

Linear Transformations

MTH1004M Linear Algebra



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Linear Transformations

Definition

A linear transformation is a transformation $T : \mathbb{R}^n \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ which satisfies:

1. $T(u + v) = T(u) + T(v)$, for all u, v in \mathbb{R}^n .
 2. $T(cu) = cT(u)$, for all u in \mathbb{R}^n and c in \mathbb{R} .
-

⇒ The transformation $T : \mathbb{R}^2 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$


$$T \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x + y \\ x - y \end{bmatrix}$$

maps every vector in the plane to another vector in the plane.

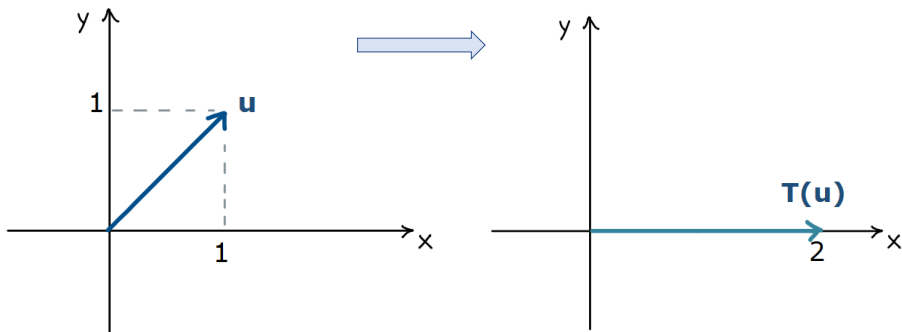
⇒ The rotation $T : \mathbb{R}^2 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$


$$T \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

rotates every vector in the plane counter-clockwise by the angle θ .

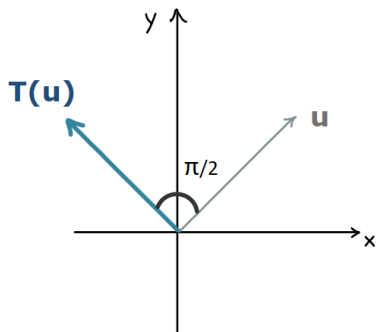
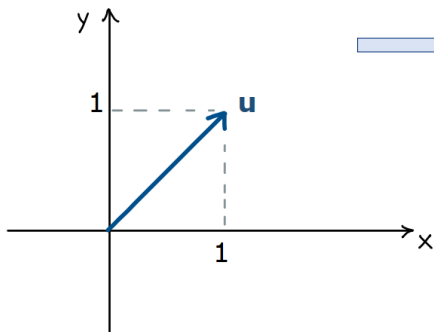
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Linear Transformations

Properties

Let $T : \mathbb{R}^n \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ be a linear transformation. Then:

1. $T(0) = 0$
2. $T(-u) = -T(u)$, for all u in \mathbb{R}^n .
3. $T(u - v) = T(u) - T(v)$

⇒ Consider a linear combination of the vectors u, v , namely $c_1u + c_2v$. When a linear transformation T acts on that vector, we have that

$$T(c_1u + c_2v) = c_1T(u) + c_2T(v)$$

⇒ The zero vector in \mathbb{R}^n is always mapped to the zero vector in \mathbb{R}^m ($T(0) = 0$).

Example

Consider once again the transformation $T : \mathbb{R}^2 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ defined by

$$T \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ 2x - y \\ 3x + 4y \end{bmatrix}$$

To check that T is a linear transformation, we can follow the definition and define two vectors

$$\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

We need to show that 1. $T(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) = T(\mathbf{u}) + T(\mathbf{v})$ and

2. $T(c\mathbf{u}) = cT(\mathbf{u})$, where c is a scalar.



