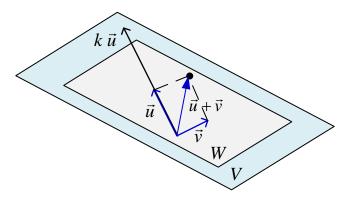
Section 2.5 – Subspaces, Span and Null Spaces

Subspaces

Definition

A subset *W* of a vector space *V* is called a *subspace* of *V* if *W* itself a vector space under the addition and scalar multiplication defined in *V*.



Theorem

If W is a set of one or more vectors in a vector space V, then W is a subspace of V iff the following conditions holds

- 1. If u and v are vectors in W, then u + v is in W.
- 2. If k is any scalar and v is any vector in W, the kv is in the subspace in W.
- \succ The most fundamental ideas in linear algebra are that the plane is a subspace of the full vector space \mathbb{R}^n .
- Every subspace contains the zero vector. The plane vector in \mathbb{R}^3 has to go through (0, 0, 0). From rule (2), if we choose k = 0 and the rule requires 0v to be in the subspace.

The *axioms* that are *not* inherited by *W* are

Axiom 1 – Closure of W under addition

Axiom 4 – Existence of a zero vector in W

Axiom 5 – Existence of a negative in W for every vector in W

Axiom 6 – Closure of W under scalar multiplication

Example

Keep only the vectors (x, y) whose components are positive or zero (first quadrant "quarter-plane"). The vector (2, 3) is included but (-2, -3) is not. So, rule (2) is violated when we try k = -1. The quarter-plane is not a subspace.

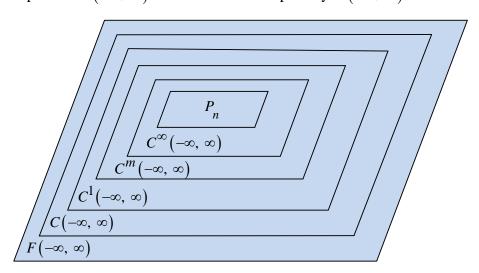
Example

Include also the vectors whose components are both negative. Now we have two quarter-planes. Rule (ii) satisfies when we multiply by any c. But rule (i) fails. The sum of v = (2, 3) and w = (-3, -2) is (-1, 1) which is outside the quarter-plane. *Two quarter-planes don't make a subspace*.

Example

The **Subspace** $C(-\infty, \infty)$

There is a theorem in calculus which states that a sum of continuous functions is continuous and than a constant times a continuous frunction is continuous. In vector word, the set of continuous functions on $(-\infty, \infty)$ is a subspace of $F(-\infty, \infty)$. We denote this subspace by $C(-\infty, \infty)$



Theorem

If W_1 , W_2 , ..., W_n are subspaces of a vector space V, then intersection of these subspaces is also a subspace of V.

> A subspace containing \vec{v} and \vec{w} must contain all linear combination $c\vec{v} + d\vec{w}$.

Example

Inside the vector space M of all 2 by 2 matrices, given two subspaces:

U all upper triangular matrices $\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & d \end{bmatrix}$

D all diagonal matrices $\begin{bmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & d \end{bmatrix}$

Solution

If we add 2 matrices in **U**: $\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & d \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2a & 2b \\ 0 & 2d \end{bmatrix}$ is in **U**.

If we add 2 matrices in **D**: $\begin{bmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & d \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2a & 0 \\ 0 & 2d \end{bmatrix}$ is in **D**.

In this case **D** is also a subspace of **U**!. The zero matrix is in these subspaces, when a, b, and d all equal zero.

Span

Definition

The subspace of a vector space V that is formed from all possible linear combinations of the vectors in a nonempty set S is called the **span of** S, and we say that the vectors in S span that subspace. If

 $S = \{w_1, w_2, ..., w_r\}$, then we denoted the span of S by

$$span\{w_1, w_2, ..., w_r\}$$
 or $span(S)$

Theorem

Let $\vec{v}_1, \ldots, \vec{v}_n$ be vectors in vector space V and S be their span. Then,

a) S is a subspace of V.

