Linear Algebra

Kernel and Range

Recall that if A is an $m \times n$ matrix, then the null space of A consists of all vectors \mathbf{x} in \mathbb{R}^n such that $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$.

From the viewpoint of matrix transformations, the null space of A consists of all vectors in \mathbb{R}^n that multiplication by A maps into $\mathbf{0}$

The column space of A consists of all vectors **b** in R^m for which there is at least one vector **x** in R^n such that A**x** = **b**.

From the viewpoint of matrix transformations, the column space of A consists of all vectors in \mathbb{R}^m that are images of at least one vector in \mathbb{R}^n under multiplication by A.

The following definition extends these ideas to general linear transformations.

DEFINITION 2 If $T: V \to W$ is a linear transformation, then the set of vectors in V that T maps into $\mathbf{0}$ is called the *kernel* of T and is denoted by $\ker(T)$. The set of all vectors in W that are images under T of at least one vector in V is called the *range* of T and is denoted by R(T).

EXAMPLE 13 Kernel and Range of a Matrix Transformation

If $T_A: R^n \to R^m$ is multiplication by the $m \times n$ matrix A, then, as discussed above, the kernel of T_A is the null space of A, and the range of T_A is the column space of A.

EXAMPLE 14 Kernel and Range of the Zero Transformation

Let $T: V \to W$ be the zero transformation. Since T maps *every* vector in V into $\mathbf{0}$, it follows that $\ker(T) = V$. Moreover, since $\mathbf{0}$ is the *only* image under T of vectors in V, it follows that $R(T) = \{\mathbf{0}\}$.

EXAMPLE 15 Kernel and Range of the Identity Operator

Let $I: V \to V$ be the identity operator. Since $I(\mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{v}$ for all vectors in V, every vector in V is the image of some vector (namely, itself); thus R(I) = V. Since the *only* vector that I maps into $\mathbf{0}$ is $\mathbf{0}$, it follows that $\ker(I) = \{\mathbf{0}\}$.

EXAMPLE 16 Kernel and Range of an Orthogonal Projection

Let $T: \mathbb{R}^3 \to \mathbb{R}^3$ be the orthogonal projection onto the xy-plane.

As illustrated in Figure 8.1.2a, the points that T maps into $\mathbf{0} = (0, 0, 0)$ are precisely those on the z-axis, so

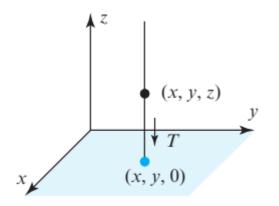
ker(T) is the set of points of the form (0, 0, z).

(0, 0, 0)

(a) ker(T) is the z-axis.

As illustrated in Figure 8.1.2b, T maps the points in \mathbb{R}^3 to the xy-plane, where each point in that plane is the image of each point on the vertical line above it.

Thus, R(T) is the set of points of the form (x, y, 0).



(b) R(T) is the entire xy-plane

Figure 8.1.2

EXAMPLE 17 Kernel and Range of a Rotation

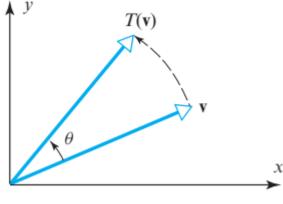
Let $T: \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}^2$ be the linear operator that rotates each vector in the xy-plane through the angle θ (Figure 8.1.3).

Since *every* vector in the xy-plane can be obtained by rotating some vector through the angle θ , it follows that

$$R(T) = R^2.$$

Moreover, the only vector that rotates into 0 is 0, so

$$\ker(T) = \{\mathbf{0}\}.$$



▲ Figure 8.1.3

EXAMPLE 18 Kernel of a Differentiation Transformation

Let $V = C^1(-\infty, \infty)$ be the vector space of functions with continuous first derivatives on $(-\infty, \infty)$, let $W = F(-\infty, \infty)$ be the vector space of all real-valued functions defined on $(-\infty, \infty)$, and let $D: V \to W$ be the differentiation transformation $D(\mathbf{f}) = f'(x)$. The kernel of D is the set of functions in V with derivative zero. From calculus, this is the set of constant functions on $(-\infty, \infty)$.

