

Lecture 4 I.C Subspaces II

Writing Proofs

So far: introduced vector spaces, subspaces, and sums

Theme in course: decompose vector spaces into subspaces

Last time: $U_1 + U_2 + \dots + U_m = \{u_1 + \dots + u_m \mid u_i \in U_i\}$

Ex (Sums are not unique)

$$V = F^3 \quad U_1 = \{(x, y, 0) \mid x, y \in F\}$$
$$U_2 = \{(0, y, z) \mid y, z \in F\}$$

Have $U_1 + U_2 = F^3$ (check!)

Also $(0, 0, 0) = (0, 0, 0) + (0, 0, 0) \in U_1 + U_2$
 $= (0, 1, 0) + (0, -1, 0) \in U_1 + U_2$

two ways
to write
 $(0, 0, 0)$
in $U_1 + U_2$

Defⁿ Suppose U_1, \dots, U_m subspaces of V . Then $U_1 + \dots + U_m$ is a direct sum if each element $u_1 + \dots + u_m$ can be written uniquely as a sum $u_1 + u_2 + \dots + u_m$ with $u_i \in U_i$.

In this case, write $U_1 \oplus U_2 \oplus \dots \oplus U_m$

Ex Above example is not a direct sum since we can express $(0, 0, 0)$ in two different ways.

Ex $V = F^2$ $U = \{(x, 0) \mid x \in F\}$ and $W = \{(0, y) \mid y \in F\}$

$U+W$ is a direct sum since

$(a, b) \in U+W \Rightarrow (a, b) = (x, 0) + (0, y)$ for some $x \in F, y \in F$

\swarrow in U \swarrow in W

But this can only happen if $a=x$ and $b=y$. So

$$(a, b) = (a, 0) + (0, b) \in U+W$$

Note: $F^2 = U \oplus W$. Clear that $U \oplus W \subseteq F^2$. And if $(a, b) \in F^2$ then $(a, 0) \in U$ and $(0, b) \in W$, so $(a, b) = (a, 0) + (0, b) \in U \oplus W$.

Ex $V = F^n$ and let $U_j = \{(0, \dots, u_j, \dots, 0) \mid u_j \in F\}$. Then

\uparrow j^{th} spot

$$F^n = U_1 \oplus \dots \oplus U_n$$

Thm $U_1 + \dots + U_n$ is a direct sum if and only if the only way to write 0 as a sum

$$0 = u_1 + \dots + u_n$$

is when $u_1 = \dots = u_n = 0$

need to only show that you write 0 uniquely.

Proof (\Rightarrow) If $U_1 + \dots + U_n$ is a direct sum, then

$$0 = 0 + 0 + \dots + 0 \quad \text{with } 0 \in U_i$$

and this is the only way to express it

(\Leftarrow) Let $w \in U_1 + \dots + U_m$. And now suppose

$$w = a_1 + \dots + a_m \quad \text{and} \quad w = b_1 + b_2 + \dots + b_m \quad \text{with} \quad a_i, b_i \in U_i.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= w - w = (a_1 + \dots + a_m) - (b_1 + \dots + b_m) \\ &= (a_1 - b_1) + (a_2 - b_2) + \dots + (a_m - b_m) \end{aligned}$$

Since each $a_i - b_i \in U_i$, the condition on 0 (i.e. our hypotheses) implies each $a_i - b_i = 0 \Leftrightarrow a_i = b_i$.

So, there is a unique way to express w , so

$U_1 + \dots + U_m$ is a direct sum

□

For two subspaces, alternate way to check

Thm Let U, W be subspaces of V . Then $U \oplus W$ is a direct sum if and only if $U \cap W = \{0\}$

Proof (\Rightarrow) Let $w \in U \cap W$. Then
 $0 = w + (-w)$ with $w \in U, -w \in W$

Since $U \oplus W$ is a direct sum, this implies $w = (-w) = 0$.
So $U \cap W = \{0\}$

(\Leftarrow) Let $0 = u + w \in U + W$. Then $u = -w$.
Since $u \in U$, $-u = -(-w) = w \in U$. So
 $w \in U \cap W = \{0\}$. So $w = 0$, and thus
 $u = 0$. So $0 = 0 + 0$ is the only way
to express 0, Thus $U \oplus W$ is a direct sum \square

Writing Proofs (some tips)

work "forwards and backwards"

Most Mathematical statements have form
"If P, then Q"

From P, argue "forwards" \leftarrow what statements must be true

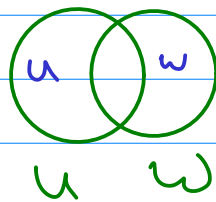
From Q, argue "backwards" \leftarrow what statements must be true to force Q to be true

Try to meet in the middle

$P \Rightarrow P_1 \Rightarrow P_2 \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow Q_1 \Rightarrow Q_2 \Rightarrow Q$
hypotheses conclusion

Ex If $U \not\subseteq W$ and $W \not\subseteq U$, then $U \cup W$ is not a subspace.
both subspaces

(SCRAP)



$U \not\subseteq W \Rightarrow$ there is a $u \in U - W$ \leftarrow in U but not W
 $W \not\subseteq U \Rightarrow$ there is a $w \in W - U$ \leftarrow in W but not U
 \Downarrow

We have $u, w \in U \cup W$. Is $u + w \in U \cup W$?

No If $u + w \in U \cup W$, then $u + w \in U$ or $u + w \in W$.

If $u + w \in U$, then since $-u \in U$, $(u + w) + (-u) = w \in U$!!!

If $u + w \in W$, then since $-w \in W$, $(u + w) + (-w) = u \in W$!!!

won't work
fails

$0 \in U \cup W$

\Downarrow

fails \Downarrow

closed under
addition
 \Downarrow

won't work
fails since
closed scalar mult
does satisfy
this

$U \cup W$ fails one of 3 conditions of a subspace

\Downarrow

$U \cup W$ is not a subspace

Q

use complete English sentences.

Write "polished" proof:

Proof Since $U \not\subseteq W$ and $W \not\subseteq U$, there is $u \in U \setminus W$ and $w \in W \setminus U$. ← see handout on webpage for proof writing tips!

Then $u, w \in U \cup W$, but $u+w \notin U \cup W$.

To see why, if $u+w \in U \cup W$, then $u+w \in U$ or $u+w \in W$. If $u+w \in U$, then since $u \in U$,

$(u+w) + (-u) = w \in U$, which is false! This shows $u+w \notin U$.

The same argument shows $u+w \notin W$. Since $U \cup W$ is not closed under addition, it is not a subspace \square

Recall Contrapositive:

"If P , then Q " \iff "If not Q , then not P "

Contrapositive in our case

"If $U \cup W$ is a subspace, then $U \subseteq W$ or $W \subseteq U$ "

Key ideas:

- * direct sums
- * how to check if you have a direct sum
- * proof writing