

1 Vector space

Definition 1.1. A vector space V over a field K is a set V with two operations called addition $+$ and multiplication \cdot such that the following axioms are satisfied:

- (1)
 - (i) $u + v \in V$ for all $u, v \in V$. (Addition is closed)
 - (ii) $u + v = v + u$ for all $u, v \in V$. (Addition is commutative)
 - (iii) $u + (v + w) = (u + v) + w$ for all $u, v, w \in V$. (Addition is associative)
 - (iv) There exists an element $0 \in V$, called the zero vector, such that $u + 0 = 0 + u = u$ for all $u \in V$.
 - (v) For all $u \in V$ there exists an element $-u \in V$, called the additive inverse of u , such that $u + (-u) = 0 = (-u) + u$.
- (2)
 - (i) $\alpha u \in V$ for all $u \in V$ and $\alpha \in K$.
 - (ii) $(\alpha + \beta)u = \alpha u + \beta u$ for all $u, v \in V$ and $\alpha, \beta \in K$.
 - (iii) $(\alpha\beta)u = \alpha(\beta u)$ for all $u \in V$ and $\alpha, \beta \in K$.
 - (iv) $(1)u = (1)u$ for all $u \in V$ and $1 \in K$.
 - (v) For all $u \in V$ there exists an element $1 \in K$, called the multiplicative identity of u , such that $1u = u1 = u$.

Example 1.2. Let C be the set of complex numbers. Define addition in C by

$$(a + bi) + (c + di) = (a + c) + (b + d)i \quad \text{for all } a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}; \quad (1)$$

and define scalar multiplication by

$$\alpha(a + bi) = \alpha a + \alpha bi \quad \text{for all scalars } \alpha \in \mathbb{R}; \text{ and for all } a, b \in \mathbb{R}; \quad (2)$$

Show that $(\mathbb{C}; +; \cdot)$ is a vector space over \mathbb{R} .

Solution : Let $u = a + bi$; $v = c + di$; $w = e + fi \in \mathbb{C}$, where $a; b; c; d; e; f \in \mathbb{R}$, we have

(1)

(i) The addition is closed :

$$\begin{aligned}u + v &= (a + bi) + (c + di) \\ &= (a + c) + (b + d)i \quad \text{by (1)}.\end{aligned}$$

Since $(a + c)$ and $(b + d)$ are real numbers then $u + v \in \mathbb{C}$.

(ii) The addition is commutative:

$$\begin{aligned}u + v &= (a + bi) + (c + di) \\ &= (a + c) + (b + d)i \quad \text{by (1)}, \\ &= (c + a) + (d + b)i \quad \text{because addition on } \mathbb{R} \text{ is commutative,} \\ &= (c + di) + (a + bi) \quad \text{by (1)}, \\ &= v + u\end{aligned}$$

(iii) The addition is associative: we have to prove that $u + (v + w) = (u + v) + w$ for all $u; v; w \in \mathbb{C}$.

The left hand side (L.H.S):

$$\begin{aligned}u + (v + w) &= u + [(c + di) + (e + fi)] \\ &= (a + bi) + [(c + e) + (d + f)i] \quad \text{by (1)}, \\ &= [a + (c + e)] + [b + (d + f)]i \quad \text{by (1)}, \\ &= [(a + c) + e] + [(b + d) + f]i \quad \text{because addition on } \mathbb{R} \text{ is associative.}\end{aligned}$$

The right hand side (R.H.S):

$$\begin{aligned}(u + v) + w &= [(a + bi) + (c + di)] + w \\ &= [(a + c) + (b + d)i] + (e + fi) \quad \text{by (1),} \\ &= [(a + c) + e] + [(b + d) + f]i \quad \text{by (1).}\end{aligned}$$

Then L.H.S = R.H.S

(iv) The additive identity : For all $u = a + bi \in \mathbb{C}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}(a + bi) + (0 + 0i) &= (a + 0) + (b + 0)i \quad \text{by (1),} \\ &= a + bi \quad \text{because 0 is the additive identity in } \mathbb{R}.\end{aligned}$$

Then the additive identity of \mathbb{C} is $(0 + 0i)$.

(v) The additive inverse : For all $u = a + bi \in \mathbb{C}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}(a + bi) + (-a - bi) &= (a + (-a)) + (b + (-b))i \quad \text{by (1),} \\ &= 0 + 0i \quad \text{because } (-a) \text{ is the additive inverse of } a \text{ in } \mathbb{R}.\end{aligned}$$

Then the additive inverse of $a + bi \in \mathbb{C}$ is $-a - bi$.

(2) Let $u = a + bi; v = c + di \in \mathbb{C}$ and $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}$.

(i) We have to prove that $u \in \mathbb{C}$.

$$\begin{aligned}u &= a + bi \\ &= a + bi\end{aligned}$$

Since $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$, then $u \in \mathbb{C}$.

(ii) We have to prove that $(u + v) = u + v$ for all $u, v \in \mathbb{C}$ and $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}$.

The left hand side (L.H.S) :

$$\begin{aligned}
 (u + v) &= [(a + bi) + (c + di)] \\
 &= [(a + c) + (b + d)i] \quad \text{by (1)} \\
 &= (a + c) + (b + d)i \quad \text{by (2)} \\
 &= (a + c) + (b + d)i \quad \text{because multiplication distributes over addition in } \mathbb{R}.
 \end{aligned}$$

The right hand side (R.H.S) :

$$\begin{aligned}
 u + v &= (a + bi) + (c + di) \\
 &= (a + bi) + (c + di) \quad \text{by (2),} \\
 &= (a + c) + (b + d)i \quad \text{by (1),}
 \end{aligned}$$

Then L.H.S = R.H.S

(iii) We have to prove that $(\alpha + \beta)u = \alpha u + \beta u$ for all $u \in \mathbb{C}$ and $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$.

The L.H.S :

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\alpha + \beta)u &= (\alpha + \beta)(a + bi) \\
 &= (\alpha + \beta)a + (\alpha + \beta)bi \quad \text{by (2),} \\
 &= (\alpha a + \beta a) + (\alpha b + \beta b)i \quad \text{because multiplication distributes over addition in } \mathbb{R}.
 \end{aligned}$$

The R.H.S :

$$\begin{aligned}
 \alpha u + \beta u &= \alpha(a + bi) + \beta(a + bi) \\
 &= (\alpha a + \beta a) + (\alpha b + \beta b)i \quad \text{by (2),} \\
 &= (\alpha a + \beta a) + (\alpha b + \beta b)i \quad \text{by (1).}
 \end{aligned}$$

Then L.H.S=R.H.S

(iv) We have to prove that $(\alpha) u = (\alpha u)$ for all $u \in \mathbb{C}$ and $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$.

