

**MAT224 Linear Algebra**  
Definitions, Lemmas, Theorems, Corollaries  
and their related proofs

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Materials in this booklet are based heavily on Prof. Nicolas Hoell's lectures as well as A COURSE IN LINEAR ALGEBRA by David B. Damiano and John B. Little.

Items in this booklet are, in fact, very similar to those in the book and are intended to be used as a bullet point guide to (almost) all the knowledge points and should *certainly not* be used as a substitute for the actual learning material. Please notice that I make *no promise* about the accuracy of statements appearing in these notes.

The course website could be found here:  
<http://www.math.toronto.edu/nhoell/MAT224/>

# Contents

|          |   |           |
|----------|---|-----------|
| <b>1</b> | <b>Vector Spaces</b>  | <b>3</b>  |
| 1.1      | (Real) Vector Space . . . . .                                   | 3         |
| 1.2      | Sub-spaces . . . . .  | 4         |
| 1.3      | Linear Combinations . . . . .                                   | 5         |
| 1.4      | Linear (In)dependence . . . . .                                 | 7         |
| 1.5      | Interlude on solving SLEs . . . . .                             | 10        |
| 1.6      | Bases and Dimension . . . . .                                   | 11        |
| <br>     |   |           |
| <b>2</b> | <b>Linear Transformations</b>                                   | <b>15</b> |
| 2.1      | Linear Transformations . . . . .                                | 15        |
| 2.2      | Linear Transformations between finite dimensional vector spaces | 18        |
| 2.3      | Kernel and image . . . . .                                      | 20        |

# Chapter 1

## Vector Spaces

### 1.1 (Real) Vector Space

1.1.1. **Definition of real vector space:** A real vector space is a set  $V$  together with

- (a) **Closure under vector addition:** an operation called vector addition, which for each pair of vectors  $\vec{x}, \vec{y} \in V$  produces another vector in  $V$  denoted  $\vec{x} + \vec{y}$ , (i.e.  $\forall \vec{x}, \vec{y} \in V, \vec{x} + \vec{y} \in V$ ) and
- (b) **Closure under scalar multiplication:** an operation called multiplication by a scalar (a real number), which for each vector  $\vec{x} \in V$ , an each scalar  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  produces another vector in  $V$  denoted  $c\vec{x}$ . (i.e.  $\forall \vec{x} \in V, \forall c \in \mathbb{R}, c\vec{x} \in V$ )

Furthermore, the two operations must satisfy the following axioms:(important)

- (a)  $\forall \vec{x}, \vec{y}, \vec{z} \in V, (\vec{x} + \vec{y}) + \vec{z} = \vec{x} + (\vec{y} + \vec{z})$
- (b)  $\forall \vec{v}, \vec{y} \in V, \vec{x} + \vec{y} = \vec{y} + \vec{x}$
- (c)  $\exists \vec{0} \in V$  s.t.  $\forall \vec{x} \in V, \vec{x} + \vec{0} = \vec{x}$  (Note that this property is a.k.a existence of additive identity)
- (d)  $\forall \vec{x} \in V, \exists (-\vec{x}) \in V$  s.t.  $\vec{x} + (-\vec{x}) = \vec{0}$  (Note that this property is a.k.a existence of additive inverse)
- (e)  $\forall \vec{x}, \vec{y} \in V, c \in \mathbb{R}, c(\vec{x} + \vec{y}) = c\vec{x} + c\vec{y}$
- (f)  $\forall \vec{x} \in V, c, d \in \mathbb{R}, (c + d)\vec{x} = c\vec{x} + d\vec{x}$

$$(g) \forall \vec{x} \in V, c, d \in \mathbb{R}, (cd)\vec{x} = c(d\vec{x})$$

$$(h) \forall \vec{x} \in V, 1\vec{x} = \vec{x}$$

**Remark.** Note that here we are not explicitly defining a vector space to be non-empty, however, if a set ever fails to have a larger than zero cardinality, it must not be a vector space. This is a consequence of axiom (c), the existence of the one and only zero vector in the space.

1.1.6. **Propositions for a R-v.s.** Let  $V$  be a vector space. Then

- (a) The zero vector is unique. Note that it might not necessarily be actually the zero vector in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  that we are somewhat used to use.

Proof: Suppose, for the sake of contradiction, that  $\vec{a}, \vec{b}$  are two *different* zero vectors of the vector space  $V$ . Then, by the definition of zero vector, we have

$$\forall \vec{x} \in V, \vec{x} + \vec{a} = \vec{x} \wedge \vec{x} + \vec{b} = \vec{x}$$

Simple algebraic manipulation yields us  $\vec{x} + \vec{a} = \vec{a} + \vec{x} \implies \vec{a} = \vec{b}$   
 $\text{---}\times\text{---}$  Contradiction!  $\mathcal{Q.E.D.}$

- (b)  $\forall \vec{x} \in V, 0\vec{x} = \vec{0}$

Proof: We have  $0\vec{x} = (0 + 0)\vec{x} = 0\vec{x} + 0\vec{x}$ , by axiom 6. By axiom (d), I know there exists a additive inverse of  $0\vec{x}$ , so I subtract on both sides of the equation such additive inverse. This yields us  $\vec{0} = 0\vec{x}$  as wanted.  $\mathcal{Q.E.D.}$

- (c)  $\forall \vec{x} \in V$ , the additive inverse is unique. Note that it might not necessarily be actually just  $(-1)$  times the vector in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  that we are somewhat used to use.

