

1. Some Linear Algebra

Def: A vector space consists of a set V (vectors) along with a set F (scalars, usually $\mathbb{R}$ or $\mathbb{C}$) that is:

(i) Closed under addition: $v, w \in V \Rightarrow v + w \in V$

(ii) Closed under scalar multiplication: $v \in V, c \in F \Rightarrow cv \in V$.

Remark: We can deduce some easy consequences:

- $\vec{0} \in V$ (take $c = 0$)

- $v \in V \Rightarrow -v \in V$ (take $c = -1$)

If $F = \mathbb{R}$, we say that V is a "real vector space," or an " $\mathbb{R}$ -vector space," or a "vector space over $\mathbb{R}$."

A complex vector space is defined similarly (i.e., if $F = \mathbb{C}$).

* Unless specified otherwise, we will assume by default that $F = \mathbb{R}$.

Example:

(i) $V = \mathbb{R}^n = \{(x_1, \dots, x_n) \mid x_i \in \mathbb{R}\}$ is a vector space.

Proof: "+" : $(x_1, \dots, x_n) + (y_1, \dots, y_n) = (x_1 + y_1, \dots, x_n + y_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ✓

"•" : $c(x_1, \dots, x_n) = (cx_1, \dots, cx_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$

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(ii) $V = \mathbb{C}^n = \{ (z_1, \dots, z_n) \mid z_i \in \mathbb{C} \}$

(iii) $V = \text{Poly}_n = \{ a_n x^n + \dots + a_1 x + a_0 \mid a_i \in \mathbb{R} \}$
(polynomials of degree $\leq n$).

(iv) $V = \mathbb{R}[x] = \{ a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + \dots + a_k x^k \mid a_i \in \mathbb{R}, k \in \mathbb{N} \}$.
(polynomials of arbitrary degree)

(v) $V = \mathbb{R}[[x]] = \{ a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + \dots \mid a_i \in \mathbb{R} \}$
(formal power series)

(vi) $V = \mathcal{C}^1 =$ (once) differentiable functions; $f'(x)$ continuous too

(vii) $V = \mathcal{C}^\infty =$ infinitely differentiable functions; $f^{(k)}(x)$ continuous

(viii) $V = \text{Per}_{2\pi} =$ piecewise continuous functions with $f(x) = f(x+2\pi)$,
i.e., period $T = \frac{2\pi}{n}$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Non-examples:

(i) Polynomials with degree $= n$ $[(x^n+1) + (2-x^n) = 1]$

(ii) The upper half-plane in $\mathbb{R}^2$ $[-1 \cdot (0,1) = (0,-1)]$.

Def: If V is a vector space (over F), then a subspace
is a subset $W \subseteq V$ that is also a vector space
(over F).

Examples:

(i) Let $V = \{(x, y, z) \mid x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}\} \cong \mathbb{R}^3$

Let $W = \{(x, y, 0) \mid x, y \in \mathbb{R}\} \cong \mathbb{R}^2$.

Then W is a subspace of V .

(ii) $\text{Poly}_n \subseteq \mathbb{R}[x] \subseteq \mathbb{R}[[x]]$.

Poly_n is a subspace of both $\mathbb{R}[x]$ and $\mathbb{R}[[x]]$

$\mathbb{R}[x]$ is a subspace of $\mathbb{R}[[x]]$.

(iii) $\mathcal{C}^\infty$ is a subspace of $\mathcal{C}^1$.

Also, note that $\mathcal{C}^1 \supseteq \mathcal{C}^2 \supseteq \mathcal{C}^3 \supseteq \dots \supseteq \mathcal{C}^\infty$.

Remark: Subspaces in $\mathbb{R}^n$ "look like" hyperplanes through the origin (why?).

Non-examples:

(i) Unit circle in $\mathbb{R}^2$ ($\subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$)

(ii) Polynomials of degree $= n$ ($\subseteq \text{Poly}_n$)

(iii) Upper half-plane ($\subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$)

(iv) The plane $\{(x, y, 1) : x, y \in \mathbb{R}\}$ ($\subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$)

(v) Piecewise continuous functions with period exactly 2π ($\subseteq \text{Per}_{2\pi}$).

