

Linear Algebra

Chapter 4: Vector Spaces

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Summary

1. Definition of a Vector Space
2. Subspaces
3. Linear Independence
4. Bases and Dimension



Definition of a Vector Space

Definition (Vector Spaces)

Let V be a nonempty set of objects, called **vectors**, on which are defined two operations, called **addition** and **multiplication by scalars**. The set V is called a **vector space** or **linear space** if it satisfies the following ten axioms which we list in three groups. The axioms must hold for all vectors u, v and w and for all scalars c and d .

- **Closure Axioms**

A 1: The sum of u and v , denoted by $u + v$, is in V . (Closure under addition)

A 2: The scalar multiple of u by c , denoted by cu , is in V . (Closure under scalar multiplication)

- **Axioms of addition**

A 3: $u + v = v + u$. (Commutative law of addition)

A 4: $(u + v) + w = u + (v + w)$. (Associative law of addition)

A 5: There is a zero vector 0 in V such that $u + 0 = u$. (Existence of zero element (additive identity))



Definition of a Vector Space

Definition

- **A 6:** For each u in V , there is a vector $-u$ in V such that $u + (-u) = 0$.
(Existence of (negative) additive inverse)
- **Axioms for Multiplication by Scalars**
 - A 7:** $c(u + v) = cu + cv$. (Distributive law for addition)
 - A 8:** $(c + d)u = cu + du$. (Distributive law for scalar multiplication)
 - A 9:** $c(du) = (cd)u$. (Associative law of scalar multiplication)
 - A 10:** $1u = u$. (Existence of identity)



Definition of a Vector Space

Example

Let $V = \mathbb{R}^n$, with addition and multiplication by scalars defined in the usual way in terms of components, is a vector space the vector space and called real n -dimensional space.

Example

The following example are called **function spaces**. Let the elements of V be the real-valued functions (vectors), with addition of two functions f and g defined in the usual way

$$(f + g)(x) = f(x) + g(x)$$

and scalar multiplication of a function f by a real scalar c is defined as

$$(af)(x) = a f(x)$$

The zero element is the function whose values are everywhere zero defined as $O(x) = 0$.

Definition of a Vector Space

Example

The set of all polynomials of degree less or equal n for some fixed positive integer n , with usual addition and scalar multiplications of polynomials, is a vector space. Clearly, we consider that the zero polynomial is zero vector of the space. This linear space is called polynomial linear space and denoted by $\mathbb{P}_n(x)$.

Note that the set of all polynomials of degree equal to n is not a linear space because the closure axioms of addition are not satisfied. For example,

$$P(x) = x^2 + 3x - 5 \quad \text{and} \quad Q(x) = -x^2 + 4x + 9$$

are polynomials of degree 2 while $P + Q$ is not of degree 2.



Definition of a Vector Space

Example

The set of all matrices of the same order, say $m \times n$, forms a vector space under the usual addition and scalar multiplication of matrices where the zero matrix of order $m \times n$ is the zero vector of the space (vector as an element of a vector space not a usual vector).

Example

The solutions set of a homogeneous system $Ax = 0$ forms a vector space under the usual addition and scalar multiplication. While the solutions set of nonhomogeneous system can not be a vector space because it we violate the closure axioms.



Definition of a Vector Space

Theorem

In a given linear space, let u and v be arbitrary vectors and c and d be arbitrary scalars. Then we have the following properties:

1. $0u = 0$.
2. $c0 = 0$.
3. $(-a)u = -(au) = a(-u)$.
4. If $au = 0$, then either $a = 0$ or $u = 0$.
5. If $au = av$ and $a \neq 0$, then $u = v$.
6. If $au = bu$ and $u \neq 0$, then $a = b$.
7. $-(u + v) = (-u) + (-v) = -u - v$.
8. $u + u = 2u$, $u + u + u = 3u$, and $\underbrace{u + u + \cdots + u}_{n\text{-times}} = nu$.

