

Section 4.4: Coordinate Systems

Definition: (Coordinate Vectors) Let $\mathcal{B} = \{\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_n\}$ be an **ordered** basis of the vector space V . For each \mathbf{x} in V we define the **coordinate vector of \mathbf{x} relative to the basis \mathcal{B}** to be the unique vector (c_1, \dots, c_n) in \mathbb{R}^n where these entries are the weights $\mathbf{x} = c_1 \mathbf{b}_1 + \dots + c_n \mathbf{b}_n$.

We'll use the notation

$$\begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{bmatrix} = [\mathbf{x}]_{\mathcal{B}}.$$

Coordinates in \mathbb{R}^n

Let $\mathcal{B} = \{\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_n\}$ be an ordered basis of \mathbb{R}^n . Then the change of coordinate mapping $\mathbf{x} \mapsto [\mathbf{x}]_{\mathcal{B}}$ is the linear transformation defined by

$$[\mathbf{x}]_{\mathcal{B}} = P_{\mathcal{B}}^{-1} \mathbf{x}$$

where the matrix

$$P_{\mathcal{B}} = [\mathbf{b}_1 \quad \mathbf{b}_2 \quad \cdots \quad \mathbf{b}_n].$$

Also, $\vec{x} = P_{\mathcal{B}} [\vec{x}]_{\mathcal{B}}$

Example

Let $B = \left\{ \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\vec{b}_1}, \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\vec{b}_2} \right\}$. Determine the matrix P_B and its inverse.

$$P_B = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P_B^{-1} = \frac{1}{3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Use this to find

(a) the coordinate vector of $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\left[\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right]_B = \frac{1}{3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{3} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

(b) the coordinate vector of $\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\left[\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right]_{\mathcal{B}} = \frac{1}{3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{3} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

(c) a vector \mathbf{x} whose coordinate vector is $[\mathbf{x}]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

$$\vec{x} = P_{\mathcal{B}} [\vec{x}]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

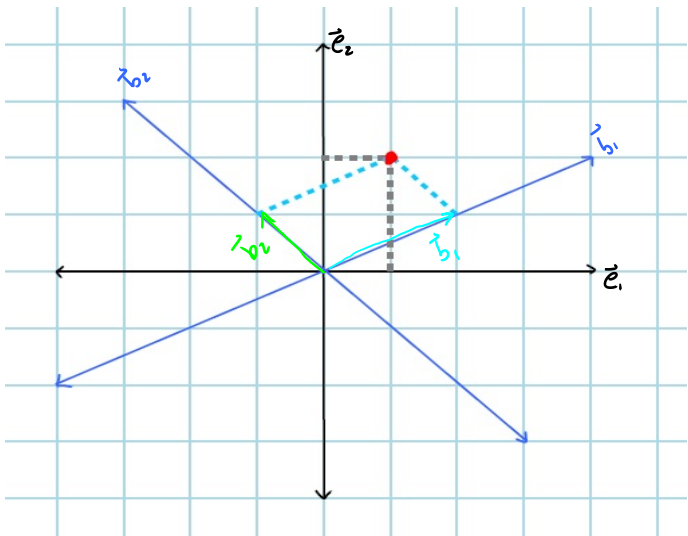


Figure: \mathbb{R}^2 shown using elementary basis $\{(1, 0), (0, 1)\}$ and with the alternative basis $\{(2, 1), (-1, 1)\}$.

Theorem: Coordinate Mapping

Let $\mathcal{B} = \{\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_n\}$ be an ordered basis for a vector space V . Then the coordinate mapping $\mathbf{x} \mapsto [\mathbf{x}]_{\mathcal{B}}$ is a **one to one** mapping of V **onto** \mathbb{R}^n .

Remark: When such a mapping exists, we say that V is **isomorphic** to \mathbb{R}^n . Properties of subsets of V , such as linear dependence, can be discerned from the coordinate vectors in \mathbb{R}^n .

Example

Use coordinate vectors to determine if the set $\{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}, \mathbf{r}\}$ is linearly dependent or independent in \mathbb{P}_2 .

$$\mathbf{p}(t) = 1 - 2t^2, \quad \mathbf{q}(t) = 3t + t^2, \quad \mathbf{r}(t) = 1 + t$$

We can use the standard basis $\mathcal{E} = \{1, t, t^2\}$ (in this order).

$$[\vec{p}]_{\mathcal{E}} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad [\vec{q}]_{\mathcal{E}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad [\vec{r}]_{\mathcal{E}} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The polynomials are linearly dependent (independent) if the coordinate vectors are.

We can use a matrix. Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} [\vec{p}]_{\mathcal{E}} & [\vec{q}]_{\mathcal{E}} & [\vec{r}]_{\mathcal{E}} \end{bmatrix}$

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

we can use the determinant.

$$\begin{aligned} \det(A) &= 1 \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{vmatrix} - 0 \begin{vmatrix} \dots & \dots \end{vmatrix} + 1 \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 3 \\ -2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \\ &= -1 + 6 = 5 \neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

The columns of A are lin. independent.

