

Lecture XIX : § 3.5 Rank-Nullity theorem
 § 3.6 Orthonormal bases

- Last time :
- W subspace of $\mathbb{R}^n \implies \dim(W) = \text{size of any basis for } W$
 - $W = \text{Sp}(\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_m) \implies \text{Basis} = \{v_i : x_i \text{ is a dependent variable of } A\vec{x} = \vec{0}\}$
 $\implies A = [\vec{v}_1 \dots \vec{v}_m]$ (METHOD 3)

§ 1. Rank and Nullity:

Fix a matrix A of size $n \times m$

Def: nullity $(A) = \dim \mathcal{N}(A)$

rank $(A) = \dim \mathcal{R}(A)$

Q How to compute these numbers?

① For Nullity: Solve the system via Gauss Jordan
 $\implies \text{nullity}(A) = \# \text{ indep variables of } A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$.

② For Rank: Method 3 says # of dep. variables = size of a basis for $\mathcal{R}(A)$.

Consequence: Rank-Nullity Theorem

nullity $(A) + \text{rank}(A) = \# \text{ columns of } A$.

(# indep vars) (# dep vars) (total # of vars)

Example: $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & -1 \\ 2 & 3 & 5 & -1 \\ 1 & 5 & 6 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{GAUSS-JORDAN}} \text{REF}(A) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ x_1, x_2 dep

• Basis for Range $(A) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 5 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \implies \text{rank}(A) = 2$.

• To get a basis for $\mathcal{N}(A)$, we write the general form of a solution:

$x_1 + x_3 + x_4 = 0 \implies x_1 = -x_3 - x_4$

$x_2 + x_3 - x_4 = 0 \implies x_2 = -x_3 + x_4$

$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = x_3 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_4 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$\xrightarrow{\text{li}}$ (complementary locations)

\Rightarrow Basis for $\mathcal{N}(A) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ so nullity $(A) = 2$

Rank-Nullity: $2+2=4$ ✓

Q What about the old definition of rank? (It looks different!)

$$\text{Oldrank}(A) = \text{Oldrank}(\text{REF}(A)) = \# \text{ non-zero rows of REF}(A) \\ = \text{Rank}(A)$$

BUT...

$$\# \text{ non-zero rows of REF}(A) = \text{size of a basis of RowSp}(\text{REF}(A)) \\ = \text{RowSp}(A) \\ = \dim \text{RowSp}(A) \\ = \dim \mathcal{R}(A^T) = \text{rank}(A^T)$$

Consequence: $\text{Rank}(A) = \text{Rank}(A^T)$, i.e. column & row space have the same dimension!

Example above: $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & -1 \\ 2 & 3 & 5 & -1 \\ 3 & 5 & 6 & -4 \\ 1 & 5 & 6 & -4 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\dim \text{RowSp}(A) = 2 = \dim \text{ColSp}(A^T) = \text{Rank}(A^T) \\ \text{by earlier calculation}$$

$$A^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 5 \\ 3 & 5 & 6 \\ -1 & -1 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{G-J}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 7 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \text{REF}(A^T)$$

$$\dim \text{RowSp}(A^T) = 2 = \dim \text{ColSp}(A) \\ = \text{Rank}(A)$$

Example: $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ nullity = ?

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - R_1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \rightarrow R_2/2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad x_1, x_2 \text{ dep}$$

$$\mathcal{N}(A) = \text{Sp} \left(\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) \quad \text{so nullity} = 1 \quad \Rightarrow \text{rank}(A) = 3 - 1 = 2.$$

$\text{rank}(A) = \dim \mathcal{R}(A)$ & $\mathcal{R}(A)$ is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^2 , also of dim 2.

Conclude: $R(A) = \mathbb{R}^2$ (same dimension & $R(A) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$)

• $\text{rank}(A^T) = \text{rank}(A) = 2$ so $\text{RowSp}(A)$ has $\dim 2$ as well.

§2. Two applications:

Theorem 1: Fix an $m \times n$ matrix A & \vec{b} in \mathbb{R}^m . The system $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ is consistent if, and only if, $\text{Rank}(A) = \text{Rank}(A|\vec{b})$.

Why? Consistent means \vec{b} is in $R(A) = \text{ColSp}(A)$ ($x_1 \text{col}_1 A + \dots + x_n \text{col}_n A = \vec{b}$ for some numbers x_1, \dots, x_n). This happens if and only if $\text{ColSp}(A) = \text{ColSp}(A|\vec{b})$. The ranks are the dimension of each of these spaces.

Consequence: An $n \times n$ matrix is nonsingular if and only if $\text{rank}(A) = n$.

Why? Nonsingular means $\text{nullity}(A) = 0$ so $\text{rank}(A) = \#\text{cols}(A) - \text{nullity}(A) = n - 0 = n$.

§3. Orthogonal & orthonormal bases:

Recall the formula for the dot product:

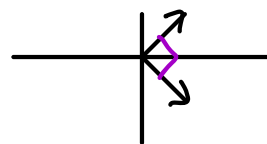
if $\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_n \end{bmatrix}$, $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{bmatrix}$ are vectors in \mathbb{R}^n ($n \times 1$ matrices) then

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = \vec{u}^T \vec{v} = u_1 v_1 + u_2 v_2 + \dots + u_n v_n \quad (\text{number})$$

• We say \vec{u} & \vec{v} are orthogonal ($\vec{u} \perp \vec{v}$) if $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = 0$

Eg: • $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ & $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$ are orthogonal

• $\vec{0} \perp \vec{v}$ for any \vec{v}



• Fix a subspace W of \mathbb{R}^n with $W \neq \{\vec{0}\}$ & let $B = \{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p\}$ be a basis for W .

