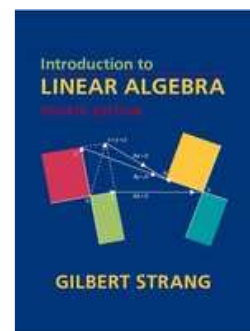


# Essential Mathematical Methods for Engineers

Lecture 6:  
Linear algebra 1

## Linear Algebra

- this lecture is based upon
  - “*Introduction to Linear Algebra*,”  
Strang, Wellesley Cambridge Press  
2009
  - several copies in the library



## Outline

- solving linear equations
  - row and column pictures
  - elimination
  - the inverse matrix
  - factorisation
- vector spaces and subspaces
  - column space
  - nullspace
  - rank and row reduced form
  - special solutions
  - complete solution
  - independence, basis and dimension
  - the four fundamental subspaces
  - the first fundamental theorem of linear algebra

Linear algebra

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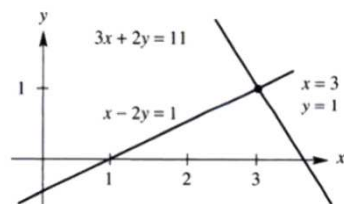
## Solving linear equations

### Vectors and linear equations

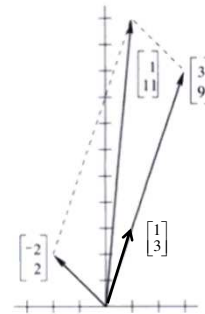
$$\begin{aligned} x - 2y &= 1 \\ 3x + 2y &= 11 \end{aligned}$$

$$x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + y \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 11 \end{bmatrix}$$

- row picture



- column picture



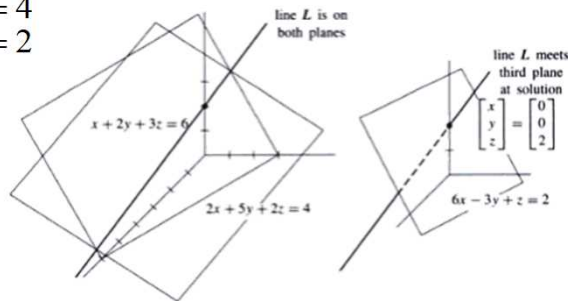
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 11 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{▪ matrix equation}$$

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## Three equations in three unknowns

$$\begin{aligned}x + 2y + 3z &= 6 \\2x + 5y + 2z &= 4 \\6x - 3y + z &= 2\end{aligned}$$



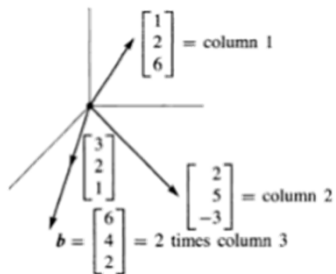
the **row picture** shows three planes meeting at a single point

Linear algebra

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## Three equations in three unknowns

the **column picture** combines three columns to produce the fourth



$$x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} + y \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} + z \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

whatever the approach, the solution is  $(x, y, z) = (0, 0, 2)$

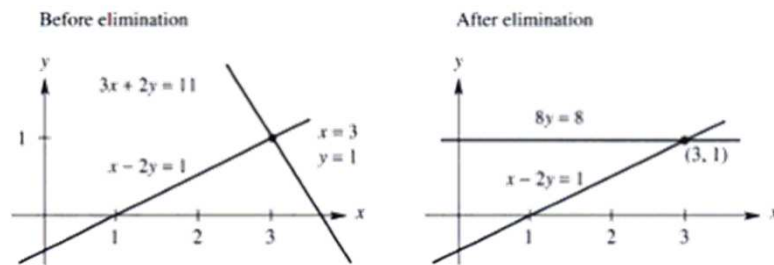
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## Elimination

$$\begin{array}{r} x - 2y = 1 \\ 3x + 2y = 11 \end{array} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{array}{r} x - 2y = 1 \\ 8y = 8 \end{array}$$

