

## 2.5 One-to-One Transformations

### and Onto Transformations

#### The Kernel and Range of a Linear Transformation

**Definition:** If  $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is a linear transformation, we define the **kernel** of  $T$  as the set:

$$\ker(T) = \left\{ \vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid T(\vec{v}) = \vec{0}_m \right\} \subset \mathbb{R}^n.$$

Similarly, we define the **range** of  $T$  as the set:

$$\text{range}(T) = \left\{ \vec{w} \in \mathbb{R}^m \mid \vec{w} = T(\vec{v}) \text{ for some } \vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n \right\} \subset \mathbb{R}^m.$$

We emphasize that  $\ker(T)$  is from  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $\text{range}(T)$  is from  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .

Recall: Fundamental subspaces of a matrix  $A$ . There's 4 of them, but two of them are  $\text{NS}(A)$  and  $\text{CS}(A)$ .

Fundamental subspaces of a Linear Transformation! Notice that  $\ker(T)$  corresponds to  $\text{NS}(A)$  and  $\text{Range}(T)$  corresponds to  $\text{CS}(A)$ .

**Theorem:** If  $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is a *linear transformation*, then:

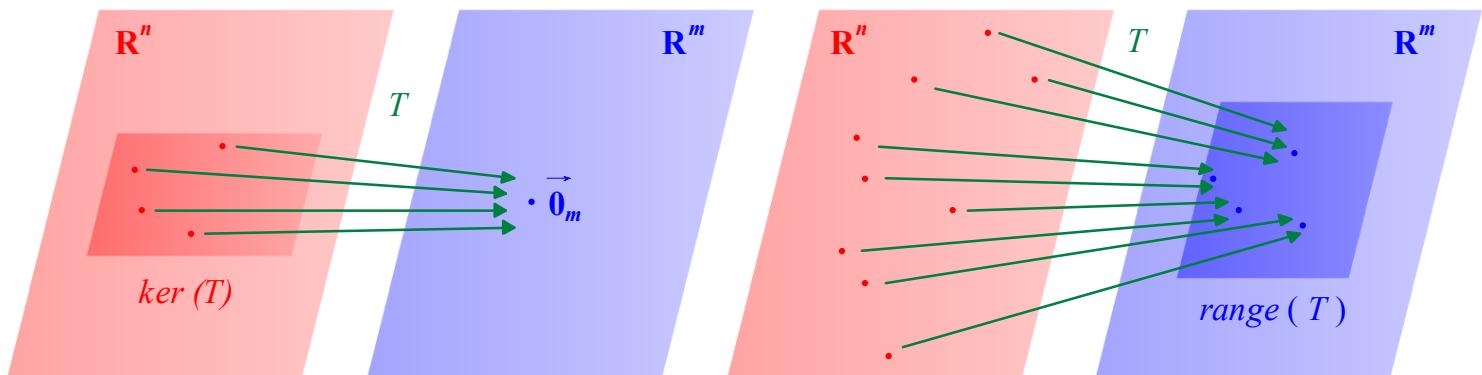
$$\ker(T) = \text{nullspace}([T]) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n, \text{ and}$$

$$\text{range}(T) = \text{colspace}([T]) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m.$$

We call the dimension of  $\ker(T)$  the **nullity** of  $T$ , written  $\text{nullity}(T)$ . Similarly, we call the dimension of  $\text{range}(T)$  the **rank** of  $T$ , written  $\text{rank}(T)$ . Thus:

$$\text{nullity}(T) = \dim(\text{nullspace}([T])) = \text{nullity}([T]), \text{ and}$$

$$\text{rank}(T) = \dim(\text{colspace}([T])) = \text{rank}([T]).$$



The Kernel of  $T$

The Range of  $T$

So these are subspaces! These are important so make sure to study these carefully!

## The Dimension Theorem for Linear Transformations

**Theorem:** Suppose  $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is a linear transformation. Then:



$$\text{rank}(T) + \text{nullity}(T) = n$$



Pf By the dimension theorem for matrices :

$$\text{rank}([T]) + \text{nullity}([T]) = n$$
$$\text{rank}(\bar{T}) + \text{nullity}(\bar{T}) = n.$$



Remark: It's hard to overstate the importance of the dimension theorem for matrices we proved in Ch 1! It's one of the main tools of this entire chapter.

