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4.2 The vector space \mathbb{R}^n and subspaces

Earlier we discussed the vector space \mathbb{R}^3 .

We now generalize

$$\mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$$

Def The vector space \mathbb{R}^n consists

of the set of column n -vectors $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$

together with the operations of vector addition

and scalar mult.

— o —

Vector addition and scalar mult obey these axioms
(routinely checked):

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$$\bullet \quad u + v = v + u$$

$$\bullet \quad u + (v + w) = (u + v) + w$$

$$\bullet \quad u + \mathbf{0} = \mathbf{0} + u = u$$

$$\bullet \quad u + (-u) = (-u) + u = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\bullet \quad a(u + v) = au + av$$

$$\bullet \quad (a + b)u = au + bu$$

$$\bullet \quad a(bu) = (ab)u$$

$$\bullet \quad (1)u = u$$

For all u, v, w
in \mathbb{R}^n and
scalars a, b

We use the above axioms to define

an abstract vector space ...

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Def A vector space (over \mathbb{R})

is a set V (of vectors) together with a binary operation $+$ and a scalar mult, that obey the above axioms.

Ex

Given pos integers m, n def

$V =$ set of all $m \times n$ matrices with entries in \mathbb{R} .

Then V together with the

usual matrix addition and sc mult is vector space.

Ex

let

$V =$ set of all functions $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ that are continuous everywhere.

Define $+$:

Given $f, g \in V$

the function

$f+g$ sends $x \rightarrow f(x) + g(x)$

$f+g \in V$ since

the sum of two contin functions is contin.

Def

sc mult \cdot

Given $f \in V$

Given scalar a

af sends $x \rightarrow a f(x)$

$af \in V$ since scalar mult of contin function is contin.

This gives Vector Space

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Ex Given a vector space V

Let $W =$ a nonempty subset of V such that:

- Given any vectors u, v in W , then $u+v$ is in W .

"closure under addition"

- Given any vector u in W , and given any scalar c , then cu is in W .

"closure under scalar mult"

then the set W , together with the addition operations and scalar mult inherited from V , form a vector space, called a subspace of V .

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Examples of subspaces

Ex Given a vector space V .

Define

$W =$ subset of V consisting of single element 0

Then W is a subspace of V

"the zero subspace"

pf check W is closed under $+$:

$$0 + 0 = 0 \quad \checkmark$$

check W is closed under sc mult:

$$c(0) = 0$$

for all $c \in \mathbb{R}$

Ex Given a vector space V

define

$$W = V$$

Then W is a subspace of V \checkmark

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Ex Given a vector space V

Given a vector $u \in V$

define

$$W = \left\{ cu \mid c \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

"set of all scalar multiples of u "

then W is a subspace of V

pf check W is closed under $+$:

Given two vectors in W , say

$$cu, \quad c'u$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} cu + c'u &= (c + c')u \\ &= \text{sc multiple of } u \\ &\in W \end{aligned}$$

check W is closed under sc mult:

Given vector in W , say

$$cu$$

Given scalar a

$$\begin{aligned} a(cu) &= (ac)u \\ &= \text{scalar multiple of } u \\ &\in W \end{aligned}$$

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Ex Given a vector space V

Given two vectors u, v in V

Define

$$W = \left\{ au + bv \mid a, b \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

"set of all linear combinations of u and v "

"span of u and v "

then W is a subspace of V

pf. Check W is closed under $+$:

Given two vectors in W , say

$$au + bv, \quad a'u + b'v$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} (au + bv) + (a'u + b'v) &= (a+a')u + (b+b')v \\ &= \text{linear comb of } u, v \\ &\in W \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

check W is closed under scalar mult:

Given vector in W , say $au + bv$. Given scalar c

$$\begin{aligned} c(au + bv) &= (ac)u + (bc)v \\ &= \text{lin comb of } u, v \\ &\in W \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

Ex. Given $m \times n$ matrix A .

