

# 1 Column Space and Nullspace (L6)

## 1.1 Column Space

Given a  $4 \times 3$  matrix  $A$  whose columns are in  $R^4$  space:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 4 \\ 4 & 1 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

Column space  $C(A)$  is the linear combination of  $A$ 's columns, which forms a subspace of  $R^4$ .

$$C(A) = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + c_3 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

**Does  $Ax = b$  have a solution for every  $b$ ?**

$$Ax = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 4 \\ 4 & 1 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \\ b_4 \end{pmatrix} = b$$

No, because there are 4 equations and 3 unknowns.

**Which  $b$  allows the system to be solved?**

$$\text{e.g. } b = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad b = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow x = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

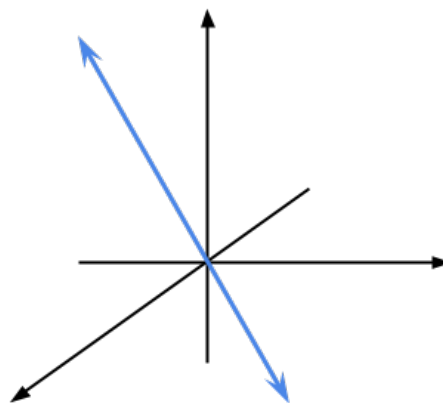
$Ax = b$  is solvable if  $b$  is the linear combination of  $A$ 's columns i.e.  $C(A)$

## 1.2 Null Space

$$Ax = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 4 \\ 4 & 1 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Null space  $N(A)$  is all the solutions  $x$  to  $Ax = 0$ , which forms a subspace of  $R^3$ .

$$x = c \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$



If  $Av = 0$  and  $Aw = 0$ , then  $A(c_1v + c_2w) = c_1Av + c_2Aw = 0$ , therefore **solutions to  $Ax = 0$  always give a subspace.**

## 2 $Ax = 0$ , Special Solutions, Reduced Row Form (L7)

### 2.1 Example: Solving $Ax = 0$

Given a matrix  $A$  for 3 equations and 4 unknowns:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 & 6 & 8 \\ 3 & 6 & 8 & 10 \end{pmatrix}$$

Third row of  $A$  is dependent on the first and second i.e.  $r_3 = r_1 + r_2$ . Second column of  $A$  is dependent on the first i.e.  $c_2 = 2c_1$ .

Run eliminations to derive  $U$  in an echelon (staircase) form:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \boxed{1} & 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 & 6 & 8 \\ 3 & 6 & 8 & 10 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{1} & 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 2-2*1 & 4-2*2 & 6-2*2 & 8-2*2 \\ 3-3*1 & 6-3*2 & 8-3*2 & 10-3*2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{1} & 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \boxed{1} & 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{2} & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{1} & 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{2} & 4 \\ 0-0 & 0-0 & 2-2 & 4-4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{1} & 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{2} & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = U$$

- Pivot Column:  $c_1$  and  $c_3$
- Pivot Rows:  $r_1$  and  $r_2$
- Free Columns:  $c_2$  and  $c_4 \Rightarrow$  Any values can be assigned to  $x_2$  and  $x_4$
- Rank  $r$ : Number of pivots = 2 (1 at  $U_{11}$  and 2 at  $U_{23}$ )
- Number of free variables:  $n - r = 4 - 2 = 2$  ( $x_2$  and  $x_4$ )

Equations we have are:

$$\begin{cases} x_1 + 2x_2 + 2x_3 + 2x_4 = 0 \\ \phantom{x_1} \phantom{+2x_2} 2x_3 + 4x_4 = 0 \end{cases}$$

We can assign specific values to  $x_2$  and  $x_4$  and solve equations to derive  $x_1$  and  $x_3$ . We'll call these special solutions:

$$\begin{cases} x_2 = 1 \\ x_4 = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x_1 = -2 \\ x_3 = 0 \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} x_2 = 0 \\ x_4 = 1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x_1 = 2 \\ x_3 = -2 \end{cases}$$

Null space (all solutions to  $Ax = 0$ ) is the linear combination of the special solutions:

$$N(A) = c \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + d \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

## 2.2 Reduced Row Echelon Form (RREF)

Matrix is in a RREF when all pivots are 1s and there are all 0s below and above the pivots.

For example, starting with  $U$  from the previous section:

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{1} & 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{2} & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 - 0 = 1 & 2 - 0 = 2 & 2 - 2 = 0 & 2 - 4 = -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & -2 \\ 0/2 = 0 & 0 = 0 & 2/2 = 1 & 4/2 = 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$R = RREF(A) = \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{1} & 2 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{1} & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Notice how the pivot columns and rows of  $R$  forms an identity matrix  $I$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} \boxed{1} & 2 & \boxed{0} & -2 \\ \boxed{0} & 0 & \boxed{1} & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \boxed{1} & \boxed{0} \\ \boxed{0} & \boxed{1} \end{bmatrix} = I$$