Proof:

- (d)  $\forall \vec{x} \in V, \forall c \in \mathbb{R}, (-c)\vec{x} = -(c\vec{x})$

Proof:

## 1.2 Sub-spaces

1.2.4. **Usual definition of subspace applied to functions in  $C^0(\mathbb{R})$ .** Note that by  $C^n(\cdot)$  we mean the function in this set are all of *Class*  $-n$ . Let  $f, g \in C^0(\mathbb{R})$ , let  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then,

- (a)  $f + g \in C^0(\mathbb{R})$ , and
- (b)  $cf \in C(\mathbb{R})$

The proof of this lemma relies on limit theorems of calculus.

1.2.6. **(Intuitive) definition of (vector) subspace.** Let  $V$  be a vector space and let  $W \subseteq V$  be a subset. Then  $W$  is a (vector) subspace if  $W$  is a vector subspace itself under the operations of vector sum and scalar multiplication from  $V$ .

1.2.8. **Quick check rule for a subspace.** Let  $V$  be a vector subspace, and let  $W$  be a **non empty** subset of  $V$ . Then  $W$  is a subspace of  $V$  if and only if

$$\forall \vec{x}, \vec{y} \in W, \forall c \in \mathbb{R}, \text{ we have } c\vec{x} + \vec{y} \in W$$

1.2.9. **Remark on the necessary condition of non-emptiness of subspace.** According to the definition of vector space that we gave in 1.1.1, a vector space must contain an additive identity element, hence it is necessary that we ensure  $W \subseteq V$  (from 1.2.6) is not an empty set.

1.2.13. **Theorem: Intersection of sub-spaces is a subspace.** Let  $V$  be a vector space. Then the intersection of any collection of sub-spaces of  $V$  is a subspace of  $V$ .

1.2.14. **Corollary: Hyper planes in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  are sub-spaces of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .** Let  $a_{ij} (1 \leq i \leq m)$ , let  $W_i = \{(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n | a_{i1}x_1 + \dots + a_{in}x_n = 0, \forall 1 \leq i \leq m\}$ . Then  $W$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

## 1.3 Linear Combinations

1.3.1. **Definitions regarding L.C. and derived spans.** Let  $S$  be a subset of a vector space  $V$ , that is  $S \subseteq V$ .

- (a) a *linear combination* of vectors in  $S$  is any sum  $a_1\vec{x}_1 + \dots + a_n\vec{x}_n$ , where the  $a_i \in \mathbb{R}$ , and the  $x_i \in S$ .
- (b) we define the *Span* of a set of vectors as follows to consider the special case of  $S \stackrel{?}{=} \emptyset \in V$ .

Case1:  $S \neq \emptyset$ : In this case, we define  $Span(S)$  to be all possible

linear combinations using vectors in  $S$ .

Case2:  $S = \emptyset$ : In this case, we define  $\text{Span}(S = \emptyset) = \{\vec{0}\}$ . We call this the zero-space.

(c) If  $W = \text{Span}(S)$ , we say  $S$  *spans (or generates)*  $W$ .

1.3.4. **Span of a subset of a vector space is a subspace.** Let  $V$  be a vector space and let  $S$  be any subset of  $V$ . Then  $\text{Span}(S)$  is a subspace of  $V$ .

1.3.5. **Sum of sets (with application to sub-spaces).** Let  $W_1 \wedge W_2$  be subspaces of a vector space  $V$ . The sum of  $W_1$  and  $W_2$  is the set

$$W_1 + W_2 := \{\vec{x} \in V \mid \vec{x} = \vec{x}_1 + \vec{x}_2, \text{ for some } \vec{x}_1 \in W_1, \vec{x}_2 \in W_2\}$$

We think of the sum of the two sub-spaces (the two sets) as the set of vectors that can be built up from the vectors in  $W_1$  and  $W_2$  by linear combinations. Conversely, the vectors in the set  $W_1 + W_2$  are precisely the vectors that can be broken down into the sum of a vector in  $W_1$  and a vector in  $W_2$ . One may find it helpful to view this as an analogue to a Cartesian product of the two set with a new constraint on the result.

1.3.6. **Example.** If  $W_1 = \{(a_1, a_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid a_2 = 0\}$  and  $W_2 = \{(a_1, a_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid a_1 = 0\}$ , then  $W_1 + W_2 = \mathbb{R}^2$ , since every vector in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  can be written as the sum of vector in  $W_1$  and a vector in  $W_2$ . For instance, we have  $(5, -6) = (0, 5) + (0, -6)$ , and  $(5, 0) \in W_1 \wedge (0, -6) \in W_2$

1.3.8. **Proposition: The sum of spans of sets is the span of the union of the sets.** Let  $W_1 = \text{Span}(S_1)$  and  $W_2 = \text{Span}(S_2)$  be sub-spaces of a (the same) vector space  $V$ . Then  $W_1 + W_2 = \text{Span}(S_1 \cup S_2)$ . Notice that the proof of this gave the important idea of mutual inclusion in proving sets are equal to each other.

1.3.9. **The sum of sub-spaces is also a subspace.** Let  $W_1$  and  $W_2$  be sub-spaces of a vector space  $V$ . Then  $W_1 + W_2$  is also a subspace of  $V$ .

