

# Linear Mappings

## Matrix Mappings

Let  $A$  be any  $m \times n$  matrix over  $K$ . Then  $A$  determines a mapping  $F_A : K^n \rightarrow K^m$  by

$$F_A(u) = Au$$

where the vectors in  $K_n$  and  $K_m$  are written as columns.

For notational convenience, we will frequently denote the mapping  $F_A$  by the letter  $A$ , the same symbol as used for the matrix.

## Linear Mappings (Linear Transformations)

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Let  $V$  and  $U$  be vector spaces over the same field  $K$ . A mapping  $F : V \rightarrow U$  is called a linear mapping or linear transformation if it satisfies the following two conditions:

1. For any vectors  $v, w \in V$ ,  $F(v + w) = F(v) + F(w)$
  2. For any scalar  $k$  and vector  $v \in V$ ,  $F(kv) = kF(v)$
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Substituting  $k = 0$  into condition (2), we obtain  $F(0) = 0$ . Thus, every linear mapping takes the zero vector into the zero vector.

For any scalars  $a_i \in K$  and any vectors  $v_i \in V$ , we obtain the following basic property of linear mappings:

$$F(a_1v_1 + a_2v_2 + \cdots + a_mv_m) = a_1F(v_1) + a_2F(v_2) + \cdots + a_mF(v_m)$$

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**Remark:** A linear mapping  $F : V \rightarrow U$  is completely characterized by the condition

$$F(av + bw) = aF(v) + bF(w)$$

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**Theorem 4.1:** Let  $V$  and  $U$  be vector spaces over a field  $K$ . Let  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  be a basis of  $V$  and let  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n$  be any vectors in  $U$ . Then there exists a unique linear mapping  $F : V \rightarrow U$  such that  $F(v_1) = u_1, F(v_2) = u_2, \dots, F(v_n) = u_n$ .

Note that the vectors  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n$  are completely arbitrary; they may be linearly dependent or they may even be equal to each other.

**Proof:** Consider  $v = a_1v_1 + a_2v_2 + \dots + a_nv_n$

Define  $F(v) = a_1u_1 + a_2u_2 + \dots + a_nu_n$

Suppose  $G : V \rightarrow U$  is linear and  $G(v_i) = u_i, i = 1, \dots, n$ . Let

Then

$$\begin{aligned} G(v) &= G(a_1v_1 + a_2v_2 + \dots + a_nv_n) = a_1G(v_1) + a_2G(v_2) + \dots + a_nG(v_n) \\ &= a_1u_1 + a_2u_2 + \dots + a_nu_n = F(v) \end{aligned}$$

Because  $G(v) = F(v)$  for every  $v \in V, G = F$ . Thus,  $F$  is unique and the theorem is proved.

## Matrices as Linear Mappings

$$F_A(v + w) = A(v + w) = Av + Aw = F_A(v) + F_A(w)$$

$$F_A(kv) = A(kv) = k(Av) = kF_A(v)$$

In other words, using  $A$  to represent the mapping, we have,

$$A(v + w) = Av + Aw \quad \text{and} \quad A(kv) = k(Av)$$

## Vector Space Isomorphism

Two vector spaces  $V$  and  $U$  over  $K$  are isomorphic, written  $V \cong U$ , if there exists a bijective (one-to-one and onto) linear mapping  $F : V \rightarrow U$ . The mapping  $F$  is then called an isomorphism between  $V$  and  $U$ .

Consider any vector space  $V$  of dimension  $n$  and let  $S$  be any basis of  $V$ . Then the mapping

$$v \mapsto [v]_S$$

which maps each vector  $v \in V$  into its coordinate vector  $[v]_S$ , is an isomorphism between  $V$  and  $K^n$

## Kernal and Image of a Linear Mapping

Let  $F : V \rightarrow U$  be a linear mapping. The kernel of  $F$ , written  $\text{Ker } F$ , is:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Ker } F &= \\ v \in V : F(v) &= 0\end{aligned}$$

And image or range of  $F$  is defined as:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Im } F &= \\ u \in U : \text{ there exists } v \in V \text{ for which } F(v) &= u\end{aligned}$$

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**Theorem 4.2** Let  $F : V \rightarrow U$  be a linear mapping. Then the kernel of  $F$  is a subspace of  $V$  and the image of  $F$  is a subspace of  $U$ . (easy to see)

