

5. Rows vs. columns

Note: everything today works over any field.

$$A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \Rightarrow A = \begin{bmatrix} - A_1 - \\ \vdots \\ - A_i - \\ \vdots \\ - A_m - \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A_i = [a_{i1} \dots a_{in}] \in \mathbb{R}_{row}^n \quad i = \text{generic row index}$$

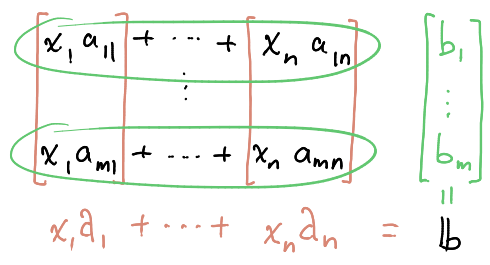
$$= \begin{bmatrix} | & & | \\ a_1 & \dots & a_j & \dots & a_n \\ | & & | \end{bmatrix}$$

$$a_j = \begin{bmatrix} a_{1j} \\ \vdots \\ a_{mj} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}_{col}^m \quad j = \text{generic column index}$$

$$Ax = b \Leftrightarrow A_i x = b_i \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, m$$

but also

$$Ax = b \Leftrightarrow x_1 a_1 + \dots + x_n a_n = b$$

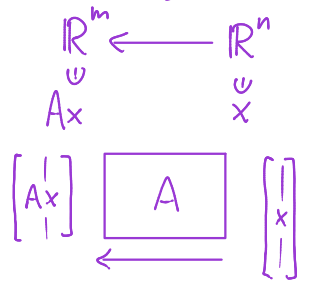


- $\Leftrightarrow Ax$ is a linear combin of the a_j
- $\Leftrightarrow b$ is a linear combin of the columns of A
- $\Leftrightarrow b$ lies in span of cols of A
- $\Leftrightarrow b \in \text{span}(a_1, \dots, a_n)$

Def: $C(A) = \text{column space}$ of A
or image of M_A

why? $A \mapsto$ function taking x 's to b 's:

$\Leftrightarrow x$ lists the coefficients in a linear combination of the columns of A that equals b



E.g. $\begin{bmatrix} -3 & 6 & 4 & e \\ 1 & 2/3 & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 4 \\ \pi \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} \leftarrow \\ \leftarrow \\ \leftarrow \\ \leftarrow \end{matrix}$

$$= 3 \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + 2 \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 2/3 \end{bmatrix} + 4 \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} + \pi \begin{bmatrix} e \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

↑ ↑ ↑ ↑
have class fill these in

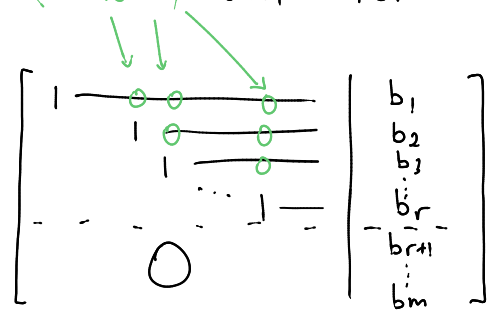
$$\begin{bmatrix} -3 & 6 & 4 & e \\ 1 & 2/3 & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 4 \\ \pi \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 19 + \pi e \\ 2/3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Q. When does $Ax = b$ have a solution?
i.e., When is $Ax = b$ consistent?

- ✓ When there exists an x listing the coefficients in a linear combination of the columns of A that equals b .
- ✓ When b lies in span of columns of A
- ✓ When $b \in C(A)$
- ✓ When b lies in the image of the function "multiplication by A " M_A

↑ "maps to"

In (reduced) echelon form:



Lemma 1: consistent $\Leftrightarrow \begin{matrix} b_{r+1} = 0 \\ \vdots \\ b_m = 0 \end{matrix}$

Pf: \Rightarrow : $A_i = 0$ for $i > r$ so $Ax = b \Rightarrow A_i x = b_i$ for $i > r$.
 \Leftarrow : For any values of the free variables, the values of the pivots are determined from bottom to top.

E.g.
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & \pi & 4 & 1 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 & -11/5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & ? \end{bmatrix}$$

x_1 pivot, x_2 free, x_3 pivot, x_4 free

$x_1 + \pi x_2 + 4x_3 + x_4 = 7$
 $x_3 + 3x_4 = -11/5$

0 + 0 + 0 + 0 = ? 0 consistent
 ≠ 0 inconsistent

make whatever you want!

