If $\{\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_3, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_4\}$ is a basis for $\mathbb{R}^4$, that means $\text{RREF}[\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1\,\vec{\mathbf{v}}_2\,\vec{\mathbf{v}}_3\,\vec{\mathbf{v}}_4]$ doesn't have a non-pivot column, and doesn't have a row of zeros. What is $\text{RREF}[\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1\,\vec{\mathbf{v}}_2\,\vec{\mathbf{v}}_3\,\vec{\mathbf{v}}_4]$?

$$\text{RREF}[\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1\,\vec{\mathbf{v}}_2\,\vec{\mathbf{v}}_3\,\vec{\mathbf{v}}_4] = \begin{bmatrix} ? & ? & ? & ? \\ ? & ? & ? & ? \\ ? & ? & ? & ? \\ ? & ? & ? & ? \end{bmatrix}$$

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Fact V.6.5

The set $\{\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \ldots, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_m\}$ is a basis for $\mathbb{R}^n$ if and only if $m = n$ and

$$\text{RREF}[\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 \ldots \vec{\mathbf{v}}_n] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \ldots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \ldots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \ldots & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

That is, a basis for $\mathbb{R}^n$ must have exactly n vectors and its square matrix must row-reduce to the so-called **identity matrix** containing all zeros except for a downward diagonal of ones. (We will learn where the identity matrix gets its name in a later module.)

Linear Algebra

Clontz & Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
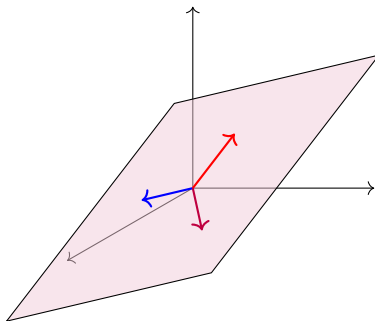Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Observation V.6.6

Recall that a **subspace** of a vector space is a subset that is itself a vector space.

One easy way to construct a subspace is to take the span of set, but a linearly dependent set contains "redundant" vectors. For example, only two of the three vectors in the following image are needed to span the planar subspace.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.6.7 *(∼10 min)*

Consider the subspace $W = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 2 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ of $\mathbb{R}^4$.

Linear Algebra

Clontz & Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.6.7 (~10 min)

Consider the subspace $W = \text{span}\left\{\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 2 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right\}$ of $\mathbb{R}^4$.

Part 1: Mark the part of RREF $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 & 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 0 & -3 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & -3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ that shows that W's spanning

set is linearly dependent.

Linear Algebra

Clontz & Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.6.7 *(∼10 min)*

Consider the subspace $W = \mathrm{span}\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 2 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ of $\mathbb{R}^4$.

Part 1: Mark the part of RREF $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 & 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 0 & -3 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & -3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ that shows that W's spanning

set is linearly dependent.

Part 2: Find a basis for W by removing a vector from its spanning set to make it linearly independent.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Fact V.6.8

Let $S = \{\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \ldots, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_m\}$. The easiest basis describing span S is the set of vectors in S given by the pivot columns of $\text{RREF}[\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 \ldots \vec{\mathbf{v}}_m]$.

Put another way, to compute a basis for the subspace span S, simply remove the vectors corresponding to the non-pivot columns of $\text{RREF}[\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 \ldots \vec{\mathbf{v}}_m]$.

Linear Algebra

Clontz & Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.6.9 (~10 min)
Let W be the subspace of $\mathbb{R}^4$ given by

$$W = \text{span}\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

Find a basis for W.

Linear Algebra

Clontz & Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.6.10 (∼10 min)

Let W be the subspace of $\mathcal{P}^3$ given by

$$W = \text{span} \left\{ x^3 + 3x^2 + x - 1, 2x^3 - x^2 + x + 2, 4x^3 + 5x^2 + 3x, 3x^3 + 2x^2 + 2x + 1 \right\}$$

Find a basis for W.

Module V Section 7

Linear Algebra

Clontz & Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Observation V.7.1

In the previous section, we learned that computing a basis for the subspace $\text{span}\{\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \ldots, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_m\}$, is as simple as removing the vectors corresponding to the non-pivot columns of $\text{RREF}[\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 \ldots \vec{\mathbf{v}}_m]$.