Proof:

It is clear that  $W_1 + W_2$  is non-empty, since neither  $W_1$  nor  $W_2$  is empty. Let  $\vec{x}, \vec{y}$  be two vectors in  $W_1 + W_2$ , let  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ . By our choice of  $\vec{x}$  and  $\vec{y}$ ,

we have

$$\begin{aligned} c\vec{x} + \vec{y} &= c(\vec{x}_1 + \vec{x}_2) + (\vec{y}_1 + \vec{y}_2) \\ &= (c\vec{x}_1 + \vec{y}_1) + (c\vec{x}_2 + \vec{y}_2) \\ &\in W_1 + W_2 \end{aligned}$$

Since  $W_1$  and  $W_2$  are sub-spaces of  $V$ , we have  $(c\vec{x}_1 + \vec{y}_1) \in W_1$  and  $(c\vec{x}_2 + \vec{y}_2) \in W_2$ . Then by (1.2.8), we see that indeed  $W_1 + W_2$  is a subspace of  $V$ . *Q.E.D.*

1.3.10. **Remark.** In general, if  $W_1$  and  $W_2$  are sub-spaces of  $V$ , then  $W_1 \cup W_2$  will not be a subspace of  $V$ . For example, consider the two sub-spaces of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  given in example (1.3.6). In that case  $W_1 \cup W_2$  is the union of two lines through the origin in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

1.3.11. **Proposition.** Let  $W_1$  and  $W_2$  be sub-spaces of vector space  $V$  and let  $W$  be a subspace of  $V$  such that  $W \supseteq W_1 \cup W_2$ , then  $W \supseteq W_1 + W_2$ . Informally speaking, this proposition saying: " $W_1 + W_2$  is the smallest subspace containing  $W_1 \cup W_2$ ", i.e., Any subspace that contains  $W_1 \cup W_2$  must be a super set of  $W_1 + W_2$ .

Proof:

We want to show:  $W \supseteq W_1 \cup W_2 \implies W \supseteq W_1 + W_2$

Assume that  $W \supseteq W_1 \cup W_2$ . Let  $w_1 \in W_1$ ,  $w_2 \in W_2$ .

We notice that  $w_1, w_2 \in W_1 \cup W_2 \subseteq W$

$$\implies w_1, w_2 \in W$$

(Since  $W$  is a subspace, so it is closed under addition)

$$\implies w_1 + w_2 \in W$$

$$\implies W_1 + W_2 \subseteq W \iff W \supseteq W_1 + W_2$$

*Q.E.D.*

## 1.4 Linear (In)dependence

1.4.2. **Algebraic definition of linear dependence.** Let  $V$  be a vector space, and let  $S \subseteq V$ .



- (a) A *linear dependence* among the vectors of  $S$  is an equation  $a_1\vec{x}_1 + \dots + a_n\vec{x}_n = \vec{0}$  where the  $x_i \in S$ , and the  $a_i \in \mathbb{R}$  are not all zero (i.e., at least one of the  $a_i \neq 0$ ). In familiar<sup>1</sup> words, there exists a non-trivial solution to the equation mentioned above.
- (b) the set  $S$  is said to be *linearly dependent* if there exists a linear dependence among the vectors in  $S$ .

**Remark:** It can be shown that the geometric<sup>2</sup> definition and this are, in-fact, equivalent to each other. I will now produce the proof.

*Proof of equivalence of definitions:*

Let  $V$  be a vector space, and let  $S \subseteq V$ . Consider the following equation:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & a_1\vec{x}_1 + a_2\vec{x}_2 + \dots + a_n\vec{x}_n = \vec{0}, \text{ where } \exists a_i \neq 0 \\
 & \text{(WLOG, assume that } a_n \neq 0\text{)} \\
 \implies & \frac{a_1\vec{x}_1 + a_2\vec{x}_2 + \dots + a_n\vec{x}_n}{a_n} = \vec{0} \\
 \implies & \vec{x}_n = -\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} a_i\vec{x}_i
 \end{aligned}$$

Notice that the result  $\vec{x}_n$  is in terms of all the other  $(n-1)$  vectors in the set, hence a linear combination of those vectors, and this completes the proof. *Q.E.D.*

**Re-Remark:** We can also use this proof as an argument towards the following problem: Show that at least one of the vectors in a linearly dependent set is redundant. We could take a similar proof and argue that the linear combination could be written without at least one of the vectors.

**1.4.4. Algebraic definition of linear independence.** Let  $V$  be a vector space, and  $S \subseteq V$ . Then  $S$  is *linearly independent* if whenever we have  $a_i \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $x_i \in S$  such that  $a_1\vec{x}_1 + \dots + a_n\vec{x}_n = \vec{0}$ , then  $a_i = 0, \forall i$ .

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<sup>1</sup>Familiar from MAT223, Prof. Jason Siefken's IBL(Inquiry Based Learning) notes.

<sup>2</sup>A set of vectors is said to be dependent if each other there exists a vector in this set, that it is in the Span of all other vectors in the set. I.e., There is some vectors in this set that are "redundant", it's position can be taken by some linear combination of the other vectors in the set.

A more conceivable way to understand this is if the aforementioned equation exists and only exists a set of trivial solution then the vectors involved in the equation are *linearly independent*.