Similarly the free columns and rows of  $R$  forms a matrix  $F$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & \boxed{2} & 0 & \boxed{-2} \\ 0 & \boxed{0} & 1 & \boxed{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \boxed{2} & \boxed{-2} \\ \boxed{0} & \boxed{2} \end{bmatrix} = F$$

Those matrices  $I$  and  $F$  form the special solutions from the previous section:

$$\begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ \boxed{1} \\ 0 \\ \boxed{0} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ \boxed{0} \\ -2 \\ \boxed{1} \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = I \quad \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{-2} \\ 1 \\ \boxed{0} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{2} \\ 0 \\ \boxed{-2} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 2 \\ 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix} = -F$$

In general,  $R$  ( $A$  in RREF) can be broken down into  $I$ ,  $F$ , and zeros.  $I$  and  $F$  form the null space matrix  $N$  i.e. the columns of  $I$  and  $F$  form special solutions.

$$Rx = \begin{pmatrix} I & F \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_{pivot} \\ x_{free} \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$x_{pivot} = -Fx_{free} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x_{pivot} &= -F \\ x_{free} &= I \end{cases}$$

$$RN = 0 \Rightarrow N = x = \begin{pmatrix} -F \\ I \end{pmatrix}$$

## 2.3 Additional Example

Eliminations from  $A$  to  $U$ :

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{1} & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 4 & 6 \\ 2 & 6 & 8 \\ 2 & 8 & 10 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{1} & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & \boxed{0} & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 4 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{1} & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & \boxed{2} & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{1} & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & \boxed{2} & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = U$$

- Pivot columns:  $c_1$  and  $c_2 \Rightarrow \text{Rank} = 2$
- Free columns:  $c_3$

Assign  $x_3 = 1$ :

$$\begin{cases} x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 0 \\ \quad 2x_2 + 2x_3 = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x_1 = -1 \\ x_2 = -1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow x = c \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = N(A)$$

Eliminations from  $U$  to  $R$ :

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{1} & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & \boxed{2} & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{1} & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & \boxed{2} & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{1} & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & \boxed{1} & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = R$$

### 3 Solving $Ax = b$ (L8)

Is there a solution? Is the solution unique?

$$\begin{cases} x_1 + 2x_2 + 2x_3 + 2x_4 = b_1 \\ 2x_1 + 4x_2 + 6x_3 + 8x_4 = b_2 \\ 3x_1 + 6x_2 + 8x_3 + 10x_4 = b_3 \end{cases} \Rightarrow Ax = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 & 6 & 8 \\ 3 & 6 & 8 & 10 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Run eliminations on an augmented matrix  $(A \mid b)$  until the left side is in an echelon form:

$$\left( \begin{array}{cccc|c} \boxed{1} & 2 & 2 & 2 & b_1 \\ 2 & 4 & 6 & 8 & b_2 \\ 3 & 6 & 8 & 10 & b_3 \end{array} \right) \Rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{cccc|c} \boxed{1} & 2 & 2 & 2 & b_1 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{2} & 4 & b_2 - 2b_1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 4 & b_3 - 3b_1 \end{array} \right) \Rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{cccc|c} \boxed{1} & 2 & 2 & 2 & b_1 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{2} & 4 & b_2 - 2b_1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & b_3 - b_2 - b_1 \end{array} \right)$$

The third row shows the equations are solvable if  $b_3 - b_2 - b_1 = 0$  e.g.  $b = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$

#### Solvability

$Ax = b$  is solvable when  $b$  is in  $C(A)$ . If a combination of  $A$ 's rows give a zero row, some combination of  $b$ 's entries must also give zero.

#### 3.1 Complete Solution for $Ax = b$

Find the particular solution  $x_p$  by setting all free variables to 0s and solving  $Ax = b$  for pivot variables:

$$\begin{cases} x_1 + 2x_2 + 2x_3 + 2x_4 = b_1 \\ \phantom{x_1} + 2x_3 + 4x_4 = b_2 - 2b_1 \end{cases} \quad b = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{cases} x_2 = 0 \\ x_4 = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x_1 = -2 \\ x_3 = \frac{3}{2} \end{cases}$$

$$x_p = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \\ \frac{3}{2} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Complete solution for  $Ax = b$  is a combination of  $x_p$  and the null space  $x_n$ :

$$Ax_p = b \quad Ax_n = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad A(x_p + x_n) = b$$

$$x_{complete} = x_p + x_n = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \\ \frac{3}{2} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + c_1 \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

### 3.2 Full Ranks

$A$  is a  $m \times n$  matrix with rank  $r \Rightarrow r \leq m, r \leq n$

**Full Column Rank:**  $r = n < m$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 \\ 6 & 1 \\ 5 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow R = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Every column is a pivot column. No free columns.
- Null space  $N(A)$  contains only the zero vector.
- $Ax = b$  0 or 1 solutions, depending on  $b$ .
- If  $Ax = b$  has a solution,  $x = x_p$  i.e. unique solution.

**Full Row Rank:**  $r = m < n$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 6 & 5 \\ 3 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow R = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & - & - \\ 0 & 1 & - & - \end{pmatrix}$$

- $m$  pivot columns,  $n - m$  free columns.
- $Ax = b$  has  $\infty$  solutions for any  $b$ .

