

Principles of Linear Algebra

LECTURE 31

I) The Four Fundamental Subspaces
of a Matrix

II) Row Rank = Column Rank

III) Pair wise Orthogonality of A

IV) Direct Sum Decomposition
of Domain and Target space

V) Orthogonal Complementarity

Discussion Topics

I) THE FOUR FUNDAMENTAL SUBSPACES OF A LINEAR TRANSFORMATION.

Consider an $m \times n$ matrix

$$A: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m; \quad A = \left[\begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \end{array} \right] \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \end{array}} \right\} m \text{ or } A = \left[\begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \end{array} \right] \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \end{array}} \right\} n$$

"Squat" "Skinny"

and its transpose

$$A^T: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n; \quad A^T = \left[\begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \end{array} \right] \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \end{array}} \right\} n \text{ or } A^T = \left[\begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \end{array} \right] \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \end{array}} \right\} m$$

"Skinny" "Squat"

Thus one may have

$$A = \left[\begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \end{array} \right] \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \end{array}} \right\} m \text{ and } A^T = \left[\begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \end{array} \right] \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \end{array}} \right\} n$$

"skinny" "squat"

OR

$$A = \left[\begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \end{array} \right] \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \end{array}} \right\} m \text{ and } A^T = \left[\begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \end{array} \right] \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \end{array}} \right\} n$$

"squat" "skinny"

Such matrices are characterized by its four fundamental subspaces;

$$\mathcal{R}(A) = (\text{column space of } A) \subset \mathbb{R}^m; \dim = r$$

$$\mathcal{N}(A) = (\text{null space of } A) \subset \mathbb{R}^n; \dim = n - r$$

$$\mathcal{R}(A^T) = (\text{row space of } A) \subset \mathbb{R}^n; \dim = r \quad (\text{+?})$$

$$\mathcal{N}(A^T) = (\text{left nullspace of } A) \subset \mathbb{R}^m; \dim = m - r \quad (\text{+?})$$

II) ROW RANK = COLUMN RANK.

It is blindingly obvious that row space

$\mathcal{R}(A^T)$ and the column space $\mathcal{R}(A)$ of A

are in general two entirely different

vector spaces. Nevertheless one has the

following

Theorem (Row rank = column rank)

$$\dim \mathcal{R}(A) = \dim \mathcal{R}(A^T)$$

i.e. column rank of A = row rank of A .

THEOREM: Row rank=Column rank

The validity of this theorem is established by means of a 4 step process.

STEP 1

Row reduction to echelon form.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ a_{31} & \cdots & a_{3n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & \cdots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow U = \begin{bmatrix} d_1 & * & * & * & * & * & * & * & * & * & * & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & d_2 & * & * & * & * & * & * & * & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & d_3 & * & * & * & * & * & * & * & * \\ \vdots & \cdots & \vdots & \vdots & \cdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & \cdots & 0 & d_k & * & * & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & \cdots & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \cdots & \vdots & \vdots & \cdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & \cdots & 0 & \cdots & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (1)$$

The matrix A is $m \times n$. The matrix U , which is also $m \times n$, has k non-zero rows with non-zero pivot $d_1, d_2, d_3, \dots, d_k$ and $(m - k)$ rows which are zero.

STEP 2

The row space of A and of U are the same. Row operations guarantee this. Furthermore, being in reduced form, U has a linearly independent set of k

row vectors $u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots, u_k$:

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} [\text{-----} u_1 \text{-----}] \\ 0 \dots 0 [\text{-----} u_2 \text{-----}] \\ 0 \dots 0 \ 0 \dots 0 [\text{-----} u_3 \text{-----}] \\ \vdots \\ 0 \dots 0 \ 0 \dots 0 \ 0 \dots 0 \ 0 \dots 0 [\text{-----} u_k \text{-----}] \\ 0 \dots 0 \ 0 \dots 0 \ 0 \dots 0 \ 0 \dots 0 \ 0 \dots 0 \dots 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \dots 0 \ 0 \dots 0 \ 0 \dots 0 \ 0 \dots 0 \ 0 \dots 0 \dots 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \text{-----} \vec{u}_1 \text{-----} \\ \text{-----} \vec{u}_2 \text{-----} \\ \text{-----} \vec{u}_3 \text{-----} \\ \vdots \\ \text{-----} \vec{u}_k \text{-----} \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

