

## UNIT III

**Definition 1.1:** Let  $F$  be a non empty set (we require  $F$  to have at least two elements) on which there are two binary operations '+' and '.' called addition and multiplication, respectively. Then the set  $F$  together with these operations is said to be a **field**, if the following axioms are satisfied:

- i. *Addition is closed:* For all  $a, b \in F$ ,  $a + b \in F$
- ii. *Addition is commutative:* For all  $a, b \in F$ ,  $a + b = b + a$
- iii. *Addition is associative:* For all  $a, b, c \in F$ ,  $a + (b + c) = (a + b) + c$
- iv. *Additive identity element:* There exists an element  $0 \in F$ , such that  $a + 0 = a$  for all  $a \in F$ .
- v. *Additive inverse exists:* For all  $a \in F$ , there exists an element  $-a \in F$  such that  $a + (-a) = 0$ .
- vi. *Multiplication is closed:* For all  $a, b \in F$ ,  $a.b \in F$
- vii. *Multiplication is commutative:* For all  $a, b \in F$ ,  $a.b = b.a$
- viii. *Multiplication is associative:* For all  $a, b, c \in F$ ,  $a(b.c) = (a.b)c$
- ix. *Multiplicative identity element:* There exists an element of  $1 \in F$ , such that  $1.a = a$  for all  $a \in F$ .
- x. *Reciprocals exists:* For all  $a \neq 0 \in F$ , there exists an element  $a^{-1} \in F$  such that  $a.(a^{-1}) = 1$ .
- xi. *Distributivity:* For all  $a, b, c \in F$ ,  $a(b + c) = a.b + a.c$  and  $(a + b)c = a.c + b.c$

**Examples of Field:**  $\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}, \mathbb{Q}$ , etc.

**Definition 1.2:** A **vector space** over a field  $F$  is a set  $V$  on which two operations '+' and '.' are defined, called vector addition and scalar multiplication. The operation + (vector addition) must satisfy the following conditions:

*Closure:* If  $u$  and  $v$  are any vectors in  $V$ , then the sum  $u + v \in V$ .

- i. *Commutative law:* For all  $u, v \in V$ ,  $u + v = v + u$
- ii. *Associative law:* For all  $u, v, w \in V$ ,  $u + (v + w) = (u + v) + w$
- iii. *Additive identity:* There exists an additive identity element  $\mathbf{0} \in V$ , such that for any vector  $v$  in  $V$ ,  $v + \mathbf{0} = v$

- iv. *Additive inverse*: For each vector  $\mathbf{v} \in V$ , the equations  $\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  and  $\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$  have a solution  $\mathbf{x}$  in  $V$ , called an additive inverse of  $\mathbf{v}$ , and denoted by  $-\mathbf{v}$ .

The operation  $\cdot$  (scalar multiplication) is defined between real numbers and vectors, and must satisfy the following conditions:

*Closure*: If  $\mathbf{v}$  is any vector in  $V$ , and  $c$  is any real number, then the product  $c \cdot \mathbf{v}$  belongs to  $V$ .

- v. *Distributive law (a)*: For all real numbers  $c$  and all vectors  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}$  in  $V$ ,  
 $c \cdot (\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) = c \cdot \mathbf{u} + c \cdot \mathbf{v}$
- vi. *Distributive law (b)*: For all real numbers  $c, d$  and all vectors  $\mathbf{v}$  in  $V$ ,  
 $(c + d) \cdot \mathbf{v} = c \cdot \mathbf{v} + d \cdot \mathbf{v}$
- vii. *Associative law*: For all real numbers  $c, d$  and all vectors  $\mathbf{v}$  in  $V$ ,  $c \cdot (d \cdot \mathbf{v}) = (cd) \cdot \mathbf{v}$
- viii. *Unitary law*: For all vectors  $\mathbf{v}$  in  $V$ ,  $1 \cdot \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}$

**Definition 1.3:** Let  $V$  be a vector space, and let  $W$  be a subset of  $V$ . If  $W$  is a vector space with respect to the operations in  $V$ , then  $W$  is called a **subspace** of  $V$ .

