

The four fundamental subspaces

Any $m \times n$ matrix A determines four subspaces (possibly containing only the zero vector)

Column space, $C(A)$: (in \mathbb{R}^m)

All comb. of the cols of A

Null space, $N(A)$: (in \mathbb{R}^n)

All sol.s of \underline{x} of $A\underline{x} = \underline{0}$

Row space, $C(A^T)$: (in \mathbb{R}^n)

All comb. of row vectors of A

(same as col. space of $A^T \Rightarrow C(A^T)$)

Left null space, $N(A^T)$: (in \mathbb{R}^m)

Null space of $A^T \Rightarrow$ All sol.s of

$$\underline{y} \text{ of } A^T \underline{y} = \underline{0}$$

($A^T \underline{y} = \underline{0} \Leftrightarrow \underline{y}^T A = \underline{0}^T$ so called left null space)

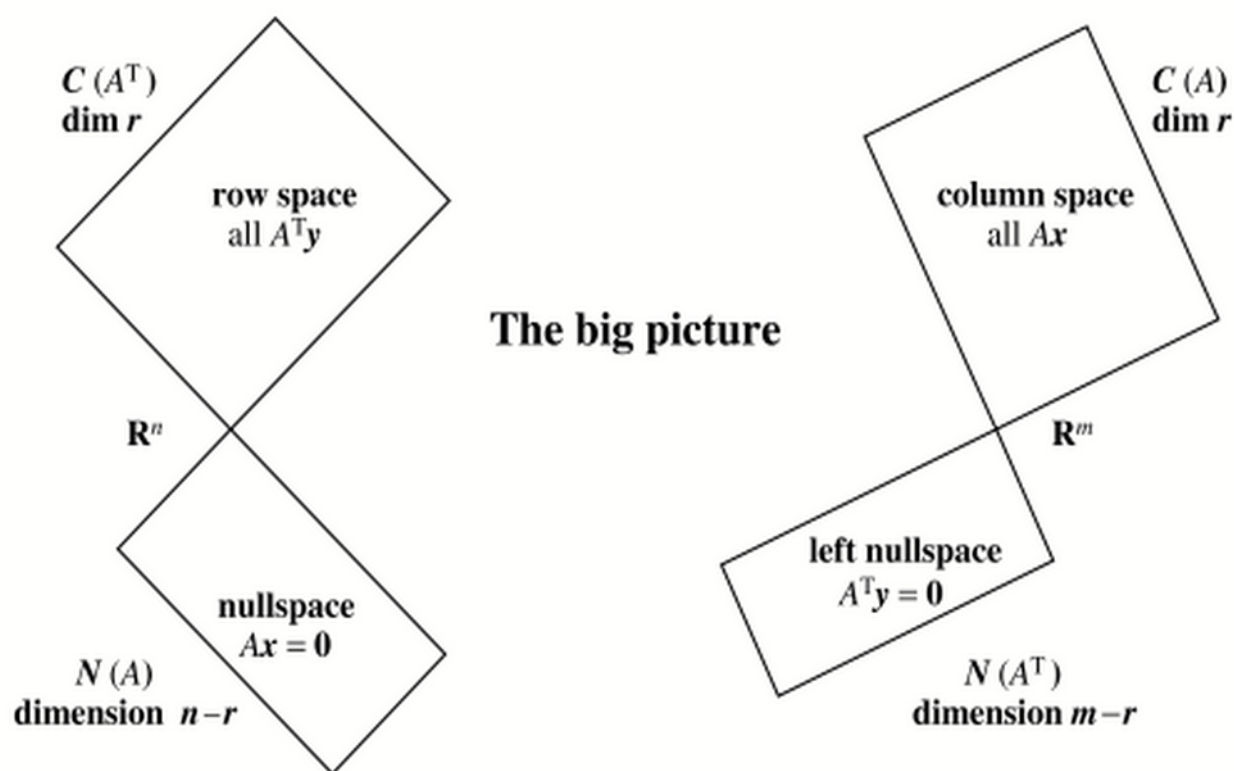


Figure 22: The dimensions of the Four Fundamental Subspaces (for R and for A).