Properties of Kernel and Range

THEOREM 8.1.3 *If* $T: V \rightarrow W$ *is a linear transformation, then*:

- (a) The kernel of T is a subspace of V.
- (b) The range of T is a subspace of W.

Rank and Nullity of Linear Transformations

DEFINITION 3 Let $T: V \to W$ be a linear transformation. If the range of T is finite-dimensional, then its dimension is called the *rank of* T; and if the kernel of T is finite-dimensional, then its dimension is called the *nullity of* T. The rank of T is denoted by $\operatorname{rank}(T)$ and the nullity of T by $\operatorname{nullity}(T)$.

THEOREM 8.1.4 Dimension Theorem for Linear Transformations

If $T: V \to W$ is a linear transformation from a finite-dimensional vector space V to a vector space W, then the range of T is finite-dimensional, and

$$rank(T) + nullity(T) = \dim(V)$$
 (7)

Example

Find ker T, where T: $E^3 \to E^2$ is defined by

$$T((x_1, x_2, x_3)) = (x_1 + x_2, x_2 - x_3).$$

Solution

Since ker $T = \{\mathbf{x} | T(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{0}\}$, we must solve $T((x_1, x_2, x_3)) = (0, 0)$, that is,

$$(x_1 + x_2, x_2 - x_3) = (0, 0)$$

The resulting equations are

$$x_1 + x_2 = 0$$

$$x_2 - x_3 = 0$$

which have solution (-k, k, k). Therefore

$$\ker T = \{ \mathbf{v} \in E^3 | \mathbf{v} = k(-1, 1, 1) \} = \operatorname{span}\{(-1, 1, 1)\}$$

Example

Define T from E^3 to E^3 by

$$T((a,b,c)) = (a-b+c, 2a+b-c, -a-2b+2c).$$

Determine range T and dim(range T).

Solution

- ▶ Let $y = (y_1, y_2, y_3)$ be in range T.
- Thus $\mathbf{y} = T((a, b, c))$ for some vector (a, b, c) in E^3 .
- ▶ That is, the equation $\mathbf{y} = T((a, b, c))$ must be consistent.

Solving $T(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{y}$, we find

$$(a-b+c, 2a+b-c, -a-2b+2c) = (y_1, y_2, y_3)$$

The equations are

$$a - b + c = y_1$$

 $2a + b - c = y_2$
 $-a - 2b + 2c = y_3$

We reduce the equations and see what conditions the consistency forces.

$$\tilde{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 & \vdots & y_1 \\ 2 & 1 & -1 & \vdots & y_2 \\ -1 & -2 & 2 & \vdots & y_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\tilde{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 & \vdots & y_1 \\ 0 & 3 & -3 & \vdots & y_2 - 2y_1 \\ 0 & -3 & 3 & \vdots & y_1 + y_3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} R_1 \\ R_2 \to R_2 - 2R_1 \\ R_3 \to R_3 + R_1 \end{matrix}$$

$$\tilde{A} = \begin{pmatrix} \vdots & y_1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \vdots & (\frac{1}{3})(y_2 - 2y_1) \\ 0 & -3 & 3 \vdots & y_1 + y_3 \end{pmatrix} R_2 \xrightarrow{R_1} R_2 / 3$$

$$\tilde{A} = \begin{pmatrix} \vdots & y_1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & -y_1 + y_2 + y_3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ R_2 \\ R_3 \to R_3 + 3R_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

The above system will be consistent if

$$-y_1 + y_2 + y_3 = 0$$

That is,

range
$$T = \{(y_1, y_2, y_3) | y_1 = y_2 + y_3\}$$

The dimension of range T is 2, since the equation $-y_1 + y_2 + y_3 = 0$ allows the assignment of arbitrary values to any **two** of the values of y_k .

