

Due Fri

# 4.8 - Row Space, Column Space, and Null Space

**Definition:** A homogeneous linear system  $Ax = 0$  and an associated nonhomogeneous system  $Ax = b$  are **corresponding linear systems**.

#28 Find a general solution of the system, and use that solution to find a general solution of the associated homogeneous system and a particular solution of the given system.

$$A: 3 \times 4 \quad A \vec{x} = \vec{b} \quad \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^4 \quad \vec{b} \in \mathbb{R}^3$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 9 & -3 & 5 & 6 \\ 6 & -2 & 3 & 1 \\ 3 & -1 & 3 & 14 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ -8 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 9 & -3 & 5 & 6 & 4 \\ 6 & -2 & 3 & 1 & 5 \\ 3 & -1 & 3 & 14 & -8 \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & -1/3 & 0 & -13/3 & 13/3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 9 & -7 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

If the system were homogeneous, we would have  $x_1 = \frac{1}{3}x_2 + \frac{13}{3}x_4$  and  $x_3 = -9x_4$

For  $s = x_2$ ,  $t = x_4$ , we have

$$\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{3}s + \frac{13}{3}t \\ s \\ -9t \\ t \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{3} \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} s + \begin{bmatrix} \frac{13}{3} \\ 0 \\ -9 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} t$$

With the constants from  $\vec{b}$ , we get

$$x_1 = \frac{1}{3}x_2 + \frac{13}{3}x_4 + \frac{13}{3}, \quad x_3 = -9x_4 - 7, \text{ so}$$

$$\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} s + \begin{bmatrix} 13/3 \\ 0 \\ -9 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} t + \begin{bmatrix} 13/3 \\ 0 \\ -7 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \vec{x}_h + \vec{x}_0$$

General solution  
to the homogeneous  
system,  $\vec{x}_h$

particular solution  
to the nonhomogeneous  
system,  $\vec{x}_0$

**Definition:** The solution set of a homogeneous linear system  $Ax = 0$  is called the **general solution**. A constant vector  $x_0$  in the solution set of a consistent linear system  $Ax = b$  is a **particular solution**.

**Theorem 4.8.2** If  $x_0$  is any solution of a consistent linear system  $Ax = b$ , and if  $S = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$  is a basis for the null space of  $A$ , then every solution of  $Ax = b$  can be expressed in the form  $x = x_0 + c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 + \dots + c_k v_k$ . Conversely, for all choices of scalars  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k$ , the vector  $x$  in this formula is a solution of  $Ax = b$ .

Note that the solution space of  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  can be considered a translation of the solution space of  $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$  (null space) by  $\vec{x}_0$ , the particular solution vector.

Pf. Let  $W = \text{span}(S) = \text{null}(A)$ ,

$\vec{x}_0$  be a solution of  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ , and

$\vec{x} = \vec{x}_0 + W$ , the set of vectors obtained by adding  $\vec{x}_0$  to all vectors in  $W$ .

( $\Rightarrow$ ) Let  $\vec{x}$  be any solution of  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  and let  $\vec{w} \in W$ , so that  $A\vec{w} = \vec{0}$ .

For  $\vec{w} = \vec{x} - \vec{x}_0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} A\vec{w} &= A(\vec{x} - \vec{x}_0) = A\vec{x} - A\vec{x}_0 \\ &= \vec{b} - \vec{b} = \vec{0} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } \vec{x} = \vec{x}_0 + \vec{w} = \vec{x}_0 + \sum_{i=1}^k c_i \vec{v}_i.$$

( $\Leftarrow$ ) Suppose  $\vec{x} \in \vec{x}_0 + W$ . Then  $\vec{x} = \vec{x}_0 + \vec{w}$  for some  $\vec{w} \in W$ .

$$\begin{aligned} A\vec{x} &= A(\vec{x}_0 + \vec{w}) = A\vec{x}_0 + A\vec{w} \\ &= \vec{b} + \vec{0} = \vec{b} \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $\vec{x}$  is a solution to  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ .  $\checkmark$

The vectors in the general solution are linearly independent and so form a basis for the solution space of the homogeneous system. This is called the null space.

