

2.8. Subspaces

def A subspace of \mathbb{R}^n is any set H in \mathbb{R}^n s.t.

- (a) $\vec{0} \in H$
- (b) $\vec{u} + \vec{v} \in H$ for any pair $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in H$
- (c) $c\vec{u} \in H$ for any $\vec{u} \in H, c$ scalar.

Ex: $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^n$, then $H = \text{Span}\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2\}$ is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n !

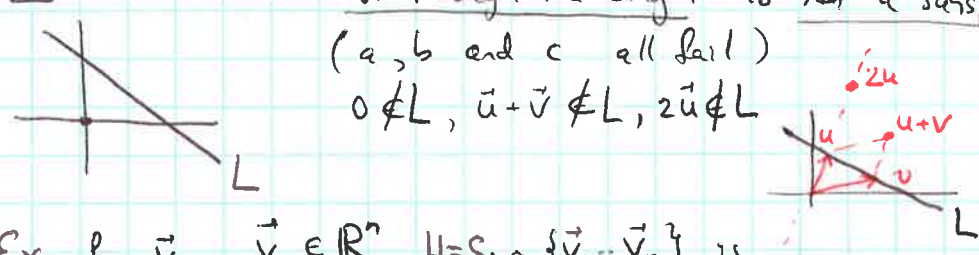
check: (a) $\vec{0} = 0 \cdot \vec{v}_1 + 0 \cdot \vec{v}_2 \in H$

(b) $\vec{u} = s_1\vec{v}_1 + s_2\vec{v}_2$
 $\vec{v} = t_1\vec{v}_1 + t_2\vec{v}_2 \implies \vec{u} + \vec{v} = (s_1+t_1)\vec{v}_1 + (s_2+t_2)\vec{v}_2 \in H$
 - lin. comb. of \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2

(c) $c \cdot \vec{u} = (cs_1)\vec{v}_1 + (cs_2)\vec{v}_2 \in H$.

Thus: for $\vec{v}_1 \neq \vec{0}, \vec{v}_2 \neq c \cdot \vec{v}_1$, $\text{Span}\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2\}$ - a plane in \mathbb{R}^n ← example of a subspace through 0
 $\vec{v}_1 \neq \vec{0}, \vec{v}_2 = c\vec{v}_1$, $\text{Span}\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2\}$ - a line in \mathbb{R}^n ← through 0

Ex a line L not through the origin is not a subspace.



(a, b and c all fail)
 $0 \notin L, \vec{u} + \vec{v} \notin L, 2\vec{u} \notin L$

Ex for $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $H = \text{Span}\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n\}$ is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n - the subspace "spanned" (or "generated") by $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p$.

Ex: \mathbb{R}^n itself is a subspace. Also, $H = \{\vec{0}\}$ is a subspace ("zero subspace").

Column space and null space of a matrix

A column space of a matrix A is the set of all linear comb. of the columns of A .
 for $A = [\vec{a}_1, \dots, \vec{a}_n]$ $m \times n$ mat., $\text{Col } A = \text{Span}\{\vec{a}_1, \dots, \vec{a}_n\}$ - subspace of \mathbb{R}^m

• $\text{Col } A = \mathbb{R}^m$ iff columns of A span $\mathbb{R}^m \iff$ pivot in each row of A .

Ex: $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & -4 \\ -4 & 6 & -2 \\ -3 & 7 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$ $\vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}$ Q: Is \vec{b} in $\text{Col } A$?

Sol: $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ consistent? Aug Mat = $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & -4 & 3 \\ -4 & 6 & -2 & 3 \\ -3 & 7 & 6 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & -4 & 3 \\ 0 & -6 & -18 & 15 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \implies$ eq. consistent \implies YES.

Col A = set of all \vec{b} s.t. $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ has a solution.

def The null space of A, $\text{Nul } A$, is the set of all sol. of homog. eq. $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$.

• $\text{Nul } A$ is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

$\text{Nul } A$ ~~defines a subspace~~ ^{is defined} implicitly (as solutions of an eq.), $\text{Col } A$ is defined explicitly.

Basis for a subspace

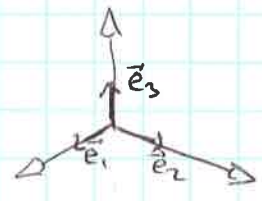
want to describe a subspace by the smallest possible set spanning it.

def A basis for a subspace H of \mathbb{R}^n is a ln. indep. set in H which spans H.

