

1. ( $B$ : collection of vectors in a finite-dimensional vector space  $V$ )

$B$  is a basis for  $V$  if ①  $B$  is linearly independent in  $V$  and ②  $B$  spans  $V$ .

→ BECAUSE  $B$  SPANS  $V$

\* THIS TELLS US THAT EVERY VECTOR  $\vec{v} \in V$  CAN BE WRITTEN UNIQUELY AS A LINEAR COMBINATION OF  $B$ .

↳ BECAUSE  $B$  IS L.I. IN  $V$

2. IF  $B$  AND  $B'$  ARE FINITE BASES FOR A VECTOR SPACE  $V$ , THEN  $|B| = |B'|$ , BECAUSE:

- ON THE ONE HAND,  $B$  SPANS  $V$  AND  $B'$  IS L.I. IN  $V$ ,  
SO  $|B| \geq |B'|$ .
- ON THE OTHER HAND,  $B$  IS L.I. IN  $V$  AND  $B'$  SPANS  $V$ ,  
SO  $|B| \leq |B'|$ .

(NET EFFECT:  $|B| = |B'|$ )

\* THIS TELLS US THAT WE CAN DEFINE THE dimension OF  $V$  TO BE THE SIZE OF ANY BASIS FOR  $V$ ; THIS QUANTITY IS INTRINSIC TO  $V$  (I.E., DEPENDS ONLY UPON  $V$ , NOT ANY ARBITRARY CHOICES WE MADE IN DEFINING IT), BECAUSE IN LIGHT OF THE ABOVE REMARK, IT DOESN'T MATTER WHICH BASIS WE USE TO DEFINE IT (ALL BASES FOR  $V$  HAVE THE SAME SIZE!).

3. IF  $V$  IS A FINITE-DIMENSIONAL VECTOR SPACE:

(a) ANY FINITE SPANNING SET  $C$  FOR  $V$  CAN BE REDUCED TO A BASIS FOR  $V$  BY SUCCESSIVELY REMOVING ANY VECTOR OF  $C$  THAT IS A L.C. OF THE REST UNTIL NO SUCH VECTORS ARE LEFT IN THE COLLECTION.

(REMOVING A VECTOR THAT'S A L.C. OF THE REST DOESN'T CHANGE THE SPAN OF  $C$ ; WHEN THERE ARE NO SUCH VECTORS LEFT, THEN OUR SPANNING SET  $C$  IS LINEARLY INDEPENDENT, AS WELL, SO IT HAS BEEN MADE INTO A BASIS.)

(b) ANY LINEARLY INDEPENDENT SET  $C$  IN  $V$  CAN BE EXTENDED TO A BASIS FOR  $V$  BY SUCCESSIVELY ADDING A VECTOR  $\vec{v} \in V$  TO  $C$  THAT'S NOT IN  $\text{SPAN}(C)$ .

(ADDING A VECTOR NOT IN  $\text{SPAN}(C)$  TO  $C$  PRESERVES THE LINEAR INDEPENDENCE OF  $C$ ; WHEN NO SUCH VECTORS REMAIN, OUR L.I. SET  $C$  WILL HAVE  $\text{SPAN}(C) = V$  — THUS IT WILL SPAN  $V$  AS WELL, SO IT HAS BEEN MADE INTO A BASIS.)

(c) WE KNOW THAT  $V$  HAS A BASIS, BECAUSE WE COULD START WITH THE EMPTY COLLECTION  $C = \{\}$  IN  $V$  (WHICH IS TRIVIALLY LINEARLY INDEPENDENT) AND EXTEND IT TO A BASIS FOR  $V$ , AS IN PART (a).

4. SUPPOSE THAT  $V$  IS AN  $n$ -DIMENSIONAL VECTOR SPACE.

$\hookrightarrow$ : ANY BASIS FOR  $V$  HAS  $n$  VECTORS

- (a) IF  $\mathcal{C}$  SPANS  $V$  AND  $|\mathcal{C}| = n$ , THEN WE KNOW  $\mathcal{C}$  CAN BE REDUCED TO A BASIS, WHICH WILL HAVE  $n$  VECTORS.  
— BUT  $\mathcal{C}$  ALREADY HAS JUST  $n$  VECTORS, SO IT MUST ALREADY BE A BASIS FOR  $V$ !

