

## 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.

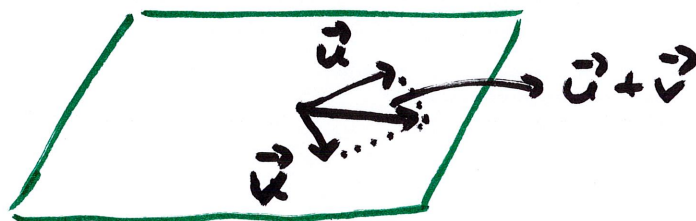
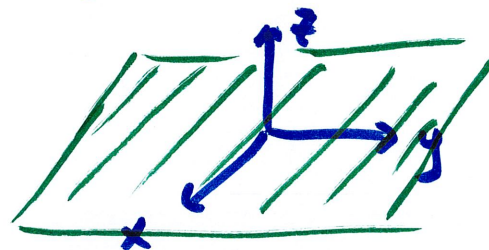
c) It must be closed under multiplication

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?

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

so, yes.

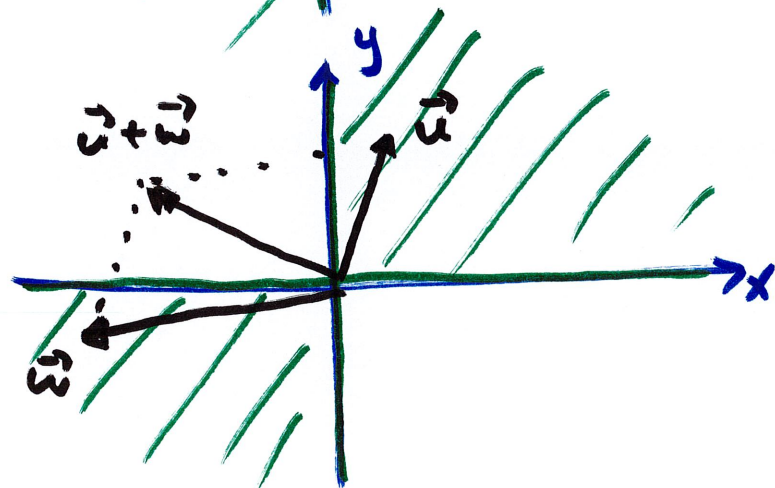
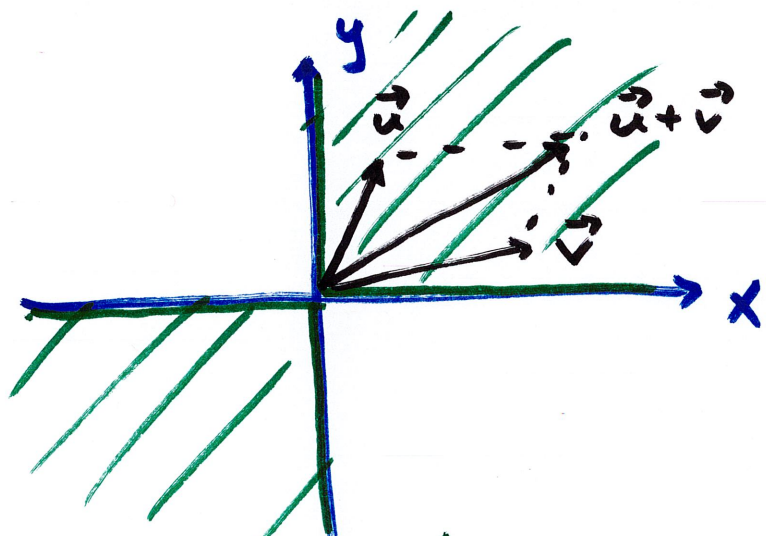
therefore,  $\mathbb{R}^2$  ( $xy$  plane) is a subspace.

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: ~~Are~~ 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

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

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

$$= 5x_3 - 4x_4$$

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

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

basis of  $\text{Col } A$ ?

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

the columns in  $A$  that correspond to the pivot columns are basis vectors of  $\text{Col } A$

$\text{Col } A$  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