These row vectors form a basis for the row space of U and for that of A . Consequently,

$$\text{“row rank”} \equiv \dim \mathcal{R}(A^T) = k \tag{2}$$

STEP 3

Row operations are reversible. Consequently, the row reduction process is reversible. Thus the rows of A are linear combinations of the rows of U , namely, the k basis elements $\vec{u}_1, \vec{u}_2, \vec{u}_3, \dots$, and \vec{u}_k :

$$\begin{aligned} [a_{11} \dots a_{1n}] &= c_{11}\vec{u}_1 + c_{12}\vec{u}_2 + \dots + c_{1k}\vec{u}_k \\ &\vdots \\ [a_{m1} \dots a_{mn}] &= c_{m1}\vec{u}_1 + c_{m2}\vec{u}_2 + \dots + c_{mk}\vec{u}_k \end{aligned}$$

or

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & & \\ a_{m1} & \cdots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix}}_{m \times n} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} c_{11} & c_{12} & \cdots & c_{1k} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ c_{21} & c_{22} & \cdots & c_{2k} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & & & & \\ c_{m1} & c_{m2} & \cdots & c_{mk} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{m \times m} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \text{---} \bar{u}_1 \text{---} \\ \text{---} \bar{u}_2 \text{---} \\ \vdots \\ \text{---} \bar{u}_k \text{---} \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{m \text{ rows} \times n \text{ columns}}$$

or more compactly,

$$A = CU.$$

The coefficients c_{ij} , which make up the $m \times m$ matrix C , are uniquely determined by the row reduction process $A \rightarrow U$.

STEP 4

This step contrasts two different ways of viewing the product of two matrices. Instead of viewing $A = CU$ as reconstructing the rows of A as linear combinations of the rows u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k of U , one now views the *columns* of A as linear combinations of the *columns* of C . Note that there are only k non-zero such columns. Consequently,

$$\mathcal{R}(A) = \text{Span} \left(\left\{ \left[\begin{array}{c} c_{1i} \\ \vdots \\ c_{mi} \end{array} \right] \right\}_{i=1}^k \right)$$

and therefore

$$\dim \mathcal{R}(A) \leq k = \dim \mathcal{R}(A^T) \quad (\text{using Eq.(2) on page 2}).$$

Finally, by reversing the roles of A and A^T and applying the previous four steps one obtains the analogous inequality

$$\dim \mathcal{R}(A^T) \leq \dim \mathcal{R}(A).$$

These last two inequalities imply

$$\dim \mathcal{R}(A^T) = \dim \mathcal{R}(A),$$

i.e. for any matrix A , its row rank equals its column rank indeed.

The validity of this theorem is established by means of a 4 step process

Step 1 Row reduction to echelon form

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{row reduction}} U = \begin{bmatrix} d_1 & * & * & * & * & \dots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & d_2 & * & * \\ \vdots & & 0 & \dots & 0 & d_3 & * & * & \dots \\ \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 & d_k & * & * & * \\ 0 & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$m \times n$

m

with k non-zero rows and $m-k$ rows which are zero.

Step 2

Note that, being in echelon form, U has k linearly independent rows. Moreover, they span the row space of U . Thus $\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k\}$ is a basis for the row space of U .

The row reduction process consists of

- interchanging a pair of rows
- multiplying a row by a non-zero constant
- add one row to another

STEP 2

The row space of A and of U are

the same. Row operation guarantee
 this.

Furthermore, being in echelon form,

U has k linearly independent rows:

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} -\vec{u}_1 - \\ -\vec{u}_2 - \\ -\vec{u}_3 - \\ \vdots \\ -\vec{u}_k - \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} [\text{---} u_1 \text{---}] \\ 0 \dots 0 [\text{---} u_2 \text{---}] \\ 0 \dots 0 \dots 0 [\text{---} u_3 \text{---}] \\ \vdots \\ 0 \dots 0 \dots 0 \dots 0 [-u_k -] \\ 0 \dots 0 \dots 0 \dots 0 \dots 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \dots 0 \dots 0 \dots 0 \dots 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

These row vectors form a basis for the row space
 of U and for that of A . Consequently

$$\text{"row rank"} \equiv \dim R(A^T) = k$$

STEP 3

Row operations are reversible.

Consequently, the row reduction process is reversible.

Thus the rows of A are linear combinations of the rows of U , namely the k basis elements $\vec{u}_1, \vec{u}_2, \dots, \text{and } \vec{u}_k$:

$$[a_{11} \dots a_{1n}] = c_{11} \vec{u}_1 + c_{12} \vec{u}_2 + \dots + c_{1k} \vec{u}_k$$

$$[a_{m1} \dots a_{mn}] = c_{m1} \vec{u}_1 + c_{m2} \vec{u}_2 + \dots + c_{mk} \vec{u}_k$$

or

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} c_{11} & c_{12} & \dots & c_{1k} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ c_{21} & c_{22} & \dots & c_{2k} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & \vdots & & & \\ c_{m1} & c_{m2} & \dots & c_{mk} & 0 & \dots & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{m \times m} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -\vec{u}_1- \\ -\vec{u}_2- \\ \vdots \\ -\vec{u}_k- \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{n \text{ column}} \Bigg\} m \text{ rows}$$

or more compactly

The constants c_{ij} such

$$A = C U$$

(See previous typeset pages)

31, 5a

The constants c_{ij} , which make up the $m \times m$ matrix C , are uniquely determined by the row reduction process $A \rightarrow U$.