Compositions and Inverse Transformations

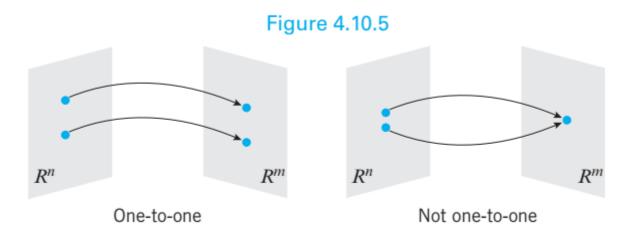
Compositions of Matrix Transformations

- Suppose that T_A is a matrix transformation from R^n to R^k and T_B is a matrix transformation from R^k to R^m .
- If **x** is a vector in R^n , then T_A maps this vector into a vector $T_A(\mathbf{x})$ in R^k , and T_B , in turn, maps that vector into the vector $T_B(T_A(\mathbf{x}))$ in R^m .
- This process creates a transformation from R^n to R^m that we call the *composition of* T_B with T_A and $T_B \circ T_A$

which is read " T_B circle T_A ."

Figure $T_{B} \circ T_{A} = T_{BA}$ $T_{A} \qquad T_{B}$ $T_{A} \qquad T_{B}$ $T_{B} \circ T_{A} \qquad T_{B}$ $T_{B} \circ T_{A} \qquad T_{B}$

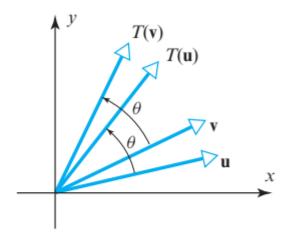
DEFINITION 1 A matrix transformation $T_A: R^n \to R^m$ is said to be *one-to-one* if T_A maps distinct vectors (points) in R^n into distinct vectors (points) in R^m .



This idea can be expressed in various ways.

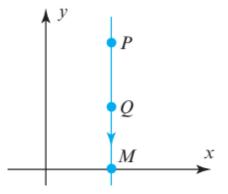
- 1. T_A is one-to-one if for each vector **b** in the range of A there is exactly one vector **x** in R^n such that T_A **x** = **b**.
- 2. T_A is one-to-one if the equality $T_A(\mathbf{u}) = T_A(\mathbf{v})$ implies that $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{v}$.

► Rotation operators on R² are one-to-one since distinct vectors that are rotated through the same angle have distinct images



▲ Figure 4.10.6 Distinct vectors \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} are rotated into distinct vectors $T(\mathbf{u})$ and $T(\mathbf{v})$.

In contrast, the orthogonal projection of R^2 onto the x-axis is not one-to-one because it maps distinct points on the same vertical line into the same point



▲ Figure 4.10.7 The distinct points P and Q are mapped into the same point M.

THEOREM 4.10.1 If A is an $n \times n$ matrix and $T_A: \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^n$ is the corresponding matrix operator, then the following statements are equivalent.

- (a) A is invertible.
- (b) The kernel of T_A is $\{0\}$.
- (c) The range of T_A is R^n .
- (d) T_A is one-to-one.

EXAMPLE 5 The Rotation Operator on \mathbb{R}^2 Is One-to-One

As was illustrated in Figure 4.10.6, the operator $T: \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}^2$ that rotates vectors through an angle θ is one-to-one. In accordance with parts (a) and (d) of Theorem 4.10.1, show that the standard matrix for T is invertible.

