

1. Lemma 7. Let V be a vector space over F . Let $U \subseteq V$. Then U is a subspace iff

(1) $U \neq \emptyset$; (2) $u + v \in U \forall u, v \in U$; (3) $au \in U \forall a \in F, u \in U$.

Proof:

To prove the forward implication assume U is a subspace.

Then we have that U is an Abelian group, hence $0 \in U$, and so $U \neq \emptyset$.

If $u, v \in U$, then by additive closure of the Abelian group U , $u + v \in U$.

If $a \in F$ and $u \in U$, then as U is a vector space over F , we have $au \in U$.

To prove the converse, assume $U \subseteq V$ and the three properties hold.

Let $u \in U$. We know u exists by (1) $U \neq \emptyset$.

Since $0_F \in F$, then $0_F \cdot u \in U$ by (3).

And since $u \in V$ and V is a vector space over F , then $0_F \cdot u = 0_V$. Thus $0_V \in U$.

Similarly $-1_F \cdot u \in -u \in U$.

So then if $u, v \in U$, we have $-v \in U$ and (2) gives us that $u - v \in U$.

Thus $U \leq V$. Since $U \subseteq V$, then U inherits its operations from V .

$\therefore U$ is a subspace of V .

2. In $\mathbb{R}[x]$ consider the set $V = \{a_2x^2 + a_1x + a_0 : a_0, a_1, a_2 \in \mathbb{R}\}$.

(a) Prove that V is a subspace of $\mathbb{R}[x]$.

Proof:

We have $0 = 0x^2 + 0x + 0 \in V$, thus $V \neq \emptyset$.

If $u, v \in V$, then for some $a_0, a_1, a_2, b_0, b_1, b_2 \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$u + v = a_2x^2 + a_1x + a_0 + b_2x^2 + b_1x + b_0 = (a_2 + b_2)x^2 + (a_1 + b_1)x + a_0 + b_0 \in V$$

as $a_2 + b_2, a_1 + b_1, a_0 + b_0 \in \mathbb{R}$.

And if $r \in \mathbb{R}$ and $u = a_2x^2 + a_1x + a_0 \in V$, then $ru = ra_2x^2 + ra_1x + ra_0 \in V$

as $ra_2, ra_1, ra_0 \in \mathbb{R}$. $\therefore V$ is a subspace of $\mathbb{R}[x]$.

(b) Find a basis for V .

A basis for V is $\{1, x, x^2\}$.

Proof:

Let $u \in V$, then $u = a_2 \cdot x^2 + a_1 \cdot x + a_0 \cdot 1$ for some $a_0, a_1, a_2 \in \mathbb{R}$.

$\therefore u$ is a linear combination of $1, x, x^2$.

If $0 = a_2 \cdot x^2 + a_1 \cdot x + a_0 \cdot 1$, then $a_2 = a_1 = a_0$ by definition of polynomial,

hence $\{1, x, x^2\}$ is linearly independent.

$\therefore \{1, x, x^2\}$ is a basis for V .

2. (c) Is $\{x^2 + x + 1, x + 5, 3\}$ a basis?

Yes.

Proof:

Let $u = ax^2 + bx + c \in \text{span } V$.

Then $u = a(x^2 + x + 1) + (b - a)(x + 5) + \frac{1}{3}(c - 5b + 5a) \cdot 3$.

$\therefore \{x^2 + x + 1, x + 5, 3\}$ spans V .

And if $0 = a(x^2 + x + 1) + (b - a)(x + 5) + \frac{1}{3}(c - 5b + 5a) \cdot 3$, then $a = 0$, hence $b = 0$, hence $c = 0$.

$\therefore \{x^2 + x + 1, x + 5, 3\}$ is linearly independent over V .

Thus $\{x^2 + x + 1, x + 5, 3\}$ is a basis for V .

3. Let $V = \mathbb{R}^3$ and let $W = \{(a, b, c) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : a^2 + b^2 = c^2\}$. Is W a subspace of V ? If so, what is its dimension?

No, W is not a subspace of V .

Proof:

If (a, b, c) and $(a', b', c') \in W$, then $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$ and $a'^2 + b'^2 = c'^2$.

However, $(a, b, c) + (a', b', c') = (a + a', b + b', c + c')$ but

$(a + a')^2 + (b + b')^2 = a^2 + 2aa' + a'^2 + b^2 + 2bb' + b'^2 = c^2 + c'^2 + 2aa' + 2bb' \neq c^2 + 2cc' + c'^2 = (c + c')^2$. Thus W lacks closure under addition.

