

4.4 Bases and Dimension of a Vector Space

Span: vectors needed to reach an entire vector space

for example, $\text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} = \text{span} \{ \vec{i}, \vec{j} \} = \mathbb{R}^2$

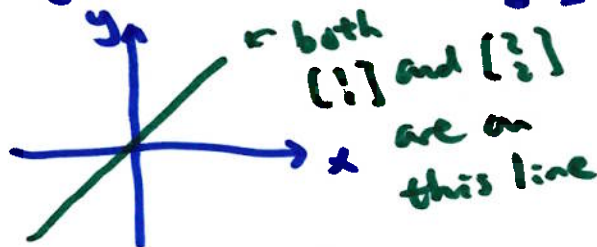
any \mathbb{R}^2 vector can be expressed as a linear combo of \vec{i} and \vec{j}

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

\mathbb{R}^2 is also spanned by $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ (more than enough for \mathbb{R}^2)

but \mathbb{R}^2 is NOT spanned by just $\vec{i} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ (no y-component)

also NOT spanned by $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ (not entire \mathbb{R}^2)



try \mathbb{R}^3 : spanned by $\vec{i} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $\vec{j} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $\vec{k} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

also spanned by $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$, $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ more than enough

but NOT spanned by $\vec{i} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $\vec{j} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ (no \vec{k})

also NOT spanned by $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ (no \vec{k})

So, for \mathbb{R}^n , we need at least n vectors, but n may not be enough

→ for n vectors to span \mathbb{R}^n , they need to be linearly independent

minimum: n linearly indep vectors for \mathbb{R}^n

we can use more than n to span, as long as n of them are linearly indep

so, need n linearly indep in our set (w/ equal to or more than n vectors)

the minimum spanning set for a vector space is
called a basis set (or just simply basis)
↓
plural: bases

the basis set for a vector space is NOT unique

\mathbb{R}^2 : $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is a basis

notice $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ also span (and is basis)
for \mathbb{R}^2

$$\begin{bmatrix} \cancel{5} \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ -7 \end{bmatrix} = 10 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} - 7 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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

ANY Two linearly indep is ok

$\vec{i} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $\vec{j} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ are convenient
(standard basis for \mathbb{R}^2)

\mathbb{R}^3 : $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is a basis set

$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 0 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is also a basis

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

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

basis is NOT unique

but there is a unique linear combo for any vector in a given basis set.

true for all \mathbb{R}^n

and ANY vector space (e.g. M_2 : all 2×2 matrices)

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

R^2 : need Two basis vectors \rightarrow Two dimensional vector space

R^n : " N " " " \rightarrow N " " " "

M_2 : need Four basis "vectors" \rightarrow Four-D vector space

Example Find the dimension and a basis for the subspace of R^3 given by the plane $3x + 2y + z = 0$

ANY vector in sp subspace $3x + 2y + z = 0$

looks like
$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ -3x - 2y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{2}{3}y - \frac{1}{3}z \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$$

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

\rightarrow ALL vectors in subspace
every vector is a linear combo
of these Two

$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$ span the subspace

and linearly indep \rightarrow they form a basis

so, the subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 is a Two-dimensional subspace

using $\begin{bmatrix} -\frac{2}{3}y - \frac{1}{3}z \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$ we can get another basis

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

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

another set: $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ (above multiplied by 3)

any non zero multiple of a basis is another basis

example Find a basis for the solution space

$$\text{to } x_1 - 2x_2 - 5x_3 = 0$$

$$2x_1 - 3x_2 - 13x_3 = 0$$

find ALL $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}$ such that

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & -5 \\ 2 & -3 & -13 \end{bmatrix}}_A \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}}_{\vec{x}} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{\vec{0}}$$

$$A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$$

→ all \vec{x} that A sends to $\vec{0}$
null space of A

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

$$\rightarrow \begin{array}{ccc} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 \\ \left[\begin{array}{cccc} 1 & -2 & -5 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 & 0 \end{array} \right] \end{array}$$

3 variables, 2 pivots, x_3 w/o pivot $\rightarrow x_3$ is free

$$x_3 = r$$

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

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

all vectors that live in null space of A

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 11r \\ 3r \\ r \end{bmatrix} = r \begin{bmatrix} 11 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \text{spanned by } \begin{bmatrix} 11 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

\rightarrow the null space is ONE-dimensional

\rightarrow this null space is a line (intersection of two planes)