

4.4 Bases and Dimension of Vector Space

$\mathbb{R}^2$ is spanned by $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} = \{ \vec{i}, \vec{j} \}$

because every $\mathbb{R}^2$ vector is a linear combo of $\vec{i}$ and $\vec{j}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} = 5 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + 7 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = 5\vec{i} + 7\vec{j}$$

spanning set : enough vectors to build a vector space

$\mathbb{R}^2$ is also spanned by $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

(we can simply ignore the extra one)

$\mathbb{R}^2$ is not spanned by just $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ or just $\vec{i}$

(missing y component)

$\mathbb{R}^2$ is not spanned by $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ (missing y)

but we can span $\mathbb{R}^2$ using $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

for $\mathbb{R}^2$, we need a minimum of Two linear indep vectors in the spanning set

Similarly, in $\mathbb{R}^3$: $\text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} = \mathbb{R}^3$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = 1\vec{i} + 2\vec{j} + 3\vec{k}$$

also spanned by $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \pi \\ e \\ 10 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

but not by $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

but not by $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

this is ok: $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \pi \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

for $\mathbb{R}^n$, we need a minimum of n linear indep vectors to span.

the smallest spanning set (n linear indep vectors)

is called a basis (the vectors in the set are called basis vectors or bases)

for a given vector space, the basis is NOT unique

for example, in $\mathbb{R}^2$, the standard basis is $\vec{i}, \vec{j}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} = 5 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + 7 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

but $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is also a basis for $\mathbb{R}^2$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{57}{10} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} - \frac{7}{5} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

also ok: $\{ 3\vec{i}, -10\vec{j} \}$

$\mathbb{R}^3$: standard basis $\vec{i}, \vec{j}, \vec{k}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = 1\vec{i} + 2\vec{j} + 3\vec{k}$$

also a basis: $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 0 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = -\frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} - \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 0 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

the dimension of a vector space is the number of vectors
in its basis

$\mathbb{R}^2$: needs Two basis vectors $\rightarrow$ Two-dimensional

$\mathbb{R}^n$: " $\mathbb{R}^n$ " " $\rightarrow n$ -dim

M_2 : all possible 2×2 matrices

one easy basis: $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

so M_2 is a 4-D vector space

P_2 : all possible 2nd-deg polynomials

$$ax^2 + bx + c$$

basis: $\{1, x, x^2\} \rightarrow 3$ -D vector space

example The subspace of $\mathbb{R}^3$ given by the plane $3x + 2y + z = 0$

all vectors in this subspace is $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$ such that 

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ -3x-2y \end{bmatrix} = x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} + y \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

linear combos of $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$
span (and is a basis for) this
subspace

one possible basis is $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ 2-D subspace

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{2}{3}y - \frac{1}{3}z \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = y \begin{bmatrix} -2/3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + z \begin{bmatrix} -1/3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

another basis: $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -2/3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1/3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

note $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is also a basis

↗
-3 times
first vector
of last set

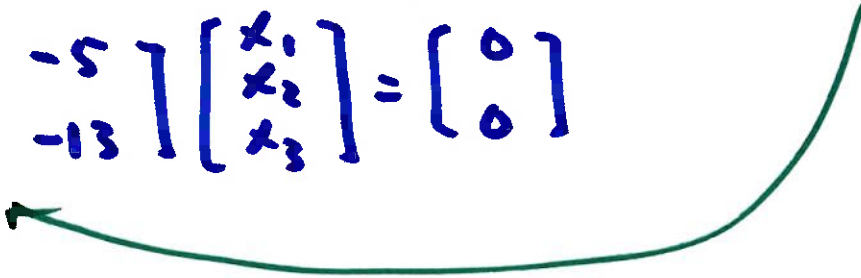
↖
3 times
2nd vector

and many other possible sets

example solution space of $x_1 - 2x_2 - 5x_3 = 0$
 $2x_1 - 3x_2 - 13x_3 = 0$

solution space: $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}$ that satisfies the eqs above

it is also the null space of the coefficient matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & -5 \\ 2 & -3 & -13 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$


what does this space look like?

solve the system:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & -5 & 0 \\ 2 & -3 & -13 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \boxed{1} & -2 & -5 & 0 \\ 0 & \boxed{1} & -3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

3 variables, 2 pivots
→ one free variable
choose x_3 to be free
(no pivot in its col)

$$x_3 = r$$

$$\text{row 2: } x_2 = 3r$$

$$\text{row 1: } \dots \quad x_1 = 11r$$

$$\text{solution: } \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 11r \\ 3r \\ r \end{bmatrix} = r \begin{bmatrix} 11 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

null space / solution space contains all possible

scalar multiples of $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

space is spanned by $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ which is also a basis

so, the null space in this example is ONE-dimensional

here, the intersection of the two planes is a line