

Lecture 23

Friday March 11

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Ch 11

Vector Spaces

11.1 Basic theory

Fix a field  $F$

A vector space over  $F$  is an  $F$ -module

Let  $V$  denote a vector space over  $F$

The elements of  $V$  are called vectors

The elements of  $F$  are called scalars

DEF 1 Given a subset  $S \subseteq V$ ,

(i)  $S$  is linearly independent whenever  
for all integers  $n \geq 1$  and

$$v_i \in S \quad \alpha_i \in F \quad i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$$

$$\alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n = 0 \quad \text{implies} \quad \alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = \dots = \alpha_n = 0$$

(ii)  $S$  spans  $V$  whenever

$$V = FS$$

DEF 2 An unordered basis for  $V$  is  
a linearly independent set of vectors that span  $V$ .

An ordered basis for  $V$  is an unordered basis  $S$   
for  $V$ , together with an ordering of  $S$ .

By a basis for  $V$  we mean an ordered basis for  $V$ .

EX 3 Let  $x = \text{ind} \text{det}$ . View the polynomial ring  
 $F[x]$  as a vector space over  $F$ . Then the vectors

$1, x, x^2, \dots$

form a basis for  $F[x]$ .

LEM 4 Given a finite subset  $S \subseteq V$

Assume  $S$  spans  $V$ , but no proper subset of  $S$  spans  $V$ . Then  $S$  is an unordered basis for  $V$ .

pf Show  $S$  is lin indep.

Given scalars

$$d_v \in F \quad v \in S$$

st

$$0 = \sum_{v \in S} d_v v$$

\*

show

$$d_v = 0 \quad \forall v \in S$$

Suppose  $\exists w \in S$  such that  $d_w \neq 0$

Solve \* for  $w$ :

$$w = -\frac{1}{d_w} \sum_{v \in S \setminus w} d_v v$$

Now

$S \setminus w$  spans  $V$

Cont.

□

COR. 5 Given a finite set  $A$  of vectors that span  $V$ , then  $A$  contains a subset that forms an unordered basis for  $V$ .

pf Consider the subsets  $S$  of  $A$  that span  $V$ . Of these, pick  $S$  with  $|S|$  minimal.

By constr  $S$  spans  $V$  but no proper subset of  $S$  spans  $V$ . Now  $S$  is a basis for  $V$  by LEM 4.

□

Prop 6 Given an unordered basis  $A$  of  $V$

Given lin indep vectors  $b_1, b_2, \dots, b_m$  in  $V$ . Then

$\exists$  mutually dist vectors  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m$  in  $A$  st each of the following is a basis for  $V$ :

$$\{b_1, \dots, b_k\} \cup \{a_1, \dots, a_k\} \quad 0 \leq k \leq m$$

↑  
 $A \setminus \{a_1, \dots, a_k\}$

pf Induction on  $m$

$m=0$

$m \geq 1$ :

By ind  $\exists$  mut dist  $a_1, \dots, a_{m-1}$  in  $A$  st

$$\{b_1, \dots, b_{m-1}\} \cup \{a_1, \dots, a_{m-1}\}$$

is an unordered basis for  $V$ . Write

$$b_m = \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} \alpha_i b_i + \sum_{j \in \{a_1, \dots, a_{m-1}\}} \alpha_j a_j \quad (*)$$

So

$$\underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^{m-1} \alpha_i b_i}_{\neq 0} = \sum_{j \in \{a_1, \dots, a_{m-1}\}} \alpha_j a_j$$

↙ coeffs not all 0

$\exists w \in \overline{\{a_1, \dots, a_m\}}$  st  $w \neq 0$

Define

$$a_m = w$$

show

$$\{b_1, \dots, b_m\} \cup \overline{\{a_1, \dots, a_m\}} \quad (**)$$

is unordered basis for  $V$ :

Solve (\*) for  $a_m$

$a_m$  is in the span of remaining vectors in \*  
#  
(\*\*)

So (\*\*) spans  $V$

show (\*\*) lin indep:

Given

$$\sum_{i=1}^m \beta_i b_i + \sum_{v \in \overline{\{a_1, \dots, a_m\}}} \beta_v v = 0 \quad \beta_i, \beta_v \in F$$

then  $\beta_m = 0$ , else uniqueness of coeffs in (\*) is contradicted.

now

$$\{b_1, \dots, b_m\} \cup \overline{\{a_1, \dots, a_m\}} \quad \text{lin dep}$$

$$\{b_1, \dots, b_m\} \cup \overline{\{a_1, \dots, a_{m-1}\}} \quad \text{lin dep}$$

cont

So (\*\*) is lin indep and hence an unordered basis for  $V$



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COR 7 Given a basis  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  of  $V$   
then each lin indep subset of  $V$  contains  
at most  $n$  vectors.

pf Ref to Prop 6. obs  $m \leq |A|$

□

Prop 8 Given two bases for  $V$ :

$a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$   $b_1, b_2, \dots, b_m$

then  $n=m$ .

PF By symmetry, WLOG  $n \leq m$ .

By Cor 7,  $m \leq n$ . So  $n=m$ .

□

DEF 9 We define

dimension of  $V = \begin{cases} n & \text{if } V \text{ has basis } a_1, \dots, a_n \\ \infty & \text{else} \end{cases}$



LEM 10 Assume  $V$  has finite dim  $n$ .

then each spanning set of  $V$  contains at least  $n$  vectors.

pf The spanning set contains an unordered basis for  $V$   
by Cor 5. Result follows by def 9. □

Prop 11 Assume  $V$  has finite dim.

Given a lin indep subset  $S \subseteq V$ .

Then  $S$  is contained in an unordered basis for  $V$ .

pf By assumption  $\exists$  unordered basis  $A$  for  $V$

Write  $S = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_m\}$

By Cor 7,  $m \leq |A|$

By Prop 6, we can add  $|A| - m$  vectors from  $A$  to  $S$   
to get an unordered basis for  $V$ . □

For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  consider the free  $F$ -module

$$F^n = \underbrace{F \times F \times \dots \times F}_n$$

$F^n$  is vector space over  $F$ .

$F^n$  is isom define

$$e_i = (0, \dots, 0, \underset{\uparrow}{1}, 0, \dots, 0)$$

obs  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n$  is a basis for  $F^n$ .

LEM 12 Given a basis  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  for  $V$ .

then the map

$$\varphi: F^n \longrightarrow V$$

$$(d_1, \dots, d_n) \longrightarrow \sum_{i=1}^n d_i a_i$$

is an iso of  $F$ -modules (ie vector space iso)

pf

One checks

$$\varphi(u+v) = \varphi(u) + \varphi(v)$$

$$\varphi(\alpha u) = \alpha \varphi(u)$$

so  $\varphi$  is  $F$ -module hom

$\varphi$  is inj since  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  is lin indep.

$\varphi$  is surj since  $\dots$  spans  $V$ .

so  $\varphi$  is bijecton.

$$u, v \in F^n$$

$$\alpha \in F \quad u \in F^n$$

□