1. Quotient Vector Spaces
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Quotient Vector Spaces

Given a vector space $X$ and a vector subspace $W$ of $X$, define an equivalence relation by

$$x \sim y \iff x - y \in W$$

Form a new vector space $X/W$: the set of vectors is

$$\{ [x] : x \in X \}$$

where $[x]$ denotes the equivalence class of $x$ with respect to $\sim$.

$X/W$ is read “$X$ mod $W$”.

Note that the vectors in $X/W$ are sets of vectors in $X$: for $x \in X$,

$$[x] = \{ x + w : w \in W \}$$

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{if } x \sim y & \iff x - y \in W \\
& \iff \exists \bar{w} \in W \text{ s.t. } x - y = \bar{w} \\
& \iff y = x - \bar{w} = x + (-\bar{w})
\end{align*}
\]
Quotient Vector Spaces

We claim that \( X/W \) can be viewed as a vector space over \( F \). Define the vector space operations +, \cdot in \( X/W \) as follows:

Define

\[
[x] + [y] = [x + y] \\
\alpha[x] = [\alpha x]
\]

**Exercise:** Verify that \( \sim \) is an equivalence relation and that vector addition and scalar multiplication are well-defined.

Then \( X/W \) is a vector space over \( F \) with these definitions for + and \cdot. (more exercise)

\[
\text{Show: } \forall x, x', y, y' \in X \\
\forall \alpha \in F : \\
\begin{align*}
[x] &= [x'] , \\
[y] &= [y'] \\
\Rightarrow [x+y] &= [x+y'] , \\
[\alpha x] &= [\alpha x']
\end{align*}
\]
Quotient Vector Spaces

Example: Let $X = \mathbb{R}^3$ and let $W = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x_1 = x_2 = 0\}$. Then for $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^3$,

$x \sim y \iff x - y \in W$

$x - y \in W \iff x_1 - y_1 = 0, x_2 - y_2 = 0$

$x_1 = y_1, x_2 = y_2$

and

$[x] = \{x + w : w \in W\} = \{(x_1, x_2, z) : z \in \mathbb{R}\}$

So the equivalence class corresponding to $x$ is the line in $\mathbb{R}^3$ through $x$ parallel to the axis of the third coordinate.
\[ x = (x_1, x_2, x_3) \]
Example, cont.

What is $X/W$? Intuitively this equivalence relation ignores the third coordinate, and we can identify the equivalence class $[x]$ with the vector $(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2$.

The next two results show how to formalize this connection.
Quotient Vector Spaces

**Theorem 1.** If $X$ is a vector space with $\dim X = n$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $W$ is a vector subspace of $X$, then

$$\dim(X/W) = \dim X - \dim W$$

**Proof.** (Sketch) Begin with a basis $\{w_1, \ldots, w_c\}$ for $W$, and a basis $\{[x_1], \ldots, [x_k]\}$ for $X/W$. Show that

$$\{w_1, \ldots, w_c\} \cup \{x_1, \ldots, x_k\}$$

is a basis for $X$. □
Quotient Vector Spaces

**Theorem 2.** Let $X$ and $Y$ be vector spaces over the same field $F$ and $T \in L(X,Y)$. Then $\text{Im} T$ is isomorphic to $X/\ker T$.

**Proof.** Notice that if $X$ is finite-dimensional, then

$$
\dim(X/\ker T) = \dim X - \dim \ker T \quad \text{(by the previous theorem)}
= \text{Rank } T \quad \text{(by the Rank-Nullity Theorem)}
= \dim \text{Im } T
$$

so $X/\ker T$ is isomorphic to $\text{Im } T$. (why??)

We prove that this is true in general, and that the isomorphism is natural.
\{ (1,0,0) , (0,1,0) , (0,0,1) \}

basis for \(\mathbb{R}^3\)

\(W = \{ x \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x_1 = x_2 = 0 \}\)

\(= \{ x \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x = (0,0,z) \text{ for some } z \in \mathbb{R} \}\)

\(w = (0,0,1)\) - \(zw_1\) is a basis for \(W\)

a basis is

\(X / W : \wedge \{ [1,0,0] , [0,1,0] \}\)

\([x] = \{ x_1, x_2, z \in \mathbb{R}^3 : z \in \mathbb{R} \}\)

\([1,1,1]\) = \(1 [1,0,0] + 1 [0,1,0] \)

\([1,0,1]\) = \([1,0,0] + [0,1,0]\)