## One-to-One Transformations

**Definition:** We say that a linear transformation  $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is one-to-one (or injective) if the image of two different vectors from the domain are different vectors of the codomain:

$$\text{If } \vec{v}_1 \neq \vec{v}_2 \text{ then } T(\vec{v}_1) \neq T(\vec{v}_2).$$

We also say that  $T$  is an *injection* or an *embedding*.

**Theorem:** A linear transformation  $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is one-to-one if and only if the only way two vectors from the domain have the same image in the codomain is for them to be the same vector to begin with:

more helpful  
way: [ If  $T(\vec{v}_1) = T(\vec{v}_2)$  then  $\vec{v}_1 = \vec{v}_2.$  ]

In other words, the *only solution* to  $T(\vec{v}_1) = T(\vec{v}_2)$  is  $\vec{v}_1 = \vec{v}_2.$

Pf just converse of def of |-| above. □

★ Early but important! ★ Study this proof! Good test Q!

## Theorem — The Kernel Test for Injectivity:

A linear transformation  $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is **one-to-one** if and only if:

$$★ \quad \ker(T) = \left\{ \vec{0}_n \right\}. \quad ★$$

( $\Rightarrow$ ) We are given that  $T$  is one-to-one.

We must show that  $\ker(T) = \left\{ \vec{0}_n \right\}$ .

Suppose  $\vec{v} \in \ker(T)$ . By def of kernel, we have:  $T(\vec{v}) = \vec{0}$ .  
We have  $T(\vec{0}) = \vec{0}$ , since  $T$  is a LT. So:

$$T(\vec{v}) = T(\vec{0}) \text{ so } b/c T \text{ is 1-1} \implies \vec{v} = \vec{0}.$$

( $\Leftarrow$ ) We are given that  $\ker(T) = \left\{ \vec{0}_n \right\}$ .

We must show that  $T$  is one-to-one.

So suppose  $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $T(\vec{v}_1) = T(\vec{v}_2)$ . NIS:  $\vec{v}_1 = \vec{v}_2$ .

$$T(\vec{v}_1) = T(\vec{v}_2) \iff T(\vec{v}_1) - T(\vec{v}_2) = \vec{0}_m$$

$$\iff T(\vec{v}_1 - \vec{v}_2) = \vec{0}_m \quad (b/c T \text{ is a LT})$$

This says:  $\vec{v}_1 - \vec{v}_2 \in \ker(T)$ .

By assumption,  $\vec{v}_1 - \vec{v}_2 = \vec{0}_n$ . Thus,  $\vec{v}_1 = \vec{v}_2$ ,



**Example:** Suppose  $T_1, T_2 : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^4$  are given by the following matrices with the corresponding rrefs. Describe the kernel of each, decide if either is one-to-one, and verify the Dimension Theorem for both.

$$\ker(T_1) = \text{NS}\left(\begin{bmatrix} T_1 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \text{NS}(R) = \text{Span}\left(\left\{\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right\}\right)$$

Since  $\ker(T_1) \neq \{\vec{0}\}$ ,  $T_1$  is not 1-1.

$$[T_1] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & 4 \\ 2 & -6 & 9 \\ 5 & -15 & 4 \\ -3 & 9 & -7 \end{bmatrix}, \quad 4 \times 3$$

with rref  $R_1 =$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{R_1 \vec{x} = \vec{0}}$

leading:  $x_1, x_3$   
free:  $x_2$

$$x_1 - 3x_2 = 0 \rightarrow x_1 = 3x_2 \quad \vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 3x_2 \\ x_2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_3 = 0 \rightarrow x_3 = 0$$

$$\text{NS}(R_1) = \text{Span}\left(\left\{\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right\}\right). \quad \text{Nullity}(T_1) = 1.$$

$$[T_2] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 4 \\ 2 & -6 & 9 \\ 5 & -15 & 4 \\ -3 & 9 & -7 \end{bmatrix}, \quad 4 \times 3$$

↙ ↘ ↗  
all L.F.

with rref  $R_2 =$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$NS(R_2) = NS([T_2]) = \ker(T_2)$$

