

Lecture 14: § 3.1-2: Intro & Vector Space Properties of $\mathbb{R}^n$
§ 3.3 Examples of Subspaces of $\mathbb{R}^n$

So far we have seen 2 constructions:

- ① (Column) Vectors in $\mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{R}^3, \mathbb{R}^4, \dots$
- ② Solutions to homogeneous systems in $\mathbb{R}^n$ can be written as:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \alpha_1 \vec{v}_1 + \alpha_2 \vec{v}_2 + \dots + \alpha_m \vec{v}_m \quad (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m \in \mathbb{R})$$

where $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_m$ are the m independent variables of $A \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$
 $\text{rank}(A) = n - m$.

Q: What do these 2 constructions have in common?

Defining properties for $\mathbb{R}^n$

Theorem 1: Write $V = \mathbb{R}^n$. For $\vec{x}, \vec{y}, \vec{z}$ in V , α, β scalars, we have

① Closure Properties: (C1)

(C2)

② Addition Properties: (A1)

(A2)

(A3)

(A4)

③ Scalar Mult. Properties: (M1)

(M2)

(M3)

(M4)

Subspaces of $\mathbb{R}^n$

Def A subset W of $\mathbb{R}^n$ is a subspace if these 10 properties hold for W

Key Fact: Given a subset W for $\mathbb{R}^n$, we don't need to check all 10 properties to see if W is a subspace.

$$(A1) \quad \vec{x} + \vec{y} = \vec{y} + \vec{x}$$

$$(A2) \quad \vec{x} + (\vec{y} + \vec{z}) = (\vec{x} + \vec{y}) + \vec{z}$$

$$(M1) \quad \alpha(\beta \vec{x}) = (\alpha\beta) \vec{x}$$

$$(M2) \quad \alpha(\vec{x} + \vec{y}) = \alpha \vec{x} + \alpha \vec{y}$$

$$(M3) \quad (\alpha + \beta) \vec{x} = \alpha \vec{x} + \beta \vec{x}$$

$$(M4) \quad 1 \vec{x} = \vec{x} \text{ for all } \vec{x}$$

Theorem 2: A subset W in $\mathbb{R}^n$ is a subspace of $\mathbb{R}^n$ if and only if

(S1) The zero vector lies in W .

(S2) $\vec{x} + \vec{y}$ lies in W whenever $\vec{x}, \vec{y}$ are in W

(S3) $\alpha \vec{x}$ lies in W whenever $\vec{x}$ is in W and α is any scalar

Basic Examples

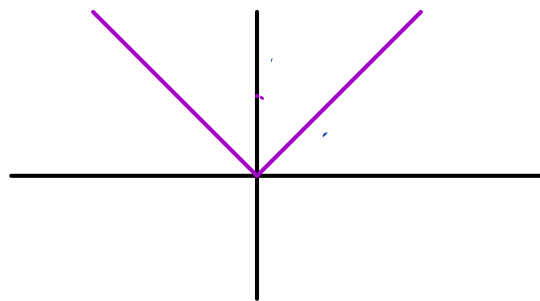
Meta Example:

More examples / Non examples

- (s1) $\vec{0}$ in V
- (s2) Closed under +
- (s3) scalar mult

① The line L in $\mathbb{R}^3$ through $(0,0,0)$ with direction $\begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

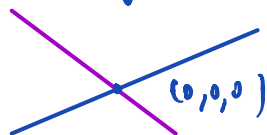
- ② Graph of $|x|$ in $\mathbb{R}$:
 $= \{ (x, |x|) : x \in \mathbb{R} \}$



- ③ $\mathbb{W} = \{ \underline{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} : x_3 = 3 \}$ = plane with equation $z = 3$.

- ④ $\mathbb{W} = \{ \underline{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} : x_1, x_2 \text{ are integers} \}$

- ⑤ Union of 2 different lines in $\mathbb{R}^3$ through $(0,0,0)$



Meta Example 2: The Span of a subset

Def. For $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_p$ in $\mathbb{R}^n$. We write:

$$\begin{aligned} W = \text{Sp}(\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p) &= \text{set of all linear combinations of } \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_p \\ &= \{ \alpha_1 \vec{v}_1 + \alpha_2 \vec{v}_2 + \dots + \alpha_p \vec{v}_p : \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_p \text{ in } \mathbb{R} \} \end{aligned}$$

Examples

Theorem 3: The set $W = \text{Sp}(\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p)$ in $\mathbb{R}^n$ is a subspace of $\mathbb{R}^n$.

Meta example 1: The Null Space of a Matrix

Def: Given A $m \times n$ matrix, we define its Null Space as:

$$\mathcal{N}(A) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^n : A \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^m \right\}$$

= Solution set to the homogeneous system with matrix A .

Theorem 3: $\mathcal{N}(A)$ is a subspace of $\mathbb{R}^n$.