Define

$W =$ set of all solutions to $Ax = 0$

Then W is a subspace of the vector space \mathbb{R}^n
 "the solution space of A "
 "the null space of A "

pf Check W is closed under $+$

Given two vectors in W , say u, v

So $Au = 0, \quad Av = 0$

then

$$A(u+v) = \underset{0}{Au} + \underset{0}{Av} = 0$$

so $u+v \in W$

Check W is closed under sc mult:

Given $u \in W$ so $Au = 0$

Given scalar c

$$A(cu) = c(\underset{0}{Au}) = 0$$

so $cu \in W$ ✓

□

Caution Given $m \times n$ matrix A

Given a NONZERO $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$

Define

$W =$ set of all solutions to $Ax = b$

then W is NOT a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

Indeed W is not closed under $+$:

Given $u, v \in W$, so

$$Au = b$$

$$Av = b$$

$$\text{then } A(u+v) = \begin{matrix} Au & + & Av \\ \parallel & & \parallel \\ b & & b \end{matrix}$$

$$= 2b$$

$$\neq b$$

so $u+v \notin W$

Also W is not closed under sc mult.

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Ex

Describe the nullspace of

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

Sol.

Find all the sols to

$$A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ w \end{bmatrix}$$

Apply GJ

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -4 & 1 & -4 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & 8 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -4 & 1 & -4 \\ 0 & 6 & 0 & 12 \\ 0 & 5 & 0 & 10 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} r_2' = r_2 - r_1 \\ r_3' = r_3 - r_1 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -4 & 1 & -4 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 5 & 0 & 10 \end{bmatrix} \quad r_2' = \frac{1}{6}r_2$$

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$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -4 & 1 & -4 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad r_3 = r_3 - 5r_2$$

Backsolve

Leading vars: x, y

$$z = s$$

$$w = t$$

 $s, t \text{ free}$

$$y = -2t$$

$$x = 4y - z + 4w$$

$$= -2 - 4t$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ w \end{bmatrix} = s \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ -2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\begin{matrix} u \\ v \end{matrix}$

$$\text{Null space of } A = \left\{ su + tv \mid s, t \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

= set of all lin combinations of u, v

Ex.Given a vector space V Given two subspaces of V , denoted U, W

Show that the intersection

$$U \cap W$$

is a subspace of V Sol. • Check $U \cap W$ is closed under $+$ Given two vectors in $U \cap W$, denoted u, v

$$\text{So } \begin{array}{ll} u \in U & u \in W \\ v \in U & v \in W \end{array}$$

show $u+v \in U \cap W =$

$$u+v \in U$$

(since U is closed under $+$)

$$u+v \in W$$

(-- W --)So $u+v \in U \cap W$ ✓• Check $U \cap W$ is closed under sc multGiven vector u in $U \cap W$, so

$$u \in U$$

$$u \in W$$

Given scalar c , show

$$cu \in U \cap W =$$

$$cu \in U$$

$$cu \in W$$

(since U is closed under sc mult)(-- W --)So $cu \in U \cap W$ ✓

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Ex Describe the null space of

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 & 1 & -8 \\ 2 & 5 & 0 & -5 \\ 2 & 7 & 1 & -9 \end{bmatrix}$$

Sol Find all the roots to

$$A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ w \end{bmatrix}$$

Apply GJ

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 & 1 & -8 \\ 2 & 5 & 0 & -5 \\ 2 & 7 & 1 & -9 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 & 1 & -8 \\ 0 & -5 & -2 & 11 \\ 0 & -3 & -1 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$r_2' = r_2 - 2r_1$$

$$r_3' = r_3 - 2r_1$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 & 1 & -8 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -3 \\ 0 & -3 & -1 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$r_2' = r_2 - 2r_1$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 & 1 & -8 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$r_3' = r_3 + 3r_2$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 & 1 & -8 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$r_3' = -r_3$$

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Backsolve

 x, y, z leading vars

$$w = t \quad t \text{ free}$$

$$z = -2t$$

$$y = 3t$$

$$\begin{aligned} x &= -5y - z + 8w \\ &= -5t \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ w \end{bmatrix} = t \begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ 3 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

\parallel
 u

$$\text{Null space of } A = \left\{ tu \mid t \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

$$= \text{set of scalar multiples of } u$$

□