Definition of a Vector Space

Example

Let $V = \mathbb{R}^+$, the set of positive real numbers. Define the “addition” of two elements x and y in V to be their product xy (in the usual sense), and define “scaler multiplication” of an element x in V by a scalar c from the field \mathbb{R} to be x^c . Prove that V is a real linear space with 1 as the zero vector.

Solution

Let $x, y, z \in V = \mathbb{R}^+$ and $c, d \in \mathbb{R}$. Denote the defined addition by \oplus and the defined scalar multiplication by \odot . Therefore

A 1: $x \oplus y = xy \in \mathbb{R}^+$ where the product of every pair of positive numbers is positive.

A 2: $c \odot x = x^c \in \mathbb{R}^+$ even c is negative.

A 3: $x \oplus y = xy = yx = y \oplus x$.



Definition of a Vector Space

Solution

A 4: $(x \oplus y) \oplus z = (xy) \oplus z = xyz$ and $x \oplus (y \oplus z) = x \oplus (yz) = xyz$. So $(x \oplus y) \oplus z = x \oplus (y \oplus z)$.

A 5: Also $x \oplus 1 = x1 = x$. So that 1 is the zero of the defined addition.

A 6: For every $x \in V$, we have $x \oplus \frac{1}{x} = x \frac{1}{x} = 1$ and 1 is our zero vector. Moreover $\frac{1}{x} \in \mathbb{R}^+$.

A 7: Also

$$c \odot (x \oplus y) = c \odot (xy) = (xy)^c = x^x y^c = (x^c) \oplus (y^c) = (c \odot x) \oplus (c \odot y).$$

A 8: Again

$$(c + d) \odot x = x^{c+d} = x^c x^d = (x^c) \oplus (x^d) = (c \odot x) \oplus (d \odot x).$$



Definition of a Vector Space

Solution

A 9: *Now*

$$c \odot (d \odot x) = c \odot (x^d) = (x^d)^c = x^{cd} = (cd) \odot x.$$

A 10: *Finally*

$$1 \oplus x = x^1 = x.$$

Since all the axioms hold, hence \mathbb{R}^+ is a real vector space under the defined addition and scalar multiplication.



Definition of a Vector Space

Example

Let S be the set of all ordered pairs (x_1, x_2) of real numbers. Determine whether or not S is a linear space with the usual addition of vectors and scalar multiplication defined as

$$c(x_1, x_2) = (c x_1, 0).$$

Solution

Since the set S includes all the vectors of \mathbb{R}^2 , hence the closure axioms hold. Also S uses the usual addition which implies that the axioms from 3 to 6 hold all. Now, we have to check the last four axioms. For every $x = (x_1, x_2)$ and $y = (y_1, y_2)$ and real numbers a and b , we have:

$$a(x + y) = a((x_1, x_2) + (y_1, y_2)) = a(x_1 + y_1, x_2 + y_2) = (a(x_1 + y_1), 0) = (ax_1 + ay_1, 0)$$

and

$$ax + by = a(x_1, x_2) + b(y_1, y_2) = (ax_1, 0) + (by_1, 0) = (ax_1 + by_1, 0).$$

Definition of a Vector Space

Solution

Therefore $a(x + y) = ax + by$ and Axiom 7 holds. Also

$$(a + b)x = (a + b)(x_1, x_2) = ((a + b)x_1, 0) = (ax_1 + bx_1, 0)$$

$$ax + bx = a(x_1, x_2) + b(x_1, x_2) = (ax_1, 0) + (bx_1, 0) = (ax_1 + bx_1, 0).$$

So $(a + b)x = ax + bx$ and Axiom 8 holds. Again

$$a(bx) = a(b(x_1, x_2)) = a(bx_1, 0) = (a(bx_1), 0) = (abx_1, 0)$$

$$(ab)x = (ab)(x_1, x_2) = ((ab)x_1, 0) = (abx, 0).$$

Hence $a(bx) = (ab)x$; it is Axiom 9. But $1x = 1(x_1, x_2) = (1x_1, 0) = (x_1, 0) \neq x$, which means that Axiom 10 is not satisfied and S under the given operations is not a vector space.



