

# The Steinitz Theorem and the Dimension of a Real Linear Space

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**Summary.** Finite-dimensional real linear spaces are defined. The dimension of such spaces is the cardinality of a basis. Obviously, each two basis have the same cardinality. We prove the Steinitz theorem and the Exchange Lemma. We also investigate some fundamental facts involving the dimension of real linear spaces.

MML Identifier: RLVECT\_5.

WWW: [http://mizar.org/JFM/Vol9/rlvect\\_5.html](http://mizar.org/JFM/Vol9/rlvect_5.html)

The articles [9], [8], [16], [10], [7], [2], [17], [4], [5], [1], [6], [3], [13], [15], [12], [11], and [14] provide the notation and terminology for this paper.

## 1. PRELIMINARIES

For simplicity, we use the following convention:  $V$  is a real linear space,  $W$  is a subspace of  $V$ ,  $x$  is a set,  $n$  is a natural number,  $v$  is a vector of  $V$ ,  $K_1, K_2$  are linear combinations of  $V$ , and  $X$  is a subset of  $V$ .

Next we state a number of propositions:

- (1) If  $X$  is linearly independent and the support of  $K_1 \subseteq X$  and the support of  $K_2 \subseteq X$  and  $\sum K_1 = \sum K_2$ , then  $K_1 = K_2$ .
- (2) Let  $V$  be a real linear space and  $A$  be a subset of  $V$ . If  $A$  is linearly independent, then there exists a basis  $I$  of  $V$  such that  $A \subseteq I$ .
- (3) Let  $L$  be a linear combination of  $V$  and  $x$  be a vector of  $V$ . Then  $x \in$  the support of  $L$  if and only if there exists  $v$  such that  $x = v$  and  $L(v) \neq 0$ .
- (5)<sup>1</sup> Let  $L$  be a linear combination of  $V$ ,  $F, G$  be finite sequences of elements of the carrier of  $V$ , and  $P$  be a permutation of  $\text{dom } F$ . If  $G = F \cdot P$ , then  $\sum(LF) = \sum(LG)$ .
- (6) Let  $L$  be a linear combination of  $V$  and  $F$  be a finite sequence of elements of the carrier of  $V$ . If the support of  $L$  misses  $\text{rng } F$ , then  $\sum(LF) = 0_V$ .
- (7) Let  $F$  be a finite sequence of elements of the carrier of  $V$ . Suppose  $F$  is one-to-one. Let  $L$  be a linear combination of  $V$ . If the support of  $L \subseteq \text{rng } F$ , then  $\sum(LF) = \sum L$ .
- (8) Let  $L$  be a linear combination of  $V$  and  $F$  be a finite sequence of elements of the carrier of  $V$ . Then there exists a linear combination  $K$  of  $V$  such that the support of  $K = \text{rng } F \cap$  (the support of  $L$ ) and  $LF = KF$ .

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<sup>1</sup> The proposition (4) has been removed.

- (9) Let  $L$  be a linear combination of  $V$ ,  $A$  be a subset of  $V$ , and  $F$  be a finite sequence of elements of the carrier of  $V$ . Suppose  $\text{rng } F \subseteq \text{carrier of } \text{Lin}(A)$ . Then there exists a linear combination  $K$  of  $A$  such that  $\sum(LF) = \sum K$ .
- (10) Let  $L$  be a linear combination of  $V$  and  $A$  be a subset of  $V$ . Suppose the support of  $L \subseteq \text{carrier of } \text{Lin}(A)$ . Then there exists a linear combination  $K$  of  $A$  such that  $\sum L = \sum K$ .
- (11) Let  $L$  be a linear combination of  $V$ . Suppose the support of  $L \subseteq \text{carrier of } W$ . Let  $K$  be a linear combination of  $W$ . Suppose  $K = L \upharpoonright \text{carrier of } W$ . Then the support of  $L$  is the support of  $K$  and  $\sum L = \sum K$ .
- (12) Let  $K$  be a linear combination of  $W$ . Then there exists a linear combination  $L$  of  $V$  such that the support of  $K = \text{support of } L$  and  $\sum K = \sum L$ .
- (13) Let  $L$  be a linear combination of  $V$ . Suppose the support of  $L \subseteq \text{carrier of } W$ . Then there exists a linear combination  $K$  of  $W$  such that the support of  $K = \text{support of } L$  and  $\sum K = \sum L$ .
- (14) For every basis  $I$  of  $V$  and for every vector  $v$  of  $V$  holds  $v \in \text{Lin}(I)$ .
- (15) Let  $A$  be a subset of  $W$ . Suppose  $A$  is linearly independent. Then there exists a subset  $B$  of  $V$  such that  $B$  is linearly independent and  $B = A$ .
- (16) Let  $A$  be a subset of  $V$ . Suppose  $A$  is linearly independent and  $A \subseteq \text{carrier of } W$ . Then there exists a subset  $B$  of  $W$  such that  $B$  is linearly independent and  $B = A$ .
- (17) For every basis  $A$  of  $W$  there exists a basis  $B$  of  $V$  such that  $A \subseteq B$ .
- (18) Let  $A$  be a subset of  $V$ . Suppose  $A$  is linearly independent. Let  $v$  be a vector of  $V$ . If  $v \in A$ , then for every subset  $B$  of  $V$  such that  $B = A \setminus \{v\}$  holds  $v \notin \text{Lin}(B)$ .
- (19) Let  $I$  be a basis of  $V$  and  $A$  be a non empty subset of  $V$ . Suppose  $A$  misses  $I$ . Let  $B$  be a subset of  $V$ . If  $B = I \cup A$ , then  $B$  is linearly dependent.
- (20) For every subset  $A$  of  $V$  such that  $A \subseteq \text{carrier of } W$  holds  $\text{Lin}(A)$  is a subspace of  $W$ .
- (21) For every subset  $A$  of  $V$  and for every subset  $B$  of  $W$  such that  $A = B$  holds  $\text{Lin}(A) = \text{Lin}(B)$ .