\([1,1,0]\) = \([1,1,0] - [0,1,0]\)
\[(1, 1, 1) \] = \[(1, 1, 0)\]
Define $\tilde{T} : X/ \ker T \to \Im T$ by

$$\tilde{T}([x]) = T(x)$$ \hspace{1cm} \text{(natural)}$$

We first need to check that this is well-defined, that is, that if $[x] = [x']$ then $\tilde{T}([x]) = \tilde{T}([x'])$.

$$[x] = [x'] \implies x \sim x'$$
$$\implies x - x' \in \ker T$$
$$\implies T(x - x') = 0$$
$$\implies T(x) = T(x')$$

so $\tilde{T}$ is well-defined.

Clearly, $\tilde{T} : X/ \ker T \to \Im T$. It is easy to check that $\tilde{T}$ is linear,
so \( \tilde{T} \in L(X/ \ker T, \text{Im } T) \). Next we show that \( \tilde{T} \) is an isomorphism.

\[
\tilde{T}([x]) = \tilde{T}([y]) \Rightarrow T(x) = T(y) \\
\Rightarrow T(x - y) = 0 \\
\Rightarrow x - y \in \ker T \\
\Rightarrow x \sim y \\
\Rightarrow [x] = [y]
\]

so \( \tilde{T} \) is one-to-one.

\[
y \in \text{Im } T \Rightarrow \exists x \in X \text{ s.t. } T(x) = y \\
\Rightarrow \tilde{T}([x]) = y = \tilde{T}(x)
\]

so \( \tilde{T} \) is onto, hence \( \tilde{T} \) is an isomorphism. \( \square \)
**Example:** Consider \( T \in L(\mathbb{R}^3, \mathbb{R}^2) \) defined by

\[
T(x_1, x_2, x_3) = (x_1, x_2)
\]

Then

\[
\ker T = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x_1 = x_2 = 0\}
\]

is the \( x_3 \)-axis.

Given \( x \), the equivalence class \([x]\) is just the line through \( x \) parallel to the \( x_3 \)-axis.

\[
\tilde{T}([x]) = T(x_1, x_2, x_3) = (x_1, x_2)
\]

and

\[
\text{Im } T = \mathbb{R}^2, \quad X/\ker T \cong \mathbb{R}^2 = \text{Im } T
\]

as we suggested intuitively above (here the symbol \( \cong \) denotes isomorphism, that is, we write \( Y \cong Z \) if \( Y \) and \( Z \) are isomorphic.)
Coordinate Representations

(over $\mathbb{R}$)

Every real vector space $X$ with dimension $n$ is isomorphic to $\mathbb{R}^n$. What's the isomorphism?

Let $X$ be a finite-dimensional vector space over $\mathbb{R}$ with $\text{dim} \ X = n$. Fix any Hamel basis $V = \{v_1, \ldots, v_n\}$ of $X$. Any $x \in X$ has a unique representation

$$x = \sum_{j=1}^{n} \beta_j v_j$$

(here, we allow $\beta_j = 0$).

Define:

$$crd_V(x) = \begin{pmatrix} \beta_1 \\ \vdots \\ \beta_n \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

"coordinate representation of $x$ with respect to $V"
crd\(V(x)\) is the vector of coordinates of \(x\) with respect to the basis \(V\).

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{crd}_V(v_1) &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} & \text{crd}_V(v_2) &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} & \text{crd}_V(v_n) &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}
\end{align*}
\]

\(\text{crd}_V\) is an isomorphism from \(X\) to \(\mathbb{R}^n\).
Matrix Representations of Linear Transformations

Suppose $T \in L(X, Y)$, $\dim X = n$, $\dim Y = m$. Fix bases

$V = \{v_1, \ldots, v_n\}$ of $X$

$W = \{w_1, \ldots, w_m\}$ of $Y$

$T(v_j) \in Y$, so

$$T(v_j) = \sum_{i=1}^{m} \alpha_{ij} w_i$$

for some $\alpha_{ij}$, $i=1, \ldots, m$ (again allow some $\alpha_{ij} = 0$).

Define

$$M_{txW,V}(T) = \begin{pmatrix}
\alpha_{11} & \cdots & \alpha_{1n} \\
\vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
\alpha_{m1} & \cdots & \alpha_{mn}
\end{pmatrix}$$

"matrix representation of $T$ with respect to $V$ and $W"\)
Matrix Representations of Linear Transformations

Notice that the columns are the coordinates (expressed with respect to $W$) of $T(v_1), \ldots, T(v_n)$.