**Theorem 1.1:** Let  $V$  be a vector space, with operations  $+$  and  $\cdot$ , and let  $W$  be a subset of  $V$ . Then  $W$  is a subspace of  $V$  if and only if the following conditions hold.

- i.  *$W$  is nonempty*: The zero vector belongs to  $W$ .
- ii. *Closure under  $+$* : If  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  are any vectors in  $W$ , then  $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} \in W$ .
- iii. *Closure under  $\cdot$* : If  $\mathbf{v}$  is any vector in  $W$ , and  $c$  is any real number, then  $c \cdot \mathbf{v} \in W$

**e.g. (a)**  $W = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}; a \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , while the set  $W = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}; a \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$  is not.

**(b)** For any vector space  $V$  the subset  $W = \{\mathbf{0}\}$ , consisting of only the zero vector, is a subspace of  $V$ , called the trivial subspace.

**Ex 1.1:** Let  $W = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a \\ a+1 \end{bmatrix}; a \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$  be subset of the vector space  $V = \mathbb{R}^2$ . Determine whether  $W$  is a subspace of  $V$ .

**Ex 1.2:** Let  $W = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 3t \\ 0 \\ -2t \end{bmatrix}; t \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$  be subset of the vector space  $V = \mathbb{R}^3$ . Determine whether  $W$  is a subspace of  $V$ .

**Ex 1.3:** Given  $\mathbf{v}_1$  and  $\mathbf{v}_2$  in a vector space  $V$ , Let  $H = \text{span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\}$ . Show that  $H$  is a subspace of  $V$ . (*Attempt this question after studying spanning sets*).

**Ex.1.4:** Let  $V$  be a set in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  with usual vector addition, but with scalar multiplication defined by  $\alpha \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha y \\ \alpha x \end{bmatrix}$ .

Determine whether or not  $V$  is a vector space with these operations.

**Ex. 1.5:** Let  $W_1$  and  $W_2$  be the subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  with the standard operations given by

$$W_1 = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}; x \in \mathbb{R} \right\} \text{ and } W_2 = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ y \end{bmatrix}; y \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

Show that  $W_1 \cup W_2$  is not a subspace.

**Definition 1.4:** Let  $S = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k\}$  be a set of vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and let  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k$  be scalars. An expression of the form

$$c_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{v}_2 + \dots + c_k \mathbf{v}_k = \sum_{i=1}^k c_i \mathbf{v}_i$$

is called a **linear combination** of the vectors of  $S$ . Any vector  $\mathbf{v}$  that can be written in this form is also called a **linear combination** of the vectors of  $S$ .

Every vector in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  can be obtained from the three coordinate vectors  $\mathbf{e}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,

$$\mathbf{e}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ and } \mathbf{e}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

for example, the vector  $\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = 2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + 3 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + 3 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

The vector  $\mathbf{v}$  is obtained by adding scalar multiples of the coordinate vectors. The vectors  $\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2$ , and  $\mathbf{e}_3$  are not unique in this respect. For example, the vector  $\mathbf{v}$  can also be written as the combination of the vectors

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \mathbf{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ that is } 3\mathbf{v}_1 - \mathbf{v}_2 + \mathbf{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{v}.$$

Thus the vector  $\mathbf{v}$  is the linear combination of the vectors  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2$ , and  $\mathbf{v}_3$ .

**Ex. 1.6:** Determine whether the vector  $\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 10 \end{bmatrix}$  is the linear combination of the vectors  $\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 3 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} -6 \\ 7 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$ .

**Ex. 1.7:** Determine whether the vector  $\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ 11 \\ -7 \end{bmatrix}$  is the linear combination of the vectors  $\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 5 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 8 \end{bmatrix}$ .

**Ex. 1.8:** Show that the matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  is the linear combination of the matrices  $M_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $M_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $M_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

*(Attempt examples 1.6, 1.7 and 1.8 after studying solution of simultaneous linear equations)*

**Definition 1.5:** The set of vectors  $S = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_m\}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is **linearly independent** provided that the only solution to the equation

$$c_1\mathbf{v}_1 + c_2\mathbf{v}_2 + \dots + c_m\mathbf{v}_m = \mathbf{0}$$

is the trivial solution  $c_1 = c_2 = \dots = c_m = 0$ . If the above linear combination has a nontrivial solution, then the set  $S$  is called **linearly dependent**.

