

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 $A \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$
 $\text{rank}(A) = n - m$.

Ex $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightsquigarrow \begin{matrix} x_1, x_3 \text{ dep} \\ x_2, x_4 \text{ indep} \end{matrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = x_2 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_4 \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$\alpha_1 \vec{v}_1$ $\alpha_2 \vec{v}_2$

Q: What do these 2 constructions have in common?

A: $\vec{0}$ lies in the space
 • Add vectors / solutions gives a new vector / solution
 • Scalar multiplication preserves vectors / space of solutions

} basis for vector spaces

Defining properties for \mathbb{R}^n

\rightarrow same will work for abstract vector spaces!

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) \vec{x}, \vec{y} in V , then $\vec{x} + \vec{y}$ in V

(C2) \vec{x} in V , then $\alpha \vec{x}$ in V

② Addition Properties: (A1) $\vec{x} + \vec{y} = \vec{y} + \vec{x}$ (Commutative)

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

(Neutral element) \leftarrow (A3) $\vec{0}$ in V satisfies $\vec{x} + \vec{0} = \vec{0} + \vec{x} = \vec{x}$ for all \vec{x} .

(Additive Inverses) \leftarrow (A4) Given \vec{x} in V we can find " $-\vec{x}$ " in V with $\vec{x} + (-\vec{x}) = \vec{0}$ (here " $-\vec{x}$ " = $(-1)\vec{x}$)

③ Scalar Mult. Properties: (M1) $\alpha(\beta \vec{x}) = (\alpha\beta) \vec{x}$ (Associative)

(M2) $\alpha(\vec{x} + \vec{y}) = \alpha \vec{x} + \alpha \vec{y}$ (Distributive 1)

(M3) $(\alpha + \beta) \vec{x} = \alpha \vec{x} + \beta \vec{x}$ (——— 2)

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

(i4) follows from (C2)

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) $\vec{x} + \vec{y} = \vec{y} + \vec{x}$ True in \mathbb{R}^n , so true in W

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

(M1) $\alpha(\beta \vec{x}) = (\alpha\beta) \vec{x}$ True in \mathbb{R}^n , so true in W

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

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

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

(A4) $\left(\begin{array}{l} \vec{x} + (-\vec{x}) = \vec{0} \\ (-\vec{x}) \text{ in } W \end{array} \right)$ follows from (C2) (if x in W , then αx in W)

Conclude: Only need to check (C1), (C2) & (A3).

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: ① $W = \{ \vec{0} \}$ is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n
② $W = \mathbb{R}^n$

Meta Example:

Solution to a homogeneous system in n unknowns

Write $W := \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} : A \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^m \right\}$
 $m \times n$

(S1) $\underline{x} = \vec{0}$ is a solution

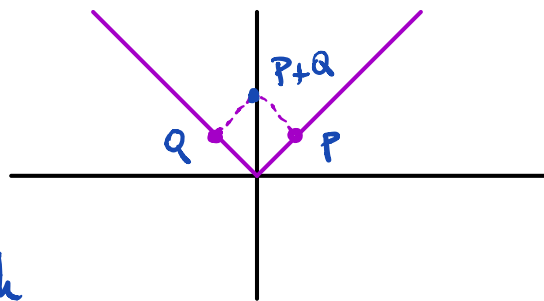
(S2) If $\underline{x}, \underline{y}$ are solutions then $A(\underline{x} + \underline{y}) = A\underline{x} + A\underline{y} = \vec{0} + \vec{0} = \vec{0}$

so $\underline{x} + \underline{y}$ is also a solution

(S3) If \underline{x} is a solution $A(\alpha \underline{x}) = \alpha(A\underline{x}) = \alpha \vec{0} = \vec{0}$

so $\alpha \underline{x}$ is also a solution.

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



\leadsto NOT a subspace of \mathbb{R}^2

(S1) ok $(0,0)$ in the graph

(S2) fails $P = (1,1), Q = (1,-1)$ in the graph BUT $P+Q = (0,2)$ is not

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

(S1) fails, so W is not a subspace of \mathbb{R}^3

Same is true for any plane in \mathbb{R}^3 not containing $(0,0,0)$. \leadsto NOT a subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 .

④ $W = \{ \underline{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} : x_1, x_2 \text{ are integers} \}$ \leadsto NOT a subspace of \mathbb{R}^2 .

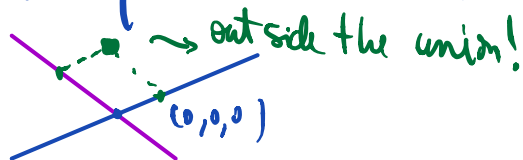
(S1) holds

(S2) — (sum of integers is always an integer)

(S3) does not hold $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \in W$ $\alpha = \frac{1}{2}$ but $\frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 \\ 1/2 \end{bmatrix}$ is not in W .



⑤ Union of 2 different lines in \mathbb{R}^3 through $(0,0,0)$ \leadsto NOT a subspace of \mathbb{R}^3



(S1) & (S3) are true
 (S2) is not.

