

Lecture XXIII: §3.7 Rank & Nullity of Linear Transformations  
 §5.1-5.2 Abstract Vector Spaces

Recall:

Definition: A linear transformation  $T: \mathbb{V} \longrightarrow \mathbb{W}$  is a function from  $\mathbb{V}$  (subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ) to  $\mathbb{W}$  (subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^m$ ) satisfying:

- ①  $T(\vec{u} + \vec{v}) = T(\vec{u}) + T(\vec{v})$  for  $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$
- ②  $T(c\vec{u}) = cT(\vec{u})$  for  $\vec{u} \in \mathbb{R}^n, c$  scalar.

If  $B_1 = \{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p\}$  is a basis for  $\mathbb{V}$  then  
 $B_2 = \{\vec{w}_1, \dots, \vec{w}_q\}$  \_\_\_\_\_  $\mathbb{W}$

- $T$  is completely determined by a choice of vectors  $T(\vec{v}_1), \dots, T(\vec{v}_p)$  in  $\mathbb{W}$  (& we have freedom of choice)
- $T$  is represented by a  $q \times p$  matrix  $A = [T]_{B_1 B_2}$  (depending on the choice of bases  $B_1$  &  $B_2$ ). Indeed:

$$[T(\vec{v})]_{B_2} = A [\vec{v}]_{B_1}$$

Ex:  $\mathbb{V} = \mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{W} = \mathbb{R}^m$   $B_1 = \{\vec{e}_1, \dots, \vec{e}_n\}$   $B_2 = \{\vec{e}_1, \dots, \vec{e}_m\}$   $T(\vec{x}) = A\vec{x}$  then  $A = [T]$ .  
 (& conversely,  $T$  depends on  $A$ )

§1. Rank-Nullity

The Nullspace & Range of a linear transformation are defined analogous to their definition for matrices:

Let  $T: \mathbb{V} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  be a linear transformation

Definition: Nullspace of  $T$ :  $\mathcal{N}(T) = \{\vec{v} \text{ in } \mathbb{V} \text{ such that } T(\vec{v}) = \vec{0}\}$   
 Range of  $T$ :  $\mathcal{R}(T) = \{\vec{w} \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^m \text{ _____ } \vec{w} = T(\vec{v}) \text{ for some } \vec{v} \text{ in } \mathbb{V}\}$

Both are subspaces  $\Rightarrow$  we can replace  $T: \mathbb{W} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$   
 by  $T: \mathbb{W} \rightarrow \mathbb{W}$  with  $\mathbb{W} = \mathcal{R}(T)$ .

Definition: nullity  $(T) = \dim(\mathcal{N}(T))$  rank  $(T) = \dim(\mathcal{R}(T))$

Later in this course we will reprove the rank-nullity Theorem.

$$\text{nullity}(T) + \text{rank}(T) = \dim \mathbb{W}$$

Special case:  $\mathbb{W} = \mathbb{R}^n$  &  $T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  given by  $T(\vec{x}) = A\vec{x}$

$$\text{Then } \mathcal{N}(T) = \mathcal{N}(A), \quad \mathcal{R}(T) = \mathcal{R}(A)$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \{ \dim & & \{ \dim \\ \text{nullity}(T) = \text{nullity}(A) & & \text{rank}(T) = \text{rank}(A) \end{array}$$

Rank-Nullity for  $T$  is the rank-nullity theorem for  $A$ .

## § 2 Abstract Vector Spaces:

So far, we have considered  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and its subspaces:

- Two main operations on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ : addition and scalar multiplication satisfying 8 properties (Assoc., Distrib., Neutral Element  $\vec{0}$ , additive inverse) [§ 3.2]
- A subspace  $V \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  was defined as subsets containing  $\vec{0}$  and "closed under addition & scalar multiplication".

Punchline: There are many mathematical objects which admit these 2 operations with the same 10 properties. We call them vector spaces

EXAMPLES:  $\mathcal{F} = \{ f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \}$  (set of all functions of one variable)

(eg  $\sin(x)$ ,  $\cos(x)$ ,  $e^x$ ,  $x^n \rightarrow x^{2+n}$ , ... are all "elements" of  $\mathcal{F}$ )

- functions can be added together to get new functions
- \_\_\_\_\_ scaled by a real number.

Eg:  $\sin(x) + e^x + \cos(4x)$

$\sqrt{2} \sin x, 4e^x, \frac{1}{9} \cos(2x)$

are all elements of  $\mathbb{F}$ .

