

4.7: Row Space, Column Space, & Null Space

Let A be an $m \times n$ matrix.

- Recall:
- The row space of A is the subspace of \mathbb{R}^n spanned by the rows of A .
 - The column space of A is the subspace of \mathbb{R}^m spanned by the columns of A .
 - The null space of A is the subspace of \mathbb{R}^n spanned by the solutions to the homogeneous system $AX=0$.

4.8: Rank - Nullity

Let A be an $m \times n$ matrix.

- Recall:
- $\text{rank}(A) = \dim \{ \text{column space of } A \}$.
 - $\text{nullity}(A) = \dim \{ \text{null space of } A \}$.
 - $\text{rank}(A) + \text{nullity}(A) = n$.

Theorem 4.8: $\text{rank}(A) = \dim \{ \text{row space} \}$

A

Example: Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 5 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 & 0 \\ -1 & 3 & 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$.

*1e-7 @ most
3 leading
1's in r.r.e.f.*

(a) The rank of A is at most 3.

(b) The nullity of A is at most 4.

(c) The rank of A^T is at most 3.

(d) The nullity of A^T is at most 3.

*i.e. 7#
free variables
in $AX=0$
is at
most 4.*

2 Find a basis for the nullspace of A .

Want to find the solution space of $Ax=0$.

$$\left[\begin{array}{cccc|ccc} 1 & 4 & 5 & 2 & : & 0 & \\ 2 & 1 & 3 & 0 & : & 0 & \\ -1 & 3 & 2 & 2 & : & 0 & \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{l} \\ r_2 \leftarrow r_2 - 2r_1 \\ r_3 \leftarrow r_3 + r_1 \end{array}$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{cccc|ccc} 1 & 4 & 5 & 2 & : & 0 & \\ 0 & -7 & -7 & -4 & : & 0 & \\ 0 & 7 & 7 & 4 & : & 0 & \end{array} \right] r_3 \leftarrow r_3 + r_2$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{cccc|ccc} 1 & 4 & 5 & 2 & : & 0 & \\ 0 & -7 & -7 & -4 & : & 0 & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & : & 0 & \end{array} \right] r_2 \leftarrow r_2 \cdot \frac{1}{7}$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{cccc|ccc} 1 & 4 & 5 & 2 & : & 0 & \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 4/7 & : & 0 & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & : & 0 & \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{l} x_1 = -4x_2 - 5x_3 - 2x_4 \\ x_2 = -x_3 - 4/7 x_4 = -t - 4/7 s \\ x_3 = t \\ x_4 = s. \end{array}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} t + \begin{bmatrix} 2/7 \\ -4/7 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} s$$

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= -4(-x_3 - 4/7 x_4) - 5x_3 - 2x_4 \\ &= 4x_3 + 16/7 x_4 - 5x_3 - 2x_4 \\ &= -x_3 + 2/7 x_4 \\ &= -t + 2/7 s. \end{aligned}$$

is the solution space for $Ax=0$.

$$\left\{ \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{v_1}, \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 2/7 \\ -4/7 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{v_2} \right\}$$

is a basis for the nullspace of A .

i.e. v_1 & v_2 are linearly independent & $\text{span}\{v_1, v_2\} = \text{nullspace}(A)$.

3 What is nullity(A)?

$$\text{Nullity}(A) = \dim\{\text{nullspace } A\} = 2.$$

4 What is rank(A)?

$$\text{rank}(A) = 4 - 2 = 2.$$

columns nullity(A)

by the Rank-Nullity Theorem

5 Find a basis for the row space of A.

We already put A in row-echelon form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 5 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 4/7 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

So,

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 5 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 4/7 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

is a basis for the row space of A.

6 Find a basis for the column space of A.

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right\}.$$

The leading 1's in the row echelon form of A tell us which columns to use.

(see Theorem 4.76, pg. 231).