The L.H.S:

$$\begin{aligned}(\alpha) u &= (\alpha) (a + bi) \\ &= (\alpha)a + (\alpha)bi \quad \text{by (2),} \\ &= \alpha a + \alpha bi \quad \text{because multiplication is associative in } \mathbb{R}.\end{aligned}$$

The R.H.S:

$$\begin{aligned}(\alpha u) &= [\alpha (a + bi)] \\ &= [\alpha a + \alpha bi] \quad \text{by (2),} \\ &= \alpha a + \alpha bi \quad \text{by (2).}\end{aligned}$$

Then L.H.S=R.H.S

(v) The multiplicative identity : we have to show that $1 u = u$ for all $u = a + bi \in \mathbb{C}$. (Note that, 1 represents scalar from the field \mathbb{R} and NOT from the set \mathbb{C}).

$$\begin{aligned}1 u &= 1 (a + bi) \\ &= 1a + 1bi \quad \text{by (2),} \\ &= a + bi \\ &= u\end{aligned}$$

We have proved that all axioms hold in \mathbb{C} . Hence, $(\mathbb{C}; +; \cdot)$ is a vector space over \mathbb{R} .

Example 1.3. Let $M_{2 \times 2}(R) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \mid a, b, c, d \in R \right\}$ be the set of all two by two matrices with entries in R .

For $A = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix}; B = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 & b_2 \\ b_3 & b_4 \end{pmatrix} \in M_{2 \times 2}$ and $\lambda \in R$, addition and scalar multiplication of matrices defined by

$$A + B = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} b_1 & b_2 \\ b_3 & b_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 + b_1 & a_2 + b_2 \\ a_3 + b_3 & a_4 + b_4 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3)$$

$$\lambda A = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda a_1 & \lambda a_2 \\ \lambda a_3 & \lambda a_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda a_1 & \lambda a_2 \\ \lambda a_3 & \lambda a_4 \end{pmatrix} \quad (4)$$

Prove that $(M_{2 \times 2}; +; \cdot)$ is a vector space over R .

Solution: Let $A = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix}; B = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 & b_2 \\ b_3 & b_4 \end{pmatrix}; C = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 & c_2 \\ c_3 & c_4 \end{pmatrix} \in M_{2 \times 2}$.

(1)

(i)

$$A + B = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} b_1 & b_2 \\ b_3 & b_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 + b_1 & a_2 + b_2 \\ a_3 + b_3 & a_4 + b_4 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{by (3).}$$

Since $a_1; a_2; a_3; a_4; b_1; b_2; b_3; b_4$ are real numbers, then $a_1 + b_1; a_2 + b_2; a_3 + b_3; a_4 + b_4 \in R$. Hence, $A + B \in M_{2 \times 2}(R)$.

(ii) We have to show that $A + B = B + A$ for all $A; B \in M_{2 \times 2}$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 A + B &= \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} b_1 & b_2 \\ b_3 & b_4 \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} a_1 + b_1 & a_2 + b_2 \\ a_3 + b_3 & a_4 + b_4 \end{pmatrix} && \text{by (3),} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} b_1 + a_1 & b_2 + a_2 \\ b_3 + a_3 & b_4 + a_4 \end{pmatrix} && \text{because addition on } R \text{ is commutative} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} b_1 & b_2 \\ b_3 & b_4 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix} && \text{by (3),} \\
 &= B + A
 \end{aligned}$$

(iii) We have to show that $A + (B + C) = (A + B) + C$ for all $A; B; C \in M_{2 \times 2}$.

The L.H.S:

$$\begin{aligned}
 A + (B + C) &= \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} b_1 & b_2 \\ b_3 & b_4 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} c_1 & c_2 \\ c_3 & c_4 \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} b_1 + c_1 & b_2 + c_2 \\ b_3 + c_3 & b_4 + c_4 \end{pmatrix} && \text{by (3),} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} a_1 + (b_1 + c_1) & a_2 + (b_2 + c_2) \\ a_3 + (b_3 + c_3) & a_4 + (b_4 + c_4) \end{pmatrix} && \text{by (3),} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} (a_1 + b_1) + c_1 & (a_2 + b_2) + c_2 \\ (a_3 + b_3) + c_3 & (a_4 + b_4) + c_4 \end{pmatrix} && \text{because addition on } R \text{ is associative.}
 \end{aligned}$$

The R.H.S:

$$\begin{aligned}
 (A + B) + C &= \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} b_1 & b_2 \\ b_3 & b_4 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} c_1 & c_2 \\ c_3 & c_4 \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} a_1 + b_1 & a_2 + b_2 \\ a_3 + b_3 & a_4 + b_4 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} c_1 & c_2 \\ c_3 & c_4 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{by (3),} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} (a_1 + b_1) + c_1 & (a_2 + b_2) + c_2 \\ (a_3 + b_3) + c_3 & (a_4 + b_4) + c_4 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{by (3).}
 \end{aligned}$$

Then L.H.S= R.H.S

(iv) For all $A = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix} \in M_{2 \times 2}$, we have

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix}$$

Then the zero matrix $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ is the additive identity.

(v) For all $A = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix} \in M_{2 \times 2}$, we have $(-A) = \begin{pmatrix} -a_1 & -a_2 \\ -a_3 & -a_4 \end{pmatrix} \in M_{2 \times 2}$,

where

$$A + (-A) = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -a_1 & -a_2 \\ -a_3 & -a_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Then the matrix $(-A)$ is the additive inverse for the matrix A .

(2)

(i) We have to show that $A \in M_{2 \times 2}(R)$ for all $A \in M_{2 \times 2}$ and $R \in R$.

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{by (4).}$$

Since a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4 are real numbers then $a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4 \in R$.

Hence, $A \in M_2(\mathbb{R})$.

(ii) We have to show that $(A + B) = A + B$ for all $A, B \in M_2$ and \mathbb{R} .

The L.H.S:

$$\begin{aligned}
 (A + B) &= \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} b_1 & b_2 \\ b_3 & b_4 \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} a_1 + b_1 & a_2 + b_2 \\ a_3 + b_3 & a_4 + b_4 \end{pmatrix} && \text{by (3),} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} (a_1 + b_1) & (a_2 + b_2) \\ (a_3 + b_3) & (a_4 + b_4) \end{pmatrix} && \text{by (4),} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} a_1 + b_1 & a_2 + b_2 \\ a_3 + b_3 & a_4 + b_4 \end{pmatrix} && \text{because multiplication distributes over addition in } \mathbb{R}.
 \end{aligned}$$

The R.H.S:

$$\begin{aligned}
 A + B &= \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} b_1 & b_2 \\ b_3 & b_4 \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} b_1 & b_2 \\ b_3 & b_4 \end{pmatrix} && \text{by (4),} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} a_1 + b_1 & a_2 + b_2 \\ a_3 + b_3 & a_4 + b_4 \end{pmatrix} && \text{by (3).}
 \end{aligned}$$

Then L.H.S = R.H.S

(iii) We have to show that $(\alpha + \beta)A = \alpha A + \beta A$ for all $A \in M_2$ and $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$.

