

- Goals
- Define image & kernel
  - Rank-nullity theorem

Defn Given a linear transformation  $f: V \rightarrow W$ , the image of

$$f \text{ is } \text{im}(f) := fV = \{f(v) \mid v \in V\}$$

Prop  $\text{im}(f) \subseteq W$

Pf (0) We showed  $f(0) = 0$  for  $f$  linear, so  $0 \in \text{im } f$ .

(1) Suppose  $w_1, w_2 \in \text{im } f$ . By defn  $\exists v_1, v_2 \in V$  s.t.  
 $f(v_1) = w_1, f(v_2) = w_2$ . Then  $w_1 + w_2 = f(v_1) + f(v_2)$

$= f(v_1 + v_2)$  by linearity  $\therefore w_1 + w_2 \in \text{im } f$ .

(2) If  $w = f(v) \in \text{im } f$ , then  $\forall \lambda \in F, \lambda w = \lambda f(v) = f(\lambda v) \in \text{im } f$ .  $\square$

Defn The rank of a linear trans'n  $f: V \rightarrow W$  is

$$\text{rank}(f) := \dim \text{im}(f).$$

E.g. Define  $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  and linear extension

$$\begin{aligned} e_1 &\mapsto (2, 1, 0) & f(x, y) &= f(xe_1 + ye_2) \\ e_2 &\mapsto (0, -1, 1) & &= x(2, 1, 0) + y(0, -1, 1) = (2x, x-y, y) \end{aligned}$$

Then  $\text{im}(f) = \text{span}\{(2, 1, 0), (0, -1, 1)\}$  and  $\text{rank}(f) = 2$  (why?)

Rank If  $f: V \rightarrow W$  linear,  $\{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$  basis of  $V$ , then

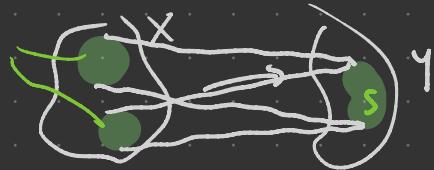
$$\text{im}(f) = \text{span}\{f(b_1), \dots, f(b_n)\}$$

If  $f(b_1), \dots, f(b_n)$  lin dependent, then  $\text{rank}(f) < n$ .

Recall  $f: X \xrightarrow{\text{function}} Y$ ,  $S \subseteq Y$  then the preimage of  $S$  is

$$f^{-1}S := \{x \in X \mid f(x) \in S\}.$$

$$f^{-1}: 2^Y \rightarrow 2^X$$



Prop For  $f: V \rightarrow W$  linear and  $U \subseteq W$ ,  $f^{-1}U \subseteq V$ .

Pf (0) Note  $0 \in U$  b/c  $U$  subspace and  $f(0) = 0$  so  $0 \in f^{-1}U$ .

(1) Suppose  $v_1, v_2 \in f^{-1}U$  so  $f(v_1) = u_1, f(v_2) = u_2 \in U$ .

Thus  $f(v_1 + v_2) = f(v_1) + f(v_2) = u_1 + u_2 \in U$  b/c  $U$  is a subspace.

Hence  $v_1 + v_2 \in f^{-1}U$ .

(2) Exc..  $\square$

Defn For  $f: V \rightarrow W$  linear, the kernel (or nullspace) of  $f$  is

$$\ker(f) := f^{-1}\{0\} = \{v \in V \mid f(v) = 0\}$$

Note Since  $\{0\} \subseteq W$ ,  $\ker f \subseteq V$ .

Defn The nullity of  $f$  is  $\dim \ker f$ .

Problem Determine the kernel and nullity of the linear trans'n

$$f: \mathbb{R}^2 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$$

$$e_1 \longmapsto (2, 1, 0)$$

$$e_2 \longmapsto (0, -1, 1)$$

$$(x, y) \in \ker f$$

$$\Leftrightarrow f(x, y) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x(2, 1, 0) + y(0, -1, 1) = (0, 0, 0)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x = y = 0 \quad \text{So } \ker(f) = \{0\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$$

E.g. Consider the linear trans'n

$$\frac{d}{dx} : \mathbb{R}[x]_{\leq 2} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}[x]_{\leq 1}$$

$$a+bx+cx^2 \longmapsto b+2cx$$

$$\text{Then } \ker\left(\frac{d}{dx}\right) = \left\{ a+bx+cx^2 \mid b+2cx=0 \right\}$$

with domain  
 $\mathbb{R}[x]_{\leq 2}$

$$= \left\{ a \in \mathbb{R}[x]_{\leq 2} \mid a \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$
$$= \text{span}\{1\}$$

and the nullity of  $\frac{d}{dx}$  is 1.