Meta Example 2: The Span of a subset

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

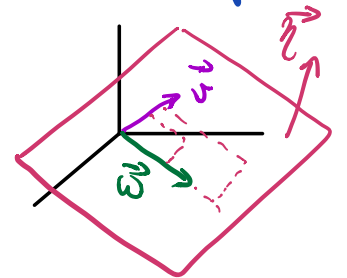
$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{W} &= \text{Sp}(\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p) = \text{set of all linear combinations of } \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_p \\ &= \{ \alpha_1 \vec{v}_1 + \alpha_2 \vec{v}_2 + \dots + \alpha_p \vec{v}_p : \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_p \text{ in } \mathbb{R} \} \end{aligned}$$

Examples ① $\text{Sp}(\vec{0}) = \{ \vec{0} \}$

② \vec{v} in \mathbb{R}^3 , $\vec{v} \neq \vec{0} \Rightarrow \mathcal{W} = \text{Sp}(\vec{v}) = \{ \alpha \vec{v} \} = \text{line in } \mathbb{R}^3 \text{ with direction } \vec{v} \text{ through } (0,0,0)$

③ \vec{v}, \vec{w} in \mathbb{R}^3 , \vec{v}, \vec{w} not proportional, $\vec{v}, \vec{w} \neq \vec{0}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Sp}(\vec{v}, \vec{w}) &= \{ \alpha \vec{v} + \beta \vec{w} \} \\ &= \text{plane through } (0,0,0) \text{ with normal } \vec{n} = \vec{v} \times \vec{w}. \end{aligned}$$



Eg. $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $\vec{w} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ $\vec{n} = \vec{v} \times \vec{w} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow -x + 2y - z = 0$

Q Other Soln? $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \alpha \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \beta \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2\alpha + \beta \\ -\alpha + \beta \\ \beta \end{bmatrix}$ Given (x, y, z) we want to solve for α, β

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|c} -2 & 1 & x \\ -1 & 1 & y \\ 0 & 1 & z \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\substack{R_2 \leftrightarrow R_1 \\ R_1 \rightarrow -R_1}} \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & -1 & -y \\ -2 & 1 & x \\ 0 & 1 & z \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{R_2 \rightarrow R_2 + 2R_1} \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & -1 & -y \\ 0 & -1 & x-2y \\ 0 & 1 & z \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\substack{R_3 \rightarrow R_3 + R_2 \\ R_2 \rightarrow -R_2}} \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & -1 & -y \\ 0 & 1 & x+2y \\ 0 & 0 & x-2y+z \end{array} \right]$$

We can solve for (α, β) if and only if $x - 2y + z = 0$

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

Why? Let's check the 3 properties for subspaces.

(S1) $\vec{0} = 0 \cdot \vec{v}_1 + 0 \vec{v}_2 + \dots + 0 \vec{v}_p$ in \mathcal{W} ✓

(S2) \vec{u} in \mathcal{W} $\vec{u} = \alpha_1 \vec{v}_1 + \alpha_2 \vec{v}_2 + \dots + \alpha_p \vec{v}_p$ for some scalars $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_p$
 \vec{w} in \mathcal{W} $\vec{w} = \beta_1 \vec{v}_1 + \beta_2 \vec{v}_2 + \dots + \beta_p \vec{v}_p$ β_1, \dots, β_p

$$\vec{u} + \vec{w} = (\underbrace{\alpha_1 + \beta_1}_{\text{scalar}}) \vec{v}_1 + (\underbrace{\alpha_2 + \beta_2}_{\text{scalar}}) \vec{v}_2 + \dots + (\underbrace{\alpha_p + \beta_p}_{\text{scalar}}) \vec{v}_p$$

Add Term-by-Term

So $\vec{u} + \vec{w}$ is in $\text{Sp}(\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p)$

(S3) $\alpha \vec{w} = (\underbrace{\alpha \beta_1}_{\text{scalar}}) \vec{v}_1 + (\underbrace{\alpha \beta_2}_{\text{scalar}}) \vec{v}_2 + \dots + (\underbrace{\alpha \beta_p}_{\text{scalar}}) \vec{v}_p$

So $\alpha \vec{w}$ is in $\text{Sp}(\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p)$ if \vec{w} is.

Example from early shows how each $\text{Sp}(\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p)$ is again a solution set to a homogeneous system. (The same method will work to find its equations).

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 .

Example: $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 3 & 2 & 8 & 5 \\ -1 & -2 & -4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightsquigarrow [A|0] \xrightarrow{GJ} \left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 0 & 2 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$ { x_3, x_4 indep
 x_1, x_2 dep

$$\begin{aligned} \rightsquigarrow x_1 &= -2x_3 - 3x_4 \\ x_2 &= -x_3 + 2x_4 \end{aligned} \quad \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2x_3 - 3x_4 \\ -x_3 + 2x_4 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = x_3 \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_4 \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Conclude $\mathcal{N}(A) = \text{Sp} \left(\begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)$

x_3, x_4 any numbers!

Note: These 2 vectors are li!
(look at the last 2 entries)

In general: $\mathcal{N}(A)$ will be the span of a finite number of vectors, as many as the number of independent variables.