

MAT223 - Final Lecture  
A conceptual overview of the course

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## Motivation for today's lecture

- ▶ Today, I'll give a conceptual overview of the course:
- ▶ Linear algebra is about solving systems of linear equations:
- ▶ Fix  $a_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, m$  and  $j = 1, \dots, n$

**Question:** For each  $\mathbf{b} = (b_1, \dots, b_m)$ , does there exist  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$  such that

$$a_{i1}x_1 + \dots + a_{in}x_n = b_i \quad \text{for each } i = 1, \dots, m?$$

- ▶ If no, then for which  $\mathbf{b}$  does there exist such an  $\mathbf{x}$ ?
- ▶ If yes, how many 'different'  $\mathbf{x}$  are there for fixed  $\mathbf{b}$ ?
- ▶ We have learned algorithms to answer these questions.
- ▶ We also learned some geometric intuition for how these work, in terms of vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and linear transformations  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .
- ▶ We've also developed some language to formalize this geometric intuition into precise reasoning, which allows us to answer these questions without doing as much computation.
- ▶ This is done more in 224, with 'general' vector spaces  $V$ .

## Discussion: Coordinates with respect to a basis

Let  $V$  be a vector space and  $\beta = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  be a basis for  $V$ .

Recall that we proved:

**Proposition:** For every vector  $\mathbf{v} \in V$ , there **exists** a **unique**

$$x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R} \quad \text{such that} \quad \mathbf{v} = x_1\mathbf{v}_1 + \dots + x_n\mathbf{v}_n$$

**Notation:** We call  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  the *coordinate vector* of  $\mathbf{v}$  with respect to  $\alpha$ , and write  $[\mathbf{v}]^\alpha = [x_i]$  as a column vector.

**Discussion:** Let  $V = \mathbb{R}^2$  and  $\alpha = \{(1, -1), (1, 1)\}$ . Determine

- (1)  $[\mathbf{e}_1]_\alpha$
- (2)  $[\mathbf{e}_2]_\alpha$
- (3)  $[\mathbf{e}_1 + \mathbf{e}_2]_\alpha$

where  $\mathbf{e}_1 = (1, 0)$ ,  $\mathbf{e}_2 = (0, 1)$  are the standard basis vectors.

Let  $V = P_2(\mathbb{R})$  and  $\alpha = \{1, 1 + x, 1 + x + x^2\}$ . Determine

- (a)  $[1]_\alpha$
- (b)  $[x]_\alpha$
- (c)  $[x^2]_\alpha$
- (d)  $[a + bx + cx^2]_\alpha$  where  $a, b, c$  are arbitrary scalars.
- (e) Show that  $[a + bx + cx^2]_\alpha = a[1]_\alpha + b[x]_\alpha + c[x^2]_\alpha$ .

## Discussion: Linear Transformations

Throughout, let  $S, S'$  be sets and  $V, W$  be vector spaces.

**Definition:** A function  $f : S \rightarrow S'$  is a rule that assigns to each  $s \in S$  and element  $f(s) \in S'$ ; we write  $s \mapsto f(s)$ .

The set  $S$  is called the *domain* of  $f$ , and the set  $S'$  the *target* of  $f$ .

**Definition:** A function  $T : V \rightarrow W$  is called *linear* if

$$T(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) = T(\mathbf{x}) + T(\mathbf{y}) \quad \text{and} \quad T(c\mathbf{x}) = cT(\mathbf{x})$$

for each  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in V, c \in \mathbb{R}$ . Equivalently,  $T(c\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) = cT(\mathbf{x}) + T(\mathbf{y})$ .

**Example:**  $T : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by  $T(x) = x^n$  is linear iff  $n = 1$ .

**Discussion:** Which of the following are linear? (with proof)

- (1)  $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  defined by  $T(\mathbf{x}) = A\mathbf{x}$  for  $A \in M_{m \times n}(\mathbb{R})$ .
- (2)  $T : P_n(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow P_n(\mathbb{R})$  defined by  $T(p) = \frac{d}{dx}p$ .
- (3)  $T : M_{m \times n}(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow M_{m \times r}(\mathbb{R})$  by  $T(A) = AB$  for  $B \in M_{n \times r}(\mathbb{R})$ .
- (4) Let  $S = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  be a basis for  $V$ . Show the following:  
For each  $\mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_n \in W$  there exists a unique linear  $T : V \rightarrow W$  such that  $T(\mathbf{v}_j) = \mathbf{y}_j$  for each  $j = 1, \dots, n$ .