The L.H.S:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \begin{pmatrix} & \\ & \end{pmatrix} A &= \begin{pmatrix} & \\ & \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} & \\ & \end{pmatrix} a_1 \begin{pmatrix} & \\ & \end{pmatrix} a_2 \quad \text{by (4),} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} & \\ & \end{pmatrix} a_3 \begin{pmatrix} & \\ & \end{pmatrix} a_4 \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} a_1 + & a_1 & a_2 + & a_2 \\ a_3 + & a_3 & a_4 + & a_4 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{because multiplication distributes over addition in R.}
 \end{aligned}$$

The R.H.S:

$$\begin{aligned}
 A + A &= \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{by (4),} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} a_1 + & a_1 & a_2 + & a_2 \\ a_3 + & a_3 & a_4 + & a_4 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{by (3).}
 \end{aligned}$$

Then L.H.S = R.H.S

(iv) We have to show that $\begin{pmatrix} & \\ & \end{pmatrix} A = \begin{pmatrix} & \\ & \end{pmatrix} (A)$ for all $A \in M_{2 \times 2}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} & \\ & \end{pmatrix} \in R$.

The L.H.S:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \begin{pmatrix} & \\ & \end{pmatrix} A &= \begin{pmatrix} & \\ & \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} & \\ & \end{pmatrix} a_1 \begin{pmatrix} & \\ & \end{pmatrix} a_2 \quad \text{by (4),} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} & \\ & \end{pmatrix} a_3 \begin{pmatrix} & \\ & \end{pmatrix} a_4 \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} (a_1) & (a_2) \\ (a_3) & (a_4) \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{because multiplication on R is associative.}
 \end{aligned}$$

The R.H.S:

$$\begin{aligned}
 (A) &= \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{by (4),} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} (a_1) & (a_2) \\ (a_3) & (a_4) \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{by (4).}
 \end{aligned}$$

Then L.H.S= R.H.S

(v) For all $A \in M_2(\mathbb{R})$, we have $I \in M_2(\mathbb{R})$ such that

$$I A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1a_1 & 1a_2 \\ 1a_3 & 1a_4 \end{pmatrix} = A:$$

Then $I \in M_2(\mathbb{R})$ is the multiplicative identity .

Example 1.4. Let $V = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid x_j > 0\}$. For $x, y \in V$ and $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$, we define addition and scalar multiplication as following

$$x + y = xy;$$

$$\alpha x = x^\alpha ;$$

Show that $(V; +, \cdot)$ is a vector space over \mathbb{R} .

Example 1.5. Is the set $V = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \mid a, b, c, d > 0 \right\}$ with the usual addition and scalar multiplication of matrices define a vector space over \mathbb{R} ?

Solution: Let $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$, then $\alpha \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha a & \alpha b \\ \alpha c & \alpha d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2a & 2b \\ 2c & 2d \end{pmatrix} \notin V.$

Since $a, b > 0$ then $2a, 2b < 0$.

Proposition 1.6. Let V be a vector space over K , then we have

- (1) The additive identity, $0 \in V$, is unique.
- (2) The additive inverse, $(-u) \in V$, for $u \in V$ is unique.
- (3) For all $u \in V$ we have $0 + u = u$.
- (4) For all $u \in V$ we have $(-1)u = -u$.
- (5) For all $u, v, w \in V$, if $u + v = u + w$ then $v = w$.
- (6) For all $u, v \in V$, the equation $u + x = v$ has a unique solution $x = v - u \in V$.
- (7) For all $u \in V$, we have $(-(-u)) = u$.

2 Subspace

In this section we suppose that $(V; +; \cdot)$ is a vector space over K .

Definition 2.1. A non-empty subset U of V is called a subspace of V if $(U; +; \cdot)$ is a vector space over K .

Proposition 2.2. A non-empty subset U of a vector space V over K is a subspace of V if and only if the following conditions are satisfied:

- (1) $0 \in U$.
- (2) For all $u, v \in U$, we have $u + v \in U$.
- (3) For all $u \in U$ and $\alpha \in K$, we have $\alpha u \in U$.

Remark 2.3. Every vector space V has two subspaces namely V and $\{0\}$, which are called trivial subspaces. Any other subspace of V is called a proper subspace of V .

Example 2.4. Show that which of these sets are subspace of \mathbb{R}^3

- (1) $U = \{(x; y; 0) \mid x, y \in \mathbb{R}\}$.
- (2) $U = \{(x; y; 1) \mid x, y \in \mathbb{R}\}$.

Proposition 2.5. If W_1 and W_2 are subspaces of V , then $W_1 \cap W_2$ is a subspace of V .

Proof. We have to satisfy the three conditions in Proposition 2.2.

- (1) Since W_1 and W_2 are subspaces of V , then $0 \in W_1$ and $0 \in W_2$.

Hence,

$$0 \in W_1 \cap W_2:$$

(2) Let $u, v \in W_1 \setminus W_2$, then $u, v \in W_1$ and $u, v \in W_2$.

Since W_1 and W_2 are subspaces of V , then $u + v \in W_1$ and $u + v \in W_2$.

Hence,

$$u + v \in W_1 \setminus W_2:$$

(3) Let $\alpha \in K$ and $u \in W_1 \setminus W_2$, then $u \in W_1$ and $u \in W_2$.

Since W_1 and W_2 are subspaces of V then $\alpha u \in W_1$ and $\alpha u \in W_2$.

Hence,

$$\alpha u \in W_1 \setminus W_2:$$

□

Example 2.6. Show that if W_1 and W_2 are subspaces of a vector space V , then $W_1 \cap W_2$ is NOT a subspace of V .

To prove this, we have $W_1 = \{ (a; 0) \mid a \in \mathbb{R} \}$ and $W_2 = \{ (0; b) \mid b \in \mathbb{R} \}$ are both subspaces of \mathbb{R}^2 . But $W_1 \cap W_2$ is not a subspace of \mathbb{R}^2 because $(1; 0) \in W_1 \cap W_2$ and $(0; 1) \in W_1 \cap W_2$ while $(1; 0) + (0; 1) = (1; 1) \notin W_1 \cap W_2$.

Proposition 2.7. Let W_1, W_2, \dots, W_n are subspaces of a vector space V over a field K , then we have

(1) $W_1 \cap W_2 \cap \dots \cap W_n$ is a subspace of V .

(2) $W_1 + W_2 + \dots + W_n = \{ w_1 + w_2 + \dots + w_n \mid w_i \in W_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, n \}$ is a subspace of V .

Proof.

□

3 Linear Combinations and Span

Definition 3.1. Let $v_1; v_2; \dots; v_n$ be vectors in a vector space V over K . A linear combination of these vectors is any expression of the form

$$\alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n$$

for some scalars $\alpha_1; \alpha_2; \dots; \alpha_n \in K$.

Example 3.2. Consider the vector space \mathbb{R}^2 . The vector $v = (7; 13)$ is a linear combination of $v_1 = (2; 1)$ and $v_2 = (1; 5)$, where

$$v = 2v_1 + (-3)v_2:$$

Example 3.3. Consider the vector space \mathbb{R}^2 . The vector $v = (1; 3)$ is a linear combination of $v_1 = (0; 1)$, $v_2 = (2; 1)$, $v_3 = (1; 2)$ and $v_4 = (0; 3)$ where

$$v = (-2)v_1 + (0)v_2 + 1v_3 + \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)v_4:$$

Sometimes we cannot write a vector v in a vector space V as a linear combination of $v_1; v_2; \dots; v_n \in V$, as explained in this example.

