

## 1.5 LINEARLY INDEPENDENCE AND LINEARLY DEPENDENCE

## Linearly dependent set

A subset  $S$  of a vector space is called linearly dependent if there is a finite number of distinct vectors  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  in  $S$  and scalars  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n$ , zero such that

$$\alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n = 0$$

## Linearly independent set

A subset  $S$  of a vector space that is not linearly dependent is called independent. i.e., A subset  $S$  of a vector space is called linearly independent if there exists a finite number of distinct vectors  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  in  $S$  and scalars  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n$  such

$$\alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n = 0. \text{ Implies } \alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = \dots = \alpha_n = 0$$

Note:

- Any set of vectors which contains zero vectors is linearly dependent
- In  $R^2$  any two straight lines which are not parallel are linearly independent
- In  $R^2$  any two straight lines which are parallel are linearly dependent
- In  $R^2$  any three vectors are linearly dependent therefore any set of  $n$  in the  $R^m$  are linearly dependent if  $n > m$ .

Theorem 1.16:  $\{0\}$  is a dependent set

Proof: Let  $V$  be a vector space over  $F$

Let  $v_1 = 0$

Therefore  $\alpha_1 v_1 = 0 \Rightarrow \alpha_1 \neq 0$

$\therefore \{0\}$  is linearly dependent.

Theorem 1.17: A singleton non zero vector is linearly independent set

Proof: Let  $V$  be a vector space over  $F$

Let  $v_1 \neq 0 \in V$

Therefore  $\alpha_1 v_1 = 0 \Rightarrow \alpha_1 = 0$

$\therefore \{v_1\}$  is linearly independent.

Theorem 1.18: Any subset of a linearly independent set is linearly independent.

Proof:

Let  $V$  be a vector space over a field  $F$ .

Let  $S = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  be a linearly independent set.

Let  $S_1 = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m\}$  be a subset of  $S$ , where  $m < n$ .

Suppose  $S_1$  is a linearly dependent set. Then there exist  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_m$  in  $F$  not all zero, such that

$$\alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \dots + \alpha_m v_m = 0$$

Hence  $\alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \dots + \alpha_m v_m + 0v_{m+1} + \dots + 0v_n = 0$  with  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_m$  in  $F$  not all zero.

Therefore  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m, v_{m+1}, \dots, v_n\}$  is a linearly dependent set of  $V$  i.e.,  $S$  is a linearly dependent set of  $V$ , which is a contradiction.

Therefore  $S_1$  is linearly independent.

Theorem 1.19: Any set containing a linearly dependent set is also linearly dependent

OR

Any super set of a linearly dependent set is linearly dependent set

Proof: Let  $V$  a vector space over  $F$ .

Let  $S$  be a linearly dependent set of  $V$ ...

Then there exists scalar  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n \in F$  not all zero such that

$$\alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n = 0$$

now consider the super set  $S_1 = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n, v_{n+1}\}$

Then we have  $\alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n + 0v_{n+1} = 0$  with at least one  $\alpha_i \neq 0$

$\therefore S_1$  is linearly dependent.

Theorem 1.20: A finite set of vectors that contains the zero vector will be linearly dependent.

Proof: Let  $S = \{0, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  be any set of vectors that contains the zero vector. Consider

$$\alpha_1(0) + \alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n = 0$$

Which implies  $\alpha_1 \neq 0$

Therefore  $S = \{0, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  linearly dependent.

Theorem 1.21: Let  $S = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  be a linearly independent set of vectors in

a vector space  $V$  over a field  $F$ . Then every element of  $L(S)$  can be uniquely written in the form  $\alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n$ , where  $v_i \in S$  and  $\alpha_i \in F$ .