## Matrices and Linear Transformations

Let  $V, W$  be vector spaces and  $\alpha = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}, \beta = \{\mathbf{w}_1, \dots, \mathbf{w}_m\}$  be bases for them. Thus,  $\dim V = n, \dim W = m$ .

Let  $T : V \rightarrow W$  be a linear transformation. We just proved that  $T$  is determined uniquely by the vectors  $T(\mathbf{v}_j) \in W$  for  $j = 1, \dots, n$ .

For each  $j$ , the vector  $T(\mathbf{v}_j) \in W$  has a unique decomposition

$$T(\mathbf{v}_j) = a_{1j}\mathbf{w}_1 + \dots + a_{mj}\mathbf{w}_m \quad \text{for some } a_{ij} \in \mathbb{R} \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, m.$$

As a column vector, we have  $[T(\mathbf{v}_j)]^\beta = \begin{bmatrix} a_{1j} \\ \vdots \\ a_{mj} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^m$

In summary, given  $\alpha, \beta$  we can record the information of  $T$  by:

$$[T]_\alpha^\beta = [T(\mathbf{v}_1) \mid \dots \mid T(\mathbf{v}_n)]^\beta = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & a_{ij} & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & \cdots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix} \in M_{m \times n}(\mathbb{R})$$

The  $j^{\text{th}}$  column of  $[T]_\alpha^\beta$  describes  $T(\mathbf{v}_j)$ , the image under  $T$  of the  $j^{\text{th}}$  vector  $\mathbf{v}_j$  in the basis  $\alpha$ , in terms of coordinates defined by  $\beta$ .

## Discussion: Matrices and Linear Transformations

Let  $V = \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $W = \mathbb{R}^3$ ,  $\alpha = \{\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2\}$ ,  $\beta = \{\mathbf{f}_1, \mathbf{f}_2, \mathbf{f}_3\}$  the standard bases, and  $\alpha' = \{\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_1 + \mathbf{e}_2\}$ ,  $\beta' = \{\mathbf{f}_1 + \mathbf{f}_2, \mathbf{f}_1 - \mathbf{f}_2, \mathbf{f}_2 + \mathbf{f}_3\}$ .

Define a linear map  $T : V \rightarrow W$  by

$$T(\mathbf{e}_1) = \mathbf{f}_1 + \mathbf{f}_2 \quad T(\mathbf{e}_2) = \mathbf{f}_2 + \mathbf{f}_3 \quad \text{and calculate}$$

- (1) the matrix  $[T]_{\alpha}^{\beta}$
- (2) the matrix  $[T]_{\alpha'}^{\beta}$
- (3) the matrix  $[T]_{\alpha}^{\beta'}$

Let  $V = P_2(\mathbb{R})$ , and  $\alpha = \{1, x, x^2\}$ ,  $\beta = \{1 + x, 1 - x, x^2\}$ .

Define  $T : V \rightarrow V$  by  $T(p) = \frac{d}{dx}p$  and calculate

- (4) the matrix  $[T]_{\alpha}^{\alpha}$
- (5) the matrix  $[T]_{\alpha}^{\beta}$
- (6) the matrix  $[T]_{\beta}^{\alpha}$

**Bonus:** Let  $V, W$  vector spaces,  $\alpha, \beta$  bases, and  $T : V \rightarrow W$ .

Prove that  $[T(\mathbf{x})]^{\beta} = [T]_{\alpha}^{\beta} \cdot [\mathbf{x}]^{\alpha}$  for each  $\mathbf{x} \in V$ .

This is just showing that '**matrix multiplication works**'.

## Discussion: Injective and Surjective Functions

Let  $S, \tilde{S}$  be sets,  $R \subset S, \tilde{R} \subset \tilde{S}$  be subsets and  $f : S \rightarrow \tilde{S}$ .

**Definition:**

- ▶ The *image* of  $R$  under  $f$  is  $f(R) = \{f(s) | s \in R\} \subset \tilde{S}$ .
- ▶ The *preimage* of  $\tilde{R}$  under  $f$ ,  $f^{-1}(\tilde{R}) = \{s \in S | f(s) \in \tilde{R}\} \subset S$

**Warning:** The preimage is always defined even if  $f$  is not invertible.

**Definition:**  $f$  is *injective* if knowing  $f(s) = f(t)$  implies  $s = t$ .

$f$  is *surjective* if for each  $\tilde{s} \in \tilde{S}$  there exists  $s \in S$  with  $f(s) = \tilde{s}$ .