Example 3.4. Let $v_1 = (2; 5; 3); v_2 = (1; 1; 1)$, and $v = (4; 2; 0)$. Because there exist no scalars $\alpha_1; \alpha_2 \in K$ such that $v = \alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2$ then v is not a linear combination of v_1 and v_2 .

Definition 3.5. Let V be a vector space over K , and let $S = \{v_1; v_2; \dots; v_n\}$ be a subset of V . We say that S spans V , or S generates V , if every vector v in V can be written as a linear combination of vectors in S . That is, for all $v \in V$, we have

$$v = \alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n$$

for some scalars $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n \in K$.

Example 3.6. Show that the set $S = \{(1; 0), (0; 1)\}$ spans the vector space $\mathbb{R}^2 = \{(a; b) \mid a, b \in \mathbb{R}\}$.

Solution: We have to show that for all $v = (a; b) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ there exists $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $v = \alpha_1(1; 0) + \alpha_2(0; 1)$.

$$\begin{aligned} (a; b) &= \alpha_1(1; 0) + \alpha_2(0; 1) \\ &= (\alpha_1; 0) + (0; \alpha_2) \\ &= (\alpha_1; \alpha_2) \end{aligned}$$

Then $\alpha_1 = a$ and $\alpha_2 = b$. So, any vector $v = (a; b) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ can be written in the form $(a; b) = a(1; 0) + b(0; 1)$. Thus S spans \mathbb{R}^2 .

Example 3.7. Let $S = \{v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\}$, and $V = \{v = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \mid a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}\}$.

- (1) Does S span V ?
- (2) Define a vector space U such that S spans U .
- (3) Find a set that spans V .

Solution: (1) If S spans V then for all $v \in V$, there exists $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} &= \alpha_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \alpha_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \alpha_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \alpha_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \alpha_2 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

So, $v_1 = a$ and $v_2 = d$. But if b or c is non-zero then v cannot be written as a linear combination of the vectors in S . Hence, S does not span V .

(2) From (1), we can see that if $U = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$ then S spans U .

(3) The set that spans V is $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$.

Example 3.8. Show that the set $S = \{(0, 1, 1), (1, 0, 1), (1, 1, 0)\}$ spans \mathbb{R}^3 and write the vector $(2, 4, 8)$ as a linear combination of vectors in S .

Solution:

A vector in \mathbb{R}^3 has the form $v = (x, y, z)$.

Hence we need to show that, for some scalars $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3 \in \mathbb{R}$, every such v can be written as

$$\begin{aligned}(x; y; z) &= \alpha_1(0; 1; 1) + \alpha_2(1; 0; 1) + \alpha_3(1; 1; 0) \\ &= (\alpha_2 + \alpha_3; \alpha_1 + \alpha_3; \alpha_1 + \alpha_2)\end{aligned}$$

This gives us system of equations

$$x = \alpha_2 + \alpha_3$$

$$y = \alpha_1 + \alpha_3$$

$$z = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2$$

This system of equations can be written in matrix form

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ \alpha_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}$$

We can write it as $A\alpha = b$. Since $\det(A) = 2$ then this system has a solution.

Now, to write $(2, 4, 8)$ as a linear combination of vectors in S , we find that

$$A^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & & & 3 \\ & 0.5 & 0.5 & 0.5 \\ & 0.5 & & 0.5 \\ & 0.5 & 0.5 & 0.5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} z \\ z \\ z \\ z \end{pmatrix}$$

Then

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 & 2 \\ 6 & 17 & 6 \\ 6 & 7 & 6 \\ 4 & 25 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 & 0.5 & 0.5 \\ 0.5 & 0.5 & 0.5 \\ 0.5 & 0.5 & 0.5 \\ 0.5 & 0.5 & 0.5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 & 3 \\ 7 & 6 & 7 \\ 7 & 6 & 7 \\ 5 & 4 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 8 \\ 8 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$$

So, $x_1 = 5$; $x_2 = 3$; $x_3 = 1$, and

$$(2; 4; 8) = 5(0; 1; 1) + 3(1; 0; 1) + (1)(1; 1; 0):$$

4 Linear independence

Definition 4.1. Let V be a vector space over a field K . A subset $\{v_1; v_2; \dots; v_n\}$ in V is linearly dependent over K if there exists scalars $\alpha_1; \alpha_2; \dots; \alpha_n \in K$, (not all zero), such that

$$\alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n = 0:$$

Definition 4.2. Let V be a vector space over a field K . A subset $\{v_1; v_2; \dots; v_n\}$ in V is linearly independent over K if $\alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n = 0$ then $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = \dots = \alpha_n = 0$

Example 4.3. Show that the set $\{(1; 0; 1); (1; 1; 1); (2; 1; 2); (0; 0; 1)\}$ is linearly dependent over \mathbb{R} .

Solution: We have to show that there exists $\alpha_1; \alpha_2; \alpha_3; \alpha_4 \in \mathbb{R}$ not all zero such that

$$\alpha_1(1; 0; 1) + \alpha_2(1; 1; 1) + \alpha_3(2; 1; 2) + \alpha_4(0; 0; 1) = (0; 0; 0)$$

We have the following system of equations

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 + x_2 + 2x_3 &= 0 \\x_2 + x_3 &= 0 \\x_1 + x_2 + 2x_3 + x_4 &= 0\end{aligned}$$

Put the first equation in the last equation, we get $x_4 = 0$.

From the second equation, we have $x_2 = -x_3$. Let $x_2 = 1$ then $x_3 = -1$ and $x_1 = 1$. Hence, $(1; 0; 1) + (1; -1; 1) + (-1)(2; -1; 2) + (0)(0; 0; 1) = (0; 0; 0)$.

Example 4.4. Show that the set $\{(1; 0; 1); (0; 0; 1)\}$ is linearly independent over \mathbb{R} .

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}x_1(1; 0; 1) + x_2(0; 0; 1) &= (0; 0; 0) \\(-x_1; 0; -x_1) + (0; 0; x_2) &= (0; 0; 0) \\(-x_1; 0; -x_1 + x_2) &= (0; 0; 0)\end{aligned}$$

So, $-x_1 = 0$, $-x_1 + x_2 = 0$ then $x_2 = 0$. Then it is linearly independent over \mathbb{R} .

Example 4.5. Show that the set $S = \{i; i + 1\}$ is linearly dependent over \mathbb{C} , but it is linearly independent over \mathbb{R} .

Solution: Since $(-1 + i)i + (1)(1 + i) = 0$, so, S is linearly dependent over \mathbb{C} .