Example

1. It is

$$\begin{aligned}T(u+v) &= T \begin{bmatrix} x_1 + x_2 \\ y_1 + y_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 + x_2 \\ 2(x_1 + x_2) - (y_1 + y_2) \\ 3(x_1 + x_2) + 4(y_1 + y_2) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 + x_2 \\ 2x_1 + 2x_2 - y_1 - y_2 \\ 3x_1 + 3x_2 + 4y_1 + 4y_2 \end{bmatrix} \\&= \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ 2x_1 - y_1 \\ 3x_1 + 4y_1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} x_2 \\ 2x_2 - y_2 \\ 3x_2 + 4y_2 \end{bmatrix} = T(u) + T(v)\end{aligned}$$

2. Let c be a scalar. Then

$$T(cu) = T \begin{bmatrix} cx_1 \\ cy_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} cx_1 \\ 2cx_1 - cy_1 \\ 3cx_1 + 4cy_1 \end{bmatrix} = c \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ 2x_1 - y_1 \\ 3x_1 + 4y_1 \end{bmatrix} = cT(u)$$

Thus, T is a linear transformation. \square

Cases

Let $T : \mathbb{R}^n \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ be a linear transformation. Then can be three cases in terms of the vector spaces dimensions:

1. $n < m$

$$T : \mathbb{R}^2 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \qquad T \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2x - y \\ x + y \\ x - 3y \end{bmatrix}$$

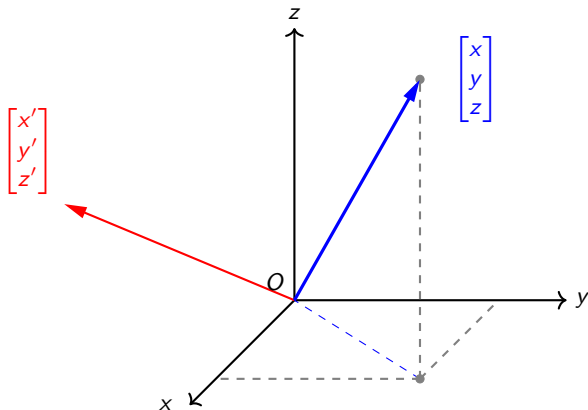
2. $n = m$

$$T : \mathbb{R}^3 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \qquad T \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x - z \\ y + z \\ x - y + 2z \end{bmatrix}$$

3. $n > m$

$$T : \mathbb{R}^3 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \qquad T \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x + y - 2z \\ 2x + 3y - 4z \end{bmatrix}$$

A Linear Transformation from \mathbb{R}^3 to \mathbb{R}^3



$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ z' \end{bmatrix}$$

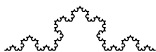
Linear Transformations

Proposition 1

Let A be an $m \times n$ matrix. Then the transformation $T : \mathbb{R}^n \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ defined by

$$T(\mathbf{x}) = A\mathbf{x}$$

is a linear transformation.



Proposition 2

Every linear transformation $T : \mathbb{R}^n \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ is of the form

$$T(\mathbf{x}) = A\mathbf{x}$$

for some $m \times n$ matrix A .

Remarks

$$T : \mathbb{R}^n \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^m \quad T(x) = Ax$$

→ We say that the $m \times n$ matrix A **acts** on a vector u and we mean that we perform the matrix multiplication Au , the result of which is another vector w in \mathbb{R}^m .

→ In other words, the matrix A defines a **linear transformation** which maps any vector u in \mathbb{R}^n to a some new vector w in \mathbb{R}^m .

→ A matrix A defines uniquely a linear transformation and a linear transformation defines uniquely a matrix A .

Example

Show that the transformation $T : \mathbb{R}^2 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$

$$T \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x + y \\ x - y \end{bmatrix}$$

is linear.

⇒ One way is to use the definition

⇒ Another way is to use proposition 1:

$$Au = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x + y \\ x - y \end{bmatrix} = T \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = T(u)$$

Hence, the transformation is linear.

Example

Show that the transformation $T : \mathbb{R}^2 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$

$$T \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x + y + 1 \\ x - y \end{bmatrix}$$

is not a linear transformation.

☞ Here we can use the definition

$T(cu) = cT(u)$, should be true for all scalars c .

Let $c = 0$, then

$$T(0 \cdot u) = T(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \neq \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = 0 \cdot T(u)$$

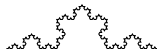
Hence, the transformation is not a linear one.

