

Sect 2.9: Dimension & Rank

Goal: Continue building on our understanding about sets of vectors in \mathbb{R}^n

We ended last class by introducing the idea of a basis.

Def A basis for a subspace H of \mathbb{R}^n is a linearly independent set in H that spans all of H .

Key Idea: Let $\mathcal{B} = \{ \underline{b}_1, \dots, \underline{b}_p \}$ be a basis of p vectors for the subspace H . The vectors of \mathcal{B} span H , i.e. any vector $\underline{x} \in H$ can be written as a lin. comb. of vectors in \mathcal{B}

$$\underline{x} = c_1 \underline{b}_1 + c_2 \underline{b}_2 + \dots + c_p \underline{b}_p$$

for $c_1, \dots, c_p \in \mathbb{R}$ scalars.

\hookrightarrow The scalars c_1, \dots, c_p are unique, i.e., there is one unique to express $\underline{x} \in H$ in terms of \mathcal{B} .

Pf. Assume there are other scalars d_1, \dots, d_p such that

$$\underline{x} = d_1 \underline{b}_1 + d_2 \underline{b}_2 + \dots + d_p \underline{b}_p$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}\underline{0} &= \underline{x} - \underline{x} \\ &= (c_1 \underline{b}_1 + \dots + c_p \underline{b}_p) - (d_1 \underline{b}_1 + \dots + d_p \underline{b}_p) \\ &= (c_1 - d_1) \underline{b}_1 + (c_2 - d_2) \underline{b}_2 + \dots + (c_p - d_p) \underline{b}_p\end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow (c_j - d_j) = 0 \quad \text{for all } j=1 \dots p$$

$$\Rightarrow c_j = d_j \quad \text{for all } j=1 \dots p$$

So, we have a contradiction \Rightarrow \underline{c} are unique.

Def. Suppose the set $\mathcal{B} = \{\underline{b}_1, \dots, \underline{b}_p\}$ is a basis for a subspace H . For each \underline{x} in H , the coordinates of \underline{x} relative to \mathcal{B} are the weights c_1, \dots, c_p such that

$$\underline{x} = c_1 \underline{b}_1 + c_2 \underline{b}_2 + \dots + c_p \underline{b}_p$$

We call the vector

$$|\underline{x}|_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ \vdots \\ c_p \end{bmatrix}$$

the coordinate vector of \underline{x} relative to \mathcal{B} .

Remark

- You've already been doing this with the standard basis without knowing it.

Consider the standard basis in \mathbb{R}^3

$$\underline{e}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \underline{e}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \underline{e}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

We can express any point $(5, 2, -1)$ in \mathbb{R}^3 in terms of the standard basis

$$5 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + 2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} - 1 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = \underline{x}$$

Our vector \underline{x} is really the coordinate vector of \underline{x} relative to the standard basis.

Ex How can we find $c_1 \dots c_p$ for a different basis?

$$\text{Let } \underline{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 6 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \underline{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \underline{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 12 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ and } \mathcal{B} = \{\underline{v}_1, \underline{v}_2\}$$

be a basis for a subspace H . Can we find $[\underline{x}]_{\mathcal{B}}$. We need c_1 & c_2 such that

$$\underline{x} = c_1 \underline{v}_1 + c_2 \underline{v}_2$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ 6 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 12 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solving, we get

