

Some Examples Using Theorem 9

Here we discuss, in some detail, three examples which illustrate the algorithm provided in the proof of Theorem 9. As these examples employ the notation used in the proof of Theorem 9 - you should look over the proof of Theorem 9.

Ex 1: $A = A_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$

In this case, $j_1 = 2$ - since the first nonzero column of A_0 is column 2.

Also $i_1 = 2$ - since the nonzero entry in the 2nd-column of A_0 is in the 2nd-row of A_0 .

Since $i_1 = 2 > 1$, A_1 is obtained by interchanging the rows of A_0 - so

$$A_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Since $a_{1j_1}^{(1)} = a_{12}^{(1)} = 1$, $A_2 = A_1$.

Also, since $a_{2j_1}^{(2)} = a_{22}^{(2)} = 0$, $A_3 = A_2$.

Thus,

$$A_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Since $m=2$ in this example, A_3 plays

the role of Γ_5 in the proof of
the Base Case.

In this example

$$T_3 = [0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 3]$$

and

$$B_3 = [0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 2].$$

Observe that T_3 is a 1×5 matrix
in RREF having a pivot in the j_1 -st = 2nd
column. Also the first $j_1 = 2$ columns of
 B_3 have only zero entries.

We now use the Inductive Step - with $l=1$.

j_2 = the first nonzero column of B_3
= 5.

Since there is a nonzero entry at the top of the j_2 -nd = 5^{th} column of B_3 , $A_4 = A_3$.

Since $a_{2j_2}^{(4)} = a_{25}^{(4)} = 2 \neq 1$, A_5 is obtained by multiplying the second row of A_4 by $\frac{1}{2}$.

Thus,

$$A_5 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

We are now in the clean up process of the proof of the Inductive Step.

In this case, this means that we must

replace the 3 appearing in the $a_{1j_2}^{(5)}$ entry,

or the $a_{15}^{(5)}$ entry, with a 0. This is

accomplished by adding -3 times the

2nd row of A_5 to the 1st row of

A_5 - and yields

$$A_6 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

A_6 is in RREF.

Ex 2:

$$A = A_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

In this example, $j_1 =$ the 1st nonzero column of A_0 is 1.

Since $a_{1j_1}^{(0)} \neq 0$, $A_1 = A_0$.

Since $a_{1j_1}^{(0)} = a_{11}^{(0)} = 1$, $A_2 = A_1$. Thus,

$$A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix},$$

and we now enter into the clean up portion of the Base Case.

Since $a_{2j_1}^{(2)} = a_{21}^{(2)} = 4$, we add -4 times the 1st row of A_2 to the 2nd row of A_2 - obtaining

$$A_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & -3 & -6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Since $a_{3j_1}^{(3)} = a_{31}^{(3)} = 7$, we now add -7 times the 1st row of A_3 to the 3rd row of A_3 - which yields

$$A_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & -3 & -6 \\ 0 & -6 & -12 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Since $m = 3$ in this example,

A_4 plays the role of A_5 in the proof of the Base Case.

As such,

$$T_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$B_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -3 & -6 \\ 0 & -6 & -12 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Note that T_4 is a 1×3 matrix in

RREF, having a pivot in the $j_1 = 1$

column. Also, the first $j_1 = 1$ columns

of B_4 are columns whose entries

are all zeros.

We now enter into the Inductive

Step. Note that $j_2 = 2$ - since the

first nonzero column of B_4 is its 2nd column. Since the top entry in the $j_2 = 2^{\text{nd}}$ column of B_4 is nonzero, $A_5 = A_4$. Since $a_{2j_2}^{(5)} = a_{22}^{(5)} = -3$, A_6 is obtained by multiplying the 2nd row of A_5 by $-\frac{1}{3}$ - yielding

$$A_6 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & -6 & -12 \end{bmatrix}.$$

