

Source:

1 | Lemma

The length of a linearly independent list is less than or equal to the length of a spanning list over some vector space V .

2 | Intermediate Result: Span of a linearly independent extension of a linearly independent list has more elements than the span of the original list.

2.1 | Lemma

Given a linearly independent list $v = v_1, \dots, v_k$ where each vector $v_1, \dots, v_k \in V$ and another vector v_{k+1} which is linearly independent with v , show that

$$\text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_k, v_{k+1})$$

contains elements that are not in

$$\text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_k)$$

2.2 | Proof

Because v_{k+1} is linearly independent with v , it cannot be written as a linear combination of elements in v . Thus,

$$v_{k+1} \notin \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_k)$$

However, v_{k+1} must be in the span of the extended list, because we can write v_{k+1} as

$$0v_1 + 0v_2 + \dots + 0v_k + 1v_{k+1}$$

Thus, the extended list contains atleast one element that the original did not.

3 | Proof