

# Linear Independence, Basis, and Dimension(线性无关, 基, 维数)

Lecture 9

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# Independence, Basis, and Dimension

- 1 Independence
- 2 Basis
- 3 Dimension
- 4 Homework Assignment 9

## Example

有非零元的线性相关

Consider the following system again:

$$Ax = b \text{ is } \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 5 \\ 2 & 4 & 8 & 12 \\ 3 & 6 & 7 & 13 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

- (a) The coefficient matrix has three rows and four columns, but the third row is only a combination of the first two. After elimination it becomes a zero row. It has no effect on the homogeneous problem  $Ax = 0$ .
- (b) The four columns also fail to be independent, and the column space degenerates into a two dimensional plane.
- (c) By themselves, the numbers  $m$  and  $n$  of an  $m \times n$  matrix give an incomplete picture of the true size of a linear system.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 3^2 \\ 2 & 6 & 9^2 \\ -1 & 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \text{化简} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

3个向量：

$$d_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} + d_2 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 \\ -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} d_1 \\ d_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} d_1 \\ d_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

线向量：

$$a[1 \ 3 \ 3 \ 2] + b_1[-2 \ 6 \ 9 \ 7] + b_2[-1 \ -3 \ 3 \ 4] \\ = [0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0]$$

条件未知数  
 $b_1 - 2b_2 + b_3 = 0$  取  $[5, -2, 1]$

线性相关：

$$\rightarrow 5[1 \ 3 \ 3 \ 2] - 2[-2 \ 6 \ 9 \ 7] + 1[-1 \ -3 \ 3 \ 4] = 0$$

系数  $[-1, -3 \ 3 \ 4] = -5[1 \ 3 \ 3 \ 2] + 2[-2 \ 6 \ 9 \ 7]$

$v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k$  linearly dependent

$$c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 + \dots + c_k v_k = 0$$

$c_1 \sim c_k$  not all zero

when  $c_j \neq 0$

上數不為 0 單性減一列

$$c_j v_j = -c_1 v_1 - c_2 v_2 - \dots - c_{j-1} v_{j-1}$$

$$v_j = \frac{\text{上式}}{c_j} \quad \exists \quad -\frac{c_i}{c_j} = d_i$$

$$v_j = d_1 v_1 + \dots + d_{j-1} v_{j-1} + d_{j+1} v_{j+1} + \dots$$

$$+ d_k v_k$$

特性表示出來

$w_1, w_2, \dots, w_k$

linearly independent

$$c_1 w_1 + \dots + c_k w_k = 0$$

$$c_1 = c_2 = \dots = c_k = 0$$

一个向量组可线性相关:

$$0 \text{ 向量 } 30 = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$c_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$c_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

non-zero solution

linear solution

$v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m \in \mathbb{R}^n$

$\text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_n) = \{c_1v_1 + \dots + c_nv_n, c_1, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{R}\}$   
生成空间

$A = [v_1 | v_2 | \dots | v_m]$  当取到向量

↓ 相当于 Column Space

$C(A) = \{c_1v_1 + \dots + c_nv_n, c_1, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{R}\}$

basis linearly independent

基向量组

spans

$V$

$v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$

||  $\text{span}(v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n) = V$

$$A_{4 \times 4} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 6 & 3 & 1 \\ -1 & -3 & 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$N(A) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^4; Ax = 0\}$$

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

special solution.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 8 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

基础解系

$$c_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 8 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

线性无关  $\begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

special solution

$$\begin{bmatrix} -3 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

消元

$$\begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \\ w \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -3v \\ v \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} y \\ 0 \\ -y \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x = c_1 \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

↓

任意向量  $x$  的 Null Space 中的  $x$   
 $x \in NCA$

$x \in N(LA) \Leftrightarrow x = c_1 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

生成  $N(LA)$

$N(LA)$  中任意  
向量都可以  
表示出来

$$\begin{bmatrix} -3c_1 + c_2 \\ c_1 \\ -c_2 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

↓  
线性表示

# Rank

- The important number that is beginning to emerge(the true size) is the rank  $r$ .
- The rank was introduced as the number of pivots in the elimination process. Equivalently, the final matrix  $U$  has  $r$  nonzero rows. This definition could be given to a computer.
- But it would be wrong to leave it there because the rank has a simple and intuitive meaning:

## Definition

The rank counts the number of genuinely independent rows in the matrix  $A$ .