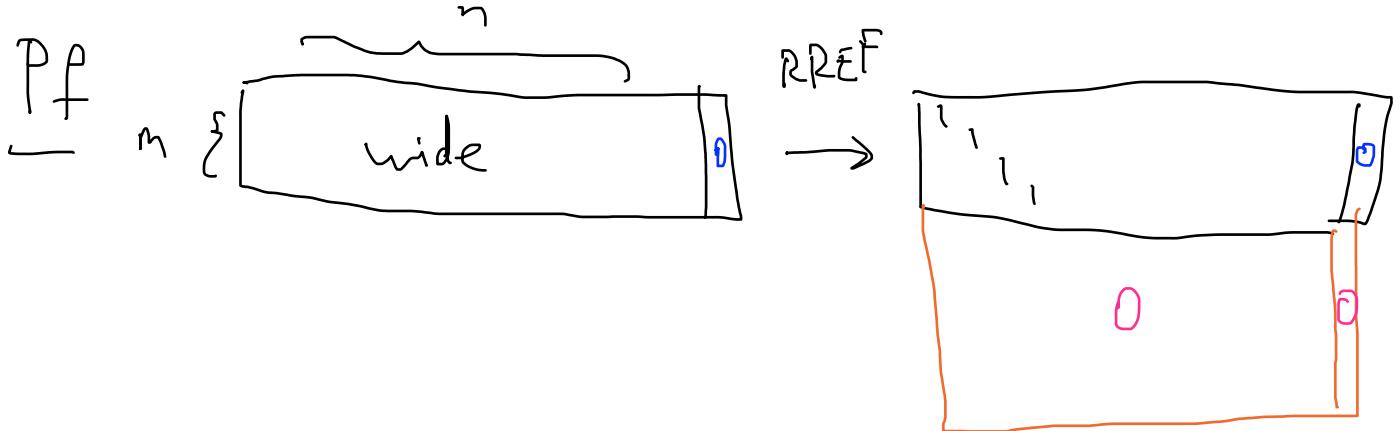
Describe the kernel and range of each, decide if either is one-to-one, and verify the Dimension Theorem for both.

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= 0 \\ x_2 &= 0 \\ x_3 &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad \vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{so } \ker(T_2) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

so  $T_2$  is 1-1

**Theorem:** A linear transformation  $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is **not** one-to-one if  $n > m$ .



can add rows of zeros

so  $\text{NS}([T]) = \text{ker}(T)$  has many solutions

so  $\text{ker}(T) \neq \{\vec{0}\}$ , so  $T$  is not 1-1.

□

## Onto Linear Transformations

$$\text{Range}(T) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$$

**Definition:** We say that a linear transformation  $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is **onto** (or **surjective**) if:

i.e. onto if range is a big as possible.

$$\text{range}(T) = \mathbb{R}^m.$$

We also say that  $T$  is a **surjection** or a **covering** (because  $T$  hits all the vectors of  $\mathbb{R}^m$ ).

$$\text{Range}(T) = \mathbb{R}^m: \quad \forall \vec{w} \in \mathbb{R}^m \quad \exists \vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n \text{ such that } \vec{w} = T(\vec{v}).$$

**Theorem:** A linear transformation  $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is **onto** if and only if  $\text{rank}(T) = m$ .

Pf  $\text{rank}(T) = \dim(\text{cs}([\mathbf{T}])) = \dim(\text{Range}(T))$

- if  $T$  is onto then  $\text{Range}(T) = \mathbb{R}^m$  so  $\dim(\mathbb{R}^m) = m \Rightarrow \text{rank}(T) = m$ .
- if  $\text{rank}(T) = m$ , then  $\dim(\text{Range}(T)) = m$  but  $\underbrace{\text{Range}(T)}_{m \text{ LI basis}} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$   
then  $\mathbb{R}^m = \text{Range}(T)$ , so  $T$  is onto by def.