Solution

We will show that the standard matrix for T is invertible by showing that its determinant is nonzero.

$$[T] = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

This matrix is invertible because

$$\det[T] = \begin{vmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{vmatrix} = \cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta = 1 \neq 0$$

Table 5

Operator	Illustration	Rotation Equations	Standard Matrix
Counterclockwise rotation about the origin through an angle θ	(w_1, w_2) θ (x, y)	$w_1 = x \cos \theta - y \sin \theta$ $w_2 = x \sin \theta + y \cos \theta$	$\begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$

EXAMPLE 6 Projection Operators Are Not One-to-One

As illustrated in Figure 4.10.7, the operator $T: \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}^2$ that projects onto the x-axis in the xy-plane is not one-to-one. In accordance with parts (a) and (d) of Theorem 4.10.1, show that the standard matrix for T is not invertible.

Solution

We will show that the standard matrix for T is not invertible by showing that its determinant is zero. From Table 3 of Section 4.9 the standard matrix for T is

$$[T] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
 Since $det[T] = 0$, the operator T is not one-to-one.

Table 3

Operator	Illustration	Images of e ₁ and e ₂	Standard Matrix
Orthogonal projection onto the <i>x</i> -axis $T(x, y) = (x, 0)$	(x, y) $T(x)$ (x, y)	$T(\mathbf{e}_1) = T(1,0) = (1,0)$ $T(\mathbf{e}_2) = T(0,1) = (0,0)$	$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$
Orthogonal projection onto the y-axis T(x, y) = (0, y)	$(0, y)$ $T(\mathbf{x})$ \mathbf{x} (x, y) x	$T(\mathbf{e}_1) = T(1, 0) = (0, 0)$ $T(\mathbf{e}_2) = T(0, 1) = (0, 1)$	$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

Table 4

Operator	Illustration	Images of e_1 , e_2 , e_3	Standard Matrix
Orthogonal projection onto the xy-plane T(x, y, z) = (x, y, 0)	x (x, y, z) y $(x, y, 0)$	$T(\mathbf{e}_1) = T(1, 0, 0) = (1, 0, 0)$ $T(\mathbf{e}_2) = T(0, 1, 0) = (0, 1, 0)$ $T(\mathbf{e}_3) = T(0, 0, 1) = (0, 0, 0)$	$ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} $
Orthogonal projection onto the xz-plane T(x, y, z) = (x, 0, z)	(x, 0, z) $T(x)$ x (x, y, z) y	$T(\mathbf{e}_1) = T(1, 0, 0) = (1, 0, 0)$ $T(\mathbf{e}_2) = T(0, 1, 0) = (0, 0, 0)$ $T(\mathbf{e}_3) = T(0, 0, 1) = (0, 0, 1)$	$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$
Orthogonal projection onto the yz-plane T(x, y, z) = (0, y, z)	$T(\mathbf{x})$ $(0, y, z)$ (x, y, z) y	$T(\mathbf{e}_1) = T(1, 0, 0) = (0, 0, 0)$ $T(\mathbf{e}_2) = T(0, 1, 0) = (0, 1, 0)$ $T(\mathbf{e}_3) = T(0, 0, 1) = (0, 0, 1)$	$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

Table 6

Operator	Illustration	Rotation Equations	Standard Matrix
Counterclockwise rotation about the positive x -axis through an angle θ	x x	$w_1 = x$ $w_2 = y \cos \theta - z \sin \theta$ $w_3 = y \sin \theta + z \cos \theta$	$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos\theta & -\sin\theta \\ 0 & \sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{bmatrix}$
Counterclockwise rotation about the positive y-axis through an angle θ	x	$w_1 = x \cos \theta + z \sin \theta$ $w_2 = y$ $w_3 = -x \sin \theta + z \cos \theta$	$\begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & 0 & \sin \theta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin \theta & 0 & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$
Counterclockwise rotation about the positive z-axis through an angle θ	x w y	$w_1 = x \cos \theta - y \sin \theta$ $w_2 = x \sin \theta + y \cos \theta$ $w_3 = z$	$\begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & 0 \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