We want definitions that are mathematical rather than computational.

# Goal

The goal of this section is to explain and use four ideas:

- (a) Linear independence or dependence
- (b) Spanning a subspace
- (c) Basis for a subspace(a set of vectors)
- (d) Dimension of a subspace (a number)

生成子空间

## Steps

- (a) The first step is to define linear independence. Given a set of vectors  $v_1, \dots, v_n$ , we look at their combinations  $c_1v_1 + \dots + c_nv_n$ .
- (b) The trivial combination, with all weights  $c_i = 0$ , obviously produces the zero vector:  $0v_1 + \dots + 0v_n = 0$ .
- (c) The question is whether this is the only way to produce zero. If so, the vectors are independent.
- (d) If any other combination of the vectors gives zero, they are **dependent**.

# Linear Independence

## Definition

Suppose

$$c_1v_1 + c_2v_2 + \cdots + c_kv_k = 0$$

only happens when

$$c_1 = c_2 = \cdots = c_k = 0.$$

Then the vectors  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k$  are linearly independent. If any  $c$ 's are nonzero, the  $v$ 's are linearly dependent. One vector is a combination of the others.

## Remarks

- ① Linear dependence is easy to visualize in three-dimensional space, when all vectors go out from the origin.
- ② Two vectors are dependent if they lie on the same line.
- ③ Three vectors are dependent if they lie in the same plane.
- ④ A random choice of three vectors, without any special accident, should produce linear independence. Four vectors are always linearly dependent in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

## Examples

- ① **Example 1** If  $v_1 = \text{zero vector}$ ; then the set is linearly dependent. We may choose  $c_1 = 3$  and all other  $c_i = 0$ ; this is a nontrivial combination that produces zero.
- ② **Example 2** The columns of the matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 6 & 9 & 5 \\ -1 & -3 & 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

are linearly dependent, since the second column is three times the first. The combination of columns with weights  $-3, 1, 0, 0$  gives a column of zeros. The rows are also linearly dependent; row 3 is two times row 2 minus five times row 1. (This is the same as the combination of  $b_1, b_2, b_3$  that had to vanish on the right-hand side in order for  $Ax = b$  to be consistent. Unless  $b_3 - 2b_2 + 5b_1 = 0$ , the third equation would not become  $0 = 0$ .)

## Example

### Example

Example 3 The columns of this triangular matrix are linearly independent:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Look for a combination of the columns that makes zero: Solve  $Ac = 0$ . We have to show that  $c_1, c_2, c_3$  are all forced to be zero. The only combination to produce the zero vector is the trivial combination. The nullspace of  $A$  contains only the zero vector  $c_1 = c_2 = c_3 = 0$ .

# Theorem

## Theorem

*The columns of  $A$  are independent exactly when  $N(A) = \{\text{zero vector}\}$ .*

零空间只有零向量

A similar reasoning applies to the rows of  $A$ , which are also independent.

# Independence

- The nonzero rows of any echelon matrix  $U$  must be independent.
- Furthermore, if we pick out the columns that contain the pivots.  
If  $A$  has been converted to its Row Echelon Form  $U$ , then the columns with pivots of  $U$  are guaranteed to be independent.

The general rule is this:

REF 大剩 下行 线性无关  
Theorem (A의례)

The  $r$  nonzero rows of an echelon matrix  $U$  and a reduced matrix  $R$  are linearly independent. So are the  $r$  columns that contain pivots.

**Example 4** The columns  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n$  of the  $n$  by  $n$  identity matrix are independent. Most sets of four vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^4$  are independent. Those  $e$ 's might be the safest.