- (b) IF  $\mathcal{D}$  IS LINEARLY INDEPENDENT IN  $V$  AND HAS  $|\mathcal{D}| = n$ , THEN WE KNOW  $\mathcal{D}$  CAN BE EXTENDED INTO A BASIS, WHICH WILL HAVE  $n$  VECTORS.  
— BUT  $\mathcal{D}$  ALREADY HAS  $n$  VECTORS, SO IT MUST ALREADY BE A BASIS FOR  $V$

\* NET EFFECT: IF WE KNOW THE DIMENSION OF OUR VECTOR SPACE, A SPANNING SET OF THE CORRECT SIZE IS AUTOMATICALLY L.I., AND AN L.I. COLLECTION OF THE CORRECT SIZE AUTOMATICALLY SPANS! — SO, FOR A COLLECTION OF VECTORS OF THE RIGHT SIZE, WE ONLY NEED TO SHOW HALF OF WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A BASIS, AND THE OTHER HALF COMES FOR FREE!

5. IF  $B$  IS A BASIS [OF COLUMN VECTORS FOR]  $\mathbb{R}^m$ , THEN EVERY LINEAR SYSTEM ARISING FROM  $B$  IS CONSISTENT AND HAS A UNIQUE SOLUTION.

WHY? RECALL THAT FOR COLUMN VECTORS, LINEAR INDEPENDENCE MEANS THAT EVERY COLUMN HAS A PIVOT ( $\therefore$  NO FREE VARIABLES) AND SPANNING MEANS THAT EVERY ROW HAS A PIVOT ( $\therefore$  CONSISTENCY) — A BASIS HAS BOTH PROPERTIES!

6. ANY LINEARLY INDEPENDENT COLLECTION  $\mathcal{C}$  IN  $\mathbb{R}^m$  CAN BE COMPUTATIONALLY EXTENDED TO A BASIS BY APPENDING ANY SPANNING SET TO  $\mathcal{C}$  AND REDUCING THIS TO A BASIS AS USUAL (FORM A MATRIX, REDUCE IT, AND TAKE THE VECTORS CORRESPONDING TO THE PIVOT COLUMNS).

E.G., 
$$\mathcal{C} \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \text{REDUCE + FIND PIVOTS TO DETERMINE A BASIS}$$

(NOTE THAT BECAUSE  $\mathcal{C}$  IS L.I., EACH COLUMN OF  $\mathcal{C}$  WILL GIVE A PIVOT — THE REMAINING PIVOTS TELL US WHICH VECTORS TO INSERT TO GET A BASIS FOR  $\mathbb{R}^m$ )

7. SUPPOSE THAT  $V$  IS A 7-DIMENSIONAL V.S.

$\hookrightarrow$ : IT HAS A BASIS  $B$  WITH  $|B|=7$ .

- (a) IF  $\mathcal{C}$  SPANS  $V$ , THEN  $|\mathcal{C}| \geq |B| = 7$ , so  $|\mathcal{C}| \geq 7$ .  
(SPANS) (L.I.)
- (b) IF  $\mathcal{D}$  IS L.I. IN  $V$ , THEN  $|\mathcal{D}| \leq |B| = 7$ , so  $|\mathcal{D}| \leq 7$ .  
(L.I.) (SPANS)

8. SUPPOSE THAT  
 ①  $\mathcal{C}$  SPANS  $V$ , WITH  $|\mathcal{C}|=5$   
 ②  $\mathcal{D}$  IS L.I. IN  $V$ , WITH  $|\mathcal{D}|=3$

(a) TO DETERMINE THE POSSIBLE DIMENSIONS FOR  $V$ ,  
 SUPPOSE THAT  $B$  IS A BASIS FOR  $V$ .

$$\text{THEN } 3 = |\mathcal{D}| \leq |B| \leq |\mathcal{C}| = 5$$

(L.I.)      (SPANS)      (SPANS)

THUS, THE DIMENSION OF  $V$ , WHICH EQUALS  $|B|$ ,  
 MUST BE 3, 4, OR 5.

(b) IF  $\dim V=3$ :

- $\mathcal{C}$  CAN'T BE A BASIS ( $|\mathcal{C}|=5 \neq 3$ ), SO SINCE WE ALREADY KNOW  $\mathcal{C}$  SPANS  $V$ ,  $\mathcal{C}$  CAN'T BE L.I.
- $\mathcal{D}$  IS A LINEARLY INDEPENDENT SET OF THE RIGHT SIZE ( $|\mathcal{D}|=3$ ), SO IT MUST, IN FACT, BE A BASIS.