$$\begin{aligned} \textit{Proof} \colon \forall \ \vec{u}, \ \vec{v} \in S \ , \ \vec{u} &= a_1 \vec{v}_1 + \ldots + a_n \vec{v}_n \ \text{ and } \ \vec{v} = b_1 \vec{v}_1 + \ldots + b_n \vec{v}_n \\ \vec{u} + \vec{v} &= \Big(a_1 + b_1 \Big) \vec{v}_1 + \ldots + \Big(a_n + b_n \Big) \vec{v}_n \ \in S \\ k \vec{u} &= k a_1 \vec{v}_1 + \ldots + k a_n \vec{v}_n \ \in S \end{aligned}$$

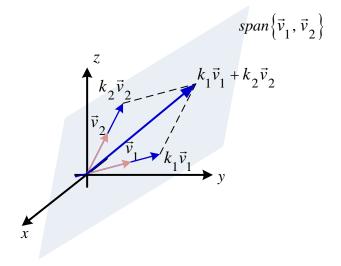
b) S is the smallest subspace of V that contains $\vec{v}_1, ..., \vec{v}_k$. i.e. any other subspace \vec{w} containing $\vec{v}_1, ..., \vec{v}_n$ also contains S.

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Proof: let
$$\vec{u} \in S$$
, $\vec{u} = a_1 \vec{v}_1 + ... + a_n \vec{v}_n$

But $a_1 \vec{v}_1, ..., a_n \vec{v}_n \in \vec{w}$ \therefore \vec{w} closed under scalar multiplication. $a_1 \vec{v}_1, ..., a_n \vec{v}_n \in \vec{w}$ \therefore \vec{w} closed under addition.

 $\vec{u} \in \vec{w}$



Example

a)
$$\vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and $\vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ span the full two-dimensional space \mathbb{R}^2 .

b)
$$\vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
, $\vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$, and $\vec{v}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}$ span the full space \mathbb{R}^2 .

c)
$$\vec{w}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and $\vec{w}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$ only span a line in \mathbb{R}^2 .

Definition

The row space of a matrix is the subspace of \mathbb{R}^n spanned by the rows.

Example

Determine whether $\vec{v}_1 = (1, 1, 2)$, $\vec{v}_2 = (1, 0, 1)$, and $\vec{v}_3 = (2, 1, 3)$ span the vector space \mathbf{R}^3 **Solution**

Let $b = (b_1, b_2, b_3)$ be the arbitrary vector in \mathbb{R}^3 can be expressed as a linear combination

$$\vec{b} = k_1 \vec{v}_1 + k_2 \vec{v}_2 + k_3 \vec{v}_3$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(b_1, \, b_2, \, b_3\right) = k_1 \, (1, \, 1, \, 2) + k_2 \, (1, \, 0, \, 1) + k_3 \, (2, \, 1, \, 3) \\ & \left(b_1, \, b_2, \, b_3\right) = \left(k_1 + k_2 + 2k_3, \, k_1 + k_3, \, 2k_1 + k_2 + 3k_3\right) \\ & \rightarrow \begin{cases} k_1 + k_2 + 2k_3 = b_1 \\ k_1 + k_3 = b_2 \\ 2k_1 + k_2 + 3k_3 = b_3 \end{cases} \\ & |A| = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

Since the determinant is zero, the \vec{v}_1 , \vec{v}_2 , and \vec{v}_3 do not span space \mathbf{R}^3

Solution Spaces of Homogeneous (Null Space) Systems

Theorem

The solution set of a homogeneous linear system Ax = 0 in n unknowns is a subspace of R^n

Proof

Let W be the solution set for the system. The set W is not empty because it contains at least the trivial solution x = 0.

To show that W is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n , we must show that it is closed under addition and scalar multiplication.

Let \vec{x}_1 and \vec{x}_2 be vectors in W and these vectors are solution of Ax = 0.

$$A\vec{x}_1 = 0$$
 and $A\vec{x}_2 = 0$

Therefore,
$$A(\vec{x}_1 + \vec{x}_2) = A\vec{x}_1 + A\vec{x}_2 = 0 + 0 = 0$$

So, W is closed under addition.

$$A\left(k\vec{x}_1\right) = kA\vec{x}_1 = k0 = 0$$

So, W is closed under scalar multiplication.

