

Mathematics for Intelligent Systems

Lecture 1 Homework

(Linear Algebra I: Vector Spaces, Bases, Matrix Representations of Linear Transforms)

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Abstract

This homework explores coordinate-free definitions of vector spaces, and coordinate-ful representations which arise only once a basis is chosen.

1 Problem 1

- Find 3 interesting examples of vector spaces that we haven't covered in class. What are their dimensions? What bases are commonly used to represent them? (It's okay to look this up in a textbook or online—just find interesting examples.)
- Come up with one example of a set which is *almost* a vector space, i.e. it satisfies some of the core requirements of a vector space, but not all.
- Consider the set of all *even* functions. Is this a Vector space? If so, define 3 different bases which span the entire space.

2 Problem 2

Consider a collection of functions \mathcal{V} defined by

$$f(x) = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 x + \alpha_2 x^2 + \dots + \alpha_n x^n \quad (1)$$

where $x \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\alpha_i \in \mathbb{R}$ for each $i = 0, \dots, n$.

- Is this collection of functions a vector space? Why?
- Consider the bases

$$\mathcal{B}_1 = \{1, x, x^2, \dots, x^n\}$$

and

$$\mathcal{B}_2 = \{1, 1 + x, 1 + x + x^2, \dots, 1 + x + \dots + x^n\}.$$

Define a linear transform \mathbf{T} that takes

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &\rightarrow 1 \\ x &\rightarrow 1 + x \\ x^2 &\rightarrow 1 + x + x^2 \\ &\vdots \end{aligned}$$

This transform takes basis elements of \mathcal{B}_1 directly to basis elements of \mathcal{B}_2 . What is the matrix for the linear transformation in these bases?

- c. Let $f(x) = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3$. (This function f is a vector in the vector space \mathcal{V} , so from here on out we refer to it as a vector rather than a function.) What are the coefficients of this vector in terms of \mathcal{B}_1 ? What are the coefficients of the transformed vector in terms of \mathcal{B}_2 ? Are these latter coefficients the ones you get from multiplying the former coefficients by the matrix you derived above?
- d. What would the matrix be if the range basis were \mathcal{B}_1 rather than \mathcal{B}_2 ? (Remember that the “range” space is the output space of the mapping.)