

Lecture XXV: § 5.4 Linear Independence, Bases

Recall Spanning sets, linear independence, Bases:

Fix V a vector space & a set of "vectors" $S = \{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p\} \subset V$

• We define $Sp(S) = \{a_1 \vec{v}_1 + a_2 \vec{v}_2 + \dots + a_p \vec{v}_p : a_1, a_2, \dots, a_p \text{ arbitrary}\}$

It is the subspace of V spanned by S (S spans $Sp(S)$)

• We say S is linearly independent if the only solution to the dependency

relation: $a_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + a_p \vec{v}_p = \vec{0}$ is $a_1 = a_2 = \dots = a_p = 0$.

↳ Neutral
Elt. in V

Examples:

	\mathbb{R}^n	$\text{Mat}_{m \times n}$	\mathbb{F}	\mathbb{P}_n	$C[0,1]$
$\vec{0}$	$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$	zero matrix	constant 0 function	zero polynomial	constant 0 function

Definition: Fix a subspace W of V & $B = \{\vec{w}_1, \dots, \vec{w}_k\}$ a subset of W

Then B is a basis for W if (1) $W = Sp(B)$ (" B spans W ")

& (2) B is linearly independent

§ Examples:

① $\text{Mat}_{2 \times 3} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \end{bmatrix}, a_{11}, \dots, a_{23} \text{ free} \right\}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \end{bmatrix} = a_{11} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{= E_{11}} + a_{12} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{= E_{12}} + a_{13} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{= E_{13}} + a_{21} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{= E_{21}} \\ + a_{22} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{= E_{22}} + a_{23} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{= E_{23}}$$

E_{ij} is a matrix with a 1 in (i,j) -entry and 0's everywhere else.
(size is understood from context.)

• These 6 matrices span $\text{Mat}_{2 \times 3}$

• They are li: A dependency relation looks like:

$$a_{11} E_{11} + a_{12} E_{12} + a_{13} E_{13} + a_{21} E_{21} + a_{22} E_{22} + a_{23} E_{23} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The calculation above rewrites the (LHS) as a matrix, we get:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The equality of matrices gives equality of entries on each side, so

$$a_{11} = a_{12} = a_{13} = a_{21} = a_{22} = a_{23} = 0.$$

In general: Basis for $\text{Mat}_{m \times n} = \{E_{11}, E_{12}, \dots, E_{1n}, E_{21}, \dots, E_{mn}\}$ ($m \cdot n$ elements)

Obs: This is how you find basis for subspaces of $\text{Mat}_{m \times n}$.

(2) Symmetric 3×3 matrices = $Sp(E_{11}, E_{12} + E_{21}, E_{13} + E_{31}, E_{22}, E_{23} + E_{32}, E_{33})$
 $= W$ ↑ best time

Check: These 6 matrices are a basis for W

(3) Decide if $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is li/ld.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = a \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + b \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + c \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + d \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a+b+3c & 0 & a+2b+5c+d \\ 0 & a+b+4c & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

\therefore We get 3 equations

$$\begin{cases} a+b+3c=0 \\ a+2b+5c+d=0 \\ a+b+4c=0 \end{cases}$$

3 equations & 4 unknowns \therefore solution is NOT unique, so li

Solution: $\left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 1 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 5 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 4 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\substack{R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - R_1 \\ R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - R_1}} \left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 1 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\substack{R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - 2R_3 \\ R_1 \rightarrow R_1 - 3R_3}} \left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$

$\xrightarrow{R_1 \rightarrow R_1 - R_2} \left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$
↑ ↑ ↑
a, b, c dep

$$\begin{cases} a - d = 0 \\ b + d = 0 \\ c = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \\ d \end{bmatrix} = d \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

\hookrightarrow relation!

Relation:
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^A - \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^B + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^D = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\{A, B, C, D\}$ is not li but we can drop any of A, B, C, D
 & set a li set spanning $Sp(A, B, C, D) = W$
 ↳ no other relation among A, B, C, D .

Conclusion $\{A, B, C\}$, $\{A, C, D\}$ & $\{B, C, D\}$ are bases for W . (This is the same algorithm we had for building bases for subspaces of \mathbb{R}^n starting from a spanning set)

③ $\mathcal{P}_2 = \{a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2\}$ has basis $\{1, x, x^2\}$

• Spanning is clear.

• LI? Use derivation + evaluation at $x=0$ repeatedly

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \mathcal{O} = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 && \xrightarrow{x=0} && 0 = a_0 \\ 0 &= \mathcal{O}' = a_1 + 2a_2x && \xrightarrow{x=0} && 0 = a_1 \\ 0 &= \mathcal{O}'' = 2a_2 && \xrightarrow{x=0} && 0 = 2a_2 \text{ so } a_2 = 0. \end{aligned}$$

In general: \mathcal{P}_n has basis $\{1, x, x^2, \dots, x^n\}$ $(n+1)$ elements!