STEP 4

This step is the most subtle!

Instead of viewing CU as reconstructing the rows of A in terms of the rows

u_1, \dots, u_k of U , one now views CU

as reconstructing the columns of A in terms of the columns of C .

Note that there are only k of them.

Consequently,

$$\mathcal{R}(A) = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} c_{1i} \\ \vdots \\ c_{mi} \end{bmatrix} \right\}_{i=1}^k$$

(see previous typeset pages)

3/5b

and

$$\dim R(A) \leq R = \dim R(A^T) \quad (*)$$

Now reverse the roles of A and A^T . The result is

$$\dim R(A^T) \leq \dim R(A) \quad (**)$$

It follows that

$$\dim R(A^T) = \dim R(A)$$

i.e

row-rank = column-rank,

III) PAIRWISE ORTHOGONALITY

The second important ppty of 31.6

the Four Fundamental subspaces is their pairwise orthogonality,

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{In } \mathbb{R}^m \quad R(A) \perp N(A^T) \\ \text{In } \mathbb{R}^n \quad R(A^T) \perp N(A) \end{array} \right\} A: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m; A \text{ is } m \times n$$

This property is based on the

Definition

Two subspaces V and W of \mathbb{R}^n are said to be orthogonal ($V \perp W$) if every $v \in V$ is orthogonal to every $w \in W$,

and on the

Theorem

For any $m \times n$ matrix $A: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ one has

- (a) $N(A) \perp R(A^T)$ in \mathbb{R}^n
- (b) $N(A^T) \perp R(A)$ in \mathbb{R}^m .

The proof is by inspecting the elements of the two nullspaces. 31.7

$$(a) w \in \mathcal{N}(A) \Rightarrow Aw = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \text{row 1} \\ \vdots \\ \text{row } m \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ \vdots \\ w_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad m \text{ equations}$$

$$(\text{i}^{\text{th}} \text{ row of } A)w = (\text{i}^{\text{th}} \text{ column of } A^T)^T w = 0 \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m$$

$$R(A^T) \perp w = 0 \quad \forall w \in \mathcal{N}(A)$$

$$\therefore R(A^T) \perp \mathcal{N}(A)$$

$$(b) y \in \mathcal{N}(A^T) \Rightarrow (y^T A = 0 \Leftrightarrow A^T y = 0)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_1 & \dots & y_m \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} | & & | \\ \text{col 1} & \dots & \text{col } n \\ | & & | \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \dots & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad n \text{ eq'ns}$$

$$y \perp R(A) \quad \forall y \in \mathcal{N}(A^T)$$

$$\therefore \mathcal{N}(A^T) \perp R(A)$$

Comment: These orthogonalities imply that A induces a unique decomposition of the domain space \mathbb{R}^n and of the target space \mathbb{R}^m as follows

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{a) domain } A = \mathbb{R}^n &= \mathcal{N}(A) \oplus \mathcal{R}(A^T) \\
 \text{b) domain } A^T &= \\
 &= \text{target } A = \mathbb{R}^m = \mathcal{N}(A^T) \oplus \mathcal{R}(A)
 \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathcal{N}(A) \cap \mathcal{R}(A^T) = \{0\}$ in \mathbb{R}^n

$$\mathcal{N}(A^T) \cap \mathcal{R}(A) = \{0\} \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^m$$

Thus $w \in \mathcal{N}(A^T) \cap \mathcal{R}(A^T)$

$$w: \begin{bmatrix} \text{row}(1) \\ \vdots \\ \text{row}(m) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ \vdots \\ w_m \end{bmatrix} = 0 \quad w^T = \sum_{k=1}^m \alpha_k \text{row}(k)$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned}
 w^T w &= \sum \alpha_k \text{row}(k) \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ \vdots \\ w_m \end{bmatrix} = 0 \\
 \text{but } w^T w &= (w_1)^2 + \dots + (w_m)^2
 \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow w = 0$$

Comment:

The orthogonalities of the subspaces of A constitutes the Fundamental Theorem of Linear Algebra.

It is stated most succinctly in terms of orthogonal complements.

Definition

Given a subspace $W \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, the space of vectors orthogonal to W is called the orthogonal complement of W and is denoted by W^\perp .

FUNDAMENTAL THEOREM OF LINEAR ALGEBRA

$$N(A) = (R(A^T))^\perp \quad R(A^T) = (N(A))^\perp$$

$$N(A^T) = (R(A))^\perp \quad R(A) = (N(A^T))^\perp$$

