

## *Chapter 4. Vector Spaces (1/2)*

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1 4.1. Vector Spaces and Subspaces

2 4.2 Null spaces, Column spaces, and Linear transformation

3 4.3 Linearly independent sets; Bases

## 4.1. Vector Spaces and Subspaces

## Vector spaces

- **Definition:** A **vector space** is a nonempty set  $V$  of objects, called *vectors*, on which are defined two operations, called *addition* and *multiplication by scalars (real numbers)*, subject to the ten axioms (or rules) listed below. The axioms must hold for all vectors  $\mathbf{u}$ ,  $\mathbf{v}$ , and  $\mathbf{w}$  in  $V$  and for all scalars  $c$  and  $d$ .

1. The sum of  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$ , denoted by  $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}$ , is in  $V$ .
2.  $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{u}$
3.  $(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) + \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w})$
4. There is a zero vector  $\mathbf{0}$  in  $V$  such that  $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{0} = \mathbf{u}$
5. For each  $\mathbf{u}$  in  $V$ , there is a vector  $-\mathbf{u}$  in  $V$  such that  $\mathbf{u} + (-\mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{0}$
6. The scalar multiple of  $\mathbf{u}$  by  $c$ , denoted by  $c\mathbf{u}$ , is in  $V$ .
7.  $c(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) = c\mathbf{u} + c\mathbf{v}$
8.  $(c + d)\mathbf{u} = c\mathbf{u} + d\mathbf{u}$
9.  $c(d\mathbf{u}) = (cd)\mathbf{u}$
10.  $1\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}$

- Using these axioms, we can show that

- the zero vector in Axiom 4 is unique, and
- the vector  $-\mathbf{u}$ , called the **negative** of  $\mathbf{u}$ , in Axiom 5 is unique for each  $\mathbf{u}$  in  $V$ .
- The identity and inverse with respect to vector addition are unique.*

- For each  $\mathbf{u}$  in  $V$  and scalar  $c$ ,

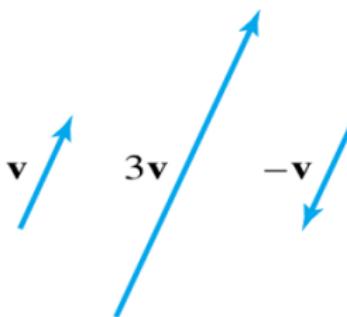
$$0\mathbf{u} = 0$$

$$c0 = 0$$

$$-\mathbf{u} = (-1)\mathbf{u}$$

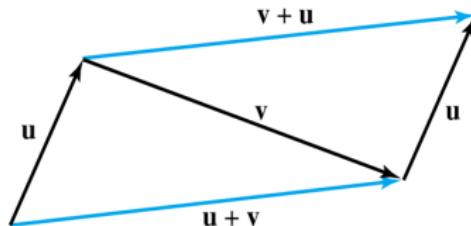
## • Example 2:

- Let  $V$  be the set of all arrows (directed line segments) in three-dimensional space, with two arrows regarded as equal if they have the same length and point in the same direction.
- Define addition by the parallelogram rule, and for each  $\mathbf{v}$  in  $V$ .
- Define  $c\mathbf{v}$  to be the arrow whose length is  $|c|$  times the length of  $\mathbf{v}$ , pointing in the same direction as  $\mathbf{v}$  if  $c \geq 0$  and otherwise pointing in the opposite direction.
- See the figure below. Show that  $V$  is a vector space.

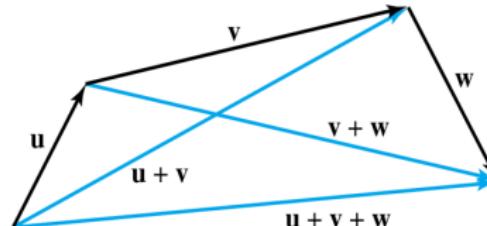


## Solution:

- The definition of  $V$  is geometric, using concepts of length and direction. No  $x$   $y$   $z$ -coordinate system is involved. An arrow of zero length is a single point and represents the zero vector.
- The negative of  $\mathbf{v}$  is  $(-1)\mathbf{v}$ .
- So Axioms 1, 4, 5, 6, and 10 are evident. See the following figures.



$$\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{u}.$$



$$(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) + \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}).$$