Let $(i) + (1 + i) = 0$, where $x; y \in \mathbb{R}$

Then

$$\begin{aligned}ix + y + i &= 0 + 0i \\(x + 1) + iy &= 0 + 0i\end{aligned}$$

So, $\alpha = 0$; $\beta + \gamma = 0$ and then $\beta = 0$. Hence, S is linearly independent over R .

Theorem 4.6. If $A = (a_{ij}) \in M_n \times n(K)$, and $C_j = (a_{1j}; a_{2j}; \dots; a_{nj})$, $j = 1; 2; \dots; n$ are the n columns of A then $\{C_1; C_2; \dots; C_n\}$ is linearly dependent over K if and only if $\det A = 0$.

Corollary 4.7. The n rows of a matrix $A \in M_n \times n(K)$ are linearly dependent over K if and only if $\det A = 0$.

5 Basis and dimension

Definition 5.1. Let V be a vector space over K . A subset $S = \{v_1; v_2; \dots; v_n\}$ is called a basis for V if

(i) V is spanned by S , that is, for every $v \in V$ there exist scalars $\alpha_1; \alpha_2; \dots; \alpha_n \in K$ such that $v = \alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n$.

(ii) The set S is linearly independent over K .

Example 5.2. Show that the set $S = \{(1; 0; 0); (0; 1; 0); (0; 0; 1)\}$ is a basis for the vector space R^3 .

Solution: (i) we have to show that S spans R^3 . That is, for all $v = (x; y; z) \in R^3$, we have to find scalars $\alpha_1; \alpha_2; \alpha_3 \in R^3$ such that $v = \alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \alpha_3 v_3$

$$(x; y; z) = \alpha_1(1; 0; 0) + \alpha_2(0; 1; 0) + \alpha_3(0; 0; 1)$$

$$(x; y; z) = (\alpha_1; \alpha_2; \alpha_3)$$

So, $(x; y; z) = x(1; 0; 0) + y(0; 1; 0) + z(0; 0; 1)$ and, hence, R^3 is generated by S .

(ii) To show that S is linearly independent, Let $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 6 & 0 & 7 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 4 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

Since $\det(A) \neq 0$ then S is linearly independent.

Finally, we get S is a basis for \mathbb{R}^3 .

Example 5.3. Let $e_1 = (1; 0; 0; \dots; 0); e_2 = (0; 1; 0; 0; \dots; 0); \dots; e_n = (0; 0; \dots; 1)$. Then $B = \{e_1; e_2; \dots; e_n\}$ is a basis for \mathbb{R}^n . This basis called the standard basis for \mathbb{R}^n .

Theorem 5.4. Let V be a vector space over a field K , and $S = \{v_1; v_2; \dots; v_n\}$ be a basis of V containing n vectors. Then any subset containing more than n vectors in V is linearly dependent.

Definition 5.5. Let V be a vector space with a basis $S = \{v_1; v_2; \dots; v_n\}$ has n vectors. Then, we say n is the dimension of V and we write $\dim(V) = n$.

Theorem 5.6. Any vector space V has a basis. All bases for V are of the same dimension.

Example 5.7. The following vector spaces over \mathbb{R} have dimensions :

- (1) $\dim(\mathbb{R}^n) = n$.
- (2) $\dim \mathbb{R} = 1$.
- (3) $\dim \mathbb{C} = 2$.
- (4) $\dim M_{n,n}(\mathbb{R}) = n^2$.

Theorem 5.8. Let V be a vector space such that $\dim(V) = n$. Let $S = \{v_1; v_2; \dots; v_n\}$ be a subset of V . Then we have

- (1) If S spans V , then S is also linearly independent hence a basis for V .

(2) If S is linearly independent, then S also spans V hence is a basis for V .

Example 5.9. Show that S is not a basis for \mathbb{R}^3 where $S = \{(6; 4; 1); (3; 5; 1); (8; 13; 6); (0; 6; 9)\}$.

Solution: Since $\dim(\mathbb{R}^3) = 3$, then any basis for \mathbb{R}^3 must have 3 vectors, while here S has four.

Example 5.10. Show that $S = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 8 & 2 \\ 4 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 5 & 4 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 5 & 4 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 5 & 4 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 5 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$ is a basis for $M_{2,2}(\mathbb{R})$.

Solution: Since S has four vectors and $\dim(M_{2,2}(\mathbb{R})) = 4$ then, by Theorem 5.8, we have to show that either S spans V or S is linearly independent.

6 Dot and cross products

Definition 6.1. Let $v = (a_1; a_2; \dots; a_n)$ be a vector in a vector space V . The length (or norm or magnitude) of v is

$$\|v\| = \sqrt{a_1^2 + a_2^2 + \dots + a_n^2}$$

Example 6.2. Suppose that the vector $v = (2; 1; 4; 1)$, then the length of v is

$$\|v\| = \sqrt{2^2 + 1^2 + 4^2 + 1^2} = \sqrt{22}$$

Definition 6.3. Let $u = (a_1; a_2; \dots; a_n)$ and $v = (b_1; b_2; \dots; b_n)$ are vectors in a vector space V . The dot product of u and v is defined by

$$u \cdot v = a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2 + \dots + a_n b_n$$

Definition 6.4. The angle θ between two vectors u and v is determined by the formula

$$u \cdot v = \|u\| \|v\| \cos \theta$$

Example 6.5. Let $u = (1; 3; 0)$ and $v = (-2; 1; 5)$. The dot product of u and v is

$$u \cdot v = 1(-2) + 3(1) + 0(5) = 1;$$

and the angle between them is

$$\cos \theta = \frac{u \cdot v}{\|u\| \|v\|} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{10} \sqrt{30}}$$

So,

$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{10} \sqrt{30}} \right)$$

Some properties of the dot product : Let u, v and w are vectors in a vector space V over K . The dot product has the following properties:

- (1) $v \cdot v = \|v\|^2$
- (2) $u \cdot v = v \cdot u$
- (3) $u \cdot (v + w) = u \cdot v + u \cdot w$
- (4) $(\alpha u) \cdot v = \alpha (u \cdot v) = u \cdot (\alpha v)$, where $\alpha \in K$.
- (5) If $u \cdot v > 0$ then the angle formed by the vectors $(0 < \theta < 90)$.
- (6) If $u \cdot v < 0$ then the angle formed by the vectors, $(90 < \theta < 180)$.
- (7) If $u \cdot v = 0$ then the angle formed by the vectors is 90 degrees.

Definition 6.6. Let u and v are vectors in a vector space V . If

$$u \cdot v = 0$$

then we say that u and v are orthogonal.

Definition 6.7. A subset $S = \{v_1; v_2; \dots; v_n\}$ of a vector space V form an orthogonal set if all vectors in S are orthogonal to each other, $v_i \cdot v_j = 0$ for $i \neq j$. In addition, if all vectors in an orthogonal set S has length one, $\|v_i\| = 1$, then S is called an orthonormal set.

Theorem 6.8. Any orthogonal set is linearly independent.

