

Lecture 16: §3.4 Bases for Subspaces

Last time: 4 main examples of subspaces \mathbb{W} of \mathbb{R}^N $\begin{cases} (S1) \vec{0} \text{ in } \mathbb{W} \\ (S2) \text{ closed under } + \\ (S3) \text{ closed under scalar mult.} \end{cases}$

① $\mathcal{N}(A) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^n : A \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \vec{0} \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^m \right\}$ NullSpace of A
(A $m \times n$ fixed) [Solutions to homogeneous systems]

② $\text{Sp}(\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p) = \text{linear combinations of vectors } \vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p$
($\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p$ fixed vectors in \mathbb{R}^n) $= \{ \alpha_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + \alpha_p \vec{v}_p : \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_p \text{ in } \mathbb{R} \}$ [Spans of vectors]

③ A $m \times n$ fixed $\mathcal{R}(A) = \text{Sp}(\text{col}_1(A), \dots, \text{col}_n(A))$ [Range or Column Space]
(in \mathbb{R}^m)

④ A $m \times n$ fixed $\text{Rows}(A) = \text{Sp}(\text{Row}_1(A)^t, \dots, \text{Row}_m(A)^t)$ [Row Space]
(in \mathbb{R}^n)

• Spanning Set for \mathbb{W} : a list $S = \{ \vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p \}$ in \mathbb{R}^N with $\mathbb{W} = \text{Sp}(\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p)$

• Basis for \mathbb{W} : A minimal spanning set S
↳ If any \vec{v}_i is removed from S , we no longer span.

EXAMPLES



① Check if $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ -7 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 7 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ spans \mathbb{R}^3 .

Soln. Want to check if any $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$ can be written as $\vec{v} = a\vec{v}_1 + b\vec{v}_2 + c\vec{v}_3$



$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -1 & 2 & x \\ 2 & 0 & 7 & y \\ 3 & -7 & 0 & z \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\substack{R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - 2R_1 \\ R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - 3R_1}} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -1 & 2 & x \\ 0 & 2 & 3 & y - 2x \\ 0 & -4 & -6 & z - 3x \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\substack{R_3 \rightarrow R_3 + 2R_2 \\ R_2 \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}R_2}} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -1 & 2 & x \\ 0 & 1 & 3/2 & \frac{y}{2} - x \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & z + 2y - 7x \end{array} \right]$$

The system is compatible if & only if we have no row $[0 \ 0 \ 0 \ | \ *]$
 $\neq 0$

So $z + 2y - 7x = 0.$

Conclusion: $\mathcal{V} = \text{Sp}(\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3) \neq \mathbb{R}^3$. In fact, $\mathcal{V} =$ plane with eqn $z + 2y - 7x = 0$

② Check if $S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ -7 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 7 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ spans \mathbb{R}^3 .

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -1 & 2 & x \\ 2 & 0 & 7 & y \\ 3 & -7 & 0 & z \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\substack{R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - 2R_1 \\ R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - 3R_1}} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -1 & 2 & x \\ 0 & 2 & 4 & y - 2x \\ 0 & -4 & -5 & z - 3x \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{R_3 \rightarrow R_3 + 2R_2} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -1 & 2 & x \\ 0 & 2 & 4 & y - 2x \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & z + 2y - 7x \end{array} \right]$$

$$\xrightarrow{\substack{R_2 \rightarrow R_2/2 \\ R_3 \rightarrow R_3/3}} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -1 & 2 & x \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & \frac{y}{2} - x \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \frac{z}{3} + \frac{2}{3}y - \frac{7}{3}x \end{array} \right]$$

EF Always compatible!
 So S spans \mathbb{R}^3 (it's a basis!)

$$\textcircled{3} \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & -1 & 4 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & 5 & -3 \end{bmatrix} \rightsquigarrow \boxed{R(A) = \text{Sp} \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \mathcal{W}([3-2 \ 1])}$$

↑ also a basis

• $\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3, \vec{v}_4\}$ spans $R(A)$ (column space!)

• Not minimal: \vec{v}_1 in $\text{Sp}(\vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3, \vec{v}_4) \rightsquigarrow$ don't need \vec{v}_1

• $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \stackrel{?}{=} a \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + b \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} + c \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 4 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 5 & -3 & 1 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{R_1 \leftrightarrow R_3} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 5 & -3 & 1 \\ -1 & 4 & 0 & 2 \\ -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\substack{R_2 \rightarrow R_2 + R_1 \\ R_3 \rightarrow R_3 + R_1}} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 5 & -3 & 1 \\ 0 & 9 & -3 & 3 \\ 0 & 6 & -2 & 2 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\substack{R_2 \rightarrow R_2/3 \\ R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - 6R_2}} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 5 & -3 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1/3 & 1/3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\xrightarrow{R_1 \rightarrow R_1 - 5R_2} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -4/3 & -2/3 \\ 0 & 1 & -1/3 & 1/3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

So $\begin{cases} a = -\frac{2}{3} + \frac{4}{3}c \\ b = \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{3}c \end{cases} \rightsquigarrow$ any c .

• \vec{v}_2 in $\text{Sp}(\vec{v}_3, \vec{v}_4)$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = a \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} + c \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 4 & 0 & -1 \\ 5 & -3 & 1 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\substack{R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - 4R_1 \\ R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - 5R_1}} \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & -4 & -5 \\ 0 & -8 & 6 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\substack{R_2 \rightarrow \frac{1}{4}R_2 \\ R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - 8R_2}} \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -5/4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/2 \end{array} \right] \text{Compatible!}$$

\vec{v}_3, \vec{v}_4 not proportional
 $\rightsquigarrow \{\vec{v}_3, \vec{v}_4\}$ is a basis.