Definition of a Vector Space

Example

Let $V = \mathbb{R}^2$. Determine whether or not V is a vector space with the usual scalar multiplication and addition of vectors defined as

$$(x_1, x_2) + (y_1, y_2) = (x_1 y_1 + x_2 y_2, x_1 y_2 + x_2 y_1).$$

Solution

It is enough to verify the axioms of addition to determine whether V is a vector space or not. Let $x = (x_1, x_2)$, $y = (y_1, y_2)$ and $z = (z_1, z_2)$ are in \mathbb{R}^2 .

A 3: First

$$x + y = (x_1, x_2) + (y_1, y_2) = (x_1 y_1 + x_2 y_2, x_1 y_2 + x_2 y_1)$$

and

$$y + x = (y_1, y_2) + (x_1, x_2) = (y_1 x_1 + y_2 x_2, y_1 x_2 + y_2 x_1).$$

Hence $x + y = y + x$.

Subspaces

Solution

A 4: *Secondly,*

$$\begin{aligned}(x + y) + z &= ((x_1, x_2) + (y_1, y_2)) + (z_1, z_2) \\&= (x_1 y_1 + x_2 y_2, x_1 y_2 + x_2 y_1) + (z_1, z_2) \\&= ((x_1 y_1 + x_2 y_2)z_1 + (x_1 y_2 + x_2 y_1)z_2, (x_1 y_1 + x_2 y_2)z_2 + (x_1 y_2 + x_2 y_1)z_1) \\&= (x_1 y_1 z_1 + x_2 y_2 z_1 + x_1 y_2 z_2 + x_2 y_1 z_2, x_1 y_1 z_2 + x_2 y_2 z_2 + x_1 y_2 z_1 + x_2 y_1 z_1).\end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$x + (y + z) = (x_1 y_1 z_1 + x_2 y_2 z_1 + x_1 y_2 z_2 + x_2 y_1 z_2, x_1 y_1 z_2 + x_2 y_2 z_2 + x_1 y_2 z_1 + x_2 y_1 z_1)$$

and $(x + y) + z = x + (y + z).$



Subspaces

Solution

A 5: The defined addition has the zero vector $0 = (1, 0)$. Indeed, for every $x \in V$, we have

$$x + 0 = (x_1, x_2) + (1, 0) = (x_1(1) + x_2(0), x_1(0) + x_2(1)) = (x_1, x_2) = x.$$

A 6: Let $x = (1, 1)$ and assume that $x + y = 0$ for some $y \in V$. So

$$(y_1 + y_2, y_1 + y_2) = (1, 0),$$

to get the nonhomogeneous system

$$y_1 + y_2 = 1$$

$$y_1 + y_2 = 0$$

is inconsistent and has no solution. It means x has no additive inverse which makes Axiom 6 does not hold. Thus V is not a vector space.

Subspaces

Many interesting examples of vector spaces are subsets of a given vector space V that are vector spaces in their own right. For example, the xy -plane in \mathbb{R}^3 given by

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \mid x, y \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

is a subset of \mathbb{R}^3 . It is also a vector space with the same standard componentwise operations defined on \mathbb{R}^3 .

Definition (Subspace)

A **subspace** W of a vector space V is a nonempty subset that is itself a vector space with respect to the inherited operations of vector addition and scalar multiplication on V .



Subspaces

The next theorem gives a simple criterion for determining whether or not a subset of a linear space is a subspace.

Theorem

Let S be a nonempty subset of a linear space V . Then S is a subspace if and only if S satisfies the closure axioms.

Example

Let $\mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$ be the vector space of 2×2 matrices of real entries with the standard operations for addition and scalar multiplication, and let W be the subset of all 2×2 matrices with zero trace. Show that W is a subspace of



Subspaces

Solution

Obviously

$$W = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & -a \end{bmatrix} \mid a, b, c \in \mathbb{R} \right\}.$$

Let $w_1 = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ c_1 & -a_1 \end{bmatrix}$ and $w_2 = \begin{bmatrix} a_2 & b_2 \\ c_2 & -a_2 \end{bmatrix}$ be in W . The sum of the two matrices is

$$w_1 + w_2 = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ c_1 & -a_1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} a_2 & b_2 \\ c_2 & -a_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 + a_2 & b_1 + b_2 \\ c_1 + c_2 & -(a_1 + a_2) \end{bmatrix} \in W$$

Also, for any scalar k ,

$$kw_1 = k \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ c_1 & -a_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} ka_1 & kb_1 \\ kc_1 & -ka_1 \end{bmatrix} \in W.$$

Thus, W is a subspace of $\mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$.

