

Last time:

(6.3.6)  $\text{span}(S)$  is the intersection of all subspaces containing  $S$ .

(6.3.8) i.e. if any subspace  $W \supseteq S$ , then  $W \supseteq \text{span}(S)$ .

(6.3.9) Equivalently,

$$\text{span}(S) = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \alpha_i \mid \begin{array}{l} \alpha_i \in S \\ a_i \in F \\ \text{some } n \in \mathbb{N} \end{array} \right\}$$



Proof of 6.3.9:

show  $\text{span}(S) \subseteq U$ : use 6.3.8

$U \supseteq S$  (in the sum, take  $n=1$  and  $a_i=1$ )

and  $U$  is a subspace

$\therefore \vec{0} \in U$  (when  $n=0$   
- empty linear combination)

$$\subset \left( \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \alpha_i \right) + \sum_{i=1}^m b_i \beta_i$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n (ca_i) \alpha_i + \sum_{i=1}^m b_i \beta_i$$

a linear combination of vectors in  $S$ .

show  $U \subseteq \text{span}(S)$

= intersection of all  
subspaces containing  $S$

$\therefore$  enough to show that

$U \subseteq$  any subspace containing  $S$ ,  
call this subspace  $W$ .

Take  $\alpha \in U$

i.e.  $\alpha = a_1 \alpha_1 + \dots + a_n \alpha_n$ ,  $\alpha_i \in S$ .

$W \supseteq S \ni \alpha_i$  and  $W$  is a subspace

$\therefore$  closed under linear combinations

$\therefore \alpha \in W$ .

## §6.4 Bases

Def 6.4.1  $A \subseteq V$  is a basis of  $V$  if:

•  $A$  is linearly independent

•  $\text{span}(A) = V$

Ex: standard basis of  $\mathbb{F}^n$

$$= \left\{ e_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, e_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \dots, e_n = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

standard basis of  $P_n(\mathbb{F}) = \{1, x, x^2, \dots, x^{n-1}\}$

standard basis of  $\mathbb{F}[x] = \{1, x, x^2, \dots\}$



Standard basis of  $M_{2,2}(\mathbb{F})$ :

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{c} E^{1,1} \\ \parallel \\ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} E^{1,2} \\ \parallel \\ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} E^{2,1} \\ \parallel \\ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} E^{2,2} \\ \parallel \\ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \end{array} \right\}$$

and similarly for  $M_{m,n}(\mathbb{F})$ .

A basis of  $W = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a \\ 2a \\ 0 \\ b \end{pmatrix} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$   
 is  $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$

$$a \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + b \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

More methods to find bases of subspaces later.



The point of bases is unique representation:

Prop 6.4.5 Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a linearly

independent set. If

$$\alpha = a_1 \alpha_1 + \dots + a_n \alpha_n \text{ and}$$

$$\alpha = b_1 \beta_1 + \dots + b_m \beta_m \text{ with}$$

$\alpha_i, \beta_j \in \mathcal{A}$ ,  $\alpha_i$  distinct,  $\beta_j$  distinct

$a_i, b_j \neq 0$ , then, after reordering  
 $m=n$ ,  $\alpha_i = \beta_i$ ,  $a_i = b_i$ .

(And, if  $\mathcal{A}$  is a basis of  $V$ , i.e. also spans  $V$ , then

every  $\alpha \in V$  can be written as a linear  
combination of vectors in  $\mathcal{A}$ .)  
(see also 2207 week 8 p 11)

Proof: reorder the  $\alpha_i, \beta_j$  so that

$$\alpha_1 = \beta_1, \alpha_2 = \beta_2, \dots, \alpha_k = \beta_k,$$

$\alpha_{k+1}, \dots, \alpha_n, \beta_{k+1}, \dots, \beta_m$  are  
all different. ( $k$  can be 0)

$$\text{Then } a_1 \alpha_1 + \dots + a_n \alpha_n = b_1 \beta_1 + \dots + b_m \beta_m.$$

$$(a_1 - b_1) \alpha_1 + \dots + (a_k - b_k) \alpha_k + a_{k+1} \alpha_{k+1} + \dots$$

$$+ a_n \alpha_n - b_{k+1} \beta_{k+1} - \dots - b_m \beta_m = \vec{0}.$$

$\mathcal{A}$  is linearly independent  $\therefore$  it has no linear dependence relations

$$\therefore a_1 - b_1 = 0, \dots, a_k - b_k = 0, a_{k+1} = \dots = a_n = 0$$

$$b_{k+1} = \dots = b_m = 0.$$

But we assumed  $a_i, b_j \neq 0$ . so  $k=n=m \therefore a_i = b_i$   
 $\alpha_i = \beta_i \forall i$

How to find a basis 1: by taking a subset of  
a spanning set.



The theory: Th 6.3.11 :

If  $\alpha$  is a linear combination of <sup>other</sup> vectors in  $S$ , then  $\text{span}(S) = \text{span}(S \setminus \{\alpha\})$ .

$\therefore$  given a spanning set  $\{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n\}$ , remove one-by-one any  $\alpha_i$  that is a linear combination of other  $\alpha_j$ 's.

(see 2207 week 8 p10  
"spanning set theorem")



In practice: (for subspaces of  $\mathbb{F}^n$   
for other spaces, use  
coordinates)

remove ALL unnecessary  $\alpha_i$  at the  
same time, using casting out

algorithm: row reduce  $\begin{pmatrix} | & & | \\ \alpha_1 & \dots & \alpha_n \\ | & & | \end{pmatrix}$

take the  $\alpha_i$  whose columns have pivots:

Ex 3.6.4:  $W = \text{Span} \left\{ \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\alpha_1}, \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\alpha_2}, \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}}_{\alpha_3}, \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}}_{\alpha_4}, \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\alpha_5} \right\}$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ -1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & 2 & 7 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

echelon form

$\therefore \{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_4\}$  is a basis for  $W$ .

Proof of 6.3.11

$$\text{span}(S \setminus \{\alpha\}) \subseteq \text{span}(S)$$

(use 6.3.8)  $\text{span}(S)$  is a subspace.

$$\text{span}(S) \supseteq S \supseteq S \setminus \{\alpha\}$$

$$\text{span } S \subseteq \text{span}(S \setminus \{\alpha\}). \quad (\text{use 6.3.8})$$

$\text{span}(S \setminus \{\alpha\})$  is a subspace and

$$\text{span}(S \setminus \{\alpha\}) \supseteq S \setminus \{\alpha\} \quad \text{and}$$

$$\text{span}(S \setminus \{\alpha\}) \ni \alpha \quad \therefore \alpha = a_1 \alpha_1 + \dots + a_n \alpha_n$$

with  $\alpha_i \in S \setminus \{\alpha\}$ .

$$\subseteq \text{span}(S \setminus \{\alpha\})$$

and  $\text{span}(S \setminus \{\alpha\})$  is closed under  
linear combinations.

(Different proof using Th. 6.3.9  
— substitute for  $\alpha$  in the linear combination)