# Linear Independence

- To check any set of vectors  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  for independence, put them in the columns of  $A$ . *rank = 3*
- Then solve the system  $Ac = 0$ ; the vectors are dependent if there is a solution other than  $c = 0$ .
- With no free variables (rank  $n$ ), there is no nullspace except  $c = 0$ ; the vectors are independent.
- If the rank is less than  $n$ , at least one free variable can be nonzero and the columns are dependent.

One case has special importance:

## Theorem

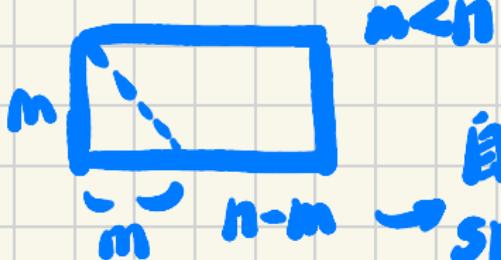
A set of  $n$  vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^m$  must be linearly dependent if  $n > m$ .

列不太多

## 证明：

$$v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} \\ a_{21} \\ \vdots \\ a_{m1} \end{bmatrix} \quad v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} a_{12} \\ a_{22} \\ \vdots \\ a_{m2} \end{bmatrix} \quad \dots, \quad v_n = \begin{bmatrix} a_{1n} \\ a_{2n} \\ \vdots \\ a_{mn} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & & \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix}$$



自由發送  
"Special  
solution

59.

$Ax=0$  has non-zero solution

$$\Leftrightarrow x_1 \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} \\ a_{21} \\ \vdots \\ a_{m1} \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} a_{12} \\ a_{22} \\ \vdots \\ a_{m2} \end{bmatrix} + \dots + x_n \begin{bmatrix} a_{1n} \\ a_{2n} \\ \vdots \\ a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

not all zero

3) 向量线性相关

## Example 5

Example 5 These three columns in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  cannot be independent.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

- To find the combination of the columns producing zero we solve  $Ac = 0$ :

$$A \rightarrow U = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- If we give the value 1 to the free variable  $c_3$ , then back-substitution in  $Uc = 0$  gives  $c_2 = -1, c_1 = 1$ .
- With these three weights, the first column minus the second plus the third equals zero: Dependence.

# Spanning a subspace

Now we define what it means for a set of vectors to span a space. The column space of  $A$  is spanned by the columns. Their combinations produce the whole space.

## Definition

If a vector space  $V$  consists of all linear combinations of  $w_1, w_2, w_3, \dots, w_l$ , then these vectors span the space. Every vector  $v$  in  $V$  is some combination of the  $w$ 's:

**Every  $v$  comes from  $w$ 's**

$$v = c_1w_1 + \cdots + c_lw_l$$

for some coefficients  $c_i$ .

An  $n \times n$   $\text{rank}(A) = r$

$Ay = 0$  ~~无解~~

↓  
 $Rx = 0$   
基向量组

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} I_r & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & I_r \\ 0 & & & \ddots \\ & & & & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} * \\ * \\ \vdots \\ * \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

基向量组  
 $n-r$

$$v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} * \\ * \\ \vdots \\ * \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

准基  $n-r$   
NGS

$$\dots v_{n-r} \begin{bmatrix} * \\ * \\ \vdots \\ * \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$C(A)$  basis  
 / \ (a list of vectors)  
 linearly  
 independent  
 $\text{span } C(A)$

$$C(A) = \{c_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} + c_3 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + c_4 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} \mid c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4 \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

$$A \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

claim  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$  basis for  $C(A)$

\* 需證 | 線性无关 (不重)

span column space (不重)

$$x \in C(A) \Rightarrow x = d_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} + d_2 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

线性表示

$$\bar{x} \in CL(A) = C_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} + C_2 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} + C_3 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + C_4 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= (C_1 + 3C_2) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} + C_3 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + (-C_4) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} + C_4 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= (C_1 + 3C_2 - C_4) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} + (C_3 + C_4) \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= (C_1 + 3C_2 - C_4) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} + (C_3 + C_4) \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

直角坐标系  $V = C_1 V_1 + \dots + C_n V_n$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + y \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + z \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Remarks

It is permitted that a different combination of  $w$ 's could give the same vector  $v$ . The  $c$ 's need not be unique, because the spanning set might be excessively large—it could include the zero vector, or even all vectors.

