

2.8 Subspaces of \mathbb{R}^n

Subspace: collection of vectors in some subset of \mathbb{R}^n

for example, vectors of the form $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ are in a
Subspace of \mathbb{R}^3

here, the space is \mathbb{R}^2

A subspace must have these properties:

a) It must contain the zero vector ($\vec{0}$)

b) It must be closed under addition

for each \vec{u} and \vec{v} in the set, $\vec{u} + \vec{v}$ is also in the set.

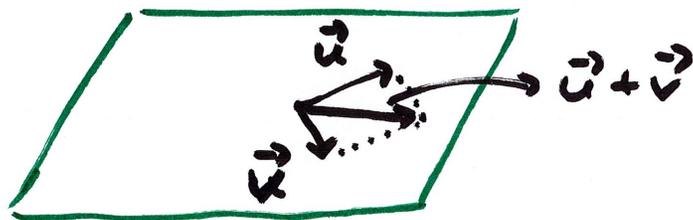
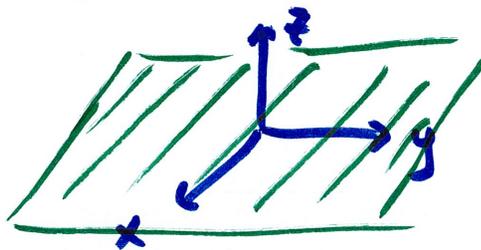
c) It must be closed under multiplication

for each \vec{u} in the set, $c\vec{u}$ must also be in the set.

all vectors of the form $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$. Are the requirements met?

a) is $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ in the set? Yes

b). closed under addition?



Yes, ANY vectors $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$
and $\begin{bmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ is always
have a sum $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 + x_2 \\ y_1 + y_2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ that's
on xy plane.

c). closed under multiplication?

$$c \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} cx \\ cy \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ still on xy plane}$$

so, yes.

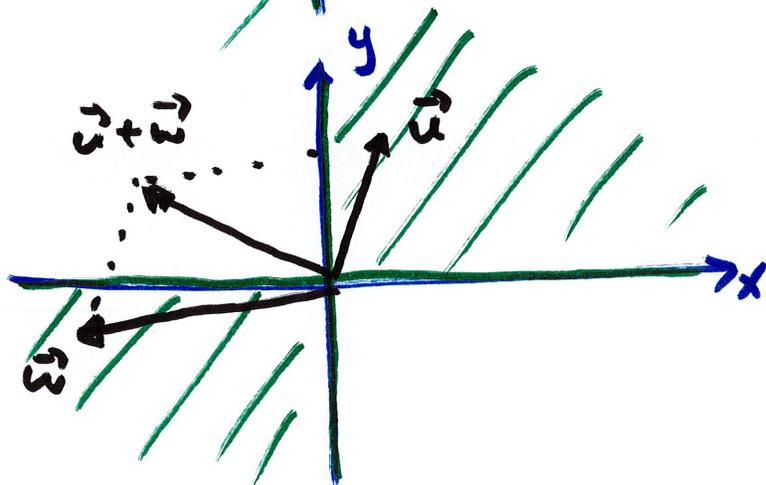
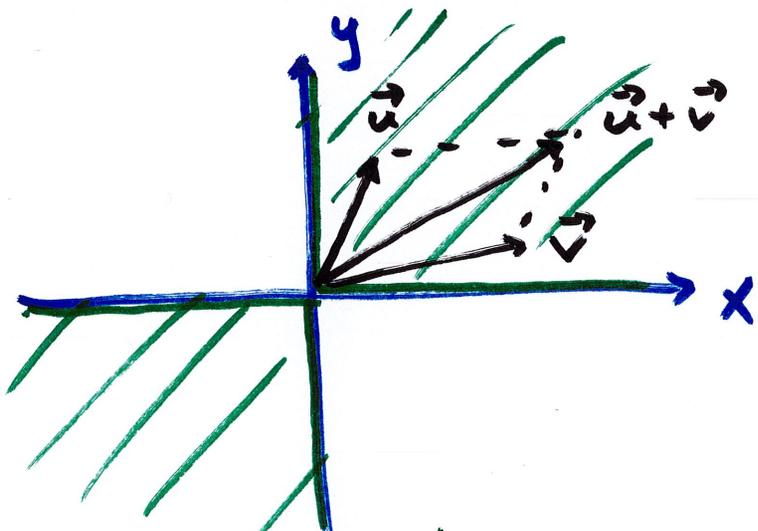
therefore, \mathbb{R}^2 (xy plane) is a subspace.

