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On the dimension of V^*

Suppose $\exists \{v_1, \dots, v_n\} \subset V$ $n < \infty$

s.t. $v \in V$

$$v = \sum_i \alpha_i v_i \quad \text{for some } \{\alpha_i\}_{i=1}^n$$

i.e. $\dim V = n$.

$$V^* = \{ v^* \mid v^*(v) \in \mathbb{R} \} \quad v \in V$$

define v_i^* s.t. $v_i^*(v_j) = \delta_{ij}$

$$\Rightarrow \exists \{v_i^*\}_{i=1}^n$$

Then for $\forall v^* \in V^*$ specified by its action on $\{v_i\}_{i=1}^n$
s.t.

$$v^*(v_1) = c_1$$

$$\vdots$$

$$v^*(v_n) = c_n$$

$$v^* = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i v_i^*$$

and $\dim V^* = \dim V = n$.

Provided v_i^* are linearly independent.

Linear independence:

suppose $\exists \{\lambda_i\}_{i=1}^n$ s.t. $0 = \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j v_j^*$ $0 \in V^*$, with $|\lambda_k| > 0$
for some $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = 0 \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \bar{\lambda}_i v_i \right) = \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^n \bar{\lambda}_i \lambda_j v_j^*(v_i)$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^n \bar{\lambda}_i \lambda_j \delta_{ji}$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n |\lambda_i|^2$$

$$\geq |\lambda_k|^2 > 0$$

but $0 \neq 0$ so, by contradiction, $\{v_i^*\}$ are lin. indep.