{  $\text{span} \rightarrow C(A)$   
 $\text{dependence} \rightarrow N(A)$

# Examples

## Example

**Example 6** The vectors  $w_1 = (1, 0, 0)$ ,  $w_2 = (0, 1, 0)$ , and  $w_3 = (-2, 0, 0)$  span a plane (the  $xy$  plane) in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . The first two also span this plane, whereas  $w_1$  and  $w_3$  span only a line.

## Example

### Example 7

- The column space of  $A$  is exactly **the space that is spanned by its columns**. The row space is spanned by the rows. The definition is made to order. Multiplying  $A$  by any  $x$  gives a combination of the columns; it is a vector  $Ax$  in the column space.
- The coordinate vectors  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n$  coming from the identity matrix span  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . But the columns of other matrices also span  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

# Basis

To decide if  $b$  is a combination of the columns, we try to solve  $Ax = b$ .

To decide if the columns are independent, we solve  $Ax = 0$ . **Spanning involves the column space, and independence involves the nullspace.** The coordinate vectors  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n$  span  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and they are linearly independent. Roughly speaking, **no vectors in the set are wasted.** This leads to the crucial idea of a basis:

## Definition

A basis for  $V$  is a sequence of vectors having two properties at once:

1. The vectors are linearly independent(not too many vectors).
2. They span the space  $V$  (not too few vectors).

线性无关

生成

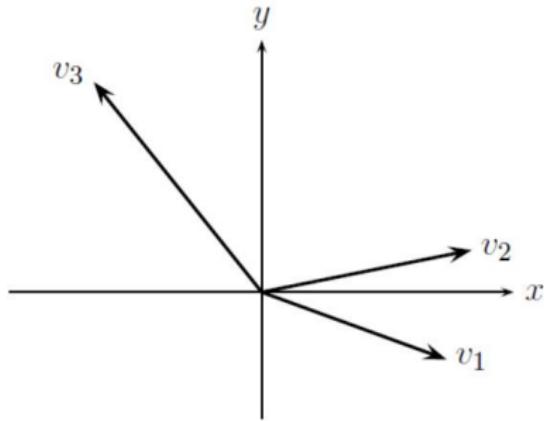
## Remarks

Remarks:

- There is one and only one way to write  $v$  as a combination of the basis vectors. Why? Can you prove it?
- A vector space has infinitely many different bases. Which one is the best?

## Figure 2.4

### Example 8



**Figure 2.4:** A spanning set  $v_1, v_2, v_3$ . Bases  $v_1, v_2$  and  $v_1, v_3$  and  $v_2, v_3$ .

## Examples

The  $xy$ -plane in Figure 2.4 is just  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . The vector  $v_1$  by itself is linearly independent, but it fails to span  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . The three vectors  $v_1, v_2, v_3$  certainly span  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , but are not independent. Any two of these vectors, say,  $v_1$  and  $v_2$ , have both properties—they span, and they are independent. So they form a basis. Notice again that a vector space does not have unique basis.

## Example 9

Example 9 These four columns span the column space of  $U$ , but they are not independent:

Echelon matrix  $U = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

- There are many possibilities for a basis, but we propose a specific choice: **The columns that contain pivots are a basis for the column space.**

有主元的列向量  
basis

消元法  
行变换

These columns are independent, they can span the column space.

- $C(U)$  is not the same as the column space of  $A$ ,  $C(A)$  before elimination—but the number of independent columns didn't change.
- To summarize: The columns of any matrix span its column space.

# Dimension

A space has infinitely many different bases, but there is something common to all of these choices.