Ex: columns of an invertible $n \times n$ matrix A form a basis for $H = \mathbb{R}^n$ (They are ln. indep & span \mathbb{R}^n by Inv. Mat. THM)

E.g. for $A = I_n$, its columns $\vec{e}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $\vec{e}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, ..., $\vec{e}_n = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

Set $\{\vec{e}_1, \dots, \vec{e}_n\}$ - standard basis for \mathbb{R}^n



Ex Find a basis for $\text{Nul } A$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -3 & 6 & -1 & 1 & -7 \\ 1 & -2 & 2 & 3 & -1 \\ 2 & -4 & 5 & 8 & -4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Sol. Write the sol. of $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ in parametric form:

Aug Mat $[A \ \vec{0}] \sim \begin{bmatrix} \textcircled{1} & -2 & 0 & -1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \textcircled{1} & 2 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ RREF

x_2 x_4 x_5
free

$x_1 - 2x_2 - x_4 + 3x_5 = 0$
 $x_3 + 2x_4 - 2x_5 = 0$
 $0 = 0$

Solution: $x_1 = 2x_2 + x_4 - 3x_5$
 $x_3 = -2x_4 + 2x_5$
 x_2, x_4, x_5 free

$$\Rightarrow \vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2x_2 + x_4 - 3x_5 \\ x_2 \\ -2x_4 + 2x_5 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} = x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_4 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_5 \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

\vec{u} \vec{v} \vec{w}

$\vec{x} = x_2 \vec{u} + x_4 \vec{v} + x_5 \vec{w}$

Thus: $\text{Nul } A = \text{Span}\{\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w}\}$. Moreover, $\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w}$ are ln. indep. ($x_2 \vec{u} + x_4 \vec{v} + x_5 \vec{w} = 0 \Rightarrow x_2, x_4, x_5 = 0$ by construction)

So, $\{\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w}\}$ - basis for $\text{Nul } A$.

Ex: $B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ RREF

$b_1 \quad b_2 \quad b_3 \quad b_4 \quad b_5$

Q: find a basis for Col B.

Sol: note: $b_2 = 2b_1, b_4 = 3b_1 + 4b_3$

So, any lin. comb. of $b_1 \dots b_5$ is in fact a lin. comb. of b_1, b_3, b_5 (pivot columns)

$$\vec{v} = c_1 \vec{b}_1 + c_2 \vec{b}_2 + c_3 \vec{b}_3 + c_4 \vec{b}_4 + c_5 \vec{b}_5 = c_1 \vec{b}_1 + 2c_2 \vec{b}_1 + c_3 \vec{b}_3 + c_4(3\vec{b}_1 + 4\vec{b}_3) + c_5 \vec{b}_5$$

$$= (c_1 + 2c_2 + 3c_4) \vec{b}_1 + (c_3 + 4c_4) \vec{b}_3 + c_5 \vec{b}_5$$

$\in \text{Span}\{\vec{b}_1, \vec{b}_3, \vec{b}_5\}$

Also, $\vec{b}_1, \vec{b}_3, \vec{b}_5$ are columns of I_5 and thus are lin. indep.

$\Rightarrow \{\vec{b}_1, \vec{b}_3, \vec{b}_5\}$ - basis for Col B.

Ex: $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & 7 & 1 \\ -2 & -4 & -1 & -10 & -2 \\ 3 & 6 & 0 & 9 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & -2 & -5 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$

$a_1 \quad a_2 \quad a_3 \quad a_4 \quad a_5$

$\sim B$ Q: Find a basis of Col A.

Sol: ↑ pivot columns

A lin. independence rel. among col. of A is a sol. of $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$.

and $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ has same solutions as $B\vec{x} = \vec{0}$!

So: $b_2 = 2b_1, b_4 = 3b_1 + 4b_3 \Rightarrow a_2 = 2a_1, a_4 = 3a_1 + 4a_3$

b_1, b_3, b_5 lin. indep $\Rightarrow a_1, a_3, a_5$ lin. indep.

Thus: $\{a_1, a_3, a_5\}$ is a basis for Col A.

THM Pivot columns of A form a basis for Col A.

Warning: we need pivot columns of A itself, not of a REF of A.