**Example:** Suppose  $T_1, T_2 : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  are given by the following matrices with the corresponding rrefs. Describe the kernel and range of each, decide if either is one-to-one, and/or onto, and verify the Dimension Theorem for both.

$$\text{rank} + \text{nullity} = 1 + 2 = 3 = n \leftarrow \text{input } \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$[T_1] = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & -8 & 6 \\ 1 & 4 & -3 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ with rref } R_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$\dim(\text{range}(T_1)) = 1 \quad \boxed{\text{rank}(T_1) = 1}$$

$$\dim(\ker(T_1)) = 2 \quad \boxed{\text{nullity}(T_1) = 2}$$

leading : 1  $\rightarrow$  CS

free : 2  $\rightarrow$  NS

$T_1$  is not 1-1.  $T_1$  is not onto

$$[T_2] = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & -8 & 7 \\ 1 & 4 & -3 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ with rref } R_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$\dim(\text{range}(T_2)) = 2 \leftarrow$$

$$\dim(\ker(T_2)) = 1$$

leading : 2  $\rightarrow$  CS

free : 1  $\rightarrow$  NS

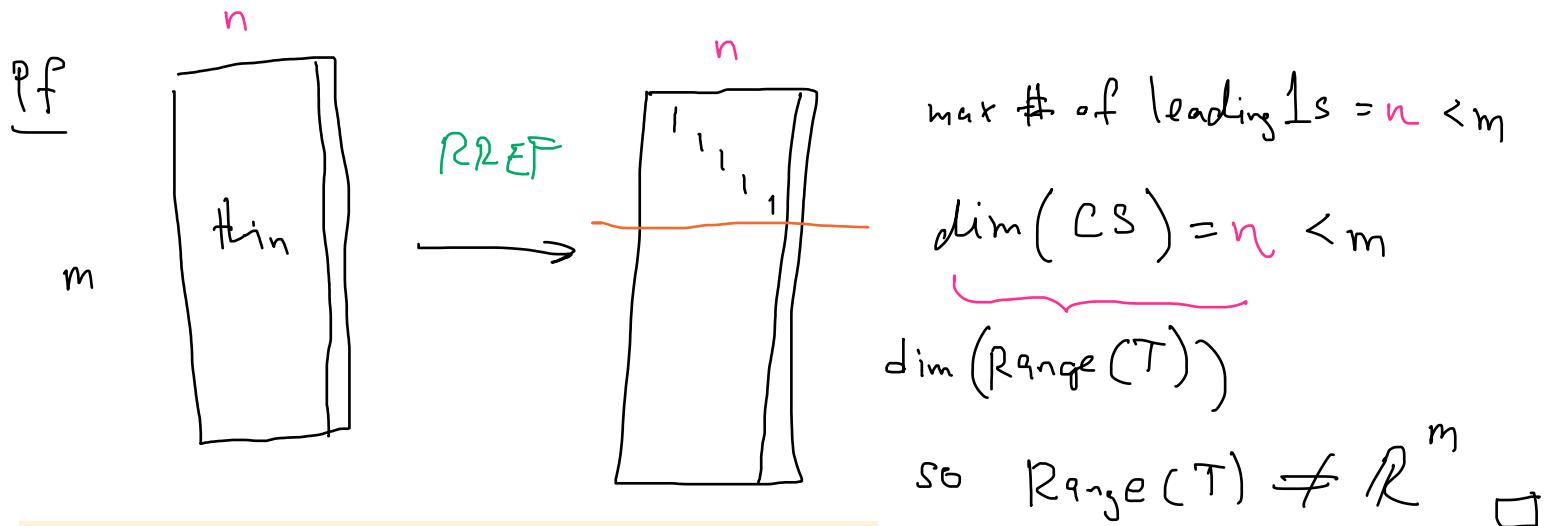
$$\text{rank}(T_2) + \text{nullity}(T_2) = n$$

$$2 + 1 = 3$$

$T_2$  is not 1-1.

$T_2$  is onto

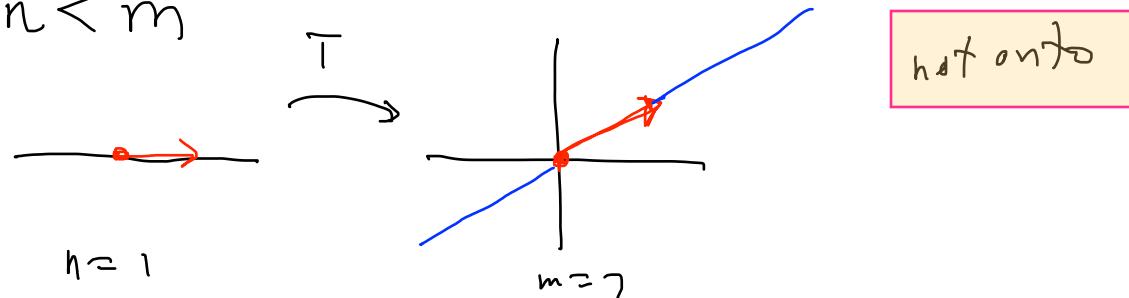
**Theorem:** A linear transformation  $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is **not onto** if  $n < m$ .



