

1.5 Def: A subset S of a vector space V is called linearly dependent if there exists a finite number of distinct vectors $u_1, \dots, u_n \in S$ and scalars $a_1, \dots, a_n$, not all zero s.t.

$$a_1 u_1 + \dots + a_n u_n = 0.$$

In other words, there is a non-trivial representation of 0 as a linear combination of vectors in S .

• Trivial representation of the 0 vector: $0 = 0 \cdot u_1 + \dots + 0 \cdot u_n$

Def: A subset S is linearly independent if it is not linearly dependent. In other words, there is no nontrivial representation of 0 as a linear combination of vectors in S .

Ex: If S contains the 0 vector, then it is always linearly dependent because $\exists$ nontrivial rep.: $0 = a \cdot 0 \quad a \neq 0 \in F$.

Ex: $S = \{v\}$ is linearly dependent iff $v=0$:

Because if there is a nontrivial representation of 0:

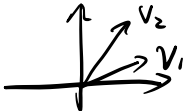
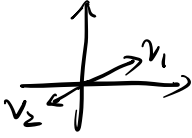
$$0 = a \cdot v \quad a \neq 0, \text{ then } \underset{0}{\overset{0}{a^{-1}}} \cdot 0 = a^{-1} a \cdot v = 1 \cdot v = v.$$

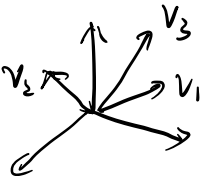
Ex: $S = \left\{ \underset{0}{\neq} u_1, \underset{0}{\neq} u_2 \right\}$ is linearly dependent iff u_2 is a ^{scalar} multiple of u_1 .

$$a_1 \cdot u_1 + a_2 \cdot u_2 = 0, \quad \begin{matrix} (a_1, a_2) \neq (0, 0) \\ v_1 \neq 0, v_2 \neq 0 \end{matrix} \Rightarrow \begin{matrix} a_1 \neq 0, a_2 \neq 0 \\ \Rightarrow u_2 = -a_2^{-1} a_1 \cdot u_1 \end{matrix}$$

Ex: $S = \left\{ \underset{\begin{smallmatrix} \times \\ 0 \end{smallmatrix}}{v_1}, \underset{\begin{smallmatrix} \times \\ 0 \end{smallmatrix}}{v_2}, \underset{\begin{smallmatrix} \times \\ 0 \end{smallmatrix}}{v_3} \right\}$ is linearly dependent iff

either $\{v_1, v_2\}$ is linearly dependent or $v_3 \in \text{Span}\{v_1, v_2\}$.

Ex:  $\{v_1, v_2\}$ linearly indep.  $\{v_1, v_2\}$ linearly dependent

 $\{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$ linearly dependent iff $v_3 \in \text{Span}\{v_1, v_2\}$
(Assume $\underset{\begin{smallmatrix} \times \\ 0 \end{smallmatrix}}{v_2} \not\propto \underset{\begin{smallmatrix} \times \\ 0 \end{smallmatrix}}{v_1}$)

Ex: Determine whether the subset $S = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -5 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \right\} \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ is linearly dependent or not.

Sol: S is linearly dependent iff there is a non-trivial rep. of 0 :

$$a_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + a_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + a_3 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -5 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$\text{iff } \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & -5 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ has a nonzero solution.}$$

We can use Gauss elimination to determine whether there are non-zero solutions or not:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & -5 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[\text{0} \cdot (-2) + \text{3}]{\text{0} + \text{0}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & -4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{0}/2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[\text{0} + \text{1} + \text{0}]{\text{0} + \text{1} + \text{0}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ free var.}$$

$\exists$ free variables $\Rightarrow \exists$ nonzero solutions

$\begin{cases} a_1 = -3a_3 \\ a_2 = 2a_3 \end{cases}$

So there are nonzero solutions $\Rightarrow \exists$ nontrivial rep. of $0 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$
 S is linearly dependent.

Thm: Let S be a linearly independent subset of V .

$v \in V \setminus S$ (i.e. $v \in V$ but $v \notin S$). Then

$S \cup \{v\}$ is linearly dependent if and only if (iff) $v \in \text{Span}(S)$.

Pf: "if": if $v \in \text{Span}(S)$, then $v = a_1 u_1 + \dots + a_n u_n$, $u_1, \dots, u_n \in S$.

Then $0 = \underbrace{-v}_{(-1) \cdot v} + a_1 u_1 + \dots + a_n u_n$ is a nontrivial rep. of 0 as

a linear combination of vectors in $S \cup \{v\}$. So $S \cup \{v\}$ is lin. dep.