For example, the set of coordinate vectors  $S = \{\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \dots, \mathbf{e}_n\}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is linearly independent.

**Ex. 1.9:** Check whether the vectors  $\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$  are linearly dependent or independent.

**Ex. 1.10:** Check whether the vectors  $\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$  are linearly dependent or independent.

**Theorem 1.2:** If a set of vectors  $S$  is linearly independent, then any subset of  $S$  is also a linearly independent set of vectors.

**Proof:** Let  $S = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k, \mathbf{v}_{k+1}, \dots, \mathbf{v}_m\}$  and  $T = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k\}$  be a subset of  $S$ . Consider the equation

$$c_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{v}_2 + \dots + c_k \mathbf{v}_k = \mathbf{0}$$

Next let  $c_{k+1} = c_{k+2} = \dots = c_m = 0$ , and consider the linear combination

$$c_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{v}_2 + \dots + c_k \mathbf{v}_k + 0\mathbf{v}_{k+1} + \dots + 0\mathbf{v}_m = \mathbf{0}$$

Since  $S$  is linearly independent,  $c_1 = c_2 = \dots = c_k = 0$ , and hence  $T$  is linearly independent.

**Theorem 1.3:** If a set of vectors  $T$  is linearly dependent and  $S$  is a set of vectors that contains  $T$ , then  $S$  is also a linearly dependent set of vectors.

**Proof:** Let  $T = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k\}$  and suppose that  $T \subset S$ . Label the vectors of  $S$  that are not in  $T$  as  $\mathbf{v}_{k+1}, \dots, \mathbf{v}_m$ . Since  $T$  is linearly dependent, there are scalars  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k$  not all zero, such that

$$c_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{v}_2 + \dots + c_k \mathbf{v}_k = \mathbf{0}$$

Then  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k, c_{k+1} = c_{k+2} = \dots = c_m = 0$  is a collection of  $m$  scalars, not all 0, with

$$c_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{v}_2 + \dots + c_k \mathbf{v}_k + 0\mathbf{v}_{k+1} + \dots + 0\mathbf{v}_m = \mathbf{0}$$

Consequently,  $S$  is linearly dependent.

**Theorem 1.4:** A set of nonzero vectors is linearly dependent if and only if at least one of the vectors is a linear combination of other vectors in the set.

**Proof:** Let  $S = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  be a set of nonzero vectors that is linearly dependent. Then there are scalars  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n$ , not all zero, with

$$c_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{v}_2 + \dots + c_n \mathbf{v}_n = \mathbf{0}$$

Suppose that  $c_k \neq 0$ , for some index  $k$ . Then solving the previous equation for the vector  $\mathbf{v}_k$ , we have

$$\mathbf{v}_k = -\frac{c_1}{c_k} \mathbf{v}_1 - \dots - \frac{c_{k-1}}{c_k} \mathbf{v}_{k-1} - \frac{c_{k+1}}{c_k} \mathbf{v}_{k+1} - \dots - \frac{c_n}{c_k} \mathbf{v}_n$$

Conversely, let  $\mathbf{v}_k$  be such that

$$\mathbf{v}_k = c_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{v}_2 + \dots + c_{k-1} \mathbf{v}_{k-1} + c_{k+1} \mathbf{v}_{k+1} + \dots + c_n \mathbf{v}_n$$

Then

$$c_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{v}_2 + \dots + c_{k-1} \mathbf{v}_{k-1} + (-1) \mathbf{v}_k + c_{k+1} \mathbf{v}_{k+1} + \dots + c_n \mathbf{v}_n = \mathbf{0}$$

Since the coefficient of  $\mathbf{v}_k$  is  $-1$ , the linear system has a nontrivial solution. Hence, the set  $S$  is linearly dependent.

**Theorem 1.5**<sup>1</sup>:  $S = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  be a linearly independent set. Suppose that there are scalars  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n$  such that

$$\mathbf{v} = \sum_{k=1}^n c_k \mathbf{v}_k$$

Then the scalars are unique.

