

## Alternative Methods to Prove Theorem of Basis And Dimensions

Arpit Mishra

(Department of Mathematics)

(Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University, Srinagar (Garhwal),

Uttarakhand, India) (A Central University)

Corresponding Author: Arpit Mishra

**Abstract:** In this paper, we study about alternative methods by which we can prove the theorem, In a vector space  $V$  if  $\{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n\}$  generates  $V$  and if  $\{W_1, W_2, \dots, W_m\}$  is linearly independent (LI), then  $m \leq n$ , where  $\dim W = m$  and  $\dim V = n$ .

OR

We can't have more LI vectors than the number of elements in a set of generators.

We all are familiar with the methods of proving the given theorems mentioned in books as reference books but there are also other methods by which we can prove the theorem using some theorems directly as statements.

**Keywords:** Basis of A Vector Space, Dimension of A Vector Space, Linear Dependence of Vectors, Linear Independence of Vectors, Linear Combination of Vectors, Linear Span.

Date of Submission: 11-12-2017

Date of acceptance: 22-12-2017

### I. Introduction

#### 1.1. Basis of A Vector Space :

If  $V(F)$  is a vector space and  $S$  is any subset of  $V(F)$ , then  $S$  is called a basis for  $V(F)$  if :

1.  $S$  is LI.

2. Every vector of  $V(F)$  is expressible as the linear combination of vectors of  $S$  uniquely

i.e.  $S$  generates  $V(F) \Rightarrow L(S) = V(F)$ .

#### 1.2. Dimension of A Vector Space :

The number of vectors in the basis for a vector space  $V(F)$  is called dimension of  $V(F)$ . It is denoted by  $\dim V$ .

#### 1.3 Linear Dependence of Vectors :

Let  $V(F)$  is a vector space and the set  $S = \{W_1, W_2, \dots, W_m\}$  is finite set of vector in  $V(F)$ , then  $S$  is called linearly dependent if there exists scalars  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m$  not all zero such that  $x_1 W_1 + x_2 W_2 + \dots + x_m W_m = 0$ , briefly written as LD.

#### 1.4 Linear Independence of Vectors :

Let  $V(F)$  is a vector space and the set  $S = \{W_1, W_2, \dots, W_m\}$  is finite set of vector in  $V(F)$ , then  $S$  is called linearly independent if there exists scalars  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m$  all are zero such that  $x_1 W_1 + x_2 W_2 + \dots + x_m W_m = 0$ , briefly written as LI.

#### 1.5. Linear Combination of Vectors :

Let  $V(F)$  is a vector space and  $W_1, W_2, \dots, W_m$  be  $m$ -vectors and  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m$  are  $m$ -scalars, then a vector  $W = x_1 W_1 + x_2 W_2 + \dots + x_m W_m = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum W_m x_m$  is called Linear Combination of Vectors.

#### 1.6. Linear Span :

If  $V(F)$  is a vector space and  $S$  is any subset of  $V(F)$ , then the set of all Linear Combination of elements of  $S$  is called Linear Span of  $S$  and is denoted by  $L(S)$ .

$L(S) = \{ W : W = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum W_m x_m, x_m \in F \text{ and } W_m \in S \}$

Here,  $L(S)$  also means that  $S$  generates.

### II. Alternative Methods

#### 2.1. Method 1

To prove this theorem, it is sufficient to show that every subset  $S$  of  $V$  which contains more than  $n$  vectors is linearly dependent (LD).

Suppose  $S = \{W_1, W_2, \dots, W_m\}$  where  $m > n$  and all the vectors of  $S$  are distinct. Since  $\{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n\}$  generates  $V$  or span  $V$ , so that there exists scalars  $a_{ij}$  in  $F$  such that

$$W_j = \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ij} \alpha_i$$

For any scalars,  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m$ , we have

$$x_1 W_1 + x_2 W_2 + \dots + x_m W_m = \sum_{j=1}^m \sum x_j W_j$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \sum_{j=1}^m \sum x_j (\sum_{i=1}^n \sum a_{ij} x_i) \quad (\text{Since, } W_j = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum a_{ij} x_i) \\
 &= \sum_{j=1}^m \sum \sum_{i=1}^n \sum (a_{ij} x_j) x_i \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum (\sum_{j=1}^m \sum a_{ij} x_j) x_i
 \end{aligned}$$

Since, we know that if A is a  $n \times n$  matrix and  $n \times m$  then the homogeneous system of linear equation  $AX = 0$  has non-trivial solution.

Hence, for  $m > n$ , implies that there exists scalars  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m$  not all zero such that  $\sum_{j=1}^m \sum a_{ij} x_j = 0, 1 \leq i \leq n$ .