**Definition:** For an  $m \times n$  matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix}$  the vectors

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{r}_1 &= [a_{11} \ a_{12} \ \dots \ a_{1n}] \\ \mathbf{r}_2 &= [a_{21} \ a_{22} \ \dots \ a_{2n}] \\ &\vdots \\ \mathbf{r}_m &= [a_{m1} \ a_{m2} \ \dots \ a_{mn}] \end{aligned}$$

in  $R^n$  that are formed from the rows of  $A$  are called the **row vectors** of  $A$ , and the vectors

$$\mathbf{c}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} \\ a_{21} \\ \vdots \\ a_{m1} \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{c}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} a_{12} \\ a_{22} \\ \vdots \\ a_{m2} \end{bmatrix}, \dots, \mathbf{c}_n = \begin{bmatrix} a_{1n} \\ a_{2n} \\ \vdots \\ a_{mn} \end{bmatrix}$$

in  $R^m$  that are formed from the columns of  $A$  are called the **column vectors** of  $A$ .

$$\rightarrow T_A : R^n \rightarrow R^m$$

**Definition:** If  $A$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix, then the subspace of  $R^n$  spanned by the row vectors of  $A$  is denoted by row ( $A$ ) and is called the **row space** of  $A$ , and the subspace of  $R^m$  spanned by the column of vectors of  $A$  is denoted by col ( $A$ ) and is called the **column space** of  $A$ . The solution space of the homogeneous system of equations  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ , which is a subspace of  $R^n$ , is denoted by null ( $A$ ) and is called <sup>transf.</sup> the **null space** of  $A$ .

matrix vector  $\rightarrow$   $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$   
null space

$A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$  system of eqns.  
solution space

$T_A(\vec{x}) = \vec{0}$   
kernel

$$T_A : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$$

**Theorem 4.8.1** A system of linear equations  $Ax = b$  is consistent if and only if  $b$  is in the column space of  $A$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} 9 & -3 & 5 & 6 \\ 6 & -2 & 3 & 1 \\ 3 & -1 & 3 & 14 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ -8 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 9 \\ 6 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} x_1 + \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} x_2 + \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} x_3 + \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 1 \\ 14 \end{bmatrix} x_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ -8 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Theorem 4.8.3**

- a) Row equivalent matrices have the same row space.  $\rightarrow$  If  $A \xrightarrow[\text{ops}]{(\text{elem}) \text{ row}} B$ , then  $\text{row}(A) = \text{row}(B)$
- b) Row equivalent matrices have the same null space.

$$A\vec{x} = \vec{0} \quad A \rightarrow \text{ref} \quad \text{soln to homog system}$$

**Theorem 4.8.4** If a matrix  $R$  is in row echelon form, then the row vectors with the leading 1's (the nonzero row vectors) form a basis for the row space of  $R$ , and the column vectors with the leading 1's of the row vectors form a basis for the column space of  $R$ .

Row reduce and look for pivots.

#9 Find bases for the null space and row space of  $A$ .

a.  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 3 \\ 5 & -4 & -4 \\ 7 & -6 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

$\rightarrow$  solution set to homog. system

$$A \longrightarrow R$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -1 & 3 & 0 \\ 5 & -4 & -4 & 0 \\ 7 & -6 & 2 & 0 \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -16 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -19 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \quad \begin{array}{l} x_1 = 16x_3 \\ x_2 = 19x_3 \end{array}$$

$$\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 16t \\ 19t \\ t \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 16 \\ 19 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} t$$

Basis for  $\text{null}(A)$  is  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 16 \\ 19 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ .

Basis for  $\text{row}(A)$  is  $\left\{ [1 \ 0 \ -16], [0 \ 1 \ -19] \right\}$ .

Pr Thm 4.8.3 : (a) Matrices  $A \dot{\sim} B$  are row equivalent if one can be obtained from the other by a series of elementary row operations. Since vector spaces are closed under addition and scalar multiplication,  $\text{row}(B) \subseteq \text{row}(A)$  and  $\text{row}(A) \subseteq \text{row}(B)$ .