## Subspaces

- **Definition:** A **subspace** of a vector space  $V$  is a subset  $H$  of  $V$  that has three properties:
  - a. The zero vector of  $V$  is in  $H$ .
  - b.  $H$  is closed under vector addition. That is, for each  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  in  $H$ , the sum  $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}$  is in  $H$ .
  - c.  $H$  is closed under multiplication by scalars. That is, for each  $\mathbf{u}$  in  $H$  and each scalar  $c$ , the vector  $c\mathbf{u}$  is in  $H$ .
- **Remark**
  - Properties (a), (b), and (c) guarantee that a subspace  $H$  of  $V$  is itself a vector space, under the vector space operations already defined in  $V$ .
  - Every subspace is a vector space.
  - Conversely, every vector space is a subspace (of itself and possibly of other larger spaces).

## A subspace spanned by a set

- The set consisting of only the zero vector in a vector space  $V$  is a subspace of  $V$ , called the **zero subspace** and written as  $\{0\}$ .
- As the term **linear combination** refers to any sum of scalar multiples of vectors, and  $Span\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$  denotes the set of all vectors that can be written as linear combinations of  $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p$ .

- **Example 10:** 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  $V$ .

### • Solution

1. The zero vector is in  $H$ , since  $0 = 0\mathbf{v}_1 + 0\mathbf{v}_2$ .
2. To show that  $H$  is closed under vector addition, take two arbitrary vectors in  $H$ , say.  $\mathbf{u} = s_1\mathbf{v}_1 + s_2\mathbf{v}_2$  and  $\mathbf{w} = t_1\mathbf{v}_1 + t_2\mathbf{v}_2$ . By Axioms 2, 3, and 8 for the vector space  $V$ ,

$$\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{w} = (s_1\mathbf{v}_1 + s_2\mathbf{v}_2) + (t_1\mathbf{v}_1 + t_2\mathbf{v}_2) = (s_1 + t_1)\mathbf{v}_1 + (s_2 + t_2)\mathbf{v}_2$$

So,  $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{w}$  is in  $H$ .

3. Furthermore, if  $c$  is any scalar, then by Axioms 7 and 9,

$$c\mathbf{u} = c(s_1\mathbf{v}_1 + s_2\mathbf{v}_2) = (cs_1)\mathbf{v}_1 + (cs_2)\mathbf{v}_2$$

which shows that  $c\mathbf{u}$  is in  $H$  and  $H$  is closed under scalar multiplication.

- Thus,  $H$  is a subspace of  $V$ .

- **Theorem 1:** If  $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p$  are in a vector space  $V$ , then  $\text{Span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$  is a subspace of  $V$ .
- We call  $\text{Span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$  the **subspace spanned** (or **generated**) by  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$ .
- Given any subspace  $H$  of  $V$ , a **spanning** (or **generating**) set for  $H$  is a set  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$  in  $H$  such that  $H = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$ .

## Suggested Exercise

- 4.1.13



## 4.2 Null spaces, Column spaces, and Linear transformation

## Null space of matrix

- **Definition:** The **null space** of an  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$ , written as  $\text{Nul } A$ , is the set of all solutions of the homogeneous equation  $A\mathbf{x} = 0$ . In set notation,

$$\text{Nul } A = \{\mathbf{x} : \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \text{ and } A\mathbf{x} = 0\}$$

- **Theorem 2:** The null space of an  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Equivalently, the set of all solutions to a system  $A\mathbf{x} = 0$  of  $m$  homogeneous linear equations in  $n$  unknowns is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$

- **Proof:**

- $Nul A$  is a subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  because  $A$  has  $n$  columns.
- We need to show that  $Nul A$  satisfies the three properties of a subspace.
  1.  $0$  is in  $Nul A$  (trivial solution)
  2. Next, let  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  represent any two vectors in  $Nul A$ . Then,  $A\mathbf{u} = 0$  and  $A\mathbf{v} = 0$ . To show that  $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}$  is in  $Nul A$ , we must show that  $A(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) = 0$ . Using a property of matrix multiplication, we have  $A(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) = A\mathbf{u} + A\mathbf{v} = 0 + 0 = 0$ . Thus,  $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}$  is in  $Nul A$ , and  $Nul A$  is closed under vector addition.
  3. Finally, if  $c$  is any scalar, then  $A(c\mathbf{u}) = c(A\mathbf{u}) = c(0) = 0$ , which shows that  $c\mathbf{u}$  is in  $Nul A$ .
- Thus,  $Nul A$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$