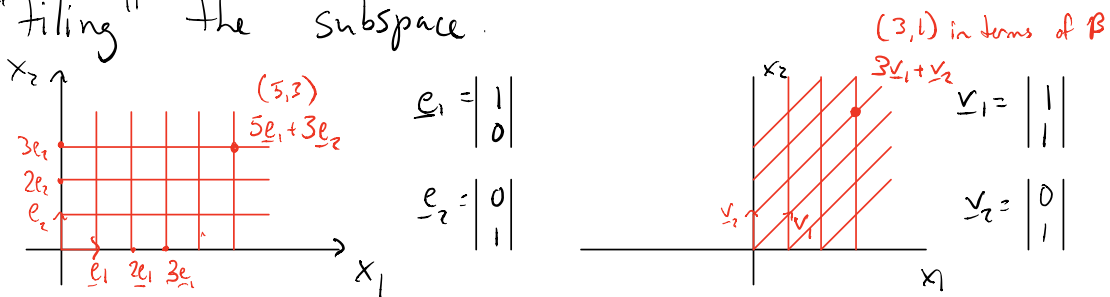
$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 & 3 \\ 6 & 0 & 12 \\ 2 & 1 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \sim \dots \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{matrix} c_1 = 2 \\ c_2 = 3 \end{matrix}$$

$$\text{So } [x]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Note: If the system is inconsistent, x is not in H and cannot express in terms of the basis \mathcal{B} .

Geometric Interpretation (\mathbb{R}^2)

We can view the vectors of a basis as "tiling" the subspace.



Dimension & Rank

Def. The dimension of a nonzero subspace H , denoted $\dim H$, is the number of vectors in any basis of H .

\hookrightarrow The dimension of $H = \{0\}$ is defined as zero.

Ex \mathbb{R}^n has dimension n . For example, the n vectors of the standard basis form a basis for \mathbb{R}^n .

Def The rank of a matrix, denote $\text{rank } A$, is the dimension of its column space, $\text{col } A$.

↳ since the pivot columns of A form a basis for $\text{Col } A$, the rank of A is the number of pivot columns.

Ex Find $\text{rank } A$ for $A = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 5 & -3 & -4 & 8 \\ 4 & 7 & -4 & -3 & 9 \\ 6 & 9 & -5 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & -9 & 6 & 5 & -6 \end{vmatrix}$

$$\begin{vmatrix} 2 & 5 & -3 & -4 & 8 \\ 4 & 7 & -4 & -3 & 9 \\ 6 & 9 & -5 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & -9 & 6 & 5 & -6 \end{vmatrix} \sim \dots \sim \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 5 & -3 & -4 & 8 \\ 0 & -3 & 2 & 5 & -7 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 4 & -6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix}$$

3 pivot columns $\Rightarrow \text{rank } A = 3$

Rank-Nullity Theorem

If A has n columns, then
 $\text{rank } A + \dim(\text{Nul } A) = n$

Basis Theorem

Let H be a p -dimensional subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .
Any linearly independent set of p elements of H is a basis of H . Also, any set of p elements that spans H is a basis of H .

↳ Finding a basis just means finding p lin. ind. vectors in H .

↳ Foreshadowing: we can generate these basis vectors.

Invertible Matrix Theorem (Continued)

Let A be an $n \times n$ matrix, the following are equivalent.

(a)-(l) previously in Sect. 2.3

m.) the columns of A form a basis for \mathbb{R}^n

n.) $\text{Col } A = \mathbb{R}^n$

o.) $\dim(\text{Col } A) = n$

p.) $\text{Nul } A = \{0\}$

r.) $\dim(\text{Nul } A) = 0$

Ex Determine the dimension of the subspace H of \mathbb{R}^3 spanned by

$$v_1 = \begin{vmatrix} 2 \\ -8 \\ 6 \end{vmatrix} \quad v_2 = \begin{vmatrix} 3 \\ -7 \\ -1 \end{vmatrix} \quad v_3 = \begin{vmatrix} -1 \\ 6 \\ -7 \end{vmatrix}$$

Row reduce

$$\begin{vmatrix} 2 & 3 & -1 \\ -8 & -7 & 6 \\ 6 & -1 & -7 \end{vmatrix} \sim \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 5 & 2 \\ 0 & -10 & -4 \end{vmatrix} \sim \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 5 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix}$$

2 pivot columns $\Rightarrow \dim H = 2$

$A = [v_1 \ v_2 \ v_3]$ then $\dim(\text{Col } A) = \text{rank } A = 2$

$$\dim(\text{Nul } A) = 3 - \text{rank } A = 1$$