

## Sect 4.6 : Rank

Goal: We want to look at the properties and relationships between the rows and columns of a matrix.

Begin by recalling the transpose of a matrix

Ex

$$B = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ -1 & 0 \\ 4 & 5 \end{vmatrix} \Rightarrow B^T = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & -1 & 4 \\ 2 & 0 & 5 \end{vmatrix}$$

2x3

3x2

Recently, we have been looking at Col A,  
 the set of linear combinations of the columns  
 of A. One idea is to look at  
 the linear combinations of the rows of A,  
 (i.e., the columns of  $A^T$ )

### Def

The row space of a matrix  $A$  is the set of all linear combinations of the rows of  $A$ , denoted  $\text{Row } A$ .

↳ equivalent to the span of the rows of  $A$

### Ex

$$A = \begin{vmatrix} -2 & -5 & 8 & 0 & -17 \\ 1 & 3 & -5 & 1 & 5 \\ 3 & 11 & -19 & 7 & 1 \\ 1 & 7 & -13 & 5 & -3 \end{vmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{4 \times 5}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \underline{r}_1 = \begin{vmatrix} -2 & -5 & 8 & 0 & -17 \end{vmatrix} \\ \underline{r}_2 = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 & -5 & 1 & 5 \end{vmatrix} \\ \underline{r}_3 = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 11 & -19 & 7 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \\ \underline{r}_4 = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 7 & -13 & 5 & -3 \end{vmatrix} \end{array} \right\} \text{rows of } A$$

$$\text{Row } A = \text{span} \{ \underline{r}_1, \underline{r}_2, \underline{r}_3, \underline{r}_4 \}$$

$$= \left\{ \underline{x} \mid \underline{x} = c_1 \underline{r}_1 + c_2 \underline{r}_2 + c_3 \underline{r}_3 + c_4 \underline{r}_4 \right\} \text{ for weights } c_1, \dots, c_4 \in \mathbb{R}$$

↖ can write  $\underline{r}_j$  as row vectors or column vectors as needed, just be clear

### Facts

- $\text{Row } A = \text{Col } A^T$  and  $\text{Col } A = \text{Row } A^T$

- Theorem: If two matrices  $A$  and  $B$  are row equivalent, then  $\text{Row } A = \text{Row } B$ .  
If  $B$  is in echelon form, then the nonzero rows of  $B$  form a basis for the row space of both  $A$  and  $B$ .

↳ slightly different than  $\text{Col } A$ , where we had to use the columns of the original matrix  $A$ , not the reduced  $B$ .

Ex Find  $\text{Row } A$ ,  $\text{Col } A$ , and  $\text{Nul } A$  for

$$A = \begin{vmatrix} -2 & -5 & 8 & 0 & -17 \\ 1 & 3 & -5 & 1 & 5 \\ 3 & 11 & -19 & 7 & 1 \\ 1 & 7 & -13 & 5 & -3 \end{vmatrix}$$

Start by row reducing to find  $\text{Row } A \nsubseteq \text{Col } A$

$$\sim \begin{array}{c|ccccc} \left| \begin{array}{ccccc} -2 & -5 & 8 & 0 & -17 \\ 1 & 3 & -5 & 1 & 5 \\ 3 & 11 & -19 & 7 & 1 \\ 1 & 7 & -13 & 5 & -3 \end{array} \right| & \sim & \left| \begin{array}{ccccc} 1 & 3 & -5 & 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 2 & -7 \\ 0 & 2 & -4 & 4 & -14 \\ 0 & 4 & -8 & 4 & -8 \end{array} \right| \\ \left| \begin{array}{ccccc} 1 & 3 & -5 & 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 2 & -7 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -4 & 20 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right| & & \end{array}$$

