

Vectors and coordinates

Bioinformatics Degree
Algebra

Departament de Matemàtiques



UNIVERSITAT POLITÈCNICA
DE CATALUNYA
BARCELONATECH

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Key definitions

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The vector space \mathbb{R}^n

We consider the set of n -tuples of real numbers:

$$\mathbb{R}^n = \{(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \mid x_i \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

and we call its elements **vectors**.

Notation: When we talk about $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$ we usually think of v as a column vector,

$$v = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}.$$

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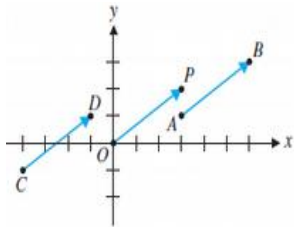
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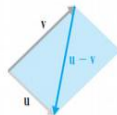
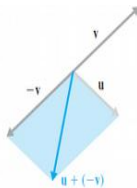
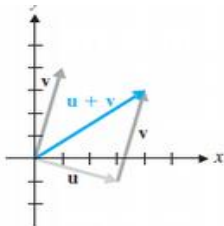
\mathbb{R}^2 : Physical interpretation

- ▶ View $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ as a directed line segment between two points A and B , $(x, y) = \text{"vector" } \overrightarrow{AB}$.
- ▶ \overrightarrow{AB} : the displacement needed to get from A to B : x units along the x -axis and y along the y -axis.
- ▶ Two vectors are equal if they represent the same displacement (\Leftrightarrow they have the same length, direction, and sense).
- ▶ We can always think (x, y) as a vector of initial point $(0, 0)$ and end point (x, y) .

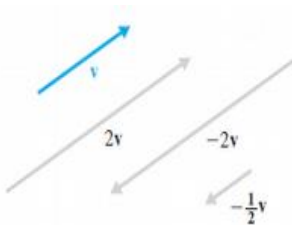


Operations in \mathbb{R}^2

We can sum or subtract vectors



and multiply a vector by a constant (*scalar*)



\mathbb{R}^3

- ▶ Vectors in \mathbb{R}^3 have a similar physical interpretation
- ▶ We can also sum two vectors and multiply a vector by a scalar. These operations can be done in coordinates: if $u = (x_1, x_2, x_3)$ and $v = (y_1, y_2, y_3)$, then

$$u + v = (x_1 + y_1, x_2 + y_2, x_3 + y_3),$$

$$c \cdot u = (cx_1, cx_2, cx_3) \text{ for any } c \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Operations in \mathbb{R}^n

In \mathbb{R}^n we define the following operations:

sum: if $u = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$, $v = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)$, then

$$u + v = (x_1 + y_1, x_2 + y_2, \dots, x_n + y_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

scalar multiplication: if $u = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$, $c \in \mathbb{R}$, then

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Proposition

These operations in \mathbb{R}^n satisfy the following properties:

1. $u + v = v + u$. *Commutativity*
2. $(u + v) + w = u + (v + w)$. *Associativity*
3. \exists an element $\mathbf{0} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, called the zero vector, such that $u + \mathbf{0} = u$.
4. For each $u \in \mathbb{R}^n$, \exists an element $-u \in \mathbb{R}^n$ such that $u + (-u) = \mathbf{0}$.
5. $c \cdot (u + v) = c \cdot u + c \cdot v$. *Distributivity*
6. $(c + d) \cdot u = c \cdot u + d \cdot u$. *Distributivity*
7. $c \cdot (d \cdot u) = (cd) \cdot u$.
8. $1 \cdot u = u$.

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Examples

Any set that has two operations $+$ and \cdot satisfying the previous property is called a **vector space**

Some other examples of vector spaces are:

- ▶ Solutions of a homogeneous linear system of equations.
- ▶ $m \times n$ matrices
- ▶ Polynomials of degree $\leq k$, $k \geq 1$
- ▶ Real functions

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Vector subspaces

F is a vector subspace of the vector space E if
 F is a vector space and $F \subseteq E$.

Definition

Let F be a nonempty subset of \mathbb{R}^n . Then F is a **vector subspace** of \mathbb{R}^n if the following conditions hold:

1. If u and v are in F , then $u + v$ is in F .
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The following are examples of vector subspaces:

- ▶ $V = \{\vec{0}\}$
- ▶ $V = \mathbb{R}^n$
- ▶ $F_1 = \{(\alpha, -2\alpha) \mid \alpha \in \mathbb{R}\}$
- ▶ $F_2 = \{(a + 2b, 0, b) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid a, b \in \mathbb{R}\}$
- ▶ $G_1 = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid 2x - 5y = 0\}$
- ▶ $G_2 = \{(x, y, z, t) \in \mathbb{R}^4 \mid 2x - 5y + 3z = 0, x - y + z + 2t = 0\}$

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Linear Combination

Definition

We say that $u \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is a **linear combination** of $v_1, \dots, v_k \in \mathbb{R}^n$ if there are $c_1, \dots, c_k \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $u = c_1 v_1 + \dots + c_k v_k$

Finding out if a given vector is a linear combination of a collection of vectors is equivalent to check whether a linear system of equations is consistent.

$$\begin{pmatrix} | & & | \\ v_1 & \dots & v_k \\ | & & | \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_k \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} | \\ u \\ | \end{pmatrix}$$

Generators

Let v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k be vectors in \mathbb{R}^n .