Table 7

Operator	Illustration $T(x, y) = (kx, ky)$	Effect on the Unit Square	Standard Matrix
Contraction with factor k in R^2 $(0 \le k < 1)$	x (x, y) $T(x)$ (kx, ky)	(0,1) $(0,k)$ $(k,0)$	$\lceil k 0 \rceil$
Dilation with factor k in R^2 $(k > 1)$	y $T(\mathbf{x})$ (kx, ky) \mathbf{x} (x, y)	$(0,1)$ $(1,0)$ $(0,k)$ \uparrow $(k,0)$	[0 k]

Table 8

Operator	Illustration $T(x, y, z) = (kx, ky, kz)$	Standard Matrix
Contraction with factor k in R^3 $(0 \le k < 1)$	$T(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{cases} \mathbf{x} & (x, y, z) \\ (kx, ky, kz) \end{cases}$	$\begin{bmatrix} k & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & k & 0 \end{bmatrix}$
Dilation with factor k in R^3 $(k > 1)$	z (kx, ky, kz) $T(\mathbf{x})$ y	

Table 9

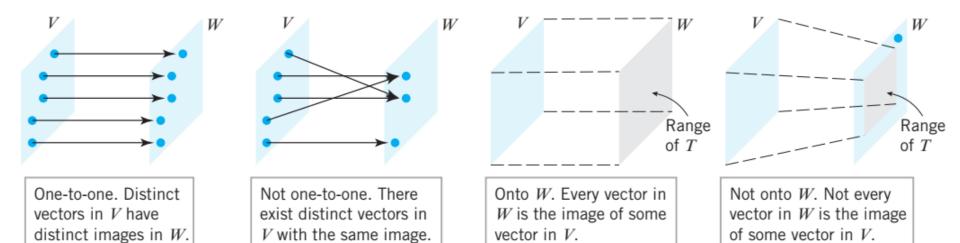
Operator	Illustration $T(x, y) = (kx, y)$	Effect on the Unit Square	Standard Matrix
Compression in the x -direction with factor k in R^2 $(0 \le k < 1)$	$T(\mathbf{x})$ (x, y) \mathbf{x}	(0,1) $(0,1)$ $(k,0)$	$\begin{bmatrix} k & 0 \end{bmatrix}$
Expansion in the x -direction with factor k in R^2 $(k > 1)$	$\begin{array}{c} y \\ x \\ T(x) \end{array}$	(0,1) $(0,1)$ $(1,0)$ $(k,0)$	[0 1]
Operator	Illustration $T(x, y) = (x, ky)$	Effect on the Unit Square	Standard Matrix
Compression in the y-direction with factor k in R^2 $(0 \le k < 1)$	(x, y) (x, ky) $T(x)$	(0,1) $(0,k)$ $(1,0)$	$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & k \end{bmatrix}$
			$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & k \end{bmatrix}$

Compositions and Inverse Transformations

In this section we will extend some of those ideas to general linear transformations.

DEFINITION 1 If $T: V \to W$ is a linear transformation from a vector space V to a vector space W, then T is said to be *one-to-one* if T maps distinct vectors in V into distinct vectors in W.

DEFINITION 2 If $T: V \to W$ is a linear transformation from a vector space V to a vector space W, then T is said to be *onto* (or *onto* W) if every vector in W is the image of at least one vector in V.



THEOREM 8.2.1 If $T: V \to W$ is a linear transformation, then the following statements are equivalent.

- (a) T is one-to-one.
- (b) $ker(T) = \{0\}.$

THEOREM 8.2.2 If V and W are finite-dimensional vector spaces with the same dimension, and if $T:V \to W$ is a linear transformation, then the following statements are equivalent.

- (a) T is one-to-one.
- (b) $\ker(T) = \{0\}.$
- (c) T is onto [i.e., R(T) = W].