## • An Explicit Description of $Nul A$

- There is no obvious relation between vectors in  $Nul A$  and the entries in  $A$ .
- We say that  $Nul A$  is defined *implicitly*, because it is defined by a condition that must be checked.
- No explicit list or description of the elements in  $Nul A$  is given.
- Solving the equation  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  amounts to producing an *explicit* description of  $Nul A$

• **Example 3:** Find a spanning set for the null space of the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} -3 & 6 & -1 & 1 & -7 \\ 1 & -2 & 2 & 3 & -1 \\ 2 & -4 & 5 & 8 & -4 \end{pmatrix}$$

1. The first step is to find the general solution of  $A\mathbf{x} = 0$  in terms of free variables.

Row reduce the augmented matrix  $[A | 0]$  to *reduce* echelon form in order to write the basic variables in terms of the free variables:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 & 0 & -1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{aligned} x_1 - 2x_2 - x_4 + 3x_5 &= 0 \\ x_3 + 2x_4 - 2x_5 &= 0 \\ 0 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

2. The general solution is

- $x_1 = 2x_2 + x_4 - 3x_5$
- $x_3 = -2x_4 + 2x_5$
- $x_2, x_4, x_5$  free.

3. Next, decompose the vector giving the general solution into a linear combination of vectors where the weights are the free variables. That is,

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2x_2 + x_4 - 3x_5 \\ x_2 \\ -2x_4 + 2x_5 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} = x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_4 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_5 \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = x_2 \mathbf{u} + x_4 \mathbf{v} + x_5 \mathbf{w}$$

4. Every linear combination of  $\mathbf{u}$ ,  $\mathbf{v}$ , and  $\mathbf{w}$  is an element of  $\text{Nul } A$ . Thus,  $\{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w}\}$  is a spanning set for  $\text{Nul } A$ .  $\square$

### • Remark

- The spanning set produced by the method in **Example 3** is automatically linearly independent because the free variables are the weights on the spanning vectors.
- When  $\text{Nul } A$  contains nonzero vectors, the number of vectors in the spanning set for  $\text{Nul } A$  equals the number of free variables in the equation  $A\mathbf{x} = 0$ .

## Column space of matrix

- **Definition:** The **column space** of an  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$ , written as  $Col A$ , is the set of all linear combinations of the columns of  $A$ . If  $A = [\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n]$ , then

$$Col A = Span\{\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n\}$$

- **Theorem 3:** The column space of an  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^m$
- **Remark**

- A typical vector in  $Col A$  can be written as  $A\mathbf{x}$  for some  $\mathbf{x}$  because the notation  $A\mathbf{x}$  stands for a linear combination of the columns of  $A$ . That is,

$$Col A = \{\mathbf{b} : \mathbf{b} = A\mathbf{x} \text{ for some } \mathbf{x} \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^n\}$$

- The notation  $A\mathbf{x}$  for vectors in  $Col A$  also shows that  $Col A$  is the *range* of the linear transformation  $\mathbf{x} \mapsto A\mathbf{x}$ .
- The column space of an  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$  is all of  $\mathbb{R}^m$  if and only if the equation  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  has a solution for each  $\mathbf{b}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .

• **Example 7:** Let

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -4 & -2 & -1 \\ -2 & -5 & 7 & 3 \\ 3 & 7 & -8 & 6 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -2 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

- a. Determine if  $\mathbf{u}$  is in  $Nul A$ . Could  $\mathbf{u}$  be in  $Col A$ ?
- b. Determine if  $\mathbf{v}$  is in  $Col A$ . Could  $\mathbf{v}$  be in  $Nul A$ ?

• **Solution to (a)**

- An explicit description of  $Nul A$  is not needed here. Simply compute the product  $A\mathbf{u}$ .

$$A\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -4 & -2 & -1 \\ -2 & -5 & 7 & 3 \\ 3 & 7 & -8 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -2 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \neq \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\mathbf{u}$  is not a solution of  $A\mathbf{x} = 0$ , so  $\mathbf{u}$  is not in  $Nul A$ . Also, with four entries,  $\mathbf{u}$  could not possibly be in  $Col A$ , since  $Col A$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

## • Solution to (b)

- Reduce  $[A \mid v]$  to an echelon form.

$$[A \mid v] = \left[ \begin{array}{ccccc} 2 & -4 & -2 & -1 & 3 \\ -2 & -5 & 7 & 3 & -1 \\ 3 & 7 & -8 & 6 & 3 \end{array} \right] \left[ \begin{array}{ccccc} 2 & -4 & -2 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & -5 & -4 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 17 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

The equation  $Ax = v$  is consistent, so  $v$  is in  $\text{Col } A$ . With only three entries,  $v$  could not possibly be in  $\text{Nul } A$ , since  $\text{Nul } A$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^4$ .

