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## 4.4 Bases and Dimension for vector spaces

Given a vector space  $V$

Given vectors in  $V$ :

$$v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$$

these vectors form a basis for  $V$  provided both

(i)  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  are linearly independent

(ii)  $\text{Span}(v_1, \dots, v_n) = V$

Example Recall the standard unit vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$

$$e_i = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

then  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n$  form a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$

"standard basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ "

the standard basis is not the only  
basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . To see this, we  
extend a thm from Section 4.3.

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Thm. Given  $n$  vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , say  
 $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$

Define an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  such that for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,

$$\text{col } i \text{ of } A = v_i$$

then the following are equivalent:

(i)  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  are lin indep

(ii)  $A$  is invertible

(iii)  $\text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_n) = \mathbb{R}^n$

(iv)  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  is a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$

pf (i)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (ii)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (iii) shown in Sec 4.3

(i), (iii)  $\rightarrow$  (iv) this is def of basis

(iv)  $\rightarrow$  (i) By def of basis

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Ex For vector space  $\mathbb{R}^3$  define

$$v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad v_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Determine if  $v_1, v_2, v_3$  form a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^3$

Sol. Define matrix

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

$$\det A = 1 \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 \end{vmatrix} - 1 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 2 \end{vmatrix} + 0$$

(col 1 cofactor exp)

$$= -2 + 4$$

$$= 2$$

$$\neq 0$$

$A$  is invertible, so  $v_1, v_2, v_3$  form basis for  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

Ex

Let  $V =$  subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$   
consisting of all vectors

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x - 2y + 5z = 0$$

Find a basis for  $V$ .

Sol

Given  $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \in V$ .

$$x - 2y + 5z = 0$$

View  $y, z$  as free

$$y = s$$

$$z = t$$

$s, t$  free

$$x = 2s - 5t$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = s \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\begin{matrix} \text{u} & \text{v} \end{matrix}$

$$\text{Span}(\text{u}, \text{v}) = V$$

$\text{u}, \text{v}$  lin indep since one is not a scalar mult of the other

So

$\text{u}, \text{v}$  is a basis for  $V$

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Next goal: Given vector space  $V$

show any two bases for  $V$  have the same number of vectors.

Thm 1 Given vector space  $V$ ,

Given a basis for  $V$ , say

$$v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$$

then any set of more than  $n$  vectors in  $V$  is linearly dep.

pf Given vectors in  $V$

$$w_1, w_2, \dots, w_m$$

$$m > n$$

Show these are lin dep.

Find scalars  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_m$  (not all 0) such that

$$c_1 w_1 + c_2 w_2 + \dots + c_m w_m = 0$$

Write each  $w_i$  in terms of  $v_1, \dots, v_n$

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$$w_1 = a_{11}v_1 + a_{21}v_2 + \dots + a_{n1}v_n$$

$$w_2 = a_{12}v_1 + a_{22}v_2 + \dots + a_{n2}v_n$$

...

$$w_m = a_{1m}v_1 + a_{2m}v_2 + \dots + a_{nm}v_n$$

(\*) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} & \left( a_{11}c_1 + a_{12}c_2 + \dots \right) v_1 \\ + & \left( a_{21}c_1 + a_{22}c_2 + \dots \right) v_2 \\ + & \dots \\ + & \left( a_{m1}c_1 + a_{m2}c_2 + \dots \right) v_m \\ & = 0 \end{aligned}$$

But  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  is lin indep so each coef is 0:

$$\begin{aligned} a_{11}c_1 + a_{12}c_2 + \dots + a_{1m}c_m &= 0 \\ a_{21}c_1 + a_{22}c_2 + \dots + a_{2m}c_m &= 0 \\ \dots & \\ a_{m1}c_1 + a_{m2}c_2 + \dots + a_{mm}c_m &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

(\*\*\*)

Linear system (\*\*\*) has more variables than equations, so there exists a nontrivial sol for  $c_1, \dots, c_m$  ✓

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Thm 2 Given vector space  $V$ .

then any two bases for  $V$  have the same number of vectors.

pf

Call the bases

$$v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$$

and

$$w_1, w_2, \dots, w_m$$

Show  $n=m$ .

Interchanging the bases if nec, wlog  $n \leq m$ .

Suppose  $n < m$ . Then  $w_1, \dots, w_m$  are lin dep by prev thm, cont.

So  $n=m$

□

Def Given a vector space  $V$

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By the dimension of  $V$ , we mean the number of vectors in any basis for  $V$

Ex the dimension of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is  $n$ .

