

The following are equivalent (TFAE) for linear independence (l.i.):

a. $c_1\vec{v}_1 + \dots + c_n\vec{v}_n = \vec{0}$ has only the trivial solution $\begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ (i.e. the def of $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ l.i.)

b. $\begin{bmatrix} \vec{v}_1 & \dots & \vec{v}_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ has only the trivial solution $\begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

c. $\begin{bmatrix} \vec{v}_1 & \dots & \vec{v}_n & 0 \\ \vdots & & & \vdots \\ 0 & & & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ reduces to a matrix with a pivot position in every column except the = column

Compare to Theorem 4 for span where $[A|\vec{b}]$ reduces to a matrix that has no row $[0 \dots 0|b_i]$, i.e. there is a pivot position in every row of A

Clicker questions:

1. a) $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is linearly independent

b) span of $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is \mathbb{R}^2

c) both a) and b)

d) neither

2. a) $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is linearly independent

b) span of $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is \mathbb{R}^2

c) both a) and b)

d) neither

Solutions

1. b)

2. a)