

# Lecture 6

Solving  $Ax=b$

$$Ax=b \text{ and } Ax=0$$

# $Ax=b$ and $Ax=0$

- Recall that we discuss

Solution to  $Ax=0$  is the null space  $N(A)$ .

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a particular solution to  $Ax=b$   $\nearrow$

$\nwarrow$  solution to  $Ax=0$ .



$$Ax=b \text{ and } Ax=0$$

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- i.e. to determine whether  $Ax=b$  is consistent:  
geometrically we want to find  $C(A)$ .
- to find all solution  $x_p + x_h$ :  
geometrically we try to understand  $N(A)$ .

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- permutation matrices*
- 



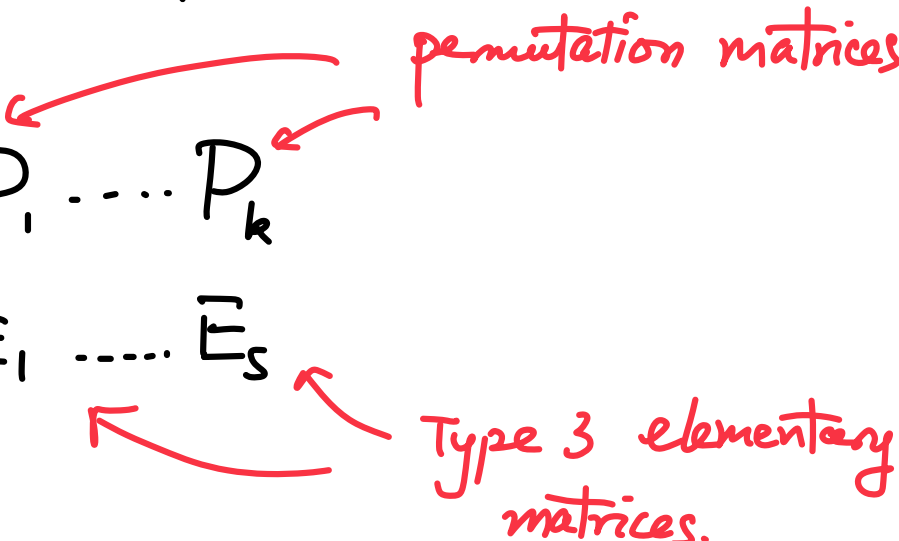
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*permutation matrices*

*Type 3 elementary matrices.*

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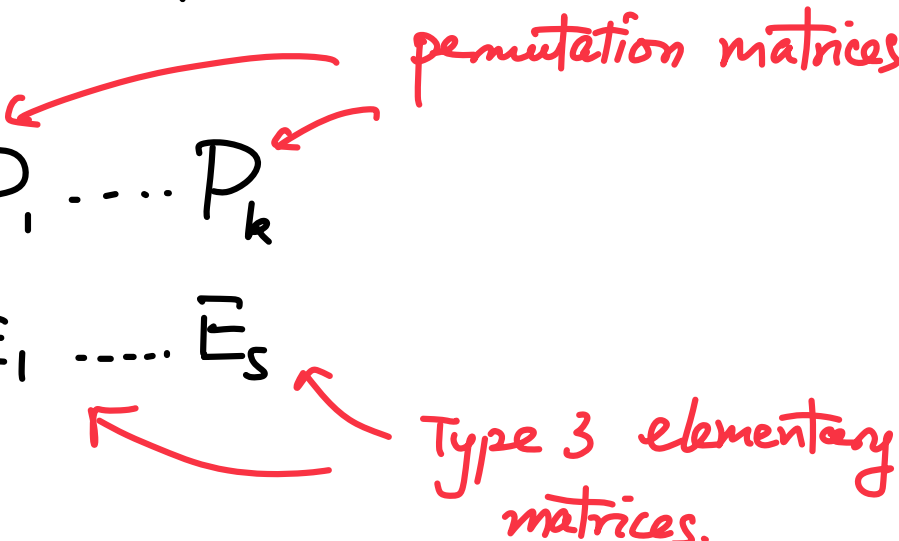
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Type 3 elementary matrices.

s.t.  $PA = LU$

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- Given any  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$
- We can have  $P = P_1 \dots P_k$   
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permutation matrices

Type 3 elementary matrices.

s.t.  $PA = LU$

- We talked about the case that  $A$  is a  $n \times n$  matrix  
the same method works here.