- elimination produces an **upper triangular system**
  - with the same solution
  - solved by back substitution



Linear algebra

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## Elimination

$$\begin{array}{r} x - 2y = 1 \\ 3x + 2y = 11 \end{array} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{array}{r} x - 2y = 1 \\ 8y = 8 \end{array}$$

- concept of pivots
  - to solve  $n$  equations we need  $n$  pivots
- three cases where  $n$  pivots *might* not be possible
  - no solution
  - infinitely many solutions
  - temporary failure – solved with row exchange

Linear algebra

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## Elimination

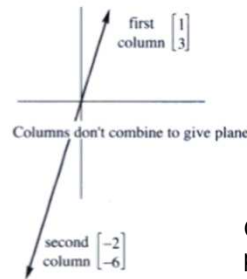
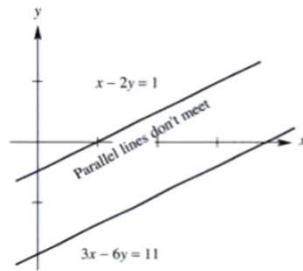
### case 1: no solution

$$\begin{array}{r} x - 2y = 1 \\ 3x - 6y = 11 \end{array}$$



$$\begin{array}{r} x - 2y = 1 \\ 0y = 8 \end{array}$$

Row picture



Column picture

Linear algebra

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## Elimination

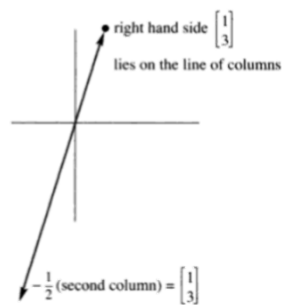
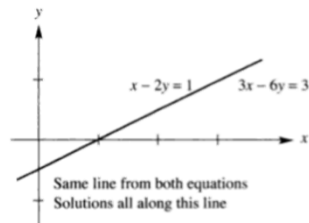
### case 2: infinitely many solutions

$$\begin{array}{r} x - 2y = 1 \\ 3x - 6y = 3 \end{array}$$



$$\begin{array}{r} x - 2y = 1 \\ 0y = 0 \end{array}$$

Row picture



Column picture

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## Elimination

- case 3: temporary failure

$$\begin{array}{l} 0x + 2y = 4 \\ 3x - 2y = 5 \end{array} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{array}{l} 3x - 2y = 5 \\ 2y = 4 \end{array}$$

by interchanging rows we obtain an upper triangular system with 2 pivots and one unique solution

- case 1 and 2 are singular – no second pivot
  - no solution, or infinitely many solutions
- case 3 is nonsingular – two unique pivots
  - one unique solution

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## Elimination

**Example:** you should have no difficulty extending this to higher order systems, e.g.:

$$\begin{array}{l} 2x + 4y - 2z = 2 \\ 4x + 9y - 3z = 8 \\ -2x - 3y + 7z = 10 \end{array} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{array}{l} 2x + 4y - 2z = 2 \\ 1y + 1z = 4 \\ 4z = 8 \end{array}$$

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## Elimination using matrices

$$Ax = b$$

$$\begin{array}{rcl} 2x + 4y - 2z & = & 2 \\ 4x + 9y - 3z & = & 8 \\ -2x - 3y + 7z & = & 10 \end{array} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & -2 \\ 4 & 9 & -3 \\ -2 & -3 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 8 \\ 10 \end{bmatrix}$$

has solution

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

- $Ax$  is a combination of the columns of  $A$

$$Ax = (-1) \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} + 2 \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 9 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} + 2 \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -3 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 8 \\ 10 \end{bmatrix}$$

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## Elimination using matrices

- we can perform elimination using matrices
- the matrix which performs the first step of the elimination is

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

and correspondingly

$$EA = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & -2 \\ 4 & 9 & -3 \\ -2 & -3 & 7 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ -2 & -3 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$$

so we have that  $EAx = Eb = [2 \ 4 \ 10]^T$

- note the 2D associative law:  $A(BC) = (AB)C$ 
  - this is not commutative:  $AB \neq BA$

