

Subspaces

Definition

If W is a subset of a vector space V_F and W_F is a vector space over F (by using the same vector-addition), then W_F is called a vector subspace of V_F .

Example 1

Let $\mathbb{R}_1^n = \{ (0, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n) \mid a_i \in \mathbb{R} \text{ for } i=2, \dots, n \}$. Then \mathbb{R}_1^n is a vector subspace of \mathbb{R}^n (over \mathbb{R}).

Example 2

Let $T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ is a linear transformation. Then $\text{Ker}(T)$ is a vector subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

(*) If T is not a linear transformation, then $\text{Ker}(T)$ may not be a vector subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

e.g. Let $T: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by $T(x) = x - 3$. Then $\text{Ker}(T) = \{3\}$ which is not a subspace of \mathbb{R} .

Theorem 1

W_F is a vector subspace of V_F if and only if $\forall \vec{u}, \vec{v} \in W$ and $\lambda \in F$, $\vec{u} + \lambda \vec{v} \in W_F$.

(Note) The proof provides a great way to check "subspace".

Proof. (\Rightarrow) Since W_F is a vector space itself, $\vec{u} + \lambda \vec{v} \in W_F$ ⁽²⁾
for every $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in W_F$ and $\lambda \in F$.

(\Leftarrow) There are quite a few conditions to check. The most important part is to show that $(W_F, +)$ is an abelian group,

i.e. (1) binary operation (let $\lambda = 1$),

(2) associative law (from V_F),

(3) identity $\vec{0}$ (from \vec{v}, \vec{v} , and $\lambda = -1$),

(4) inverse (from $\vec{u} + (-1)\vec{v}$ and $\vec{u} = \vec{v}$),

(5) $\vec{u} + \vec{v} = \vec{v} + \vec{u}$ (from V_F).

The others are easy to see. ▀

Theorem 2 Let $T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ be a linear transformation.

Then $\text{Ker}(T)$ is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n denoted by $\text{Ker}(T) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$.

Proof. Let $\vec{x}, \vec{y} \in \text{Ker}(T)$ and $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$. By Theorem 1, it suffices

to show that $\vec{x} + \lambda \vec{y} \in \text{Ker}(T)$. Now, consider $T(\vec{x} + \lambda \vec{y})$.

Since T is a l. transf., $T(\vec{x} + \lambda \vec{y}) = T(\vec{x}) + T(\lambda \vec{y})$

$= T(\vec{x}) + \lambda T(\vec{y}) = \vec{0} + \lambda \vec{0} = \vec{0}$. This concludes the proof. ▀

Theorem 3 Let $T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ be a l. transf. Then

$T(\mathbb{R}^n) = \{T(\vec{x}) \mid \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$.

Proof. Since $T(\vec{x}) + \lambda T(\vec{y}) = T(\vec{x} + \lambda \vec{y}) \in T(\mathbb{R}^n)$, the proof follows by Theorem 1.

Definition

Let T be a l. transf. from \mathbb{R}^n into \mathbb{R}^m . Then $T(\mathbb{R}^n)$ is called the range space (subspace) of \mathbb{R}^m .
 T from \mathbb{R}^n into

Theorem 4

Let $\dim(\text{Ker}(T)) = n_0$. Then $\dim(T(\mathbb{R}^n)) = n - n_0$.

Proof

Let $B_1 = \{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_{n_0}\}$ be a basis of $\text{Ker}(T)$. Then, we may add $n - n_0$ vectors $\vec{v}_{n_0+1}, \dots, \vec{v}_n$ to B_1 such that

$B = \{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_{n_0}, \dots, \vec{v}_n\}$ is a basis of \mathbb{R}^n . (?)

Now, we claim that $B' = \{T(\vec{v}_{n_0+1}), \dots, T(\vec{v}_n)\}$ is a basis of $T(\mathbb{R}^n)$.

Since T is a l. transf., B' is a l. independent set in \mathbb{R}^m .

$$(\lambda_1 T(\vec{v}_{n_0+1}) + \dots + \lambda_{n-n_0} T(\vec{v}_n) = \vec{0})$$

$$\Rightarrow T(\lambda_1 \vec{v}_{n_0+1} + \dots + \lambda_{n-n_0} \vec{v}_n) = \vec{0}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{u} = \lambda_1 \vec{v}_{n_0+1} + \dots + \lambda_{n-n_0} \vec{v}_n \in \text{Ker}(T). \quad (\vec{u} \text{ is a l. combination of } \vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_{n_0}.)$$

Now, if some λ_i 's are not equal to zero, then B

is not an independent set. $\rightarrow \leftarrow$ Hence $\lambda_1 = \dots = \lambda_{n-n_0} = 0$.

Next $\{T(\vec{v}_{n_0+1}), \dots, T(\vec{v}_n)\}$ spans $T(\mathbb{R}^n)$.

$$\forall \vec{y} \in T(\mathbb{R}^n), \vec{y} = T(\vec{x}) = T(\alpha_1 \vec{v}_1 + \alpha_2 \vec{v}_2 + \dots + \alpha_n \vec{v}_n)$$

$$= \underbrace{[\alpha_1 T(\vec{v}_1) + \dots + \alpha_{n_0} T(\vec{v}_{n_0})]}_{\vec{0}} + \alpha_{n_0+1} T(\vec{v}_{n_0+1}) + \dots + \alpha_n T(\vec{v}_n). \quad \blacksquare$$

The rank of a matrix

對於任意給定的矩陣 $A = [a_{i,j}]_{m \times n}$ 我們可以討論以下的三件事：

(1) 由列所生成的列空間，它的維數最多為 m ，我們

用 $\dim R(A)$ 來代表。(Row Space)_{of A}

(2) 由行所生成的行空間，它的維數最多為 n ，我們

用 $\dim C(A)$ 來代表。(Column Space)_{of A}

(3) 由 A 所對應的線性變換 T 的 $\text{Ker}(T)$ 的維度，

用 $\dim N(A)$ 來表示。(Null Space)_{of A}

Theorem 4 Let A be an $m \times n$ matrix and suppose that A has been reduced to an echelon (reduced) matrix E .

(a) The nonzero rows of E forms a basis for $R(A)$.

(b) The columns of A corresponding to the pivot columns of E form a basis for the column space of A .

(c) $\text{rank}(A) = \dim R(A) = \dim C(A)$.

(d) nullity of $A = \dim N(A) = n - \text{rank}(A)$.

Proof.

(a) Since E is obtained from A by using row operations, $R(E) = R(A)$. By the fact that $R(E)$ is spanned by the set of nonzero rows, we have the proof.

(b) Observe that the pivot columns of E are l. independent and the other columns can be obtained by a linear combination of these columns. Hence the corresponding columns of A form a basis of $C(A)$.

(c) $\text{rank}(A) = \dim R(A) = \dim C(A) = \text{the \# of pivot 1's.}$

(d) nullity of $A = \text{the \# of free variables in solving the system of equations } A\vec{x} = \vec{0} \text{ which is also equal to } n - (\text{the \# of pivot 1's})$
 $= n - \text{rank}(A)$. Hence

$$\text{nullity } A = n - \text{rank}(A). \quad \blacksquare$$

Corollary $\text{rank}(A) = \text{rank}(A^T)$.

Corollary $\text{rank}(A) \leq \min\{m, n\}$ if A is an $m \times n$ matrix.