Caution For some vector spaces the dimension =  $\infty$

Ex let  $V$  denote the vector space of all polynomials in the variable  $x$

[So  $V$  contains

$$1 + x - x^2,$$

$$2x - x^3,$$

$$1 + x^{10} + x^{20}, \dots$$

]

One checks that

$$1, x, x^2, x^3, \dots$$

is a basis for  $V$ .

(\*1 has  $\infty$  vectors so  $\dim V = \infty$

(\*)



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Ex Given linear system

$$x_1 - 3x_2 + 2x_3 - 4x_4 = 0$$

$$2x_1 - 5x_2 + 7x_3 - 3x_4 = 0$$

Find a basis for the solution space.

Sol Solve the system

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & 2 & -4 \\ 2 & -5 & 7 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

coef matrix

Apply GJ

↓

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & 2 & -4 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$r_2' = r_2 - 2r_1$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 11 & 11 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$r_1' = r_1 + 3r_2$$

Back solve:

$$x_3 = a$$

$$x_4 = b$$

a, b free

$$x_2 = -3a - 5b$$

$$x_1 = -11a - 11b$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = a \begin{bmatrix} -11 \\ -3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + b \begin{bmatrix} -11 \\ -5 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\begin{matrix} u \\ v \end{matrix}$

u, v span sol space

u, v are indep

u, v is basis for sol space

□

Thm 3 Given a finite dimensional vector space  $V$

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Given a spanning set for  $V$ :

$$v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$$

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then there exists a subset of (\*) that forms a basis for  $V$

pf Suppose (\*) is lin indep. then (\*) is basis for  $V$   
done ✓

Suppose (\*) is lin dep.

So there exist scalars  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n$  (not all 0)

such that

$$c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 + \dots + c_n v_n = 0$$

There exists  $i$  (is it) such that  $c_i \neq 0$

Now

$$v_i \in \text{Span}(v_1, \dots, v_{i-1}, v_{i+1}, \dots, v_n)$$

Now remove  $v_i$  from List \*. Modified List

still spans  $V$

Iterates - procedure yields a basis for  $V$

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ExFor  $\mathbb{R}^3$  define

$$v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$v_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$v_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

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let

$$V = \text{Span}(v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4)$$

Find a basis for  $V$ SolFind the linear dependencies among  $v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4$ 

$$c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 + c_3 v_3 + c_4 v_4 = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \\ c_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

GJ ↓

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} r_2' = r_2 - r_1 \\ r_3' = r_3 - r_1 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad r_3' = r_3 - 2r_2$$

Backsolve

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$$c_3 = s$$

$$c_4 = t$$

s, t free

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$$c_2 = -s - t$$

$$c_1 = -s - 2t$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \\ c_4 \end{pmatrix} = s \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



each vector gives a dependency among  $v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4$

$$-v_1 - v_2 + v_3 = 0$$

"discard  $v_3$ "

$$-2v_1 - v_2 + v_4 = 0$$

"discard  $v_4$ "

- $\text{Span}(v_1, v_2) = V$

- $v_1, v_2$  lin indep

$v_1, v_2$  basis for  $V$

□

Thm Given vector space  $V$  with finite  $\dim n$

Given  $n$  vectors in  $V$ :

$v_1, \dots, v_n$ .

Then the following are equiv

(i)  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  are lin indep

(ii)  $\text{Span}(v_1, \dots, v_n) = V$

(iii)  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  is a basis for  $V$

pf

(i)  $\rightarrow$  (ii) Suppose  $\text{Span}(v_1, \dots, v_n) \neq V$   
 then  $\exists$  vector in  $V$  that is not in  $\text{Span}(v_1, \dots, v_n)$   
 call it  $v_{n+1}$

then  $v_1, \dots, v_{n+1}$

are lin indep

This contradicts Thm 1.

(ii)  $\rightarrow$  (i) By Thm 3 there exists

a subset of  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  that is a basis for  $V$ . By Thm 2

this subset consists of all  $v_1, \dots, v_n$ .

(i), (ii)  $\rightarrow$  (iii) def of basis

(iii)  $\rightarrow$  (i) def of basis

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(\*)

thmGiven a finite dim'l vector space  $V$ Given  $n$  indep vectors in  $V$ :

$$v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$$

then there exists a basis for  $V$  that contains (\*)pfSuppose (\*) spans  $V$ , then (\*) is a basis for  $V$ , done.Suppose (\*) does not span  $V$ , then there exists a vector in  $V$  that is not in

$$\text{Span}(v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n)$$

Call this vector  $v_{n+1}$ .

So

$$v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n+1}$$

are  $n+1$  indep.Add  $v_{n+1}$  to \*Repeat (process ends by thm 1) to geta basis for  $V$  that contains \*

□