Observe

$$
\begin{pmatrix}
\alpha_{11} & \cdots & \alpha_{1n} \\
\vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
\alpha_{m1} & \cdots & \alpha_{mn}
\end{pmatrix}
\begin{pmatrix}
1 \\
0 \\
0
\end{pmatrix}
= 
\begin{pmatrix}
\alpha_{11} \\
\vdots \\
\alpha_{m1}
\end{pmatrix}
$$

so

$$
Mtx_{W,V}(T) \cdot crd_V(v_j) = \text{crd}_W(T(v_j)) \quad \forall v_j \in V
$$

$$
\Rightarrow \quad Mtx_{W,V}(T) \cdot crd_V(x) = \text{crd}_W(T(x)) \quad \forall x \in X
$$
Matrix Representations

Multiplying a vector by a matrix does two things:

- Computes the action of $T$

- Accounts for the change in basis
Example: $X = Y = \mathbb{R}^2$, $V = \{(1, 0), (0, 1)\}$, $W = \{(1, 1), (-1, 1)\}$, $T = id$, that is, $T(x) = x$ for each $x$.

$$M_{tx_{W,V}}(T) \neq \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$M_{tx_{W,V}}(T)$ is the matrix that *changes basis* from $V$ to $W$. 
How do we compute it? First find coord. rep. for \( v_1, v_2 \) w.r.t. \( W \):

\[
v_1 = (1, 0) = \alpha_{11}(1, 1) + \alpha_{21}(-1, 1)
\]
\[
\alpha_{11} - \alpha_{21} = 1
\]
\[
\alpha_{11} + \alpha_{21} = 0
\]
\[
2\alpha_{11} = 1, \alpha_{11} = \frac{1}{2}
\]
\[
\alpha_{21} = -\frac{1}{2}
\]

\[
v_2 = (0, 1) = \alpha_{12}(1, 1) + \alpha_{22}(-1, 1)
\]
\[
\alpha_{12} - \alpha_{22} = 0
\]
\[
\alpha_{12} + \alpha_{22} = 1
\]
\[
2\alpha_{12} = 1, \alpha_{12} = \frac{1}{2}
\]
\[
\alpha_{22} = \frac{1}{2}
\]

\[
\Rightarrow \text{coord}_W(v_1) = \left( \frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2} \right)
\]

\[
\Rightarrow \text{coord}_W(v_2) = \left( \frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2} \right)
\]
So

$$M_{txW,V}(id) = \begin{pmatrix} 1/2 & 1/2 \\ -1/2 & 1/2 \end{pmatrix}$$
Matrix Representations

**Theorem 3** (Thm. 3.5'). Let $X$ and $Y$ be vector spaces over the same field $F$, with $\dim X = n$, $\dim Y = m$. Then $L(X,Y)$, the space of linear transformations from $X$ to $Y$, is isomorphic to $F_{m \times n}$, the vector space of $m \times n$ matrices over $F$. If $V = \{v_1, \ldots, v_n\}$ is a basis for $X$ and $W = \{w_1, \ldots, w_m\}$ is a basis for $Y$, then

$$Mtx_{W,V} \in L(L(X,Y), F_{m \times n})$$

and $Mtx_{W,V}$ is an isomorphism from $L(X,Y)$ to $F_{m \times n}$. 
Theorem 4 (From Handout). Let $X, Y, Z$ be finite-dimensional vector spaces over the same field $F$ with bases $U, V, W$ respectively. Let $S \in L(X, Y)$ and $T \in L(Y, Z)$. Then

$$Mtx_{W,V}(T) \cdot Mtx_{V,U}(S) = Mtx_{W,U}(T \circ S)$$

i.e. matrix multiplication corresponds via the matrix representation isomorphism to composition of linear transformations.

