

**DIAGNOSTIC IN-CLASS QUIZ: DUE WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 6: IMAGE AND  
KERNEL (BASIC)**

MATH 196, SECTION 57 (VIPUL NAIK)

Your name (print clearly in capital letters): \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE DO NOT DISCUSS ANY QUESTIONS.**

The questions here test for a very rudimentary understanding of the ideas covered in the lectures notes titled **Image and kernel of a linear transformation**. The corresponding section of the book is Section 3.1.

- (1) *Do not discuss this!* For a linear transformation  $T : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ , the kernel of  $T$  is defined as the set of vectors  $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^m$  satisfying the condition that  $T(\vec{x}) = \vec{0}$ . Which of the following correctly describes the type of subset of  $\mathbb{R}^m$  that the kernel must be? Note that, as usual, we identify a set of vectors with the set of corresponding points.
- (A) The kernel is a line segment in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .
  - (B) The kernel is a linear subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^m$ , i.e., it passes through the origin and, for any two points in the kernel, the line joining them is completely inside the kernel.
  - (C) The kernel is an affine linear subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^m$  but it need not be linear, i.e., it is non-empty and the line joining any two points in it is also in it, but it need not contain the origin.
  - (D) The kernel is a curve in  $\mathbb{R}^m$  with a parametric description.

Your answer: \_\_\_\_\_

- (2) *Do not discuss this!* For a linear transformation  $T : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ , the kernel of  $T$  is defined as the set of vectors  $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^m$  satisfying the condition that  $T(\vec{x}) = \vec{0}$ . Given a vector  $\vec{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , the set of solutions to  $T(\vec{x}) = \vec{y}$  is either empty, or it bears some relation with the kernel. What relation does it bear to the kernel if it is nonempty?
- (A) The solution set is an affine linear subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^m$  (see definition in Option (C) of Q1) that is a translate of the kernel, i.e., there is a vector  $\vec{v}$  such that the vectors in the solution set are precisely the vectors expressible as ( $\vec{v}$  plus a vector in the kernel).
  - (B) The solution set coincides precisely with the kernel.
  - (C) The solution set comprises a single point (i.e., a single vector) that is not in the kernel.

Your answer: \_\_\_\_\_

- (3) *Do not discuss this!* Given a linear transformation  $T : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ , recall that we say that  $T$  is *injective* if for every  $\vec{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , there exists *at most one*  $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^m$  satisfying  $T(\vec{x}) = \vec{y}$ . Another way of formulating this is that if  $A$  is the  $n \times m$  matrix for  $T$ , then the linear system  $A\vec{x} = \vec{y}$  has at most one solution for  $\vec{x}$  for each fixed value of  $\vec{y}$ . We had earlier worked out that this condition is equivalent to full column rank (recall: all the variables need to be leading variables), which in this case means rank  $m$ .

What is the relationship between the injectivity of  $T$  and the kernel of  $T$ ?

- (A)  $T$  is injective if and only if the kernel of  $T$  is empty.
- (B) If  $T$  is injective, then the kernel of  $T$  is empty. However, the converse is not in general true.
- (C)  $T$  is injective if and only if the kernel of  $T$  comprises only the zero vector.
- (D) If  $T$  is injective, then the kernel of  $T$  comprises only the zero vector. However, the converse is not in general true.
- (E) If the kernel of  $T$  comprises only the zero vector, then  $T$  is injective. However, the converse is not in general true.

Your answer: \_\_\_\_\_

- (4) *Do not discuss this!* For a linear transformation  $T : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ , the image of  $T$  is defined as the set of vectors  $\vec{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  satisfying the condition that there exists a vector  $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^m$  satisfying  $T(\vec{x}) = \vec{y}$ . In other words, the image of  $T$  equals the range of  $T$  as a function. Which of the following correctly describes the type of subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  that the image must be? Note that, as usual, we identify a set of vectors with the set of corresponding points.
- (A) The image is a line segment in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
  - (B) The image is a linear subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , i.e., it passes through the origin and, for any two points in the image, the line joining them is completely inside the image.
  - (C) The image is an affine linear subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  but it need not be linear, i.e., it is non-empty and the line joining any two points in it is also in it, but it need not contain the origin.
  - (D) The image is a curve in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with a parametric description.

Your answer: \_\_\_\_\_

- (5) *Do not discuss this!* Given a linear transformation  $T : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ , recall that we say that  $T$  is *surjective* if for every  $\vec{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , there exists *at least one*  $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^m$  satisfying  $T(\vec{x}) = \vec{y}$ . Another way of formulating this is that if  $A$  is the  $n \times m$  matrix for  $T$ , then the linear system  $A\vec{x} = \vec{y}$  has at least one solution for  $\vec{x}$  for each fixed value of  $\vec{y}$ . We had earlier worked out that this condition is equivalent to full row rank (recall: we need all rows in the rref to be nonzero in order to avoid the potential for inconsistency), which in this case means rank  $n$ .

What is the relationship between the surjectivity of  $T$  and the image of  $T$ ?

- (A)  $T$  is surjective if and only if the image of  $T$  is empty.
- (B)  $T$  is surjective if and only if the image of  $T$  comprises only the zero vector.
- (C)  $T$  is surjective if and only if the image of  $T$  is all of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

Your answer: \_\_\_\_\_