

Proposition: If  $T: V \rightarrow W$  is a linear transformation, then  $T(\vec{0}_v) = \vec{0}_w$

Proof: Denote  $\vec{w} = T(\vec{0}_v) \in W$ .

$$\vec{w} = T(\vec{0}_v + \vec{0}_v) = T(\vec{0}_v) + T(\vec{0}_v) = 2\vec{w}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{w} = 2\vec{w} \Rightarrow 2\vec{w} - \vec{w} = \vec{0} \Rightarrow \vec{w} = \vec{0} \in W.$$

Example: 1) Translation. Let  $\vec{a} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  be a non-zero vector. Define  $T_{\vec{a}}: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  by  $T_{\vec{a}}(\vec{x}) = \vec{x} + \vec{a}$ . Then  $T_{\vec{a}}(\vec{0}) = \vec{a} \neq \vec{0}$   
 $\Rightarrow T_{\vec{a}}$  is NOT a linear transformation.

2) Let  $\vec{a} \in \mathbb{R}^m$  be a non-zero vector. Define  $T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  by  $T(\vec{x}) = \vec{a}$ . Then  $T$  is not a linear transformation.

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Proposition: Let  $V$  be a finite-dimensional vector space with a basis  $B = \{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n\}$ . If  $U, T: V \rightarrow W$  are linear transformations such that  $U(\vec{v}_i) = T(\vec{v}_i)$  for all  $i=1, \dots, n$ . Then  $U=T$ .

Remarks: This proposition implies that a linear transformation is uniquely determined by its actions on a basis of the domain space.

Proof: We need to prove  $U(\vec{x}) = T(\vec{x})$  for any  $\vec{x} \in V$ .

$\forall \vec{x} \in V$ . As  $B = \{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n\}$  is a basis for  $V$ , there exists  $a_1, \dots, a_n$

such that:  $\vec{x} = a_1 \vec{v}_1 + a_2 \vec{v}_2 + \dots + a_n \vec{v}_n$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Then } T(\vec{x}) &= T(a_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + a_n \vec{v}_n) && \rightarrow T \text{ is a linear transformation} \\
 &= a_1 T(\vec{v}_1) + \dots + a_n T(\vec{v}_n) && \rightarrow T(\vec{v}_i) = U(\vec{v}_i) \text{ for all } i=1, \dots, n. \\
 &= a_1 U(\vec{v}_1) + \dots + a_n U(\vec{v}_n) && \rightarrow U \text{ is a linear transformation} \\
 &= U(a_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + a_n \vec{v}_n) \\
 &= U(\vec{x}). \quad \blacksquare
 \end{aligned}$$

Definition: Let  $V$  and  $W$  be vector spaces.

Let  $L(V, W)$  be the set of all linear transformations from  $V$

to  $W$ . For any  $U, T \in L(V, W)$ , and any  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  (or  $\mathbb{C}$ ).

define  $(U+T)(\vec{x}) = U(\vec{x}) + T(\vec{x}) \quad \forall \vec{x} \in V. \rightarrow$  Linear transformation addition

$(cT)(\vec{x}) = cT(\vec{x}) \quad \forall \vec{x} \in V. \rightarrow$  Linear transformation scalar multiplication

Proposition:  $L(V, W)$  along with "+" and scalar multiplication defined above forms a vector space.

(Proof: Homework. Need to check Axiom 0 - VII are all satisfied)

Definition: Let  $V, W$  be vector spaces. Let  $T: V \rightarrow W$  be a linear transformation.

1). The null space or kernel of  $T$ , denoted by  $\text{Null}(T)$  or  $\text{Ker}(T)$

is defined to be the set of vectors  $\vec{v} \in V$  s.t.  $T(\vec{v}) = \vec{0}$

$$\text{i.e. } \text{Ker}(T) = \{ \vec{v} \in V : T(\vec{v}) = \vec{0} \}$$

2). The range of  $T$ , denoted by  $\text{Range}(T)$ , is defined to be the subset of  $W$  consisting of all images of  $T$ , i.e.

$$\text{Range } T = \{ \vec{y} \in W : \exists \vec{v} \in V \text{ s.t. } \vec{y} = T(\vec{v}) \}$$

Example: 1).  $\text{Ker}(\text{Id}) = \{ \vec{0} \}$ ,  $\text{Range}(\text{Id}) = V$

$$\text{Ker}(T_0) = V, \quad \text{Range}(T_0) = \{ \vec{0} \}$$

2). Let  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  and  $L_A: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  be the "left-multiplication by  $A$ " linear transformation.

$$\text{Ker}(L_A) = \text{Null}(A), \quad \text{Range}(L_A) = \text{Range}(A) = \text{the column space of } A.$$

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

1).  $\text{Ker}(T)$  is a subspace of  $V$ .

2).  $\text{Range}(T)$  is a subspace of  $W$ .

Proof: 1)  $\forall \vec{x}, \vec{y} \in \text{Ker}(T)$  and  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  (or  $\mathbb{C}$ )  $T(\vec{x}) = \vec{0}$  and  $T(\vec{y}) = \vec{0}$

$$\text{Then } T(c\vec{x} + \vec{y}) = cT(\vec{x}) + T(\vec{y}) = c\vec{0} + \vec{0} = \vec{0}$$

$$\Rightarrow c\vec{x} + \vec{y} \in \text{Ker}(T). \quad \Rightarrow \text{Ker}(T) \subseteq V \text{ is a subspace}$$

2)  $\forall \vec{w}_1, \vec{w}_2 \in \text{Range}(T)$  and  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  (or  $\mathbb{C}$ ) .

$$\exists \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2 \in V \text{ such that } \vec{w}_1 = T(\vec{v}_1) \text{ and } \vec{w}_2 = T(\vec{v}_2)$$

$$\Rightarrow c\vec{w}_1 + \vec{w}_2 = cT(\vec{u}_1) + T(\vec{u}_2) = T(c\vec{u}_1 + \vec{u}_2)$$

$$\Rightarrow c\vec{w}_1 + \vec{w}_2 \in \text{Range}(T)$$

$\Rightarrow \text{Range}(T) \subseteq W$  is a subspace. □

**Definition:** The dimension of  $\text{Ker}(T)$  is called the nullity of  $T$ .

The dimension of  $\text{Range}(T)$  is called the rank of  $T$ .

**Theorem:** (Rank-nullity Theorem or Dimension Theorem). Let  $V$  be a finite-dimensional vector space. Let  $T: V \rightarrow W$  be a linear transformation. Then

$$\dim V = \text{nullity}(T) + \text{rank}(T).$$

**Proof:** Suppose dimension  $V=n$ , and  $\text{nullity}(T)=k$ . We need to prove that  $\text{rank}(T)=n-k$ .

Let  $\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_k\} \subseteq \text{Ker}(T)$  be a basis.

Extend  $\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_k\}$  to a basis of  $V$ :  $\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k, \vec{v}_{k+1}, \dots, \vec{v}_n\}$   
(Note this extension can be carried out by Replacement Theorem.)

**Claim:**  $S = \{T(\vec{v}_{k+1}), \dots, T(\vec{v}_n)\} \subseteq \text{Range}(T)$  is a basis of  $\text{Range}(T)$ .

Followed by the claim:  $\text{rank}(T)=n-k$ . Therefore

Thus  $\dim V = n$ ,  $\text{nullity}(T) = k$ ,  $\text{rank}(T) = n-k$

$$\Rightarrow \dim V = \text{nullity}(T) + \text{rank}(T)$$

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