Subspaces

Example

Let W be a subset of the vector space \mathbb{R}^2 defined as $W = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \mid x, y > 0 \right\}$; that is the set of first quadrant in the plane. Determine whether or not W is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^2 .

Solution

Let $u = (x_1, y_1)$ and $v = (x_2, y_2)$ be in W . So that $x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2 > 0$. So that

$$u + v = (x_1 + x_2, y_1 + y_2) \in W,$$

where both $x_1 + x_2$ and $y_1 + y_2$ are positive, and Axiom 1 holds. But

$$-2u(x_1, y_1) = (-2x_1, -2y_1) \notin W.$$

Therefore Axiom 2 does not hold and W is not a subspace of \mathbb{R}^2 .

Subspaces

Example

Show that the subset W of the vector space \mathbb{R}^3 , defined as

$$W = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \mid x^3 + y^3 + z^3 \geq 0 \right\}, \text{ is not a subspace of } \mathbb{R}^3.$$

Solution

Indeed, Axiom 2 holds since for every vector $u = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$ and scalar c , $cu = \begin{bmatrix} cx \\ cy \\ cz \end{bmatrix}$ which satisfies

$(cx)^3 + (cy)^3 + (cz)^3 = c^3(x^3 + y^3 + z^3) = 0$ and $cu \in W$. Even so, W is not a subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 where Axiom 1 does not hold. For example,

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}} + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \notin W.$$

Subspaces

Theorem

A nonempty subset W of a vector space V is a subspace of V if and only if for each pair of vectors u and v in W and each scalar c , the vector $u + cv$ is in W .

Example

Let

$$S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \mid 3x - 2y + z = 0 \right\}.$$

Show that S is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 under the standard componentwise operations.



Subspaces

Solution

Let

$$u = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \\ z_1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad v = \begin{bmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \\ z_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

in S . Hence $3x_1 - 2y_1 + z_1 = 0$ and $3x_2 - 2y_2 + z_2 = 0$. Therefore

$$u + cv = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \\ z_1 \end{bmatrix} + c \begin{bmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \\ z_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 + cx_2 \\ y_1 + cy_2 \\ z_1 + cz_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$3(x_1 + cx_2) - 2(y_1 + cy_2) + (z_1 + cz_2) = (3x_1 - 2y_1 + z_1) + c(3x_2 - 2y_2 + z_2) = 0 + 0 = 0.$$

Therefore $u + cv \in W$ and W is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 .

Subspaces

Theorem

The intersection of any collection of subspaces of a vector space is a subspace of the vector space.

The following example gives an example for the previous theorem and shows that the union of two subspaces does not need to be a subspace.

Example

Let W_1 and W_2 be the subspaces of xy and xz -planes of \mathbb{R}^3 . So that

$$W_1 = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \mid x, y \in \mathbb{R} \right\} \quad \text{and} \quad W_2 = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ 0 \\ z \end{bmatrix} \mid x, z \in \mathbb{R} \right\}.$$



Subspaces

Example

Obviously

$$W_1 \cap W_2 = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \mid x \in \mathbb{R} \right\},$$

which represents x-axis and is subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 . While

$$W_1 \cup W_2 = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \mid x = 0 \text{ or } z = 0 \text{ and } x \in \mathbb{R} \right\}.$$

This set is not closed under addition since

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} \notin W_1 \cup W_2.$$

Subspaces

Definition (Linear Combination)

Let $S = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$ be a nonempty subset of a linear space V . An element x in V of the form

$$\sum_{i=1}^k c_i v_i = c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 + \dots + c_k v_k.$$

where c_1, \dots, c_k are scalars, is called a **finite linear combination** of the vectors of S .