Adding additional properties to our functions will produce subspaces

$\mathbb{F}^0 = \{ f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ continuous} \} \subsetneq \mathbb{F}$

$\mathbb{F}' = \{ f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ differentiable} \} \subsetneq \mathbb{F}^0$

Formal definition: A vector space (over  $\mathbb{R}$ ) is a set  $V$  with 2 operations

• addition  $V \times V \rightarrow V$  (elements of  $V$  are called "vectors")  
 $(\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2) \mapsto \vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2$

• scalar multiplication:  $\mathbb{R} \times V \rightarrow V$   
 $(a, \vec{v}) \mapsto a \cdot \vec{v}$

These 2 operations are required to satisfy the following 8 properties

- Addition:
- (A1)  $\vec{u} + \vec{v} = \vec{v} + \vec{u}$  for all  $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in V$
  - (A2)  $\vec{u} + (\vec{v} + \vec{w}) = (\vec{u} + \vec{v}) + \vec{w}$  for all  $\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w} \in V$
  - (A3) There is an element  $\vec{0} \in V$  (Neutral Element) satisfying  $\vec{0} + \vec{v} = \vec{v} + \vec{0} = \vec{v}$  for all  $\vec{v} \in V$
  - (A4) Given  $\vec{v} \in V$  we can find " $-\vec{v}$ " (additive inverse) satisfying  $\vec{v} + " -\vec{v} " = \vec{0}$

- Scalar Multiplication:
- (M1)  $a(b\vec{v}) = (ab)\vec{v}$  for every  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}, \vec{v} \in V$
  - (M2)  $a(\vec{u} + \vec{v}) = a\vec{u} + a\vec{v}$  for every  $a \in \mathbb{R}, \vec{u}, \vec{v} \in V$
  - (M3)  $(a+b)\vec{v} = a\vec{u} + b\vec{v}$  —————  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}, \vec{v} \in V$
  - (M4)  $1 \cdot \vec{v} = \vec{v}$  for every  $\vec{v} \in V$

Old Examples: •  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is a vector space with usual + & scalar mult. [§ 3.2]

- $\text{Mat}_{m \times n}(\mathbb{R})$  = set of all  $m \times n$  matrices is a vector space by § 1.6
- Null Space, Range & Row Space of a matrix are vector spaces.

New Examples: •  $\mathbb{F}$  = all cont functions  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  ( $\vec{0}$  = zero function)

- $C([0,1])$  = all continuous functions defined on the interval  $[0,1]$   
( $0 \leq x \leq 1$ )
- $P_n$  = all polynomials of degree at most  $n$   
=  $\{ a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots + a_nx^n : a_0, \dots, a_n \text{ in } \mathbb{R} \text{ arbitrary} \}$

Addition

$$\begin{array}{r} a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n \\ + \\ b_0 + b_1x + \dots + b_nx^n \\ \hline (a_0 + b_0) + (a_1 + b_1)x + \dots + (a_n + b_n)x^n \end{array} \quad \text{"Term-by-Term"}$$

Scalar Multiplication:  $c(a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n) = (ca_0) + (ca_1)x + \dots + (ca_n)x^n$

Neutral Element: 0 polynomial =  $0 + 0x + \dots + 0 \cdot x^n$

### § 3. Subspaces

Fix a vector space  $V$

Definition: A subset  $W$  of  $V$  is called a subspace if

(S1)  $\vec{0}$  in  $W$  (here  $\vec{0}$  is Neutral Element in  $V$ )

(S2)  $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2$  in  $W$  implies  $\vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2$  in  $W$

(S3)  $\vec{v}$  in  $W$ ,  $a$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  implies  $a \cdot \vec{v}$  in  $W$

Old Examples: Given a matrix  $A$  of size  $m \times n$

- Nullspace  $(A)$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$
- Range of  $A = \mathcal{R}(A)$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^m$

New Examples:  $V = \mathbb{F}$  = functions of one variable

- $\mathcal{P}_n$  = polynomials of degree at most  $n$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{F}$
- $\mathcal{S} = \{ f(x) : f'' = -f \}$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{F}$ .

Non-examples:

①  $S = \{ f(x) \in \mathbb{F} : \int_0^1 f(x) dx = 1 \}$

The zero function is not in  $S$ , so (S1) fails

②  $S = \{ \text{polynomials } P \text{ in } \mathcal{P}_n \text{ with } P(0) = 1 \}$  is not a subspace because (S1) fails (zero polynomial is not in  $S$ ).

③  $S = \{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} : ad - bc \neq 0 \} \subset \text{Mat}_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{R})$  is not a subspace

because (S1) fails  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  is NOT in  $S$ .

$X = \{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} : ad - bc = 0 \} \subseteq \text{Mat}_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{R})$  is not a subspace

because (S2) fails:  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  both in  $X$  but their sum

is  $I_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ , and  $I_2$  is NOT in  $X$ .