## Kernel and range of linear transformation

- Subspaces of vector spaces other than  $\mathbb{R}^n$  are often described in terms of a linear transformation instead of a matrix.
- **Definition:** A **linear transformation**  $T$  from a vector space  $V$  into a vector space  $W$  is a rule that assigns to each vector  $\mathbf{x}$  in  $V$  a unique vector  $T(\mathbf{x})$  in  $W$ , such that
  1.  $T(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) = T(\mathbf{u}) + T(\mathbf{v})$  for all  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}$  in  $V$ , and
  2.  $T(c\mathbf{u}) = cT(\mathbf{u})$  for all  $\mathbf{u}$  in  $V$  and all scalars  $c$ .
- **Definition:**
  - The **kernel** (or **null space**) of such a  $T$  is the set of all  $\mathbf{u}$  in  $V$  such that  $T(\mathbf{u}) = 0$  (the zero vector in  $W$ ).
  - The **range** of  $T$  is the set of all vectors in  $W$  of the form  $T(\mathbf{x})$  for some  $\mathbf{x}$  in  $V$ .
- **Remark:**
  - The kernel of  $T$  is a subspace of  $V$ .
  - The range of  $T$  is a subspace of  $W$ .

# Contrast between $\text{Nul } A$ and $\text{Col } A$ for an $m \times n$ matrix $A$

	$\text{Nul } A$	$\text{Col } A$
1	$\text{Nul } A$ is a subspace of $\mathbb{R}^n$	$\text{Col } A$ is a subspace of $\mathbb{R}^m$
2	$\text{Nul } A$ is implicitly defined, i.e., you are given only a condition ( $Ax = 0$ ) that vectors in $\text{Nul } A$ must satisfy.	$\text{Col } A$ is explicitly defined, i.e., you are told how to build vectors in $\text{Col } A$
3	It takes time to find vectors in $\text{Nul } A$ . Row operation on $[A   0]$ are required.	It is easy to find vectors in $\text{Col } A$ . The columns of $A$ are displayed; others are formed from them.
4	There is no obvious relation between $\text{Nul } A$ and the entries in $A$ .	There is an obvious relation between $\text{Col } A$ and the entries in $A$ , since each column of $A$ is in $\text{Col } A$ .

(continued)

*Nul A**Col A*

5	A typical vector $\mathbf{v}$ in <i>Nul A</i> has the property that $A\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$ .	A typical vector $\mathbf{v}$ in <i>Col A</i> has the property that the equation $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{v}$ is consistent.
6	Given a specific vector $\mathbf{v}$ , it is easy to tell if $\mathbf{v}$ is in <i>Nul A</i> . Just compare $A\mathbf{v}$ .	Given a specific vector $\mathbf{v}$ , it may take time to tell if $\mathbf{v}$ is in <i>Col A</i> . Row operation on $[A   \mathbf{v}]$ are required.
7	$Nul A = \{\mathbf{0}\}$ if and only if the equation $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ has only the trivial solution.	$Col A = \mathbb{R}^m$ if and only if the equation $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ has a solution for every $\mathbf{b}$ in $\mathbb{R}^m$ .
8	$Nul A = \{\mathbf{0}\}$ if and only if the linear transformation $\mathbf{x} \mapsto A\mathbf{x}$ is one-to-one.	$Col A = \mathbb{R}^m$ if and only if the linear transformation $\mathbf{x} \mapsto A\mathbf{x}$ maps $\mathbb{R}^n$ onto $\mathbb{R}^m$ .

## Suggested Exercises

- 4.2.5
- 4.2.17



## 4.3 Linearly independent sets; Bases

## Linearly independent sets; Bases

- An indexed set of vectors  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$  in  $V$  is said to be **linearly independent** if the vector equation

$$c_1\mathbf{v}_1 + c_2\mathbf{v}_2 + \cdots + c_p\mathbf{v}_p = 0 \quad (1)$$

has *only* the trivial solution,  $c_1 = 0, \dots, c_p = 0$ .