Gram-Schmidt process : If $B = \{v_1; v_2; \dots; v_n\}$ is a basis for a vector space V . Then we can define an orthogonal basis $W = \{w_1; w_2; \dots; w_n\}$ for V by using the following steps:

$$\begin{aligned} w_1 &= v_1 \\ w_2 &= v_2 - \frac{w_1 \cdot v_2}{w_1 \cdot w_1} w_1 \\ w_3 &= v_3 - \frac{w_1 \cdot v_3}{w_1 \cdot w_1} w_1 - \frac{w_2 \cdot v_3}{w_2 \cdot w_2} w_2 \\ &\vdots \\ w_n &= v_n - \frac{w_1 \cdot v_n}{w_1 \cdot w_1} w_1 - \frac{w_2 \cdot v_n}{w_2 \cdot w_2} w_2 - \dots - \frac{w_{n-1} \cdot v_n}{w_{n-1} \cdot w_{n-1}} w_{n-1} \end{aligned}$$

In addition, the set

$$\left\{ \frac{w_1}{\|w_1\|}; \frac{w_2}{\|w_2\|}; \dots; \frac{w_n}{\|w_n\|} \right\}$$

is an orthonormal basis for V .

Example 6.9. Let $S = \{v_1 = (1; 1; 0); v_2 = (1; 1; 1); v_3 = (3; 1; 1)\}$ be a basis for \mathbb{R}^3 . We will use Gram-Schmidt process to find orthogonal and orthonormal bases for \mathbb{R}^3 .

$$w_1 = v_1 = (1; 1; 0)$$

$$\begin{aligned} w_2 &= v_2 - \frac{w_1 \cdot v_2}{w_1 \cdot w_1} w_1 \\ &= (1; 1; 1) - \frac{(1; 1; 0) \cdot (1; 1; 1)}{(1; 1; 0) \cdot (1; 1; 0)} (1; 1; 0) \\ &= (1; 1; 1) - \frac{1+1+0}{1+1+0} (1; 1; 0) \\ &= (0; 0; 1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} w_3 &= v_3 - \frac{w_1 \cdot v_3}{w_1 \cdot w_1} w_1 - \frac{w_2 \cdot v_3}{w_2 \cdot w_2} w_2 \\ &= (3; 1; 1) - \frac{(1; 1; 0) \cdot (3; 1; 1)}{(1; 1; 0) \cdot (1; 1; 0)} (1; 1; 0) - \frac{(0; 0; 1) \cdot (3; 1; 1)}{(0; 0; 1) \cdot (0; 0; 1)} (0; 0; 1) \\ &= (3; 1; 1) - \frac{4}{2}(1; 1; 0) - \frac{1}{1}(0; 0; 1) \\ &= (3; 1; 1) - (2; 2; 0) - (0; 0; 1) \\ &= (1; 1; 0) \end{aligned}$$

Then $W = \{w_1; w_2; w_3\} = \{(1; 1; 0); (0; 0; 1); (1; 1; 0)\}$ is an orthogonal basis for \mathbb{R}^3 .

Since $\|w_1\| = \sqrt{2}$; $\|w_2\| = 1$; $\|w_3\| = \sqrt{2}$ then the set

$$U = \left\{ \frac{w_1}{\|w_1\|}; \frac{w_2}{\|w_2\|}; \frac{w_3}{\|w_3\|} \right\} = \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(1; 1; 0); (0; 0; 1); \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(1; 1; 0) \right\}$$

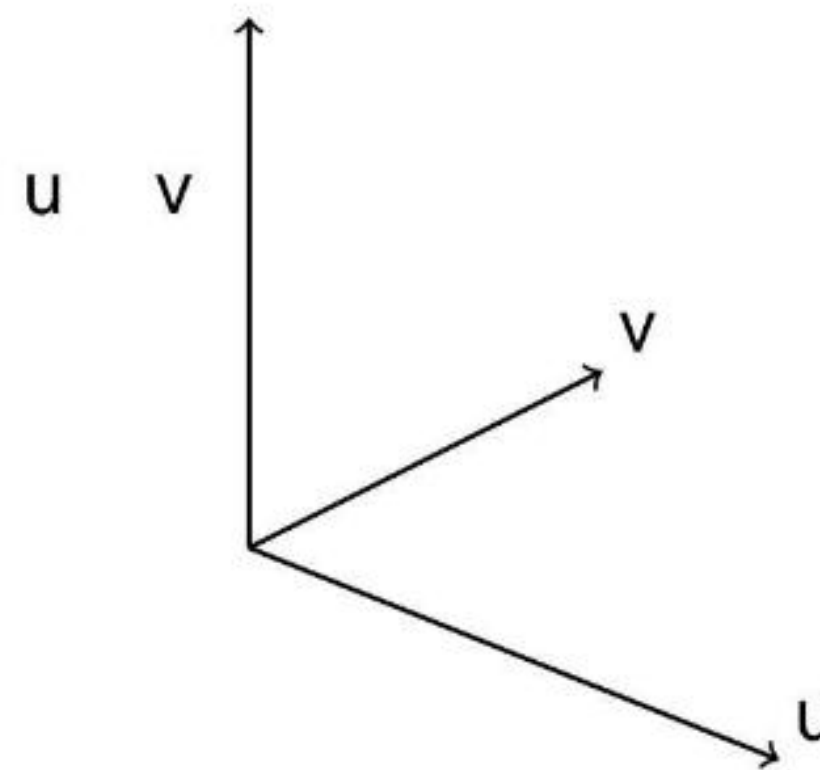
is an orthonormal basis for \mathbb{R}^3 .

Definition 6.10. Let $u = (a_1; a_2; a_3); v = (b_1; b_2; b_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3$ then we define the cross product of u and v as following

$$u \times v = \begin{vmatrix} i & j & k \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \end{vmatrix} = i(a_2b_3 - b_2a_3) - j(a_1b_3 - b_1a_3) + k(a_1b_2 - b_1a_2):$$

That is, $u \times v = (a_2b_3 - b_2a_3; a_3b_1 - a_1b_3; a_1b_2 - b_1a_2)$.

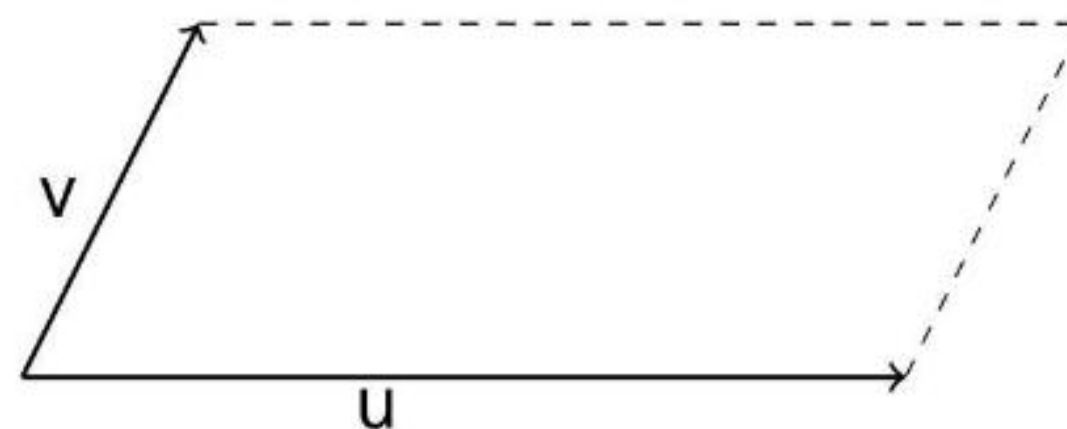
Geometrically, the cross product of vectors u and v represents a vector that is orthogonal to both of u and v .