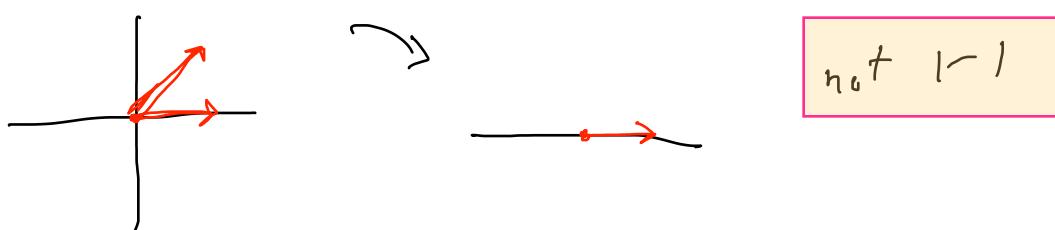
Helpful "cartoons" to keep in mind:

$$T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$$

- $n < m$



- $m > n$



## Using the RREF of the Matrix of $T$

**Theorem:** Suppose that  $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is a linear transformation, and  $R$  is the rref of  $[T]$ .

Then:

$$\text{iff } \ker(T) = \{\vec{0}\}$$

1.  $T$  is **one-to-one** if and only if  $R$  does *not* have any free variables.
2.  $T$  is **onto** if and only if  $R$  does *not* have any row consisting only of zeroes.      if and only if  $R$  has all leading 1's

$$\text{iff } \text{Range}(T) = \mathbb{R}^m$$

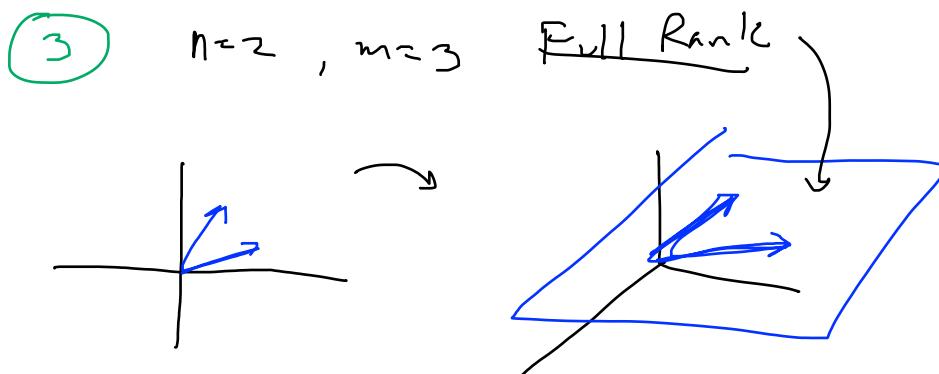
## Theorem — Equivalent Properties for Full-Rank Linear Transformations:

Suppose that  $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is a linear transformation. Then:

1. if  $m < n$ :  $T$  is full-rank if and only if  $T$  is onto.  $+ \rightsquigarrow -$
2. if  $m = n$ :  $T$  is full-rank if and only if  $T$  is both one-to-one and onto.  $+ \rightsquigarrow +$
3. if  $m > n$ :  $T$  is full-rank if and only if  $T$  is one-to-one.  $- \rightsquigarrow +$

Proof: Exercise.  $\boxed{\text{Dim Thm}}$   $\text{rank}(T) + \text{nullity}(T) = n$

