

Linear Algebra for Computer Science

Lecture 13

Computing the null space,
(reduced) row-echelon form

Review - null space, row echelon form



Null space $A\underline{x} = 0$

$$N(A) = \{x \mid Ax = 0\}$$

$$A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \quad N(A) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid Ax = 0\}$$

Row echelon Form

$$\begin{bmatrix} \boxed{12} & 13 & 2 & 4 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{7} & 8 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \boxed{7} & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \boxed{8} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & \boxed{12} & 13 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{1} & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Review - null space, elimination, row echelon form



Handwritten notes showing the row reduction of a matrix A to find its rank and nullity.

Initial matrix A :

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 2 & 4 & 6 & 8 \\ 3 & 6 & 10 & 2 \\ 4 & 8 & 13 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

Row operations:

- $r_2 - 2r_1$
- $r_3 - 3r_1$
- $r_4 - 4r_1$

Resulting matrix:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -10 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -10 \end{bmatrix}$$

Row swap $r_2 \leftrightarrow r_3$:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -10 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -10 \end{bmatrix}$$

Row operation $r_4 - r_2$:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -10 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Column operations (indicated by blue ovals):

- Column 1: $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$
- Column 2: $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$
- Column 3: $\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$
- Column 4: $\begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -10 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Rank of A is 2.

Dimension of the null space $N(A)$ is 2.

~~$\dim(N(A)) = 4$~~

$\dim(N(A)) = 2$

How to represent a linear space?



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How to represent null space? ~~\mathbb{R}^n~~

How to represent a linear ~~spa~~ subspace?

$$A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$$

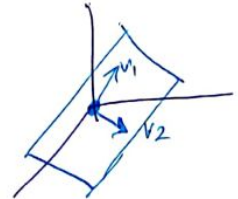
A linear subspace

An r -dimensional linear subspace of \mathbb{R}^n can be represented as a set of (r) basis vectors.

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} | & | & & | \\ v_1 & v_2 & & v_r \\ | & | & & | \end{bmatrix} \quad S = \begin{bmatrix} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \vdots \\ \text{---} \end{bmatrix}$$

$n \times r$

representation is
non-unique



Review: Elimination and Null space



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$$Ax = 0 \quad \begin{array}{l} E \text{ invertible} \\ \iff \end{array} \quad EAx = 0$$

Elimination and Null space



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$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -10 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ t \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ z \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ 0 & -10 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} y \\ t \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 3 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ t \\ u \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Review: Elimination and Null space



$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 3 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ t \\ u \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

invertible $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 5 \\ 0 & 3 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} y \\ t \\ u \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ z \end{bmatrix} = - \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 5 \\ 0 & 3 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} y \\ t \\ u \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Elimination and Null space



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$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ z \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 5 \\ 0 & 3 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} y \\ t \\ u \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

invertible

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ z \end{bmatrix} = - \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 5 \\ 0 & 3 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} y \\ t \\ u \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} y \\ t \\ u \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ t \\ u \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} y \\ t \\ u \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{matrix} x = -1/2 \\ z = -3/2 \end{matrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ t \\ u \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1/2 \\ 0 \\ -3/2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} y \\ t \\ u \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{matrix} x = -8 \\ z = 1 \end{matrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ t \\ u \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -8 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$N = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1/2 & -8 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -3/2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (\text{a basis for})$$

$$N(A)$$

$$A N = \mathbf{0}_{m \times (n-r)}$$

Reduced row-echelon form



$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 3 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{r_2 \div 2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3/2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

All pivots = 1

$$\Rightarrow r_1 = r_1 - 3r_2 \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & -1/2 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3/2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \text{reduced row echelon form}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & -1/2 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3/2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ t \\ u \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ z \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1/2 & 8 \\ 0 & 3/2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} y \\ z \\ u \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & +1/2 & -8 \\ 0 & -3/2 & +1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} y \\ z \\ u \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{matrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ t \\ u \end{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} ? & ? & ? \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ ? & ? & ? \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1/2 & -8 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -3/2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Reduced row-echelon form



$A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$
 $Ax = 0$ $\xrightarrow{\text{Gauss-Jordan}}$ reduced row-echelon form
 $r = \text{rank}(A)$

$\begin{matrix} r & n-r \\ \left[\begin{array}{cc} I & G \\ 0 & 0 \dots 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots \end{array} \right] \end{matrix}$

\downarrow permutation matrix P
 $Px = 0$ (VI)

$[I \ G]y = 0 \Rightarrow [I \ G] \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow x_1 = -Gx_2$

$[-G] = -G \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$N(B) = \begin{bmatrix} -G \\ I \end{bmatrix}$

$A = B^T P$

$Ax = 0$
 $B^T P x = 0 \Rightarrow$
 $B y = 0$ where $Px = y$
 $x = P^T y = P^{-1} y$

General $Ax=b$



$$Ax=b \quad A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n \quad b \in \mathbb{R}^m \quad (\text{VII})$$

$$\text{rank}(A) = r \leq \min(m, n)$$

$$N(A) = \checkmark$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \vec{a}_1 & \vec{a}_2 & \dots & \vec{a}_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = b \Rightarrow x_1 \vec{a}_1 + x_2 \vec{a}_2 + \dots + x_n \vec{a}_n = b$$

$$b \in \text{span}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) = C(A)$$

$b \notin C(A)$ $Ax=b$ has no ~~answers~~ solutions

$b \in C(A) \Rightarrow \exists x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ s.t.

$$x_1 \vec{a}_1 + x_2 \vec{a}_2 + \dots + x_n \vec{a}_n = \vec{b}$$

$A \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = b \Rightarrow A$ has at least one solution!

$$\exists \vec{x} : A\vec{x} = \vec{b} \quad \vec{n} \in N(A) \quad A\vec{n} = 0$$