Def: The rank of $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ is $\dim C(A) = \min \# \text{ columns required to span } C(A)$ (recall)

E.g. $\text{rank} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \pi & 4 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = ? 2$ $\text{rank} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \pi & 4 & 1 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 & -11/5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & ? \end{bmatrix} = ? \begin{matrix} 2 \text{ if } ? = 0 \\ 3 \text{ if } ? \neq 0 \end{matrix}$

This is the "correct" definition that I mentioned on day 1. Learn it. Use it. Reduce all questions about rank to it. You will be tested on it. It should be your go-to def.

Lemma 2: Fix v_1, \dots, v_r cols of A with corresponding cols v'_1, \dots, v'_r A' , where $[A|b] \xrightarrow{\text{row ops}} [A'|b']$.

Cor: $C(A) = \mathbb{R}^m \Rightarrow C(A') = \mathbb{R}^m$.
 Pf: $b' \in \mathbb{R}^m \Rightarrow [A'|b'] \rightsquigarrow [A|b]$ for some $b \in C(A)$. \mathbb{R}^m .

Then $b = c_1 v_1 + \dots + c_r v_r \Leftrightarrow b' = c_1 v'_1 + \dots + c_r v'_r$. Note: same coeffs c_i .

Pf: Check type (i), (ii), (iii) row ops directly. And observe that $[A|b] \rightsquigarrow [A'|b'] \Leftrightarrow [A'|b'] \rightsquigarrow [A|b]$. \square

Prop 1: v_1, \dots, v_r span $C(A) \Leftrightarrow v'_1, \dots, v'_r$ span $C(A')$ if $A \rightsquigarrow A'$.

Pf: \Leftarrow : $b \in C(A) \Rightarrow b' \in C(A')$ by Lemma 2
 $\Rightarrow b' = c_1 v'_1 + \dots + c_r v'_r$ by hypothesis
 $\Rightarrow b = c_1 v_1 + \dots + c_r v_r$ by Lemma.
 \Rightarrow : same (i.e., swap the primes and un-primes) \square

This is why pivot columns are important.

Corollary: $\text{rank } A = \text{rank } A'$ if $A \rightsquigarrow A'$. Why is this useful?

Prop 2: $\text{rank } A = \# \text{ pivots in any echelon form, and pivot cols of } A \text{ minimally span } C(A)$.

Pf: By Cor and Prop 1, need only prove for $A = U$, reduced echelon form.

Lemma 1 \Rightarrow pivot cols $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ span $C(U)$, and \mathbb{R}^r can't be spanned by less than r vectors: $C\left(\begin{matrix} <r \\ r \end{matrix} \begin{matrix} \square \\ \square \end{matrix}\right) = \mathbb{R}^r \Rightarrow$ reduced echelon form has column space \mathbb{R}^r by (Cor of) Lemma 2, but last row is 0, so that \uparrow is impossible. \square

Prop 3: $Ax=b$ consistent \Leftrightarrow rank $A =$ rank $[A|b]$. *One direction is easy; which?*

pf: \Rightarrow : consistent $\Rightarrow b \in C(A) \Rightarrow C([A|b]) = C(A)$ and same pivot cols span minimally.
 \Leftarrow : pivot cols of A span $C([A|b]) \Rightarrow b$ lies in their span. \square

Parametric to implicit *implicit to parametric means: solve $Ax=b$.*

Given x_0 and $v_1, \dots, v_k \in \mathbb{R}^n$, find linear equations $Ax=b$ so that $\text{sols}(Ax=b) = x_0 + \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_k)$.

E.g. Find implicit equation(s) for the plane

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + s \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^3.$$

Equivalently, which vectors x are expressible as $\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + s \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} s \\ t \end{bmatrix}}$?

Solve $x = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} s \\ t \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$, i.e.

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_A \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} s \\ t \end{bmatrix}}_x = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}_b = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 - 1 \\ x_2 - 2 \\ x_3 - 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

This is a linear system!

cancel $\left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 2 & x_1 - 1 \\ 0 & 1 & x_2 - 2 \\ 1 & 1 & x_3 - 1 \end{array} \right) \rightsquigarrow \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 2 & x_1 - 1 \\ 0 & 1 & x_2 - 2 \\ 0 & -1 & x_3 - x_1 \end{array}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & x_1 - 1 \\ 0 & 1 & x_2 - 2 \\ 0 & 0 & x_3 - x_1 + x_2 - 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

has solution \Leftrightarrow every 0 row in echelon form has corresponding 0 on RHS,

so x is expressible $\Leftrightarrow x_3 - x_1 + x_2 - 2 = 0$.