

Polyhedral geometry 1

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Section 1

Linear spaces

Definition

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8. $1 \cdot \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}$. (neutral element of product)

Example: vector space of real matrices

Let $\mathcal{M}_n^m(\mathbb{R})$ be the set of $m \times n$ matrices with elements in the field \mathbb{R} . An element A in such a set is denoted as

$$A = (\alpha_{ij})$$

Addition and **multiplication by a scalar** are defined component-wise:

$$A + B = (\alpha_{ij}) + (\beta_{ij}) = (\alpha_{ij} + \beta_{ij})$$

$$\gamma A = \gamma(\alpha_{ij}) = (\gamma\alpha_{ij})$$

Example: vector space of polynomials of degree $\leq n$

A linear space we will make often use of in **Computer Graphics** and **Geometric modeling** is the space of dimension $n + 1$:

$$\mathcal{P}^n(\mathbb{R}) = \{p : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : u \mapsto \sum_{i=1}^n a_i p^i, a_i \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

of univariate **polynomials of degree $\leq n$** on the real field (with real coefficients), with $p^i \in P_n$, where

$$P_n = (p^n, p^{n-1}, \dots, p^1, p^0) \quad \text{and} \quad p^i : u \mapsto u^i$$

is **the power basis**.

Subspace

Let $(\mathcal{V}, +, \cdot)$ be a vector space on the field \mathcal{F} .

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$$\mathcal{U} \neq \emptyset;$$

$$\text{for each } \alpha \in \mathcal{F} \text{ and } \mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2 \in \mathcal{U}, \alpha \mathbf{u}_1 + \mathbf{u}_2 \in \mathcal{U}$$

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Examples of codimension in 1D, 2D, 3D?

Linear combination

Let $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n \in \mathcal{V}$ and $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathcal{F}$,

The vector

$$\alpha_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \mathbf{v}_n = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \mathbf{v}_i \in \mathcal{V}$$

is called a **linear combination** of vectors $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n$ with scalars $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathcal{F}$

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- ▶ If a subspace \mathcal{U} of \mathcal{V} can be generated as the span of a set S of vectors in \mathcal{V} , then S is called a **generating set** or a **spanning set** for \mathcal{U} .

Linear independence

- ▶ A set of vectors $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$ is **linearly independent** if

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- ▶ As a consequence, **a set of vectors is linearly independent** when none of them belongs to the span of the others.

Bases and coordinates

When working with vector spaces, the concept of **basis**, a **discrete subset of linearly independent elements**, is probably the most useful to deal with.

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- ▶ each element of the space can be **represented uniquely** as **linear combination of basis elements**
- ▶ this leads to a **parametrization** of the space, i.e. to **represent each element by a sequence of scalars**, called its **coordinates** with respect to the chosen basis.

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2. $\mathcal{V} = \text{lin} \{\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \dots, \mathbf{e}_n\}$

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Components

If $(\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \dots, \mathbf{e}_n)$ is an ordered basis for \mathcal{V} , then for each $\mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{V}$ there exists a **unique** n -tuple of scalars $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathcal{F}$ such that

$$\mathbf{v} = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \mathbf{e}_i.$$

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- ▶ i.e. $\alpha_i = \beta_i$, for every i .

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- ▶ and hence:

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