Linear algebra

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## Row exchange

- $P$  matrices exchange or permute rows
  - i.e. when there is a zero in the pivot position

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 6 & 5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 1 \\ 0 & 6 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

needed  
for case 3

Linear algebra

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## The augmented matrix

- $E$  and  $P$  matrices can be applied to  $A$  and  $b$  separately
  - also to the augmented matrix  $A'$

$$A' = [A \ b] = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & -2 & 2 \\ 4 & 9 & -3 & 8 \\ -2 & -3 & 7 & 10 \end{bmatrix}$$

— and thus

$$EA' = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & -2 & 2 \\ 4 & 9 & -3 & 8 \\ -2 & -3 & 7 & 10 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & -2 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 4 \\ -2 & -3 & 7 & 10 \end{bmatrix}$$

- each row of  $E$  acts on  $A'$  to give a row of  $EA'$
- $E$  acts on each column of  $A'$  to give a column of  $EA'$

Linear algebra

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## Rows and Columns of AB

- column picture
  - $A$  multiplies each column of  $B$  and gives a column of  $AB$
  - each column of  $AB$  is a combination of the columns of  $A$
- row picture
  - each row of  $A$  multiplies the whole of matrix  $B$  to give a row of  $AB$
  - each row of  $AB$  is a combination of the rows of  $B$
- note the row-column picture AND the column-row picture

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## Laws for matrix operations

### Addition

- commutative
 
$$A + B = B + A$$
- distributive
 
$$c(A + B) = cA + cB$$
- associative
 
$$A + (B + C) = (A + B) + C$$

### Multiplication

- commutative
 
$$AB \neq BA$$
- distributive
 
$$C(A + B) = CA + CB$$

$$(A + B)C = AC + BC$$
- associative
 
$$A(BC) = (AB)C$$

### Matrix powers

$$A^p = AAA \cdots A \quad (p \text{ factors}) \quad (A^p)(A^q) = A^{p+q} \quad (A^p)^q = A^{pq}$$

normal rules apply when  $p$  or  $q$  are negative  $A^{-1}$  is the inverse

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## Inverse matrix

$$A^{-1}Ax = A^{-1}b \quad \text{gives} \quad x = A^{-1}b$$

- but it's not needed to solve  $Ax=b$ 
  - we can just use elimination
  - still of interest and a fundamental property of matrices
- inverse exists if there is a matrix  $A^{-1}$  such that

$$A^{-1}A = I \quad \text{or} \quad AA^{-1} = I$$

or if there are  $n$  pivots

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## Inverse matrix

- the inverse is unique since if  $BA=I$  and  $AC=I$   
 $B(AC) = (BA)C$  gives  $BI = IC$  or  $B = C$
- if  $A$  is invertible then the only solution to  $Ax=b$  is  $x=A^{-1}b$   
 Multiply  $Ax=b$  by  $A^{-1}$  then  $x = A^{-1}Ax = A^{-1}b$
- if there is a non-zero vector  $x$  such that  $Ax=0$  then  $A$  is not invertible – if  $A$  is invertible the only solution to  $Ax=0$  is  $x=0$
- a  $2 \times 2$  matrix is invertible only if  $ad-bc \neq 0$

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \frac{1}{ad-bc} \begin{bmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{bmatrix}$$

- for diagonal matrices

$$\text{If } A = \begin{bmatrix} d_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & d_n \end{bmatrix} \text{ then } A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/d_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & 1/d_n \end{bmatrix}$$

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## Inverse of a product

- if  $A$  and  $B$  are invertible then

$$(AB)^{-1} = B^{-1}A^{-1}$$

since

$$B^{-1}A^{-1}AB = B^{-1}IB = B^{-1}B = I$$

- similarly

$$(ABC)^{-1} = C^{-1}B^{-1}A^{-1}$$

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## Inverse by Gauss-Jordan Elimination