$f$  is *bijective* if it is injective and surjective.

**Discussion:** Prove the following:

(1)  $f$  is surjective if and only if  $f(S) = \tilde{S}$ , if and only if:

For each  $\tilde{s} \in \tilde{S}$ ,  $f^{-1}(\{\tilde{s}\})$  is non-empty, i.e.  $f^{-1}(\{\tilde{s}\}) \neq \emptyset$ .

(2)  $f$  is injective if and only if:

For each  $\tilde{s} \in \tilde{S}$ ,  $f^{-1}(\{\tilde{s}\})$  is either a single point  $\{s\}$  or empty  $\emptyset$ .

(3)  $f$  is bijective if and only if:

For each  $\tilde{s} \in \tilde{S}$ , there **exists** a **unique**  $s \in S$  such that  $f(s) = \tilde{s}$ .

## Kernel and Image

Let  $V, W$  be vector spaces and  $T : V \rightarrow W$  a linear map.

**Definition:** The *kernel* of  $T$  is the subset of  $V$  defined by

$$\ker(T) = T^{-1}(\{\mathbf{0}\}) = \{\mathbf{v} \in V \mid T(\mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{0}\}$$

**Example:** Define  $T : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  by  $T(x_1, x_2, x_3) = (x_1, x_2 - x_3)$ .

$$\ker(T) = \{(x_1, x_2, x_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid x_1 = 0, x_2 = x_3\}$$

**Definition:** The *image* of  $T$  is the subset of  $W$  defined by

$$\operatorname{im}(T) = T(V) = \{T(\mathbf{v}) \in W \mid \mathbf{v} \in V\}$$

**Example:** Define  $T : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  by  $T(x_1, x_2) = (x_1, x_2, x_1 - x_2)$ .

$$\operatorname{im}(T) = \{(x_1, x_2, x_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid x_3 = x_1 - x_2\}$$



## Discussion: Kernel and Image

Let  $V, W$  be vector spaces with bases  $\alpha = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  and  $\beta = \{\mathbf{w}_1, \dots, \mathbf{w}_m\}$ , and  $T : V \rightarrow W$  a linear map.

Prove the following:

- (1)  $\ker(T)$  is a subspace of  $V$ .
- (2)  $\text{im}(T)$  is a subspace of  $W$ .
- (3)  $\text{im}(T) = \text{Span}(\{T(\mathbf{v}_1), \dots, T(\mathbf{v}_n)\})$
- (4)  $\ker(T) = \text{null}([T]_{\alpha}^{\beta})$  (use that 'matrix multiplication works')
- (5)  $\text{im}(T) = \text{col}([T]_{\alpha}^{\beta})$  (use that 'matrix multiplication works')
- (6)  $T$  is injective if and only if  $\ker(T) = \{\mathbf{0}\}$

**Bonus:** Let  $\mathbf{b} \in \text{im}(T)$  so that  $\mathbf{b} = T(\mathbf{x}_0)$  for  $\mathbf{x}_0 \in V$ . Then show

$$T^{-1}(\{\mathbf{b}\}) := \{\mathbf{x} \in V \mid T(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{b}\} = \{\mathbf{x}_0 + \mathbf{v} \mid \mathbf{v} \in \ker(T)\}$$

Conclude that there is a bijection between  $T^{-1}(\{\mathbf{b}\})$  and  $\ker(T)$ .

## What does it mean to solve linear equations?

Fix  $a_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, m$  and  $j = 1, \dots, n$ .

**Question:** For each  $\mathbf{b} = (b_1, \dots, b_m)$ , does there exist  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$  such that

$$a_{i1}x_1 + \dots + a_{in}x_n = b_i \quad \text{for each } i = 1, \dots, m?$$

- ▶ If no, then for which  $\mathbf{b}$  does there exist such an  $\mathbf{x}$ ?
- ▶ If yes, how many 'different'  $\mathbf{x}$  are there for fixed  $\mathbf{b}$ ?

