

Due Sum 4.9 - Rank, Nullity, and the Fundamental Matrix Spaces

$A \subset B$     $A \subseteq B$     $X \leq 3$     $X < 3$

Vector space spanned by row vectors

$A = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{bmatrix}$   $3 \times 6$   
 $\text{col}(A) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$     $\text{row}(A) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^6$

**Theorem 4.9.1** The row space and column space of a matrix  $A$  have the same dimension.  
 Same # of basis vectors, based on pivots  
 # of pivots

**Definition:** The common dimension of the row space and column space of a matrix  $A$  is called the **rank** of  $A$  and is denoted by  $\text{rank}(A)$ ; the dimension of the null space of  $A$  is called the **nullity** of  $A$  and is denoted by  $\text{nullity}(A)$ . That is,  $\text{rank}(A) = \dim [\text{row}(A)] = \dim [\text{col}(A)]$  and  $\text{nullity}(A) = \dim [\text{null}(A)]$ .

Set of solutions to homog. system   c.k.a.  $\dim(\text{kernel})$  of  $T_A$

#1 Find the rank and nullity of the matrix  $A$  by reducing it to row echelon form.

a.  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 & -2 & 2 \\ 3 & 6 & -3 & 3 \\ 4 & 8 & -4 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

$\text{rank}(A) = 1$  (# of pivots)  
 $\text{nullity}(A) = 3$  (# of free variables)

Soln:  $x_1 = -2x_2 + x_3 - x_4 \Rightarrow$

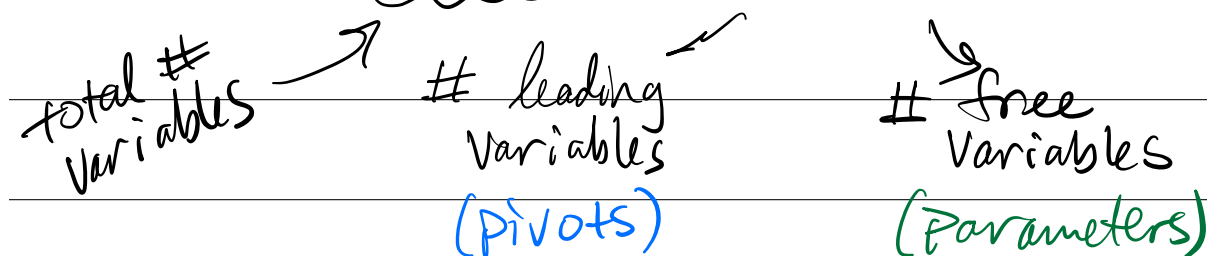
$\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} r + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} s + \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} t$  Basis has 3 vectors.

$$b. A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 2 & 3 & -1 \\ -3 & 6 & -1 & 1 & -7 \\ 2 & -4 & 5 & 8 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 2 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 & 10 & -10 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & -2 & -6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 2 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{rank}(A) = 3 \quad (\# \text{ pivots}) \\ \text{nullity}(A) = 2 \quad (\# \text{ parameters}) \end{array}$$

### **Theorem 4.9.2** Dimension Theorem for Matrices

If  $A$  is a matrix with  $n$  columns, then  $\text{rank}(A) + \text{nullity}(A) = n$ .



### **Theorem 4.9.3** If $A$ is an $m \times n$ matrix, then

a)  $\text{rank}(A)$  = the number of leading variables in the general solution of  $Ax = 0$ .

b)  $\text{nullity}(A)$  = the number of parameters in the general solution of  $Ax = 0$ .

**Theorem 4.9.4** If  $Ax = \mathbf{b}$  is a consistent linear system of  $m$  equations in  $n$  unknowns, and if  $A$  has rank  $r$ , then the general solution of the system contains  $n - r$  parameters.

Rearrangement of dimension theorem.

## Fundamental spaces of a matrix

Considering a matrix  $A$  and its transpose  $A^T$ , we have

$$\text{row}(A) \xrightarrow{\text{same}} \text{row}(A^T)$$

$$\text{col}(A) \xrightarrow{\text{same}} \text{col}(A^T)$$

$$\text{null}(A) \quad \text{null}(A^T)$$

The four **fundamental spaces** of a matrix  $A$  are  $\text{row}(A)$ ,  $\text{col}(A)$ ,  $\text{null}(A)$ , and  $\text{null}(A^T)$ . The null space of  $A^T$  is also called the **left null space** of  $A$ . The **left nullity** of  $A$  is  $\text{nullity}(A^T) = \dim[\text{null}(A^T)]$ .