Hence $\{\vec{p}, \vec{q}, \vec{r}\}$ is lin. independent in \mathbb{P}_2 .

Section 4.5: Dimension of a Vector Space

Theorem: If a vector space V has a basis $\mathcal{B} = \{\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_n\}$, then any set of vectors in V containing *more than n vectors* is linearly dependent.

This extends our previous result that any set of vectors (in \mathbb{R}^n) with more vectors than entries in each vector is automatically linearly dependent.

Dimension

Corollary: If vector space V has a basis $\mathcal{B} = \{\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_n\}$, then every basis of V consist of exactly n vectors.

Definition: If V is spanned by a finite set, then V is called **finite dimensional**. In this case, the dimension of V

$\dim V =$ the number of vectors in any basis of V .

The dimension of the vector space $\{\mathbf{0}\}$ containing only the zero vector is defined to be zero—i.e.

$$\dim\{\mathbf{0}\} = 0.$$

If V is not spanned by a finite set¹, then V is said to be **infinite dimensional**.

¹ $C^0(\mathbb{R})$ is an example of an infinite dimensional vector space.

Examples

(a) Find $\dim(\mathbb{R}^n)$.

The standard basis has n vectors
 $\vec{e}_1, \dots, \vec{e}_n$

$$\text{so } \dim(\mathbb{R}^n) = n$$

(b) Determine $\dim \text{Col } A$ where $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$.

From A , a basis for $\text{Col } A$ is $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ (the pivot columns)
2 vectors

$$\dim \text{Col } A = 2$$

Some Geometry in \mathbb{R}^3

Give a geometric description of subspaces of \mathbb{R}^3 of dimension

(a) zero

$\{\vec{0}\}$ The origin in \mathbb{R}^3 .

(b) one

A basis would look like $\{\vec{u}\}$ for $u \neq \vec{0}$.

A line through the origin.

(c) two

A basis is $\{\vec{u}, \vec{v}\}$ with \vec{u}, \vec{v} lin. independent

A plane that contains the origin.

(d) three

Only \mathbb{R}^3 itself.

Subspaces and Dimension

Theorem: Let H be a subspace of a finite dimensional vector space V . Then H is finite dimensional and

$$\dim H \leq \dim V.$$

Moreover, any linearly independent subset of H can be expanded if needed to form a basis for H .

Theorem: Let V be a vector space with $\dim V = p$ where $p \geq 1$. Any linearly independent set in V containing exactly p vectors is a basis for V . Similarly, any spanning set consisting of exactly p vectors in V is necessarily a basis for V .

Column and Null Spaces

Theorem: Let A be an $m \times n$ matrix. Then

$\dim \text{Nul}A =$ the number of free variables in the equation $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$,

and

$\dim \text{Col}A =$ the number of pivot positions in A .

Example

Find the dimensions of the null and column spaces of the matrix A .

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ -3 & 1 & -7 & -1 \\ 3 & 0 & 6 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{rref}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

↑ ↑ ↑ ↑
Pivot | Columns

one free variable in $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$

$$\Rightarrow \dim \text{Nul } A = 1$$

3 pivot columns

$$\Rightarrow \dim \text{Col } A = 3$$

non pivot column
so x_3 would be
free in $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$

Section 4.6: Rank

Definition: The **row space**, denoted $\text{Row } A$, of an $m \times n$ matrix A is the subspace of \mathbb{R}^n spanned by the rows of A .

Example: Express the row space of A in term of a span

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & -5 & 8 & 0 & -17 \\ 1 & 3 & -5 & 1 & 5 \\ 3 & 11 & -19 & 7 & 1 \\ 1 & 7 & -13 & 5 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

We can use the rows themselves

$$\text{Row } A = \text{Span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -5 \\ 8 \\ 0 \\ -17 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ -5 \\ 1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 11 \\ -19 \\ 7 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 7 \\ -13 \\ 5 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

* The set may or may not be a basis.

Theorem

If two matrices A and B are row equivalent, then their row spaces are the same.

In particular, if B is an echelon form of the matrix A , then the nonzero rows of B form a basis for Row B —and also for Row A since these are the same space.

Example

A matrix A along with its rref is shown.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & -5 & 8 & 0 & -17 \\ 1 & 3 & -5 & 1 & 5 \\ 3 & 11 & -19 & 7 & 1 \\ 1 & 7 & -13 & 5 & -3 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

← Call this B

(a) Find a basis for Row A and state the dimension \dim Row A .

A basis for Row A consists of the nonzero rows of B .

A basis is $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -2 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

$$\dim \text{Row } A = 3$$

Example continued ...

(b) Find a basis for Col A and state its dimension.

From the rref, the pivot columns of A are the 1st, 2nd and 4th. A basis for col A is obtained from columns 1, 2 and 4 of A .

$$\text{A basis is } \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ 3 \\ 11 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 7 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$$\dim \text{Col } A = 3$$