Kernel and Range: Definitions

Let $T : \mathbb{R}^n \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ be a linear transformation.

→ The **kernel** of T , denoted $\text{Ker}(T)$, is the set of all vectors in \mathbb{R}^n that are mapped by T to 0 in \mathbb{R}^m . That is,

$$\text{Ker}(T) = \{x \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^n : T(x) = 0\}$$



→ The **range** of T , denoted $\text{range}(T)$, is the set of all vectors in \mathbb{R}^m that are images of vectors in \mathbb{R}^n under T . That is,

$$\text{range}(T) = \{y \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^m : T(x) = y \text{ for some } x \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^n\}$$

Kernel Example

Find the kernel of the linear transformation

$$T : \mathbb{R}^3 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \qquad T \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x + y \\ y + z \end{bmatrix}$$

⇒ **Remark** *The kernel of T is the Null space of its associated matrix.*

It is

$$\text{Ker}(T) = \{x \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^3 : T(x) = 0\}$$

We search for those x in \mathbb{R}^3 which are mapped to the vector $0 = [0, 0]^T$ in the plane.

$$\begin{aligned} T(x) &= 0 \\ \begin{bmatrix} x + y \\ y + z \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

which is a homogeneous system of 2 equations with 3 unknowns.



By using Gauss–Jordan elimination we find:

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{R_1 - R_2} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

Which yields, $x = z$ and $y = -z$, therefore all vectors in \mathbb{R}^3 with components

$x = \begin{bmatrix} z \\ -z \\ z \end{bmatrix}$, for any real number z , give $T(x) = 0$. So, the kernel of T is

$$\text{Ker}(T) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} z \\ -z \\ z \end{bmatrix} \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^3 : z \text{ in } \mathbb{R} \right\} = \text{span} \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

and observe that it is a vector subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 of dimension 1.

$$\dim(\text{Ker}(T)) = 1 = \text{nullity}$$

$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ is the basis for $\text{Ker}(T)$.
→

⇒ Let

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

be the 2×3 matrix inside the augmented matrix. This is the matrix associated with the transformation T .

⇒ The Kernel of the transformation T is a vector subspace of \mathbb{R}^3

⇒ $\text{Ker}(T) = \text{Null}(A)$

⇒ **Nullity** is also the dimension of $\text{Ker}(T)$.

Kernel and Range: Theorem

Theorem

Let $T : \mathbb{R}^n \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ be a linear transformation. Then

- (i) The kernel of T is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n
 - (ii) The range of T is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^m
-



⇒ The range of T is equal to the span of the columns of the matrix A . In other words the range of T is the column space of the matrix A

$$\text{range}(T) = \text{col}(A)$$

⇒ The dimension of the subspace $\text{range}(T)$ is equal to the dimension of the subspace $\text{col}(A)$. So,

$$\dim[\text{range}(T)] = \text{rank}(A)$$

Range Example

Find the range of the linear transformation

$$T : \mathbb{R}^3 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \qquad T \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x + y \\ y + z \end{bmatrix}$$

and its basis. What is the rank of T ?

⇒ **Remark** *The range of T is the Column space of its associated matrix.*

Now let's find the range of T .

$$\text{range}(T) = \{y \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^2 : T(x) = y \text{ for some } x \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^3\}$$

The definition says that we search for those 'values' of T which derive by the vectors x in \mathbb{R}^3 . (In literature you will find the range also called as **image** of a transformation and denoted as $\text{Im}(T)$.)

It is easier to find $\text{col}(A)$ than to follow the definition above.

Range Example

It is

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

and

$$\text{col}(A) = \text{span} \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \text{span} \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

The vectors $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ are linearly independent and form a basis for $\text{range}(T)$.

The rank of T is 2.

One-to-One and Onto Linear Transformations

Let $T : \mathbb{R}^n \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ be a linear transformation.