We now enter into the clean up phase of the Inductive Step. Since

$$a_{3j_2}^{(6)} = a_{32}^{(6)} = -6,$$

A_7 is obtained by adding 6 times the 2nd row of A_6 to the 3rd row

of A_6 . Thus

$$A_7 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Since $a_{1j_2}^{(7)} = a_{12}^{(7)} = 2$, A_8 is

obtained by adding -2 times

the 2nd row of A_7 to the 1st row

of A_7 . So

$$A_8 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

This completes the 1st application

of the Inductive Step in this

example. Note that

$$T_8 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$B_8 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Observe that T_8 is a 2×3 matrix in RREF, having pivots in both the $j_1 = 1$ and $j_2 = 2$ columns. Also, the first $j_2 = 2$ columns of B_8 consist solely of zeros.

In many cases we would have to repeat the Inductive Step - starting with A_8 - to improve the 3rd row. However, in this case B_8 is a zero matrix - so A_8 is in RREF.

Ex 3:

$$A = A_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 2 & 4 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 6 & 0 & 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Here $j_1 = 1$ - since the 1st column of A_0 is nonzero. However $a_{1j_1}^{(0)} = a_{11}^{(0)} = 0$.

In fact $i_1 = 3$ - since this is the highest nonzero entry in the 1st column.

Thus, A_1 is obtained by interchanging the 1st and 3rd rows of A_0 . So

$$A_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 6 & 0 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 4 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

Since $a_{1j_1}^{(1)} = 1$, $A_2 = A_1$.

This takes us to the clean up phase of the Base Case. However, since

$a_{2j_1}^{(2)} = 0$, $A_3 = A_2$. Since

$a_{3j_1}^{(3)} = 0$, $A_4 = A_3$. So

$$A_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 6 & 0 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 4 & 6 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Since $m=3$, A_4 plays the role of A_5 in the Base Case. Note that

$$T_4 = [1 \ 6 \ 0 \ 0 \ 4]$$

and

$$B_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 4 & 6 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Observe further that T_4 is a 1×5 matrix in RREF, having a pivot in the $j_1=1$ column. Also, the first $j_1=1$ columns of B_4 only have zeros

for entries.

We now apply the Inductive Step to A_4 . Note that $j_2 = 3$ - since the first nonzero column of B_4 is its 3rd column. Note further that $i_2 = 3$ in this case - due to $a_{2j_2}^{(4)} = a_{23}^{(4)} = 0$.

Thus, A_5 is obtained by interchanging the 2nd and 3rd rows of A_4 . Thus,

$$A_5 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 6 & 0 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 4 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Since $a_{2j_2}^{(5)} = 2 \neq 1$, A_6 is obtained by multiplying the 2nd row of A_5 by $\frac{1}{2}$. This yields

$$A_6 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 6 & 0 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

We now enter the clean up phase of the Inductive Step. However, since

$$a_{3j_2}^{(6)} = a_{33}^{(6)} = 0, \quad A_7 = A_6. \quad \text{Also, since}$$

$$a_{1j_2}^{(7)} = a_{13}^{(7)} = 0, \quad A_8 = A_7. \quad \text{Thus, we}$$

have

$$A_8 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 6 & 0 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

and we have completed the clean up phase of the Inductive Step.

Note that

$$T_8 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 6 & 0 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$B_8 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Observe that T_8 is a 2×5 matrix in

RREF, having a pivot in both its

$j_1 = 1$ and $j_2 = 3$ columns. Also, the

first $j_2 = 3$ columns of B_8 consist of

zeros.

We now have to apply the Inductive

Step one more time - this time starting

with A_8 .

Note that $j_3 = 4$ - since this is

the first nonzero column of B_8 .

Also $i_3 = 3$ - since the top entry in

the $j_3 = 4$ th column of B_8 is nonzero.

As such, $A_9 = A_8$ - since no interchanging of rows is needed.

Since $a_{3j_3}^{(9)} = a_{34}^{(9)} = 1$, $A_{10} = A_9$.

So

$$A_{10} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 6 & 0 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

and we enter into the clean up phase of the inductive step.

