

## Step-1

Since  $\mathbf{V}$  is a subspace, it is a vector space in its own right. Therefore, it has a basis. Let the dimension of  $\mathbf{V}$  be  $m$ . Note that  $m < n$ .

Let  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m$  be a basis of  $\mathbf{V}$ .

## Step-2

Form a matrix  $A$  of order  $n$  by  $n$ , such that its first  $m$  rows are the vectors  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m$ . Put zero in each entry of the last  $n - m$  rows of  $A$ .

Let us show that the matrix  $A$  has row space =  $\mathbf{V}$  and null space =  $\mathbf{W}$ .

## Step-3

Let  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$  be any vector in  $\mathbf{R}^n$ .

Consider the following:

$$A\alpha = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ \vdots \\ v_m \\ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ \dots \ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ \dots \ 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha_n \end{bmatrix}$$

It is obvious that  $A\alpha$  will have all zero entries in the last  $n - m$  rows. Therefore, for the matrix  $A$ , its row space is  $\mathbf{V}$ .

## Step-4

If we consider a vector  $\beta$  from  $\mathbf{W}$ , then its initial  $m$  entries will be zeros. The nonzero entries will be from  $m + 1$  to  $n$ .

Therefore,  $A\beta = 0$ .

Thus, null space of the matrix  $A$  is  $\mathbf{W}$ .

## Step-5

As an example, consider the vector space  $\mathbf{R}^3$ . Let  $\mathbf{V}$  be the  $xy$ -plane and let  $\mathbf{W}$  be the  $z$ -axis.

Then  $\{(1, 0, 0), (0, 1, 0)\}$  is a basis for  $\mathbf{V}$ .

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

Let

## Step-6

Let  $\alpha = (p, q, r)$  be any vector.

Then

$$\begin{aligned} A\alpha &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p \\ q \\ r \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} p \\ q \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Also, let  $\hat{z}$  be any vector along the z-axis. Then  $\beta = (0, 0, s)$ .

Therefore,

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