**Remark:** A set of vector is linearly independent *if and only if* it is not linearly dependent.

#### 1.4.7. Propositions regarding linear (in)dependency.

- (a) Let  $S$  be a linearly dependent subset of a vector space  $V$ , and let  $S'$  be another subset of  $V$  that contains  $S$ . Then  $S'$  is also linearly dependent.
- (b) Let  $S$  be a linearly independent subset of vector space  $V$  and let  $S'$  be another subset of  $V$  that is contained in  $S$ . Then  $S'$  is also linearly independent.

Proof of (a): Since  $S$  is linearly dependent, there exists a linear dependence among the vectors in  $S$ , say,  $a_1\vec{x}_1 + \dots + a_n\vec{x}_n = \vec{0}$ . Since  $S$  is contained in  $S'$ , this is also a linear dependence among the vectors in  $S'$ . Hence  $S'$  is linear dependent. *Q.E.D.*

Proof of (b): Consider any equation  $a_1\vec{x}_1 + \dots + a_n\vec{x}_n = \vec{0}$ , where the  $a_i \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\vec{x}_i \in S'$ . Since  $S'$  is contained in  $S$ , we can also view this as a potential linear dependence among vectors in  $S$ . However,  $S$  is linearly independent, so it follows that all the  $a_i = 0 \in \mathbb{R}$ . Hence  $S'$  is also linearly independent. *Q.E.D.*

- 1.4.\*. **Example of showing linear independence.(1)** Show that the set  $\{1, x, x^2, x^3, \dots, x^n\}$  is linearly independent. We consider the following equation:

$$0 = a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + a_nx^n \quad (*)$$

Then we take the derivative:

$$\frac{d^n}{dx^n} (*) = 0 = n! \cdot a_n$$

Then since  $n! \neq 0$ , we know  $a_n = 0$ . We repeat the same process, taking derivatives  $(n-1)$  times w.r.t.  $x$  we get  $a_{n-1} = 0$  and so on. As a last step we have:

$$\frac{d}{dx} (*) = 0 = 1! \cdot a_1 \implies a_1 = 0$$

Then we have  $0 = 0 + 0 + \dots + a_0 \implies a_0 = 0$ . So the equation has and only has a trivial solution, thus the set  $\{1, x, x^2, x^3, \dots, x^n\}$  is linearly independent. *Q.E.D.*

- 1.4.\*. **Example of showing linear independence.(2)** Show that the set  $\{e^x, e^{2x}\}$  is linearly independent. We consider the following equation:

$$0 = ae^x + be^{2x} \quad (1)$$

We take derivative on both sides of (1) w.r.t.  $x$  and we have:

$$0 = ae^x + 2be^{2x} \quad (2)$$

We subtract (2) from (1) to get:

$$0 = be^{2x} \implies b = 0 \implies 0 = ae^x + 0 \implies a = 0$$

Since  $a = b = 0$  is the one and only solution to (1), we claim they are linearly independent. *Q.E.D.*

## 1.5 Interlude on solving SLEs

- 1.5.\*. **Note Aside:** This section of the book is covered, although not rigorously but completely, in MAT223. Hence the vast majority of definitions and corollary in this section were omitted. Consult the book for more detail on this.

- 1.5.1. **Definition of (homogeneous) SLEs**<sup>3</sup> A system of  $m$  equations in  $n$  unknowns  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  of the form:

$$\begin{aligned} a_{11}\vec{x}_1 + \dots + a_{1n}\vec{x}_n &= b_1 \\ a_{21}\vec{x}_1 + \dots + a_{2n}\vec{x}_n &= b_2 \\ &\dots \\ a_{m1}\vec{x}_1 + \dots + a_{mn}\vec{x}_n &= b_m \end{aligned}$$

where the  $a_{ij}$ ,  $b_i \in \mathbb{R}$ , is called a *system of linear equations*. The scalars  $a_{ij}$  are called coefficients or *weights* of the equations. We call this system **homogeneous** if and only if all the  $b_i$  are 0's.

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<sup>3</sup>System of Linear Equations

1.5.2. **Definition of equivalent SLEs** Two systems of linear equations are said to be equivalent if their sets of solutions are the same (i.e., mutual inclusion of the two solution sets)

1.5.3. **Propositions on operations on SLEs**<sup>4</sup>

- (a) The system obtained by adding any multiple of any one equation to any second equation, while leaving the other other equations unchanged, is an equivalent system.
- (b) The system obtained by multiplying any one equation by a non-zero scalar and leaving the other equations unchanged is an equivalent system.
- (c) The system obtained by interchanging any two equations is an equivalent system.

1.5.13. **Corollary** If  $m < n$ , every homogeneous system of  $m$  linear equations in  $n$  unknowns has a non-trivial solution.

## 1.6 Bases and Dimension

1.6.1. **Definition of basis.** A subset  $S$  of a vector space  $V$  is called a basis if  $V = \text{Span}(S)$  and the set  $S$  is linearly independent.

1.6.3. **Theorem.** Let  $V$  be a vector space, and let  $S$  be a non-empty subset of  $V$ . Then  $S$  is a basis of  $V$  if and only if  $\forall \vec{x} \in V, \vec{x}$  can be written *uniquely* as a linear combination of the vectors in  $S$ .