Since $a_{1j_3}^{(10)} = a_{14}^{(10)} = 0$, $A_{11} = A_{10}$.

Since $a_{2j_3}^{(11)} = a_{24}^{(11)} = 2$, A_{12} is

obtained by adding -2 times the

3rd row of A_{11} to the 2nd row of

A_{11} . This leaves us with

$$A_{12} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 6 & 0 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

This completes the second application of the Inductive Step. Observe that $T_3 = A_{12}$ is in RREF and T_3 has pivots in the $j_1 = 1$, $j_2 = 3$ and $j_3 = 4$ columns.

HW #22: Transform the following matrices into RREF.

$$1) \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$2) \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 5 \\ 2 & 4 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

3)

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \\ 5 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

4)

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Bases From Spanning Sets

Our ability to transform a $m \times n$ matrix into a $m \times n$ matrix in RREF is an extremely powerful tool. Our first application will be to construct a basis for a nonzero subspace of \mathbb{R}^n - provided we are given a set of spanning vectors for the subspace. You might recall that every set of spanning vectors for a nonzero subspace of \mathbb{R}^n contains a basis for the subspace. This fact is certainly useful, from the standpoint of theory,

but proves to be a bit tedious for computational purposes. It should also be noted that bases obtained using RREF tend to be very easy to work with.

Suppose W is a nonzero subspace of \mathbb{R}^n and $\text{span}(\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_m\}) = W$.

We can perform three elementary operations on the spanning set

$\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_m\}$ which yield a new

spanning set $\{\vec{w}_1, \dots, \vec{w}_m\}$ for W .

Operation I : Fix some $j \in \{1, \dots, m\}$

and let $r \in \mathbb{R}, r \neq 0$. Set

$$\vec{w}_i = \vec{v}_i \text{ if } i \neq j \text{ and}$$

$$\vec{w}_j = r \vec{v}_j.$$

Operation II: Fix $k, l \in \{1, \dots, m\}$,

where $k \neq l$ and let $s \in \mathbb{R}$.

Set $\vec{w}_i = \vec{v}_i$ for $i \neq l$ and

$$\vec{w}_l = \vec{v}_l + s \vec{v}_k.$$

Operation III: $\{\vec{w}_1, \dots, \vec{w}_m\}$ is

obtained by reindexing

$\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_m\}$ — so, as sets,

$$\{\vec{w}_1, \dots, \vec{w}_m\} = \{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_m\}.$$

Note that if $\{\vec{w}_1, \dots, \vec{w}_m\}$ denotes

the output of any of these three

operations, it isn't difficult to see

that $\{\vec{w}_1, \dots, \vec{w}_m\} \subset \text{span}(\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_m\})$.

So $\text{span}(\{\vec{w}_1, \dots, \vec{w}_m\}) \subset \text{span}(\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_m\})$.

On the other hand, each of these operations is easily reversed. From

this, it follows that

$$\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_m\} \subset \text{span}(\{\vec{w}_1, \dots, \vec{w}_m\}).$$

So $\text{span}(\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_m\}) \subset \text{span}(\{\vec{w}_1, \dots, \vec{w}_m\})$.

We conclude that each of these three elementary operations yields another spanning set for W .

I suspect you have noticed that these three elementary operations are remarkably similar to the three

elementary row operations. To implement this analogy, we introduce the notion of the row space of a matrix.

Let $A = [a_{ij}]$ denote a $m \times n$ matrix.

For $i = 1, \dots, m$, set

$$\vec{v}_i = [a_{i1}, a_{i2}, \dots, a_{in}].$$

Thus, \vec{v}_i is just the i -th row of A - viewed as an element of \mathbb{R}^n .

The row space of A is defined to be $\text{span}(\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_m\})$. In words, the row space of A is just the span of the rows in A - viewed as

vectors in \mathbb{R}^n .

Now let A denote a $m \times n$ matrix and let B denote a $m \times n$ matrix which results from performing an elementary row operation on A .