## Definition

Any two bases for a vector space  $V$  contain the same number of vectors. This number, which is shared by all bases and expresses the number of "degrees of freedom" of the space, is the **dimension** of  $V$ .

Here is our first big theorem in linear algebra:

## Theorem

If  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m$  and  $w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n$  are both bases for the same vector space, then  $m = n$ . The number of vectors is the same.

The dimension of a space is the number of vectors in every basis.

基底表示唯一：

$$v = c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 + \dots + c_n v_n$$

$$v = d_1 v_1 + d_2 v_2 + \dots + d_n v_n$$

$$0 = (c_1 - d_1) v_1 + \dots + (c_n - d_n) v_n$$

$\stackrel{=0}{=0}$  每个  $v_i$  独立无关

Proof.



Suppose there are more  $w$ 's than  $v$ 's ( $n > m$ ). We will arrive at a contradiction. Since the  $v$ 's form a basis, they must span the space. Every  $w_j$  can be written as a combination of the  $v$ 's: If  $w_1 = a_{11}v_1 + \dots + a_{m1}v_m$ , this is the first column of a matrix multiplication  $VA$ : **(引向及)**

$$W = [w_1 \ w_2 \ \dots \ w_n] = [v_1 \ v_2 \ \dots \ v_m] \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & \cdots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix} = VA$$

we don't know each  $a_{ij}$ , but we know the shape of  $A$  (it is  $m$  by  $n$ ). The second vector  $w_2$  is also a combination of the  $v$ 's. The coefficients in that combination fill the second column of  $A$ . **//** The key is that  $A$  has a row for every  $v$  and a column for every  $w$ .  $A$  is short, wide matrix, since  $n > m$ . There is a nonzero solution to  $Ax = 0$ . Then  $VAx = 0$  which is  $Wx = 0$ . A combination of the  $w$ 's gives zero! The  $w$ 's could not be a basis—so we cannot have  $n > m$ . If  $m > n$  we exchange the  $v$ 's and  $w$ 's and repeat the same steps. The only way to avoid a contradiction is to have  $m = n$ .

# Maximal independent set; minimal spanning set

Remark: In a subspace of dimension  $k$ , no set of more than  $k$  vectors can be independent, and no set of fewer than  $k$  vectors can span the space.

## Theorem

*Any linearly independent set in  $V$  can be extended to a basis, by adding more vectors if necessary. Any spanning set in  $V$  can be reduced to a basis, by discarding vectors if necessary.*

Remarks:

- A basis is a maximal independent set. It cannot be made larger without losing independence.
- A basis is also a minimal spanning set. It cannot be made smaller and still span the space.

## Two More Examples

### Example

Find two independent vectors on the plane  $x + 2y - 3z - t = 0$  in  $\mathbb{R}^4$ . Then find three independent vectors. Why not four? This plane is the nullspace of what matrix?

## Example

### Example

Decide whether or not the following vectors are linearly independent, by solving  $c_1v_1 + c_2v_2 + c_3v_3 + c_4v_4 = 0$ :

$$v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, v_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, v_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Decide also if they span  $\mathbb{R}^4$ , by trying to solve

$$c_1v_1 + c_2v_2 + c_3v_3 + c_4v_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

## Final Note

- ① You must notice that the word “dimensional” is used in two different ways.
- ② We speak about a four-dimensional vector, meaning a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^4$ .
- ③ Now we have defined a four-dimensional subspace; an example is the set of vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^6$  whose first and last components are zero.
- ④ The members of this four-dimensional subspace are six-dimensional vectors like  $(0, 5, 1, 3, 4, 0)^T$ .
- ⑤ **NEVER** use the terms “basis of a matrix” or “rank of a space”.
- ⑥ The dimension of the column space is equal to the rank of the matrix.

$$\dim \text{C}(\mathbf{\tilde{A}}) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{A})$$

# Homework Assignment 9

2.3: 1, 2, 6, 7, 12, 13, 16, 24, 33, 37.