

MAT224 Linear Algebra II

Lecture Notes

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1 Vector Spaces

1.1 Bases And Dimension (Jan 17)

Definition A subset S of vector space V is called a *basis* of V if $V = \text{Span}(S)$ and S is linearly independent.

Examples

1. the standard basis $S = \{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$ in \mathbb{R}^n , since every vector $(a_1, \dots, a_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ may be written as the linear combination $(a_1, \dots, a_n) = a_1 e_1 + \dots + a_n e_n$
2. The vector space \mathbb{R}^n has many other bases as well. e.g., in \mathbb{R}^2 , consider the set $S = \{(1, 2), (1, -1)\}$, which is l.i.
3. Let $V = P_n(\mathbb{R})$ and consider $S = \{1, x, x^2, \dots, x^n\}$, which is a basis of V .

proof: It is clear that S spans V . For independence, consider

$$a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + \dots + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + a_n x^n = \mathbf{0}$$

Take the derivative of both sides,

$$\frac{d^n}{dx^n} (a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + \dots + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + a_n x^n) = \frac{d^n}{dx^n} (0)$$

$$n! a_n = 0 \implies a_n = 0$$

Similarly, we have $a_i = 0$ for all i , as wanted.

4. The empty subset, \emptyset , is a basis of the vector space consisting only of a zero vector, $\{\mathbf{0}\}$.

Theorem 1.6.3 Let V be a vector space, and let S be a nonempty subset of V . Then S is a basis of V iff every vector $\mathbf{x} \in V$ may be written uniquely as a linear combination of the vectors in S .

Proof: \rightarrow : Assume S is a basis of V , then given $\mathbf{x} \in V$, there are scalars $a_i \in \mathbb{R}$ and vectors $x_i \in S$ s.t. $\mathbf{x} = a_1 x_1 + \dots + a_n x_n$. To show this linear combination is unique, consider a possible second linear combination of vectors in S which also adds up to \mathbf{x} : $\mathbf{x} = b_1 x_1 + \dots + b_n x_n$. Subtracting these two expressions for \mathbf{x} , we find that

$$\mathbf{0} = a_1 x_1 + \dots + a_n x_n - (b_1 x_1 + \dots + b_n x_n)$$

$$= (a_1 - b_1)x_1 + \dots + (a_n - b_n)x_n$$

Since S is linearly independent, the equation implies that $a_i = b_i$ for all i .

\leftarrow : Assume every vector $\mathbf{x} \in V$ may be written uniquely as a linear combination of the vectors in S . This implies $\text{Span}(S) = V$. We must show that S is l.i. Consider an equation

$$a_1x_1 + \dots + a_nx_n = \mathbf{0}$$

Note that it is also the case that

$$0\mathbf{x} = 0(x_1 + \dots + x_n) = \mathbf{0}$$

Since we assumed that every \mathbf{x} has a unique representation in S , then it must be true that $a_i = 0$ for all i . Hence S is l.i.

Theorem 1.6.6 Let V be a vector space that has a finite spanning set, and let S be a linearly independent subset of V . Then there exists a basis S' of V , with $S \subset S'$

Lemma 1.6.8 Let S be a linearly independent subset of V and let $x \in V$, but $x \notin S$. Then $S \cup \{\mathbf{x}\}$ is l.i. iff $\mathbf{x} \notin \text{Span}(S)$.

Insight the number of vectors in a basis is, in a rough sense, a measure of "how big" the space is.

Theorem 1.6.10 (Basis Theorem) Let V be a vector space and let S be a spanning set for V , which has m elements. Then no linearly independent set in V can have more than m elements.

proof: It suffices to show that every set in V with more than m elements is linearly dependent. Write $S = y_1, \dots, y_m$ and suppose $S' = x_1, \dots, x_n$ is a subset of V with $n > m$ vectors. Consider an equation

$$(1) a_1x_1 + \dots + a_nx_n = \mathbf{0}$$

Our goal is to show that a_i not all 0. Since S spans V , there are scalars b_{ij} s.t. for each i ,

$$x_i = b_{i1}y_1 + \dots + b_{im}y_m$$

Substituting these equations into (1), we get

$$a_1(b_{11}y_1 + \dots + b_{1m}y_m) + \dots + a_n(b_{n1}y_1 + \dots + b_{nm}y_m) = \mathbf{0}$$