Let $\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_m\}$ denote the rows

in A - viewed as vectors in \mathbb{R}^n

and, similarly, let $\{\vec{w}_1, \dots, \vec{w}_m\}$

denote the rows of B - viewed as vectors in \mathbb{R}^n . Note that whichever

elementary row operation is applied

to A so as to obtain B corresponds to

performing the same row operation

operation to $\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_m\}$ to obtain $\{\vec{w}_1, \dots, \vec{w}_m\}$. Thus

$$\text{span}(\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_m\}) = \text{span}(\{\vec{w}_1, \dots, \vec{w}_m\})$$

or

$$\text{row space of } A = \text{row space of } B.$$

We have established the following.

Proposition 16: Suppose A and

B are two row equivalent $m \times n$ matrices. Then

$$\text{row space of } A = \text{row space of } B.$$

The following Proposition provides us with a computational punch.

Proposition 17: Suppose B is a nonzero $m \times n$ matrix in RREF.

Then the nonzero rows in B , viewed as vectors in \mathbb{R}^n , form a basis for the row space of B .

Proof: Since B is assumed to be a nonzero matrix and a zero vector only contributes a zero vector to a span, the nonzero rows of B , when viewed as vectors in \mathbb{R}^n , span the row space of B — due to the definition of the row space of a matrix.

Suppose now that the nonzero rows of B are rows $1, \dots, k$. Let \vec{v}_i denote the element of \mathbb{R}^n associated to the i -th row of B , for $i=1, \dots, k$.

We must show $\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k\}$ is a linearly independent set of vectors.

To this end, note that B must have exactly k pivots — in columns j_1, j_2, \dots, j_k say. Let $l \in \{1, \dots, k\}$.

Note that since B is in RREF

and \vec{v}_i is the i -th row of B

we must have that the j_l -th

component of \vec{v}_i is 0 if $i \neq l$ and

1 if $i=l$. This is because each pivot is a 1 and, since B is in RREF, the only nonzero entry in any column of B containing a pivot is the pivot itself.

Suppose now that $c_1, \dots, c_k \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\vec{w} = \sum_{i=1}^k c_i \vec{v}_i$. The last paragraph tells us that the j_l 'th component of \vec{w} must be c_l - due to the only \vec{v}_i with a nonzero j_l -th component is \vec{v}_l and the j_l -th component of \vec{v}_l is 1. This immediately implies that if $\vec{w} = \vec{0}$, then

$c_l = 0$ for $l = 1, \dots, k$. It follows that $\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k\}$ is linearly independent.

Since $\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k\}$ spans the row space of B and is linearly independent — it is a basis for the row space of B .

Note: The proof that $\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k\}$

is linearly independent, as given

above, shows that bases obtained

from nonzero matrices in RREF

are easy to work with. The next

example illustrates this.

Ex: Let $W = \text{span} \{ [1, 2, 3], [4, 5, 6], [7, 8, 9] \}$.

Find a basis for W and determine

whether $[1, 1, 1] \in W$ or $[1, 1, 1] \notin W$.

Note that

$$W = \text{row space of } \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix}.$$

By Example 2 on page 183,

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \text{ is row equivalent to}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Proposition 16 tells us that

$$W = \text{row space of } \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

Proposition 17 now tells us that $\{[1, 0, -1], [0, 1, 2]\}$ is a basis for W .

To determine whether or not $[1, 1, 1] \in W$ boils down to whether or not $[1, 1, 1]$ can be written as a linear combination of $[1, 0, -1]$ and $[0, 1, 2]$ —

$$\text{since } W = \text{span}(\{[1, 0, -1], [0, 1, 2]\}).$$

Note that

$$x[1, 0, -1] + y[0, 1, 2] = [x, y, -x + 2y].$$

So, if $[1,1,1] = x[1,0,-1] + y[0,1,2]$,

then $x=y=1$. Now

$$[1,0,-1] + [0,1,2] = [1,1,1]$$

- so the answer is

$$[1,1,1] \in W.$$