Def.: We say B is an orthogonal basis for V if $\vec{v}_i \perp \vec{v}_j$ for every $i \neq j$.
 (that is, any 2 vectors in B are orthogonal to each other)

We say B is an orthonormal basis for V if it is an orthogonal basis and $\vec{v}_i \cdot \vec{v}_i = 1$ for every $i = 1, \dots, p$.
 (This means $\|\vec{v}_i\| = \sqrt{1} = 1$ for every i)

Main use of orthogonality: It implies linear independence.

Theorem: Fix a set $S = \{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p\}$ in \mathbb{R}^n and assume $\vec{0}$ is NOT in S . If all vectors of S are orthogonal to each other, then S is linearly independent.

Why? Write a dependency relation:

$$\vec{0} = a_1 \vec{v}_1 + a_2 \vec{v}_2 + \dots + a_p \vec{v}_p$$

& take dot product with \vec{v}_1 . We can distribute & get

$$0 = \vec{0} \cdot \vec{v}_1 = a_1 \underbrace{\vec{v}_1 \cdot \vec{v}_1}_{=\|\vec{v}_1\|^2 \neq 0} + a_2 \underbrace{\vec{v}_2 \cdot \vec{v}_1}_{=0} + \dots + a_p \underbrace{\vec{v}_p \cdot \vec{v}_1}_{=0}$$

because $\vec{v}_1 \neq \vec{0}$

Conclude $0 = a_1 \underbrace{\|\vec{v}_1\|^2}_{\neq 0}$ so $a_1 = 0$.

Same idea shows $a_2 = a_3 = \dots = a_p = 0$. This says S is l.i.
 ($\vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3, \dots, \vec{v}_p$)

Example: $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$, $\vec{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$, $\vec{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -4 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\vec{v}_1 \cdot \vec{v}_2 = 1 \cdot 3 - 2 - 1 = 0$$

$$\vec{v}_1 \cdot \vec{v}_3 = 1 - 8 + 7 = 0$$

$$\vec{v}_2 \cdot \vec{v}_3 = 3 + 4 - 7 = 0$$

$S = \{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3\}$ is an orthogonal set
 hence it's linearly independent

This set has 3 l.i vectors in \mathbb{R}^3 , so it's a basis for \mathbb{R}^3 .

• If $\vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{bmatrix}$ is an arbitrary vector in \mathbb{R}^3 , we can write.

$$\begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{bmatrix} = x_1 \vec{v}_1 + x_2 \vec{v}_2 + x_3 \vec{v}_3.$$

• Here is a quick way to find x_1, x_2, x_3 :

Take dot product with $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$$b_1 + 2b_2 + b_3 = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = x_1 \underbrace{\vec{v}_1 \cdot \vec{v}_1}_{\|\vec{v}_1\|^2 = 1+4+1=6} + x_2 \underbrace{\vec{v}_2 \cdot \vec{v}_1}_{=0} + x_3 \underbrace{\vec{v}_3 \cdot \vec{v}_1}_{=0}$$

Conclude: $x_1 = \frac{b_1 + 2b_2 + b_3}{6}$

Similarly using \vec{v}_2 & \vec{v}_3 gives x_2 & x_3 :

$$x_2 = \frac{3b_1 - b_2 - b_3}{11} \quad \& \quad x_3 = \frac{b_1 - 4b_2 + 7b_3}{66}$$

• The set $\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3\}$ is not an orthonormal basis for \mathbb{R}^3 , but we can scale these vectors to have length 1 & get an orthonormal basis.

$$\vec{u}_1 = \frac{\vec{v}_1}{\|\vec{v}_1\|} = \frac{\vec{v}_1}{\sqrt{6}}, \quad \vec{u}_2 = \frac{\vec{v}_2}{\|\vec{v}_2\|} = \frac{\vec{v}_2}{\sqrt{11}}, \quad \vec{u}_3 = \frac{\vec{v}_3}{\|\vec{v}_3\|} = \frac{\vec{v}_3}{\sqrt{66}}$$

$\{\vec{u}_1, \vec{u}_2, \vec{u}_3\}$ is an orthonormal basis for \mathbb{R}^3 .

§3 Coordinates with respect to orthogonal bases.

The last example highlights that if $B = \{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p\}$ is an orthogonal basis for a subspace \mathcal{W} of \mathbb{R}^n , then the problem of writing an arbitrary vector \vec{w} of \mathcal{W} as a linear comb of $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p$ is very easy!

Theorem: If $B = \{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p\}$ is an orthogonal basis for a subspace \mathcal{V} of \mathbb{R}^n , a \vec{w} is a vector in \mathcal{V} , then:

$$\vec{w} = x_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + x_p \vec{v}_p$$

where $x_1 = \frac{\vec{v}_1 \cdot \vec{w}}{\vec{v}_1 \cdot \vec{v}_1}$, $x_2 = \frac{\vec{v}_2 \cdot \vec{w}}{\vec{v}_2 \cdot \vec{v}_2}$, \dots , $x_p = \frac{\vec{v}_p \cdot \vec{w}}{\vec{v}_p \cdot \vec{v}_p}$.

In short $[\vec{w}]_B = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{v}_1 \cdot \vec{w} / \|\vec{v}_1\|^2 \\ \vec{v}_2 \cdot \vec{w} / \|\vec{v}_2\|^2 \\ \vdots \\ \vec{v}_p \cdot \vec{w} / \|\vec{v}_p\|^2 \end{bmatrix}$ (vector in \mathbb{R}^p)

Q: How to find an orthogonal basis? A Gram-Schmidt Algorithm (next time!)