1.6.6. **Theorem.** Let  $V$  be a vector space that has a finite spanning set, and let  $S$  be a linearly independent subset of  $V$ . Then there exists a basis  $S'$  of  $V$ , such that  $S \subseteq S'$ . Note that this theorem is can be summarized as follows: Every linearly independent set of vectors could be extended to a basis. We do so by adding yet another vector that is linearly independent to all the vectors already in the set, but notice that this process should possibly be repeated but *not* infinite.

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<sup>4</sup>This should be familiar from MAT223, operations involved in row reducing an augmented matrix for a system of linear equations

1.6.8. **Lemma on linear independence towards a set and a vector.**

Let  $S$  be a linearly independent subset of  $V$  and let  $\vec{x} \in V$ , but  $\vec{x} \notin S$ . Then  $S \cup \{\vec{x}\}$  is linearly independent if and only if  $\vec{x} \notin \text{Span}(S)$ .

1.6.10. **Theorem on cardinality of linearly independent set.** Let  $V$  be a vector space and let  $S$  be a spanning set for  $V$ , which has  $m$  elements. Then no linearly independent set in  $V$  can have more than  $m$  elements.

Proof:

To show that there are no linearly independent set in  $V$  that can have more than  $m$  elements in it, it suffices to show that every set in  $V$  that has more than  $m$  elements in it is linearly dependent. Let  $S = \{y_1, \dots, y_m\}$  and  $S' = \{y_1, \dots, y_n\} \subset V$  where  $n > m$ . Now we consider the following equation:

$$a_1\vec{x}_1 + \dots + a_n\vec{x}_n = \vec{0} \quad \text{where } \vec{x}_i \in S', a_i \in \mathbb{R} \quad (1.1)$$

Since  $S$  is a spanning set for  $V$ , then  $\exists b_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}$ , s.t.  $\forall 1 \leq i \leq n$ :

$$\vec{x}_i = b_{i1}\vec{y}_1 + \dots + b_{im}\vec{y}_m = \sum_{j=1}^m b_{ij}\vec{y}_j$$

Then we substitute the  $\vec{x}_i$ 's into equation (1.1):

$$a_1 \left( \sum_{j=1}^m b_{1j}\vec{y}_j \right) + \dots + a_n \left( \sum_{j=1}^m b_{nj}\vec{y}_j \right) = \vec{0} \quad (1.2)$$

Rearranging (1.2), we have:

$$\left( \sum_{j=1}^n b_{1j}a_j \right) \vec{y}_1 + \dots + \left( \sum_{j=1}^n b_{mj}a_j \right) \vec{y}_m = \vec{0} \quad (1.3)$$

Now we consider the following SLE(The coefficients of (1.3)):

$$\begin{cases} b_{11}a_1 + \dots + b_{1n}a_n & = 0 \\ b_{21}a_1 + \dots + b_{2n}a_n & = 0 \\ & \vdots \\ b_{m1}a_1 + \dots + b_{mn}a_n & = 0 \end{cases}$$

If we can find a set of  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  that are not all zero that solves the above SLE, then those scalars will give us a linear dependence among the vectors in  $S'$  in (1.1). But the above SLE is a system of homogeneous linear equations in the  $n$  unknowns  $a_i$ 's, hence since  $m < n$ , by Corollary (1.5.13), there exists a non-trivial solution. Then  $S'$  is linearly dependent and this completes the proof.  $\mathcal{Q.E.D.}$

1.6.11. **Bases of a vector space shall have same cardinality.** Let  $V$  be a vector space and let  $S$  and  $S'$  be two bases of with  $m$  and  $m'$  elements, respectively. Then  $m = m'$ .

*Proof: (Euclid's style)*

Let  $S$  and  $S'$  with properties given as above. Since they are bases, we know: (By Theorem 1.6.10)

- (a)  $S$  is a spanning set and  $S'$  is a linearly independent set  
 $\implies m' = |S'| \leq |S| = m$
- (b)  $S'$  is a spanning set and  $S$  is a linearly independent set  
 $\implies m = |S| \leq |S'| = m'$

Then,  $m' = m$ .

$\mathcal{Q.E.D.}$

1.6.12. **Definitions of (in)finite-dimension**

- (a) If  $V$  is a vector space with some finite basis (possibly empty), we say  $V$  is *finite-dimensional*. We say the vector space is *infinite-dimensional* otherwise.
- (b) Let  $V$  be a *finite-dimensional* vector space. The dimension of  $V$ , denoted as  $\dim(V)$ , is the number of elements in a (hence any) basis of  $V$ .
- (c) If  $V = \{\vec{0}\}$ , we define  $\dim(V) = 0$ . **Remark:** Please note that is consistent with our definition of span of a empty set. We defined the span of empty set to be  $\{\vec{0}\}$ , and hence  $\{\vec{0}\}$  is the resulting space of all the possibly linear combination of vectors in the empty set (where there is none). Then the cardinality of the empty set (which is zero) is here defined as the dimension of the zero vector space.

1.6.13. **Examples on dimensions of vector spaces.** If we have a basis of  $V$ , then computing  $\dim(V)$  is simply a matter of counting the number

of vectors in a (hence any) basis for the vectors space. We explore this by looking at the following examples

- (a) For each  $n$ ,  $\dim(\mathbb{R}^n) = n$ . This is a consequence of the standard basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is of the form:  $\{\vec{e}_1, \dots, \vec{e}_n\}$  has  $n$  elements in it.
- (b)  $\dim(P_n(\mathbb{R})) = n + 1$ , since  $|\{1, x^1, x^2, \dots, x^n\}| = n + 1$ .<sup>5</sup>
- (c) The vector spaces  $P(\mathbb{R})$ <sup>6</sup>,  $C^n(\mathbb{R})$ , where  $n \in \mathbb{N}^{\geq 0}$ , are not of finite dimension, and hence are called *infinite dimensional*.

