

Subject § 3.4. Basis and Dimension

Def. The vectors v_1, \dots, v_n are said to form a basis for a vector space V if

- 1) v_1, \dots, v_n are LI (no more);
- 2) $V = \text{span} \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ (no less).

Remark: 1) Adding any vector to a basis will LD;
2) Taking away any vector away from a basis cannot span V .

Ex: Standard bases

- 1) $\mathbb{R}^n = \text{span} \{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$, $e_i = (0, \dots, 0, \overset{i\text{th}}{1}, 0, \dots, 0)$
- 2) $\mathbb{R}^{m \times n} = \text{span} \{e_{ij} : \begin{matrix} 1 \leq i \leq m \\ 1 \leq j \leq n \end{matrix}\}$, $e_{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 1 \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 \end{bmatrix}$
- 3) $P_{n+1} = \text{span} \{1, x, \dots, x^n\}$.

THM: If $V = \text{span} \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$, then any collection of m vectors in V with $m > n$ is LD.

Proof: Let u_1, \dots, u_m be m vectors with $m > n$. Denote

$$u_i = a_{i1}v_1 + \dots + a_{in}v_n = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}v_j.$$

To show that u_1, \dots, u_m are LD, set

$$\sum_{i=1}^m c_i u_i = c_1 u_1 + \dots + c_m u_m = 0$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^m c_i \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} v_j = \sum_{j=1}^n \left(\sum_{i=1}^m c_i a_{ij} \right) v_j$$

(show it has
nonzero solutions
for c_1, \dots, c_m .)

Set $\sum_{i=1}^m c_i a_{ij} = 0 \quad j=1, \dots, n,$

\Rightarrow n equations, m unknown c_1, \dots, c_m .

Freedom = $m - n > 0 \Rightarrow$ there are nonzero solutions for $c_1, \dots, c_m \Rightarrow u_1, \dots, u_m$ are LD.

Corollary If $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ and $\{u_1, \dots, u_m\}$ are two bases for a vector space V , then $m = n$.

Def: Let V be a vector space. If V has a basis consisting of n vectors, then we say that V has dimension n . ($\dim(V) = n$)

Remark 1) $\{0\}$ has dimension 0;

2) V is finite-dimensional, if it has a finite basis. Otherwise V is infinite-dimensional.

THM: If V is a vector space with $\dim(V) = n$, then

1) any set of n LI vectors spans V ;

2) any n vectors that span V are LI.

Proof: 1) Let $\{u_1, \dots, u_n\}$ be a basis for V and $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ be LI. For any $v \in V$, $\{v_1, \dots, v_n, v\}$ is LD,

since $n = n+1 > n$. $\Rightarrow c_1 v_1 + \dots + c_n v_n + c_{n+1} v = 0$

has a nonzero solution. Since v_1, \dots, v_n are LI

$\Rightarrow c_{n+1} \neq 0 \Rightarrow v = \frac{-1}{c_{n+1}} (c_1 v_1 + \dots + c_n v_n)$.

$\Rightarrow V = \text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$.

2). If $V = \text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$, but $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ is LD.

\Rightarrow there is v_i s.t. $v_i = c_1 v_1 + \dots + c_{i-1} v_{i-1} + c_{i+1} v_{i+1} + \dots + c_n v_n$.

Thus $V = \text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_{i-1}, v_{i+1}, \dots, v_n\}$

$\Rightarrow \dim(V) \leq n-1$.

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Ex: In \mathbb{R}^n , let $v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} \\ a_{21} \\ \vdots \\ a_{n1} \end{bmatrix}, \dots, v_n = \begin{bmatrix} a_{1n} \\ a_{2n} \\ \vdots \\ a_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$.

How to determine if $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ is a basis for \mathbb{R}^n ?

Put $|v_1 \ v_2 \ \dots \ v_n| = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{vmatrix} \neq 0 \Leftrightarrow \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ is LI

$\Leftrightarrow \mathbb{R}^n = \text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$.

*Ex: In \mathbb{R}^n , let $v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} \\ a_{21} \\ \vdots \\ a_{n1} \end{bmatrix}, \dots, v_m = \begin{bmatrix} a_{1m} \\ a_{2m} \\ \vdots \\ a_{nm} \end{bmatrix}$.

How to check if $\{v_1, \dots, v_m\}$ is LI?

Put $[v_1 \dots v_m] = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1m} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2m} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \dots & a_{nm} \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{cases} \text{reduced row} \\ \text{Echelon form} \end{cases} \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{dependent relation} \\ \text{among columns} \\ \text{remain the} \\ \text{same.} \end{array} \right\}$

* 1) Columns with leading 1's are LI;

* 2) A column without a leading 1 is a linear combination of columns with leading 1's to the left.

Ex: Show that $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ forms a basis for \mathbb{R}^3 .

Note: $\dim = 3$, # of vectors = 3, only have to show LI.

$$\left| \begin{array}{ccc|cc} 1 & -2 & 1 & 1 & -2 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 0 & 1 & 3 & 0 \end{array} \right| = 1+0+0 = -3-0+4 = 2 \neq 0 \Rightarrow \text{LI}, 3 \sim 3 \Rightarrow \text{span.}$$

LI + span = basis.

THM: If V is a vector space with $\dim(V) = n > 0$, then

1) no set of less than n vectors can span V ;

2) any set of less than n LI vectors can be extended to form a basis for V ;

3) any set that spans V can be reduced to form a basis for V .

extend a LI set
 2) how to reduce a spanning set
 3) to form a basis?

Ex: Extend $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ to form a basis for \mathbb{R}^3 .

Using the standard basis e_1, e_2, e_3 . Put

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 & -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 & -3 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{-\frac{6}{5}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 & -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{3}{5} & -\frac{6}{5} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\downarrow \downarrow \downarrow$
 with leading 1's

$$\rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{7}{5} & \frac{1}{5} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & -\frac{5}{3} \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \text{ LI, } 3 \sim 3 \Rightarrow \text{basis.}$$

$\downarrow \downarrow \downarrow$

columns with leading 1 are LI.

Ex: Reduce $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ to form a basis for \mathbb{R}^3 .

Put

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

$\downarrow \downarrow \downarrow$
 with leading 1's LI

$3 \sim 3$. LI \Rightarrow span. \Rightarrow basis.

Def: Let V be a vector space with $\dim(V) = n > 0$ and $B = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ be a basis. For each $v \in V$, v can be uniquely expressed as $v = c_1 v_1 + \dots + c_n v_n$ for some scalars c_1, \dots, c_n . $\begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is called the coordinates of v w.r.t. the basis $B = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$.

standard bases.

$\mathbb{R}^n = \text{span}\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$. for any $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

$x = x_1 e_1 + \dots + x_n e_n$. $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$ is the coordinates of x

w.r.t. the standard basis $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$.

$P_{n+1} = \text{span}\{1, x, \dots, x^n\}$. any $p(x) = a_n x^n + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$

has the coordinate $(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n)^T \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ w.r.t. the

standard basis $\{1, x, \dots, x^n\}$. If the standard

basis $\{x^n, \dots, x, 1\}$ is used for P_{n+1} , then the

coordinates of $p(x) = a_n x^n + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$

is $(a_n, \dots, a_1, a_0)^T \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$.