Example Is this a subspace?

All vectors (x, y) (or $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$) such that

$$x \geq 0, y \geq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad x \leq 0, y \leq 0$$

All (x, y) such that x and y have same sign or both zero one or both zero.



a) is $\vec{0}$ in this set? Yes

b) closed under addition?

No, because $\vec{u} + \vec{w}$ is in 2nd quadrant.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

c) closed under multiplication?

Yes

There, this set is NOT a Subspace.

Some notable subspaces connected to a matrix A .

column space - all linear combos of columns of A

null space - all solutions of $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$

example: $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 0 & -1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$

column space of A : $\text{Col } A = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 6 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

Is $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ in $\text{Col } A$? \Rightarrow solve $A\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \sim \dots \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

no solution, so no $x_1, x_2, x_3, 0$ exist such that

$$x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} + x_3 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 6 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

therefore, $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ is NOT in $\text{Col } A$.

null space of A : $\text{Nul } A$

solutions of $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 0 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & -2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \sim \dots \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

x_3 is free $x_2 = -2x_3$ $x_1 = x_3$

$$\text{so } \vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_3 \\ -2x_3 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = x_3 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Nul } A = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

is $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ in $\text{Nul } A$? No

equivalent question: ~~$A\vec{x}$~~ is $A \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \vec{0}$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Col } A = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

the last one, being a linear combo of first 3, is not needed to describe Col A.

the minimum set of vectors needed to describe a subspace is called a basis

the vectors in a basis (called bases) are linearly independent.

example

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 6 & 21 & -24 \\ 5 & 9 & 29 & -34 \\ 2 & 3 & 8 & -10 \end{bmatrix}$$

find a basis for $\text{Nul } A$

so reduce $[A \ \vec{0}] = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 6 & 21 & -24 & 0 \\ 5 & 9 & 29 & -34 & 0 \\ 2 & 3 & 8 & -10 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\sim \dots \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 13 & -14 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 6 & -6 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

x_3, x_4 are free

$$x_2 = \underbrace{-6x_3 + 6x_4}$$

$$x_1 = -3x_2 - 13x_3 + 14x_4$$

$$= 5x_3 - 4x_4$$

$$\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 5x_3 - 4x_4 \\ -6x_3 + 6x_4 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = x_3 \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ -6 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_4 \begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ 6 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

basis of Nul A is $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ -6 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ 6 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

basis of Col A?

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 6 & 21 & -24 \\ 5 & 9 & 29 & -34 \\ 2 & 3 & 8 & -10 \end{bmatrix} \sim \dots \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 13 & -14 \\ 0 & 1 & 6 & -6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

the columns in A that correspond to the pivot columns are basis vectors of Col A

Col A has basis $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 9 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

why? \rightarrow basis vectors are linearly independent

\rightarrow solving $[A \ \vec{0}]$ this identifies the dependence relationship

this method works because ERO's do not change dependency of columns.

(and thus which are linearly indep)

basis of $\text{Col } A$ is related to pivots.

If an $n \times n$ matrix has n pivots then the columns of A are basis vectors of $\text{Col } A$

→ columns span \mathbb{R}^n , $\text{Col } A = \mathbb{R}^n$

→ A is invertible

→ $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ only has trivial solution