For example, since

$$\text{RREF} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & -2 & -2 \\ -3 & 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \boxed{1} & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & \boxed{1} & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

the subspace $W = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -2 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ has $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ as a basis.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.7.2 *(∼10 min)*

Let

$$S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 2 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \quad \text{and} \quad T = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 2 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.7.2 *(∼10 min)*

Let

$$S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 2 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \quad \text{and} \quad T = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 2 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

Part 1: Find a basis for span S.

Linear Algebra

Clontz & Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.7.2 *(~10 min)*

Let

$$S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 2 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \quad \text{and} \quad T = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 2 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

Part 1: Find a basis for span S.

Part 2: Find a basis for span T.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Observation V.7.3

Even though we found different bases for them, span S and span T are exactly the same subspace of $\mathbb{R}^4$, since

$$
S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 2 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 2 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} = T
$$

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Fact V.7.4

Any non-trivial vector space has infinitely-many different bases, but all the bases for a given vector space are exactly the same size.

For example,

$$\{\vec{\mathbf{e}}_1, \vec{\mathbf{e}}_2, \vec{\mathbf{e}}_3\} \text{ and } \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \text{ and } \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -2 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

are all valid bases for $\mathbb{R}^3$, and they all contain three vectors.

Linear Algebra

Clontz & Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Definition V.7.5

The **dimension** of a vector space is equal to the size of any basis for the vector space.

As you'd expect, $\mathbb{R}^n$ has dimension n. For example, $\mathbb{R}^3$ has dimension 3 because any basis for $\mathbb{R}^3$ such as

$$\{\vec{e}_1, \vec{e}_2, \vec{e}_3\} \text{ and } \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \text{ and } \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -2 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

contains exactly three vectors.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.7.6 (~10 min)

Find the dimension of each subspace of $\mathbb{R}^4$ by finding RREF for each corresponding matrix.

$$\text{span}\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \quad \text{span}\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 13 \\ 7 \\ 16 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 10 \\ 7 \\ 14 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$$\text{span}\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 6 \\ 1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \quad \text{span}\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

Linear Algebra

Clontz & Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Fact V.7.7

Every vector space with finite dimension, that is, every vector space V with a basis of the form $\{\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_2, \ldots, \vec{\mathbf{v}}_n\}$ is said to be **isomorphic** to a Euclidean space $\mathbb{R}^n$, since there exists a natural correspondance between vectors in V and vectors in $\mathbb{R}^n$:

$$c_1\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 + c_2\vec{\mathbf{v}}_2 + \cdots + c_n\vec{\mathbf{v}}_n \leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Observation V.7.8

We've already been taking advantage of the previous fact by converting polynomials and matrices into Euclidean vectors. Since $\mathcal{P}^3$ and $M_{2,2}$ are both four-dimensional:

$$4x^3 + 0x^2 - 1x + 5 \leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 \\ -1 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Observation V.7.9

The space of polynomials $\mathcal{P}$ (of *any* degree) has the basis $\{1, x, x^2, x^3, \dots\}$, so it is a natural example of an infinite-dimensional vector space.

Since $\mathcal{P}$ and other infinite-dimensional spaces cannot be treated as an isomorphic finite-dimensional Euclidean space $\mathbb{R}^n$, vectors in such spaces cannot be studied by converting them into Euclidean vectors. Fortunately, most of the examples we will be interested in for this course will be finite-dimensional.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Definition V.7.10

A **homogeneous** system of linear equations is one of the form:

$$a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \ldots + a_{1n}x_n = 0$$
$$a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \ldots + a_{2n}x_n = 0$$
$$\vdots \qquad \vdots \qquad\qquad \vdots \quad \vdots$$
$$a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + \ldots + a_{mn}x_n = 0$$

This system is equivalent to the vector equation:

$$x_1\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 + \cdots + x_n\vec{\mathbf{v}}_n = \vec{\mathbf{0}}$$

and the augmented matrix:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} & 0 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \cdots & a_{mn} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.7.11 ($\sim$5 min)