# Null space

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- $U$  would be in the row echelon form

$$U = \left[ \begin{array}{ccccccc} p_1 & * & * & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & p_2 & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & p_3 & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & p_4 & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

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Pivots

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Pivots

- We can further write

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} P_1 & & & & \\ & P_2 & & & \\ & & P_3 & & \\ & & & P_4 & \dots \\ & & & & 1 & \dots \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & * & * & * & * & * & * \\ & 1 & * & * & * & * & * \\ & & & 1 & * & * & * \\ & & & & 1 & * & * \\ & & & & & 1 & * \end{bmatrix}$$

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*Pivots*

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*diagonal  $m \times m$*



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Let's consider

$$\hat{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & * & * & * & * & * & * \\ & 1 & * & * & * & * & * \\ & & 1 & * & * & * & * \\ & & & \text{O} & 1 & * & * \\ & & & & & 1 & * \end{bmatrix}$$

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- By further row operation, using  $m \times m$  upper triangular matrices

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in Reduced Row Echelon form.

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$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_R$

in Reduced Row  
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e.g.

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ solve } R \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

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i.e.

$$\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} -3x_2 + x_4 \\ x_2 \\ -x_4 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} \text{ or } N(R) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -3x_2 + x_4 \\ x_2 \\ -x_4 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} \mid x_2, x_4 \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

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- minimal size of spanning set = # of free variables  
=  $n$  - non-zero rows.

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e.g.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} = 0.$$

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- then the next row:

$$x_2 + 2x_3 + 8x_5 = 0 \Rightarrow x_2 = -2x_3 - 8x_5$$

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- Finally:  $x_1 + x_3 + 3x_5 = 0 \Rightarrow x_1 = -x_3 - 3x_5.$

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$$N(A) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -x_3 - 3x_5 \\ -2x_3 - 8x_5 \\ x_3 \\ -3x_5 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} \mid x_3, x_5 \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

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$$N(A) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -x_3 - 3x_5 \\ -2x_3 - 8x_5 \\ x_3 \\ -3x_5 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} \mid x_3, x_5 \in \mathbb{R} \right\} = \text{Span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -8 \\ 0 \\ -3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$



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- Maybe you realize a quick way to write down  $N(A)$ :

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↑      ↑  
non-pivot columns  $\longleftrightarrow$  free variables  $x_3$  and  $x_5$

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- In this case: # of free variables = 2 = # non pivot columns

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non-pivot position  $\rightarrow$  1

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non-pivot position



# Null space

- $$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

↑ non-pivot columns ↔ free variables  $x_3$  and  $x_5$

- Maybe you realize a quick way to write down  $N(A)$ :
- In this case: # of free variables = 2 = # non pivot columns

$$N(A) = \text{Span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -8 \\ 0 \\ -3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

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→ non-pivot position ←

$$Ax=b$$

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e.g.:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 6 & 9 & 7 \\ -1 & -3 & 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}, \quad b = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

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solvable

$$\Leftrightarrow b_3 - 2b_2 + 5b_1 = 0.$$

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$$\begin{cases} 3x_3 = 3 \\ x_1 + 3x_3 = 1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x_3 = 1 \\ x_1 = -2 \end{cases}$$

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- As a conclusion:  $x_p = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $N(A) = \text{Span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

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- Therefore 
$$C(A) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{bmatrix} \mid b_3 - 2b_2 + 5b_1 = 0 \right\}$$

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$$= (x_1 + 3x_2 + 2x_4) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + (x_3 + 3x_4) \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

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- $C(R) = \text{Span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$

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- Another view on  $C(A)$ :

$$E^{-1}A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = R.$$

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- $$C(A) = \left\{ x_1 E \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + x_2 E \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + x_3 E \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + x_4 E \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

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• i.e. If  $L^{-1}PA = U = \begin{pmatrix} * & * & & & \\ & * & * & & \\ & & * & * & \\ & & & * & \\ 0 & & & & * \end{pmatrix}$

# Column space

•

i.e.