Proof. See handout. \qed

Note that $Mtx_{W,V}$ is a function from $L(X, Y)$ to the space $F_{m \times n}$ of $m \times n$ matrices, while $Mtx_{W,V}(T)$ is an $m \times n$ matrix.
Matrix Representations

The theorem can be summarized by the following “Commutative Diagram:”

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
X & \xrightarrow{S} & Y \\
\uparrow_{crd_U} & & \uparrow_{crd_V} \\
\mathbb{R}^n & \rightarrow & \mathbb{R}^m \\
Mtx_{V,U}(S) & & Mtx_{W,V}(T) \\
\end{array}
\quad
\begin{array}{ccc}
Y & \xrightarrow{T} & Z \\
\uparrow_{crd_W} & & \uparrow_{crd_W} \\
\mathbb{R}^m & \rightarrow & \mathbb{R}^r \\
\end{array}
\]

We say the diagram commutes because you get the same answer any way you go around the diagram (in directions allowed by the arrows). The \( crd \) arrows go in both directions because \( crd \) is an isomorphism.
Change of Basis

Let $X$ be a finite-dimensional vector space with basis $V$. If $T \in L(X, X)$ it is customary to use the same basis in the domain and range. In this case, $Mtx_V(T)$ denotes $Mtx_{V,V}(T)$.

**Question:** If $W$ is another basis for $X$, how are $Mtx_V(T)$ and $Mtx_W(T)$ related?
\[ Mtx_{V,W}(id) \cdot Mtx_{W,T} \cdot Mtx_{W,V}(id) = Mtx_{V,W}(id) \cdot Mtx_{W,V}(T \circ id) \]
\[ = Mtx_{V,V}(id \circ T \circ id) \]
\[ = Mtx_{V}(T) \]

and
\[ Mtx_{V,W}(id) \cdot Mtx_{W,V}(id) = Mtx_{V,V}(id) \]
\[ = \begin{pmatrix}
1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\
0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 1
\end{pmatrix} \]
So this says that

\[ Mtx_V(T) = P^{-1}Mtx_W(T)P \]

for the invertible matrix

\[ P = Mtx_{W,V}(id) \]

that is the change of basis matrix.

On the other hand, if \( P \) is any invertible matrix, then \( P \) is also a change of basis matrix for appropriate corresponding bases (see handout).
Similarity

Definition 1. Square matrices $A$ and $B$ are similar if

$$A = P^{-1}BP$$

for some invertible matrix $P$.  


Similarity

**Theorem 5.** Suppose that $X$ is a finite-dimensional vector space.

1. If $T \in L(X, X)$ then any two matrix representations of $T$ are similar. That is, if $U, W$ are any two bases of $X$, then $Mtx_W(T)$ and $Mtx_U(T)$ are similar.

2. Conversely, two similar matrices represent the same linear transformation $T$, relative to suitable bases. That is, given similar matrices $A, B$ with $A = P^{-1}BP$ and any basis $U$, there is a basis $W$ and $T \in L(X, X)$ such that

$$
B = Mtx_U(T) \\
A = Mtx_W(T) \\
P = Mtx_{U,W}(id) \\
P^{-1} = Mtx_{W,U}(id)
$$
Proof. See Handout on Diagonalization and Quadratic Forms.
Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

Here, we define eigenvalues and eigenvectors of a linear transformation and show that $\lambda$ is an eigenvalue of $T$ if and only if $\lambda$ is an eigenvalue for some matrix representation of $T$ if and only if $\lambda$ is an eigenvalue for every matrix representation of $T$.

**Definition 2.** Let $X$ be a vector space and $T \in L(X, X)$. We say that $\lambda$ is an eigenvalue of $T$ and $v \neq 0$ is an eigenvector corresponding to $\lambda$ if $T(v) = \lambda v$. 
Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

Theorem 6 (Theorem 4 in Handout). Let $X$ be a finite-dimensional vector space, and $U$ a basis. Then $\lambda$ is an eigenvalue of $T$ if and only if $\lambda$ is an eigenvalue of $Mtx_U(T)$. $v$ is an eigenvector of $T$ corresponding to $\lambda$ if and only if $crd_U(v)$ is an eigenvector of $Mtx_U(T)$ corresponding to $\lambda$.

Proof. By the Commutative Diagram Theorem,

\[ T(v) = \lambda v \iff crd_U(T(v)) = crd_U(\lambda v) \]
\[ \iff Mtx_U(T)(crd_U(v)) = \lambda (crd_U(v)) \]

\[ A = Mtx_U(T), \quad x = crd_U(v) \]

\[ \iff A x = \lambda x \]
Computing Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

Suppose dim $X = n$; let $I$ be the $n \times n$ identity matrix. Given $T \in L(X, X)$, fix a basis $U$ and let

$$A = Mtx_U(T)$$

Find the eigenvalues of $T$ by computing the eigenvalues of $A$:

$$Av = \lambda v \iff (A - \lambda I)v = 0 \quad \forall \neq 0$$

$$\iff (A - \lambda I) \text{ is not invertible}$$

$$\iff \det(A - \lambda I) = 0$$
We have the following facts:

• If \( A \in \mathbb{R}_{n \times n} \),

\[
f(\lambda) = \det(A - \lambda I) = 0\ ?
\]

is an \( n^{th} \) degree polynomial in \( \lambda \) with real coefficients; it is called the \textit{characteristic polynomial} of \( A \).

