

Step-1

Given $b = (0, 8, 8, 20)$, we have to check that $e = b - p = (-1, 3, -5, 3)$ is perpendicular to both the columns of A and we have to find the shortest distance $\|e\|$ from b to the column space of A .

Step-2

We have

$$\begin{aligned} e &= b - p \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 8 \\ 8 \\ 20 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \\ 13 \\ 17 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \\ -5 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Step-3

Let a_1, a_2 are the columns of A , where

$$\begin{aligned} a_1 &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad a_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \\ a_1^T e &= [1 \quad 1 \quad 1 \quad 1] \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \\ -5 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= -1 + 3 - 5 + 3 \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore e is perpendicular to a_1

Step-4

And

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_2^T e &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \\ -5 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \\
 &= 0 + 3 - 15 + 12 \\
 &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore e is perpendicular to a_2

Hence e is perpendicular to both columns of A

Step-5

$\|e\|$ is the shortest distance of vector b to the column space of A .

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|e\|^2 &= e^T e \\
 &= \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3 & -5 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \\ -5 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \\
 &= 1 + 9 + 25 + 9 \\
 &= 44
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence the required shortest distance $= \sqrt{44} = 2\sqrt{11}$