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**Theorem 4.3** Suppose  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m$  span a vector space  $V$ , and suppose  $F : V \rightarrow U$  is linear. Then  $F(v_1), F(v_2), \dots, F(v_m)$  span  $\text{Im } F$ . (easy to see)

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Thus one can either use this, or theorem 4.4 to find the dimension of  $\text{Im } F$

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**Examples:**

- Let  $F : R^3 \rightarrow R^3$  be the projection of a vector  $v$  into the  $xy$ -plane that is,  $F(x, y, z) = (x, y, 0)$ . Clearly the image of  $F$  is the entire  $xy$ -plane—that is, points of the form  $(x, y, 0)$ . Moreover, the kernel of  $F$  is the  $z$ -axis—that is, points of the form  $(0, 0, c)$ .

## Kernal and Image of Matrix Mappings

Let  $A$  be any  $m \times n$  matrix over a field  $K$  viewed as a linear map  $A : K^n \times K^m$ . Then

1.  $\text{Im } A = \text{colsp}(A)$  as consider usual basis  $e_i$  of  $K^n$ ,  $Ae_1, Ae_2, \dots, Ae_n$  are respectively the columns of  $A$ .
2. Kernel of  $A$  consists of all vectors  $v$  for which  $Av = 0$ . This means that the kernel of  $A$  is the solution space of the homogeneous system  $AX = 0$ , called the null space of  $A$ .

If we have computed the dimension of column space, which is same as rank of the matrix,  $r$ . And hence the dimension of kernel of  $A$  is  $n - r$ .

**Examples:**

- Find a linear map  $F : R^3 \rightarrow R^4$  whose image is spanned by  $(1, 2, 0, -4)$  and  $(2, 0, 1, -3)$ .  

$$u = (x + 2y, 2x, -y, -4x - 3y)$$

$$\therefore A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 \\ -4 & -3 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Also recall that  $A$  determines a linear map  $A : R^3 \rightarrow R^4$  whose image is spanned by the columns of  $A$ . Thus,  $A$  satisfies the required condition

## Rank and Nullity of a Linear Mapping

Let  $F : V \rightarrow U$  be a linear mapping.

$$\text{rank}(F) = \dim(\text{Im } F) \quad \text{and} \quad \text{nullity}(F) = \dim(\text{Ker } F)$$

**Theorem 4.4** Let  $V$  be of finite dimension, and let  $F : V \rightarrow U$  be linear. Then  $\dim V = \dim(\text{Ker } F) + \dim(\text{Im } F) = \text{nullity}(F) + \text{rank}(F)$

## Singular and Nonsingular Linear Mappings, Isomorphisms

Let  $F : V \rightarrow U$  be a linear mapping. Recall that  $F(0) = 0$ .  $F$  is said to be singular if the image of some nonzero vector  $v$  is 0. Thus,  $F : V \rightarrow U$  is nonsingular if the zero vector 0 is the only vector whose image under  $F$  is 0 or, in other words, if  $\text{Ker } F = 0$

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**Theorem 4.5:** Let  $F : V \rightarrow U$  be a nonsingular linear mapping. Then the image of any linearly independent set is linearly independent.

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**Theorem 4.6:** A linear mapping  $F : V \rightarrow U$  is one-to-one if and only if  $F$  is nonsingular. (easy to see)

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**Theorem 4.7:** Suppose  $V$  has finite dimension and  $\dim V = \dim U$ . Suppose  $F : V \rightarrow U$  is linear. Then  $F$  is an isomorphism if and only if  $F$  is nonsingular.

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## Operations with Linear Mappings

Let  $F : V \rightarrow U$  and  $G : V \rightarrow U$  be linear mappings over a field  $K$ . The sum  $F + G$  and the scalar product  $kF$ , where  $k \in K$ , are defined to be the following mappings from  $V$  into  $U$ :

$$(F + G)(v) \equiv F(v) + G(v) \quad \text{and} \quad (kF)(v) \equiv kF(v)$$

It is easy to see that if  $F$  and  $G$  are linear, then  $F + G$  and  $kF$  are also linear.

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**Theorem 4.8:** Let  $V$  and  $U$  be vector spaces over a field  $K$ . Then the collection of all linear mappings from  $V$  into  $U$  with the above operations of addition and scalar multiplication forms a vector space over  $K$ .

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