

Lecture #11 Study Groups: MSB 3118 TUES 1pm, Wed 4:30pm

A span Lemma: Let $w \in \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_m)$. Then

$$\text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_m) = \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_m, w)$$

PROOF EXERCISE

EXERCISE Use this lemma to give a prettier proof for q1 on Midterm than Captain Conundrum!

LINEAR INDEPENDENCE

Defⁿ $v_1, \dots, v_m$ are called linearly independent if only solⁿ to

$$0 = \alpha_1 v_1 + \dots + \alpha_m v_m$$

is $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = \dots = \alpha_m = 0$. i.e. this is the unique linear combination of $v_1, \dots, v_m$ equaling 0.

EX 4D TIC TAC TOE: $\alpha_1(1, 0, 0, 0) + \alpha_2(0, 1, 0, 0) + \alpha_3(0, 0, 1, 0) + \alpha_4(0, 0, 0, 1) = 0$ only has solⁿ

$$\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = \dots = \alpha_m = 0$$

b/c LHS = $(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4)$ & $0 = (0, 0, 0, 0) \Rightarrow (1, 0, 0, 0), (0, 1, 0, 0), (0, 0, 1, 0), (0, 0, 0, 1)$ are linearly independent

PROPOSITION: The vectors $e_1, \dots, e_n \in \mathbb{F}^n$, where $e_i = (0, 0, \dots, 1, 0, \dots, 0)$ with all but the i^{th} entry vanishing are linearly independent.

Proof: EXERCISE

Remark: If $v_1, \dots, v_m$ are not linearly independent we call them linearly dependent. This means that $\exists \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m \in \mathbb{F}$ not all vanishing such that

$$\alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \dots + \alpha_m v_m = 0$$

EX In $\mathbb{R}^2$ with $\rightarrow := (1, 0)$, $\nearrow := (1, 1)$ & $\uparrow := (0, 1)$ we have

$$1 \cdot \rightarrow + (-1) \cdot \nearrow + 1 \cdot \uparrow = 0$$

so $\rightarrow$, $\nearrow$ & $\uparrow$ are linearly dependent

Remark: Testing linear independence amounts to a linear systems problem.

EXERCISE

Watch the Gaussian elimination video in ch 1, pWE2. Explain how to use an augmented matrix & row operations to determine if a set of vectors in $\mathbb{F}^n$ are linearly independent. Give a simple example illustrating your methods.

LEMMA: $v_1, \dots, v_m$ linearly independent

$\Leftrightarrow$ every $v \in \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_m)$ can be uniquely expressed as a linear combination

$$\alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \dots + \alpha_m v_m$$

PROOF ($\Rightarrow$): By contradiction: assume

$$v = \sum \alpha_i v_i \quad \& \quad v = \sum \alpha'_i v_i \quad \text{not all } \alpha_i = \alpha'_i.$$

$$\text{Then } 0 = v - v = \sum (\alpha_i - \alpha'_i) v_i, \text{ not all } \alpha_i - \alpha'_i = 0$$

$\Rightarrow v_1, \dots, v_m$ are linearly dependent $\searrow$

($\Leftarrow$): $0 = 0 \cdot v_1 + 0 \cdot v_2 + \dots + 0 \cdot v_m$, but by assumption this expression is unique, thus $v_1, \dots, v_m$ are linearly independent. $\square$

LINEAR DEPENDENCE LEMMA: Suppose $v_1, \dots, v_m$ are linearly dependent & $v_1 \neq 0$.

Then $\exists j \in \{2, \dots, m\}$ such that

i) $v_j \in \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_{j-1})$

ii) $\text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_{j-1}, v_{j+1}, \dots, v_m) = \text{span}(v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m)$

REMARK This says that at least one vector is redundant (it can be written as a linear combination of the others & thrown out).

PROOF i) Since $v_1, \dots, v_m$ are linearly dependent we may write

$$\alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \dots + \alpha_m v_m = 0$$

for some $\alpha_i \in F$ not all zero. Since $v_1 \neq 0$ we cannot have $\alpha_2 = \dots = \alpha_m = 0$ (since then $\alpha_1 \neq 0 \Rightarrow v_1 = 0$ ∇). Pick the α_j with j such that all higher $\alpha_{j+1}, \dots$ vanish (this may require $j=m$). Then

$$v_j = -\frac{1}{\alpha_j} (\alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \dots + \alpha_{j-1} v_{j-1})$$

$$\Rightarrow v_j \in \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_{j-1})$$

ii) Now let $v \in \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_m)$, then

$$v = \beta_1 v_1 + \dots + \beta_j v_j + \dots + \beta_m v_m = (\beta_1 - \frac{\alpha_1}{\alpha_j}) v_1 + \dots + (\beta_{j-1} - \frac{\alpha_{j-1}}{\alpha_j}) v_{j-1} + \beta_{j+1} v_{j+1} + \dots + \beta_m v_m \\ \in \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_{j-1}, v_{j+1}, \dots, v_m)$$

But v was chosen arbitrarily so $\text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_m) = \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_{j-1}, v_{j+1}, \dots, v_m)$

EX $(\rightarrow, \nearrow, \uparrow) \in \mathbb{F}^2$ so we can drop one of these $\uparrow = \nearrow - \rightarrow$ so $(\rightarrow, \nearrow)$ are linearly independent. Note we could reorder our list & get 2 other answers here!

THEOREM: Let $V = \text{span}(u_1, \dots, u_m)$ and $v_1, \dots, v_n \in V$ be linearly independent. Then if $V = \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_n)$ also, then

$$n \leq m.$$

PROOF: $V = \text{span}(v_1, u_1, \dots, u_m)$ but $v_1, u_1, \dots, u_m$ are certainly linearly dependent, so by linear dependence lemma can drop u_j for some j . Now iterate this procedure, at any given step where $V = \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_k, u_1, \dots, u_{m-k})$ when we add an additional v_{k+1} we must then drop one of $u_1, \dots, u_{m-k}$ because $v_1, \dots, v_k$ are linearly independent.

The endpoint of this iteration is $V = \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_n, U)$ for some subset $U \subset \{u_1, \dots, u_m\}$. Hence $n \leq m$.

Remark: We would like to use n as the dimension of V , but perhaps it is not unique.

NEXT BASES