• \( f \) has \( n \) roots in \( \mathbb{C} \), counting multiplicity:

\[
f(\lambda) = (\lambda - c_1)(\lambda - c_2) \cdots (\lambda - c_n)
\]

where \( c_1, \ldots, c_n \in \mathbb{C} \) are the eigenvalues; the \( c_j \)’s are not necessarily distinct. Notice that \( f(\lambda) = 0 \) if and only if \( \lambda \in \{c_1, \ldots, c_n\} \), so the roots are the solutions of the equation \( f(\lambda) = 0 \).
• the roots that are not real come in conjugate pairs:

\[ f(a + bi) = 0 \iff f(a - bi) = 0 \]

• if \( \lambda = c_j \in \mathbb{R} \), there is a corresponding eigenvector in \( \mathbb{R}^n \).

• if \( \lambda = c_j \not\in \mathbb{R} \), the corresponding eigenvectors are in \( \mathbb{C}^n \setminus \mathbb{R}^n \).
Diagonalization

Definition 3. Suppose $X$ is a finite-dimensional vector space with basis $U$. Given a linear transformation $T \in L(X, X)$, let

$$A = Mtx_{U}(T)$$

We say that $A$ can be diagonalized if there is a basis $W$ for $X$ such that $Mtx_{W}(T)$ is a diagonal matrix, that is,
\[ Mtx_W(T) = \begin{pmatrix}
\lambda_1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\
0 & \lambda_2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\
0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & \lambda_n
\end{pmatrix} \]

So

\[ A \text{ can be diagonalized} \quad \iff \quad A \text{ is similar to a diagonal matrix} \quad \iff \quad A = P^{-1}BP \text{ where } B \text{ is diagonal} \]
Suppose there is a basis $W$ such that

$$Mtx_W(T) = \begin{pmatrix}
\lambda_1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\
0 & \lambda_2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\
0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & \lambda_n
\end{pmatrix}$$

Then the standard basis vectors of $\mathbb{R}^n$ are eigenvectors of $Mtx_W(T)$.

*In general:*

$z_j$ is an eigenvector of $T$ corresponding to $\lambda_j$ $\iff$ $crd_W(z_j)$ is an eigenvector of $Mtx_W(T)$ corresponding to $\lambda_j$.

So an eigenvector corresponding to $\lambda_j$ is $w_j$, since $crd_W(w_j) = e_j$, the $j^{th}$ standard basis vector in $\mathbb{R}^n$. 
Thus $Mtx_W(T)$ is diagonal if and only if $W = \{w_1, \ldots, w_n\}$ where $w_j$ is an eigenvector of $T$ corresponding to $\lambda_j$ for each $j$.

Then the action of $T$ is clear: it stretches each basis element $w_i$ by the factor $\lambda_i$. 
Diagonalization

**Theorem 7** (Thm. 6.7'). Let $X$ be an $n$-dimensional vector space, $T \in L(X, X)$, $U$ any basis of $X$, and $A = Mtx_U(T)$. Then the following are equivalent:

1. $A$ can be diagonalized

2. there is a basis $W$ for $X$ consisting of eigenvectors of $T$

3. there is a basis $V$ for $\mathbb{R}^n$ consisting of eigenvectors of $A$

**Proof.** Follows from Theorem 6.7 in de la Fuente and Theorem 4 from the Handout.
Diagonalization

**Theorem 8** (Thm. 6.8'). Let $X$ be a vector space and $T \in \mathcal{L}(X, X)$.

1. If $\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_m$ are distinct eigenvalues of $T$ with corresponding eigenvectors $v_1, \ldots, v_m$, then $\{v_1, \ldots, v_m\}$ is linearly independent.

2. If $\dim X = n$ and $T$ has $n$ distinct eigenvalues, then $X$ has a basis consisting of eigenvectors of $T$; consequently, if $U$ is any basis of $X$, then $\text{Mtx}_U(T)$ is diagonalizable.

**Proof.** This is an adaptation of the proof of Theorem 6.8 in de la Fuente.