

Lecture 17: Subspaces, basis, dimensions, row-space algorithm

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15.2 Subspace test

Lemma $\text{Null}(A)$ is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

PROOF

We run the subspace test:

- 1) contains zero/ $0 \in \text{Null}(A)$?
 $\rightarrow A \cdot 0 = 0$, so $0 \in \text{Null}(A)$
- 2) closed under addition?
 \rightarrow Let $x, y, \text{Null}(A)$.
 Then $A(x + y) = Ax + Ay = 0 + 0 = 0 \Rightarrow x + y \in \text{Null}(A)$
- 3) closed under scalar multiplication?
 \rightarrow Let $x \in \text{Null}(A)$ and $k \in \mathbb{R}$. Then, $A(kx) = k(Ax) = k \cdot 0 = 0 \Rightarrow kx \in \text{Null}(A)$

15.3 Basis and dimension

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -2 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \text{find a basis of } \text{Null}(A)$$

$$= \left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 2 & 3 & -3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 2 & 3 & -3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 2 & -4 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\sim \left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 2 & 3 & -3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\text{Null}(A) = S = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} -s-t \\ -s+2t \\ s \\ t \end{pmatrix} \mid s, t \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

$$= \left\{ s \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + t \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \mid s, t \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

$$= \text{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

this is already a basis! (look at 3rd and 4th entry)

Here, $\dim(\text{Null}(A))=2$, and $\text{rank}(A)=2$.

Since $\dim(\text{Null}(A)) = \#$ of columns without leading ones and $\text{rank}(A) = \#$ columns with leading ones, we obtain:

Rank-Nullity Theorem

$$\dim(\text{Null}(A)) + \text{rank}(A) = \# \text{ of columns of } A$$

15.4 Inhomogeneous linear systems

Use A from 15.3 and let $b = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$. Solve $Ax = b$,

$$\text{that is: } \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -2 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 2 & 3 & -3 & 10 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -2 & 3 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 4 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -2 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 & -4 & -6 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & | & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 2 & 3 & -3 & 10 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -2 & 3 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 4 \end{array} \right] \sim \dots \sim \left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 10 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 4 \end{array} \right]$$

$$S = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 4-s-t \\ 3-s+2t \\ s \\ t \end{pmatrix} \middle| s, t \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

$$= \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + s \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + t \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \middle| s, t \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

↑
particular
solution
all solutions to
 $Ax=0$
(= Null(A))

Theorem

If $Ax = b$ is consistent and v is a particular solution that is $Av = b$, then the general solution is:

$$S = v + \text{Null}(A)$$

15.5 Summary of facts

a) consistency of linear systems

Let $A \in M_{mn}(\mathbb{R})$ and $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$.

Linear system $Ax = b$ is consistent

$$\Leftrightarrow b \in \text{Col}(A)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{rank}(A) = \text{rank}(A|b)$$

Linear system $Ax = b$ is consistent for every $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{every } b \in \mathbb{R}^m \text{ is in } \text{Col}(A)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{Col}(A) = \mathbb{R}^m$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{rank}(A) = m$$

b) number of solutions

Let $A \in M_{mn}(\mathbb{R})$ and $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$ so that $Ax = b$ is consistent.

Linear system $Ax = b$ has a unique solution:

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{no free parameters in the general solution}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{every column of the RREF of } A \text{ has a leading one}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{linear system } Ax = 0 \text{ has the unique solution } x = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{columns of } A \text{ are linearly independent}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{Null}(A) = \{0\}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \dim(\text{Null}(A)) = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{rank}(A) = n \quad \text{see rank-nullity theorem}$$

Message

We can solve $Ax = b$ for every b **iff** $\text{rank}(A) = m$. Such a solution is unique **iff** $\text{rank}(A) = n$.

16 Finding bases

Let $W = \text{span}\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$. Find a basis of W .

16.1 Row space algorithm

- 1 Write vectors as rows into matrix
- 2 Transform into any REF (or into RREF if you like)
- 3 Non-zero rows form a basis of W

Example

$$W = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ -8 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 4 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

$$\textcircled{(1)} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & -2 & -8 & 4 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\textcircled{(2)}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{(R)REF}} \textcircled{(3)} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

basis of W

16.2 Extending linearly independent sets to a basis of \mathbb{R}^n

- 1) Write vectors as rows into matrix.
- 2) Transform into any REF (or RREF).

- 3) If the k-th column has no leading one, add the vector $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ to the LI set.

This yields a basis of \mathbb{R}^n .

Example from above

(1) and (2) as above, (3) Basis of \mathbb{R}^n

$$= \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

16.3 Reducing spanning set to a basis of W

There is a problem in 16.1. The basis doesn't involve any of the initial vectors.

What if we wanted to keep them and just wanted to reduce the spanning set until we obtain a basis? We use the **column space algorithm**.

- 1) write vectors in columns of matrix
- 2) Transform into any REF (or RREF).
- 3) Keep the vectors that correspond to columns with leading ones.

Example

$$\textcircled{(1)} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & -2 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & -8 & 0 & 4 \\ 3 & 4 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\textcircled{(2)}} \begin{bmatrix} \textcircled{1} & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \textcircled{1} & 1/6 & -1/3 \\ 0 & 0 & \textcircled{1} & -1/5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \textcircled{(3)} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ -8 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

Basis of W

And so:

$$\dim(\text{Row}(A)) = \text{rank}(A)$$

$$\dim(\text{Col}(A)) = \text{rank}(A)$$

$$\dim(\text{Row}(A)) = \dim(\text{Col}(A))$$