Then  $\text{Col } A = \text{span} \{ \underline{a}_1, \underline{a}_2, \underline{a}_4 \}$

$$= \text{span} \left\{ \begin{vmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{vmatrix}, \begin{vmatrix} -5 \\ 3 \\ 11 \\ 7 \end{vmatrix}, \begin{vmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 7 \\ 5 \end{vmatrix} \right\}$$

$$\text{Row } A = \text{span} \{ \underline{c}_1, \underline{c}_2, \underline{c}_3 \}$$

$$= \text{span} \left\{ \begin{vmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ -5 \\ 1 \\ 5 \end{vmatrix}, \begin{vmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -2 \\ 2 \\ -7 \end{vmatrix}, \begin{vmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ -4 \\ 20 \end{vmatrix} \right\}$$



make sure to use the rows of the row-reduced matrix, not the original  $A$

To get  $\text{Nul } A$ , we must solve  $A\underline{x} = 0$ ,  
the homogeneous system

$$\sim \begin{vmatrix} -2 & -5 & 8 & 0 & -17 & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & -5 & 1 & 5 & 0 \\ 3 & 11 & -19 & 7 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 7 & -13 & 5 & -3 & 0 \end{vmatrix} \sim \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 & -5 & 1 & 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 2 & -7 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -4 & 20 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\sim \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 & -5 & 0 & 10 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix} \sim \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\underline{x} = \begin{vmatrix} -x_3 - x_5 \\ 2x_3 - 3x_5 \\ x_3 \\ 5x_5 \\ x_5 \end{vmatrix} \Rightarrow \underline{x} = x_3 \begin{vmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{vmatrix} + x_5 \begin{vmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ 5 \\ 1 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Nul } A = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{vmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{vmatrix}, \begin{vmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ 5 \\ 1 \end{vmatrix} \right\}$$

- To check if  $\underline{w}$  is in Row  $A$ , see if  $A^T \underline{x} = \underline{w}$  is consistent, so solve for  $\underline{x}$ .

Next, we want introduce some theorems which establish important relationships between the subspaces & their dimensions. We also introduce the idea of rank.

### Def

The rank of  $A$  is the dimension of the column space of  $A$

↳ # pivot columns in the echelon form of  $A$

↳ # basis vectors for  $\text{Col } A$

↳  $\text{rank } A = \dim(\text{Col } A) = \dim(\text{Row } A)$

The nullity of  $A$  is the dimension of the null space of  $A$

↳ # basis vectors for  $\text{Null } A$

↳ # free variables in  $Ax = \underline{0}$

## Rank Theorem (Rank-Nullity Theorem)

The dimensions of  $\text{Col } A$  and  $\text{Row } A$  for an  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$  are equal, and equal rank  $A$ .

This dimension,  $\text{rank } A$ , satisfies the following equation:

# cols in  $A$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{equivalent} \\ \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{rank } A + \text{nullity } A = n \\ \dim(\text{Col } A) + \dim(\text{Nul } A) = n \end{array} \right. \end{array}$$

Ex

For  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{7 \times 9}$  and  $\dim(\text{Nul } A) = 2$ , what is  $\text{rank } A$ ?

We have # columns =  $n = 9$ , so the relation between rank & nullity satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} \text{rank } A + \text{nullity } A &= n \\ \text{rank } A + 2 &= 9 \\ \text{rank } A &= 7 \end{aligned}$$

Ex

Can  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{6 \times 9}$  have  $\dim(\text{Nul } A) = 2$ ?

Again, # cols. in  $A = n = 9$ , so the rank-nullity relation is

$$\text{rank } A + \text{nullity } A = n$$

$$\text{rank } A + 2 = 9$$

$$\text{rank } A = 7$$

However, the columns of  $A$  are in  $\mathbb{R}^6$ ,  
so  $\dim(\text{Col } A)$  cannot exceed 6  
(can't have more than 6 basis vectors  
for  $\text{Col } A$  because it is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^6$ )  
So,  $\text{rank } A \leq 6$  cannot equal 7,  
so the dimension of  $\text{Null } A$  cannot be 2.

### Note

- In general,  $\text{rank}(A) = \dim(\text{Col } A) = \dim(\text{Null } A)$   
for  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  cannot exceed  $\min\{m, n\}$

Lastly, we want to extend the invertible matrix theorem from Ch. 2, 3.

### Theorem (IMT Cont...)

Let  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  a square matrix, then the following statements are equivalent to  $A$  being an invertible matrix.

- a.) the columns of  $A$  are a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$
- b.)  $\text{Col } A = \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\text{Row } A = \mathbb{R}^n$
- c.)  $\text{rank } A = \dim(\text{Col } A) = n$
- d.)  $\text{Null } A = \{\mathbf{0}\}$ , the zero subspace

$$q) \text{ nullity } A = \dim(Nul A) = 0$$