

Linear Algebra

**Vector Spaces and Subspaces**

The Complete Solution to  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$

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# Solution to $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b} \neq \mathbf{0}$

$$A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b} \Rightarrow R\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}'$$

$[A \ \mathbf{b}]$ : Augmented matrix

$$[A \ \mathbf{b}] \Rightarrow [R \ \mathbf{b}']$$

Example:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 6 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 6 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 3 & 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 & 6 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 & 6 & 7 \end{array} \right] = [A \ \mathbf{b}] \Rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 3 & 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] = [R \ \mathbf{b}']$$

# One Particular Solution

Solving one particular solution of  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  (i.e.  $R\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}'$ )

$$R\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}' : \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 6 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{cases} \text{pivot variables : } x_1, x_3 \\ \text{free variables : } x_2, x_4 \end{cases}$$

For one particular solution  $\mathbf{x}_p$  of  $R\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}'$ ,

choose free variables to be  $x_2 = x_4 = 0 \Rightarrow x_1 = 1, x_3 = 6$  (These values are in  $\mathbf{b}'$ .)

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{x}_p = [1 \ 0 \ 6 \ 0]^T$$

Note :  $\mathbf{x}_p$  is the solution of  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  (i.e.  $R\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}'$ )

$$\{x_1 = 1, x_3 = 6\} \text{ is the solution of } \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

pivot rows and pivot columns of  $R$

$$A\mathbf{x}_p = \mathbf{b} \text{ (i.e. } R\mathbf{x}_p = \mathbf{b}')$$

# Complete Solution

Solving complete solution of  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  (i.e.  $R\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}'$ )

$$R\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}' : \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 6 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{cases} \text{pivot variables : } x_1, x_3 \\ \text{free variables : } x_2, x_4 \end{cases}$$

One particular solution of  $R\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}'$  :  $\mathbf{x}_p = [1 \ 0 \ 6 \ 0]^T$

Solve special solutions of  $R\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$

$$\text{Choose special solutions : } \begin{cases} \mathbf{s}_1 : x_2 = 1, x_4 = 0 \Rightarrow x_1 = -3, x_3 = 0 \\ \mathbf{s}_2 : x_2 = 0, x_4 = 1 \Rightarrow x_1 = -2, x_3 = -4 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{s}_1 = [-3 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0]^T, \mathbf{s}_2 = [-2 \ 0 \ -4 \ 1]^T$$

Note : Special solutions are the solutions of  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  (i.e.  $R\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ )

$$N(A) = N(R) = \{\mathbf{x}_n \mid A\mathbf{x}_n = \mathbf{0} \text{ (i.e. } R\mathbf{x}_n = \mathbf{0})\} : \text{linear combination of } \mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2$$

$\therefore$  Complete solutions of  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  (i.e.  $R\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}'$ )

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}_p + \mathbf{x}_n = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 6 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_4 \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \\ -4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Complete Solution of Square Invertible Matrix

- Square invertible matrix  $A$ 
  - $A^{-1}$  exists,
  - $m = n = r$
- Complete solution of  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ 
  - One particular solution:  $\mathbf{x}_p = A^{-1}\mathbf{b}$
  - No special solution or free variable  $\Rightarrow \mathbf{x}_n = \mathbf{0}$
  - $\Rightarrow$  Complete solution:  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}_p + \mathbf{x}_n = A^{-1}\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{0}$

# Complete Solution of Square Matrix

## – Example

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \\ -2 & -3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[A \quad \mathbf{b}] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & b_1 \\ 1 & 2 & b_2 \\ -2 & -3 & b_3 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow [R \quad \mathbf{b}'] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2b_1 - b_2 \\ 0 & 1 & b_2 - b_1 \\ 0 & 0 & b_1 + b_2 + b_3 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{No free variable}$$

For  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  to be solvable,  $b_1 + b_2 + b_3 = 0$

One particular solution :  $\mathbf{x}_p = \begin{bmatrix} 2b_1 - b_2 \\ b_2 - b_1 \end{bmatrix}$

No free variable  $\Rightarrow$  no special solution  $\Rightarrow \mathbf{x}_n = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow N(A) = \{\mathbf{0}\}$

$$\therefore \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}_p + \mathbf{x}_n = \begin{bmatrix} 2b_1 - b_2 \\ b_2 - b_1 \end{bmatrix} + \mathbf{0} = \begin{bmatrix} 2b_1 - b_2 \\ b_2 - b_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Remark :  $A$  has full column rank.