Proof: By the definition, every element of  $L(S)$  is of the form

$$\alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n$$

We prove that every element of  $L(S)$  can be uniquely written in the form

$$\alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n$$

If not suppose there is linear combination  $\beta_1 v_1 + \beta_2 v_2 + \dots + \beta_n v_n$  of  $S$  such that

$$\alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n = \beta_1 v_1 + \beta_2 v_2 + \dots + \beta_n v_n, \quad \text{where } \beta_i \in F$$

$$\Rightarrow (\alpha_1 - \beta_1)v_1 + (\alpha_2 - \beta_2)v_2 + \dots + (\alpha_n - \beta_n)v_n = 0$$

Since  $S$  is a linearly independent set,  $(\alpha_i - \beta_i) = 0$  for all  $i$ .

$$\alpha_i - \beta_i = 0 \text{ for all } i$$

$$\therefore \alpha_i = \beta_i \text{ for all } i$$

Hence every element of  $L(S)$  can be uniquely written in the form

$$\alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n$$

Theorem 1.22: A set  $S = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}; n \geq 2$  is a linearly dependent set of vectors in  $V$  if and only if there exists a vector  $v_k \in S$  such that  $v_k$  is a linear combination of the preceding vectors  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{k-1}$ .

**1. Determine whether the following sets of vectors  $v_3(\mathbb{R})$  are linearly dependent or linearly independent.**

- i.  $V_1 = (0, 2, -4), V_2 = (1, -2, -1), V_3 = (1, -4, 3)$**
- ii.  $V_1 = (1, 2, -3), V_2 = (1, -3, 2), V_3 = (2, -1, 5)$**
- iii.  $V_1 = (1, 2, 3), V_2 = (3, 1, 5), V_3 = (3, -4, 7)$**

Solution:

(i) Let  $av_1 + bv_2 + cv_3 = 0, a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$

$$a(0, 2, -4) + b(1, -2, -1) + c(1, -4, 3) = (0, 0, 0)$$

$$\Rightarrow (0, 2a, -4a) + (b, -2b, -b) + (c, -4c, -3c) = (0, 0, 0)$$

$$\Rightarrow (b+c, 2a-2b-4c, -4a-b+3c) = (0, 0, 0)$$

$$b + c = 0 \dots\dots\dots(1)$$

$$2a - 2b - 4c \Rightarrow a - b - 2c = 0 \quad \dots\dots\dots(2)$$

$$- 4a - b + 3c = 0 \quad \dots\dots\dots(3)$$

Subtracting (3) from (2)

$$5a - 5c = 0 \Rightarrow a = c$$

From (1)  $b = -c$

If we choose  $c = k$ , then  $a=k$  and  $b=-k$

Hence the system is linearly dependent

(ii)  $a(1,2,-3)+b(1,-3,2)+c(2,-1,5) = (0,0,0)$

$$a + b + 2c = 0 \quad \dots\dots(1)$$

$$2a - 3b - c = 0 \quad \dots\dots(2)$$

$$-3a + 2b + 5c = 0 \quad \dots\dots\dots(3)$$

Multiply (1) by 2,

$$2a + 2b + 4c = 0 \quad \dots\dots\dots(4)$$

Subtracting (1) and (2),

We get  $5b + 5c = 0 \quad \dots\dots\dots(5)$

Multiply (1) by (3),

$$3a + 3b + 6c = 0 \quad \dots\dots\dots(6)$$

Adding (3) and (6),

$$5b = 11c = 0 \quad \dots\dots\dots(7)$$

Substituting  $c=0$  in (5)

We get  $b=0$

From (1),  $a=0$

$$a = 0, b = 0, c = 0$$

The given system is linearly independent.

$$(iii) \quad a(1,2,3)+b(3,1,5)+c(3,-4,7)=(0,0,0)$$

$$a+3b+3c=0 \quad \dots\dots(1)$$

$$2a+b-4c=0 \quad \dots\dots(2)$$

$$a+5b+7c=0 \quad \dots\dots(3)$$

Subtracting (3) and (1),

$$2b+4c=0 \quad \dots\dots(4)$$

Multiply (1) by (2),  $2a+6b+6c=0 \quad \dots(5)$

Subtracting (5) and (2),

$$5b+10c=0$$

$$b+2c=0 \quad \dots\dots(6)$$

Multiplying (6) by 2,

$$2b+4c=0 \quad \dots\dots(7)$$

From (4) and (7),

$$B = -2c$$

Substituting b in (2)

$$2a-2c-4c=0$$

$$2a=6c$$

$$a=3c$$

The given system is linearly dependent.