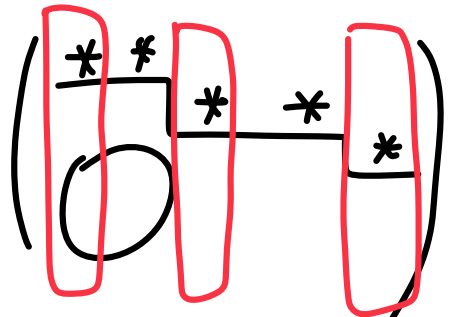
If

$$L^{-1}PA = U =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} * & * & \\ 0 & * & * \\ & & * \end{pmatrix}$$

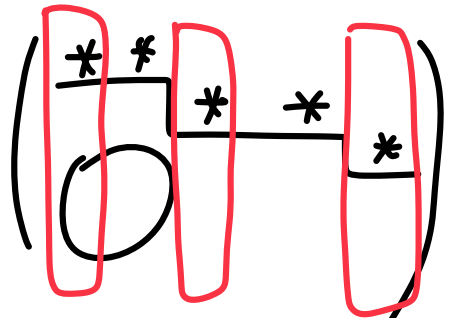
pivot columns.

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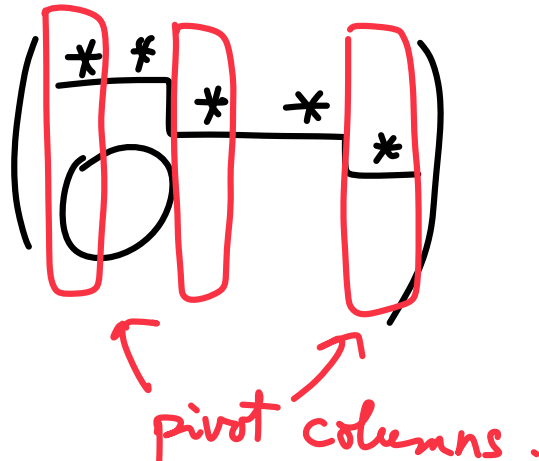
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- This is a minimal spanning set for  $C(A)$
- minimal size of spanning set = # of pivot columns.

# Column space



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# Column space

- In the earlier example:  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 6 & 9 & 7 \\ -1 & -3 & 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$

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- Pictureorially:

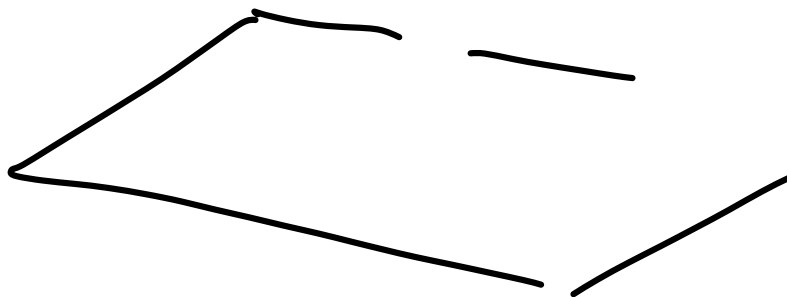
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- Pictorially:



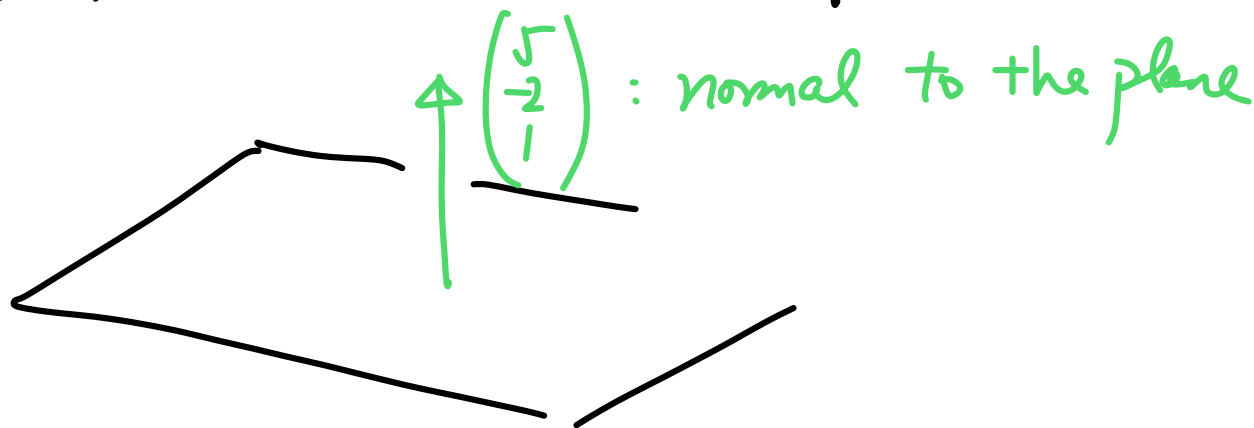
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