

# Sec 4.2 Null spaces, column spaces, row spaces, & Linear Maps

## Part I Null space I

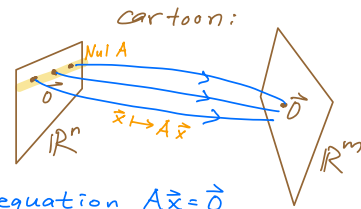
## II

## III

## IV

Def The null space of an  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$  is

$$\text{Nul } A = \{ \vec{x} : \vec{x} \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^n \text{ and } A\vec{x} = \vec{0} \},$$



↳ i.e. the set of all solutions of the homogeneous equation  $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$

Ex:  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & -1 & 3 \\ 2 & -4 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -2 & 2 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$  Q: Is  $\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  in  $\text{Nul } A$ ? Is  $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  in  $\text{Nul } A$ ?

Ans: To test whether  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$  satisfy  $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ , simply compute

$$A\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & -1 & 3 \\ 2 & -4 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -2 & 2 & -3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1(2) - 2(1) - 1(0) + 3(0) \\ 2(2) - 4(1) + 0 + 0 \\ 1(2) - 2(1) + 0 + 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad A\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 8 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \neq \text{zero vector}$$

So  $\vec{u}$  is in  $\text{Nul } A$ , and  $\vec{v}$  is not in  $\text{Nul } A$ .  $\square$

Thm 2 The null space of an  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

(Equivalently, the set of all solutions to a system  $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$  of  $m$  homogeneous linear equations in  $n$  unknowns is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .)

Proof:  $\text{Nul } A$  is a subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  because  $A$  has  $n$  columns.

Show that  $\text{Nul } A$  satisfies all three properties of a subspace

- ① (Containing the zero vector)  $\vec{0} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is in  $\text{Nul } A$  since  $A\vec{0} = \vec{0}$   
in  $\mathbb{R}^n$     in  $\mathbb{R}^m$
- ② (Closed under vector addition) Suppose  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$  are in  $\text{Nul } A$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } A(\vec{u} + \vec{v}) &= A\vec{u} + A\vec{v} \quad (\text{by distributivity property of matrix multp}) \\ &= \vec{0} + \vec{0} \quad \text{since } \vec{u} \text{ and } \vec{v} \text{ are in } \text{Nul } A \\ &= \vec{0} \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\vec{u} + \vec{v}$  is in  $\text{Nul } A$ .

- ③ (Closed under scalar multiplication) Suppose  $c$  is any number and  $\vec{u}$  is in  $\text{Nul } A$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } A(c\vec{u}) &= c(A\vec{u}) \\ &= c(\vec{0}) \quad \text{since } \vec{u} \text{ is in } \text{Nul } A \\ &= \vec{0} \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $c\vec{u}$  is in  $\text{Nul } A$ .  $\square$

Ex. Find a spanning set of  $\text{Nul } A$ . (review process in Sec 1.5)

The augmented matrix of the system  $A\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  is

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & -2 & -1 & 3 & 0 \\ 2 & -4 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -2 & 2 & -3 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

Row reduce:

$$\begin{array}{l} -2 \text{ Row I} + \text{Row II} \\ -\text{Row I} + \text{Row III} \end{array} \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & -2 & -1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & -6 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & -6 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

$$-\text{Row II} + \text{Row III} \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & -2 & -1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & -6 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

This is in a (row) echelon form

We can stop here or keep going to get the reduced echelon form

$$\frac{1}{3} \text{ Row II} \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & -2 & -1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\text{Row II} + \text{Row I} \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & -2 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

This is the reduced echelon form

The general solution is  $x_1 - 2x_2 + x_4 = 0$

$$x_3 - 2x_4 = 0$$

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

the non-leading  
variables are  
the free variables

Every linear combination of  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  is an elt of  $\text{Nul } A$ ,

and vice versa.

Thus  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  is a spanning set for  $\text{Nul } A$ .  $\square$

## Group Quiz, pg 1

Q: True or false? The set of all solutions to  $\vec{A} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^4$

Q: True or false? The set of all solutions to  $\vec{A} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^4$

Q: True or false? Let  $H$  be the set of all vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^4$  whose coordinates  $a, b, c, d$  satisfy the equations  $a - 2b + 5c = d$  and  $c - a = b$ . Then  $H$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^4$ .

Q: True or false? Let  $H$  be the set of all vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^4$  whose coordinates  $a, b, c, d$  satisfy the equations  $a - 2b + 5c = d + 1$  and  $c - a = b$ . Then  $H$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^4$ .

## Part II: Column space

Def: The column space of an  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$  is

$$\text{Col } A = \{ \text{all linear combinations of the columns of } A \},$$

$$\text{i.e. } \text{Col } A = \text{Span} \{ \text{columns of } A \}$$

$$\text{i.e. } \text{Col } A = \{ \vec{b} : \vec{b} = A\vec{x} \text{ for some } \vec{x} \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^n \}$$

Notation  $A \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$  means the linear combination of the columns of  $A$  with weights  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$

Thm 3 The column space of an  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^m$

PF Let  $\vec{a}_1, \vec{a}_2, \dots, \vec{a}_n$  denote the columns of  $A$ .

