

Step-1

Since \mathbf{V} is a subspace, it is a vector space in its own right. Therefore, it has a basis. Let the dimension of \mathbf{V} be m . Note that $m < n$.

Let v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m be a basis of \mathbf{V} .

Step-2

Form a matrix A of order n by n , such that its first m rows are the vectors v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m . Put zero in each entry of the last $n-m$ rows of A .

Let us show that the matrix A has row space = \mathbf{V} and null space = \mathbf{W} .

Step-3

Let $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$ be any vector in \mathbf{R}^n .

Consider the following:

$$A\alpha = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ \vdots \\ v_m \\ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ \dots \ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ \dots \ 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha_n \end{bmatrix}$$

It is obvious that $A\alpha$ will have all zero entries in the last $n-m$ rows. Therefore, for the matrix A , its row space is \mathbf{V} .

Step-4

If we consider a vector β from \mathbf{W} , then its initial m entries will be zeros. The nonzero entries will be from $m+1$ to n .

Therefore, $A\beta = 0$.

Thus, null space of the matrix A is \mathbf{W} .

Step-5

As an example, consider the vector space \mathbf{R}^3 . Let \mathbf{V} be the xy -plane and let \mathbf{W} be the z -axis.

Then $\{(1, 0, 0), (0, 1, 0)\}$ is a basis for \mathbf{V} .

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Let

Step-6

Let $\alpha = (p, q, r)$ be any vector.

Then

$$\begin{aligned} A\alpha &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p \\ q \\ r \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} p \\ q \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Also, let \hat{z} be any vector along the z-axis. Then $\beta = (0, 0, s)$.

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} A\beta &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ s \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$