Definition

T is called *one-to-one* if T maps distinct vectors in \mathbb{R}^n to distinct vectors in \mathbb{R}^m :

$$T(u) = T(v) \text{ implies that } u = v, \text{ for all } u \text{ and } v \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^n$$

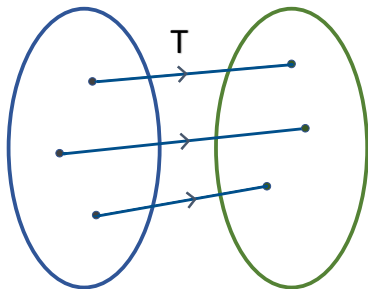


Definition

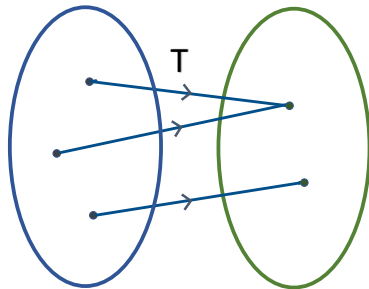
If $\text{range}(T) = \mathbb{R}^m$, then T is called *onto*.

In other words, for all w in \mathbb{R}^m , there is at least one u in \mathbb{R}^n such that $w = T(u)$

One-to-one transformations

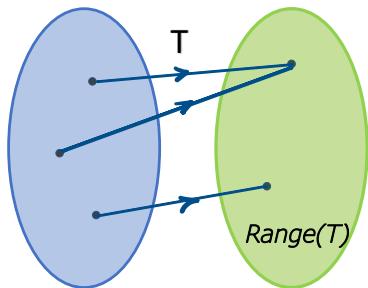


I. T is one-to-one

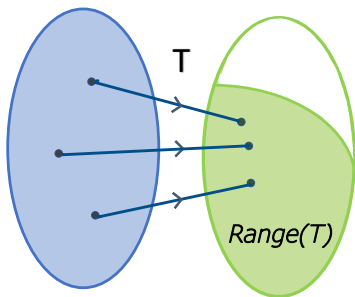


II. T is *not* one-to-one

Onto transformations



I. T is onto



II. T is *not* onto

Quiz

Which of the following linear transformations are one-to-one? Which are onto?

1. $T : \mathbb{R}^2 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$

$$T \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2x - y \\ x + y \\ x - 3y \end{bmatrix}$$

2. $T : \mathbb{R}^3 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$

$$T \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3z \\ -y \\ x \end{bmatrix}$$

3. $T : \mathbb{R}^3 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$

$$T \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x + y \\ 2x + 3y \end{bmatrix}$$

Transformation 1

$$1. \quad T: \mathbb{R}^2 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \qquad T \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2x - y \\ x + y \\ x - 3y \end{bmatrix}$$

⇒ Is it one-to-one?

Let $T(u) = T(v)$, where $u = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \end{bmatrix}$ and $v = \begin{bmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \end{bmatrix}$. It yields that

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2x_1 - y_1 \\ x_1 + y_1 \\ x_1 - 3y_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2x_2 - y_2 \\ x_2 + y_2 \\ x_2 - 3y_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

hence we get that $x_1 = x_2$ and $y_1 = y_2$, so $u = v$. We conclude that T is one-to-one.



Transformation 1

⇒ Is T onto?

To be onto, every vector in \mathbb{R}^3 should come from a vector in the domain of T . Let's see whether there is a vector u that is mapped in e_3 under the transformation T . It should be:

$$\begin{aligned} T(u) &= e_3 \\ \begin{bmatrix} 2x - y \\ x + y \\ x - 3y \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

which cannot be true, since the first two equations give $x = y = 0$ and the last $0 = 1$. Hence, we conclude that T is not onto.

Transformation 2

$$2. \quad T: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \qquad T \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ 3z \\ -y \end{bmatrix}$$

⇒ Is it one-to-one?

Let $T(u) = T(v)$, where $u = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \\ z_1 \end{bmatrix}$ and $v = \begin{bmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \\ z_2 \end{bmatrix}$. It yields that

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3z_1 \\ -y_1 \\ x_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3z_2 \\ -y_2 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

hence we get that $x_1 = x_2$, $y_1 = y_2$ and $z_1 = z_2$, so $u = v$. We conclude that T is one-to-one.



