

# Orthogonal complements

**DEF**  $V$  subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$

$V^\perp$  = orthogonal complement of  $V$

= all vectors (from  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ) that are orthogonal to every vector in  $V$

$v \perp w$   
 $\Leftrightarrow v, w$  orthogonal  
 $\Leftrightarrow v \cdot w = 0$

**EG**  $V = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

$V^\perp = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

$\text{null} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \right)$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \perp \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2x_1 + 3x_2 = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

**EG**  $V = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

$V^\perp = \text{null} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \right)$   $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} \perp \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} \perp \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$

$\rightsquigarrow$  work  $\rightarrow$  basis for  $V^\perp$ :

$$\begin{bmatrix} -3/5 \\ -1/5 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x_1 + 2x_2 + x_3 = 0$$

$$\text{and } 3x_1 + x_2 + 2x_3 = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

check:  $\begin{bmatrix} -3/5 \\ -1/5 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \perp \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \checkmark$

$$\perp \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \checkmark$$

$$V = \text{col}(A) \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow V^\perp = \text{null}(A^T)$$

**THM**  $\text{col}(A)^\perp = \text{null}(A^T)$