

Linear Algebra

SF1672

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1. Vector Spaces

1.1. DEFINITIONS

Definition 1.1.1 (Field)

A field is a set F with operations $+$ and \cdot such that

- (i) $0 + a = a + 0 = a$
- (ii) $(a + b) + c = a + (b + c)$
- (iii) $a + b = b + a$
- (iv) there exists $(-a)$ with $a + (-a) = 0$
- (v) $1 \cdot a = a \cdot 1$
- (vi) $(a \cdot b) \cdot c = a \cdot (b \cdot c)$
- (vii) $a \cdot b = b \cdot a$
- (viii) for all $a \neq 0$ there exists a^{-1} with $a \cdot a^{-1} = 1$

Definition 1.1.2 (Vector Space)

A vector space over a field F is a set V with two operations:

- Vector addition $+$: $V \times V \rightarrow V$
- Scalar multiplication \cdot : $F \times V \rightarrow V$

These must satisfy

- (i) $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} \in V$
- (ii) $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{u}$
- (iii) $\mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}) = (\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) + \mathbf{w}$
- (iv) $a(b\mathbf{u}) = (ab)\mathbf{u}$
- (v) $a(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) = a\mathbf{u} + a\mathbf{v}$
- (vi) $1\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}$
- (vii) $\mathbf{u} + (-\mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{0}$
- (viii) $\mathbf{u} + (-\mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{0}$

1.2. SUBSPACES

Definition 1.2.1 (Subspace)

A subspace of a vector space V is a subset H that is

- (i) nonempty (e.g. $\mathbf{0} \in H$),
- (ii) closed under addition, and
- (iii) closed under scalar multiplication.

Example. The set $\{\mathbf{0}\}$ (with $\mathbf{0} \in V$) is a subspace of every V .

⚠ Warning

\mathbb{R}^2 is not a subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 . However, the set $\{(s, t, 0) : s, t \in \mathbb{R}\}$ is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 .

Definition 1.2.2 (Span)

The span of a set of vectors $S = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k\}$ is the set of all linear combinations of the vectors in S . The span of a set of vectors is the smallest subspace that contains them.

Theorem 1.2.1

If $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p \in V$, then $\text{span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$ is a subspace of V .

1.3. BASES

Definition 1.3.1 (Basis)

A basis for a vector space V is a set $B = \{\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_n\}$ of linearly independent vectors that span V .

Example. The set $\{\mathbf{e}_1, \dots, \mathbf{e}_n\}$ is the standard basis for \mathbb{R}^n , and the set $\{1, t, t^2, \dots, t^n\}$ is the standard basis for P_n .

Theorem 1.3.1 (Basis Criterion)

Let V be an n -dimensional vector space with $n \geq 1$. Any set of n vectors in V is automatically a basis if

- (i) it is linearly independent or, equivalently,
- (ii) it spans V .

Definition 1.3.2 (Coordinates)

Let $B = \{\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_n\}$ be a basis for V . Each $\mathbf{v} \in V$ can be expressed as

$$[\mathbf{v}]_B = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix},$$

the injective coordinate mapping $\mathbf{v} \rightarrow [\mathbf{v}]_B$,

$$P_B = [\mathbf{b}_1 \ \cdots \ \mathbf{b}_n]$$

from B to the standard basis in V , with

$$\mathbf{v} = P_B[\mathbf{v}]_B.$$

Now let $C = \{\mathbf{c}_1, \dots, \mathbf{c}_n\}$ be another basis for V . Then there is a unique $n \times n$ matrix

$$P_{C \leftarrow B} = [[\mathbf{b}_1]_C \ \cdots \ [\mathbf{b}_n]_C]$$

$$[\mathbf{x}]_C = P_{C \leftarrow B}[\mathbf{x}]_B$$

and

$$(P_{C \leftarrow B})^{-1} = P_{B \leftarrow C}.$$

Example. Let E be the standard basis and let $P_{E \leftarrow B}$ and $P_{E \leftarrow C}$ be given.

$$P_{C \leftarrow B} = P_{C \leftarrow E} P_{E \leftarrow B} = (P_{E \leftarrow C})^{-1} P_{E \leftarrow B}.$$

1.4. DIMENSION

Definition 1.4.1 (Dimension)

The dimension of a vector space is the number of vectors in every basis. A vector space is either finite-dimensional or infinite-dimensional.

Definition 1.4.2 (Rank and Nullity)

The rank of a linear transformation (or matrix) is the dimension of its image (column space) and is also given by the number of pivot columns, and the nullity is the dimension of its kernel.

Theorem 1.4.1 (Rank Theorem)

Let A be an $n \times n$ matrix. Then it is equivalent that

$$Ax = \lambda x.$$

The eigenvalues are found from the characteristic equation

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = 0.$$

2. Matrices

2.1. MATRIX FORMS

Definition 2.1.1 (Matrix Forms)

- Row Echelon Form (REF):
Pivots move to the right as you go down, with zeros below each pivot.

- Reduced Row Echelon Form (RREF):
REF plus each pivot is 1 and is the only nonzero entry in its column. Canonical, i.e., unique.

- Upper/Lower Triangular Form:
The diagonal entries of the triangular form are the eigenvalues of the original.

Definition 2.1.2 (Consistent)

A linear system $Ax = b$ is consistent if it has at least one solution.

Theorem 2.1.1 (Echelon Test)

If $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p \in V$, then $\text{span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$ is a subspace of V .

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$$Ax = \lambda x.$$

The eigenvalues are found from the characteristic equation

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = 0.$$

2.2. COLUMN AND ROW SPACES

Definition 2.2.1 (Column Space)

$\text{col}(A) = \text{span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\} = \text{im}(f_A)$,

where $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n$ are the columns of A .

Theorem 2.2.1 (Pivot Basis)

The pivot columns of a matrix form a basis for its column space.

Definition 2.2.2 (Row Space)

The row space of a matrix is the span of its rows.

Theorem 2.2.2 (Row Echelon Form)

If A is an $m \times n$ matrix, then it is equivalent that

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = 0.$$

2.3. EIGENVALUES

Definition 2.3.1 (Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors)

An eigenvalue λ with eigenvector $\mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}$ of a matrix A satisfies

$$Ax = \lambda x.$$

The eigenvalues are found from the characteristic equation

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = 0.$$

3. Linear Maps

3.1. DEFINITIONS

Definition 3.1.1 (Linear Map)

A function $T : V \rightarrow W$ is linear if it is