4. Let $V = \mathbb{R}^3$ and let $W = \{(a, b, c) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : a + b = c\}$. Is W a subspace of V ? If so, what is its dimension?

Yes, W is a subspace of V and $\dim W = 2$.

Proof:

$0 + 0 = 0$, so $(0, 0, 0) \in W$, hence $W \neq \emptyset$.

If (a, b, c) and $(a', b', c') \in W$, then $a + b = c$ and $a' + b' = c'$. So $a + a' + b + b' = c + c'$. Thus $(a, b, c) + (a', b', c') = (a + a', b + b', c + c') \in W$.

If $r \in \mathbb{R}$, and $(a, b, c) \in W$, then $r(a, b, c) = (ra, rb, rc) \in W$ as $ra + rb = r(a + b) = rc$.

Thus, W is a subspace of V .

Claim: $\{(1, 0, 1), (0, 1, 1)\}$ is a basis for W .

Let $w \in W$, then $w = (a, b, c)$ for some $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $a + b = c$.

Since $(a, b, c) = (a, b, a + b) = (a, 0, a) + (0, b, b) = a(1, 0, 1) + b(0, 1, 1)$, then

$w \in \text{span}\{(1, 0, 1), (0, 1, 1)\}$. Thus, $\{(1, 0, 1), (0, 1, 1)\}$ is a basis for W .

$\therefore \dim W = 2$.

5. Prove that every spanning set contains a basis: If $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ is a spanning set for a vector space V , then some subset of V is a basis for V .

Proof:

If v_1, \dots, v_n are linearly independent, then $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ is a basis for V , and we're done.

If not, then there are $a_i \in F$, not all 0, such that $a_1v_1 + a_2v_2 + \dots + a_nv_n = 0$.

Without loss of generality assume $a_1 \neq 0$. Then $v_1 = a_1^{-1}(-a_2v_2 - \dots - a_nv_n)$.

Thus, $\text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_n\} = \text{span}\{v_2, \dots, v_n\}$.

Since a single nonzero vector is linearly independent, then we can continue in this manner deleting v_i 's until the remaining elements are linearly independent.

6. Prove that every linearly independent set can be extended to a basis:

If $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ is a linearly independent set in a vector space V , then there exist vectors, w_1, w_2, \dots, w_m in V such that $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n, w_1, w_2, \dots, w_m\}$ is a basis for V .

Proof:

If $\text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_n\} = V$, then $B = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ and we're done.

If not, $\exists w_1 \in V$ such that $w_1 \notin \text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$.

Claim: $\{v_1, \dots, v_n, w_1\}$ is a linearly independent set.

Suppose $a_1v_1 + a_2v_2 + \dots + a_nv_n + b_1w_1 = 0$.

If $b_1 \neq 0$, then $w_1 = b_1^{-1}(-a_1v_1 - a_2v_2 - \dots - a_nv_n)$.

But this contradicts that $w_1 \notin \text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ by assumption.

So $b_1 = 0$. And by linear independence of v_1, \dots, v_n , all $a_i = 0$, hence

$\{v_1, \dots, v_n, w_1\}$ is a linearly independent set.

If $\text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_n, w_1\} = V$, then $B = \{v_1, \dots, v_n, w_1\}$ are we're done.

Since V spans V , then we can repeat the procedure until $\text{span}\{v_1, \dots, w_1, w_2, \dots\} = V$ or $B = V$.

7. If V is a vector space over F of dimension 5 and U and W are subspaces of V of dimension 3, prove that $U \cap W \neq \{0\}$.

Proof:

Let $\text{span}\{u_1, u_2, u_3\} = U$, and $\text{span}\{w_1, w_2, w_3\} = W$.

Then by exercise #6 above, $\dim V = 5$ implies $\{u_1, u_2, u_3, w_1, w_2, w_3\}$ is a linearly dependent (otherwise there is a basis B for V that contains $\{u_1, u_2, u_3, w_1, w_2, w_3\}$, which would force $\dim V \geq 6$).

So, one of the vectors of $\{u_1, u_2, u_3, w_1, w_2, w_3\}$ is a linear combination of the others.

Without loss of generality, assume it's u_1 .

Then $u_1 = a_2u_2 + a_3u_3 + b_1w_1 + b_2w_2 + b_3w_3$. So $u_1 - a_2u_2 - a_3u_3 = b_1w_1 + b_2w_2 + b_3w_3$.

We know $0 \neq u_1 - a_2u_2 - a_3u_3$ as then $u_1 = a_2u_2 + a_3u_3$, which contradicts linear independence of $\{u_1, u_2, u_3\}$.