# $A$ has Full Column Rank

- $A$  has Full Column Rank
  - $\text{rank}(A) = r = n$
  - All columns of  $A$  are pivot columns.
  - There are no free columns/variables or special solutions.
  - $N(A)$  contains only the zero vector.
  - $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  may not have a solution. (overdetermined)
  - If  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  has a solution, then it has only one solution.
  - $A$  is tall and thin. ( $m \geq n$ )  $R = \begin{bmatrix} I \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} nxn \text{ identity matrix} \\ (m - n) \text{ rows of } 0 \end{bmatrix}$

# A has Full Row Rank

- A has Full Row Rank
  - $\text{rank}(A) = r = m$
  - All rows of  $A$  have pivots.  $R$  has no zero rows.
  - $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  has a solution for every right side  $\mathbf{b}$ .
  - There are  $n - r = n - m$  special solutions in the nullspace of  $A$ .
  - $C(A)$  is the whole space  $\mathbf{R}^m$ .
  - $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  has one or infinitely many solutions. (underdetermined)
  - $A$  is short and wide. (  $m \leq n$  )
  - $R = [I \quad F] = [m \times m \text{ identity matrix} \quad (n - m) \text{ columns}]$



# A has Full Row Rank – Example

$$\begin{cases} x + y + z = 3 \\ x + 2y - z = 4 \end{cases} \Rightarrow Ax = b : \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

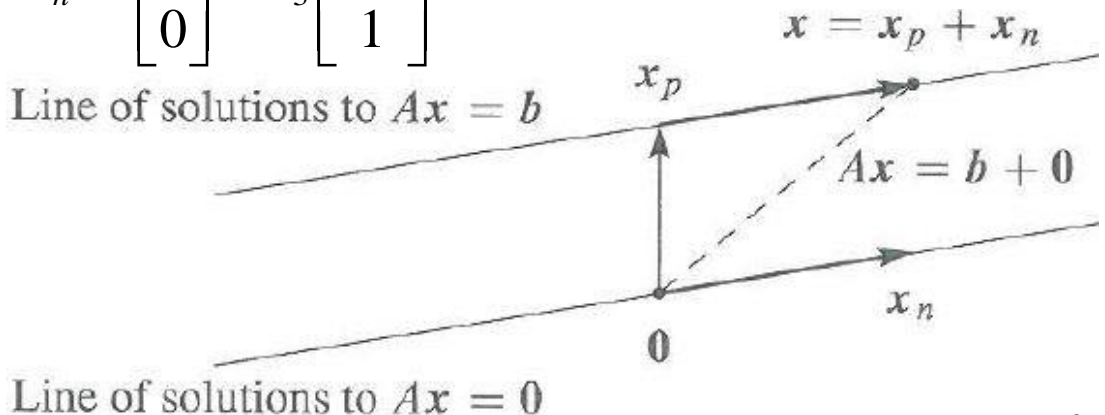
$$[A \quad b] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & -1 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow [R \quad b'] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{cases} \text{pivot variables : } x_1, x_2 \\ \text{free variable : } x_3 \end{cases}$$

One particular solution : set  $x_3 = 0 \Rightarrow x_1 = 2, x_2 = 1 \Rightarrow \mathbf{x}_p = [2 \quad 1 \quad 0]^T$

Special solution  $\mathbf{s}$  : set  $x_3 = 1 \Rightarrow x_1 = -3, x_2 = 2 \Rightarrow \mathbf{s} = [-3 \quad 2 \quad 1]^T$

$N(A)$ : span of  $\{\mathbf{s}\} = \{\mathbf{x}_n \mid \mathbf{x}_n = c\mathbf{s}\}$ : linear combination of  $\mathbf{s}$

$$\therefore \text{Complete solution : } \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}_p + \mathbf{x}_n = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_3 \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



# Four Cases of Linear Systems

- The four possibilities for linear equations depend on the rank  $r$ :

$$\text{Solving } A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$$

	$A$	$R$	# of solutions	
$r = m = n$	Square and invertible	$[I]$	1	Full row rank Full column rank
$r = m < n$	Short and wide	$[I \ F]$	$\infty$	Full row rank
$r = n < m$	Tall and thin	$\begin{bmatrix} I \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$	0 or 1	Full column rank
$r < m, r < n$	Not full rank	$\begin{bmatrix} I & F \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$	0 or $\infty$	

# Question?