Example

Let $V = \mathbb{R}^3$ and $S = \left\{ v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, v_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$. The vector $v = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$ is a linear combination of $S = \{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$ as

$$v = 1v_1 + 2v_2 + (-1)v_3$$

Subspaces

Example

Show that the vector $v = (6, 3, 6)$ is a linear combination of the vectors $S = \{(1, 2, 1), (1, -1, -2), (1, 1, 3)\}$

Solution

Assume that

$$(6, 3, 6) = c_1(1, 2, 1) + c_2(1, -1, -2) + c_3(1, 1, 3).$$

Comparing the components, we get the liner system

$$\begin{array}{rrcrcl} c_1 & + & c_2 & + & c_3 & = & 6 \\ 2c_1 & - & c_2 & + & c_3 & = & 3 \\ c_1 & - & 2c_2 & + & 3c_3 & = & 6 \end{array}$$



Subspaces

Solution

The augmented matrix is

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 6 \\ 2 & -1 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & -2 & 3 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 6 \\ 0 & -3 & -1 & -9 \\ 0 & -3 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 6 \\ 0 & -3 & -1 & -9 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

The system is consistent with the unique solution $c_1 = 1, c_2 = 2, c_3 = 3$. Hence,

$$v = 1(1, 2, 1) + 2(1, -1, -2) + 3(1, 1, 3)$$

and it is a linear combination of S .



Subspaces

Example

Prove that the vector $v = (16, 24, 40)$ is a linear combination of the vectors $S = \{v_1 = (1, 1, 1), v_2 = (1, 2, 4), v_3 = (1, 3, 7)\}$

Solution

Let

$$(16, 24, 40) = c_1(1, 1, 1) + c_2(1, 2, 4) + c_3(1, 3, 7).$$

$$c_1 + c_2 + c_3 = 16$$

$$c_1 + 2c_2 + 3c_3 = 24$$

$$c_1 + 4c_2 + 7c_3 = 40$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 16 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 24 \\ 1 & 4 & 7 & 40 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 16 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 8 \\ 0 & 3 & 6 & 24 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 16 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right].$$

Subspaces

Solution

The system of the weights is consistent with infinitely many solutions is given by

$$c_1 = 8 + t, \quad c_2 = 8 - 2t \quad c_3 = t$$

for arbitrary parameter t . So that v is a linear combination of $S = \{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$; this linear combination can be in infinitely many ways depending on our choosing for t . For example

$$t = 1 \quad : \quad v = 9v_1 + 6v_2 + 1v_3$$

$$t = 0 \quad : \quad v = 8v_1 + 8v_2 + 0v_3$$

$$t = -2 \quad : \quad v = 6v_1 + 12v_2 + (-2)v_3$$



Example

Prove that the vector $v = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ can not be written as a linear combination of the vectors

$$S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}.$$

Subspaces

Solution

Setting

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = c_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + c_3 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Comparing and forming the augmented matrix of the obtained system, we get

$$[A|B] = \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 & 2 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & -2 & 0 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right].$$

Indeed $\text{rank}(AB) \neq \text{rank}(A)$ and the system is inconsistent which means that there are no values for c_1, c_2, c_3 which means that v is not a linear combination of S .



Subspaces

Definition (Span of a Set of Vectors)

Let V be a vector space and $S = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ be a (finite) set of vectors in V . The **span** of S , denoted by **span** (S), is the set

$$\text{span}(S) = \{c_1v_1 + c_2v_2 + \dots + c_nv_n \mid c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n \text{ are scalars}\}.$$

Theorem

*If $S = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ is a set of vectors in a vector space V , then **span** (S) is a subspace of V .*



Subspaces

Example

Let $S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$. Show that the span of S is the subspace of $\mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$ of all symmetric matrices.

Solution

Recall that a 2×2 matrix is symmetric provided that it has the form $\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ b & c \end{bmatrix}$. Since any matrix in $\text{span}(S)$ has the form

$$a \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + b \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + c \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ b & c \end{bmatrix}$$

Thus $\text{span}(S)$ is the collection of all 2×2 symmetric matrices.