1.6.14. **Corollary.** Let  $W$  be a subspace of a finite-dimensional vector space  $V$ . Then  $\dim(W) \leq \dim(V)$ . Furthermore,  $\dim(W) = \dim(V)$  if and only if  $W = V$ .

1.6.15. **Corollary.** Let  $W$  be a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  defined by a system of homogeneous linear equations. The  $\dim(W)$  is equal to the number of free variables in the corresponding echelon form of the equations.

**Generalization.** It is also worth pointing out that by setting the free variables equal to one in turn<sup>7</sup>, we can always generate a basis for the subspace. Referring to example (1.6.16) in the book, we see that we have two free variables, and the two (linearly independent) vectors obtained from the method described above that form a 2-dimensional subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^5$ .

1.6.18. **Inclusion-Exclusion principle of dimensions.** Let  $W_1$  and  $W_2$  be finite dimensional sub-spaces of a vector space  $V$ . Then,

$$\dim(W_1 + W_2) = \dim(W_1) + \dim(W_2) - \dim(W_1 \cap W_2)$$

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<sup>5</sup>The absolute value marks around a set returns the cardinality of the set.

<sup>6</sup>Here  $P(\mathbb{R})$  means the vector space of all polynomials that are  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

<sup>7</sup>By in turn we mean set one of them to one and all others zero, one at a time

# Chapter 2

## Linear Transformations

### 2.1 Linear Transformations

2.1.1. **Definition of linear transformation.**<sup>1</sup> A function  $T : V \rightarrow W$  is called a *linear mapping* or a *linear transformation* if it satisfies:

- (a)  $\forall \vec{u}, \vec{v} \in V, T(\vec{u} + \vec{v}) = T(\vec{u}) + T(\vec{v})$
- (b)  $\forall \alpha \in \mathbb{R}, \vec{v} \in V, T(\alpha \vec{v}) = \alpha T(\vec{v})$

2.1.2. **Proposition: alternative definition of L.T.s** A function  $T : V \rightarrow W$  is a linear transformation if and only if

$$\forall \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}, \forall \vec{u}, \vec{v} \in V, T(\alpha \vec{u} + \beta \vec{v}) = \alpha T(\vec{u}) + \beta T(\vec{v}).$$

Proof( $\implies$ ):

Assuming that  $T$  is a linear transformation, then the definition in (2.1.1) must satisfy. Let  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}, \vec{u}, \vec{v} \in V$ , then:

$$\begin{aligned} T(\alpha \vec{u} + \beta \vec{v}) &= T(\alpha \vec{u}) + T(\beta \vec{v}) && // \text{ by (a)} \\ &= \alpha T(\vec{u}) + \beta T(\vec{v}) && // \text{ by (b)} \end{aligned}$$

Proof( $\impliedby$ ):

Assuming the alternative definition, we want to show the definition given in (2.1.1). Since the quantifier is  $\forall$ , we can take  $\alpha = \beta = 1$ , (arbitrary)  $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in V$  in the alternative definition which directly yields

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<sup>1</sup>Familiar from MAT223



us (a) of (2.1.1). Then we take  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}, \beta = 0, \vec{u}, \vec{v} \in V$ . In this case, we want to show that  $T(\alpha\vec{u}) = \alpha T(\vec{u})$ . We proceed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} T(\alpha\vec{u} + \beta\vec{v}) &= T(\alpha\vec{u} + 0\vec{v}) \\ &= \alpha T(\vec{u}) + 0T(\vec{v}) \\ &= \alpha T(\vec{u}) \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}, \vec{u} \in V$  are arbitrary, this completes the proof.  $\mathcal{Q.E.D.}$

**2.1.3. Corollary.** A function  $T : V \rightarrow W$  is a linear transformation if and only if

$$\forall a_1, \dots, a_k \in \mathbb{R}, \forall \vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k \in V : T\left(\sum_{i=1}^k a_i \vec{v}_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^k a_i T(\vec{v}_i) \quad (2.1)$$

*Proof:* To show this if and only if relationship, we have to consider the implication of both directions. Since (2.1.2) is just a special case of (2.1.3) then we are done in proving (2.1.3)  $\implies$  (2.1.2). We will prove the other direction by mathematical induction (on  $k$ ) to generalize the case of  $k = 2$  to arbitrary  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Define  $P(k) : \text{"(2.1) holds"}$ .

Claim that  $\forall k \in \mathbb{N}^{\geq 2}, P(k)$ .

**BASIS CASE:**  $k = 2$ . In this case the wanted equality is the same as the one proved in (2.1.2), so  $P(2)$ .

**INDUCTIVE STEP:** Let  $k \in \mathbb{N}^{\geq 2}$ , assume  $P(k - 1)$ , we want to show that  $P(k)$  follows.

$$\begin{aligned} T\left(\sum_{i=1}^k a_i \vec{v}_i\right) &= T\left(a_k \vec{v}_k + \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} a_i \vec{v}_i\right) \\ &= a_k T(\vec{v}_k) + T\left(\sum_{i=1}^{k-1} a_i \vec{v}_i\right) \quad // \text{ By (2.1.1)} \\ &= a_k T(\vec{v}_k) + \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} a_i T(\vec{v}_i) \quad // \text{ By } P(k - 1) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^k a_i T(\vec{v}_i) \end{aligned}$$

So  $P(k)$  follows in this case.