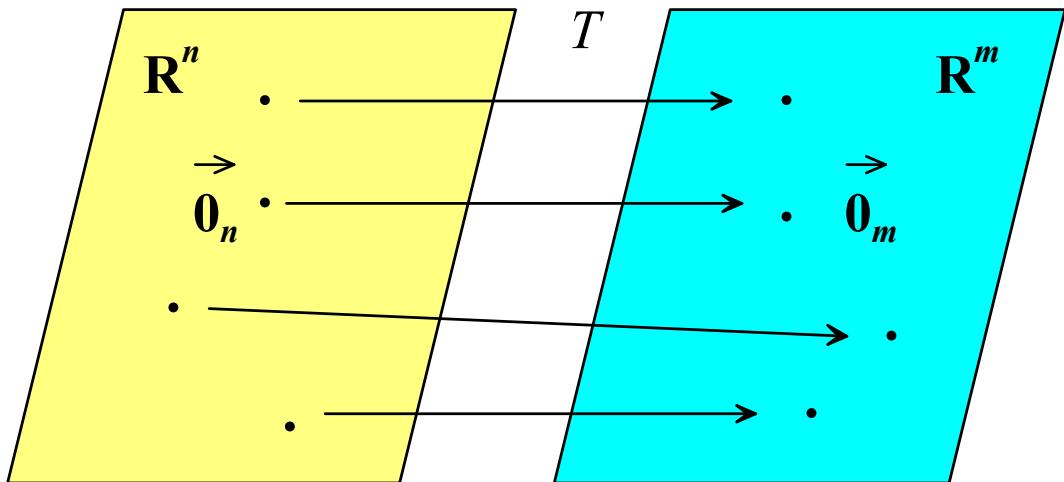
$$\boxed{\text{Full rank: } \text{rank}(T) = n}$$



Carefull: full rank is not the same as onto! By Dimension Theorem, it just means that the  $\text{rank}(T)=n$ . So if we have  $n$  LI vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , then full-rank means  $T(v_1), \dots, T(v_n)$  are also LI in  $\mathbb{R}^m$

## A Recap of The One-to-One and Onto Properties

A linear transformation  $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is *one-to-one* if and only if  $\ker(T) = \{\vec{0}_n\}$ . This means that if  $\vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is any other vector but  $\vec{0}_n$ , then  $T(\vec{v}) \neq \vec{0}_m$ .

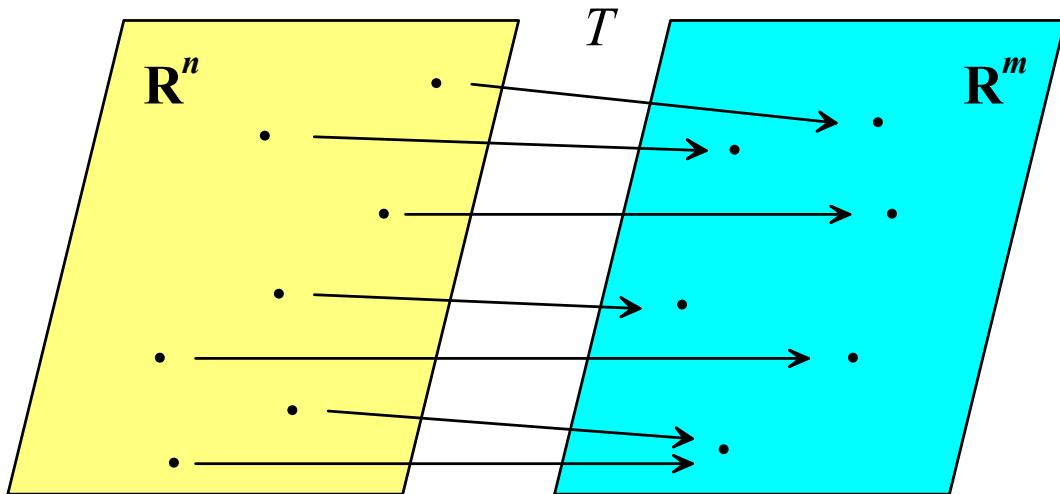


$T$  is *one-to-one* if and only if:

$$\ker(T) = \{\vec{0}_n\}$$

A linear transformation  $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is *onto* if and only if  $\text{range}(T) = \mathbb{R}^m$ .

This means that for any vector  $\vec{w} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ , we can find at least one vector  $\vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  such that  $T(\vec{v}) = \vec{w}$ . We remark that more than one such vector  $\vec{v}$  could exist for every  $\vec{w}$ . This also means that  $\text{rank}(T) = m$ .



