

## Subspaces of $\mathbf{R}^n$

1. A *subspace* of  $\mathbf{R}^n$  is any set  $H$  in  $\mathbf{R}^n$  that has three properties:
  - a. The zero vector is in  $H$ .
  - b. For each  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  in  $H$ , the sum  $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}$  is in  $H$ .
  - c. For each  $\mathbf{u}$  in  $H$  and each scalar  $c$ , the vector  $c\mathbf{u}$  is in  $H$ .

Suppose  $K = \{ \mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{R}^2 : \mathbf{v} = k \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \text{ for some scalar } k \}$ . Is  $K$  a subspace of  $\mathbf{R}^2$ ?

Suppose  $J = \{ \mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{R}^2 : \mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} k \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \text{ for some scalar } k \}$ . Is  $J$  a subspace of  $\mathbf{R}^2$ ?

2. The *column space* of a matrix  $A$ , denoted by  $\text{Col } A$  is the set of all linear combinations of the columns of  $A$ .

*Claim:* If  $A$  is  $m \times n$ , then  $\text{Col } A$  is a subspace of  $\mathbf{R}^m$ .

3. The *null space* of a matrix  $A$ , denoted by  $Nul A$ , is the set of all solutions to the equation  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ .

*Claim:* If  $A$  is  $m \times n$ , then  $Nul A$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

4. If  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & -4 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$ , describe  $Col A$  and  $Nul A$ .