The image of  $\frac{d}{dx}$  is

$$\text{im } \frac{d}{dx} = \text{span}\left\{\frac{d}{dx}|, \frac{d}{dx}x, \frac{d}{dx}x^2\right\}$$

apply  $\frac{d}{dx}$  to basis of  $\mathbb{R}[x]_{\leq 2}$

$$= \text{span} \{ 0, 1, 2x \}$$

$$= \mathbb{R}[x]_{\leq 1}$$

$$\text{so } \text{rank } \frac{d}{dx} = 2$$

Note  $3 = \dim \mathbb{R}[x]_{\leq 2} = \text{rank} \left( \frac{d}{dx} \right) + \text{null} \left( \frac{d}{dx} \right)$

— this is generic.

Theorem (rank-nullity)

Suppose  $f: V \rightarrow W$  linear,  $V$  is finite diml. Then

$$\dim V = \text{rank}(f) + \text{null}(f).$$

...  
...  
... { Domain "splits" into kernel and the image.

Pf Suppose  $\text{null}(f) = k$  and  $\ker(f)$  has basis  $\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$ .

We can complete this to a basis  $B = \{v_1, \dots, v_k, v_{k+1}, \dots, v_n\}$  of  $V$ .

It suffices to show  $\{f(v_{k+1}), \dots, f(v_n)\}$  is a basis of  $\text{im}(f)$ .

$$\text{Now } \text{im}(f) = \underbrace{fB}_{\text{span}} = \text{span}\{f(v_1), \dots, f(v_n)\}$$

$$= \text{span}\{0, \dots, 0, f(v_{k+1}), \dots, f(v_n)\}$$

so  $\{f(v_{k+1}), \dots, f(v_n)\}$  generates  $\text{im}(f)$ .

For linear ind, suppose

$$\lambda_{k+1} f(v_{k+1}) + \dots + \lambda_n f(v_n) = 0$$

$$\text{Then } f(\lambda_{k+1}v_{k+1} + \dots + \lambda_n v_n) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda_{k+1}v_{k+1} + \dots + \lambda_n v_n \in \ker f \quad \text{has basis } \{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$$

$$\Rightarrow \exists \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k \in F \text{ s.t.}$$

$$\lambda_1 v_1 + \dots + \lambda_k v_k = \lambda_{k+1}v_{k+1} + \dots + \lambda_n v_n.$$

$$\text{But then } \lambda_1 v_1 + \dots + \lambda_k v_k - \lambda_{k+1}v_{k+1} - \dots - \lambda_n v_n = 0$$

and by lin ind of  $B = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ , get  $\lambda_i = 0$  for all  $i$ .

In particular,  $f(v_{k+1}), \dots, f(v_n)$  are lin ind.  $\square$

Suppose  $S = \{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$  lin ind in  $V$ .

Basis ext'n algorithm:

- ① If  $\text{span } S = V$ , done.
- ② Or take  $v_{k+1} \in V - \text{span } S$ .
- ③ Add  $v_{k+1}$  to  $S$   $S \cup \{v_{k+1}\}$  is lin ind.
- ④ Re-index and go back to ①.

If  $V$  is fin dim, this will terminate after  
 $\dim V - k$  steps.

E.g.  $f: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  extend linearly

$$e_1 \mapsto (1, 1, 1)$$

$$e_2 \mapsto (-2, 0, 3)$$

$$e_3 \mapsto (1, 3, 6)$$

$$\text{Find } \ker f = \{(x, y, z) \mid f(x, y, z) = 0\}$$

$$= \{(x, y, z) \mid x(1, 1, 1) + y(-2, 0, 3) + z(1, 3, 6) = (0, 0, 0)\}$$

So need to solve  $\begin{aligned} x - 2y + z &= 0 \\ x + 3z &= 0 \\ x + 3y + 6z &= 0 \end{aligned}$

$$A = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & 6 & 0 \end{array} \right) \longrightarrow \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 & 5 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$



... .

rank = 2

$\Rightarrow$  nullity = 1 .