$T$  is *onto* if and only if:

$$\text{range}(T) = \mathbb{R}^m$$

## *Anything Can Happen:*

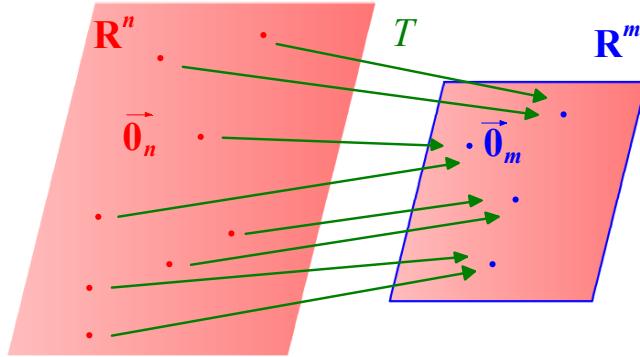
Suppose that  $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ .

If we *don't* know anything about  $n$  or  $m$ , then  $T$  can be:

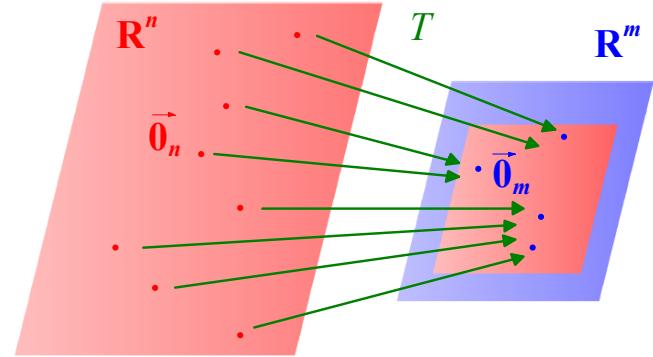
- one-to-one but not onto;
- onto but not one-to-one;
- *neither* one-to-one nor onto;
- *both* one-to-one and onto.

However, if we *knew* that:

- $n > m$ , then  $T$  is automatically *not one-to-one*;  
however,  $T$  can be onto, or not onto.



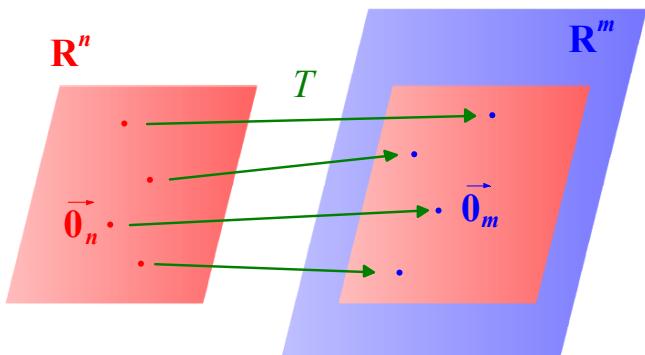
$T$  is onto, but not one-to-one  
 $\text{rank}(T) = m$ ;  $T$  is full rank



$$n > m$$

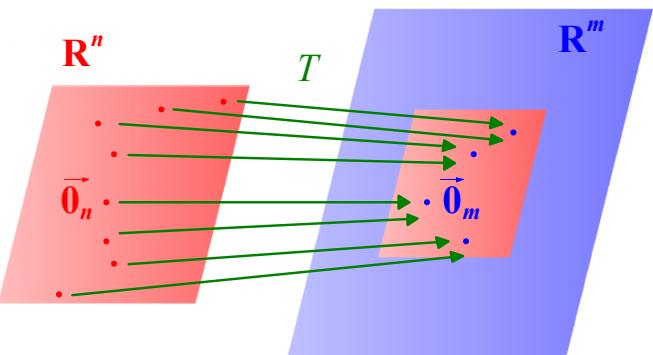
$T$  is neither onto nor one-to-one  
 $\text{rank}(T) < m$

- $n < m$ , then  $T$  is automatically *not onto*;  
however,  $T$  can be one-to-one, or not one-to-one.



$T$  is one-to-one, but not onto  
 $\text{rank}(T) = n$ ;  $T$  is full rank

$$n < m$$



$T$  is neither one-to-one nor onto  
 $\text{rank}(T) < n$