

Ex. continued from last lecture.

$$P(F) = \{a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n : a_0, \dots, a_n \in F, n \geq 0\}$$

We will show that $P(F)$ is not spanned by a finite number of polynomials.

By way of contradiction, suppose

$$P(F) = \text{span}\{f_1(x), \dots, f_m(x)\}$$

for some $f_1(x), \dots, f_m(x) \in P(F)$.

Let $d_j = \deg f_j(x)$, $1 \leq j \leq m$.

Recall that $\deg(f(x) + g(x)) \leq \max\{\deg(f(x)), \deg(g(x))\}$ and $\deg(cf(x)) \leq \deg(f(x))$.

It follows that

$$\deg(a_1f_1(x) + \dots + a_mf_m(x)) \leq \max\{d_1, \dots, d_m\}$$

for any $a_1, \dots, a_m \in F$.

This implies that $P(F) = \text{span}\{f_1(x), \dots, f_m(x)\} \subseteq P_d(F)$

where $d = \max\{d_1, \dots, d_m\}$.

This is a contradiction.

Def. 2.15

$\{v_1, \dots, v_m\}$ is linearly independent if

$$a_1v_1 + \dots + a_mv_m = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a_1 = \dots = a_m = 0.$$

We define the empty set $\emptyset$ to be linearly independent.

Ex.

$\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$ is linearly independent in F^n .

$\{1, x, \dots, x^n\}$ is linearly independent in $P_n(F)$.

Exercise

If $\{v_1, \dots, v_m\}$ is lin. ind. then so is every one of its subsets.

Def. 2.17

$\{v_1, \dots, v_n\} \subseteq V$ is linearly dependent if it is not linearly independent.

i.e. $\exists a_1, \dots, a_n \in F$ where not all are zero such that $a_1v_1 + \dots + a_nv_n = 0$.

Ex.

$\{0\}$ is linearly dependent since $a0 = 0 \quad \forall a \in F$. In particular, $1 \cdot 0 = 0$.

More generally, $\{0, v_1, \dots, v_m\}$ is lin. dep. since $1 \cdot 0 + 0v_1 + \dots + 0v_m = 0$.

Lemma 2.19 (Modified)

Suppose $\{v_1, \dots, v_m\} \subseteq V$. Then

$\{v_1, \dots, v_m\}$ is lin. dep. $\Leftrightarrow \exists 1 \leq k \leq m$ s.t. $v_k \in \text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_{k-1}\}$.

Furthermore, in this case

$$\text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_{k-1}, v_{k+1}, \dots, v_m\} = \text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_m\}.$$

Proof omitted.

The contrapositive statement:

$\{v_1, \dots, v_m\}$ is lin. ind. $\Leftrightarrow$ none of the vectors is in the span of the earlier ones.

Corollary (2.30)

Suppose $V = \text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_m\}$. Then

$\{v_1, \dots, v_m\}$ contains a subset $B \subseteq \{v_1, \dots, v_m\}$ with $\text{span } B = V$ and B is linearly independent.

Sketch of proof:

By induction on m .

Induction step:

If $\{v_1, \dots, v_m\}$ is lin. ind., take $B = \{v_1, \dots, v_m\}$ and we are done.

Otherwise $\{v_1, \dots, v_m\}$ is lin. dep. and by lemma 2.19 we can remove a v_k and get $\text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_{k-1}, v_{k+1}, \dots, v_m\} = V$.

The set $\{v_1, \dots, v_{k-1}, v_{k+1}, \dots, v_m\}$ has $m-1$ elements so we may use the induction assumption.

Therefore there is a lin. ind. subset

$$B \subseteq \{v_1, \dots, v_{k-1}, v_{k+1}, \dots, v_m\}$$

with $\text{span } B = V$.

Thm 2.22 (Modified)

Suppose $\text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_m\} = V$.

If $\{w_1, \dots, w_k\} \subseteq V$ is lin. ind. then $k \leq m$.