Null Spaces

Definition

The nullspace of A consists of all solutions to $A\vec{x} = 0$. These solution vectors x are in \mathbb{R}^n . The Nullspace containing all solutions is denoted by N(A) or NS(A).

$$\left\{ \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid Ax = 0 \right\}$$
 is the nullspace of A, $NS(A)$

(Can also be called **Kernel** of A: Ker(A))

Theorem

Suppose NS(A) is a subspace of \mathbf{R}^n for $A_{m \times n}$

- ✓ Let \vec{x} and \vec{y} are in the nullspace $(\vec{x}, \vec{y} \in NS(A))$ then $A(\vec{x} + \vec{y}) = A\vec{x} + A\vec{y} = 0 + 0 = 0$
- ✓ Let $\vec{x} \in NS(A)$ then $c\vec{x} \in NS(A)$:: $A(c\vec{x}) = cA\vec{x} = c0 = 0$

Since we can add and multiply without leaving the Nullspace, it is a subspace.

Example

The equation x + 2y + 3z = 0 comes from the 1 by 3 matrix $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$. This equation produces a plane through the origin. The plane is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 . It is the Nullspace of A.

Solution

The solution to x + 2y + 3z = 6 also form a plane, but not a subspace.

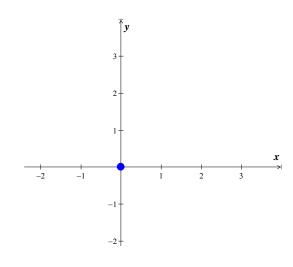
Example

Find the null space of

a)
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$
 b) $B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$

Solution

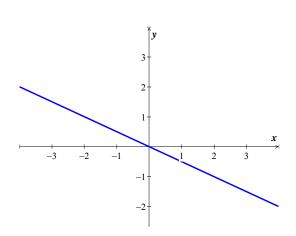
a)
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{cases} x_1 + x_2 = 0 \\ 3x_2 = 0 \end{cases}$$
$$\Rightarrow x_1 = x_2 = 0$$
So $NS(A) = \{\mathbf{0}\}$



$$b) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 3 & 6 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 - 3R_1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\Rightarrow x_1 = -2x_2$$

If we let $x_2 = s$, then

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \text{ is in } NS(B) \text{ if and only if } \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = s \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



Example

Describe the nullspace of $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$

Solution

Apply the elimination to the linear equations Ax = 0:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 + 2x_2 = 0 \\ 3x_1 + 6x_2 = 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 - 3R_1} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 + 2x_2 = 0 \\ 0 = 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

There is only one equation $(x_1 + 2x_2 = 0)$, this line is the Nullspace N(A).

Example

Consider the linear system $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 3 \\ 2 & -4 & 6 \\ 3 & -6 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Solution

$$z = t$$
, $y = s$, $x = 2s - 3t$
 $\Rightarrow x - 2y + 3z = 0$

This is the equation of a plane through the origin that has n = (1, -2, 3) as a normal.

Example

Consider the linear system $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 3 \\ -3 & 7 & -8 \\ 4 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Solution

$$x = 0$$
, $y = 0$, $z = 0$

The solution space is $\{0\}$

Exercises Section 2.5 – Subspaces, Span and Null Spaces

- 1. Suppose S and T are two subspaces of a vector space \mathbf{V} .
 - a) The sum S+T contains all sums $\vec{s}+\vec{t}$ of a vector \vec{s} in S and a vector \vec{t} in T. Show that S+T satisfies the requirements (addition and scalar multiplication) for a vector space.
 - b) If S and T are lines in \mathbb{R}^m , what is the difference between S+T and $S \cup T$? That union contains all vectors from S and T or both. Explain this statement: The span of $S \cup T$ is S+T.
- 2. Determine which of the following are subspaces of \mathbb{R}^3 ?
 - a) All vectors of the form (a, 0, 0)
 - b) All vectors of the form (a, 1, 1)
 - c) All vectors of the form (a, b, c), where b = a + c
 - d) All vectors of the form (a, b, c), where b = a + c + 1
 - e) All vectors of the form (a, b, 0)
- 3. Determine which of the following are subspaces of \mathbf{R}^{∞} ?
 - a) All sequences \mathbf{v} in \mathbf{R}^{∞} of the form $\mathbf{v} = (v, 0, v, 0, ...)$
 - b) All sequences \mathbf{v} in \mathbf{R}^{∞} of the form $\mathbf{v} = (v, 1, v, 1, ...)$
 - c) All sequences \mathbf{v} in \mathbf{R}^{∞} of the form $\mathbf{v} = (v, 2v, 4v, 8v, 16v, ...)$
- **4.** Which of the following are linear combinations of $\mathbf{u} = (0, -2, 2)$ and $\mathbf{v} = (1, 3, -1)$?
 - a) (2, 2, 2)
- *b*) (3, 1, 5)
- c) (0, 4, 5)
- d) (0, 0, 0)
- 5. Which of the following are linear combinations of $\mathbf{u} = (2, 1, 4)$, $\mathbf{v} = (1, -1, 3)$ and $\mathbf{w} = (3, 2, 5)$?
 - a) (-9, -7, -15)
- *b*) (6, 11, 6)

c) (0, 0, 0)

