

Suppose some $v \in V$ can be written as a l.c. in two ways.

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha'_i u_i = v = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i u_i \quad u_i \in \beta.$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= v - v = \sum \alpha_i u_i - \sum \alpha'_i u_i \\ &= \sum (\alpha_i - \alpha'_i) u_i \end{aligned}$$

is a l.c. of elements of β equal to 0

but β is lin. indep $\Rightarrow \forall i, \alpha_i - \alpha'_i = 0$

So $\forall i, \alpha_i = \alpha'_i$. So the two l.c. expressing

v are in fact the same. Suppose every v

can be written in a unique way as $v = \sum \alpha_i u_i$

then β is a basis indeed.

1. Since v is a l.c. of elements of β

$$\text{span}(\beta) = V$$

Date. Page.

2. β is lin indep. Indeed, suppose

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i u_i = 0 \Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^n 0 \cdot u_i = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \forall i \alpha_i = 0$$

□

Thm If a finite set S generates a V.S.

V , then there is some subset $\beta \subset S$ which

is a basis (β could be $\beta = S$)

Comment: The same is true for infinite S , but much harder.

PF Let m be the maximal size of a subset of S which is lin. indep.

(since S is finite every u_i)
subset of S is size $\leq |S|$)

so $m \leq |S|$

(\emptyset is a subset of S which is lin. indep., so $m \geq 0$)

Date: _____ Page: _____
Let β be some lin. indep subset of S s.t.
 $|\beta| = m$. I claim that β is a basis

1. β is lin. indep by choice

2. Let $v \in S$. If $v \in \beta$ then $v \in \text{span}(\beta)$
Otherwise $v \notin \beta$

Thm If a v.s. V has a finite basis, then every other basis of V is also finite and has the same number of elements.

Def If V has a finite basis, we say that V is finite-dimensional and set $\dim V :=$ (The number of elements in any basis of V)

Example 1. $\dim \mathbb{F}^n = n$

take $\beta = \left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \dots \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right)$
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