Definition 6.11. The angle θ between two vectors u and v is determined by the formula

$$\|u \times v\| = \|u\| \|v\| \sin \theta :$$

Note that, the length of $u \times v$ represents the area of the parallelogram that spanned by u and v .



Example 6.12. Find the area of the parallelogram that spanned by the vectors $u = (1; 3; 2)$ and $v = (-2; 1; 0)$.

Solution :

$$u \times v = (-2; 4; 7)$$

$$|u \times v| = \sqrt{4 + 16 + 49} = \sqrt{69}$$

7 Eigenvalues and eigenvectors

Definition 7.1. Let A be an $n \times n$ matrix. If there is a number $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ and a vector $x \neq 0$ such that $Ax = \lambda x$, then we say that λ is an eigenvalue for A , and x is called an eigenvector for A with eigenvalue λ .

Example 7.2. If

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 6 & 2 \end{pmatrix}; \text{ and } x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix};$$

then

$$Ax = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 6 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = 4 \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 4x;$$

So, $\lambda = 4$ is an eigenvalue of A , and x is an eigenvector for A with this eigenvalue.

We can write the equation $Ax = \lambda x$ as a linear system. Since $x = Ix$, (where $I = I_n$ is the identity matrix), we have that

$$Ax = \lambda x \iff Ax - \lambda x = 0 \iff (A - \lambda I)x = 0$$

This linear system has a non-trivial solution $x \neq 0$ if and only if

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = 0; \text{ (why?):}$$

Definition 7.3. The characteristic equation of a square matrix A is the equation

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = 0;$$

Theorem 7.4. The eigenvalues of a square matrix A are the solutions of the characteristic equation

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = 0:$$

How to find the eigenvalues and the eigenvectors:

To find the eigenvalues of a matrix A , we have to find the solution of the characteristic equation $\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$, then to find the eigenvectors for A with eigen value λ we have to solve the linear system $(A - \lambda I)x = 0$, as explained in this example.

Example 7.5. Find the eigenvalues and the eigenvectors of the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 6 \end{pmatrix} A :$$

Solution: We have to find $A - \lambda I$.

$$\begin{aligned} A - \lambda I &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 6 \end{pmatrix} - \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} -\lambda & 1 \\ 2 & 3-\lambda \\ 3 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Now, we have to find the solution to the characteristic equation $\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$.

$$\begin{vmatrix} 2 - \lambda & 3 \\ 3 & 6 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = (2 - \lambda)(6 - \lambda) - 3 \cdot 3 = \lambda^2 + 4\lambda - 21 = 0$$

Then

$$\lambda^2 + 4\lambda - 21 = (\lambda + 7)(\lambda - 3) = 0$$

So, the eigenvalues of A are

$$\lambda_1 = -7 \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda_2 = 3$$

$$0 \quad 1$$

To find the eigenvector $x = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}$ for $\lambda_1 = -7$, we have to solve the following system

$$\begin{array}{l} (A - \lambda_1 I)x = 0 \\ \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 0 & & & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ \textcircled{2} & (-7) & & 3 & & & & \\ & & & 3 & & & & \\ & & & 6 & (-7) & & & \\ & & & & & & 0 & 1 \\ & & & & & & & \\ \textcircled{9} & 3 & & 3 & & & & \\ & & & 3 & 1 & & & 0 \end{array} \\ A \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{array}$$

Using Gauss elimination, ($R_1 \leftrightarrow \frac{1}{9}R_1$; $R_2 \leftrightarrow 3R_1 + R_2$), we get

$$\begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ \textcircled{1} & \frac{1}{3} & & & & & & \\ 0 & 0 & & x_2 & & & & 0 \end{array}$$

We have only one equation with two variables $x_1 + \frac{1}{3}x_2 = 0$, then $x_1 = -\frac{1}{3}x_2$.

Assume $x_2 = c_1$, gives us $x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ c_1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} A = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} A$, where $c_1 \in \mathbb{R}$.

Similarly, we can show that the eigenvector for $\lambda = 3$ is $x = c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} A$, where $c_2 \in \mathbb{R}$.

8 Linear transformation on vector spaces

Definition 8.1. Let V and W are vector spaces over a field K . A linear transformation T from V into W is a mapping $T : V \rightarrow W$ such that

$$(i) T(u + v) = T(u) + T(v)$$

$$(ii) T(\alpha u) = \alpha T(u)$$

for all $u, v \in V$ and $\alpha \in K$. If $T : V \rightarrow V$ then we say that T is a linear transformation on V .

Example 8.2. Show that $T : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ defined by $T(a_1; a_2; a_3) = (a_1 + a_2; a_2 - a_3)$ is a linear transformation.

Solution:

(i) Let $u = (a_1; a_2; a_3); v = (b_1; b_2; b_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3$. Then

$$u + v = (a_1 + b_1; a_2 + b_2; a_3 + b_3), \text{ and}$$

$$\begin{aligned} T(u + v) &= T(a_1 + b_1; a_2 + b_2; a_3 + b_3) \\ &= (a_1 + b_1 + a_2 + b_2; a_2 + b_2 - a_3 - b_3) \\ &= (a_1 + a_2 + b_1 + b_2; a_2 - a_3 + b_2 - b_3) \\ &= (a_1 + a_2; a_2 - a_3) + (b_1 + b_2; b_2 - b_3) \\ &= T(u) + T(v) \end{aligned}$$

(ii) Let $\alpha \in K$, then $\alpha u = (\alpha a_1; \alpha a_2; \alpha a_3)$.

$$\begin{aligned} T(\alpha u) &= T(\alpha a_1; \alpha a_2; \alpha a_3) \\ &= (\alpha a_1 + \alpha a_2; \alpha a_2 - \alpha a_3) \\ &= \alpha (a_1 + a_2; a_2 - a_3) \\ &= \alpha T(u) \end{aligned}$$

Then T is a linear transformation.

Example 8.3. Let $T : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ is defined by $T(a_1; a_2; a_3) = (a_1 - 1; a_2)$. Is T a linear transformation?

Solution: Let $u = (a_1; a_2; a_3)$ and $v = (b_1; b_2; b_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3$. Then

$$u + v = (a_1 + b_1; a_2 + b_2; a_3 + b_3):$$

$$\begin{aligned} T(u + v) &= T(a_1 + b_1; a_2 + b_2; a_3 + b_3) \\ &= (a_1 + b_1 - 1; a_2 + b_2) \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} T(u) + T(v) &= T(a_1; a_2; a_3) + T(b_1; b_2; b_3) \\ &= (a_1 - 1; a_2) + (b_1 - 1; b_2) \\ &= (a_1 + b_1 - 2; a_2 + b_2) \end{aligned}$$

So, $T(u + v) \neq T(u) + T(v)$, and hence, T is NOT a linear transformation.