$\mathcal{Q.E.D.}$

2.1.9. **Angle between two vectors.** If  $\vec{0} \neq \vec{a} \in \mathbb{R}^2$  and  $\vec{0} \neq \vec{b} \in \mathbb{R}^2$ , then the angle  $\theta$  between them must be<sup>2</sup>

$$\theta = \arccos \left( \frac{\langle \vec{a}, \vec{b} \rangle}{\|\vec{a}\| \cdot \|\vec{b}\|} \right)$$

**Remark.** Notice that this definition could also be extended to  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

2.1.10. **Corollary on orthogonality of vectors.** If  $\mathbb{R}^2 \ni \vec{a} \neq \vec{0}$  and  $\mathbb{R}^2 \ni \vec{b} \neq \vec{0}$ , then the angle  $\theta$  between them is a right angle if and only if  $\langle \vec{a}, \vec{b} \rangle = 0$ .

**Remark.** Note this definition of orthogonality could be extended to all euclidean vector spaces. The orthogonal complement of a subspace is the space of all vectors that are orthogonal to every vector in the subspace. In a three-dimensional Euclidean vector space, the orthogonal complement of a line through the origin is the plane through the origin perpendicular to it, and vice versa. In four-dimensional Euclidean space, for example, the orthogonal complement of a line is a hyper-plane and vice versa, and that of a plane is a plane.

2.1.14. **Proposition.** If  $T : V \rightarrow W$  is a linear transformation and  $V$  is finite-dimensional, then  $T$  is uniquely determined by its values on the members of a basis of  $V$ . To make this proposition more clear, we present the proof below. We will show that if  $S$  and  $T$  are linear transformations that take the same values on each member of a basis for  $V$ , then in fact  $S = T$ .

*Proof:*

Let  $\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k\}$  be a basis for  $V$ , and let  $S$  and  $T$  be two linear transformations that satisfy  $T(\vec{v}_i) = S(\vec{v}_i), \forall i \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ . If  $\vec{v} \in V$ ,  $\vec{v} = a_1\vec{v}_1 + \dots + a_k\vec{v}_k$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} T(\vec{v}) &= T(a_1\vec{v}_1 + \dots + a_k\vec{v}_k) \\ &= a_1T(\vec{v}_1) + \dots + a_kT(\vec{v}_k) \quad // \text{ Since } T \text{ is linear} \\ &= a_1S(\vec{v}_1) + \dots + a_kS(\vec{v}_k) \\ &= S(a_1\vec{v}_1 + \dots + a_k\vec{v}_k) \quad // \text{ Since } S \text{ is linear} \\ &= S(\vec{v}) \end{aligned}$$

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<sup>2</sup>The angle brackets here denotes the inner product of vectors

Hence  $S$  and  $T$  are equal as mappings from  $V$  to  $W$ .

$\mathcal{Q.E.D.}$

## 2.2 Linear Transformations between finite dimensional vector spaces

**2.2.1. Proposition.** Let  $T : V \rightarrow W$  be a linear transformation between the finite dimensional vector spaces  $V$  and  $W$ . If  $\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k\}$  is a basis for  $V$  and  $\{\vec{w}_1, \dots, \vec{w}_l\}$  is a basis for  $W$ , then  $T : V \rightarrow W$  is uniquely determined by the  $l \cdot k$  scalars used to express  $T(\vec{v}_j)$ , where  $j \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ , in terms of  $\vec{w}_1, \dots, \vec{w}_l$ .

**2.2.6. Matrix of a transformation w.r.t.  $\alpha, \beta$ .** Let  $T : V \rightarrow W$  be a linear transformation between finite-dimensional vector spaces  $V$  and  $W$ , and let  $\alpha = \{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k\}$  and  $\beta = \{\vec{w}_1, \dots, \vec{w}_l\}$ , respectively, be any basis for  $V$  and  $W$ . Let  $a_{ij}$ , where  $1 \leq i \leq l$  and  $1 \leq j \leq k$  be the  $l \cdot k$  scalars that determined  $T$  with respect to the bases  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ . The matrix whose entries are the scalars  $a_{ij}$ , given above, is called the *matrix of the linear transformation  $T$  with respect to the bases  $\alpha$  for  $V$  and  $\beta$  for  $W$* . We denote such matrix with following notation:  $[T]_{\alpha}^{\beta}$ .

**Notice that**, again,  $\alpha$  is a basis for  $V$ , the domain of the transformation and  $\beta$  is a basis for  $W$ , the co-domain of the transformation.

**Remark.** This should be familiar from MAT223, where we perform transformation on each and every element in a basis for a space, and transcribe them, in terms of another basis, into a standard matrix for the transformation.