Collecting terms and rearranging,

$$(a_1b_{11} + \dots + a_nb_{n1})y_1 + \dots + (a_1b_{1m} + \dots + a_nb_{nm})y_m = \mathbf{0}$$

Since S is l.i., this is equivalent to solving the system

$$b_{11}a_1 + \dots + b_{n1}a_n = 0$$

$$\cdot$$

$$\cdot$$

$$\cdot$$

$$b_{1m}a_1 + \dots + b_{nm}a_n = 0$$

But this is a system with n unknowns and m equations and $n > m$, so there must exist a non-trivial solution $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$, which is what we wanted to show. QED

Corollary 1.6.11 Let V be a vector space and let S and S' be two bases of V , with m and m' elements, respectively. Then $m = m'$.

proof:

Since S is a spanning set of V and S' is l.i., we have $m' \leq m$. Since S' is a spanning set of V and S is l.i. we have $m \leq m'$. Hence $m = m'$. QED

Definitions 1.6.12

1. If V is a vector space with some finite basis (possibly empty), we say V is finite-dimensional.
2. Let V be a finite-dimensional vector space. The dimension of V , denoted $\dim(V)$, is the number of vectors in a (hence any) basis of V .
3. If $V = \{\mathbf{0}\}$, we define $\dim(V) = 0$.
4. $\dim(\text{span}\{(1, 2, 3), (4, 5, 6), (7, 8, 9)\}) = 2$

Examples

1. For each n , $\dim(\mathbb{R}^n) = n$, since the standard basis contains n vectors.
2. $\dim(P_n(\mathbb{R})) = n + 1$, since a basis for $P_n(\mathbb{R})$ contains $n + 1$ functions.
3. The vector spaces $P(\mathbb{R})$, $C^1(\mathbb{R})$ and $C(\mathbb{R})$ are not finite-dimensional. We say that such spaces are infinite-dimensional.

Corollary 1.6.14 Let W be a subspace of a finite-dimensional vector space V . Then $\dim(W) \leq \dim(V)$. Furthermore, $\dim(W) = \dim(V)$ iff $W = V$.

Corollary 1.6.15 Let W be a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n defined by a system of homogeneous linear equations. Then $\dim(W)$ is equal to the number of free variables in the corresponding echelon form system.

Theorem 1.6.18 Let W_1 and W_2 be finite-dimensional subspaces of a vector space V . Then

$$\dim(W_1 + W_2) = \dim(W_1) + \dim(W_2) - \dim(W_1 \cap W_2)$$

Remark Analogous to the Principle of Inclusion-Exclusion

proof: Result obvious if either W_1 or W_2 is $\{\mathbf{0}\}$.

Therefore, we assume that neither W_1 nor W_2 is $\{\mathbf{0}\}$. Starting from a basis S of $W_1 \cap W_2$. We can always find sets T_1 and T_2 (disjoint from S) such that $S \cup T_1$ is a basis for W_1 and $S \cup T_2$ is a basis for W_2 . We claim that $U = S \cup T_1 \cup T_2$ is a basis for $W_1 + W_2$, since

$$U = S \cup T_1 \cup T_2 = (S \cup T_1) \cup (S \cup T_2)$$

$$\text{Span}(U) = \text{Span}((S \cup T_1) \cup (S \cup T_2)) = W_1 + W_2$$

It remains to prove that U is linearly independent. Any potential linear dependence among the vectors in U must have the form

$$\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}_1 + \mathbf{w}_2 = \mathbf{0}$$