(Linearly independent sets are not bigger than spanning sets)

Proof omitted.

The contrapositive statement:

Suppose $\text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_m\} = V$. If $\{w_1, \dots, w_k\} \subseteq V$ with $k > m$ then $\{w_1, \dots, w_k\}$ is lin. dep.

Ex.

$$\text{span}\{e_1, \dots, e_n\} = \mathbb{F}^n$$

$$\text{span}\{1, x, \dots, x^m\} = \mathbb{P}_m(\mathbb{F})$$

Def.

A basis for V is a subset $B \subseteq V$ such that

(i) B is lin. ind.

(ii) $\text{span } B = V$.

The dimension $\dim V$ is the size $|B|$ of B for any basis B of V .

V is finite-dimensional if V has a finite basis.

V is infinite-dimensional if V does not have a finite basis.

Ex.

- $\dim \mathbb{F}^n = n$ since the basis $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$ has n elements.
- $\dim P_n(\mathbb{F}) = n+1$ since the basis $\{1, x, \dots, x^n\}$ has $n+1$ elements.
- $\dim P(\mathbb{F}) = \infty$ since it has no finite spanning sets, and therefore no finite bases.

Note

Suppose B and B' are two finite bases for V . Then
 $\text{span } B = V$ and B' lin. ind. $\Rightarrow |B'| \leq |B|$ (Thm. 2.22)

Similarly,

$\text{span } B' = V$ and B lin. ind. $\Rightarrow |B| \leq |B'|$.

Therefore $|B| = |B'|$ and dimension is well-defined.

Thm. 2.32 (Modified)

Suppose $\dim V = n < \infty$ and $W \subseteq V$ is a subspace.

Then ① $\dim W \leq \dim V < \infty$

② Every basis for W extends to a basis for V .

③ Every lin. ind. subset of V extends to a basis for V .

Sketch of proof:

Proof of ①:

Suppose $W = \{0\}$. Then $\dim W = 0 < \infty$.

Otherwise suppose $W \neq \{0\}$.

Pick $w_1 \in W$, $w_1 \neq 0$.

Then $\{w_1\}$ is lin. ind.

If $\text{span } \{w_1\} = W$ then $\{w_1\}$ is a basis and $\dim W = 1 < \infty$.

Otherwise $\exists w_2 \notin \text{span } \{w_1\}$, $w_2 \in W$.

By lemma 2.19 $\{w_1, w_2\}$ is lin. ind.

If $\text{span } \{w_1, w_2\} = W$ then $\dim W = 2 < \infty$.

We can repeat this process at most $\dim V$ times, since theorem 2.22 puts an upper limit to the size of $\{w_1, \dots, w_k\}$ to be $\dim V$.

In other words,

$$\text{span}\{w_1, \dots, w_k\} = W \text{ for some } k \leq \dim V.$$

In particular $\dim W = |\{w_1, \dots, w_k\}| = k \leq \dim V$.

Proof of ②:

Continue the process in ①, but now asking where the span is equal to V .

For example if $\text{span}\{w_1, \dots, w_k\} = V$ then we are done since $\{w_1, \dots, w_k\}$ is a basis for V .

Otherwise $\text{span}\{w_1, \dots, w_k\} \neq V$ so $\exists v \in V, v \notin \text{span}\{w_1, \dots, w_k\}$ such that

$\{w_1, \dots, w_k, v\}$ is lin. ind.

Continue the process with $\{w_1, \dots, w_k, v\}$. The process must terminate by thm. 2.22.

Proof of ③:

Suppose $\{u_1, \dots, u_r\} \subseteq V$ is lin. ind. Then set $W = \text{span}\{u_1, \dots, u_r\}$ and apply ②.

Thm. 2.33

Suppose $\dim V = n \leq \infty$ and $W \subseteq V$ is a subspace.

Then there exists a subspace $U \subseteq V$ such that

$$V = W \oplus U.$$

Proof: next lecture.