

Subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  (in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  we use vectors  $\underline{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$ )

Let  $W$  be some subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , so  $W$  is a collection of (column) vectors from  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

Def  $W$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  if 3 things are true:

①  $\underline{0}$ -vector is contained in  $W$ .

② (CA) ("closed under addition") If  $\underline{u}$  and  $\underline{v}$  are any two vectors from  $W$ , then  $\underline{u} + \underline{v}$  should also be in  $W$   
( $\underline{u}, \underline{v} \in W \Rightarrow \underline{u} + \underline{v} \in W$  too)

③ (CS) ("closed under scaling") If  $\underline{u}$  is any vector from  $W$ , then any scalar multiple  $c\underline{u}$  is also in  $W$ . (succinctly,  $\underline{u} \in W \Rightarrow c\underline{u} \in W$ )

Ex:  $W = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^3 : 3x - 2y - z = 0 \right\}$   
 $z = 3x - 2y$

Method 1 (from definitions)

① is  $\underline{0}$  in  $W$ ? Yes, because coordinates of  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  satisfy  $3(0) - 2(0) - 0 = 0$  ✓

② (CA)  $W = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} : 3x - 2y - z = 0 \right\}$   
 $= \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 3x - 2y \end{bmatrix} : x, y \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$

$\underline{u} = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ 3a - 2b \end{bmatrix}, \underline{v} = \begin{bmatrix} c \\ d \\ 3c - 2d \end{bmatrix}$

$\underline{u} + \underline{v} = \begin{bmatrix} a+c \\ b+d \\ 3(a+c) - 2(b+d) \end{bmatrix}$ . This fits into the description of  $W$ .

so  $W$  closed under addition.

(CS) Take  $\underline{u} \in W$   $\underline{u} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 3x-2y \end{bmatrix}$

will  $k\underline{u} \in W$  too?  $k\underline{u} = \begin{bmatrix} kx \\ ky \\ k(3x-2y) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} kx \\ ky \\ 3(kx)-2(ky) \end{bmatrix}$

so any multiple  $k\underline{u}$  will be in  $W$ , and so  $W$  is "closed under scalar multiplication."

So (0), (CA), (CS) all true, so  $W$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$

$$W = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^3 : 3x - 2y - z = 0 \right\}$$

Method: write  $W$  as a span:

we rewrote  $W = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 3x-2y \end{bmatrix} : \overbrace{x, y}^{\text{free/unrestricted}} \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 3x-2y \end{bmatrix} = x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + y \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} \quad x, y \text{ free.}$$

$$\text{so } W = \left\{ a \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + b \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} : a, b \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

$$W = \text{span}\{\underline{u}, \underline{v}\} = \{a\underline{u} + b\underline{v} : a, b \in \mathbb{R}\}.$$

✓ (0)  $0 \in W$ ? Yes, because  $a=b=0 \Rightarrow 0\underline{u} + 0\underline{v} = \underline{0}$

✓ (CA) If we take vectors  $\underline{x} = a\underline{u} + b\underline{v} \in W$   
 $\underline{y} = c\underline{u} + d\underline{v} \in W$

$\underline{x} + \underline{y} \in W$ ? Yes, because  $\underline{x} + \underline{y}$   
 $= (a+c)\underline{u} + (b+d)\underline{v}$

✓ (CS) If  $\underline{x} = a\underline{u} + b\underline{v}$ , is  $k\underline{x} \in W$ ?

Yes,  $k\underline{x} = (ka)\underline{u} + (kb)\underline{v} \in W$

So,  $W$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

"Thm" If  $W$  is a subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and you write  $W$  as a span of some vectors from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  (ex:  $W = \text{span}\{\underline{u}\}$  or  $W = \text{span}\{\underline{u}, \underline{v}\}$ , or  $W = \text{span}\{\underline{u}, \underline{v}, \underline{w}\} \dots$ ) then automatically  $W$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

Def: (Null space):  $\underline{A}$  ( $m \times n$ ),  $\text{null}(\underline{A})$  is the set of solutions to vector equation  $\underline{A}\underline{x} = \underline{0}$   
 $\text{null}(\underline{A}) = \{ \underline{x} : \underline{A}\underline{x} = \underline{0} \}$

Ex:  $(3 \times 4)(4 \times 1) \rightarrow 3 \times 1$

$$\underline{A} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & -15 & 7 \\ 1 & 4 & -19 & 10 \\ 2 & 5 & -26 & 11 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{null}(\underline{A}) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^4 : \underline{A} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \underline{0}_{(3 \times 1)} \right\}$$

is  $\text{null}(\underline{A})$  a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^4$ ? How do we "generate" it?

Compute solutions  $\underline{x}$  using REF

augmented matrix  $\left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 3 & -15 & 7 & 0 \\ 1 & 4 & -19 & 10 & 0 \\ 2 & 5 & -26 & 11 & 0 \end{array} \right]$

... to REF ...

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} \boxed{1} & 0 & -3 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & \boxed{1} & -4 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \quad \begin{array}{l} x_3 = s \\ x_4 = t \end{array} \text{ free params.}$$

$\underbrace{x_1, x_2}_{\text{pivot}}$        $\underbrace{x_3, x_4}_{\text{free}}$

Solutions to  $\underline{A}\underline{x} = \underline{0}$  are

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3s+2t \\ 4s-3t \\ s \\ t \end{bmatrix} = s \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$s, t$  free.

So solutions to  $\underline{A}\underline{x} = \underline{0}$ , aka  $\text{null}(\underline{A})$ , are

$$\text{null}(\underline{A}) = \left\{ s \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} : s, t \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

$$= \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}. \text{ So } \text{null}(\underline{A}) \text{ is a span of some}$$

~~the~~ vectors, it is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^4$ .

---

Could also check if  $\text{null}(\underline{A})$  is a subspace directly:

$$\text{null}(\underline{A}) = \left\{ \underline{x} \in \mathbb{R}^4 : \underline{A}\underline{x} = \underline{0} \right\} \quad \begin{array}{l} \underline{A}: (3 \times 4) \\ \underline{x}: (4 \times 1) \end{array}$$

✓ (0) does  $\underline{A}\underline{0}_{4 \times 1} = \underline{0}_{3 \times 1}$ ? Yes.

✓ (CA) If  $\underline{A}\underline{x} = \underline{0}$  and  $\underline{A}\underline{y} = \underline{0}$ , is  $\underline{x} + \underline{y} \in \text{null}(\underline{A})$ ?

$$\text{Yes, b/c } \underline{A}(\underline{x} + \underline{y}) = \underline{A}\underline{x} + \underline{A}\underline{y} = \underline{0} + \underline{0} = \underline{0}.$$

✓ (CS) If  $\underline{A}\underline{x} = \underline{0}$ , does  $\underline{A}(k\underline{x}) = \underline{0}$ ? Yes, because

$$\underline{A}(k\underline{x}) = k\underline{A}\underline{x} = k\underline{0} = \underline{0}.$$

$\text{null}(\underline{A})$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^4$ .