2.If  $V_1 = (2, -1, 0)$ ,  $V_2 = (1, 2, 1)$  and  $V_3 = (0, 2, -1)$ . Show  $V_1, V_2, V_3$  are linearly independent. Is it possible  $(3, 2, 1)$  as a linear combination of  $V_1, V_2, V_3$ .

Solution:

Let  $av_1 + bv_2 + cv_3 = 0$ ,  $a, b, c \in F$

$$a(2, -1, 0) + b(1, 2, 1) + c(0, 2, -1) = (0, 0, 0)$$

$$2a + b = 0 \quad \dots\dots(1)$$

$$-a + 2b + 2c = 0 \quad \dots\dots\dots(2)$$

$$b - c = 0 \quad \dots\dots\dots(3)$$

these equation can be put in the form  $AX = 0$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Det } A = \det \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \det \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 4 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \quad C_1 \rightarrow C_2 + C_3$$

$$= - \det \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -1 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = -9 \neq 0$$

$$a = b = c = 0$$

hence the system is linearly independent.

Let  $v = a_1v_1 + a_2v_2 + a_3v_3$  where  $a_1, a_2, a_3 \in F$

$$(3, 2, 1) = a_1(2, -1, 0) + a_2(1, 2, 1) + a_3(0, 2, -1)$$

$$(3, 2, 1) = (2a_1 + a_2, -a_1 + 2a_2 + 2a_3, a_2 - a_3)$$

Comparing

$$3 = 2a_1 + a_2 \quad \dots\dots\dots(4)$$

$$2 = -a_1 + 2a_2 + a_3 \quad \dots\dots\dots(5)$$

$$1 = a_2 - a_3 \quad \dots\dots\dots(6)$$

Multiplying (5) by 2,

$$4 = 2(-a_1 + 2a_2 + a_3) \quad \dots\dots\dots(7)$$

Adding (4) and (7)

$$7 = 5a_2 + 4a_3 \quad \dots\dots\dots(8)$$

Multiplying (6) by 5,

$$5 = 5a_2 + 5a_3 \quad \dots\dots\dots(9)$$

Subtracting (8) and (9)

$$2 = 9a_3 \Rightarrow a_3 = 2/9$$

Substituting  $a_3$  in (6)

$$1 = a_2 - 2/9 \Rightarrow 1 + 2/9$$

$$a_2 = \frac{11}{9}$$

Substituting  $a_2$  in (4)

$$3 = 2a_1 + \frac{11}{9}$$

$$2a_1 = 3 - \frac{11}{9}$$

$$2a_1 = \frac{27-11}{9}$$

$$\Rightarrow a_1 = \frac{16}{2 \cdot 9} = \frac{8}{9}$$

$$a_1 = \frac{8}{9}, a_2 = \frac{11}{9}, a_3 = \frac{2}{9}$$

$$\text{hence } (3, 2, 1) = \frac{8}{9}(2, -1, 0) + \frac{11}{9}(1, 2, 1) + \frac{2}{9}(0, 2, -1)$$

which is the required linear combination.