7 Find a basis for the row space of A consisting of original rows of A.

We should row reduce A^T & the leading 1's point to which rows we should use.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 4 & 1 & 3 \\ 5 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{array}{l} r_2 \leftarrow r_2 - 4r_1 \\ r_3 \leftarrow r_3 - 5r_1 \\ r_4 \leftarrow r_4 - 2r_1 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & -7 & 7 \\ 0 & -7 & 7 \\ 0 & -4 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{array}{l} r_3 \leftarrow r_3 - r_2 \\ r_4 \leftarrow r_4 - \frac{4}{7}r_2 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & -7 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} r_2 \leftarrow r_2 \cdot \frac{1}{7}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

So our basis is

$$B := \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 5 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

- Recall: Elementary row operations do not change dependence relations among column vectors. i.e. if w_1, \dots, w_k are linearly dependent columns in A (i.e. $a_1 w_1 + \dots + a_k w_k = 0$) & if w'_1, \dots, w'_k are what the columns of A became after row op's, then $a_1 w'_1 + \dots + a_k w'_k = 0$. The converse is true as well. (Pg. 230).

[to verify think about how row op's \leftrightarrow elementary matrices]

8 Write the third row of A as a linear combination of the other two. (i.e. Find the coordinate vector of $[-1, 3, a, a]$ w.r.t. the basis R).

Easy to see by looking at the row echelon form of A^T :

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = - \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \\ a \\ a \end{bmatrix} = - \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 5 \\ a \end{bmatrix}$$

9 Find a basis for the subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 spanned by the vectors $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ a \end{bmatrix}$.

i.e. Find a basis for the column space of the matrix $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 5 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 & 0 \\ -1 & 3 & 2 & a \end{bmatrix}$. (see #6).



Suppose A is a 3×3 matrix whose nullspace is a line through the origin in \mathbb{R}^3 .

(4.8. #1).

Can the row or column space of A be a line through the origin too?

No! By the rank-nullity theorem,

$$\dim\{\text{row space}\} = \underbrace{3}_{\# \text{ columns}} - \underbrace{1}_{\dim \text{ null}(A)} = 2$$

\Rightarrow the column space of A is a plane.

Recall: $\dim\{\text{column space } A\} = \dim\{\text{row space } A\}$.

$$\text{So } \dim\{\text{row space } A\} = 2.$$

*Not a line...
lines are 1-dim'l.*



Suppose A is a 3×5 matrix.

- 1 Are the row vectors of A linearly dependent?
- 2 Are the column vectors of A linearly dependent?

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ \\ \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\dim\{\text{column space } A\} \leq 3$$

b/c $\dim\{\text{row space}\} \leq 3$ b/c only 3 rows \Rightarrow the column vectors must be linearly dependent.

Not enough info to make a conclusion about the row vectors.

1

4.8 #7

In (a)-(g), is $Ax=b$ consistent? If so, state the # of parameters in its general solution.

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
Size of A	3x3	3x3	3x3	5x4	5x4	4x4	6x2
rank(A)	3	2	1	2	2	0	2
rank[A b]	3	3	1	2	3	0	2

Recall: $Ax=b$ consistent \Leftrightarrow rank A = n \Leftrightarrow $Ax=b$ has exactly one solution.
 (For any b)

(a) A 3x3 & rank(A)=3 $\Rightarrow Ax=b$ consistent for any b. ✓

rank(A)=3 & A 3x3 $\Rightarrow Ax=b$ has exactly one solution \Rightarrow # parameters = 0.

(b) rank(A)=2, but rank[A|b]=3 \Rightarrow in the r.r.e.f. of A have a row of 0's, but in r.r.e.f. A|b have no row of zeros

\Rightarrow looks like $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \vdots & * \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \vdots & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \vdots & 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow$ not consistent.

(c) rank A = rank(A|b) \Rightarrow don't get a "1" in one of A's zero rows (when A in r.r.e.f.) \Rightarrow consistent.

parameters = nullity(A) = 3 - 1 = 2.

d) $\text{rank}(A) = \text{rank}(A|b) = 2 \Rightarrow$ consistent for same reason as last time.

$$\# \text{ parameters} = 9 - 2 = 7.$$

e) $\text{rank}(A|b) > \text{rank}(A) \Rightarrow$ not consistent.

f) $\text{rank}(A) = \text{rank}(A|b) \Rightarrow$ consistent.

$$\# \text{ parameters} = 4 - 0 = 4.$$

g) $\text{rank}(A) = \text{rank}(A|b) \Rightarrow$ consistent.

$$\# \text{ parameters} = 2 - 2 = 0.$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$