**Proof:** Let  $\mathbf{v}$  be written as

$$\mathbf{v} = \sum_{k=1}^n c_k \mathbf{v}_k \text{ and as } \mathbf{v} = \sum_{k=1}^n d_k \mathbf{v}_k$$

<sup>1</sup> Given a set of vectors  $S = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  and an arbitrary vector  $\mathbf{v}$  not in  $S$ , it may or may not be possible to write  $\mathbf{v}$  as a linear combination of  $S$ . Also sometimes when the set  $S$  is  $\mathcal{LD}$ ,  $\mathbf{v}$  can be written as a linear combination of the vectors of  $S$  in infinitely many ways [e.g.  $S = \{(1,1), (3,3)\}$  and  $\mathbf{v} = (2,2)$ ]. This cannot happen for a linearly independent set as is shown in Theorem 1.5.

Then

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{0} &= \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v} = \sum_{k=1}^n c_k \mathbf{v}_k - \sum_{k=1}^n d_k \mathbf{v}_k \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^n (c_k - d_k) \mathbf{v}_k\end{aligned}$$

Since the set of vectors  $S$  is linearly independent, the only solution to this last equation is the trivial one. that is,

$$c_1 - d_1 = 0, c_2 - d_2 = 0, \dots, c_n - d_n = 0$$

$$\text{or } c_1 = d_1, c_2 = d_2, \dots, c_n = d_n$$

**Theorem 1.6:** If a set of vectors  $S = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  contains the zero vector, then  $S$  is linearly dependent.

**Proof:** *Do it yourself....*

**Theorem 1.7:** A set of mutually orthogonal vectors is linearly independent.

**Proof:** Let  $S = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  is a set of mutually orthogonal vectors.

Suppose  $\sum_{i=1}^k c_i \mathbf{v}_i = \mathbf{0}$ , with  $c_k \neq 0$  (i.e. assume that  $S$  is a set of linearly dependent vectors)

Taking the scalar product of the above equation with  $\mathbf{v}_k$  we obtain

$$\mathbf{v}_k \sum_{i=1}^k c_i \mathbf{v}_i = \mathbf{v}_k \cdot \mathbf{0}$$

Using the orthogonal property  $\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2 = 0$ , the above equation reduces to

$$c_k \mathbf{v}_k \cdot \mathbf{v}_k = 0$$

Thus  $c_k = 0$ , as  $\mathbf{v}_k$  is not a null vector (because set of linearly independent vectors cannot have a null vector).

This contradicts our initial assumption of linear dependence of  $S$ .

Hence  $S$  is a set of linearly independent vectors.

**Theorem 1.8<sup>2</sup>:** Let  $S = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  be a set of  $n$  nonzero vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ . If  $n > m$ , then the set  $S$  is linearly dependent.

**Proof:** Let  $A$  be the  $m \times n$  matrix with column vectors the vectors of  $S$  so that

$$A_i = \mathbf{v}_i \text{ for } i = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

In this way

$$c_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{v}_2 + \dots + c_n \mathbf{v}_n = \mathbf{0}$$

in matrix form, is the homogeneous linear system

$$A\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{0} \text{ where } \mathbf{c} = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{bmatrix}$$

As  $A$  is not square with  $n > m$ , there is at least one free variable. Thus, the solution is not unique and  $S = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  is linearly dependent.

**Definition 1.6:** A set of vectors  $S = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_r\}$  from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is said to be a **spanning set** for  $\mathbb{R}^n$  if every vector in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  can be written as a linear combination of the vectors in  $S$ .

**Definition 1.7<sup>3</sup>:** Let  $V$  be a vector space and let  $S = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  be a (finite) set of vectors in  $V$ . The **span** of  $S$ , denoted by ***span***( $S$ ), is the set

$$\mathbf{span}(S) = \{c_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{v}_2 + \dots + c_n \mathbf{v}_n : c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

**Proposition 1.1 notes:** If  $S = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  is a set of vectors in a vector space  $V$ , then ***span***( $S$ ), is a subspace.

<sup>2</sup> From theorem 1.8, any set of three or more vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , four or more vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , five or more vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^4$ , and so on, is linearly dependent. this theorem does not address the case for which  $n \leq m$ . In this case, a set of  $n$  vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^m$  may be either linearly independent or linearly dependent.