Subspaces

Example

Show that the set of matrices

$$S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

does not span $\mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$. Describe $\text{span}(S)$.

Solution

The equation

$$c_1 \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$$

is equivalent to the system with augmented matrix



Solution

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|c} -1 & 1 & a \\ 0 & 1 & b \\ 2 & 1 & c \\ 1 & 0 & d \end{array} \right] \sim \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} -1 & 1 & a \\ 0 & 1 & b \\ 0 & 0 & b + c - 2a \\ 0 & 0 & a + d - b \end{array} \right].$$

This system is inconsistent if $b + c - 2a$ or $a + d - b$ are nonzero. Which means that S does not span all matrices of $\mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$. Also

$$\text{span}(S) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -a + b & b \\ 2a + b & a \end{bmatrix} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$



Linear Independence

Definition (Linearly Independent and Linearly Dependent)

The set of vectors $S = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m\}$ in a vector space V is **linearly independent** provided that the only solution to the equation

$$c_1v_1 + c_2v_2 + \dots + c_mv_m = 0$$

is only the trivial solution $c_1 = c_2 = \dots = c_m = 0$. If the above linear combination has a nontrivial solution, then the set S is called **linearly dependent**.

Note that:

- If a subset T of a set S is dependent, then S itself is dependent. This is logically equivalent to the statement that every subset of an independent set is independent.
- If one vector in S is a scalar multiple of another, then S is dependent.
- If $0 \in S$, then S is dependent.
- The empty set Φ is independent.

Linear Independence

Solution

Assume that

$$c_1v_1 + c_2v_2 + c_3v_3 = 0$$

to get a homogenous linear system with corresponding coefficient matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Since $\text{rank}(A) = 3$ and the system has the unique trivial solution. So $c_1 = c_2 = c_3 = 0$. Therefore the set $\{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$ is linearly independent.



Linear Independence

Theorem

A set of nonzero vectors is linearly dependent if and only if at least one of the vectors is a linear combination of other vectors in the set.

Theorem

Let $S = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k\}$ be an independent set consisting of k vectors of a linear space V . Then every set of $k + 1$ vectors in $\text{span}(S)$ is dependent.

Theorem

Let $Ax = b$ be a consistent $m \times n$ linear system. The solution is unique if and only if the column vectors of A are linearly independent.



Bases and Dimension

Definition

A subset S of vectors in a linear space V is called a **basis** for V if

1. S is independent set in V
2. S spans V ; $\text{span}(S) = V$.

The space V is called **finite-dimensional** if it has a finite basis, or if V consists of 0 alone. Otherwise, V is called **infinite-dimensional**.

As an example, the set of coordinate vectors

$$S = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$$

spans \mathbb{R}^n and is linearly independent, so that S is a basis for \mathbb{R}^n . This particular basis is called the **standard basis** for \mathbb{R}^n but it is the only basis as shown in the next example.



Bases and Dimension

Example

Show that the set

$$B = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

is a basis for \mathbb{R}^3 .

Solution

First, to show that B spans \mathbb{R}^3 , we must show that the equation

$$c_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + c_3 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix}$$



Bases and Dimension

Solution

has a solution for every choice of a , b and c in \mathbb{R} . The corresponding augmented matrix is

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & a \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & b \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & c \end{array} \right] \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & a \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & c \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & b-a \end{array} \right]$$

which is consistent with a unique solution for every a , b and c . Therefore B span \mathbb{R}^3 . Also the equation

$$c_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + c_3 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

has the unique trivial solution $c_1 = c_2 = c_3 = 0$ which means that B is linearly independent. So b is a basis for \mathbb{R}^3



Bases and Dimension

Example

Is the set $S = \{(1, 2, 2, 3), (1, 2, 2, 5), (2, 4, 4, 8), (2, 4, 4, 6), (1, 3, 2, 5)\}$ a basis of \mathbb{R}^4 ?