Best spanning sets = Minimal ones (Bases!)

Example: $W = \text{Sp} \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ -7 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 7 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \text{Sp} \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \text{Sp} \left(\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ -7 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 7 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right)$

Why? $\vec{z} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} i & j & k \\ 1 & 0 & 7 \\ 0 & -1 & -2 \end{vmatrix} = -7i - 2j + k = \begin{bmatrix} -7 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

\leadsto Middle space: plane $-7x - 2y + z = 0$ (*)

But Example 1 said W was exactly this plane.

\leadsto Last space: 2 vectors not proportional & satisfy the same eqn (*)

Q: How to get a minimal spanning set for $W = \text{Sp}(\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p)$?

A: Use linear dependencies!

• $7 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + 3 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ -7 \end{bmatrix} + (-2) \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 7 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \leadsto \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{-3}{7} \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ -7 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{2}{7} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 7 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

So we don't need $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ to generate W !

$$a \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + b \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ -7 \end{bmatrix} + c \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 7 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\left(a \frac{-3}{7} + b \right)} \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ -7 \end{bmatrix} + \underbrace{\left(a \frac{2}{7} + c \right)} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 7 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

• $\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ -7 \end{bmatrix}$ & $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 7 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ are li, so we cannot remove any of them! ^{scalars!}

ALGORITHM: From Spanning Set to Basis

INPUT: $S = \{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p\}$ a spanning set of W (subspace of \mathbb{R}^n)

OUTPUT: S' = subset of S that is a basis for W (= minimal spanning set)

Step ① Is S l.i.? \rightarrow IF YES, then output S
IF NO, find a nontrivial solution (a_1, \dots, a_p)
to $a_1 \vec{v}_1 + a_2 \vec{v}_2 + \dots + a_p \vec{v}_p = \vec{0}$

Pick smallest index i with $a_i \neq 0$

$$\text{New } S = \{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_{i-1}, \vec{v}_{i+1}, \dots, \vec{v}_p\} \\ = S \setminus \{\vec{v}_i\}$$

Step ② Repeat Step ① for New S , at some point, we are l.i. & we exit.

Example: $S = \left\{ \overset{=\vec{v}_1}{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}}, \overset{=\vec{v}_2}{\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ -7 \end{bmatrix}}, \overset{=\vec{v}_3}{\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 7 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}} \right\}$

STEP ①: S is l.d. write $7 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + 3 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ -7 \end{bmatrix} + (-2) \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 7 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

STEP ② New $S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ -7 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 7 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ l.i. $(a \vec{v}_2 + b \vec{v}_3 \quad \begin{matrix} 7b = 0 \\ -7a = 0 \end{matrix}, \text{ so } a = b = 0)$ } OUTPUT $\left\{ \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3 \right\}$

The algorithm gives a new characterization for bases

Proposition: A set $B = \{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p\}$ is a basis for V if

(B1) B spans V & (B2) B is l.i.

⚠ $\{\vec{0}\}$ is l.d. so $V = \{\vec{0}\}$ has no basis! It is the only subspace of V without a basis.

Examples ①: $B = \left\{ \vec{e}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \vec{e}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \dots, \vec{e}_n = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is a basis for \mathbb{R}^n .

Name: Canonical basis / Standard basis

② $B' = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is another basis for \mathbb{R}^n

Why? • $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = (x-y) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + (y-z) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + z \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow$ spans. • Same calculation shows l.i.

③ $S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 7 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is a basis for $W = \{z + 2y - 7x = 0\}$

Why? • $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 7x - 2y \end{bmatrix} = x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} + y \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$ so S spans W

• $a \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} + b \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{matrix} a = 0 \\ b = 0 \\ 7a - 2b = 0 \end{matrix}$ so S is l.i.

A Basis B gives a new coordinate system for V

Theorem Uniqueness of representation.

Pick a subspace $V \neq \{\vec{0}\}$ of \mathbb{R}^n with basis $B = \{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p\}$.
Then, any \vec{v} in V can be represented in a unique way as a linear combination of $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p$. That is, we can find unique scalars a_1, \dots, a_p so that:

$$\vec{v} = a_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + a_p \vec{v}_p$$

Name: $\begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_p \end{bmatrix} = [\vec{v}]_B = \text{coordinates for } \vec{v} \text{ with respect to the basis } B.$

Example: $B = \{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$ gives standard coordinates:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \dots + x_n \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{So } \left[\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} \right]_B = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{vs} \quad \left[\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \right]_{\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}} = \begin{bmatrix} x-y \\ y-z \\ z \end{bmatrix}$$

Theorem Uniqueness of representation.

Pick a subspace $\mathcal{V} \neq \{\vec{0}\}$ of \mathbb{R}^n with basis $B = \{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p\}$.
Then, any \vec{v} in \mathcal{V} can be represented in a unique way as a linear combination of $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p$. That is, we can find unique scalars a_1, \dots, a_p so that:

$$\underline{\vec{v}} = a_1 \underline{\vec{v}_1} + \dots + a_p \underline{\vec{v}_p} \quad (*)$$

• Why is this true?

given

• Since B spans \mathcal{V} , we can always find (a_1, \dots, a_p) solving $(*)$
(B1) condition

• Uniqueness? Say we have 2 solutions:

$$\vec{v} = a_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + a_p \vec{v}_p = b_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + b_p \vec{v}_p, \text{ then}$$

$$a_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + a_p \vec{v}_p - (b_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + b_p \vec{v}_p) = \vec{0} \quad \text{(B2) cond.}$$

Then $(a_1 - b_1) \vec{v}_1 + \dots + (a_p - b_p) \vec{v}_p = \vec{0}$ thus $a_1 = b_1, \dots, a_p = b_p$ by li