

**LARSON—MATH 610—CLASSROOM WORKSHEET 06**  
**Pivot Decomposition Theorem.**

**Chp. 1 of Garcia & Horn, Matrix Mathematics**

1. (**Motivating Example**) Find a maximal set of linearly independent columns by greedily choosing the first non-zero column vector, adding the next available column vector, and iterating (until no column remain).

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

**(Theorem 1.7.1)** Let  $\beta = \hat{v}_1, \dots, \hat{v}_p$  be a nonzero list of vectors in an  $\mathbb{F}$ -vector space. There is an  $s \in \{1, \dots, p\}$  and unique indices  $j_1, \dots, j_s$  such that:

- (a)  $1 \leq j_1 < j_2 < j_s \leq p$ .
- (b)  $\gamma = \hat{v}_{j_1}, \hat{v}_{j_2}, \dots, \hat{v}_{j_s}$  is linearly independent.
- (c)  $\text{span}(\gamma) = \text{span}(\beta)$ .
- (d) If  $j < j_1$  then  $\hat{v}_j = \hat{0}$ .
- (e) If  $s > 1$ ,  $2 \leq k \leq s$  and  $j_{k-1} < j < j_k$ , then  $\hat{v}_j \in \text{span}\{\hat{v}_{j_1}, \hat{v}_{j_2}, \dots, \hat{v}_{j_{k-1}}\}$ .

2. What is this theorem about, and why is it true?

**(Theorem 1.7.5, Pivot Column Decomposition).** Let  $A = [\hat{a}_1 \dots \hat{a}_n] \in \mathbb{M}_{m \times n}(\mathbb{F})$  be non-zero, let  $j_1 < j_2 < \dots < j_s$  be its pivot indices, and let  $P = [\hat{a}_{j_1} \hat{a}_{j_2} \dots \hat{a}_{j_s}] \in \mathbb{M}_{m \times s}(\mathbb{F})$ .

- (a) The  $s$  columns of  $P$  are linearly independent,  $1 \leq s \leq n$  and  $\text{col}(P) = \text{col}(A)$ .
- (b) There is a unique  $R = [\hat{r}_1 \dots \hat{r}_n] \in \mathbb{M}_{s \times n}(\mathbb{F})$  such that  $A = PR$ .
- (c)  $\hat{r}_{j_k} = \hat{e}_k \in \mathbb{F}^s$ , for each  $k = 1, \dots, s$ .
- (d) If  $s > 1$ ,  $2 \leq k \leq s$  and  $j_{k-1} < k < j_k$  then  $\hat{r}_j \in \text{span}\{\hat{e}_1 \dots \hat{e}_{j_{k-1}}\}$ .
- (e) The rows of  $R$  are linearly independent and  $\text{null}(A) = \text{null}(R)$ .

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6. Why is this theorem true?

**(Lemma 2.1.4. Replacement Lemma).** Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be a non-zero  $\mathbb{F}$ -vector space and let  $r$  be a positive integer. Suppose that  $\beta = \hat{u}_1, \hat{u}_2, \dots, \hat{u}_r$  spans  $\mathcal{V}$ . Let  $v \in \mathcal{V}$  be non-zero and let

$$\hat{v} = \sum_{i=1}^r c_i \hat{u}_i$$

- (a)  $c_j \neq 0$  for some  $j \in \{1, \dots, r\}$ ,
- (b) If  $c_j \neq 0$  then the list  $\hat{v}, \hat{u}_1, \dots, \hat{u}_j, \dots, \hat{u}_r$  spans  $\mathcal{V}$ ,
- (c) If  $\beta$  is a basis for  $\mathcal{V}$  and  $c_j \neq 0$  then the list in (b) is a basis for  $\mathcal{V}$ ,
- (d) If  $r \geq 2$ ,  $\beta$  is a basis for  $\mathcal{V}$ ,  $\hat{v} \notin \text{span}\{\hat{u}_1, \dots, \hat{u}_k\}$  for some  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, r-1\}$ , then there is an index  $j \in \{k+1, k+2, \dots, r\}$  such that

$$\hat{v}, \hat{u}_1, \dots, \hat{u}_k, \hat{u}_{k+1}, \dots, \hat{u}_j, \dots, \hat{u}_r$$

is a basis for  $\mathcal{V}$ .

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**(Lemma 2.1.4. Replacement Lemma).** Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be a non-zero  $\mathbb{F}$ -vector space and let  $r$  be a positive integer. Suppose that  $\beta = \hat{u}_1, \hat{u}_2, \dots, \hat{u}_r$  spans  $\mathcal{V}$ . Let  $v \in \mathcal{V}$  be non-zero and let

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