Solution

Let (x, y, z, u) be an arbitrary vector in \mathbb{R}^4 . Setting

$$(x, y, z, u) = c_1(1, 2, 2, 3) + c_2(1, 2, 2, 5) + c_3(2, 4, 4, 8) + c_4(2, 4, 4, 6) + c_5(1, 3, 2, 5),$$

we get the system with the augmented matrix

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 1 & x \\ 2 & 2 & 4 & 4 & 3 & y \\ 2 & 2 & 4 & 4 & 2 & z \\ 3 & 5 & 8 & 6 & 5 & u \end{array} \right] \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 1 & x \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{2} - \frac{3}{2}x \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & y - 2x \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & z - 2x \end{array} \right]$$

Hence, the system is inconsistent if $z \neq 2x$. Therefore, S does not span \mathbb{R}^4 and therefore it can not be a basis of \mathbb{R}^4 .

Bases and Dimension

Theorem

Let V be a finite-dimensional linear space. Then every basis for V has the same number of elements.

According to the previous theorem, we can get the following definition.

Definition (Dimension of a Vector Space)

The **dimension** of the vector space V , denoted by $\dim(V)$, is the number of vectors in any basis of V .

If $V = \{0\}$, which is called the **zero vector space**, we say V has dimension 0.



Bases and Dimension

Example

The space \mathbb{R}^n has dimension n . One basis is the set of n unit coordinate vectors.

$$\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}.$$

Example

The space $\mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ has dimension mn . One basis is the set of matrices.

$\{e_{ij} | 1 \leq i \leq m, 1 \leq j \leq n\}$, where e_{ij} is the matrix in which the entry in (i, j) -position is one and zero otherwise.

Example

The space $\mathbb{P}_n(x)$ has dimension $n + 1$. One basis is the set of $n + 1$ polynomials

$$\{1, x, x^2, \dots, x^n\}.$$

Bases and Dimension

Theorem

Suppose that V is a vector space with $\dim(V) = n$.

1. If $S = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ is linearly independent, then $\text{span}(S) = V$ and S is a basis.
2. If $S = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ and $\text{span}(S) = V$, then S is linearly independent and S is a basis.

Example

Determine whether

$$B = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

is a basis for \mathbb{R}^3 .



Bases and Dimension

Solution

Since $\dim(\mathbb{R}^3) = 3$, it is enough to show that the set B is a basis is linearly independent. Let

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

be the matrix whose column vectors are the vectors of B . The determinant of this matrix is 1, so that the homogeneous system $Ax = b$ for every vector b has a unique solution and therefore the set B is linearly independent, by Theorem 58. Thus B is a basis of \mathbb{R}^3 .



Bases and Dimension

Given a set $S = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\}$ to find a basis for $\text{span}(S)$:

1. Form a matrix A whose column vectors are v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n .
2. Find an row echelon form for A .
3. The pivot columns of A are a basis for $\text{span}(S)$.

Example

Let

$$S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \\ 6 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 7 \\ 9 \\ -9 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -4 \\ -5 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -3 \\ 2 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ 9 \\ 4 \\ -6 \end{bmatrix} \right\}.$$

Find a basis for the span of S .



Bases and Dimension

Solution

Start by constructing the matrix whose column vectors are the vectors in S . We reduce the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 5 & -3 & -4 & 8 \\ 4 & 7 & -4 & -3 & 9 \\ 6 & 9 & -5 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & -9 & 6 & 5 & -6 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 5 & -3 & -4 & 8 \\ 0 & -3 & 2 & 5 & -7 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 4 & -6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Observe that the pivoting positions are in columns 1, 2, and 4. Therefore, a basis B for $\text{span}(S)$ is given by

$$B = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \\ 6 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 7 \\ 9 \\ -9 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -3 \\ 2 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \right\}.$$

Bases and Dimension

Example

Find a basis for \mathbb{R}^4 that contains the vectors

$$v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solution

Notice that the set $\{v_1, v_2\}$ shall be linearly independent. However, it cannot span \mathbb{R}^4 since $\dim(\mathbb{R}^4) = 4$. To find a basis, form the set $S = \{v_1, v_2, e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4\}$. Since $\text{span}\{e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4\} = \mathbb{R}^4$, we know that $\text{span}(S) = \mathbb{R}^4$.