1. If  $x, y, z$  are linearly independent vectors in a vector space  $V$  then prove that all linearly independent  $x+y, x-y, x-2y+z$

Solution:

Let  $a, b, c \in F$  such that

$$a(x+y) + b(x-y) + c(x-2y+z) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (a+b+c)x + (a-b-2c)y + cz = 0, \quad x \neq 0, y \neq 0, z \neq 0$$

$$\text{Comparing } a + b + c = 0 \dots (1)$$

$$a - b - 2c = 0 \dots (2),$$

$$c = 0 \dots (3)$$

Note:

1. Any matrix with distinct eigen values can be diagonalizable.
2. All matrices do not possess  $n$  linearly independent eigen vectors. Therefore all matrices are not diagonalizable.
3. Similar matrices have the same eigen values.
4. If  $A$  is diagonalizable then it has  $n$  linearly independent eigen vectors.
5. Symmetric matrices are always diagonalizable.
6. Let  $A$  be a square matrix,  $A$  is orthogonally diagonalizable iff it is a symmetric matrix.

Definition:

A square matrix  $A$  is said to be orthogonally diagonalizable if there exists an orthogonal matrix  $N$  such that  $D = N^T A N$  is a diagonal matrix.

1. Show that the following matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} -4 & -6 \\ 3 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$  is diagonalizable hence find  $A^9$ .

Solution:

The characteristic equation is given by  $|A - \lambda I| = 0$

$$\text{(i.e.,)} \begin{vmatrix} -4 - \lambda & -6 \\ 3 & 5 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (-4 - \lambda)(5 - \lambda) - 3(-6) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow -20 + 4\lambda - 5\lambda + \lambda^2 + 18 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda^2 - \lambda - 2 = 0$$

$$(\lambda + 1)(\lambda - 2) = 0$$

$$\lambda = -1, 2$$

The eigen values are  $\lambda = -1, 2$

To find eigen vectors :

$$(A - \lambda I)v = 0$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} -4 - \lambda & -6 \\ 3 & 5 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \dots\dots(1)$$

Case (i)

Substituting  $\lambda = 2$  in we get

$$\begin{vmatrix} -4 - 2 & -6 \\ 3 & 5 - 2 \end{vmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -6 & -6 \\ 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$-6x_1 - 6x_2 = 0$$

$$3x_1 + 3x_2 = 0 \Rightarrow 3x_1 = -3x_2$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 = -x_2$$

Let  $x_2 = t$ , then  $x_1 = t$

$$V_1 = t \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Case (ii)

Substituting  $\lambda = -1$  in we get

$$\begin{bmatrix} -4 + 1 & -6 \\ 3 & 5 + 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -3 & -6 \\ 3 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$-3x_1 - 6x_2 = 0$$

$$3x_1 + 6x_2 = 0 \Rightarrow 3x_1 = -6x_2$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 = -2x_2$$

Let  $x_2 = s$ , then  $x_1 = -2s$

$$V_2 = s \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Since  $A$  has two linearly independent eigen vectors it is diagonalizable.

Modal matrix is the column vectors of the diagonalizing matrix  $M$ .

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$M^{-1}AM = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} -4 & -6 \\ 3 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$M^{-1} = \frac{1}{|M|} (\text{cofactor matrix})^T$$

$$= \frac{1}{(-1+2)} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Substituting  $M^{-1}$  in (2),

$$M^{-1} AM = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} -4 & -6 \\ 3 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} -4+6 & -6+10 \\ 4-3 & 6-5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} -2+4 & -4+4 \\ -1+1 & -2+1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = D$$

$$M^{-1} AM = D \dots\dots\dots(3)$$

Pre-multiply (3) by M and postmultiply (3) by  $M^{-1}$  on both

$$MM^{-1} AM M^{-1} = MDM^{-1}$$

$$A = MDM^{-1}$$

$$A^9 = MD^9 M^{-1} \dots\dots\dots(4)$$

$$D^9 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}^9 = \begin{bmatrix} 2^9 & 0 \\ 0 & (-1)^9 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 512 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A^9 = MD^9 M^{-1}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 512 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{-1}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 512 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} -512 + 0 & 0 + 2 \\ 512 + 0 & 0 - 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} -514 & +1026 \\ 513 & 1025 \end{bmatrix}$$

