

Lecture 7

Wednesday, January 22, 2020

Recall that each linear map can be represented by a matrix.

Given a linear map $f: V \rightarrow W$, to represent f by a matrix, one has to choose a basis of V and a basis of W .

Suppose V has basis $B_1 = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$,

W has basis $B_2 = \{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_m\}$.

Then the matrix representing f is

$$[f]_{B_2, B_1} = \begin{bmatrix} | & | & & | \\ [f(v_1)]_{B_2} & [f(v_2)]_{B_2} & \dots & [f(v_n)]_{B_2} \\ | & | & & | \end{bmatrix}$$

Matrix representation of a linear map provides a systematic way to do calculation on linear maps through matrices. In fact, Matlab is a software that regards every quantity as a matrix. (A number is considered as a 1×1 matrix.)

The addition and scaling of linear maps are compatible with the addition and scaling of matrices:

$$[f+g]_{B_2, B_1} = [f]_{B_2, B_1} + [g]_{B_2, B_1},$$

$$[cf]_{B_2, B_1} = c[f]_{B_2, B_1}.$$

The set of all linear maps from V to W is denoted by $\mathcal{L}(V, W)$. This is a subspace of W^V (the space of all functions from V to W).

The composition of linear maps is compatible with the multiplication of matrices. Let $g: U \rightarrow V$ and $f: V \rightarrow W$ be linear maps. Let B_1, B_2, B_3 be bases of U, V, W respectively. Then

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} U & \xrightarrow{g} & V & \xrightarrow{f} & W \\ B_1 & & B_2 & & B_3 \end{array}$$

Then the matrix that represents the composite map $f \circ g$ is

$$[f \circ g]_{B_3, B_1} = [f]_{B_3, B_2} [g]_{B_2, B_1}.$$

Given a linear map $f: V \rightarrow W$, the **null space** of f is defined as the set

$$\text{null}(f) = \{v \in V : f(v) = 0\}.$$

This is also a subspace of V . Why? Check carefully the following:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{null}(f) \text{ is a subset of } V, \\ 0 \in \text{null}(f), \\ \text{null}(f) \text{ is closed under addition,} \\ \text{null}(f) \text{ is closed under scaling.} \end{array} \right.$$

The dimension of $\text{null}(f)$ is called the **nullity** of f .

Note the similarity between the nullity of a linear map and the nullity of a matrix. If A is an $m \times n$ matrix then the null space of A is

$$\text{null}(A) = \{v \in \mathbb{R}^n : Av = 0\}$$

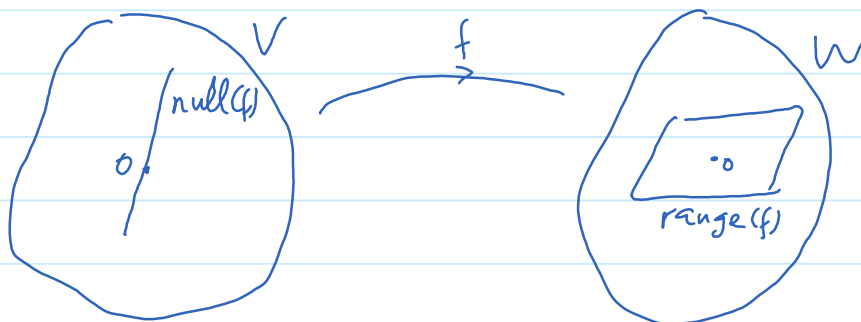
The **range** of f is defined as the set of all outputs of f .

$$\text{range}(f) = \{f(v) : v \in V\}$$

This is a subspace of W . Why? Check carefully the following:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{range}(f) \text{ is a subset of } W, \\ 0 \in \text{range}(f), \\ \text{range}(f) \text{ is closed under addition,} \\ \text{range}(f) \text{ is closed under scaling.} \end{array} \right.$$

The dimension of $\text{range}(f)$ is called the **rank** of f .



Here is the connection between f and its matrix representation $A = [f]_{B_2, B_1}$:

- $\text{null}(f) = \{v \in V : f(v) = 0\}$ - set of all vectors that get mapped to 0.
- $\text{null}(A) = \{[v]_{B_1} \in \mathbb{R}^n : f(v) = 0\}$ - set of all coordinates of vectors that get mapped to 0.
- $\text{range}(f) = \{f(v) : v \in V\}$ - set of all images (outputs) of f .
- $\text{col}(A) = \{A[v]_{B_1} : v \in V\}$
 $= \{[f(v)]_{B_2} : v \in V\}$ - set of all coordinates of images of f .
- nullity of $f =$ nullity of A ,
- rank of $f =$ rank of A

A linear map $f: V \rightarrow W$ is said to be a

- **monomorphism** if $\text{null}(f) = \{0\}$,
- **epimorphism** if $\text{range}(f) = W$,
- **isomorphism** if f is both monomorphic and epimorphic.

Another term for monomorphic is one-to-one or injective.

Another term for epimorphic is onto or surjective.

Another term for isomorphic is bijective.

Ex: Consider a linear map $G: P_2(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow P_2(\mathbb{R})$ given by

$$G(u) = xu' - u$$

- Find a basis of $\text{null}(G)$ what is the nullity of G ? Is G a monomorphism?
- Find a basis of $\text{range}(G)$ what is the rank of G ? Is G an epimorphism?

By the definition of null space,

$$\begin{aligned}\text{null}(G) &= \{u \in \mathbb{P}_2 : G(u) = 0\} \\ &= \{u = ax^2 + bx + c : xu' - u = 0\} \\ &= \{u = ax^2 + bx + c : x(2ax + b) - (ax^2 + bx + c) = 0\} \\ &= \{u = ax^2 + bx + c : ax^2 - c = 0\}\end{aligned}$$

Let us examine each element of $\text{null}(G)$. For each $u \in \text{null}(G)$, we can write $u = ax^2 + bx + c$ where $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$. The condition a, b, c have to satisfy is

$$ax^2 - c = 0 \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

By plugging $x=0$, we get $c=0$. Then plugging $x=1$ gives $a=0$. We see that there is no constraint on b . Thus,

$$\begin{aligned}\text{null}(G) &= \{u = bx \mid b \in \mathbb{R}\} \\ &= \text{span}\{x\}.\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $\{x\}$ is a basis of $\text{null}(G)$. The nullity of G is therefore 1. Because $\text{null}(G) \neq \{0\}$, G is not a monomorphism.

By the definition of the range space, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\text{range}(G) &= \{G(u) : u \in \mathbb{P}_2\} \\ &= \{xu' - u : u \in \mathbb{P}_2\} \\ &= \{x(2ax + b) - (ax^2 + bx + c) : u = ax^2 + bx + c \in \mathbb{P}_2\} \\ &= \{ax^2 - c : a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}\} \\ &= \text{span}\{x^2, 1\}.\end{aligned}$$

The set $\{x^2, 1\}$ is linearly independent because it is a subset of a linearly independent set $\{x^2, x, 1\}$ (the standard basis).

Therefore, $\{x^2, 1\}$ is a basis of $\text{range}(G)$. The rank of G is therefore equal to 2. Since $\mathbb{P}_2(\mathbb{R})$ is 3-dimensional, $\text{range}(G)$ is not equal to $\mathbb{P}_2(\mathbb{R})$. Thus, G is not an epimorphism.