As in previous example, we can get a basis from the pivot columns of the matrix.



Bases and Dimension

Solution

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Trivially, this matrix has rank 4 to get four pivot columns. We've intentionally set the vectors v_1 and v_2 in the left of the standard unit vectors to get them in the basis.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Observe that the pivot columns are 1, 2, 3, and 6. A basis is therefore given by the set of vectors $\{v_1, v_2, e_1, e_4\}$.

Bases and Dimension

Theorem

If W is a strictly subspace of a finite-dimensional linear space V , then $\dim(W) < \dim(V)$.

Definition (Null, Row and Column Spaces)

Let A be an $m \times n$ matrix.

1. The **null space** of A is the set of all vectors in \mathbb{R}^n such that $Ax = 0$, denoted by **null** (A) and its dimension is called the **nullity**.
2. The **row space** of A , denoted by **col** (A), is the set of all linear combinations (span) of the row vectors of A , denoted by **row** (A) and its dimension is called the **row rank**, denoted by $\text{rank}(A)$; that is the same in Chapter 1.
3. The **column space** of A , denoted by **col** (A), is the set of all linear combinations (span) of the column vectors of A , denoted by $\text{col}(A)$ and its dimension is called the **column rank**, denoted by $\text{col rank}(A)$.



Bases and Dimension

Example

Find a basis for the column and row spaces of the matrix.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 & -1 & -6 \\ 2 & 3 & 2 & -3 \\ 2 & 1 & -14 & -9 \\ 1 & 3 & 13 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$



Bases and Dimension

Solution

We have

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 & -1 & -6 \\ 2 & 3 & 2 & -3 \\ 2 & 1 & -14 & -9 \\ 1 & 3 & 13 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 13 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 2 & -3 \\ 2 & 1 & -14 & -9 \\ 3 & 4 & -1 & -6 \end{bmatrix} \\ &\sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 13 & 3 \\ 0 & -3 & -24 & -9 \\ 0 & -5 & -40 & -15 \\ 0 & -5 & -40 & -15 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 13 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 8 & 3 \\ 0 & -5 & -40 & -15 \\ 0 & -5 & -40 & -15 \end{bmatrix} \\ &\sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 13 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 8 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Bases and Dimension

Solution

Therefore,

$$\text{row}(A) = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 13 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 8 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

and

$$\text{col}(A) = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

Therefore the dimension of the column a row space of A is 2; that is **col** $\text{rank}(A) = 2$.



Bases and Dimension

Example

Find the null and row spaces of the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 4 & 7 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Solution

We have

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 4 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

So The row space is of the basis $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ and its dimension is 2.

Bases and Dimension

Solution

Also the system $Ax = 0$ can be reduced to

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + 3 = 0$$

$$x_2 + 2x_3 = 0$$

and

$$x = t \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and } t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

So that

$$\text{null}(A) = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}.$$

Thus the nullity of A equals one.

Bases and Dimension

Theorem (Row and Column Ranks)

The row rank and the column rank of a matrix A are equal.

Theorem

For a matrix A of order $m \times n$, we have

$$\text{column rank}(A) + \text{nullity}(A) = n.$$

Theorem (Invertibility of a Matrix)

Let A be an $n \times n$ matrix. Then the following statements are equivalent.

- 1. The matrix A is invertible.*
- 2. The linear system $Ax = b$ has a unique solution for every vector b .*



Bases and Dimension

Theorem (Invertibility of a Matrix)

3. *The homogeneous linear system $Ax = 0$ has only the trivial solution.*
4. *The matrix A is row equivalent to the identity matrix.*
5. *The determinant of the matrix A is nonzero.*
6. *The column vectors of A are linearly independent.*
7. *The column vectors of A span \mathbb{R}^n .*
8. *The column vectors of A are a basis for \mathbb{R}^n .*
9. $\text{rank}(A) = n$.
10. $\text{row}(A) = \text{col}(A) = \mathbb{R}^n$
11. ***null***(A) = $\{0\}$.
12. *The number of pivot columns of the reduced row echelon form of A is n .*