Note that if $\begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_n \end{bmatrix}$ and $\begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ \vdots \\ b_n \end{bmatrix}$ are solutions to $x_1\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 + \cdots + x_n\vec{\mathbf{v}}_n = \vec{\mathbf{0}}$ so is

$\begin{bmatrix} a_1 + b_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_n + b_n \end{bmatrix}$, since

$$a_1\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 + \cdots + a_n\vec{\mathbf{v}}_n = \vec{\mathbf{0}} \text{ and } b_1\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 + \cdots + b_n\vec{\mathbf{v}}_n = \vec{\mathbf{0}}$$

implies

$$(a_1 + b_1)\vec{\mathbf{v}}_1 + \cdots + (a_n + b_n)\vec{\mathbf{v}}_n = \vec{\mathbf{0}}.$$

Similarly, if $c \in \mathbb{R}$, $\begin{bmatrix} ca_1 \\ \vdots \\ ca_n \end{bmatrix}$ is a solution. Thus the solution set of a homogeneous

system is...

a) A basis for $\mathbb{R}^n$.   b) A subspace of $\mathbb{R}^n$.   c) The empty set.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.7.12 *(∼10 min)*
Consider the homogeneous system of equations

$$x_1 + 2x_2 \quad\quad + \quad x_4 = 0$$
$$2x_1 + 4x_2 - x_3 - 2x_4 = 0$$
$$3x_1 + 6x_2 - x_3 - \quad x_4 = 0$$

Linear Algebra

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Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.7.12 *(∼10 min)*

Consider the homogeneous system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + 2x_2 \qquad\quad + x_4 &= 0 \\ 2x_1 + 4x_2 - x_3 - 2x_4 &= 0 \\ 3x_1 + 6x_2 - x_3 - x_4 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Part 1: Find its solution set (a subspace of $\mathbb{R}^4$).

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.7.12 *(∼10 min)*
Consider the homogeneous system of equations

$$\begin{aligned}
x_1 + 2x_2 \qquad + x_4 &= 0 \\
2x_1 + 4x_2 - x_3 - 2x_4 &= 0 \\
3x_1 + 6x_2 - x_3 - x_4 &= 0
\end{aligned}$$

Part 1: Find its solution set (a subspace of $\mathbb{R}^4$).
Part 2: Rewrite this solution space in the form

$$\left\{ a \begin{bmatrix} ? \\ ? \\ ? \\ ? \end{bmatrix} + b \begin{bmatrix} ? \\ ? \\ ? \\ ? \end{bmatrix} \,\middle|\, a, b \in \mathbb{R} \right\}.$$

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Fact V.7.13

The coefficients of the free variables in the solution set of a linear system always yield linearly independent vectors.

Thus if

$$\left\{ a \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + b \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 0 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \middle| a, b \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

is the solution space for a homoegeneous system, then

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 0 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

is a basis for the solution space.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.7.14 *(~10 min)*
Consider the homogeneous system of equations

$$
\begin{aligned}
x_1 - 3x_2 + 2x_3 \quad\quad &= 0 \\
2x_1 - 6x_2 + 4x_3 + 3x_4 &= 0 \\
-2x_1 + 6x_2 - 4x_3 - 4x_4 &= 0
\end{aligned}
$$

Find a basis for its solution space.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.7.15 (~5 min)

Suppose W is a subspace of $\mathcal{P}^8$, and you know that it contains a **linearly independent** set of 3 vectors. What can you conclude about W?

(a) The dimension of W is at most 3.

(b) The dimension of W is exactly 3.

(c) The dimension of W is at least 3.

Linear Algebra

Clontz &
Lewis

Module V
Section V.0
Section V.1
Section V.2
Section V.3
Section V.4
Section V.5
Section V.6
Section V.7

Activity V.7.16 (~5 min)

Suppose W is a subspace of $\mathcal{P}^8$, and you know that it contains a **spanning set** of 3 vectors. What can you conclude about W?

(a) The dimension of W is at most 3.

(b) The dimension of W is exactly 3.

(c) The dimension of W is at least 3.