"only if": Assume $S \cup \{v\}$ is linearly dependent, then there is a nontrivial representation of 0 :

$$0 = a_1 u_1 + \dots + a_n u_n, \text{ with } \begin{array}{l} \text{distinct.} \\ u_1, \dots, u_n \in S \cup \{v\} \\ a_1, \dots, a_n \text{ not zero.} \end{array}$$

Case 1: $u_i \neq v$, for $i=1, \dots, n$. Then there is a nontrivial rep. of 0 as a linear combination of vectors in S . This contradicts the assumption that S is linearly independent. Case 1 can't happen.

Case 2: By re-ordering u_i 's, we can assume $u_1 = v$. So we have.

$$0 = a_1 v + a_2 u_2 + \dots + a_n u_n \quad \text{with } a_1 \neq 0$$

$$\text{Then } v = -a_1^{-1}(a_2 u_2 + \dots + a_n u_n)$$

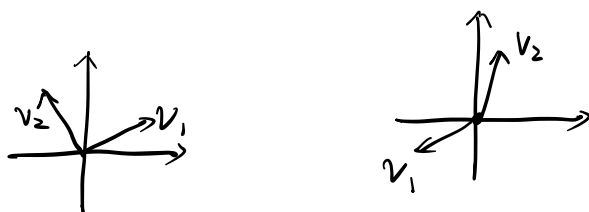
$$= -(a_1^{-1} a_2) u_2 - \dots - (a_1^{-1} a_n) u_n \in \text{Span}(S) \quad \square$$

1.6

Def: A basis β for a vector space V is a subset that satisfies:

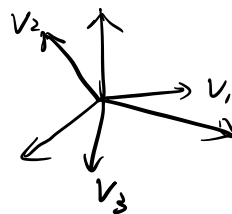
1. β is linearly independent.
2. β generates (spans) V , i.e. $\text{Span}(\beta) = V$.

Ex: basis for $\mathbb{R}^2$: $\beta = \{v_1, v_2\}$ $v_1 \nparallel v_2$:



Standard basis for $\mathbb{R}^3$: $\left\{ \overset{e_1}{\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}}, \overset{e_2}{\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}}, \overset{e_3}{\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}} \right\}$

General basis: $\{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$ linearly independent.



Ex: $P_2(\mathbb{R}) = \{\text{polynomials of deg} \leq 2\}$

A basis: $\beta = \{1, x, x^2\}$:

• $\text{Span}(\beta) = P_2(\mathbb{R})$: $a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 = a_0 \cdot 1 + a_1 \cdot x + a_2 \cdot x^2$

• linearly independent: $a_0 \cdot 1 + a_1 \cdot x + a_2 \cdot x^2 = 0 = 0 + 0 \cdot x + 0 \cdot x^2$

$\Rightarrow a_0 = a_1 = a_2 = 0$. (no nontrivial rep. of 0)

Thm: A subset β is a basis for V iff any $v \in V$ can be uniquely expressed as a linear combination of vectors of β .

Pf: "if" Assume: any $v \in V$ can be uniquely expressed as a linear combination of vectors of β . Show that β satisfies:

- β spans V (True by the Assumption)
- β is linearly independent:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= a_1 u_1 + \dots + a_n u_n \\ 0 &= 0 \cdot u_1 + \dots + 0 \cdot u_n \quad (\text{trivial rep.}) \end{aligned} \left. \vphantom{\begin{aligned} 0 &= a_1 u_1 + \dots + a_n u_n \\ 0 &= 0 \cdot u_1 + \dots + 0 \cdot u_n \end{aligned}} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{"uniquely"} \\ \text{expressed} \\ \implies a_1 = 0, \dots, a_n = 0 \\ \text{So no nontrivial rep. of } 0 \end{array}$$

"only if" Assume β is a basis. Then

- $\text{Span}(\beta) = V \Rightarrow$ any $v \in V$ is a linear combination of vectors of β .
- Assume there are two representations of $v \in V$:
$$v = a_1 u_1 + \dots + a_n u_n = b_1 u_1 + \dots + b_n u_n \quad \begin{array}{l} u_1, \dots, u_n \in \beta \\ \text{distinct} \end{array}$$

$$\text{Then } (b_1 - a_1)u_1 + \dots + (b_n - a_n)u_n = 0.$$

Because β is linearly independent, $b_1 = a_1, \dots, b_n = a_n$.

So the representation of v as a linear combination of vectors of β is unique. ◻