Example 8.4. Let $M \in M_{m,m}(K)$ and $N \in M_{n,n}(K)$. Define $T : M_{m,n}(K) \rightarrow M_{m,n}(K)$ by $T(A) = MAN$ for all $A \in M_{m,n}(K)$. Show that T is a linear transformation.

Solution: Let $A; B \in M_{m,n}(K)$ and $\lambda \in K$.

(i)

$$\begin{aligned}T(A + B) &= M(A + B)N \\ &= MAN + MBN \\ &= T(A) + T(B)\end{aligned}$$

(ii) $T(A) = M(A)N = (MAN) = T(A)$

Then T is a linear transformation.

9 Examples

Example 9.1. Find the eigenvalues and the eigenvectors for the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Solution: To find the eigenvalues of A we have to solve $\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$.

$$A - \lambda I = \begin{pmatrix} 2-\lambda & 3 & 0 \\ 1 & 3-\lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1-\lambda \\ 0 & 0 & 1-\lambda \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2-\lambda & 3 & 0 \\ 1 & 3-\lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1-\lambda \\ 0 & 0 & 1-\lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} 2-\lambda & 3 & 0 \\ 1 & 3-\lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1-\lambda \\ 0 & 0 & 1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = (2-\lambda)(3-\lambda)(1-\lambda) = 0$$

Then $\lambda_1 = 1$; $\lambda_2 = 2$ and $\lambda_3 = 3$ are the eigenvalues for A .

Now, to find the eigenvectors for A , we have to solve the system $(A - \lambda I)x = 0$.

When $\lambda_1 = 1$ then

$$(A - \lambda_1 I)x = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

So, we have

$$3x_2 = 0$$

$$x_2 + x_3 = 0$$

$$2x_3 = 0$$

Then $x_2 = 0$ and $x_3 = 0$, since x_2 is not exists in the above equations so we can

assume that $x_1 = 1$. Hence, $x = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

When $x_2 = 2$ then

$$(A - 2I)x = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 7 & 6 & 7 & 6 \\ 4 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

So, we have

$$3x_3 = 0$$

$$x_1 + 3x_2 = 0$$

Then $x_3 = 0$ and $x_1 + 3x_2 = 0$. Let $x_1 = 1$ then $x_2 = -\frac{1}{3}$, and hence, $x = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -\frac{1}{3} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

When $x_3 = 1$ then

$$(A - 3I)x = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 & 3 & 0 \\ 7 & 6 & 7 & 6 \\ 4 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

So, we have

$$2x_1 - 3x_2 = 0$$

$$3x_2 + x_3 = 0$$

Let $x_1 = 1$ then $x_2 = \frac{2}{3}$, and $x_3 = -2$. Hence, $x = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \frac{2}{3} \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$.

Example 9.2. Find the eigenvalues and the eigenvectors for the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Solution: $A - \lambda I = \begin{pmatrix} 2-\lambda & 3 \\ 4 & 5-\lambda \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2-\lambda & 3 & 0 \\ 4 & 5-\lambda & 0 \\ 2 & 3 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} 2-\lambda & 3 \\ 4 & 5-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = (2-\lambda)(5-\lambda) - 12 = 0$$

Then either $2-\lambda = 0$ or $5-\lambda = 0$. So, the eigenvalues of A are

$$\lambda_1 = 2 \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda_2 = 5$$

To find the eigenvectors of A , we have to solve the system $(A - \lambda I)x = 0$.

When $\lambda_1 = 2$ then we have to solve the system $(A - 2I)x = 0$.

$$(A - 2I)x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 3 \\ 4 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

Then $2x_1 - 2x_2 = 0$. Let $x_1 = 1$ then $x_2 = 1$. Hence, $x = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$.

When $x_2 = 3$ then we have to solve the system $(A - 3I)x = 0$.

$$(A - 3I)x = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 2 & 0 & 5 \\ 2 & 0 & 4 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{pmatrix} = 0.$$

Then $x_1 = 0$. Let $x_2 = 1$. Hence, $x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$.

Example 9.3. Let $B = \{(1; 2; 1); (4; 1; 0); (3; 5; 7)\}$ be a basis for \mathbb{R}^3 . Find an orthonormal basis for \mathbb{R}^3 by using Gram-Schmidt method.

Solution: $v_1 = (1; 2; 1); v_2 = (4; 1; 0); v_3 = (3; 5; 7)$.

$$w_1 = v_1 = (1; 2; 1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} w_2 &= v_2 - \frac{w_1 \cdot v_2}{w_1 \cdot w_1} w_1 \\ &= (4; 1; 0) - \frac{(1; 2; 1) \cdot (4; 1; 0)}{(1; 2; 1) \cdot (1; 2; 1)} (1; 2; 1) \\ &= (4; 1; 0) - \frac{4 + 2 + 0}{1 + 4 + 1} (1; 2; 1) \\ &= (4; 1; 0) - (1; 2; 1) \\ &= (3; 1; 1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} w_3 &= v_3 - \frac{w_1 \cdot v_3}{w_1 \cdot w_1} w_1 - \frac{w_2 \cdot v_3}{w_2 \cdot w_2} w_2 \\ &= (3; 5; 7) - \frac{(1; 2; 1) \cdot (3; 5; 7)}{(1; 2; 1) \cdot (1; 2; 1)} (1; 2; 1) - \frac{(3; 1; 1) \cdot (3; 5; 7)}{(3; 1; 1) \cdot (3; 1; 1)} (3; 1; 1) \\ &= (3; 5; 7) - \frac{6}{6} (1; 2; 1) - \frac{11}{11} (3; 1; 1) \\ &= (3; 5; 7) - (1; 2; 1) - (3; 1; 1) \\ &= (-1; 4; 7) \end{aligned}$$

Then $W = \{w_1; w_2; w_3\} = \{(1; 2; 1); (3; 1; 1); (-1; 4; 7)\}$ is an orthogonal basis for \mathbb{R}^3 .

$$\begin{aligned} \|w_1\| &= \sqrt{1^2 + 2^2 + 1^2} = \sqrt{6}, & \|w_2\| &= \sqrt{3^2 + 1^2 + 1^2} = \sqrt{11} \\ \|w_3\| &= \sqrt{(-1)^2 + 4^2 + 7^2} = \sqrt{66} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Then } U = \left\{ \frac{w_1}{\|w_1\|}; \frac{w_2}{\|w_2\|}; \frac{w_3}{\|w_3\|} \right\} = \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} (1; 2; 1); \frac{1}{\sqrt{11}} (3; 1; 1); \frac{1}{\sqrt{66}} (-1; 4; 7) \right\}$$

is an orthonormal basis for \mathbb{R}^3 .