

Dimension, Rank, Nullity

Applied Linear Algebra – MATH 5112/6012



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Let $\mathbb{U}^{2 \times 2}$ and $\mathbb{S}^{2 \times 2}$ be the spaces of all upper triangular and all symmetric 2×2 matrices, respectively. Let's find $\dim \mathbb{U}^{2 \times 2}$ and $\dim \mathbb{S}^{2 \times 2}$.

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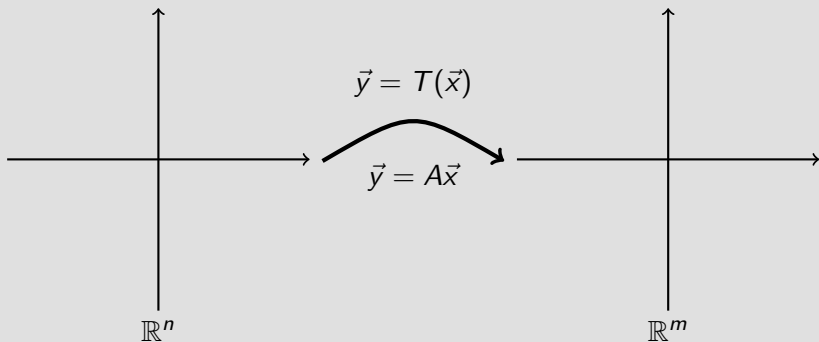
What about upper triangular and symmetric $n \times n$ matrices?

$A = [\vec{a}_1 \ \vec{a}_2 \ \dots \ \vec{a}_n]$ an $m \times n$ matrix and $\mathbb{R}^n \xrightarrow{T} \mathbb{R}^m$ is $T(\vec{x}) = A\vec{x}$