④ Decide if $\{1, (x+1)^2, (x-1)^2, x^2\}$ is li/ld

Write $\mathcal{O} = a + b(x+1)^2 + c(x-1)^2 + dx^2$

Optim 1: Take successive derivatives and evaluate at $x=0$. You MUST CHECK the answer

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \mathcal{O} = a + b(x+1)^2 + c(x-1)^2 + dx^2 && \xrightarrow{x=0} && 0 = a + b + c \\ 0 &= \mathcal{O}' = 2b(x+1) + 2c(x-1) + 2dx && \xrightarrow{x=0} && 0 = 2b - 2c \\ 0 &= \mathcal{O}'' = 2b + 2c + 2d && \xrightarrow{x=0} && 0 = 2b + 2c + 2d \end{aligned}$$

Linear System
 3 eqns
 4 unknowns

$$\begin{aligned} a + b + c &= 0 && \Rightarrow a + 2b = 0 && a = -2b \\ 2b - 2c &= 0 && \Rightarrow b = c \\ 2b + 2c + 2d &= 0 && \Rightarrow 4b + 2d = 0 && d = -2b \end{aligned}$$

Solution : $\begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \\ d \end{bmatrix} = b \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow$ check if $0 = -2 + (x+1)^2 + (x-1)^2 - 2x^2$
 so L.D. ✓

Optim 2: Evaluate at 4 convenient (random) values of x to get 4 linear system in a, b, c, d & solve. You MUST check your answer.

At $x=0$ $0 = a + b + c$

At $x=1$ $0 = a + 4b + d$

At $x=-1$ $0 = a + 4c + d$

At $x=2$ $0 = a + 9b + c + 4d$

Solution is $\begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \\ d \end{bmatrix} = b \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$

Optim 3: Expand & write the (RHS) as a polynomial & set coefficients to 0

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= a + b(x+1)^2 + c(x-1)^2 + dx^2 \\ &= a + b(x^2 + 2x + 1) + c(x^2 - 2x + 1) + dx^2 \\ &= (a+b+c) + (2b-2c)x + (b+c+d)x^2 \end{aligned}$$

System: $\begin{cases} a+b+c=0 \\ 2b-2c=0 \\ b+c+d=0 \end{cases}$

Solution is $\begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \\ d \end{bmatrix} = b \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$

Relation: $0 = -2 \cdot 1 + (x+1)^2 + (x-1)^2 + (-2)x^2$ is the only relation among the 4 polynomials, so removing any of these 4 gives a linearly independent set.

§ 2 Properties of Bases:

⚠ Not every vector space has a finite basis

For example, $V = \mathbb{F} =$ functions of one variable

Last time, we saw that $\{1, x, x^2, x^3, \dots, x^n\}$ is linearly independent

for any $n \geq 0$. So we can find arbitrarily large sets of lin. indep. vectors in V . This means V cannot possibly have a finite basis.

	\mathbb{R}^n	$\text{Mat}_{m \times n}$	\mathbb{F}	\mathcal{P}_n	$C[0,1]$
Basis	$\{\vec{e}_1, \dots, \vec{e}_n\}$ n elem.	$\{\vec{E}_{11}, \dots, \vec{E}_{mn}\}$ m·n elem	unc finite	$\{1, x, \dots, x^n\}$ (n+1) elem	

Fix V a vector space and $B = \{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p\}$ a basis for V

① If $S = \{\vec{w}_1, \dots, \vec{w}_q\}$ is in V and $q > p$, then S is linearly dependent.

Proof Write $\vec{w}_1, \dots, \vec{w}_q$ using the basis B .

$$\begin{cases} \vec{w}_1 = a_{11}\vec{v}_1 + a_{21}\vec{v}_2 + \dots + a_{p1}\vec{v}_p \\ \vec{w}_2 = a_{12}\vec{v}_1 + a_{22}\vec{v}_2 + \dots + a_{p2}\vec{v}_p \\ \vdots \\ \vec{w}_q = a_{1q}\vec{v}_1 + a_{2q}\vec{v}_2 + \dots + a_{pq}\vec{v}_p \end{cases} \rightsquigarrow A = (a_{ij})$$

p × q matrix

A linear expression $x_1\vec{w}_1 + \dots + x_q\vec{w}_q = \vec{0}$ is the same as a homogeneous system:

$$A \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_q \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

p × q q × 1 p × 1

equations = p
unknowns = q $q > p$

Hence, no trivial solutions exist & S is lin. dep.

② If $\tilde{B} = \{\vec{u}_1, \vec{u}_2, \dots, \vec{u}_q\}$ is another basis for V , then $q = p$.

Proof Same as for subspaces of \mathbb{R}^n . If $q > p$ then \tilde{B} is lin. dep by ①, but this cannot be the case because \tilde{B} is a basis

If $p > q$, then using ① for the basis \tilde{B} says B is linearly dep, which again can't happen. Conclusion is $p = q$.

Consequence: $\dim(V) = \text{dimension of } V = \text{size of any basis for } V$.

This is a well-defined non-negative integer.

③ We have coordinates of vectors in V relative to bases (Next time!)