- **6.** Determine whether the given vectors span \mathbf{R}^3
 - a) $\vec{v}_1 = (2, 2, 2), \quad \vec{v}_2 = (0, 0, 3), \quad \vec{v}_3 = (0, 1, 1)$
 - b) $\vec{v}_1 = (2, -1, 3), \quad \vec{v}_2 = (4, 1, 2), \quad \vec{v}_3 = (8, -1, 8)$
 - c) $\vec{v}_1 = (3, 1, 4), \quad \vec{v}_2 = (2, -3, 5), \quad \vec{v}_3 = (5, -2, 9), \quad \vec{v}_4 = (1, 4, -1)$
- 7. Which of the following are linear combinations of $A = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 0 \\ -2 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$, $B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$, $C = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$
 - $a) \begin{bmatrix} 6 & -8 \\ -1 & -8 \end{bmatrix}$
- b) $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$
- $c) \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 0 \\ 3 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$

- Suppose that $\vec{v}_1 = (2, 1, 0, 3)$, $\vec{v}_2 = (3, -1, 5, 2)$, $\vec{v}_3 = (-1, 0, 2, 1)$. Which of the 8. following vectors are in span $\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3\}$
 - a) (2, 3, -7, 3)

- b) (0,0,0,0) c) (1,1,1,1) d) (-4,6,-13,4)
- Let $f = \cos^2 x$ and $g = \sin^2 x$. Which of the following lie in the space spanned by f and g
 - a) $\cos 2x$
- b) $3+x^2$
- c) $\sin x$
- *d*) 0
- **10.** $V = \mathbb{R}^3$, $S = \{(0, s, t) | s, t \text{ are real numbers}\}$ where V is a vector space and S is subset of V
 - a) Is S closed under addition?
 - b) Is S closed under scalar multiplication?
 - c) Is S a subspace of V?
- **11.** $V = \mathbb{R}^3$, $S = \{(x, y, z) | x, y, z \ge 0\}$ where V is a vector space and S is subset of V
 - a) Is S closed under addition?
 - b) Is S closed under scalar multiplication?
 - c) Is S a subspace of V?
- $V = \mathbb{R}^3$, $S = \{(x, y, z) | z = x + y + 1\}$ where V is a vector space and S is subset of V
 - a) Is S closed under addition?
 - b) Is S closed under scalar multiplication?
 - c) Is S a subspace of V?
- **13.** Let $S = \{(a_1, a_2, a_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : a_1 = 3a_2 \text{ and } a_3 = -a_2\}$, Determine:
 - a) Is S closed under addition?
 - b) Is S closed under scalar multiplication?
 - c) Is S a subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 ?
- **14.** Let $S = \{(a_1, a_2, a_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : a_1 = a_3 + 2\}$, Determine:
 - a) Is S closed under addition?
 - b) Is S closed under scalar multiplication?
 - c) Is S a subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 ?
- **15.** Let $S = \{(a_1, a_2, a_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : 2a_1 7a_2 + a_3 = 0\}$, Determine:
 - a) Is S closed under addition?
 - b) Is S closed under scalar multiplication?
 - c) Is S a subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 ?

16. Let $S = \{(a_1, a_2, a_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : a_1 - 4a_2 - a_3 = 0\}$, Determine:

- a) Is S closed under addition?
- b) Is S closed under scalar multiplication?
- c) Is S a subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 ?

17. Let $S = \{(a_1, a_2, a_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : a_1 + 2a_2 - 3a_3 = 0\}$, Determine:

- a) Is S closed under addition?
- b) Is S closed under scalar multiplication?
- c) Is S a subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 ?

18. Let $S = \{(a_1, a_2, a_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : a_1 + 2a_2 - 3a_3 = 1\}$, Determine:

- a) Is S closed under addition?
- b) Is S closed under scalar multiplication?
- c) Is S a subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 ?

