

The Uniqueness Theorem

$$\text{Ex: } \mathbb{R}^2 = \text{Span}\left\{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}\right\} = \text{Span}\left\{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}\right\}$$

Therefore the dimension of \mathbb{R}^2 is 2

Similarly the dimension of \mathbb{R}^n is n (find a basis by looking at I)

Theorem: (Uniqueness of Linear Combos Relative to a Basis)

If v is in vector space V , and if

$$v = a_1 v_1 + \cdots + a_n v_n \quad \text{and} \quad v = b_1 v_1 + \cdots + b_n v_n$$

where v_1, \dots, v_n is a basis of V , then

$$a_1 = b_1, \dots, a_n = b_n$$

We refer to a_1, \dots, a_n as the coordinates of v relative to the basis.

Note: Different bases lead to different coordinates:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{x_1 + x_2}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{x_1 - x_2}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$