EXAMPLE 2 Basic Transformations That Are One-to-One and Onto

The linear transformations $T_1: P_3 \to R^4$ and $T_2: M_{22} \to R^4$ defined by

$$T_1(a + bx + cx^2 + dx^3) = (a, b, c, d)$$

$$T_2\left(\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}\right) = (a, b, c, d)$$

are both one-to-one and onto (verify by showing that their kernels contain only the zero vector).

EXAMPLE 3 A One-to-One Linear Transformation That Is Not Onto

Let $T: P_n \to P_{n+1}$ be the linear transformation

$$T(\mathbf{p}) = T(p(x)) = xp(x)$$

discussed in Example 5 of Section 8.1. If

$$\mathbf{p} = p(x) = c_0 + c_1 x + \dots + c_n x^n$$
 and $\mathbf{q} = q(x) = d_0 + d_1 x + \dots + d_n x^n$

are distinct polynomials, then they differ in at least one coefficient. Thus,

$$T(\mathbf{p}) = c_0 x + c_1 x^2 + \dots + c_n x^{n+1}$$
 and $T(\mathbf{q}) = d_0 x + d_1 x^2 + \dots + d_n x^{n+1}$

also differ in at least one coefficient. It follows that T is one-to-one since it maps distinct polynomials \mathbf{p} and \mathbf{q} into distinct polynomials $T(\mathbf{p})$ and $T(\mathbf{q})$. However, it is not onto because all images under T have a zero constant term. Thus, for example, there is no vector in P_n that maps into the constant polynomial 1.

EXAMPLE 5 Differentiation Is Not One-to-One

Let

$$D: C^1(-\infty, \infty) \to F(-\infty, \infty)$$

be the differentiation transformation discussed in Example 11 of Section 8.1. This linear transformation is *not* one-to-one because it maps functions that differ by a constant into the same function. For example,

$$D(x^2) = D(x^2 + 1) = 2x$$

If $T: V \to W$ is a one-to-one linear transformation with range R(T), and if \mathbf{w} is any vector in R(T), then the fact that T is one-to-one means that there is *exactly one* vector \mathbf{v} in V for which $T(\mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{w}$. This fact allows us to define a new function, called the *inverse* of T (and denoted by T^{-1}), that is defined on the range of T and that maps \mathbf{w} back into \mathbf{v} (Figure 8.2.4).

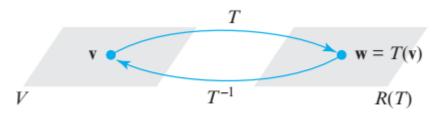


Figure 8.2.4 The inverse of T maps $T(\mathbf{v})$ back into \mathbf{v} .

EXAMPLE 9 An Inverse Transformation

— Let $T: \mathbb{R}^3 \to \mathbb{R}^3$ be the linear operator defined by the formula

$$T(x_1, x_2, x_3) = (3x_1 + x_2, -2x_1 - 4x_2 + 3x_3, 5x_1 + 4x_2 - 2x_3)$$

Determine whether T is one-to-one; if so, find $T^{-1}(x_1, x_2, x_3)$.

Solution It follows from Formula (15) of Section 1.8 that the standard matrix for T is

$$[T] = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & 0 \\ -2 & -4 & 3 \\ 5 & 4 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

(verify). This matrix is invertible, and from Formula (9) of Section 4.10 the standard matrix for T^{-1} is

$$[T^{-1}] = [T]^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -2 & -3 \\ -11 & 6 & 9 \\ -12 & 7 & 10 \end{bmatrix}$$

It follows that

$$T^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} T^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -2 & -3 \\ -11 & 6 & 9 \\ -12 & 7 & 10 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4x_1 - 2x_2 - 3x_3 \\ -11x_1 + 6x_2 + 9x_3 \\ -12x_1 + 7x_2 + 10x_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Expressing this result in horizontal notation yields

$$T^{-1}(x_1, x_2, x_3) = (4x_1 - 2x_2 - 3x_3, -11x_1 + 6x_2 + 9x_3, -12x_1 + 7x_2 + 10x_3)$$

