

Learning Objectives:

1. Define dimension of a vector space
2. Describe the relationship between dimensions of a vector space and its subspaces, including geometric intuition from \mathbb{R}^n
3. Calculate the dimension of subspaces

1 Dimension

Theorem: If a vector space V has a basis of n vectors, then every basis of V has n vectors.

Remark: This theorem tells us that any set which has more than n vectors must be linearly dependent and any set which has fewer than n vectors cannot span the vector space.

Definition: If V is spanned by a finite set, then V is **finite-dimensional** and the dimension of V , written $\dim V$ is the number of vectors in any basis for V . The dimension of $\{\mathbf{0}\}$ is 0. Any vector space not spanned by a finite set is infinite-dimensional.

Example 1. Find the dimension of the subspace

$$\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} s - 2t \\ s + t \\ 3t \end{pmatrix} : s, t \in \mathbb{R} \right\}.$$

Example 2. *In general, the subspaces of \mathbb{R}^3 are classified by their dimension:*

- *1 dimensional subspaces:*
- *2-dimensional subspaces:*
- *3-dimensional subspaces:*

Theorem: If H is a subspace of a finite dimensional space V then _____. Moreover any basis of H can be extended to a basis of V .

Theorem: If $\dim V = p$ then any set of p linearly independent vectors is a basis of V , and any set of p vectors that spans V is a basis of V .

Example 3. *Given a matrix A , what are the dimensions of $\text{Nul } A$ and $\text{Col } A$?*

Example 4. T/F: *If $\dim V = p$ and S is a linearly dependent set in V , then S has more than p vectors.*