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Def: A set $S \subseteq V$ is linearly independent if none of the vectors in S can be expressed as a linear combination of the others. If S is not linearly independent, then it is linearly dependent.

Remark: $S \subseteq V$ is linearly independent iff for any $v_1, \dots, v_n \in S$,

$$a_1 v_1 + \dots + a_n v_n = 0 \Rightarrow a_1 = a_2 = \dots = a_n = 0.$$

Example: Let $V = \mathbb{R}^3$, $S \subseteq V$.

- (i) The set $S = \{v_1\}$ is linearly independent iff $v_1 \neq 0$.
- (ii) The set $S = \{v_1, v_2\}$ is linearly independent iff v_1 & v_2 don't lie on the same line.
- (iii) The set $S = \{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$ is linearly independent iff v_1, v_2, v_3 don't lie on the same plane.
- (iv) The set $S = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4\}$ is never linearly independent in $\mathbb{R}^3$.

Another example: Let $V = \text{Poly}_3$

- (i) $S = \{1, x, x^2\}$ is linearly independent
- (ii) $S = \{1, x, x^2, x^3\}$ is linearly independent
- (iii) $S = \{1, x, x^2, 1+3x-4x^2\}$ is linearly dependent
- (iv) $S = \{1, x, x^2, x^3+1\}$ is linearly independent.

One more example: let $V = \mathbb{C}^1$.

(i) $S = \{\cos t, \sin t\}$ is linearly independent.

Reason: If $C_1 \cos t + C_2 \sin t = 0$ (the zero function), then $C_1 = C_2 = 0$.

(ii) $S = \{e^{2t}, e^{3t}\}$ is linearly independent.

Reason: If $C_1 e^{2t} + C_2 e^{3t} = 0$, then $C_1 = C_2 = 0$.

(iii) $S = \{e^{2t}, e^{-2t}, \cosh 2t\}$ is linearly dependent.

Reason: $\cosh 2t = \frac{1}{2} e^{2t} + \frac{1}{2} e^{-2t}$

or equivalently: $\frac{1}{2} e^{2t} + \frac{1}{2} e^{-2t} - 1 \cosh 2t = 0$.

That is, $C_1 e^{2t} + C_2 e^{-2t} + C_3 \cosh 2t = 0 \not\Rightarrow C_1 = C_2 = C_3 = 0$.

Key concepts: (spanning set vs. basis)

Def: A subset $S \subseteq V$ spans V if every $v \in V$ can be written as $v = a_1 v_1 + \dots + a_n v_n$ where $v_i \in V$, $a_i \in \mathbb{F}$.

Moreover, if S is a basis for V (i.e., if this is the unique way to write v , then S is a basis for V .

Roughly speaking:

- " S spans V " means " S generates all of V "
- " S is a basis for V " means, " S is a minimal set that generates V ."

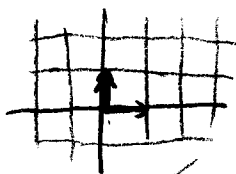
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Examples: let $V = \mathbb{R}^2$.

Spans $\mathbb{R}^2$?

Basis for $\mathbb{R}^2$?

(i) $S = \{(1,0), (0,1)\}$



Y

Y

(ii) $S = \{(3,1), (1,1)\}$



Y

Y

(iii) $S = \{(1,0), (0,1), (3,1)\}$

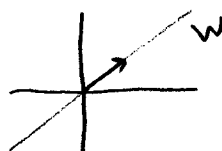


Y

N

unnecessary!

(iv) $S = \{(1,1)\}$



N

N

However, S spans a 1-dimensional subspace (a line) of $\mathbb{R}^2$.

Theorem: let $S \subseteq V$. The following are equivalent:

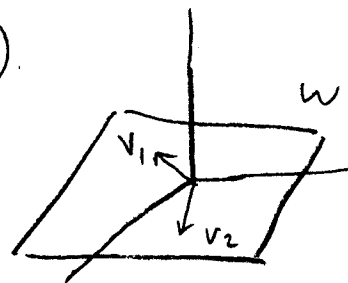
(i) S is a basis for V

(ii) S is a minimal spanning set of V

(iii) S is a maximal linearly independent set in V .

Example: let $V = \mathbb{R}^3$, $W \subseteq V$ any plane (through $\vec{0}$).