- The set  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$  is said to be **linearly dependent** if (1) has a nontrivial solution, *i.e.*, if there are some weights,  $c_1, \dots, c_p$ , *not all zero*, such that (1) holds. In such a case, (1) is called a **linear dependence relation** among  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$ .
- Theorem 4:** An indexed set  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$  of two or more vectors, with  $\mathbf{v}_1 \neq 0$ , is linearly dependent if and only if some  $\mathbf{v}_j$  (with  $j > 1$ ) is a linear combination of the preceding vectors,  $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_{j-1}$ .

- **Definition:** Let  $H$  be a subspace of a vector space  $V$ . An indexed set of vectors

$\mathcal{B} = \{\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_p\}$  in  $V$  is a basis for  $H$  if

- $\mathcal{B}$  is a linearly independent set, and
- The subspace spanned by  $\mathcal{B}$  coincides with  $H$ ; that is,  $H = \text{Span}\{\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_p\}$

- **Remark:**

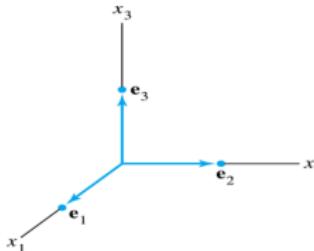
- The definition of a basis applies to the case when  $H = V$ , because any vector space is a subspace of itself. Thus, a basis of  $V$  is a linearly independent set that spans  $V$ .
- When  $H \neq V$ , condition ii) includes the requirement that each of the vectors  $\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_p$  must belong to  $H$ , because  $\text{Span}\{\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_p\}$  contains  $\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_p$ .

## Standard basis

- Let  $\mathbf{e}_1, \dots, \mathbf{e}_n$  be the columns of the  $n \times n$  matrix,  $I_n$ .
- That is,

$$\mathbf{e}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{e}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \dots, \mathbf{e}_n = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- The set  $\{\mathbf{e}_1, \dots, \mathbf{e}_n\}$  is called the **standard basis** for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . See the following figure.



The standard basis for  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

## The spanning set theorem

- **Theorem 5:** Let  $S = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$  be a set in  $V$ , and let  $H = \text{Span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$ .
  - a. If one of the vectors in  $S$  — say,  $\mathbf{v}_k$  — is a linear combination of the remaining vectors in  $S$ , then the set formed from  $S$  by removing  $\mathbf{v}_k$  still spans  $H$ .
  - b. If  $H \neq \{0\}$ , some subset of  $S$  is a basis for  $H$ .

### • Proof for a.

- By rearranging the list of vectors in  $S$ , if necessary, we may suppose that  $\mathbf{v}_p$  is a linear combination of  $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_{p-1}$  — say,

$$\mathbf{v}_p = a_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + \cdots + a_{p-1} \mathbf{v}_{p-1} \quad (3)$$

- Given any  $\mathbf{x}$  in  $H$ , we may write

$$\mathbf{x} = c_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + \cdots + c_{p-1} \mathbf{v}_{p-1} + c_p \mathbf{v}_p \quad (4)$$

for suitable scalars  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_p$ .

- Substituting the expression for  $\mathbf{v}_p$  from (3) into (4), it is easy to see that  $\mathbf{x}$  is a linear combination of  $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_{p-1}$ .
- Thus,  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_{p-1}\}$  spans  $H$ , because  $\mathbf{x}$  was an arbitrary element of  $H$ .

## • Proof for b.

- If the original spanning set  $S$  is linearly independent, then it is already a basis for  $H$ .
- Otherwise, one of the vectors in  $S$  depends on the others and can be deleted, by part (a).
- So long as there are two or more vectors in the spanning set, we can repeat this process until the spanning set is linearly independent and hence is a basis for  $H$ .
- If the spanning set is eventually reduced to one vector, that vector will be nonzero (and hence linearly independent) because  $H \neq \{0\}$ .

• **Example 7:** Let

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 16 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}$$

and  $H = \text{Span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3\}$ . Note that  $\mathbf{v}_3 = 5\mathbf{v}_1 + 3\mathbf{v}_2$ , and show that  $\text{Span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3\} = \text{Span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\}$ . Then find a basis for the subspace  $H$ .