$$\mathcal{NS}(A) = \{\vec{x} \mid A\vec{x} = \vec{0}\} \quad \text{and}$$

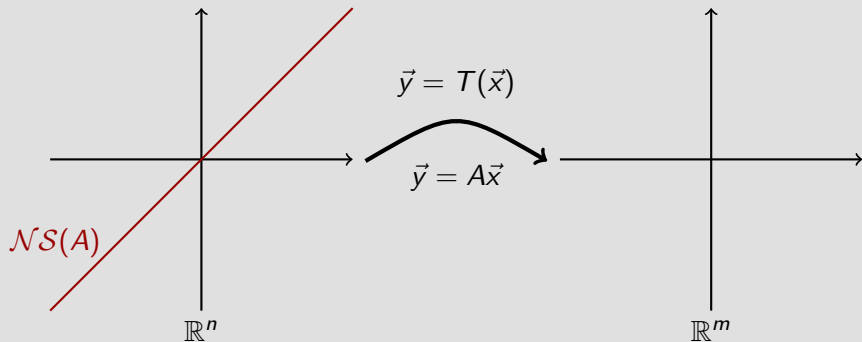
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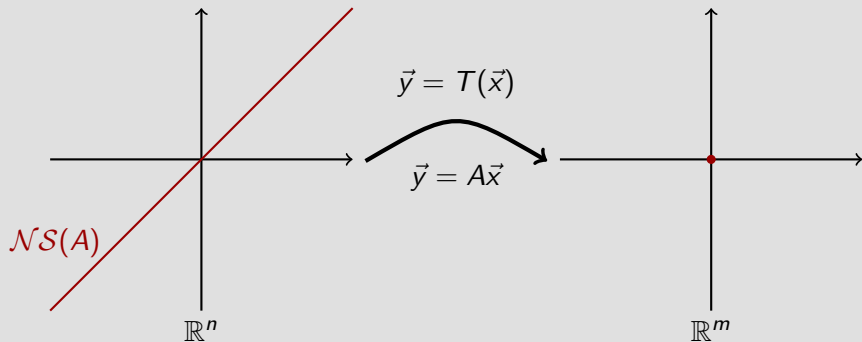
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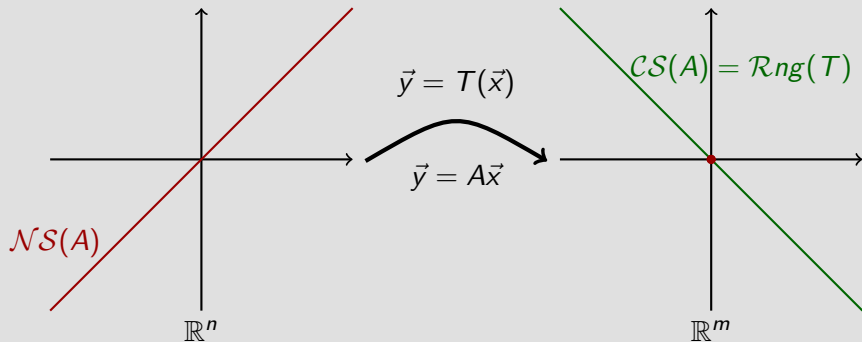
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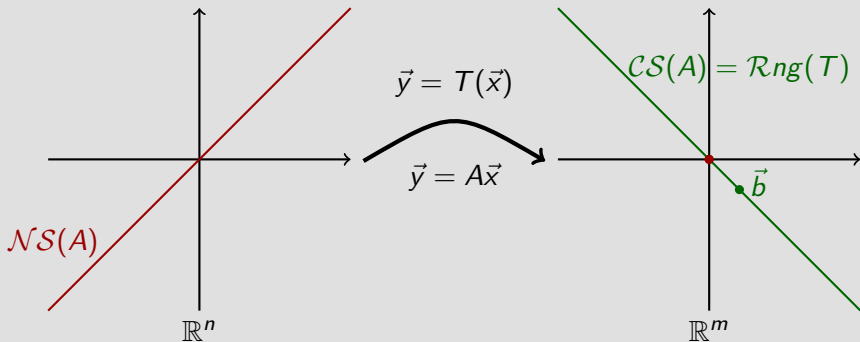
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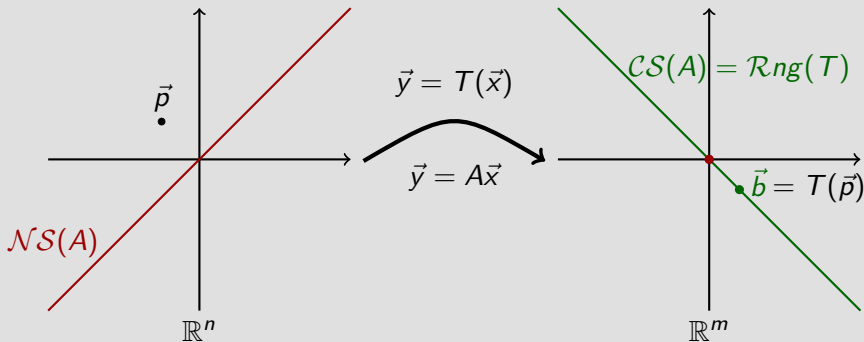
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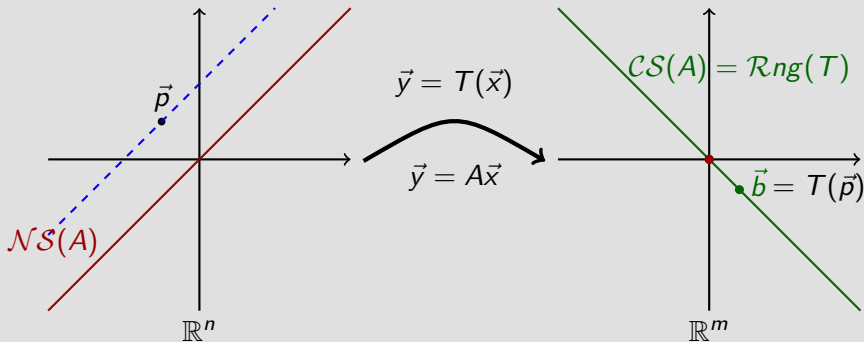
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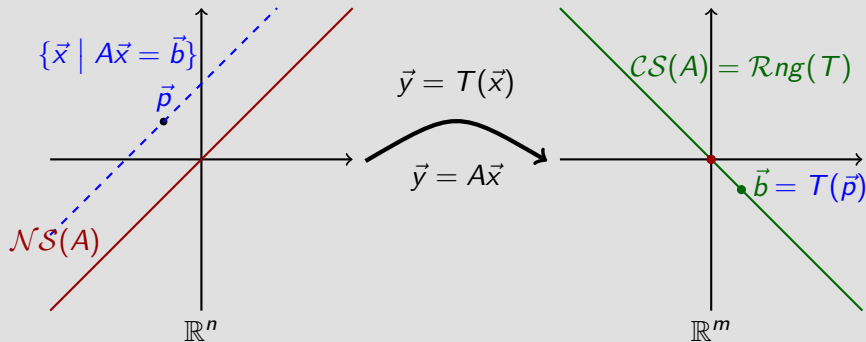
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This last fact is called the *Rank-Nullity Theorem*.

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The Rank-Nullity Theorem helps here!

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Thus $\mathcal{NS}(A)$ is a 37-plane in \mathbb{R}^{56} . Remember, the solution spaces to $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ are all just translates of $\mathcal{NS}(A)$.

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To say that $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ always has a solution means that $\mathcal{CS}(A) = \mathbb{R}^{19}$, so $\text{rank}(A) = \dim \mathcal{CS}(A) = 19$.

Also, $\text{rank}(A) + \text{null}(A) = 56$, so $\dim \mathcal{NS}(A) = \text{null}(A) = 56 - 19 = 37$.

Thus $\mathcal{NS}(A)$ is a 37-plane in \mathbb{R}^{56} . Remember, the solution spaces to $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ are all just translates of $\mathcal{NS}(A)$. Thus every solution space to $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ is an *affine* 37-plane in \mathbb{R}^{56} .