## 2. THE STEINITZ THEOREM

Next we state two propositions:

- (22) Let  $A, B$  be finite subsets of  $V$  and  $v$  be a vector of  $V$ . Suppose  $v \in \text{Lin}(A \cup B)$  and  $v \notin \text{Lin}(B)$ . Then there exists a vector  $w$  of  $V$  such that  $w \in A$  and  $w \in \text{Lin}(((A \cup B) \setminus \{w\}) \cup \{v\})$ .
- (23) Let  $A, B$  be finite subsets of  $V$ . Suppose the RLS structure of  $V = \text{Lin}(A)$  and  $B$  is linearly independent. Then  $\overline{B} \leq \overline{A}$  and there exists a finite subset  $C$  of  $V$  such that  $C \subseteq A$  and  $\overline{C} = \overline{A} - \overline{B}$  and the RLS structure of  $V = \text{Lin}(B \cup C)$ .

## 3. FINITE DIMENSIONAL VECTOR SPACES

Let  $V$  be a real linear space. We say that  $V$  is finite dimensional if and only if:

(Def. 1) There exists a finite subset of  $V$  which is a basis of  $V$ .

Let us observe that there exists a real linear space which is strict and finite dimensional.

Let  $V$  be a real linear space. Let us observe that  $V$  is finite dimensional if and only if:

(Def. 2) There exists a finite subset of  $V$  which is a basis of  $V$ .

We now state several propositions:

- (24) If  $V$  is finite dimensional, then every basis of  $V$  is finite.
- (25) If  $V$  is finite dimensional, then for every subset  $A$  of  $V$  such that  $A$  is linearly independent holds  $A$  is finite.
- (26) If  $V$  is finite dimensional, then for all bases  $A, B$  of  $V$  holds  $\overline{A} = \overline{B}$ .
- (27)  $\mathbf{0}_V$  is finite dimensional.
- (28) If  $V$  is finite dimensional, then  $W$  is finite dimensional.

Let  $V$  be a real linear space. Note that there exists a subspace of  $V$  which is finite dimensional and strict.

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#### 4. THE DIMENSION OF A VECTOR SPACE

Let  $V$  be a real linear space. Let us assume that  $V$  is finite dimensional. The functor  $\dim(V)$  yields a natural number and is defined as follows:

(Def. 3) For every basis  $I$  of  $V$  holds  $\dim(V) = \overline{I}$ .

We adopt the following rules:  $V$  is a finite dimensional real linear space,  $W, W_1, W_2$  are subspaces of  $V$ , and  $u, v$  are vectors of  $V$ .

The following propositions are true:

- (29)  $\dim(W) \leq \dim(V)$ .
- (30) For every subset  $A$  of  $V$  such that  $A$  is linearly independent holds  $\overline{A} = \dim(\text{Lin}(A))$ .
- (31)  $\dim(V) = \dim(\Omega_V)$ .
- (32)  $\dim(V) = \dim(W)$  iff  $\Omega_V = \Omega_W$ .
- (33)  $\dim(V) = 0$  iff  $\Omega_V = \mathbf{0}_V$ .
- (34)  $\dim(V) = 1$  iff there exists  $v$  such that  $v \neq \mathbf{0}_V$  and  $\Omega_V = \text{Lin}(\{v\})$ .
- (35)  $\dim(V) = 2$  iff there exist  $u, v$  such that  $u \neq v$  and  $\{u, v\}$  is linearly independent and  $\Omega_V = \text{Lin}(\{u, v\})$ .
- (36)  $\dim(W_1 + W_2) + \dim(W_1 \cap W_2) = \dim(W_1) + \dim(W_2)$ .
- (37)  $\dim(W_1 \cap W_2) \geq (\dim(W_1) + \dim(W_2)) - \dim(V)$ .
- (38) If  $V$  is the direct sum of  $W_1$  and  $W_2$ , then  $\dim(V) = \dim(W_1) + \dim(W_2)$ .
- (39)  $n \leq \dim(V)$  iff there exists a strict subspace  $W$  of  $V$  such that  $\dim(W) = n$ .

Let  $V$  be a finite dimensional real linear space and let  $n$  be a natural number. The functor  $\text{Sub}_n(V)$  yields a set and is defined as follows:

(Def. 4)  $x \in \text{Sub}_n(V)$  iff there exists a strict subspace  $W$  of  $V$  such that  $W = x$  and  $\dim(W) = n$ .

One can prove the following propositions:

- (40) If  $n \leq \dim(V)$ , then  $\text{Sub}_n(V)$  is non empty.
- (41) If  $\dim(V) < n$ , then  $\text{Sub}_n(V) = \emptyset$ .
- (42)  $\text{Sub}_n(W) \subseteq \text{Sub}_n(V)$ .

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*Received July 1, 1997*

*Published January 2, 2004*

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