Basis & dimension

Ex:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = R$$

$(\begin{bmatrix} I & F \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix})$

Column space $C(A)$

Dim:

$$\begin{aligned} \dim C(A) &= \text{rank}(A) \\ &= \# \text{ of pivot cols.} \end{aligned}$$

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \text{rank}(A) = \text{rank}(R) = 2$$

Basis:

the r pivot cols form a basis for $C(A)$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \boxed{1} & \boxed{2} & 2 & 1 \\ \boxed{1} & \boxed{1} & 2 & 1 \\ \boxed{1} & \boxed{2} & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \boxed{1} & \boxed{0} & 1 & 1 \\ \boxed{0} & \boxed{1} & 1 & 0 \\ \boxed{0} & \boxed{0} & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = R$$

$(C(A) \neq C(R))$, but positions of pivot cols are the same

$$\therefore R = EA \text{ or } A = E^{-1}R$$

2 pivot cols of R are cols of I)

(Another example: SES-10, p. 8)

Null space $N(A)$

Dim:

$$\begin{aligned}\dim N(A) &= \# \text{ of free cols of } A \\ &= \# \text{ of free cols of } R \\ &= n - r\end{aligned}$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = R$$

$\uparrow \quad \uparrow$ free cols $\uparrow \quad \uparrow$ free cols

$$\Rightarrow \dim N(A) = 4 - 2 = 2$$

Basis:

special sol.s to $A\underline{x} = \underline{0}$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = R$$

$(\begin{bmatrix} I & F \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix})$

$$\text{col. 3} = 1 \cdot \text{col. 1} + 1 \cdot \text{col. 2}$$

$$\text{col. 4} = 1 \cdot \text{col. 1}$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{s}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \underline{s}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ (basis)}$$

Row space $C(A^T)$

Dim :

$$\begin{aligned}\dim(CA^T) &= \# \text{ of pivot rows} \\ &= \# \text{ of pivot cols} = r\end{aligned}$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = R$$

(# of indep. cols = # of indep. rows)

Basis :

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = R$$

$$\Rightarrow R = EA$$

so rows of R are comb. of rows of A

$$\text{reversible} \Rightarrow A = E^{-1}R$$

This implies rows of A are comb. of rows of R (only pivot rows)

$$\Rightarrow C(A^T) = C(R^T)$$

& first r rows of R form the basis of $C(A^T)$

Left nullspace $N(A^T)$

Dim:

matrix A^T has m cols

From $\dim C(A^T) = r \Rightarrow \text{rank}(A^T) = r$

$\Rightarrow \#$ of pivot cols of $A^T = r$

$\Rightarrow \#$ of free cols of $A^T = m - r$

$\Rightarrow \dim N(A^T) = m - r$

Basis:

Recall: Gauss-Jordan

$$[A_{n \times n} \ I_{n \times n}] \rightarrow [I_{n \times n} \ A_{n \times n}^{-1}]$$

"
 $E_{n \times n}$

Similarly,

$$[A_{m \times n} \ I_{m \times m}] \rightarrow [R_{m \times n} \ E_{m \times m}]$$

$$EA = R$$

(This is how we obtain E directly)

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

E A R

Recall:

$$A^T \underline{y} = \underline{0} \Leftrightarrow \underline{y}^T A = \underline{0}^T$$

(so we have $\underline{y}^T = [-1 \ 0 \ 1]$)

In general, ($\because m-r = 3-2 = 1$, we only need one basis vector)
the bottom $m-r$ rows of E describes
lin. dependencies of rows of A
since the bottom $m-r$ rows of R
are zero

\Rightarrow The bottom $m-r$ rows of E
satisfies $\underline{y}^T A = \underline{0}$
 \Rightarrow they are basis for $N(A^T)$