Transformation 2

⇒ Is T onto?

Let's see whether there a vector $u = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$ mapped to the vector $v = \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ y_0 \\ z_0 \end{bmatrix}$ under the transformation T . It should be:

$$\begin{aligned} T(u) &= v \\ \begin{bmatrix} 3z \\ -y \\ x \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ y_0 \\ z_0 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

The system admits the unique solution

$$x = z_0, y = -y_0, z = x_0/3$$

Hence, T is onto.

Transformation 3

$$3. \quad T: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \quad T \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x + y \\ 2x + 3y \end{bmatrix}$$

⇒ Is it one-to-one?

Let $T(u) = T(v)$, where $u = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \\ z_1 \end{bmatrix}$ and $v = \begin{bmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \\ z_2 \end{bmatrix}$. It yields that

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 + y_1 \\ 2x_1 + 3y_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_2 + y_2 \\ 2x_2 + 3y_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

so we get that $x_1 = x_2$, $y_1 = y_2$. However, we do not get $z_1 = z_2$, so we cannot conclude that $u = v$. Hence T is not one-to-one.

For example, the vectors $[1, 1, 0]^T$ and $[1, 1, 1]^T$ are mapped to the same vector $[2, 5]^T$.



Transformation 3

⇒ Is T onto?

Let's see whether there is a vector $u = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$ mapped to the vector $v = \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ y_0 \end{bmatrix}$ under the transformation T . It should be:

$$\begin{aligned} T(u) &= v \\ \begin{bmatrix} x + y \\ 2x + 3y \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ y_0 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

The system admits infinitely many solutions:

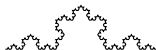
$$x = 2x_0 - y_0/2, y = (y_0 - 2x_0)/2, z \text{ in } \mathbb{R}$$

Hence, T is onto.

Theorems

Theorem

A linear transformation $T : \mathbb{R}^n \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ is one-to-one if and only if $\text{Ker}(T) = \{0\}$.



Theorem

A linear transformation $T : \mathbb{R}^n \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is one-to-one if and only if it is onto.

Rank Theorem

Theorem (Revision)

Let A be an $m \times n$ matrix. Then

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

⇒ Rank Theorem translated for transformations:

Let $T : \mathbb{R}^n \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ be a linear transformation. Then

$$\dim[\text{range}(T)] + \dim[\text{Ker}(T)] = n .$$

⇒ Example

$$T : \mathbb{R}^3 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \qquad T \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x + y \\ 2x + 3y \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\dim[\text{range}(T)] = 2, \quad \dim[\text{Ker}(T)] = 1 .$$

Isomorphism

Definition

A linear transformation $T : \mathbb{R}^n \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is called an isomorphism if it is one-to-one and onto.

⇒ An isomorphism is always a linear transformation from a vector space to a vector space of the **same dimension**.

⇒ The matrix associated to an isomorphism $T : \mathbb{R}^n \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is a $n \times n$ matrix A , which is **invertible** ($\det A \neq 0$).

⇒ Example

$$T : \mathbb{R}^3 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \qquad T \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3z \\ -y \\ x \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\dim[\text{range}(T)] = 3, \quad \dim[\text{Ker}(T)] = 0.$$

Isomorphism example

Is the linear transformation

$$T : \mathbb{R}^3 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \qquad T \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x - z \\ y + z \\ x - y + 2z \end{bmatrix}$$

an isomorphism?

⇒ There are many different ways to determine whether this is an isomorphism. One way is to show that $\text{Ker}(T) = \{0\}$. If this is true, then T is one-to-one, and by the theorem is also onto, hence an isomorphism.

⇒ We can check the determinant of the associated matrix A :

$$\det A = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 1 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} - 0 + (-1) \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = 4 \neq 0$$

Isomorphism example

Hence, A is invertible with $\text{rank}(A) = 3$, so

$$\text{rank}(A) + \text{nullity}(A) = 3$$

yields that $\text{nullity}(A) = 0$ and therefore $\text{Null}(A) = \text{Ker}(T) = \{0\}$.