Hence,  $x_1 W_1 + x_2 W_2 + \dots + x_m W_m = 0$ . This shows that  $S = \{W_1, W_2, \dots, W_m\}$   $m > n$  is linearly dependent (LD) set which contradicts the hypothesis that S is linearly independent (LI).

Hence,  $m \not> n$  i.e.  $m \leq n$ .

Thus, We can't have more LI vectors than the number of elements in a set of generators.

### 2.2. Method 2

Given  $\dim W = m$  and  $\dim V = n$ .

So let set  $S = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$  is a basis for  $V(F)$  and also we have  $L(S) = V(F)$ .

Therefore, every element of  $V(F)$  be a linear combination of elements of S.

Also, W is given subspace of  $V(F)$  so clearly  $W \subset V$ .

Therefore, every element of W be also a linear combination of elements of S.

Here, S is linearly independent (LI).

Therefore, either S is a basis of W or any subset of S be a basis for W.

Thus, basis of W cannot contain more than n- elements.

Hence,  $\dim W \leq \dim V$  or  $m \leq n$ .

### 2.3. Method 3

If  $A = \{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n\}$  generates a span V and if  $S = \{W_1, W_2, \dots, W_m\}$  is LI, then we have to show that  $m \leq n$ .

If  $W_1 \in V(F)$  then  $W_1$  is a linear combination of the  $\alpha_i$ 's since  $A = \{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n\}$  generates a span V.

So,  $W_1 \in L(A)$  i.e. for some scalars  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$ .

$$W_1 = a_1 \alpha_1 + a_2 \alpha_2 + \dots + a_n \alpha_n$$

Since, S is LI and  $W_1 \in S$  then  $W_1 \neq 0$ , hence not all the  $a_i$ 's are zero.

Therefore, let at least one  $a_i \neq 0$ , say  $a_1 \neq 0$ .

$$\text{Hence, } \alpha_1 = a_1^{-1} W_1 + (-a_1^{-1} a_2) \alpha_2 + (-a_1^{-1} a_3) \alpha_3 + \dots + (-a_1^{-1} a_n) \alpha_n.$$

This relation shows that any vector which is expressible as a linear combination of  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n$  can be expressed as a linear combination of the vectors  $W_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \dots, \alpha_n$  i.e.

$$L(\{W_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \dots, \alpha_n\}) = L(\{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n\}) = L(A) = V, \quad (\text{Since, } A \text{ generates } V).$$

We can now repeat the above process of replacement with the vector  $W_2$  and the generating set  $\{W_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \dots, \alpha_n\}$  instead of  $W_1$  and the generating set  $\{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n\}$ . This process would yield the relation

$$V = \{(W_1, W_2, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \dots, \alpha_n)\}.$$

We repeat this process with  $W_3$  and so on. At each step we are able to add one W's and delete one of the  $\alpha$ 's in generating set.

If  $m \leq n$ , then we finally obtain a generating set or spanning set of the form  $\{W_1, W_2, \dots, W_m, \alpha_j, \alpha_{j+1}, \dots, \alpha_{n-m}\}$ .

Lastly, we show that  $m > n$  is not possible. Otherwise, after n of the above steps, we obtain the generating sets  $\{W_1, W_2, \dots, W_n\} \Rightarrow W_{n+1}$  is a linear combination of  $W_1, W_2, \dots, W_n$  i.e. for scalars  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n$  such that

$$W_{n+1} = c_1 W_1 + c_2 W_2 + \dots + c_n W_n$$

So the set  $\{W_1, W_2, \dots, W_n, W_{n+1}\}$  and  $\{W_1, W_2, \dots, W_m\}$  is LD which contradicts the hypothesis that  $\{W_1, W_2, \dots, W_m\}$  is LI.

Hence,  $m \leq n$ .

### References

- [1]. Linear Algebra 4<sup>th</sup> Edition by Seymour Lipschutz (Temple University) and Marc Lars Lipson (University of Virginia), ISBN : 978-0-07-154353-8.
- [2]. Halmos, Paul Richard, 1916, Finite- Dimensional Vector Spaces, reprint of 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Published by D. Van Nostrand Co., Princeton, 1958. (Springer)
- [3]. Linear Algebra 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition by Kenneth Hoffman (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) and Ray Kunze (University of California, Irvine).
- [4]. Linear Algebra And Matrices by S.J. Publications (A unit of Kedar Nath Ram Nath), Edition-2015.
- [5]. Linear Algebra And Matrices (Textbook) by Vigyan Bodh Prakashan, ISBN : 978-81-924048-3-7.

Arpit Mishra. "Alternative Methods to Prove Theorem of Basis And Dimensions." IOSR Journal of Mathematics (IOSR-JM), vol. 13, no. 06, 2017, pp. 55-56.