

Let V and W be vector spaces over the same field.

Let $L: V \rightarrow W$ be a function.

L is a linear transformation if it has:

- Linearity over addition — $L(x+y) = L(x) + L(y)$
- Linearity over scalar multiplication — $L(ax) = a \cdot L(x)$
- $L(\vec{0}) = \vec{0}$

$$\text{Ex. } L: P_1(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow P_1(\mathbb{R}) \quad ; \quad L(p(x)) = 2p(x)$$

$$\Rightarrow L(p_1(x) + p_2(x)) = 2(p_1(x) + p_2(x))$$

$$= 2p_1(x) + 2p_2(x)$$

$$= L(p_1(x)) + L(p_2(x))$$

multiplication works since $P_1(\mathbb{R})$ is a vector space

As such, L is closed under addition

$$\text{Ex. } L: P_1(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow P_1(\mathbb{R})$$

$$L(a+bx) = b + a^2x$$

$$L(1) = L(1 + 0x) = x$$

$$L(2) = 4x$$

$$L(3) = 9x$$

For this to be closed under addition, $L(1+2) = L(3)$ must be equal to $L(1) + L(2) = 5x$

$$L(3) = 9x$$

$$L(1) + L(2) = 5x$$

$$9x \neq 5x$$

The derivative is a linear transformation:

- Let $L(f(x)) = f'(x)$
- If $f(x) = \sin(x) + 2x$, $f'(x) = \cos(x) + 2 = (\sin(x))' + (2x)' = L(\sin(x)) + L(2x)$

Ex. Let V be a vector space with $B = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$.

Then, $[\]_B : V \rightarrow F^n$ is a linear transformation.

Proof: Let v and w be in V .

$$\vec{v} = a_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + a_n \vec{v}_n \quad \vec{w} = b_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + b_n \vec{v}_n$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } \vec{v} + \vec{w} &= \sum_{i=1}^n (a_i + b_i) \vec{v}_i \\ \Rightarrow [\vec{v} + \vec{w}]_B &= \begin{bmatrix} a_1 + b_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_n + b_n \end{bmatrix} \in F^n \end{aligned}$$

Lemmas

Let V and W be two vector spaces.

Let $L : V \rightarrow W$ be a linear transformation, then

$$(a) L(\vec{0}_V) = \vec{0}_W$$

$$(b) L\left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i \mathbf{v}_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i L(\mathbf{v}_i), \quad \text{where } a_i \in F \text{ and } \mathbf{v}_i \in V, i = 1, \dots, n.$$

Proof of (a):

$$\text{Suppose } L(\vec{0}_V) = q \in W$$

Since W is a vector space, there exists a $-q$ in W such that $q + (-q) = \vec{0}_W$

Proof (1):

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{0}_V + \vec{0}_V &= \vec{0}_V \\ \Rightarrow L(\vec{0}_V + \vec{0}_V) &= L(\vec{0}_V) = \vec{q} \\ \Rightarrow L(\vec{0}_V) + L(\vec{0}_V) &= \vec{q} && \text{by linearity} \\ \Rightarrow \vec{q} + \vec{q} &= \vec{q} \end{aligned}$$

Adding the additive inverse $-q$ to both sides, we have $\vec{q} = \vec{0}_W$

Proof (2):

$$\begin{aligned} L(\mathbf{0}_V) &= L(0 \cdot \mathbf{0}_V) && \text{(property of the scalar 0)} \\ &= 0 \cdot (L(\mathbf{0}_V)) && (L \text{ is linear}) \\ &= \mathbf{0}_W && \text{(property of the scalar 0).} \end{aligned}$$

Range

Definition: Range

Let $T: V \rightarrow W$ be a linear transformation. Then, the range of T is

$$R(T) = \{T(\vec{v}) : \vec{v} \in V\}$$

Lemma: $R(T)$ is a subspace.

Proof:

First, $T(\mathbf{0}_V) = \mathbf{0}_W$, so $R(T)$ is not empty

Next, let w_1 and w_2 be in $R(T)$.

$$\vec{w}_1 \in R(T) \rightarrow \exists \vec{v}_1 \in V : T(\vec{v}_1) = \vec{w}_1$$

$$\vec{w}_2 \in R(T) \rightarrow \exists \vec{v}_2 \in V : T(\vec{v}_2) = \vec{w}_2$$

$$\text{Then, } \vec{w}_1 + \vec{w}_2 = T(\vec{v}_1) + T(\vec{v}_2) = T(\vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2)$$

$\vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2$ is in V since V is a vector space

So, $T(\vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2)$ is in $R(T)$ since it satisfies

$$R(T) = \{T(\vec{v}) : \vec{v} \in V\}$$

Proof of scalar multiplication is similar; this completes the proof

Definition: Rank of a linear transformation

If the range of T is finite-dimensional, we define $\text{Rank}(T)$ as the dimension of the range of T

- The number of vectors in the basis of $R(T)$

Lemma: Let $T: V \rightarrow W$ be a linear transformation.

