

# Rank and solvability

rank: the number of pivots  $\Rightarrow r$  RZF to see redundant

for matrix  $A_{m \times n}$ , there are  $n - r$  free column  
the dimension of nullspace is  $n - r$

Full column rank  $r = n$

if all column of  $A$  are pivot column  $\Leftrightarrow$  all column linearly independent  
 $\Leftrightarrow$  no free columns (no free solution)  $\Leftrightarrow \text{Nul } A = \{ \vec{0} \}$   
 $\Leftrightarrow$  if  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  has a solution, it has exactly one solution

Full row rank  $r = m$

if all rows of  $A$  have pivot position  $\Leftrightarrow$  all rows linearly independent  
 $\Leftrightarrow n - r = n - m$  nullspace solutions  
 $\Leftrightarrow$  the column space of  $A$  spans all of  $\mathbb{R}^m$   
 $\Leftrightarrow A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  has a solution for every  $\vec{b}$

eg.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{matrix} m = r = 3 \\ n = 4 \end{matrix}$$

## Solvability

1.  $r = m = n \Rightarrow A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  1 solution, square invertible
2.  $r = m, r < n \Rightarrow A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  infinite solution
3.  $r < m, r = n \Rightarrow A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  0 or 1 solution
4.  $r < m, r < n \Rightarrow A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  infinite or no solution