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7. Nullspace

Here is what happens in general for homogeneous linear systems:

Recall that the set of all solutions to a homogeneous linear system $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ is called the **nullspace of matrix A**, and is denoted $\mathbf{NS}(\mathbf{A})$.

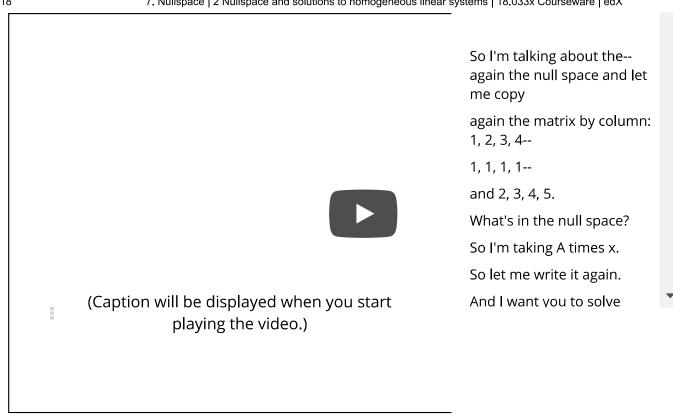
Theorem 7.1 If \mathbf{A} is a matrix, then the set of all solutions to the homogeneous linear system $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{0}$ is a vector space. (In other words if \mathbf{A} is an $m\times n$ matrix, then the nullspace $\mathbf{NS}(\mathbf{A})$ is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .)

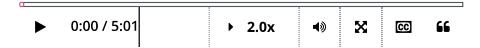
Analogous theorem : If P(D) is a linear differential operator, then the set of solutions to the homogeneous ODE P(D)x=0 is a vector space of functions. (It is a subspace of the set of all functions.)

Proof of theorem Show

Example of nullspace by inspection

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