Definition

The **span** of v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k is the set of all linear combinations of v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k :

$$[v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k] = \{c_1 v_1 + \dots + c_k v_k \mid c_1, \dots, c_k \in \mathbb{R}\}.$$

If $[v_1, \dots, v_k] = F$, we say that $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$ is a **system of generators for F** , and also that F is **spanned by v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k** .

Linear independence

Definition

The vectors v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k are **linearly dependent** if there are scalars c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k , at least one of which is not zero, such that $c_1 v_1 + \dots + c_k v_k = \vec{0}$.

Otherwise, we say that v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k are **linearly independent**.

Theorem

The vectors v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k in \mathbb{R}^n are linearly dependent if and only if at least one of the vectors can be expressed as a linear combination of the others.

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Basis

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Let $F \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ be a vector subspace. An **ordered** collection of vectors $\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$ is a **basis of F** if

1. $F = [v_1, \dots, v_k]$ (that is, $\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$ is a system of generators of F),
2. v_1, \dots, v_k are linearly independent.

Example-Definition

If $e_i = (0, \dots, 1, \dots, 0)$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, then $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$ is a basis for \mathbb{R}^n . This basis is called the *standard basis* for \mathbb{R}^n .

Notation: $[v_1, \dots, v_k]$ is the generated set (the vector space),
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The importance of rank

Theorem

Given $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k \in \mathbb{R}^n$, write $A = (v_1, \dots, v_k) \in M_{n,k}(\mathbb{R})$.

Then,

- i) *the vectors are linearly independent if and only if $\text{rank}(A) = k$.*
- ii) *the vectors are a system of generators of \mathbb{R}^n if and only if $\text{rank}(A) = n$.*
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Given $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k \in \mathbb{R}^n$, write $A = (v_1, \dots, v_k) \in M_{n,k}(\mathbb{R})$.

Then,

- i) *the vectors are linearly independent if and only if $\text{rank}(A) = k$.*
- ii) *the vectors are a system of generators of \mathbb{R}^n if and only if $\text{rank}(A) = n$.*
- i) + ii) *the vectors are a basis for \mathbb{R}^n if and only if $k = \text{rank}(A) = n$.*

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Dimension

Theorem (The Basis Theorem)

1. *Each basis of the space \mathbb{R}^n has n vectors.*
2. *If F is a vector subspace, all basis of F have the same cardinal.*

Definition

The cardinal of a basis of F is called the dimension of F .

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Vector subspaces

Proposition

- ▶ $V = [v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k]$ is a vector subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .
- ▶ Let $Ax = 0$ be a linear system, where $A \in M_{m,n}(\mathbb{R})$. Then, the set of solutions $V = \{v \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid Av = 0\}$ is a vector subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

In general, there are two ways to describe a vector subspace $F \subset \mathbb{R}^n$:

- ▶ through a system of generators: $F = [v_1, \dots, v_k]$
- ▶ through an **homogeneous** linear system of equations:
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Compute a basis of a vector subspace

If $F = [v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k]$, a basis of F can be obtained by applying any of the following methods:

- ▶ Write the vectors v_1, \dots, v_k as the **rows** of a matrix A , and reduce A to row echelon form \bar{A} (Gaussian elimination). The nonzero rows of \bar{A} are a basis of F .
- ▶ Write the vectors v_1, \dots, v_k as the **columns** of a matrix B and reduce B to row echelon form \bar{B} (Gaussian elimination). The columns of \bar{B} with pivots indicate the vectors among v_1, \dots, v_k to choose to obtain a basis of F .

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- ▶ If $F = [v_1, \dots, v_k]$, then $\dim(F) = \text{rank}(v_1, \dots, v_k)$
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Let $F \subseteq G$ be subspaces of \mathbb{R}^n . Then

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Let $F \subseteq G$ be subspaces of \mathbb{R}^n . Then:

- ▶ F, G are finite-dimensional and $\dim F \leq \dim G \leq n$.
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Subspaces: Equations \leftrightarrow Generators

It is important to know how to pass from one presentation to the other.

From "equations" to "generators"

It is enough to solve the system to obtain a system of generators. We will obtain a basis if we do it correctly.

From "generators" to "equations"

Write the matrix $M = (v_1, \dots, v_k)$, and add an extra column with entries x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n . Reduce the matrix to echelon form by applying elementary row transformations. A linear system of equations for F is obtained by collecting all expressions in the last column with only zero entries on the left.

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Coordinates

Theorem

Any element of a vector space can be written as a unique linear combination of the vectors of any basis of that space.

Given $u \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $B = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ a basis for \mathbb{R}^n , there exist $c_1, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $u = c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 + \dots + c_n v_n$ and these c_1, \dots, c_n are unique.