Intuition: We need two vectors (not colinear) to generate.



In fact $S = \{v_1, v_2\}$ is a basis for W iff $v_1 \nparallel v_2$ are not colinear.

Go up a dimension (find a basis for V).

$S = \{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$ is a basis for V iff they are not coplanar.

It should be clear how this generalizes to higher dimensions.

Def: The dimension of a vector space is the number of vectors in any basis.

Example: $\dim(\mathbb{R}^n) = n$: Basis: $\{\bar{e}_1, \dots, \bar{e}_n\}$

$\dim(\text{Poly}_n) = n+1$: Basis: $\{1, x, \dots, x^n\}$

$\dim(\mathbb{R}[x]) = \infty$: Basis: $\{1, x, x^2, \dots\}$

$\dim(\text{Per}_{2\pi}) = \infty$: Basis: $\{1, \cos x, \cos 2x, \dots\}$
 $\cup \{\sin x, \sin 2x, \dots\}$

Remark: Any subset $S \subseteq V$ spans a subspace W of V .

Denote this subspace by $\langle S \rangle$, or by $\text{Span}(S)$.

We may ask: Is S a basis for W ?

If not, then S is not a minimal spanning set, so we can remove some $v_i \in S$ to get $S' := S \setminus \{v_i\}$, a smaller set that spans W .

We ask again: Is S' a basis for W ?

If not, then we can remove some $v_2 \in S'$ to get $S'' := S' \setminus \{v_2\}$, a smaller set that spans W .

⑧

If $|S| < \infty$, then eventually this process will terminate, and we'll be left with $\mathcal{B} := S^{(k)}$, a basis for W .

Example: $S = \{(1,0,0), (0,1,0), (1,1,0), (3,1,0)\} \in \mathbb{R}^3$.

$\text{Span}(S)$ is a plane W . We can remove $(1,1,0)$ and $(3,1,0)$ to get a basis $\mathcal{B} = \{(1,0,0), (0,1,0)\}$ of W .

This means that $W = \{C_1(1,0,0) + C_2(0,1,0) \mid C_1, C_2 \in \mathbb{R}\}$
 $= \{(C_1, C_2, 0) \mid C_1, C_2 \in \mathbb{R}\}$.

Note that $\{(1,0,0), (3,1,0)\}$ is also a basis for W .

This means that $W = \{C_1(1,0,0) + C_2(3,1,0) \mid C_1, C_2 \in \mathbb{R}\}$
 $= \{(C_1 + 3C_2, C_2, 0) \mid C_1, C_2 \in \mathbb{R}\}$.

Linear maps.

Def. A linear map (or linear operator) is a function

$T: V \rightarrow W$ between vector spaces V, W satisfying

$$T(ax + by) = aT(x) + bT(y), \text{ for all } x, y \in V, a, b \in F.$$

Def. The kernel of a linear map T , denoted $\ker(T)$

(also called the nullspace) is the set of vectors such that

$$T(v) = 0. \text{ That is, } \ker(T) = \{v \in V \mid T(v) = 0\}.$$

Def: The image (or range) of T is the set $T(V)$,
 i.e., $\text{im}(T) := \{w \in W \mid T(v) = w \text{ for some } v \in V\}$.

Examples:

(i) Let $V = W = \mathcal{C}^\infty$. $T = \frac{d}{dx}$ is a linear operator.

$T: f(x) \mapsto f'(x)$. check: $(af + bg)' = af' + bg'$

Note that $\ker(T) = \{\text{constant functions}\}$.

(ii) Let $V = W = \mathcal{C}^\infty$. $T = \int_0^1$ is a linear operator

$T: f(x) \mapsto \int_0^1 f(x)$. check: $\int_0^1 (af + bg) = a \int_0^1 f + b \int_0^1 g$.

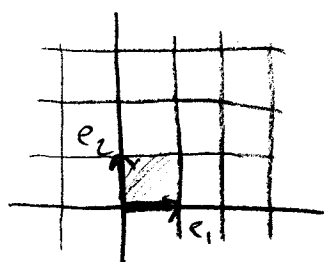
(iii) The Laplace transform $\mathcal{L}$ is a linear operator.