**Answer:** Let  $A = [a_{ij}] \in M_{m \times n}(\mathbb{R})$ , which defines  $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ .  
Then

$$a_{i1}x_1 + \dots + a_{in}x_n = b_i \quad \text{for each } i = 1, \dots, m$$

if and only if

$$A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}, \text{ or equivalently } T(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{b}.$$

Thus, we have the following answer:

- ▶ There exists  $\mathbf{x}$  solving the equation if and only if  $\mathbf{b} \in \text{im}(T)$ .
- ▶ For each fixed  $\mathbf{b}$ , the set of solutions is  $T^{-1}(\{\mathbf{b}\})$ , which we showed is in bijection with  $\ker(T)$ .

## Towards The Dimension Theorem

We have reduced the question of **existence** and **uniqueness** of solutions to linear equations to understanding the **image** and **kernel** of a linear map  $T : V \rightarrow W$ .

What can we say about  $\text{im}(T)$  and  $\text{ker}(T)$  in general? Let's look at some examples:

(1)  $T : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \quad (x_1, x_2) \mapsto (x_1, x_2, 0)$

▶  $\dim \text{ker}(T) = 0$  ,  $\dim \text{im}(T) = 2$  .

(2)  $T : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \quad (x_1, x_2) \mapsto (x_1, 0, 0)$

▶  $\dim \text{ker}(T) = 1$  ,  $\dim \text{im}(T) = 1$ .

(3)  $T : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \quad (x_1, x_2) \mapsto (0, 0, 0)$

▶  $\dim \text{ker}(T) = 2$  ,  $\dim \text{im}(T) = 0$ .

(4)  $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m \quad (x_1, \dots, x_n) \mapsto (x_1, \dots, x_{n-k}, 0, \dots, 0)$

▶  $\dim \text{ker}(T) = k$  ,  $\dim \text{im}(T) = n - k$ .

**Claim:** Every linear  $T : V \rightarrow W$  looks like this wrt some bases.

**Corollary:** Let  $T : V \rightarrow W$  linear, with  $\dim V = n$ . Then  
$$\dim V = n = k + (n - k) = \dim \text{ker}(T) + \dim \text{im}(T)$$

## Injectivity and surjectivity revisited

Let  $V, W$  be vector spaces and  $\alpha = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}, \beta = \{\mathbf{w}_1, \dots, \mathbf{w}_m\}$  be bases, and fix any of the following equivalent pieces of data:

- (1)  $T : V \rightarrow W$
- (2)  $\{T(\mathbf{v}_1), \dots, T(\mathbf{v}_n)\}$  a list of vectors in  $W$
- (3)  $[T]_{\alpha}^{\beta}$  a matrix of numbers  $a_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}$
- (4) a system of equations  $a_{i1}x_1 + \dots + a_{in}x_n = ?$  for  $i = 1, \dots, m$

$T$  is surjective if for any  $\mathbf{b} \in W$ , there is  $\mathbf{x} \in V$  with  $T(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{b}$ .

In each of the above pictures, we have an equivalent condition:

- (1)  $\text{im}(T) = W$
- (2)  $\text{Span}(\{T(\mathbf{v}_i)\}) = W$
- (3)  $\text{col}([T]_{\alpha}^{\beta}) = W$
- (4) for any  $\mathbf{b} \in W$ , there *exists*  $\mathbf{x}$  solving  $a_{i1}x_1 + \dots + a_{in}x_n = b_i$

Similarly:  $T$  is injective if  $T(\mathbf{x}) = T(\mathbf{y})$  implies  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y}$ . Equivalently,

- (1)  $\ker(T) = \{\mathbf{0}\}$
- (2)  $\{T(\mathbf{v}_i)\}$  is linearly independent.
- (3)  $\text{null}([T]_{\alpha}^{\beta}) = \{\mathbf{0}\}$
- (4) For  $\mathbf{b} \in \text{im}(T)$ , solution to  $a_{i1}x_1 + \dots + a_{in}x_n = b_i$  is *unique*

## Towards The Dimension Theorem

We have reduced the question of **existence** and **uniqueness** of solutions to linear equations to understanding the **image** and **kernel** of a linear map  $T : V \rightarrow W$ .

What can we say about  $\text{im}(T)$  and  $\text{ker}(T)$  in general? Let's look at some examples:

(1)  $T : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \quad (x_1, x_2) \mapsto (x_1, x_2, 0)$

▶  $\dim \text{ker}(T) = 0$  ,  $\dim \text{im}(T) = 2$  .

(2)  $T : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \quad (x_1, x_2) \mapsto (x_1, 0, 0)$

▶  $\dim \text{ker}(T) = 1$  ,  $\dim \text{im}(T) = 1$ .