And since $u_1 - a_2u_2 - a_3u_3 \in U$ and $b_1w_1 + b_2w_2 + b_3w_3 \in W$, then we have a nonzero element in the intersection of U and W .

$\therefore U \cap W \neq \{0\}$.

8. Let $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ be a finite set of vectors in a vector space V over F . Prove that $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ is a basis for V if and only if every member of V can be written uniquely as a linear combination of the vectors in $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$.

Proof:

Assume $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ is a basis for V , and suppose for some $u \in V$ that

$u = a_1v_1 + a_2v_2 + \dots + a_nv_n = b_1v_1 + b_2v_2 + \dots + b_nv_n$. Then

$0 = b_1v_1 + b_2v_2 + \dots + b_nv_n - (a_1v_1 + a_2v_2 + \dots + a_nv_n) = (b_1 - a_1)v_1 + (b_2 - a_2)v_2 + \dots + (b_n - a_n)v_n$. Since $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ is a basis, then each $b_i - a_i = 0$, hence $b_i = a_i$ for each i .

Consequently, u can be written uniquely as a linear combination of v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n .

Conversely, assume every member of V can be written uniquely as a linear combination of the vectors in $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$. Then $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ spans V and we only need to show $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ is linearly independent. Suppose it is not.

Then for some i , v_i is a linear combination of the other vectors in $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$.

Without loss of generality, assume it is v_1 . Then $v_1 = a_2v_2 + \dots + a_nv_n$ for some $a_i \in F$.

Note that $0 \notin \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ as $a \cdot 0 = b \cdot 0 \forall a, b \in F$ such that $a \neq b$, a contradiction to unique representation of elements of V , so $v_1 \neq 0$.

And so $0 \neq v_1 = v_1 + 0v_2 + 0v_3 + \dots + 0v_n = 0v_1 + a_2v_2 + \dots + a_nv_n$ are two distinct linear combinations of v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n , a contradiction to our assumption.

$\therefore \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ is linearly independent, hence $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ is a basis for V .

9. Let V be a vector space over \mathbb{Z}_p with $\dim V = n$. How many elements are in V ? (Hint: Use #8).

Proof:

Let p be a prime number and $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ be a basis for V over \mathbb{Z}_p . Then every element of V can be written as a linear combination of v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n .

Note that $[a]_p = [b]_p$ iff $a \equiv b \pmod{p}$. And so if b is an integer, there are exactly p distinct elements $[a]_p \in \mathbb{Z}_p$ such that $[a]_p \neq [b]_p$ since p is prime.

And since each element of V can be written uniquely as a linear combination of v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n , then we have exactly p possible coefficients for each vector, hence p^n possible linear combinations of v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n . Thus, there are p^n elements in V .

10. Let V be a finite dimensional vector space over F . Let U be a subspace of V .

(a) Prove $\dim U \leq \dim V$.

Proof:

Let $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ be a basis for V . Let $\{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_m\}$ be a basis for U .

Suppose $m > n$, then by exercise #6 above, linear independence of $\{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_m\}$ and $U \subseteq V$, give us that there is a basis B of V , such that $\{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_m\} \subseteq B$. So B has more than n vectors. But by Theorem 16 (If V is a vector space over F , and $X = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ is a basis for V , then every basis for V has n vectors.) we have that any basis of V has n vectors, a contradiction.

So $m \leq n$, hence $\dim U \leq \dim V$, as desired.

(b) Prove that $\dim U < \dim V$, if $U \neq V$.

Proof:

Assume $U \neq V$. If $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ is a basis for V and $\{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_m\}$ is a basis for U , then by part (a) we have that $m \leq n$.

Since $U \neq V$ and $U \subset V$, then $\exists v \in V$ such that $v \notin U$.

Thus $v \neq a_1 w_1 + a_2 w_2 + \dots + a_m w_m$ for any $a_i \in F$ (otherwise $v \in U$).

Consequently $\{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_m\}$ does not span V .

Then by exercise #6 above and linear independence of $\{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_m\}$, there is a basis for V that contains $\{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_m\}$ which would force $\dim V > m$, a contradiction to the result of part (a).

$\therefore m < n$, hence $\dim U < \dim V$.

11. Prove Theorem 15. Let $\{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots\}$ be an infinite basis for a vector space V . Then any basis for V will be infinite.

Proof:

Suppose $\{w_1, \dots, w_n\}$ is a basis for V .

Then $w_1 = a_{1_1} v_1 + a_{2_1} v_2 + \dots + a_{m_1} v_{m_1}$

where m_1 is the largest index of the a_{i_1} 's such that $a_{i_1} \neq 0$.