IF  $\dim V=4$ :

- $\mathcal{C}$  CAN'T BE A BASIS ( $|\mathcal{C}|=5 \neq 4$ ), SO SINCE WE ALREADY KNOW  $\mathcal{C}$  SPANS  $V$ ,  $\mathcal{C}$  CAN'T BE L.I.
- $\mathcal{D}$  CAN'T BE A BASIS EITHER ( $|\mathcal{D}|=3 \neq 4$ ), SO SINCE WE ALREADY KNOW THAT  $\mathcal{D}$  IS L.I.,  $\mathcal{D}$  CAN'T SPAN  $V$ .

IF  $\dim V=5$ :

- $\mathcal{C}$  IS A SPANNING SET FOR  $V$  OF THE RIGHT SIZE ( $|\mathcal{C}|=5$ ), SO  $\mathcal{C}$  MUST BE A BASIS FOR  $V$ .
- $\mathcal{D}$  CAN'T BE A BASIS ( $|\mathcal{D}|=3 \neq 5$ ), SO SINCE WE ALREADY KNOW THAT  $\mathcal{D}$  IS L.I.,  $\mathcal{D}$  CAN'T SPAN  $V$ .

9.  $V$ : 3-DIMENSIONAL V.S., SUCH THAT:  
 ①  $\{\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}, \vec{d}\}$  SPANS  $V$ ,  
 ②  $\{\vec{a}, \vec{c}\}$  IS L.I. IN  $V$ ,  
 AND ③  $\{\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}\}$  IS LINEARLY DEPENDENT IN  $V$ .

CLAIM:  $\vec{b} \in \text{SPAN}\{\vec{a}, \vec{c}\}$  (NEED TO FIND  $q_1, q_2$  WITH  $\vec{b} = q_1\vec{a} + q_2\vec{c}$ )

PROOF: (③ IS THE HYPOTHESIS INVOLVING  $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$  AND EXISTENCE OF SCALARS,  
 SO LET'S TRY IT:)

③  $\Rightarrow \exists$  SCALARS  $\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3$ , NOT ALL ZERO, SUCH THAT  
 $\beta_1\vec{a} + \beta_2\vec{b} + \beta_3\vec{c} = \vec{0}$  (IF WE CAN SHOW THAT  $\beta_2 \neq 0$ , WE  
 CAN SOLVE THIS FOR  $\vec{b}$ !)

TAKE SUCH  $\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3$ ; THEN  $\beta_2 \neq 0$ , BECAUSE IF IT WERE, WE'D HAVE  $\beta_1\vec{a} + \beta_3\vec{c} = \vec{0}$   
 WITH  $\beta_1, \beta_3$  NOT BOTH ZERO — THIS WOULD BE A  
 NONTRIVIAL LINEAR RELATION ON  $\{\vec{a}, \vec{c}\}$ , CONTRADICTING ②!

SINCE  $\beta_2 \neq 0$ , WE CAN SOLVE FOR  $\vec{b}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_1\vec{a} + \beta_2\vec{b} + \beta_3\vec{c} &= \vec{0} \\ \Rightarrow \beta_2\vec{b} &= (-\beta_1)\vec{a} + (-\beta_3)\vec{c} \\ \Rightarrow \vec{b} &= \left(-\frac{\beta_1}{\beta_2}\right)\vec{a} + \left(-\frac{\beta_3}{\beta_2}\right)\vec{c}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{TAKING } q_1 = -\frac{\beta_1}{\beta_2} \text{ AND } q_2 = -\frac{\beta_3}{\beta_2},$$

WE THUS HAVE  $\vec{b} = q_1\vec{a} + q_2\vec{c}$ , SO  $\vec{b} \in \text{SPAN}\{\vec{a}, \vec{c}\}$  ■

(NOW, FINDING A BASIS FOR  $V$  ISN'T SO HARD;  $\dim V=3$ ,  
 SO IF WE CAN REMOVE A VECTOR FROM THE SPANNING SET  
 $\{\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}, \vec{d}\}$  WITHOUT AFFECTING ITS SPAN, WE'LL HAVE A  
 BASIS... BUT WE JUST SHOWED THAT  $\vec{b}$  WAS IN THE SPAN  
 OF THE REST, SO WE CAN REMOVE IT WHILE PRESERVING  
 THE SPAN!) ■