**1. Proof for  $\text{Span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3\} = \text{Span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\}$ :**

**1.1  $\text{Span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\} \subset \text{Span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3\}$**

- Every vector in  $\text{Span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\}$  belongs to  $H$  because

$$c_1\mathbf{v}_1 + c_2\mathbf{v}_2 = c_1\mathbf{v}_1 + c_2\mathbf{v}_2 + 0\mathbf{v}_3.$$

**1.2  $\text{Span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3\} \subset \text{Span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\}$**

- Now let  $\mathbf{x}$  be any vector in  $H$  – say,  $\mathbf{x} = c_1\mathbf{v}_1 + c_2\mathbf{v}_2 + c_3\mathbf{v}_3$ .
- Since  $\mathbf{v}_3 = 5\mathbf{v}_1 + 3\mathbf{v}_2$ , we may substitute

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x} &= c_1\mathbf{v}_1 + c_2\mathbf{v}_2 + c_3\mathbf{v}_3 \\ &= c_1\mathbf{v}_1 + c_2\mathbf{v}_2 + c_3(5\mathbf{v}_1 + 3\mathbf{v}_2) \end{aligned}$$

- Thus  $\mathbf{x}$  is in  $\text{Span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\}$ , so every vector in  $H$  already belongs to  $\text{Span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\}$  (1)
- We conclude that  $H$  and  $\text{Span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\}$  are actually the same set of vectors.

## 2. Find a basis for the subspace $H$ :

- It follows that  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\}$  is a basis of  $H$  since  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\}$  is linearly independent.

## Basis for $Col B$

- **Example 8:** Find a basis for  $Col B$ , where

$$B = [ \mathbf{b}_1 \quad \mathbf{b}_2 \quad \cdots \quad \mathbf{b}_5 ] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

### Solution

- Each non-pivot column of  $B$  is a linear combination of the pivot columns. In fact,  $\mathbf{b}_2 = 4\mathbf{b}_1$  and  $\mathbf{b}_4 = 2\mathbf{b}_2 - \mathbf{b}_3$ . By the Spanning Set Theorem, we may discard  $\mathbf{b}_2$  and  $\mathbf{b}_4$ , and  $\{\mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_3, \mathbf{b}_5\}$  will still span  $Col B$ .
- Let

$$S = \{\mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_3, \mathbf{b}_5\} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

- Since  $\mathbf{b}_1 \neq 0$  and no vector in  $S$  is a linear combination of the vectors that precede it,  $S$  is linearly independent. (Theorem 4). Thus,  $S$  is a basis for  $Col B$ .

## Bases for $\text{Nul } A$ and $\text{Col } A$

- **Theorem 6:** The pivot columns of a matrix  $A$  form a basis for  $\text{Col } A$ .
- **Proof:**
  - Let  $B$  be the reduced echelon form of  $A$ . The set of pivot columns of  $B$  is linearly independent, for no vector in the set is a linear combination of the vectors that precede it.
  - Since  $A$  is row equivalent to  $B$ , the pivot columns of  $A$  are linearly independent as well, because any linear dependence relation among the columns of  $A$  corresponds to a linear dependence relation among the columns of  $B$ .
  - For this reason, every non-pivot column of  $A$  is a linear combination of the pivot columns of  $A$ .
  - Thus the non-pivot columns of  $A$  may be discarded from the spanning set for  $\text{Col } A$ , by the Spanning Set Theorem.
  - This leaves the pivot columns of  $A$  as a basis for  $\text{Col } A$ .
- **Warning:** The pivot columns of a matrix  $A$  are evident when  $A$  has been reduced only to echelon form. But, be careful to use the pivot columns of  $A$  itself for the basis of  $\text{Col } A$ . Row operations can change the column space of a matrix. The columns of an echelon form  $B$  of  $A$  are often not in the column space of  $A$ .

## Two Views of a Basis

- When the Spanning Set Theorem is used, the deletion of vectors from a spanning set must stop when the set becomes linearly independent.
- If an additional vector is deleted, it will not be a linear combination of the remaining vectors, and hence the smaller set will no longer span  $V$ .
- Thus a basis is a spanning set that is as small as possible.
- A basis is also a linearly independent set that is as large as possible.
- If  $S$  is a basis for  $V$ , and if  $S$  is enlarged by one vector — say,  $w$  — from  $V$ , then the new set cannot be linearly independent, because  $S$  spans  $V$ , and  $w$  is therefore a linear combination of the elements in  $S$ .
- Sim: “Basis is small enough to be linearly independent, but basis is large enough to span the space.”**



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