(3)  $T : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \quad (x_1, x_2) \mapsto (0, 0, 0)$

▶  $\dim \text{ker}(T) = 2$  ,  $\dim \text{im}(T) = 0$ .

(4)  $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m \quad (x_1, \dots, x_n) \mapsto (x_1, \dots, x_{n-k}, 0, \dots, 0)$

▶  $\dim \text{ker}(T) = k$  ,  $\dim \text{im}(T) = n - k$ .

**Claim:** Every linear  $T : V \rightarrow W$  'looks like this' wrt some bases.

**Corollary:** Let  $T : V \rightarrow W$  linear, with  $\dim V = n$ . Then  
$$\dim V = n = k + (n - k) = \dim \text{ker}(T) + \dim \text{im}(T)$$

## Discussion: The Dimension Theorem

**Theorem:** (The Dimension Theorem) Let  $T : V \rightarrow W$  be a linear map, with  $V$  finite dimensional. Then

$$\dim V = \dim \ker(T) + \dim \operatorname{im}(T)$$

Let's prove the dimension theorem using the following steps:

To fix notation, let's say  $\dim V = n$ .

- (1) Since  $\ker(T) \subset V$ , we know  $k := \dim \ker(T) \leq \dim V = n$ .
- (2) Choose a basis  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k\}$  for  $\ker(T)$ , and extend to a basis  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  for  $V$ .
- (3) Show that  $\{T(\mathbf{v}_{k+1}), \dots, T(\mathbf{v}_n)\}$  define a basis for  $\operatorname{im}(T)$ .  
(If it were linearly dependent, find a 'new' element of  $\ker(T)$ )
- (4) Conclude that  $\dim \operatorname{im}(T) = n - k$ .
- (5) Use that  $n = k + (n - k)$  to prove the theorem.

Suppose  $\dim W = m$  is finite, and extend  $\{T(\mathbf{v}_{k+1}), \dots, T(\mathbf{v}_n)\}$  to a basis for  $W$ .

What is  $[T]$  with respect to these bases?

## Discussion: Applications of the dimension theorem

Let  $T : V \rightarrow W$  and  $V$  and  $W$  finite dimensional. Recall:

$T$  is injective if and only if  $\ker(T) = \{\mathbf{0}\}$

$T$  is surjective if and only if  $\text{im}(T) = W$ .

**Theorem:**  $\dim V = \dim \ker(T) + \dim \text{im}(T)$

- (a) If  $\dim(\ker T) = 0$  can you determine if  $T$  is injective? What about surjective? (doesn't require the theorem)
- (b) If  $\dim(\text{im } T) = \dim W$  can you determine if  $T$  is injective? What about surjective? (doesn't require the theorem)
- (c) If  $\dim(\text{im } T) = \dim V$  can you determine if  $T$  is injective? What about surjective?
- (d) If  $\dim V = \dim W$  and  $T$  is injective, can you determine if  $T$  is surjective? What about vice versa?
- (e) If  $\dim V < \dim W$ , can  $T$  be injective? Can it be surjective?
- (f) If  $\dim V > \dim W$ , can  $T$  be injective? Can it be surjective?

## Discussion: Further applications, putting it all together!

Recall we had 4 different pictures of a linear map:

- (1)  $T : V \rightarrow W$
- (2)  $\{T(\mathbf{v}_1), \dots, T(\mathbf{v}_n)\}$  a list of vectors in  $W$
- (3)  $[T]_{\alpha}^{\beta}$  a matrix of numbers  $a_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}$
- (4) a system of equations  $a_{i1}x_1 + \dots + a_{in}x_n = ?$  for  $i = 1, \dots, m$

and for each of these, an interpretation of injective and surjective.

**Combine these with the dimension theorem to show:**

- (1) Let  $W = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid a_1x_1 + \dots + a_nx_n = 0\}$ . Show  $\dim W = n - 1$  unless the  $a_i$  are all zero.
- (2) Let  $V$  be  $n$  dimensional and  $S = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\} \subset V$ . Show that:
  - (a) If  $S$  is linearly independent, then  $S$  must be a basis.
  - (b) If  $\text{Span}(S) = V$  then  $S$  must be a basis.
- (3) Let  $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  a linear map with  $[T] \in M_{n \times n}(\mathbb{R})$ . Show that if  $[T]$  has linearly dependent columns, then  $T$  is not surjective.