Definition

The c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n are called the coordinates of v with respect to B . We will use the notation

$$v_B = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ \dots \\ c_n \end{pmatrix}.$$

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The c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n are called the **coordinates of v with respect to B** . We will use the notation

$$v_B = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ \dots \\ c_n \end{pmatrix}.$$

Examples

- 1 In the standard basis B of \mathbb{R}^3 , the coordinates of $v = (-1, 2, -1)$ are $v_B = (-1, 2, -1)$, because

$$(-1, 2, -1) = (-1) \cdot (1, 0, 0) + 2 \cdot (0, 1, 0) + (-1) \cdot (0, 0, 1).$$

- 2 In the basis $B' = \{(1, 0, 1), (0, 1, 1), (2, -1, 3)\}$, the coordinates of v relative to B' are $v_{B'} = (1, 1, -1)$, because

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Change of basis

Let $B = \{u_1, \dots, u_n\}$ and $C = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ be two bases of \mathbb{R}^n . Denote by $A_{B \rightarrow C}$ the $n \times n$ matrix whose columns are the coordinate vectors of the basis B with respect to C :

$$A_{B \rightarrow C} = ((u_1)_C, \dots, (u_n)_C).$$

This is the **change-of-basis matrix** from B to C .

Proposition

1. $A_{B \rightarrow C} \cdot w_B = w_C$ for all $w \in \mathbb{R}^n$.
2. $A_{B \rightarrow C}$ is invertible, and $(A_{B \rightarrow C})^{-1} = A_{C \rightarrow B}$.
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Then,

$$A_{B' \rightarrow B} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A_{B \rightarrow B'} = A_{B' \rightarrow B}^{-1} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 2 & -2 \\ -1 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then,

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Intersection and sum of subspaces

Let F, G be vector subspaces in \mathbb{R}^n then:

The **intersection of F and G** is $F \cap G = \{v \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid v \in F, v \in G\}$.

The **sum of F and G** is $F + G = \{v + w \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid v \in F, w \in G\}$.

Computation:

If $F = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid A_F x = 0\}$ and $G = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid A_G x = 0\}$, then

$$F \cap G = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid Ax = 0\}, \text{ where } A = \begin{pmatrix} A_F \\ A_G \end{pmatrix}.$$

If $F = [v_1, \dots, v_r]$ and $G = [w_1, \dots, w_s]$, then

$$F + G = [v_1, \dots, v_r, w_1, \dots, w_s].$$

Grassmann Formula

Theorem

- ▶ $F \cap G$ and $F + G$ are vector subspaces of \mathbb{R}^n .
- ▶ $\dim(F + G) = \dim(F) + \dim(G) - \dim(F \cap G)$.

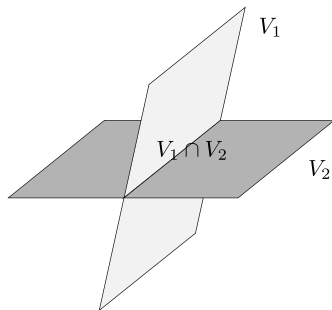
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$$F = [(1, 0, 1), (0, 2, 3)]$$

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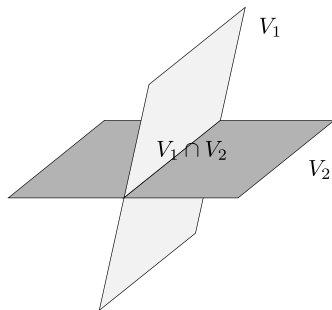
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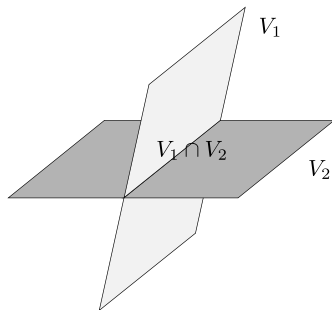
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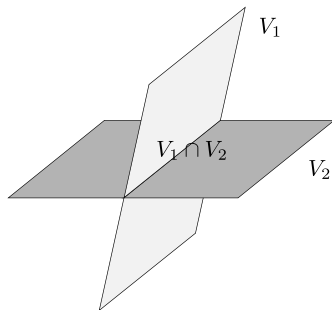
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Python: vectors and operations

Vectors are introduced in numpy as $n \times 1$ matrices:

```
u = np.array([1, 2, 0, -3])    or    v = np.array([0, 5, -2, 7]).
```

The sum of vectors in the same space is introduced with $+$ and the scalar multiplication with $*$:

$$\begin{aligned}u + v &= \text{np.array}([1, 7, -2, 4]) \\ (-3) * u &= \text{np.array}([-3, -6, 0, 9])\end{aligned}$$

Python: Subspaces

If $F = [v_1, \dots, v_k]$ we can compute $\dim(F)$ with Python:

```
M = np.array([[v_1], ..., [v_k]]);  
matrix_rank(M)
```

If $F = \{u \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid Au = 0\}$ we can compute $\dim(F)$ with Python:

```
n-matrix_rank(A)
```