(b) Elementary row operations do not change the solution of a homogeneous system. Thus if  $A \dot{\sim} B$  are row equivalent, then the solution to  $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$  is the same as that to  $B\vec{x} = \vec{0}$  and hence  $A \dot{\sim} B$  have the same null space. ✓

Note: In general, elementary row operations do not preserve a column space.

$$\text{b. } A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & -1 \\ 4 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} x_1 = 1/2 t_3 \\ x_2 \text{ is free} \end{array}$$

$$\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} t + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} s$$

$$\text{Basis for null}(A) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}.$$

$$\text{Basis for row}(A) = \left\{ [2 \ 0 \ -1] \right\}.$$

Thm 4.8.3 & 4.8.4 give us

$$A \xrightarrow[\text{ops}]{\text{(elem) row ops}} R \begin{array}{l} \rightarrow \text{basis for row}(R) \text{ and} \\ \text{row}(A) \\ \rightarrow \text{basis for col}(R) \\ \text{(but not col}(A)). \end{array}$$

**Theorem 4.8.5** If  $A$  and  $B$  are row equivalent matrices, then:

- A given set of column vectors of  $A$  is linearly independent if and only if the corresponding column vectors of  $B$  are linearly independent.
- A given set of column vectors of  $A$  forms a basis for the column space of  $A$  if and only if the corresponding column vectors of  $B$  form a basis for the column space of  $B$ .

Elem. row ops do not change the dimension of a column space

$$A \xrightarrow[\text{ops}]{\substack{\text{(elem)} \\ \text{row}}} R$$

Use columns of  $R$  that contain leading 1s to identify columns of  $A$  that form a basis for  $\text{col}(A)$

$$A \longrightarrow R$$

Basis for  
 $\text{col}(A)$

Basis for  $\text{null}(A)$   
Basis for  $\text{row}(A)$

#15 Find a basis for the subspace of  $R^4$  that is spanned by the given vectors.

$(1, 1, 0, 0), (0, 0, 1, 1), (-2, 0, 2, 2), (0, -3, 0, 3)$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

The given set is the desired basis.

$$2\vec{v}_1 - \vec{v}_2 = (2, -2, 10, 4) + (2, -3, -1, 0) = (4, -5, 9, 4)$$

#17 Find a subset of the given vectors that forms a basis for the space spanned by those vectors, and then express each vector that is not in the basis as a linear combination of the basis vectors.

$v_1 = (1, -1, 5, 2), v_2 = (-2, 3, 1, 0), v_3 = (4, -5, 9, 4), v_4 = (0, 4, 2, -3), v_5 = (-7, 18, 2, -8)$

Row echelon form gives us leading 1s

$$\begin{bmatrix} \vec{v}_1 & \vec{v}_2 & \vec{v}_3 & \vec{v}_4 & \vec{v}_5 \\ 1 & -2 & 4 & 0 & -7 \\ -1 & 3 & -5 & 4 & 18 \\ 5 & 1 & 9 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 & 4 & -3 & -8 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 & 8 & 15 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 4 & 11 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \vec{w}_1 & \vec{w}_2 & \vec{w}_3 & \vec{w}_4 & \vec{w}_5 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

basis is  $\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_4\}$ .

RRREF

$$2\vec{w}_1 - \vec{w}_2 = \vec{w}_3$$

$$-\vec{w}_1 + 3\vec{w}_2 + 2\vec{w}_4 = \vec{w}_5$$

$$\vec{v}_3 = 2\vec{v}_1 - \vec{v}_2$$

$$\vec{v}_5 = -\vec{v}_1 + 3\vec{v}_2 + 2\vec{v}_4$$

The equations  $2\vec{w}_1 - \vec{w}_2 = \vec{w}_3$   
 and  $-\vec{w}_1 + 3\vec{w}_2 + 2\vec{w}_4 = \vec{w}_5$   
 are called dependency equations.

Row operations preserve dependency equations.

**Definition:** An equation that expresses a column vector of a matrix  $A$  that does not contain a pivot as a linear combination of column vectors that contain pivots is a **dependency equation**.

#18 Find a basis for the row space of  $A$  that consists entirely of row vectors of  $A$ .

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

$$A \rightarrow A^T \rightarrow R$$

Basis for  $\text{col}(A^T)$   
~~Basis for  $\text{row}(A)$~~

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 4 & 1 & 3 \\ 5 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Corresponding rows of  $A$  are  
 $\{[1 \ 4 \ 5 \ 2], [2 \ 1 \ 3 \ 0]\}$ .