

Bases for Vector spaces.

L 25/1

Let K be a division ring and V a K -vector space.
Lemma 1 Let $\{x_i | i \in I\}$ be a linearly independent system in V and $x \in V$. Then

$$\{x_i | i \in I\} \cup \{x\} \text{ is linearly dependent} \iff x \in \sum_{i \in I} Kx_i$$

Proof: Use the fact that K is a division ring.

Lemma 2: Let $\{x_i | i \in I\} \subseteq V$. The following are equivalent (TFAE):

- (i) $\{x_i | i \in I\}$ is a basis of V
- (ii) $\{x_i | i \in I\}$ is a maximal linearly independent set
- (iii) $\{x_i | i \in I\}$ is a minimal generating system.

Proof: (i) \iff (ii) from Lemma 1
(i) \implies (iii) from Lemma 1

To prove (iii) \implies (i). We will show that $\{x_i | i \in I\}$ is a minimal generating system is linearly independent (LI):

Consider $\sum_{i \in I} a_i x_i = 0$. If linearly dependent,

$(a_i) \in A^{(I)}$ $\neq 0$. Let $a_m \neq 0, m \in I$. Then

$$x_m = a_m^{-1} \sum_{\substack{i \in I \\ i \neq m}} (-a_i) x_i$$

$$\implies x_m \in \sum_{\substack{i \in I \\ i \neq m}} Kx_i$$

This contradicts the fact that $\{x_i | i \in I\}$ is a minimal generating system.

Therefore, $\{x_i | i \in I\}$ is linearly independent \implies
 $\{x_i | i \in I\}$ is a basis.

25.1 Theorem: Suppose V is finitely generated.
Then V is a free-module, i.e. V has a basis.

Moreover,

1. Every generating system contains a basis.
2. Every basis of V has finitely many elements.
3. Every linearly independent system of elements in V can be extended, using elements from an arbitrary given generating system of V , to a basis of V .
(In particular, V has a ^{finite} basis).

Proof: Let $\{x_i | i \in I\}$ be a generating system for V .
Then \exists a subset $J \subseteq I$, such that $\{x_j | j \in J\}$ generates V . Choose $J' \subseteq J$ such that $\{x_j | j \in J'\}$ is a minimal generating system for V . This proves (1).

To prove (2) use (1) and lemma 1.

To prove (3):

$\{x_i | i \in I\}$ linearly independent system and $\{y_j | j \in J\}$ (J finite) is an arbitrary ~~sp~~ generating system for V . Then \exists a $J' \subseteq J$ such that if $\{x_i | i \in I\} \cup \{y_j | j \in J'\}$ is a linearly independent system.

Therefore,
$$y_j \in \sum_{i \in I} k_i x_i + \sum_{j \in J'} k_j y_j \quad \forall j \in J$$

Therefore,
$$\sum_{i \in I} k_i x_i + \sum_{j \in J'} k_j y_j = V.$$

$\Rightarrow \{x_i | i \in I\} \cup \{y_j | j \in J\}$ is a basis.

Illustrative Example: Let $K = \mathbb{Z}$ (not a division ring).
The set $\{2, 3\}$ is a minimal generating system
but it is not linearly independent.

Remark: V is ~~also~~ called finite if V is finitely generated. Note $A[x]$ is A -module and is infinitely generated, but as an algebra it is finitely generated.

Corollary 1: V is finite K -module, and $W \subseteq V$ is a K -submodule. Then W is also finite. In fact, every basis of W is contained in a basis of V .

Proof: If W is not finitely generated, then \exists a $(y_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in W$ which is linearly independent. This set cannot be extended to a basis of V , which has only finite number of elements. Therefore, by this contradiction W is also finite.

Using ~~for~~ (3) of Theorem 25.1, the second part of the corollary can be proved.

25.2 Theorem: Let V be any K -vector space (need not be finitely generated). Let $\{x_i \mid i \in I\}$ be a generating system of V such that $\{x_j \mid j \in J\}$ ($J \subseteq I$) is linearly independent. Then \exists a N such that $J \subseteq N \subseteq I$ $(x_i)_{i \in N}$ is a basis of V .

Proof: Let $\mathfrak{X} = \{X \subseteq I \mid J \subseteq X, \text{ and } (x_i)_{i \in X} \text{ are linearly independent}\}$.

$J \in \mathfrak{X} \neq \emptyset$. \mathfrak{X} is ordered by natural inclusion.
Let \mathcal{K} be a non-empty chain in \mathfrak{X} .

$$\mathcal{K} = \{K \subseteq I \mid (x_k)_{k \in K} \text{ linearly independent}\}$$

Union of odd sets

Note that $J \subseteq K$. It is clear that $L = \bigcup_{K \in \mathcal{R}} K$ is

an upper bound for \mathcal{R} in \mathcal{E} . We must show that the elements in L are linearly independent.

Consider $a_{i_1} x_{i_1} + a_{i_2} x_{i_2} \dots + a_{i_n} x_{i_n} = 0$

Note that since the sets in the chain are completely ordered by natural ~~inc~~ inclusion, and there must be one set in the chain which contains all the elements. Therefore, $\exists K \in \mathcal{R}$ $x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_n} \in K$.

$$\Rightarrow a_{i_1} = a_{i_2} = \dots = a_{i_n} = 0$$

By Zorn's lemma, \exists a maximal element $N \in \mathcal{E}$. Obviously, $N \supseteq J$, and $(x_i)_{i \in N}$ is linearly independent. By part (2) of lemma 2, $(x_i)_{i \in N}$ is a basis.

Illustrative Example: K is a field, and $R \subseteq K$ is a subfield. Then K is a R -vector space. In fact, K is a R -algebra, \exists a R -basis for K . Note $|_R = |_K$. For instance, \exists a \mathbb{Q} -basis for \mathbb{R} which is called Hamel basis.

Corollary: V any K -vector space, and $W \subseteq V$ be any K -submodule. Then

- 1) Every generating system of V contains a basis of V .
- 2) V has a basis.
- 3) Every basis of W can be extended to a basis of V .
- 4) There exists a basis of W which can be extended to a basis of V .