

4.4 Spanning Sets (cont.)

Since the only operations defined in a vector space V are addition and scalar multiplication the most complicated elements in V have the form:

$$c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 + c_3 v_3 + \dots + c_k v_k$$

We give a special name for this

An expression of the form:

$$c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 + \dots + c_k v_k$$

is called a linear combination of v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k

It is natural to ask what vectors can be written as linear combinations of v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k .

If every vector in a vector space V can be written as a linear combination of v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k we say V is spanned

or generated by v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k and call the

set of vectors $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$ a spanning

set of V . In this case we say

$\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$ spans V .

Ex / Consider the vector $v = (5, 3, -6)$

Does v lie in $\text{span}\{(-1, 1, 2), (3, 1, -4)\}$?

$$a(-1, 1, 2) + b(3, 1, -4) = (5, 3, -6)$$

$$\begin{aligned} -a + 3b &= 5 \\ a + b &= 3 \end{aligned} \Rightarrow \begin{aligned} 4b &= 8 \\ b &= 2 \Rightarrow a = 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$a + b = 3$$

$$2a - 4b = -6$$

$$\text{Note } 2 \cdot 1 - 4(2) = -6 \quad \text{so}$$

$$1(-1, 1, 2) + 2(3, 1, -4) = (5, 3, -6)$$

Thm / Let v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k be vectors in \mathbb{R}^n

Then $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$ spans $\mathbb{R}^n \Leftrightarrow$

for the matrix $A = [v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k]$ the

linear system $Ac = v$ is consistent for

every $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$

Pf / " \Rightarrow " Assume $\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$ spans \mathbb{R}^n

Pick $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$

Then $v = c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 + \dots + c_k v_k$

Let $c = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ \vdots \\ c_k \end{bmatrix}$

Then $[v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k] \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ \vdots \\ c_k \end{bmatrix} = c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 + \dots + c_k v_k = v$

" \Leftarrow " Pick $w \in \mathbb{R}^n$. $Ac = w$

is consistent so

$$w = c_1 v_1 + \dots + c_k v_k$$

so $\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$ spans \mathbb{R}^n .

Ex / Verify that

$$A_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad A_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad A_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

span $M_2(\mathbb{R})$.

$$\text{Pick } \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \in M_2(\mathbb{R})$$

Want

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} = c_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + c_3 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + c_4 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$a = c_1 + c_2 + c_3 + c_4$$

$$b = c_2 + c_3 + c_4$$

$$c = c_3 + c_4 \quad \Rightarrow$$

$$d = c_4$$

$$c_3 = c - d$$

$$c_2 = b - c$$

$$c_1 = a - b$$

So

$$\overset{A}{\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}} = (a-b)A_1 + (b-c)A_2 + (c-d)A_3 + dA_4$$

HW1

Determine whether the vectors $v_1 = (1, -3, 6)$
 $v_2 = (1, -4, 2)$ and $v_3 = (-2, 10, 4)$ span \mathbb{R}^3 .

HW2

Let $p(x) = 2x^2 - x + 2$. Does $p(x)$
lie in $\text{span} \{x-4, x^2-x+3\}$?

HW3

Show $v_1 = (-1, 3, 2)$ $v_2 = (1, -2, 1)$
 $v_3 = (2, 1, 1)$ span \mathbb{R}^3 and express
 $v = (x, y, z)$ as a linear combination
of v_1, v_2, v_3 .

Let v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k be vectors in a vector space

V . Forming all possible linear combinations

of v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k generates a subset of

V called the linear span of $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$

denoted $\text{span}\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$

In other words

$$\text{span}\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\} =$$

$$\{v \in V: v = c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 + \dots + c_k v_k, \quad c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k\}$$

Thm / Let u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k be vectors in a vector space V . Then $\text{span}\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k\}$ is a subspace of V .

Pf / (i) Pick $u, w \in \text{span}\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k\}$

$$u = c_1 u_1 + c_2 u_2 + \dots + c_k u_k$$

$$w = b_1 u_1 + b_2 u_2 + \dots + b_k u_k$$

$$u + w = (c_1 + b_1)u_1 + (c_2 + b_2)u_2 + \dots + (c_k + b_k)u_k$$

$$\in \text{span}\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k\}$$

(ii) Pick $u \in \text{span}\{u_1, \dots, u_k\}$ Pick $r \in \mathbb{R}$.

$$u = c_1 u_1 + c_2 u_2 + \dots + c_k u_k$$

$$ru = (rc_1)u_1 + (rc_2)u_2 + \dots + (rc_k)u_k \in$$

$$\text{span}\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k\}$$

Ex Determine the subspace of

$P_2(\mathbb{R})$ spanned by

$$p_1(x) = 1 + 3x, \quad p_2(x) = x + x^2$$

and determine whether $\{p_1(x), p_2(x)\}$ is a spanning set for $P_2(\mathbb{R})$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Span } \{p_1, p_2\} &= \{p(x) \in P_2(\mathbb{R}) \mid c_1(1+3x) + c_2(x+x^2)\} \\ &= \{p(x) \in P_2(\mathbb{R}) \mid c_1 + (3c_1 + c_2)x + c_2x^2\} \end{aligned}$$

This is not a spanning set. Why?

Claim: $1+x^2 \notin \text{Span } \{p_1, p_2\}$

$c_1 = 1, c_2 = 1$ so the coefficient of x must be 4.

HW4

Consider the vectors

$$A_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad A_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

in $M_2(\mathbb{R})$. Determine $\text{span}\{A_1, A_2, A_3\}$

HW5

Find a spanning set for the nullspace of the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 5 & 3 \\ 2 & -10 & -6 \end{bmatrix}$$

HW6

If $V = \mathbb{R}^3$ and $v_1 = (1, 0, 1)$ and

$v_2 = (0, 1, 1)$ determine the subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 spanned by v_1 and v_2 . Does $w = (1, 1, -1)$ lie in this subspace?