<sup>3</sup> Consider the set  $S = \{(1,0,0), (0,1,0), (0,0,1)\}$ . This is the ***spanning set*** for  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . On the other hand, ***span*** of this set  $S$ , i.e. ***span***( $S$ ) = ***span***( $\{(1,0,0), (0,1,0), (0,0,1)\}$ ) =  $\mathbb{R}^3$



**Proof:** Do it yourself... (hint: let  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{w}$  be vectors in  $\text{span}(S)$  and  $c$  a scalar)

**Ex. 1.11:** Let  $S$  be the subset of the vector space  $\mathbb{R}^3$  defined by

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

Show that

$$\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ 4 \\ -6 \end{bmatrix}$$

is in  $\text{span}(S)$ .

**Definition 1.8:** A subset  $B$  of a vector space  $V$  is a **basis for  $V$**  provided that

1.  $B$  is a linearly independent set of vectors in  $V$ .
2.  $\text{span}(B) = V$  (i.e each vector in  $V$  can be written as the linear combination of vectors in  $B$ ).

**Definition 1.9:** The dimension of the vector space  $V$ , denoted by  $\dim(V)$ , is the number of vectors in any basis of  $V$ .

For example, since the standard basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is  $\{\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \dots, \mathbf{e}_n\}$ , we have  $\dim(\mathbb{R}^n) = n$

We call a vector space  $V$  **finite dimensional** if there exists a basis for  $V$  with a finite number of vectors. If such a basis does not exist, then  $V$  is called **infinite dimensional**.

**Note<sup>4</sup>:** To determine whether a set of  $n$  vectors from a vector space of dimension  $n$  is or not a basis, it is sufficient to verify either that the set spans the vector space or that the set is linearly independent.

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<sup>4</sup> This also comes from 'The Basis Theorem' which states "Let  $V$  be a  $n$  – dimensional vector space. Any linearly independent set of **exactly**  $n$  vectors in  $V$  is automatically a basis for  $V$ ."

**Ex. 1.12:** Determine whether

$$B = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

is a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

**Solution:** Since  $(\dim \mathbb{R}^3) = 3$ , the set  $B$  is a basis if it is linearly independent.

Now show that the given set is linearly independent.....(*complete it yourself*)

**Theorem 1.9:** The Representation of any vector in terms of the given basis is unique.

**Proof:** Same as theorem 1.5

**Theorem 1.10:** Given a set of basis vectors  $S = \{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \mathbf{a}_r\}$  for  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and any other vector  $\mathbf{b} \neq \mathbf{0}$  from  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Then, if in the expression of  $\mathbf{b}$  as a linear combination of the vectors in  $S$ ,

$$\mathbf{b} = \sum_{i=1}^r \alpha_i \mathbf{a}_i$$

any vector  $\mathbf{a}_i$  for which  $\alpha_i \neq 0$  is removed from the set  $S = \{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \mathbf{a}_r\}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  is added to the set, the new collection of  $r$  vectors is also a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

**Proof:** Given

$$\mathbf{b} = \sum_{i=1}^r \alpha_i \mathbf{a}_i = \alpha_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + \alpha_2 \mathbf{a}_2 + \dots + \alpha_r \mathbf{a}_r \quad \dots \dots (1)$$

Without loss of generality we can assume that  $\alpha_r \neq 0$ .

Replacing  $\mathbf{a}_r$  by  $\mathbf{b}$  we get the new set as

$$S_1 = \{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \mathbf{a}_{r-1}, \mathbf{b}\} \quad \dots \dots (2)$$

To show that (2) is also a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  we have to show that the set of vectors (2) is linearly independent.

Let (2) is linearly dependent, that is

$$\beta_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + \beta_2 \mathbf{a}_2 + \cdots + \beta_{r-1} \mathbf{a}_{r-1} + \beta_r \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{0} \quad \cdots \cdots (3)$$

where all  $\beta_i$ 's are not zero.

