

# 4.5 Dimension of a Vector Space

recall thm 8 says if  $V$  has basis w/n vectors then  $V \cong \mathbb{R}^n$   
 this  $n$  is indep. of the basis chosen, and thus intrinsic to  $V$  itself  
 we call  $n$  the dimension of the vector space

Thm 9 for any vect-sp.  $V$  w/ basis  $B = \{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$

any set of more than  $n$  vectors in  $V$  is linearly dependent.

pf many ways to prove this. a nice way is w/ coordinate vectors, i.e. vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$   
 and apply to the thm. 8 from sec. 1.7. see text for formal version.

Thm 10 If  $V$ , a vect-sp. has a

corr any lin. indep. set of vectors in  $V$  can have no more than  $n$  elements.

basis w/n vectors, then every basis pf very straightforward, see text.  
 has  $n$  vectors.

Defn If  $V$  has a finite spanning set, we say  $V$  is finite dimensional

the dimension of  $V$ , written  $\dim V$ , is # of vectors in a basis for  $V$ .

The vect-sp.  $\{0\}$  is defined to have dimension 0 (since it really has no basis!).

If  $V$  is not spanned by a finite set, then  $V$  is called infinite dimensional.

EX1  $\dim \mathbb{R}^n = n$  has basis  $E = \{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$  standard basis

$\dim \mathbb{P}_n = n+1$  has basis  $B = \{1, t, t^2, \dots, t^n\}$  standard basis

Note that  
 $\mathbb{P}_n \cong \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$   
 $\mathbb{R}^n \cong \mathbb{P}_{n-1}$

Note that  $\mathbb{P}_n$  has 1 more basis element than  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

$\dim \mathbb{P} = \infty$  b/c  $\forall n$ , a pos. integer  $\mathbb{P}_n \subseteq \mathbb{P}$  subspace  
 so no matter what size finite set you choose, it cannot span  $\mathbb{P}$   
 b/c  $\exists$  a bigger  $N$  s.t.  $\mathbb{P}_N$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{P}$ , and  $\mathbb{P}_N$  has more vectors in its basis. see exercise 27?

EX2  
 $H = \text{Span}\{v_1, v_2\}$

$v_1 \neq kv_2 \Rightarrow$  lin. indep.

so  $\{v_1, v_2\}$  is a basis for  $H$

$\therefore \dim H = 2$ .

EX3 Find dimension of  
 $W = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a-b+2c \\ 2a+d \\ b-2c+2d \\ -d \end{bmatrix} : a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$

so  $W = \text{Span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$   
 $\therefore \dim W \leq 4$

Need to find a basis, put vectors into matrix + find p. not cols...

Thus  $W$  has basis  $\{v_1, v_2, v_4\} \Rightarrow \dim W = 3$

Note  $v_3 = -2v_2$  so spanning set thm. says discard  $v_3$   
 $v_1, v_2, v_4$  lin. indep. b/c of where nonzero entries are!

EX4 classify all subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  by dimension.

0-dim subspaces =  $\{0\}$  trivial subspace only!

1-dim subsp.

Span of single nonzero vector i.e. a line through the origin.

2-dim subsp.

Span of 2 vectors, not scalar mults. of each other i.e. a plane through the origin.

3-dim subsp.

all of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , only! any 3 lin. indep. vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  span  $\mathbb{R}^3$  by SMT.

# Subspaces of finite dimensional spaces

counterpart of the spanning set thm.

Thm 11 let  $H$  be a subspace of a <sup>finite-dim</sup> vect. sp.  $V$ .

Any lin. indep. set  $M \subset H$  can be expanded (if necessary) to a basis for  $H$ .  $\dim H \leq \dim V$  and thus  $H$  is also finite dim.

pf Since any set of lin. indep. vectors  $M \subset H$  could be expanded to a basis for  $V$  simply do this expansion by choosing vectors  $m \in H$  to add at each step, stop when the set spans  $H$  (and not  $V$ ).  
 Since  $V$  has a basis and  $H \subseteq V$  clearly  $H \subseteq \text{span}\{\text{basis } V\} \Rightarrow \dim H \leq \dim V$ .

## \* Thm 12 \* The Basis Thm.

for  $p \geq 1$ , let  $V$  be a  $p$ -dim vect. sp.  
 Any lin. indep. set of  $p$  elements in  $V$  is automatically a basis for  $V$ .  
 Any set of  $p$  elements which span  $V$  is also automatically a basis for  $V$ .

pf let  $S$  be a set of  $p$  lin. indep. elements. By thm 11 can extend  $S$  to a basis for  $V$ , but by thm 10 every basis must have  $p$  elems. So  $S$  is a basis for  $V$ . Suppose  $S$  has  $p$  elems. + spans  $V$ . By spanning set thm.  $\exists$  a subset which is a basis, but again by thm 10 the subset must have  $p$  elems., so  $S$  is a basis for  $V$ .

## Dimensions of $\text{Null } A$ and $\text{Col } A$

let  $A$  be an  $m \times n$  matrix, and  $Ax=0$  has  $k$  free variables (i.e.  $k$  lin. indep. solns.)  
~~let~~  $A$  have  $p$  many pivot columns (i.e.  $A$  has  $p$  basic variables in  $Ax=0$ , and  $p$  lin. indep. cols.)

$\therefore \dim \text{Null } A = k$  and  $\dim \text{Col } A = p$

but since  $A$  has  $n$  columns and  $Ax=0$  has  $n$  variables, each either basic or free,  
 $p+k=n$ , always!

While we typically cannot relate  $\text{Null } A$  and  $\text{Col } A$  (b/c when  $m \neq n$  these are subspaces of different real vect. sps.) we can relate their dimensions as follows:

Lemma for any  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$ ,  
 $\dim \text{Null } A + \dim \text{Col } A = n$ .

(See EX 5 m text for a  $3 \times 5$  matrix)

Look at practice problems!

1. False
2. True