

## Lecture 6: Linear Dependence cont'd

### Testing Lin Independence in $\mathcal{R}[\mathbb{R}]$

No systematic method.

**E.g. 1**  $\{e^x, e^{2x}, e^{3x}, \dots\}$  is lin indep

Why? Suppose  $\lambda_1 e^x + \dots + \lambda_n e^{nx} = 0$

with

**How does  $\text{Span}(S)$  vary with  $S$ ?**

**Propn**  $V =$  vector space/ field  $\mathbb{F}$

Let  $S_1 \subseteq S_2$  be subsets of  $V$ . Then

Proof: Every element in  $\text{Span}(S_1)$

is

so is

so is

i.e.

**Thm 1** Let  $S \subseteq V =$  vector space/ field  $\mathbb{F}$

For  $\mathbf{v} \in V$ ,

$$\text{Span}(S \cup \{\mathbf{v}\}) = \text{Span}(S)$$

iff  $\mathbf{v} \in \text{Span}(S)$ .

Proof: ( $\implies$ ) If  $\text{Span}(S \cup \{\mathbf{v}\}) = \text{Span}(S)$

then

( $\impliedby$ ) Suppose  $\mathbf{v} \in \text{Span}(S)$ . Recall that

$\text{Span}(S \cup \{\mathbf{v}\})$  is the

But  $\text{Span}(S)$

cont'd

Hence,  $\text{Span}(S) \supseteq$

$\text{Propn} \implies \text{Span}(S) \subseteq$

The two inclusions show

Note: We saw if  $S = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  lin depend then some  $\mathbf{v}_i \in \text{Span}(S - \{\mathbf{v}_i\})$ . So then

i.e. can omit  $\mathbf{v}_i$  without

**E.g. 2**  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^3$  non-parallel.

Suppose  $\mathbf{v}_3 \in W = \text{Span}(\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2)$

Then  $\text{Span}(\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3)$

Alternative algebraic way to see this:

Any lin combn

$$x_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + x_2 \mathbf{v}_2 + x_3 \mathbf{v}_3 =$$

$\therefore \text{Span}(\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3)$

Propn  $\implies$

so

argument can be jazzed up to prove thm 1

(see notes §6.4.4)

**e.g.** What's  $\text{Span}(1, x^2, 3 + x^2)$ ?

$$3 + x^2 \in$$

## **Informal First Look at Coordinates**

$\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^3$  lin indep

$W =$  the plane

Set up “grid” or “coordinate” system

$\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2$  determines coords on  $W$

$\mathbf{v}_1$  has coords

The following thm generalises the above to show “S lin indep determines coordinate system for vectors in  $\text{Span}(S)$ ”.

**Thm** (Uniqueness of Linear Combns)

$V$  = vector space/ field  $\mathbb{F}$

Let  $S = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  non-empty, lin

Any vector  $\mathbf{v} \in \text{Span}(S)$  can be written

$$\mathbf{v} =$$

i.e. If also  $\mathbf{v} =$

then

Note:  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  give coordinates of  $\mathbf{v}$ .

Proof: Suppose

$$\mathbf{v} =$$

Subtracting using distributive, associative and commutative laws gives

Defn of lin indep  $\implies$

# What Fails if $S$ Lin Dependent?