As any subset of linearly independent set is linearly independent, thus subset of  $S$ , i.e.  $\{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \cdots \mathbf{a}_{r-1}, \}$  is linearly independent. Substituting the value of  $\mathbf{b}$  from (1) in (3), we get

$$\beta_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + \beta_2 \mathbf{a}_2 + \cdots + \beta_{r-1} \mathbf{a}_{r-1} + \beta_r (\alpha_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + \alpha_2 \mathbf{a}_2 + \cdots + \alpha_r \mathbf{a}_r) = \mathbf{0}$$

$$(\beta_1 + \beta_r \alpha_1) \mathbf{a}_1 + (\beta_2 + \beta_r \alpha_2) \mathbf{a}_2 + \cdots + (\beta_{r-1} + \beta_r \alpha_{r-1}) \mathbf{a}_{r-1} + \beta_r \alpha_r \mathbf{a}_r = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\text{or } \delta_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + \delta_2 \mathbf{a}_2 + \cdots + \delta_{r-1} \mathbf{a}_{r-1} + \delta_r \mathbf{a}_r = \mathbf{0}$$

where  $\delta_i = (\beta_i + \beta_r \alpha_i)$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \cdots (r-1)$

$$\delta_r = \beta_r \alpha_r$$

$S = \{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \cdots \mathbf{a}_r\}$  is linearly independent, therefore

$$\delta_i = 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \cdots (r-1) \quad \text{and} \quad \delta_r = 0.$$

$$\text{As } \delta_r = \beta_r \alpha_r = 0,$$

but  $\alpha_r \neq 0$  (assumed initially)

$$\Rightarrow \beta_r = 0$$

Therefore, (3)  $\Rightarrow S_1 = \{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \cdots \mathbf{a}_{r-1}, \mathbf{b}\}$  is **linearly independent**.

Now to show that  $S_1 = \{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \cdots \mathbf{a}_{r-1}, \mathbf{b}\}$  forms a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , we have to show that any vector  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  can be expressed as a linear combination of these vectors.

Vector  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  can be expressed as a linear combination of the given basis  $S = \{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \cdots, \mathbf{a}_r\}$  as

$$\mathbf{x} = \gamma_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + \gamma_2 \mathbf{a}_2 + \cdots + \gamma_r \mathbf{a}_r \quad \cdots \cdots (4)$$

In (1)  $\alpha_r \neq 0$ , we can write

$$\frac{\mathbf{b}}{\alpha_r} = \frac{\alpha_1}{\alpha_r} \mathbf{a}_1 + \frac{\alpha_2}{\alpha_r} \mathbf{a}_2 + \cdots + \mathbf{a}_r$$

or

$$\mathbf{a}_r = \frac{\mathbf{b}}{\alpha_r} - \sum_{i=1}^{r-1} \frac{\alpha_i}{\alpha_r} \mathbf{a}_i \quad \dots\dots (5)$$

Substituting this value of  $\mathbf{a}_r$  in (4) we get

$$\mathbf{x} = \gamma_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + \gamma_2 \mathbf{a}_2 + \cdots + \gamma_{r-1} \mathbf{a}_{r-1} + \gamma_r \left( \frac{\mathbf{b}}{\alpha_r} - \sum_{i=1}^{r-1} \frac{\alpha_i}{\alpha_r} \mathbf{a}_i \right)$$

$$\mathbf{x} = \gamma_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + \gamma_2 \mathbf{a}_2 + \cdots + \gamma_{r-1} \mathbf{a}_{r-1} + \frac{\gamma_r}{\alpha_r} \mathbf{b} - \sum_{i=1}^{r-1} \frac{\alpha_i}{\alpha_r} \gamma_r \mathbf{a}_i$$

$$\mathbf{x} = \sum_{i=1}^{r-1} \left( \gamma_i - \frac{\alpha_i}{\alpha_r} \gamma_r \right) \mathbf{a}_i + \frac{\gamma_r}{\alpha_r} \mathbf{b} \quad \dots\dots (6)$$

$$= \lambda_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + \lambda_2 \mathbf{a}_2 + \cdots + \lambda_{r-1} \mathbf{a}_{r-1} + \lambda_r \mathbf{a}_r \quad \dots\dots (7)$$

where  $\lambda_i = \gamma_i - \frac{\alpha_i}{\alpha_r} \gamma_r$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, r-1$

and  $\lambda_r = \frac{\gamma_r}{\alpha_r}$

Equation (7) is a linear combination of any  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  in terms of the new set

$$S_1 = \{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \mathbf{a}_{r-1}, \mathbf{b}\}$$

$$\Rightarrow S_1 = \{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \mathbf{a}_{r-1}, \mathbf{b}\} \text{ forms a basis of } \mathbb{R}^n.$$

**Theorem 1.11:** Every basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  has exactly  $n$  vectors.

**Proof:** We will first show that every basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  has same number of vectors.