And $w_2 = a_{1_2} v_1 + a_{2_2} v_2 + \dots + a_{m_2} v_{m_2}$ where

where m_2 is the largest index of the a_{i_2} 's such that $a_{i_2} \neq 0$.

Let m_r be the largest index of the a_{i_r} 's such that $a_{i_r} \neq 0$ for at least one of the linear combinations for w_1, \dots, w_n .

Let $t > m_r$. Then since $\{w_1, \dots, w_n\}$ is a basis for V , v_t is a linear combination of w_1, \dots, w_n , hence is a linear combination of $v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_{m_r}$.

Thus $v_t = a_1 v_1 + \dots + a_{m_r} v_{m_r}$ for some $a_i \in F$.

But then $0 = -1_F v_t + a_1 v_1 + \dots + a_{m_r} v_{m_r}$ and not all a_i 's are 0, namely -1_F , a contradiction to linear independence of $\{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots\}$.

Thus any basis for V must be infinite.

12. Let T be a linear transformation of V onto W (where V and W are both vector spaces over a field F). If $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ spans V , show that $\{T(v_1), T(v_2), \dots, T(v_n)\}$ spans W .

Proof:

Let V and W be vector spaces over a field F .

Let $T: V \rightarrow W$ be a linear transformation of V onto W .

Let $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ span V .

Let $w \in W$. Since T is mapped onto W , then $\exists v \in V$ such that $T(v) = w$.

Then $v = a_1v_1 + a_2v_2 + \dots + a_nv_n$ for some $a_i \in F$.

Note that $a_1v_1, a_2v_2, \dots, a_nv_n \in V$ as each is the linear combination

$0v_1 + 0v_2 + \dots + 0v_{i-1} + a_iv_i + 0v_{i+1} + \dots + 0v_n$ for some i .

And so $w = T(v) = T(a_1v_1 + a_2v_2 + \dots + a_nv_n) = T(a_1v_1) + T(a_2v_2) + \dots + T(a_nv_n) = a_1T(v_1) + a_2T(v_2) + \dots + a_nT(v_n)$. Since W is a vector space over F and $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in F$, then w is a linear combination of $T(v_1), T(v_2), \dots, T(v_n)$.

Thus $\{T(v_1), T(v_2), \dots, T(v_n)\}$ spans W .

13. Let V be a vector space over a field F with $\dim V = n$.

Prove that V is isomorphic to F^n .

Proof:

Let $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ be a basis for V . Let $u \in V$, then $u = a_1v_1 + \dots + a_nv_n$ for some $a_i \in F$.

Define $T: V \rightarrow F^n$ by $T(u) = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$.

We will show T is a vector space isomorphism.

To show $T(u + v) = T(u) + T(v)$, let

$u = a_1v_1 + a_2v_2 + \dots + a_nv_n$ and $v = b_1v_1 + b_2v_2 + \dots + b_nv_n$ for some $a_i, b_i \in F$.

Then $T(u + v) = T((a_1 + b_1)v_1 + (a_2 + b_2)v_2 + \dots + (a_n + b_n)v_n)$
 $= ((a_1 + b_1), (a_2 + b_2), \dots, (a_n + b_n)) = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) + (b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n) = T(u) + T(v)$.

To show $T(au) = aT(u)$ for any $a \in F$ and for all $u \in V$, let $a \in F$, and define u as

above. Then $T(au) = T(aa_1v_1 + \dots + aa_nv_n) = (aa_1, aa_2, \dots, aa_n)$
 $= a(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) = aT(u)$.

To show T is well-defined, assume $T(u) \neq T(v)$ for some $u, v \in V$.

Then $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \neq (b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n)$. So $\exists i$ such that $a_i \neq b_i$.

And since each element of V is uniquely written as a linear combination of $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$, then $a_1v_1 + a_2v_2 + \dots + a_nv_n \neq b_1v_1 + b_2v_2 + \dots + b_nv_n$. $\therefore T$ is well-defined.

To show T is surjective, let $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \in F^n$, then since $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in F$, we have $T(a_1v_1 + \dots + a_nv_n) = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$ where $a_1v_1 + \dots + a_nv_n \in V$. $\therefore T$ is surjective.

And lastly, to show T is injective, assume $T(u) = T(v)$ for some $u, v \in V$.

Then $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) = (b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n)$. So for each i we have $a_i = b_i$.

Thus, $u = a_1v_1 + a_2v_2 + \dots + a_nv_n = b_1v_1 + b_2v_2 + \dots + b_nv_n = v$. $\therefore T$ is injective.

$\therefore T$ is a vector space isomorphism.