Then  $\text{Col } A = \text{Span} \{ \vec{a}_1, \dots, \vec{a}_n \}$ , which is a subspace by Thm 1.

which says: "If  $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_p$  are in a vector space  $V$ , then  $\text{Span} \{ \vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p \}$  is a subspace of  $V$ "

Since the columns of  $A$  are in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ , the result follows  $\square$

Ex: Let  $W = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -y-z \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} : y, z \text{ are real numbers} \right\}$

Find a matrix  $A$  such that  $W = \text{Col } A$ .

Sol: 1. Write  $W$  as a set of linear combinations:

$$W = \left\{ y \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + z \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} : y, z \in \mathbb{R} \right\} = \text{Span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

A spanning set for  $W$

2. Use the vectors in the spanning set as the columns of  $A$ :

$$\text{let } A = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Then  $W = \text{Col } A$ .  $\square$

Fact: Assume  $A$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix. TFAE:

1.  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  has a solution for each  $\vec{b}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^m$
  2. The columns of  $A$  span  $\mathbb{R}^m$
  3.  $\text{Col } A = \mathbb{R}^m$
- Thm 4 in Sec 1.4
- ↪ since  $\text{Col } A = \text{Span}\{\text{columns of } A\}$

### III. Row space

Def The row space of an  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$ , denoted  $\text{Row } A$  is the set of all linear combinations of the row vectors of  $A$ .

Thm  $\text{Row } A$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$

Note: Since rows of  $A$  = columns of  $A^T$  ← transpose

$$\text{Row } A = \text{Col } A^T$$

Ex: Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & -1 & 3 \\ 2 & -4 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -2 & 2 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$  be as before.

1. Find a nonzero vector in  $\text{Row } A$ ,
2. " "  $\text{Col } A$ , and
3. " "  $\text{Nul } A$ .
4. Determine whether  $\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$  is in  $\text{Col } A$

Sol: 1. Any linear combination of the row vectors of  $A$ , e.g.  
 $[1 \ -2 \ -1 \ 3]$  first row

2. Any linear combination of the columns of  $A$ , e.g.

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{or} \quad \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + 2 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1+6 \\ 1 \\ 2-6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 1 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}$$

3. Earlier, we computed that

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \text{ is a spanning set for } \text{Nul } A$$

So any linear combination of this set, e.g.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{or} \quad 2 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4+1 \\ 2 \\ 0+2 \\ 0-1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

4. From Day 1 class notes, we have

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & -2 & -1 & 3 & 1 \\ 2 & -4 & 1 & 0 & 5 \\ 1 & -2 & 2 & -3 & 4 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow[\text{reduce}]{\text{Row}} \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & -2 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \quad \begin{array}{l} x_1 - 2x_2 + x_4 = 2 \\ x_3 - 2x_4 = 1 \\ 0 = 0 \end{array}$$

So  $A\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$  has at least a solution,

so  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$  is in  $\text{Col } A$ .

#### IV. Kernel and range (image) of a linear map

Def Suppose  $V$  and  $W$  are vector spaces.

A map  $T: V \rightarrow W$  is called linear if

(i)  $T$  preserves addition, i.e.

$$T(u+v) = T(u) + T(v) \quad \text{for all } u, v \text{ in the domain } V$$

(ii)  $T$  preserves scalar multiplication, i.e.

$$T(cu) = c T(u) \quad \text{for all } u \text{ in the domain } V \text{ and all scalars } c.$$

Def The kernel (or null space) of  $T$  is the set of all  $u$  in the domain  $V$  such that  $T(u) = \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{zero element in vector space } W}}{0}$

Def The range (or image) of  $T$  is the set of all elements in the codomain  $W$  of the form  $T(x)$  for some  $x$  in the domain  $V$ .

Thm • The kernel of  $T$  is a subspace of  $V$

• The range of  $T$  is a subspace of  $W$

Note: •  $\ker T = \{\text{zero element}\}$  if and only if  $T$  is one-to-one  
•  $\text{range } T = W$  if and only if  $T$  is onto.

Note: If  $T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is a matrix transformation defined by  $T(\vec{x}) = A\vec{x}$ , then:

The kernel of  $T$  is just the null space of  $A$

The range of  $T$  is just the column space of  $A$

Ex • Let  $V = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Differentiable functions } f: [0,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ \text{whose derivatives are continuous} \end{array} \right\}$   
(Ex 9)  $W = \left\{ \text{Continuous functions } f: [0,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \right\}$

- Define  $D: V \rightarrow W$  to be the map
 
$$D(f) = f'.$$
- This is a linear map:  $D(f+g) = D(f) + D(g)$  ✓  
 $D(cf) = cD(f)$  ✓
- The zero element in the codomain  $W$  is the zero constant function.
- So the kernel of  $D$  is  $\{ \text{constant functions} \}$ ,  
 so  $D$  is not one-to-one.
- The range of  $D$  is the entire  $W$ . So  $D$  is onto.

Group Quiz, pg 2

Define a linear map  $T: P_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$

$$\text{by } T(p) = \begin{bmatrix} p(5) \\ p(5) \\ p(5) \end{bmatrix}$$

( Similar to  
Sec 4.2 #44  
in MML )

a.) What is the kernel of  $T$ ?

Find two polynomials in  $P_2$  that span  
the kernel of  $T$ .

b.) What is the range of  $T$ ?

Find a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  which spans  
the range of  $T$