$$\text{Because } A^T \vec{x} = \vec{0} \text{ becomes } \vec{x}^T A = \vec{0}^T$$

**Theorem 4.9.5** If  $A$  is any matrix, then  $\text{rank}(A) = \text{rank}(A^T)$ .

(# Pivots doesn't change)

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

$$\text{Since } \underline{\text{rank}(A^T)} + \text{nullity}(A^T) = m,$$

$$\text{Thm 4.9.5 yields } \underline{\text{rank}(A)} + \text{nullity}(A^T) = m$$

So

$$\dim[\text{row}(A)] = \underline{r} \quad \dim[\text{col}(A)] = \underline{r}$$

$$\dim[\text{null}(A)] = n - \underline{r} \quad \dim[\text{null}(A^T)] = m - \underline{r}$$

To find bases for the 4 fundamental spaces of an  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$ , form

$$\left[ \underline{A} \mid \underline{I}_m \right] \xrightarrow{\text{ref}} \left[ \underline{R} \mid \underline{E} \right]$$

- A basis for row( $A$ ) is the  $r$  rows of  $R$  that contain leading 1s (pivot rows)
- A basis for col( $A$ ) is the  $r$  columns of  $A$  that correspond to pivot columns of  $R$
- A basis for null( $A$ ) is found in the general solution of  $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ .
- A basis for null( $A^T$ ) - a.k.a. the left null space basis - is the bottom  $m-r$  rows of  $E$ .

(pf is at the end of this section)

$M \times N$

#11 Find the dimensions and bases for the four fundamental spaces of the matrix.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 3 \\ -9 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \left[ \begin{array}{cc|ccc} 1 & 4 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -9 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{cc|ccc} 1 & 0 & 1 & -4/3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1/3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 9 & -12 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

row(A) basis:  $\{ [1 \ 0], [0 \ 1] \}$

col(A) basis:  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -9 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

$$n=2, r=2 \Rightarrow n-r=0 = \dim[\text{null}(A)] = \text{nullity}(A)$$

null(A) basis:  $\emptyset = \{ \}$

null( $A^T$ ): 3 rows, rank is 2  $\Rightarrow$  use

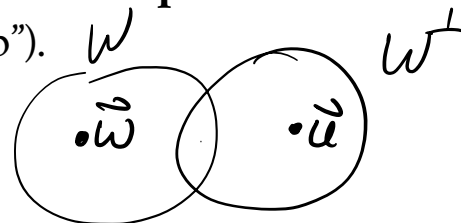
bottom 3-2 rows of  $E$

null( $A^T$ ) basis:  $\{ [9 \ -12 \ 1] \}$ .

Recall (Thm 3.4.3, which we saw in 3.3) that if  $A$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix, then the solution set of the homogeneous system  $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$  consists of all vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  that are orthogonal to every row vector of  $A$ .

The set of solutions  $\{ \vec{x} \mid A\vec{x} = \vec{0} \}$  is the orthogonal complement of  $\text{row}(A)$ .

**Definition:** If  $W$  is a subspace of  $R^n$ , then the set of all vectors in  $R^n$  that are orthogonal to every vector in  $W$  is called the **orthogonal complement** of  $W$  and is denoted by the symbol  $W^\perp$  (pronounced "W perp").



**Theorem 4.9.6** If  $W$  is a subspace of  $R^n$ , then:

a)  $W^\perp$  is a subspace of  $R^n$ .

b) The only vector common to  $W$  and  $W^\perp$  is  $\mathbf{0}$ , that is,  $W \cap W^\perp = \{\mathbf{0}\}$ . c) The orthogonal complement of  $W^\perp$  is  $W$ , that is,  $(W^\perp)^\perp = W$ .

Text: If you see  $W^\perp$ , it means  $W^\perp$ .

Pf: a)  $\vec{0} \perp \vec{v}$  for all  $\vec{v} \in R^n$ ,

so  $\vec{0} \perp \vec{w} \in W \Rightarrow W^\perp$  is not empty.