**Square Full Rank:**  $r = m = n$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow R = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- $R$  is an identity matrix.

- $Ax = b$  has 1 solution for any given  $b$ .

$r, m, n$	Number of Solutions	$R$
$r = n = m$	1	$\begin{pmatrix} I \end{pmatrix}$
$r = n < m$	0 or 1	$\begin{pmatrix} I \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$
$r = m < n$	$\infty$	$\begin{pmatrix} I & F \end{pmatrix}$
$r < m, n$	0 or $\infty$	$\begin{pmatrix} I & F \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$



## 4 Independence, Basis, Dimension (L9)

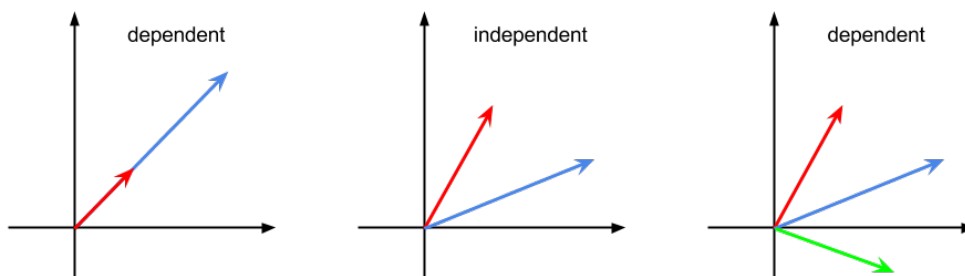
Suppose  $m < n$  for a  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$ , there are non-zero solutions to  $Ax = 0$ . Why?

- More unknowns than equations.
- There will be free variables.

### 4.1 Independence

Vectors  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  are independent if no combination gives a zero vector except when all coefficients are zeros:

$$c_1x_1 + c_2x_2 + \dots + c_nx_n \neq 0 \quad \text{if } c_i \neq 0 \text{ for some } i$$



Given  $A$ 's columns consist of  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ :

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 & x_2 & \dots & x_n \\ x_1 & x_2 & \dots & x_n \end{pmatrix}$$

If  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  are independent:

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 & x_2 & \dots & x_n \\ x_1 & x_2 & \dots & x_n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{only if} \quad \begin{cases} c_1 = 0 \\ c_2 = 0 \\ c_3 = 0 \end{cases}$$

In other words, they are independent if  $N(A)$  contains only the zero vector i.e.  $\text{rank}(A) < n$  and there are no free variables. They're dependent if  $Ac = 0$  for some non-zero  $c$ .

### 4.2 Span

Vectors  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  span a space when the space consists of all combinations of those vectors.

### 4.3 Basis

Vectors  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  are basis for a space when they are independent *and* span the space. Standard basis for space  $R^3$  is:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Another example of basis for space  $R^3$  is:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 8 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Basis of  $R^n$ :  $n$  vectors give basis of  $R^n$  if  $n \times n$  matrix with those columns is invertible.
- Given a space, every basis for the space has the same number of vectors. This number is the dimension of the space.

### 4.4 Example

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad N(A) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Given the space  $C(A)$ : Column vectors of  $A$  span the space.

There are 2 pivot columns because only the first and second columns are independent. Therefore rank of  $A$  i.e. dimension of  $C(A)$  is 2.

One example of basis for  $C(A)$ :

$$2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + 2 \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 5 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}$$

They are independent, both in  $C(A)$ . We need two vectors since the dimension is 2.

Now given the space  $N(A)$  instead, the dimension of  $N(A)$  i.e. number of free variables is 2.

One example of basis for  $N(A)$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

## 5 The Four Fundamental Subspaces (L10)

Given a  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$ :

- Column space  $C(A)$  in  $R^m$
- Null space  $N(A)$  in  $R^n$
- Row space = All combinations of  $A$ 's rows i.e.  $A^T$ 's columns =  $C(A^T)$  in  $R^n$
- Null space of  $A^T = N(A^T)$  in  $R^m$

	Space	Basis	Dimension
$C(A)$	$R^m$	pivot columns	$rank(A) = r$
$N(A^T)$	$R^m$		$m - r$
Row space	$R^n$		$r$
$N(A)$	$R^n$	special solutions	$n - r$

### 5.1 Row Space Example

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{1} & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & \boxed{1} & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = R$$

- Different column spaces:  $C(A) \neq C(R)$
- Same row spaces:  $R(A) = R(R)$
- Basis for row space is the first  $r$  rows of  $R$

### 5.2 Null Space of $A^T$

$$A^T y = 0 \Rightarrow y^T A^{TT} = y^T A = 0^T$$

$$rref((A_{m \times n} \mid I_{m \times m})) = E(A_{m \times n} \mid I_{m \times m}) = (R_{m \times n} \mid E_{m \times m})$$

$$\text{e.g. } EA = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \\ \boxed{-1} & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ \boxed{0} & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = R$$

Third row of  $E$  is the combination of rows that gives zeros i.e.  $y^T$