$\mathcal{L}: f(t) \mapsto \int_0^\infty f(t) e^{-st} dt$. check: $\mathcal{L}(af + bg) = a\mathcal{L}(f) + b\mathcal{L}(g)$.

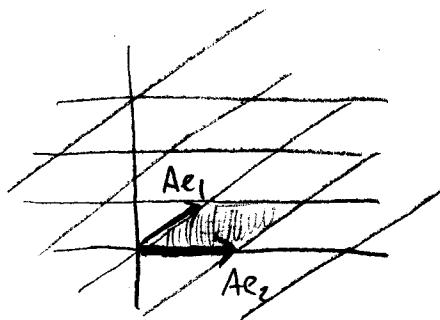
(iv) Any 2×2 matrix is a linear map $A: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$

$$\begin{array}{c} \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 \\ a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 \end{pmatrix} \\ \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ A\vec{e}_1 \quad A\vec{e}_2 \quad \text{input in } \mathbb{R}^2 \quad \text{output in } \mathbb{R}^2 \end{array}$$

For example, let $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$



$$\begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{A} \\ \xleftarrow{A^{-1}} \end{array}$$



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Facts: • $|\det A|$ = scaling factor (= area of parallelogram)

negative denotes reflection

• A is invertible iff $\det A \neq 0$. (why?)

• In general, an $n \times m$ matrix is a linear map $A: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$.

$$\begin{bmatrix} A \end{bmatrix}_{n \times m} \begin{bmatrix} \vec{x} \end{bmatrix}_{m \times 1} = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{y} \end{bmatrix}_{n \times 1}$$

• $\dim(\text{im}(A)) + \dim(\ker A) = m$

i.e., every "dimension" either gets collapsed or persists.

Connections between linear operators and ODE's (preview):

Examples. Let $V = \mathcal{C}^\infty$

(i) $T = \frac{d^2}{dt^2}$ is a linear operator. $f \mapsto \frac{d^2}{dt^2} f$

$$\ker(T) = \{ f(t) \mid f''(t) = 0 \} = \{ C_1 t + C_2 \mid C_1, C_2 \in \mathbb{R} \}.$$

(ii) $T = \frac{d^2}{dt^2} + k^2$ is a linear operator: $y \mapsto y'' + k^2 y$

$$\ker(T) = \{ y(t) \mid y'' + k^2 y = 0 \} = \{ C_1 \cos kt + C_2 \sin kt \mid C_1, C_2 \in \mathbb{R} \}.$$

(iii) $T = \frac{d}{dt} + t^2$ is a linear operator.

Check: $T(ay_1 + by_2) = \left(\frac{d}{dt} + t^2\right)(ay_1 + by_2) =$

$$= a \frac{dy_1}{dt} + at^2 y_1 + b \frac{dy_2}{dt} + bt^2 y_2$$

$$= a(y_1' + t^2 y_1) + b(y_2' + t^2 y_2) = aT(y_1) + bT(y_2).$$

$$\ker T = \{y(t) \mid y' + t^2 y = 0\}$$

Big idea: The kernel (or nullspace) of these linear differential operators are solutions to a linear, homogeneous, ODE.

Since $\ker(T)$ is a vector space, the set of solutions (i.e., the general solution) is a vector space as well.

We'll revisit this more later.

Inner products & orthogonality

Def: Let V be an $\mathbb{R}$ -vector space. A function $\langle -, - \rangle : V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a (real) inner product if it satisfies (for all $u, v, w \in V$, $c \in \mathbb{R}$):

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} 1. \langle u+v, w \rangle = \langle u, w \rangle + \langle v, w \rangle \\ 2. \langle cv, w \rangle = c \langle v, w \rangle \end{array} \right\} \text{"bilinear"}$$

$$3. \langle v, w \rangle = \langle w, v \rangle$$

$$4. \langle v, v \rangle \geq 0 \text{ with equality iff } v=0.$$

Remark: If V is a $\mathbb{C}$ -vector space, then condition 3 is

$$\text{usually } \langle v, w \rangle = \overline{\langle w, v \rangle} \quad (\text{complex conjugation})$$

[2]

Think of an "inner product" as an abstract notion of "dot product."

Defining an inner product gives rise to a geometry, i.e., notions of length, angle, and projection.

