

The dimension of a vector space W is the number of elements in a basis of W .

Matrix monsters Let $s, t \in \mathbb{R}, > 0$.

Let $A \in M_{s \times t}(\mathbb{R})$.



The column space of A is the span of the columns of A ,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{colspace}(A) &= \left\{ c_1 \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} \\ \vdots \\ a_{s1} \end{pmatrix} + \dots + c_t \begin{pmatrix} a_{1t} \\ \vdots \\ a_{st} \end{pmatrix} \mid c_1, \dots, c_t \in \mathbb{R} \right\} \\ &= \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1t} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{s1} & \dots & a_{st} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_t \end{pmatrix} \mid c_1, \dots, c_t \in \mathbb{R} \right\} \\ &= \{ A\vec{z} \mid \vec{z} \in \mathbb{R}^t \} = \text{im}(A) \end{aligned}$$

The solution space of A , or kernel of A , is solutionspace $(A) = \ker(A)$

$$= \{ \vec{z} \in \mathbb{R}^s \mid A\vec{z} = \vec{0} \}$$

The row space of A is the span of the rows of A ,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{rowspace}(A) &= \{ c_1 (-a_{11} \dots -a_{s1}) + \dots + c_s (-a_{1s} \dots -a_{ss}) \mid c_1, \dots, c_s \in \mathbb{R} \} \\ &= \left\{ (c_1 \dots c_s) \begin{pmatrix} -a_{11} & \dots & -a_{s1} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ -a_{1s} & \dots & -a_{ss} \end{pmatrix} \mid c_1, \dots, c_s \in \mathbb{R} \right\} \\ &= \{ (c_1 \dots c_s) A \mid c_1, \dots, c_s \in \mathbb{R} \}. \end{aligned}$$

Examples 28 and 29 Let

$$S = \{ \langle 1, 3, -1, 1 \rangle, \langle 2, 6, 0, 4 \rangle, \langle 3, 9, -2, 4 \rangle \}$$

Then $S = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \\ 0 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 9 \\ -2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$ and

$\text{span}(S) = \text{colspace}(A) = \text{rn}(A)$, where

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 6 & 9 \\ -1 & 0 & -2 \\ 1 & 4 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

Now

$$A = \left(\begin{array}{cccc|cccc} 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & \\ 3 & 6 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{2} & \\ -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \\ 1 & 4 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right) = PR$$

where

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 6 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 4 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } R = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Then $A = PR$ and $R = P^{-1}A$ so that

- (a) the rows of A are linear combinations of the rows of R
- (b) the rows of R are linear combinations of the rows of A .

So $\text{rowspace}(A) = \text{rowspace}(R)$

So $\text{rowspace}(A)$ has basis $\{(1 \ 0 \ 2), (0, 1 \ -\frac{1}{2})\}$.

Next, $\text{colspace}(A) = \{P\vec{c} \mid \vec{c} \in \text{colspace}(R)\}$

and $\text{colspace}(R)$ has basis $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$.

So $\text{colspace}(A)$ has basis $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \\ 0 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$.

Next, $\text{solutionspace}(A) = \text{solutionspace}(R)$.

which is

$$\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \end{pmatrix} \mid \begin{array}{l} c_1 + 2c_3 = 0 \\ c_2 - \frac{1}{2}c_3 = 0 \end{array} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \end{pmatrix} \mid \begin{array}{l} c_1 = -2c_3 \\ c_2 = +\frac{1}{2}c_3 \\ c_3 = c_3 \end{array} \right\}$$

$$= \text{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ +\frac{1}{2} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}.$$

So $\text{ker}(A)$ has basis $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ +\frac{1}{2} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$.

Example 31 Find a basis for the solution space of

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + 2x_2 + x_3 + x_4 &= 0 \\ 3x_1 + 5x_2 + 4x_3 + x_4 &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\text{solution space } \left(\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 5 & 4 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right) = \ker \left(\begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 3 & 5 & 4 & 1 \end{array} \right)$$

Since

$$\left(\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 5 & 4 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right) = \left(\begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 3 & 5 & 4 & 1 \end{array} \right) \left(\begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 2 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -2 \end{array} \right)$$

then

$$\ker \left(\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 5 & 4 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right) = \ker \left(\begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 2 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -2 \end{array} \right)$$

$$= \left\{ \left(\begin{array}{c} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \\ c_4 \end{array} \right) \mid \begin{array}{l} c_1 + 2c_2 + c_3 + c_4 = 0 \\ c_3 - 2c_4 = 0 \end{array} \right\}$$

$$= \left\{ \left(\begin{array}{c} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \\ c_4 \end{array} \right) \mid \begin{array}{l} c_1 = -2c_2 - c_4 \\ c_2 = c_2 \\ c_3 = -2c_4 \\ c_4 = c_4 \end{array} \right\}$$

$$= \left\{ c_2 \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + c_4 \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \mid c_2, c_4 \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

So solution space $\left(\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 5 & 4 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right)$ has basis $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$

Example 31 Assume there exists $P \in M_{4 \times 4}(\mathbb{R})$ such that P is invertible and

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 & -2 \\ 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 5 & -3 & 7 & -6 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} = P \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = PB$$

Since $A = PB$ and $B = P^{-1}A$ then

- (a) The rows of A are linear combinations of the rows of B and
- (b) The rows of B are linear combinations of the rows of A .

∴ $\text{rowspace}(A) = \text{rowspace}(B)$

∴ $\text{rowspace}(A)$ has basis $\left\{ (1 \ -1 \ 2 \ -2), (0 \ 2 \ 3 \ 4), (0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1) \right\}$

A basis of the column space is the first, second and 4th columns of A .

∴ $\text{colspace}(A)$ has basis $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 4 \\ -6 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$