Let  $S_1 = \{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \mathbf{a}_k\}$  and  $S_2 = \{\mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_2, \dots, \mathbf{b}_l\}$  be two bases of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  having different number of vectors.

Expressing  $\mathbf{b}_l$  in terms of the vectors of basis  $S_1$ , we get

$$\mathbf{b}_l = \sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i \mathbf{a}_i = \alpha_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + \alpha_2 \mathbf{a}_2 + \cdots + \alpha_k \mathbf{a}_k$$

with at least one  $\alpha_i \neq 0$  (since  $\mathbf{b}_l$  is one of the vectors in the basis  $S_2$ , and being linearly independent set  $S_2$  cannot have a null vector<sup>5</sup>).

Let  $\alpha_k \neq 0$ , then  $S_3 = \{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \cdots, \mathbf{a}_{k-1}, \mathbf{b}_l\}$  will form a new basis<sup>6</sup> of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

Now we can express  $\mathbf{b}_{l-1}$  as a linear combination of the vectors in new basis  $S_3$  as

$$\mathbf{b}_{l-1} = \beta_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + \beta_2 \mathbf{a}_2 + \cdots + \beta_{k-1} \mathbf{a}_{k-1} + \beta_k \mathbf{b}_l$$

with at least one  $\beta_i \neq 0$ , because  $\mathbf{b}_l \neq \mathbf{0}$ .

Let  $\beta_{k-1} \neq 0$

then  $S_4 = \{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \cdots, \mathbf{a}_{k-2}, \mathbf{b}_{l-1}, \mathbf{b}_l\}$  will form a new basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

This process will continue until either we have  $\{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \cdots, \mathbf{a}_{k-l}, \mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_2, \cdots, \mathbf{b}_l\}$  as a new basis (if  $k > l$ ) or  $\{\mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_2, \cdots, \mathbf{b}_l\}$  as a new basis (if  $k = l$ ).

There must be at least as many  $\mathbf{a}_i^{'s}$  as there are  $\mathbf{b}_j^{'s}$ , otherwise we get a basis of the form  $\{\mathbf{b}_{l-k+1}, \cdots, \mathbf{b}_l\}$  and the remaining  $\mathbf{b}_j^{'s}$  can be expressed as a linear combination of this basis which contradicts that  $S_2 = \{\mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_2, \cdots, \mathbf{b}_l\}$  is a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

Thus,

$$k \geq l \quad \cdots \cdots (1)$$

Similarly if we start with  $S_2 = \{\mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_2, \cdots, \mathbf{b}_l\}$  and insert  $\mathbf{a}_i^{'s}$  one by one to form new bases, we will conclude that

$$l \geq k \quad \cdots \cdots (2)$$

Therefore, (1) and (2)  $\Rightarrow l = k$

<sup>5</sup> See theorem 1.6

<sup>6</sup> See theorem 1.10

Thus, every basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  has same number of vectors.

Now, as the set of unit vectors  $\{\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \dots, \mathbf{e}_n\}$  forms a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , it immediately follows that every basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  has exactly  $n$  vectors.

**Theorem 1.12:** If a set of nonzero vectors  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  are mutually orthogonal then this set of vectors forms a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

**Proof:** The proof follows immediately if we can show that the set  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  is linearly independent (since any set of  $n$  linearly independent vectors from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  forms a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ )<sup>7</sup>.

Now, the set  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  can be proved to be a set of linearly independent vectors in a same way as done in theorem 1.7. (*now proceed yourself....*)

**Definition 1.10:** A set of  $n$  mutually orthogonal vectors of unit length from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  forms, what is called an **orthonormal basis** for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

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<sup>7</sup> See footnote 4