**2.2.15. Proposition: Linear Transformation on alternative basis.** Let  $T : V \rightarrow W$  be a linear transformation between vector spaces  $V$  of dimension  $k$  and  $W$  of dimension  $l$ . Let  $\alpha = \{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k\}$  be a basis for  $V$ , and let  $\beta = \{\vec{w}_1, \dots, \vec{w}_l\}$  be a basis for  $W$ . Then for each  $\vec{v} \in V$ , we have the following:

$$[T(\vec{v})]_{\beta} = [T]_{\alpha}^{\beta} [\vec{v}]_{\alpha}$$

One can think about this in the sense that the same transformation could have been accomplished under another basis. We just have to convert the original problem into some easy to solve basis, perform the transformation under that basis, and then convert the result back. We

now present the proof for this proposition.

Proof: Let  $\vec{v} = x_1\vec{v}_1 + \dots + x_k\vec{v}_k \in V$ . Then if  $T(\vec{v}_j) = a_{1j}\vec{w}_1 + \dots + a_{lj}\vec{w}_l$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} T(\vec{v}) &= \sum_{j=1}^k x_j T(\vec{v}_j) \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^k x_j \left( \sum_{i=1}^l a_{ij} \vec{w}_i \right) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^l \left( \sum_{j=1}^k x_j a_{ij} \right) \vec{w}_i \end{aligned}$$

Thus the  $i$ -th coefficient of  $T(\vec{v})$  in terms of  $\beta$  is  $\sum_{j=1}^k x_j a_{ij}$ , and

$$[T(\vec{v})]_{\beta} = \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{j=1}^k x_j a_{1j} \\ \dots \\ \dots \\ \dots \\ \sum_{j=1}^k x_j a_{lj} \end{bmatrix}$$

*Q.E.D.*

**Proposition: Property of matrix *times* L.C. of vectors.** Note that in this proposition, we assume the vectors and the matrix are compatible<sup>3</sup>. Let  $A$  be an  $l \times k$  matrix and  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$  be column vectors with  $k$  entries. Then,

$$\forall \text{ pairs of } a \in \mathbb{R}, b \in \mathbb{R}, A(a\vec{u} + b\vec{v}) = aA\vec{u} + bA\vec{v}$$

Proof: Since  $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^k$ , let them be  $\vec{u} = (u_1, \dots, u_k)^T$  and  $\vec{v} = (v_1, \dots, v_k)^T$ . Fix  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} A(a\vec{u} + b\vec{v}) &= A \left( a(u_1, \dots, u_k)^T + b(v_1, \dots, v_k)^T \right) \\ &= A \left( (a \cdot u_1, \dots, a \cdot u_k)^T + (b \cdot v_1, \dots, b \cdot v_k)^T \right) \\ &= A(a \cdot u_1 + b \cdot v_1, \dots, a \cdot u_k + b \cdot v_k)^T \\ &= \dots \end{aligned}$$

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<sup>3</sup>i.e., They can *always* perform the operations that we want

**Proposition.** Let  $\alpha = \{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k\}$  be a basis for  $V$  and  $\beta = \{\vec{w}_1, \dots, \vec{w}_l\}$  be a basis for  $W$ , and let  $\vec{v} = x_1\vec{v}_1 + \dots + x_k\vec{v}_k \in V$ .

- (a) If  $A$  is an  $l \times k$  matrix, then the function  $T(\vec{v}) = \vec{w}$ , where  $[\vec{w}]_\beta A [\vec{v}]_\alpha$  is a linear transformation.
- (b) If  $A = [S]_\alpha^\beta$  is the matrix of a transformation  $S : V \rightarrow W$ , then the transformation  $T$  constructed from  $[S]_\alpha^\beta$  is equal to  $S$ .
- (c) If  $T$  is the transformation of (a) constructed from  $A$ , then  $[T]_\alpha^\beta = A$ .

2.2.20. **Proposition.** Let  $V$  and  $W$  be finite-dimensional vector spaces. Let  $\alpha$  be a basis for  $V$  and  $\beta$  a basis for  $W$ . Then the assignment of a matrix to a linear transformation from  $V$  to  $W$  given by  $T$  goes to  $[T]_\alpha^\beta$  is bijective<sup>4</sup>.

## 2.3 Kernel and image

2.3.1. **Definition of Kernel.**<sup>5</sup> The *kernel* of  $T$ , denoted  $\text{Ker}(T)$ , is the subset of  $V$  consisting of all vectors  $\vec{v} \in V$  such that  $T(\vec{v}) = \vec{0}$ . Writing in familiar set builder notation:

$$\text{Ker}(T) := \{\vec{v} \in V \mid T(\vec{v}) = \vec{0}\} =: \text{Null}(T)$$

2.3.2. **Proposition: Kernel is a subspace.**<sup>6</sup> Let  $T : V \rightarrow W$  be a linear transformation.  $\text{Ker}(T)$  is a subspace of  $V$ .

*Proof:*

Since  $\text{Ker}(T) \subset V$ , it suffices to show that  $\text{Ker}(T)$  is closed under addition and scalar multiplication. Since  $T$  is linear,  $\forall \vec{u}, \vec{v} \in \text{Ker}(T)$  and  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ , we have

$$T(\vec{u} + a\vec{v}) = T(\vec{u}) + aT(\vec{v}) = \vec{0} + a\vec{0} \implies \vec{u} + a\vec{v} \in \text{Ker}(T)$$

*Q.E.D.*

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<sup>4</sup>Injective and surjective

<sup>5</sup>a.k.a Null Space

<sup>6</sup>In fact, kernel is one the three fundamental sub-spaces related to a vector space. The others are Row Space and Column Space.