• length: $\|v\| := \sqrt{\langle v, v \rangle}$

• angle: $\angle(v, w) = \theta$, where $\cos \theta = \frac{\langle v, w \rangle}{\|v\| \cdot \|w\|}$

• projection: If $\|w\| = 1$, then we can project v onto w by defining $\text{proj}_w(v) = \langle v, w \rangle w$. This is the length, or magnitude, of v in the w -direction.

Def: Two vectors $v, w \in V$ are orthogonal if $\langle v, w \rangle = 0$. A set $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\} \subseteq V$ is orthonormal if $\langle v_i, v_j \rangle = 0$ for all $i \neq j$, and $\|v_i\| = 1$ for all i .

Remarks:

• "orthogonal" is the abstract notion of "perpendicular."

• "orthonormal" means "perpendicular, and unit length"

An equivalent definition is:

* The set $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ is orthonormal if $\langle v_i, v_j \rangle = \begin{cases} 0 & i \neq j \\ 1 & i = j \end{cases}$

Given a vector space V with an inner product, it is usually desirable to have an orthonormal basis of V .

Examples:

(i) Let $V = \mathbb{R}^n$. $\langle v, w \rangle = v \cdot w = \sum_{i=1}^n v_i w_i$ is an inner product.

The set $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$ is an orthonormal basis of $\mathbb{R}^n$.

Thus, we can write each $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$ uniquely as

$$v = a_1 e_1 + \dots + a_n e_n = (a_1, \dots, a_n), \quad \text{where } a_i = \text{proj}_{e_i}(v) = v \cdot e_i$$

(ii) Let $V = \text{Per}_{2\pi}$, $F = \mathbb{C}$, $\langle f, g \rangle = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \overline{g(x)} dx$ is an inner product.

The set $\{\dots, e^{-2ix}, e^{-ix}, 1, e^{ix}, e^{2ix}, \dots\}$ is an orthonormal basis

of $\text{Per}_{2\pi}$, w.r.t. this inner product

Thus, we can write each $f(x) \in \text{Per}_{2\pi}$ uniquely as

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n e^{inx} = c_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n e^{inx} + c_{-n} e^{-inx}, \quad \text{where}$$

$$c_n = \|\text{proj}_{e^{inx}}(f(x))\| = \langle f(x), e^{inx} \rangle = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) e^{-inx} dx$$

(iii) Let $V = \text{Per}_{2\pi}$, but define $\langle f, g \rangle = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) g(x) dx$.

The set $\{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \cos x, \cos 2x, \dots\} \cup \{\sin x, \sin 2x, \dots\}$ is an orthonormal basis of $\text{Per}_{2\pi}$, w.r.t. this inner product.

Thus, we can write each $f(x) \in \text{Per}_{2\pi}$ uniquely as

$$f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx, \quad \text{where}$$

$$a_n = \|\text{proj}_{\cos nx}(f(x))\| = \langle f(x), \cos nx \rangle = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos nx dx$$

$$b_n = \|\text{proj}_{\sin nx}(f(x))\| = \langle f(x), \sin nx \rangle = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx dx.$$

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Important remark: Sometimes we have an orthogonal (but not orthonormal) basis, $v_1, \dots, v_n$. There is still a simple way to decompose a vector $v \in V$ into this basis.

In this case, $\left\{ \frac{v_1}{\|v_1\|}, \dots, \frac{v_n}{\|v_n\|} \right\}$ is an orthonormal basis, so

$$v = a_1 \frac{v_1}{\|v_1\|} + \dots + a_n \frac{v_n}{\|v_n\|}, \quad a_i = \left\langle v, \frac{v_i}{\|v_i\|} \right\rangle = \frac{1}{\|v_i\|} \langle v, v_i \rangle = \frac{\langle v, v_i \rangle}{\langle v_i, v_i \rangle^{1/2}}$$

$$v = \frac{a_1}{\|v_1\|} v_1 + \dots + \frac{a_n}{\|v_n\|} v_n$$

$$v = c_1 v_1 + \dots + c_n v_n, \quad c_i = \frac{a_i}{\|v_i\|} = \frac{\langle v, v_i \rangle}{\langle v_i, v_i \rangle} = \frac{\langle v, v_i \rangle}{\|v_i\|^2} \quad (*)$$