

MA1114 24/1/22

Plus / Minus Theorem

Plus / Minus Theorem

Suppose $\emptyset \neq S \subseteq V$, a vector space

(i) if S is linearly independent and $v \notin \text{span}(S)$ then $S \cup \{v\}$ is "plus" linear independent

(ii) if $\text{span}(S) = V$ and $v \in S$ is such that $v \in \text{span}(S \setminus \{v\})$ then $\text{span}(S \setminus \{v\}) = V$

Proof

let $S = \{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$

$$(i) \lambda_1 v_1 + \lambda_2 v_2 + \dots + \lambda_k v_k + \lambda v = 0$$

$$\lambda \neq 0 \Rightarrow v \in \text{span}(S) \quad \times$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda_i = 0 \text{ (since } S \text{ is linearly independent)}$$

$$(ii) \text{span}(S) = V, \quad S = \{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$$

assume $v_k \in \text{span}(S \setminus \{v_k\})$ (up to the reordering the v_i)

$$\exists \lambda_j \in \mathbb{R} \text{ such that } v_k = \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} \lambda_j v_j$$

since S spans V for any $w \in V$ there are $\mu_i \in \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} w = \sum_{i=1}^k \mu_i v_i &= \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} \mu_i v_i + \mu_k v_k = \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} \mu_i v_i + \mu_k \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} \lambda_j v_j = \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} v_i (\mu_i + \mu_k \lambda_i) \\ &\Rightarrow \{v_1, \dots, v_{k-1}\} \text{ spans } V. \end{aligned}$$

Proposition 6.1

V , a vector space, $S = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ is a basis of V .
For any subset \tilde{S} of S of size $k \in \mathbb{N}$

(i) $k > n \Rightarrow \tilde{S}$ linear dependant

(ii) $k < n \Rightarrow \tilde{S}$ does not span V

Proposition 6.13 ("check one get one free")

Let V be a vector space of dimension n and $S = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\} \subset V$

Then $\text{span}(S) = V \Leftrightarrow S$ is linearly independent.

Proof

" \Rightarrow " suppose $\text{span}(S) = V$ and S is linearly dependant

up to reordering the v_i , there are $\lambda_i \in \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i v_i = 0 \quad \text{with } \lambda_n \neq 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow v_n &= -\frac{1}{\lambda_n} \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i v_i = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{-\lambda_i}{\lambda_n} v_i \\ &= \text{span}(\{v_1, \dots, v_{n-1}\}) \end{aligned}$$

plus/minus theorem

$$\Rightarrow \text{span}(\{v_1, \dots, v_{n-1}\}) = V \quad \text{X}$$

by prop 6.1 with $\tilde{S} = \{v_1, \dots, v_{n-1}\}$, $k = n-1$

" \Leftarrow " assuming S is linearly independent

suppose (for a contradiction) that

$\text{span}(S) = V$, Can choose $v \in V \setminus \text{span}(S)$ ($v \notin \text{span}(S)$)

by 1 theorem

$S \cup \{v\}$ is linearly independent \times

by prop 6.1 with $\tilde{S} = \{S \cup \{v\}\}$ ($k = n+1 > n$)

Example

$\text{span}(\{(-\frac{3}{7}), (\frac{5}{7})\})$ is a basis by prop 6.13 $n=2$

(clearly $\{(-\frac{3}{7}), (\frac{5}{7})\}$ is linearly independent)

$\text{span}\left(\underbrace{\left\{\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}\right\}}_{\text{clearly linearly independent}}\right)$ is a basis for \mathbb{R}^3

clearly linearly independent

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \notin \text{span}\left(\left\{\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}\right\}\right)$$

$\Rightarrow \left\{\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}\right\}$ is linearly independent.

by 1 theorem.

similarly

$$\text{span}(\{1, 1+x, 1+x+x^2+\dots+(1+x+x^2+\dots+x^n)\})$$

$$= \text{span}\left(\left\{\frac{x-1}{x-1}, \frac{x^2-1}{x-1}, \frac{x^3-1}{x-1}, \dots, \frac{x^n-1}{x-1}\right\}\right)$$

$$= P_n = \{p_n \mid \text{polynomials of degree} \leq n\} \quad \text{by 1 theorem}$$