where $\mathbf{v} \in \text{Span}(S) = W_1 \cap W_2$, $\mathbf{w}_1 \in \text{Span}(T_1) \subset W_1$, $\mathbf{w}_2 \in \text{Span}(T_2) \subset W_2$. (slice the linear combination into the sum of the vectors from 3 vector spaces). It suffices to prove that in any such potential linear dependence, we must have $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{w}_1 = \mathbf{w}_2 = \mathbf{0}$ (each vector is a lin comb, and equals $\mathbf{0}$). Consider $\mathbf{w}_2 = -\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{w}_1$. Since $-\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{w}_1 \in W_1$, $\mathbf{w}_2 \in W_2$, we must have $\mathbf{w}_2 \in W_1 \cap W_2$. By definition, $\mathbf{w}_2 \in \text{Span}(T_2)$ But $S \cap T_2 = \emptyset$, hence $\text{Span}(S) \cap \text{Span}(T_2) = \{\mathbf{0}\}$. Therefore we must have $\mathbf{w}_2 = \mathbf{0}$. So then $-\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{w}_1 \in W_1 \cap W_2$. Since $S \cap T_1 = \emptyset$, $\text{Span}(S) \cap \text{Span}(T_1) = \{\mathbf{0}\}$ and we have $\mathbf{w}_1 = \mathbf{0}$, so $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$ as well. QED

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2 Linear Transformations

2.1 Linear Transformations

A function T from V to W is denoted by $T : V \rightarrow W$. The vector $\mathbf{w} = T(\mathbf{v})$ in W is called the image of \mathbf{v} under the function T . Loosely speaking, we want our functions to turn the algebraic operations of addition and scalar multiplication in V into addition and scalar multiplication in W .

Definition 2.1.1 A function $T : V \rightarrow W$ is called a *linear mapping* or a *linear transformation* if it satisfies

1. $T(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) = T(\mathbf{u}) + T(\mathbf{v})$ for all \mathbf{u} and $\mathbf{v} \in V$
2. $T(a\mathbf{v}) = aT(\mathbf{v})$ for all $a \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\mathbf{v} \in V$

V is called the *domain* of T and W is called the *target* of T .

We say that a linear transformation preserves the operations of addition and scalar multiplication.

Property A linear mapping always takes the zero vector in the domain vector space to the zero vector in the target vector space.

Proposition 2.1.2 A function $T : V \rightarrow W$ is a linear transformation if and only if for all a and $b \in \mathbb{R}$ and all \mathbf{u} and $\mathbf{v} \in V$

$$T(a\mathbf{u} + b\mathbf{v}) = aT(\mathbf{u}) + bT(\mathbf{v})$$

Corollary 2.1.3 A function $T : V \rightarrow W$ is a linear transformation if and only if for all $a_1, \dots, a_k \in \mathbb{R}$ and for all $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k \in V$:

$$T\left(\sum_{i=1}^k a_i \mathbf{v}_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^k a_i T(\mathbf{v}_i)$$

Examples

1. Let V be any vector space, and let $W = V$. The *underidentity transformation* $I : V \rightarrow V$ is defined by $I(\mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{v}$ for all $\mathbf{v} \in V$.
2. Let V and W be any vector spaces, and let $T : V \rightarrow W$ be the mapping that takes every vector in V to the zero vector in W :

$$T(\mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{0}_W$$

for all $\mathbf{v} \in V$. T is called zero transformation.

3. $T(\mathbf{x}) = a_1x_1 + \dots + a_nx_n$

4. *Differentiation, definite integration*

Remark The inner product plays a crucial role in linear algebra in that it provides a bridge between algebra and geometry, which is the heart of the more advanced material that appears later in the text.

Proposition 2.1.14 If $T : V \rightarrow W$ is a linear transformation and V is finite-dimensional, then T is uniquely determined by its values on the members of a basis of V .

proof:

2.2 Linear Transformations Between Finite-Dimensional Vector Spaces

Proposition 2.2.1 Let $T : V \rightarrow W$ be a linear transformation between the finite-dimensional vector spaces V and W . If $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k\}$ is a basis for V and $\{\mathbf{w}_1, \dots, \mathbf{w}_l\}$ is a basis for W , then $T : V \rightarrow W$ is uniquely determined by the $l \cdot k$ scalars used to express $T(\mathbf{v}_j), j = 1, \dots, k$, in terms of $\mathbf{w}_1, \dots, \mathbf{w}_l$.