19. Let $S = \{(a_1, a_2, a_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : 5a_1^2 - 3a_2^2 + 6a_3^2 = 0\}$, Determine:

- a) Is S closed under addition?
- b) Is S closed under scalar multiplication?
- c) Is S a subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 ?

20. Let $S = \{(a_1, a_2, a_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : a_3 = a_1 + a_2\}$, Determine:

- a) Is S closed under addition?
- b) Is S closed under scalar multiplication?
- c) Is S a subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 ?

21. Let $S = \{(a_1, a_2, a_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : a_1 + a_2 + a_3 = 0\}$, Determine:

- a) Is S closed under addition?
- b) Is S closed under scalar multiplication?
- c) Is S a subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 ?

22. $S = \{(x_1, x_2, 1): x_1 \text{ and } x_2 \text{ are real numbers}\}$, Determine:

- a) Is S closed under addition?
- b) Is S closed under scalar multiplication?
- c) Is S a subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 ?

23. $S = \{(x_1, x_2, x_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x_2 = x_1 + 2x_3\}$, Determine:

- a) Is S closed under addition?
- b) Is S closed under scalar multiplication?
- c) Is S a subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 ?

24. $S = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & 1 \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in M_{2 \times 2} \mid a, b, c \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$ and $V = M_{2,2}$, Determine:

- a) Is S closed under addition?
- b) Is S closed under scalar multiplication?
- c) Is S a subspace of V?

25. $S = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in M_{2 \times 2} \mid a, b, c \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$ and $V = M_{2,2}$, Determine:

- a) Is S closed under addition?
- b) Is S closed under scalar multiplication?
- c) Is S a subspace of V?

26. Let $S = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & d \end{pmatrix} \in M_{2 \times 2} \mid a, d \in \mathbb{R} \text{ & } ad \ge 0 \right\}$ and $V = M_{2,2}$, Determine:

- a) Is S closed under addition?
- b) Is S closed under scalar multiplication?
- c) Is S a subspace of V?

27. $V = M_{33}$, $S = \{A \mid A \text{ is invertible}\}$ where V is a vector space and S is subset of V

- a) Is S closed under addition?
- b) Is S closed under scalar multiplication?
- c) Is S a subspace of V?

28. Let $S = \{ p(t) = a + 2at + 3at^3 \mid a \in \mathbb{R} \& p(t) \in P_2 \}$ and $V = P_2$, Determine:

- a) Is S closed under addition?
- b) Is S closed under scalar multiplication?
- c) Is S a subspace of V?

29. Given: $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 6 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$

a) Find NS(A)

- b) For which n is NS(A) a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n
- c) Sketch NS(A) in \mathbb{R}^2 or \mathbb{R}^3
- **30.** Determine which of the following are subspaces of M_{22}
 - a) All 2×2 matrices with integer entries
 - b) All matrices $\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$ where a+b+c+d=0
- **31.** Let $V = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} : ad bc = 1 \right\}$. Is V a vector space?
- **32.** Let $V = \{(x,0,y): x \& y \text{ are arbitrary } \mathbb{R}\}$. Define addition and scalar multiplication as follows:

$$\begin{cases} \left(x_{1}, \ 0, \ y_{1}\right) + \left(x_{2}, \ 0, \ y_{2}\right) = \left(x_{1} + x_{2}, \ y_{1} + y_{2}\right) \\ c\left(x, \ 0, \ y\right) = \left(cx, \ cy\right) \end{cases}$$

Is *V* a vector space?

- **33.** Construct a matrix whose column space contains (1, 1, 0) and (0, 1, 1) and whose nullspace contains (1, 0, 1) and (0, 0, 1)
- **34.** How is the nullspace N(C) related to the spaces N(A) and N(B), is $C = \begin{bmatrix} A \\ B \end{bmatrix}$?
- **35.** True or False (check addition or give a counterexample)
 - a) If V is a vector space and W is a subset of V that is a vector space, then W is s subspace of V.
 - b) The empty set is a subspace of every vector space.
 - c) If V is a vector space other than the zero vector space, then V contains a subspace W such that $W \neq V$.
 - d) The intersection of any two subsets of V is a subspace of V.
 - e) Let W be the xy-plane in \mathbb{R}^3 ; that is, $W = \{(a_1, a_2, 0): a_1, a_2 \in \mathbb{R}\}$. Then $W = \mathbb{R}^2$