Let  $\vec{w}_1, \vec{w}_2 \in W^\perp$ . Then  $\vec{w}_1 \cdot \vec{w} = 0$

and  $\vec{w}_2 \cdot \vec{w} = 0 \forall \vec{w} \in W$  and  $\vec{w} \in W$ .

$$(\vec{w}_1 + \vec{w}_2) \cdot \vec{w} = \vec{w}_1 \cdot \vec{w} + \vec{w}_2 \cdot \vec{w}$$

$$= 0 + 0 = 0$$

$\vec{w}_1 + \vec{w}_2 \in W^\perp$ . And if  $k \in R$ ,

$$(k\vec{w}_1) \cdot \vec{w} = k(\vec{w}_1 \cdot \vec{w}) = k(0) = 0 \Rightarrow k\vec{w}_1 \in W^\perp$$

$W^\perp$  is a subspace of  $R^n$ .

b) Let  $\vec{w} \in W \cap W^\perp$ . Then  $\vec{w} \in W$  and

$$\vec{w} \in W^\perp \Rightarrow \vec{w} \cdot \vec{w} = 0 \Rightarrow \vec{w} = \vec{0} \text{ by}$$

the positivity property.

$$\text{thus, } W \cap W^\perp = \{\vec{0}\}.$$

**Theorem 4.9.7** If  $A$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix, then:

- The null space of  $A$  and the row space of  $A$  are orthogonal complements in  $R^n$ .
- The null space of  $A^T$  and the column space of  $A$  are orthogonal complements in  $R^m$ .

**#15** Confirm the orthogonality statements in the two parts of Theorem 4.9.7 for

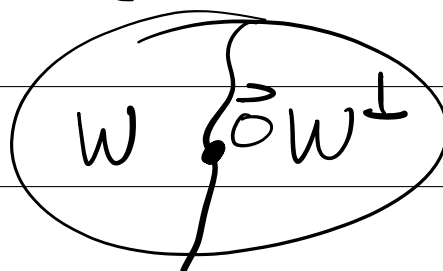
the matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 3 \\ -9 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .

a) null( $A$ ) basis is  $\emptyset$ , row( $A$ ) basis:  $\{[1 \ 0], [0 \ 1]\}$ .  
null( $A$ ) =  $\{\vec{0}\}$ , row( $A$ ) = span $\{[1 \ 0], [0 \ 1]\}$ .

b) null( $A^T$ ) = span $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 9 \\ -12 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ ; col( $A$ ) = span $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -9 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$   
 $\vec{v}_1$   $\vec{v}_2$   $\vec{v}_3$

$$\vec{v}_1 \cdot \vec{v}_2 = 9 - 9 = 0; \quad \vec{v}_1 \cdot \vec{v}_3 = 36 - 36 = 0$$

Since the basis vectors in each set are orthogonal, the spans are orthogonal complements in  $R^3$ . (See HW for this section)



#27 Suppose that  $A$  is a  $3 \times 3$  matrix whose null space is a line through the origin in 3-space. Can the row or column space of  $A$  also be a line through the origin? Explain.

$\mathbb{R}^3$ : dimension is 3

line through origin: dimension is 1

No. row( $A$ ) is  $(\text{null}(A))^\perp$ , so it must have dimension 2. If nullity( $A$ ) = 1,

then rank( $A$ ) = 2. It is a plane through the origin

**Theorem 4.9.8** Equivalent Statements (extends Theorem 2.3.8)

If  $A$  is an  $n \times n$  matrix, then the following statements are equivalent.

a)  $A$  is invertible.

b)  $Ax = \mathbf{0}$  has only the trivial solution.

c) The reduced row echelon form of  $A$  is  $I_n$ .

d)  $A$  is expressible as a product of elementary matrices.

e)  $Ax = \mathbf{b}$  is consistent for every  $n \times 1$  matrix  $\mathbf{b}$ .

f)  $Ax = \mathbf{b}$  has exactly one solution for every  $n \times 1$  matrix  $\mathbf{b}$ .

g)  $\det(A) \neq 0$ .

h) The column vectors of  $A$  are distinct and linearly independent.

i) The row vectors of  $A$  are distinct and linearly independent.

j) The column vectors of  $A$  span  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

k) The row vectors of  $A$  span  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

l) The column vectors of  $A$  form a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

m) The row vectors of  $A$  form a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

n)  $A$  has rank  $n$ .

o)  $A$  has nullity 0.

p) The orthogonal complement of the null space of  $A$  is  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

q) The orthogonal complement of the row space of  $A$  is  $\{\mathbf{0}\}$ .

PA:  $b \Rightarrow h$ :  $A\vec{x}$  is a linear combination of column vectors of  $A$ .  $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$  has only the trivial solution so the column vectors are lin. indep.

$h \Rightarrow j, l, m$ : The  $n$  column vectors of  $A$  are a linearly independent set in  $\mathbb{R}^n \Rightarrow$  they span  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and so are a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Since the  $n$  column vectors are a basis for  $\text{col}(A)$ ,  $\text{rank}(A) = n$ .