Let $B = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ be a basis for V .

$$\text{Then } R(T) = \text{span}(\{T(v_1), \dots, T(v_n)\})$$

But the above span is NOT always a basis for $R(T)$

Proof:

$$(a) \text{ Show } S = \text{span}(\{T(v_1), \dots, T(v_n)\}) \subseteq R(T)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } \vec{w} &= c_1 T(v_1) + \dots + c_n T(v_n) \\ &= T(c_1 v_1 + \dots + c_n v_n) \quad \text{by linearity} \\ &\in R(T) \end{aligned}$$

$$(b) \text{ Show that } R(T) \subseteq S$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } \vec{w} \in R(T) &\rightarrow \exists \vec{v} \in V : T(\vec{v}) = \vec{w} \\ \vec{v} \in V &\rightarrow \vec{v} = a_1 v_1 + \dots + a_n v_n \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } \vec{w} = T(\vec{v}) &= a_1 T(v_1) + \dots + a_n T(v_n) \\ &\subseteq \text{span}(\{T(v_1), \dots, T(v_n)\}) \end{aligned}$$

linearity of vector space V

Definition: onto

Let $T: V \rightarrow W$

If $R(T) = W$, then T is onto

Whether a function is onto depends on the codomain:

- The function $T(x): \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $T(x) = \sin(x)$ is *not* onto
- But the function $T(x): \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [-1, 1]$ is onto

Example 1

Let $L : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ defined by $L(x, y) = (x, x)$. Then

$$\mathcal{R}(L) = \{L(x, y) : (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2\} = \{(x, x) : x \in \mathbb{R}\}.$$

Thus the range is the straight line $y = x$, which is a one-dimensional subspace of \mathbb{R}^2 .

Nullspace

Definition: Nullspace

Let $T: V \rightarrow W$. The nullspace of T , $N(T)$ (or $\text{Ker}(T)$) is the set of all vectors v in V such that $T(v) = 0$

$$\Rightarrow N(T) = \{\vec{v} \in V : T(\vec{v}) = \vec{0}\}$$

Lemma: $N(T)$ is a subspace of V

If $N(T)$ is finite-dimensional, we can refer to the *dimension* of the nullspace as the *nullity* of T

Proof:

First, $T(0_v) = 0_w$

Next, let v_1 and v_2 be in the nullspace of T

Then, $T(v_1) + T(v_2) = 0_w$

Is $cv_1 + v_2$ in $N(T)$? If so, linear \rightarrow subspace

$$\begin{aligned} T(cv_1 + v_2) &= T(cv_1) + T(v_2) \\ &= \underbrace{cT(v_1)}_{\vec{0}_w} + \underbrace{T(v_2)}_{\vec{0}_w} \\ &= \vec{0}_w \end{aligned} \quad \text{linearity}$$

Definition: One-to-one

Let $T: V \rightarrow W$, and let v_1, v_2 be in V .

If $T(v_1) = T(v_2)$, then $v_1 = v_2$.

Lemma: T is one-to-one if and only if $N(T) = \{\vec{0}\}$.

Lemma: T maps a linearly independent set onto another linearly independent set

- The *image* of a linearly independent set under T is also linearly independent

Proof

Let $\mathbf{w}_i \in L(S)$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$, and suppose that $\sum_{i=1}^m a_i \mathbf{w}_i = \mathbf{0}_W$ for some $a_i \in \mathbb{F}$.

We first note that each $\mathbf{w}_i = L(\mathbf{v}_i)$ for some $\mathbf{v}_i \in S$.

Thus $\sum_{i=1}^m a_i \mathbf{w}_i = \mathbf{0}_W$ can be written as $\sum_{i=1}^m a_i L(\mathbf{v}_i) = \mathbf{0}_W$.

Since L is linear, we have

$$L\left(\sum_{i=1}^m a_i \mathbf{v}_i\right) = \mathbf{0}_W,$$

that is,

$$\sum_{i=1}^m a_i \mathbf{v}_i \in \mathcal{N}(L).$$

However, L is one-to-one and so $\mathcal{N}(L) = \mathbf{0}_V$.

So we have $\sum_{i=1}^m a_i \mathbf{v}_i = \mathbf{0}_V$.

Since S is linearly independent and $\mathbf{v}_i \in S, \forall i = 1, \dots, m$, then $a_1 = a_2 = \dots = a_m = 0$.

We conclude that $L(S)$ is linearly independent. ■.