Summary

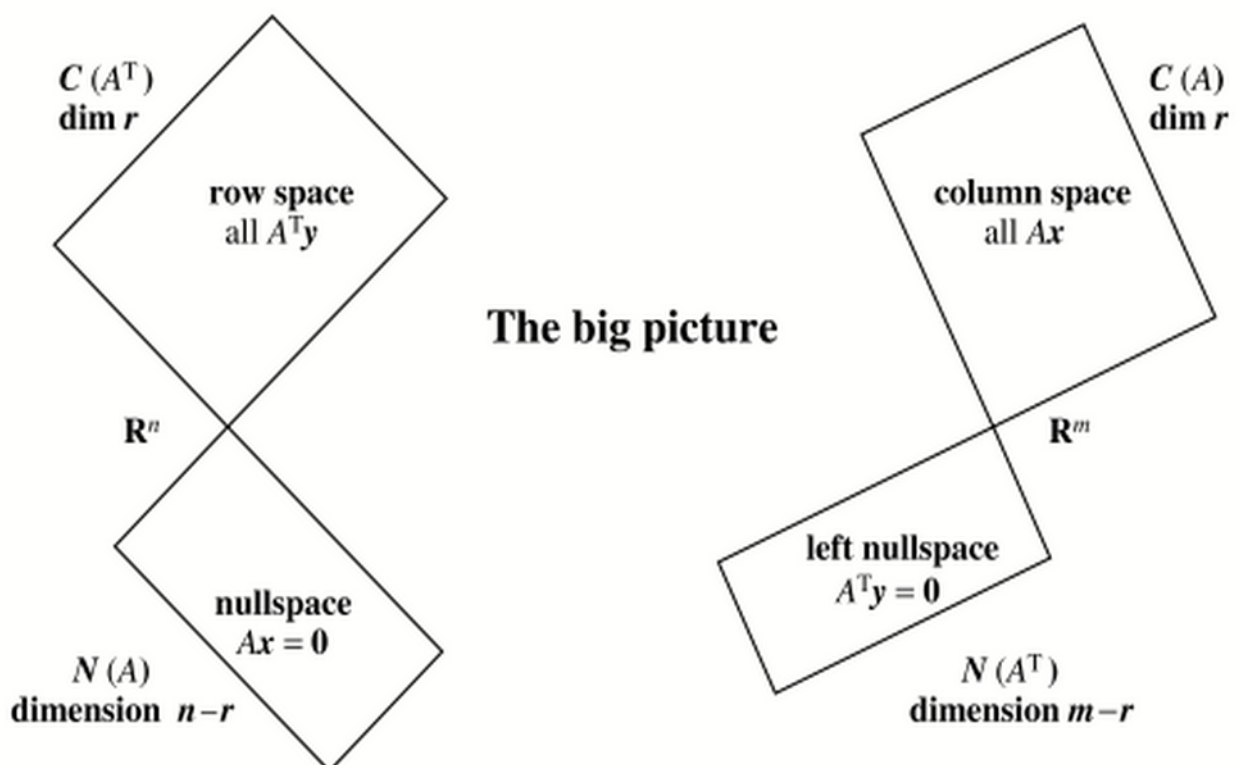


Figure 22: The dimensions of the Four Fundamental Subspaces (for R and for A).

Basis :

$C(A)$ — r pivot cols. of A ($\neq C(R)$)

$N(A)$ — $n-r$ special sol.s are a basis of $N(A)$ & $N(R)$ (same space)

$C(A^T)$ — r pivot rows of R are a basis of $C(A^T)$ & $C(R^T)$ (same space)

$N(A^T)$ — last $m-r$ rows of E are a basis of $N(A^T)$

Fundamental Thm of Linear Algebra (part I)

$C(A)$ & $C(A^T)$ both have $\dim = r$

$\dim N(A) = n-r$, $\dim N(A^T) = m-r$