CLAIM:  $\{\vec{a}, \vec{c}, \vec{d}\}$  IS A BASIS FOR  $V$

PROOF: BY HYPOTHESIS,  $\{\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}, \vec{d}\}$  SPANS  $V$ ;  
 SINCE  $\vec{b}$  IS IN THE SPAN OF  $\{\vec{a}, \vec{c}\}$ ,

WE CAN REMOVE IT AND STILL HAVE  $\{\vec{a}, \vec{c}, \vec{d}\}$  SPAN  $V$ .  
 BUT THEN  $\{\vec{a}, \vec{c}, \vec{d}\}$  IS A SPANNING SET OF THE  
 RIGHT SIZE, SO IT MUST BE A BASIS FOR  $V$  ■

10. IF  $W$  IS A SUBSPACE OF A FINITE-DIMENSIONAL VECTOR SPACE  $V$ , THEN  $\dim W \leq \dim V$ .

WHY? TAKE A BASIS  $B$  FOR  $W$ ; THEN  $B$  IS A L.I. SET IN  $V$ , SO WE CAN EXTEND IT TO A BASIS  $B'$  OF  $V$ . THEN  $B \subset B'$ , SO  $|B| \leq |B'|$ , SO BY DEFINITION OF DIMENSION,  $\dim W \leq \dim V$  ✓

11. TO FIND THE DIMENSION OF  $\{\vec{0}\}$ , WE NEED TO FIND A BASIS FOR  $\{\vec{0}\}$  — I.E., A L.I. COLLECTION IN  $\{\vec{0}\}$  THAT SPANS  $\{\vec{0}\}$ . A L.I. COLLECTION CAN'T CONTAIN THE ZERO VECTOR, SO OUR ONLY HOPE IS  $B = \{\}$  (THE EMPTY COLLECTION). THIS ACTUALLY WORKS, IF WE CAREFULLY CHECK THE DEFINITIONS! (RECALL THAT A NONTRIVIAL LINEAR RELATION MUST HAVE AT LEAST ONE NONZERO COEFFICIENT, AND THAT THE L.C. OF NO VECTORS AT ALL RESULTS IN  $\vec{0}$ ).  
THUS,  $\dim \{\vec{0}\} = |\{\}\} = 0$ ! (MOSTLY A THOUGHT EXERCISE)

12. (EXTEND TO A SPANNING SET, THEN REDUCE THAT TO A BASIS...)

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -5 \\ 12 \\ 11 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -16 \\ 38 \\ 36 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -3 \\ 7 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} :$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccc|cccc} -1 & -3 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -5 & -16 & -3 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 12 & 38 & 7 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 11 & 36 & 7 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right] \rightsquigarrow \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|cccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & -2 & 0 & 15/4 & -13/4 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -5/4 & 5/4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -2 & 0 & -9/4 & 21/4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 7/4 & 1/4 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

DOESN'T ACTUALLY MATTER — WE ONLY NEED TO FIND THE PIVOTS!

$$\therefore \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -5 \\ 12 \\ 11 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -16 \\ 38 \\ 36 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -3 \\ 7 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

IS A BASIS FOR  $\mathbb{R}^4$ .

13. (SAME GAME AS #12)

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccc|cccc} 1 & 1 & -2 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 3 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -4 & 6 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & -5 & 9 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] \rightsquigarrow \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|cccc} 1 & 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 & \frac{5}{2} & -\frac{1}{3} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -\frac{3}{2} & 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{4} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -\frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -\frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

— WE STILL END UP WITH A BASIS FOR  $\mathbb{R}^4$ , BUT DOESN'T EXTEND THE GIVEN COLLECTION; WHY? BECAUSE THE ORIGINAL COLLECTION WASN'T L.I. WE CAN ONLY EXTEND AN L.I. COLLECTION TO A BASIS; IF THE COLLECTION ISN'T L.I., WE'D HAVE TO REDUCE IT TO A L.I. COLLECTION FIRST, WHICH IS WHAT HAPPENED HERE (WE LOST THE THIRD VECTOR).