- we try to solve  $AA^{-1}=I$  one column at a time

$$AA^{-1} = A[x_1 \ x_2 \ x_3] = [e_1 \ e_2 \ e_3] = I$$

- we have only to solve  $Ax_n = e_n$  to obtain  $A^{-1}$  – we solve 3 systems of equations
- using an augmented matrix  $[A \ I]$  we can determine  $[I \ A^{-1}]$  and solve all  $n$  equations together
  - upper triangular form through Gaussian elimination

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{3}{2} & -1 & \frac{1}{2} & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{4}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

which we could solve by back substitution

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## Inverse by Gauss-Jordan Elimination

- Jordan continued to reduced echelon form

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{3}{2} & -1 & \frac{1}{2} & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{4}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 & \frac{3}{2} & 1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & \frac{3}{2} & 0 & \frac{3}{4} & \frac{3}{2} & \frac{3}{4} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{4}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

and dividing rows by their pivots

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 & \frac{3}{2} & 1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & \frac{3}{2} & 0 & \frac{3}{4} & \frac{3}{2} & \frac{3}{4} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{4}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \frac{3}{4} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{4} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{3}{4} \end{bmatrix}$$

so that the inverse is

$$A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{3}{4} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{4} \\ \frac{1}{2} & 1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{3}{4} \end{bmatrix}$$

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## Singular versus invertible

- an  $n \times n$  matrix must have  $n$  pivots in order to be invertible
  - we can solve all the equations  $Ax_i = e_i$  and the columns  $x_i$  give  $A^{-1}$
  - then  $AA^{-1} = I$

- elimination is really a long sequence of manipulations

$$(D^{-1} \dots E \dots P \dots E)A = I$$

where  $D^{-1}$  divides by the pivots

- this gives a left inverse such that  $A^{-1}A = I$  - the same solution
- if there are not  $n$  pivots then  $A^{-1}$  does not exist

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## LU factorisation

- a factorisation of  $A$  into the product of two triangular matrices

$$E_{21}A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 6 & 8 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix} = U$$

$$E_{21}^{-1}U = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 6 & 8 \end{bmatrix} = A$$

or  $LU=A$

- the  $L$  matrix includes the inverses of all the  $E$  matrices
- combining all the elimination matrices

$$A = (E^{-1} \dots P^{-1} \dots E^{-1})U$$

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## LU factorisation

$$(E_{32}E_{31}E_{21})A = U \quad \text{becomes} \quad A = (E_{21}^{-1}E_{31}^{-1}E_{32}^{-1})U \quad \text{which is} \quad A = LU$$

- some points
  - every inverse matrix  $E^{-1}$  is lower triangular
    - its off diagonal entry  $\ell_{ij}$  undoes the subtraction in  $E$  with  $-\ell_{ij}$
    - the diagonals of  $E$  and  $E^{-1}$  contain 1
  - the product of the  $E$ 's is still lower triangular – this is  $L$
  - each multiplier  $\ell_{ij}$  goes directly into its  $i,j$  position unchanged in the product  $L$
  - when a row of  $A$  starts with zeros, so does that row in  $L$
  - when a column of  $A$  starts with zeros, so does that column of  $U$

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## LU factorisation

- $U$  has the pivots on its diagonal whereas  $L$  has 1s

- if we write  $U$  as 
$$\begin{bmatrix} d_1 & & & \\ & d_2 & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & d_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & u_{12}/d_1 & u_{13}/d_1 & \vdots \\ & 1 & u_{23}/d_2 & \vdots \\ & & \ddots & \vdots \\ & & & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

we can now write  $A=LDU$

- the new upper triangular matrix is also referred to as  $U$
- in this form we assume that each row of  $U$  has been divided by its pivot, e.g.:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 8 \\ 6 & 29 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 8 \\ 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & \\ & 5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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## One square system = two triangular systems

- the  $LU$  decomposition is important in solving  $Ax=b$ 
  - rewrite as  $LUx=b$
  - we apply the forward elimination steps of  $L$  to  $b$ 
    - effectively solve  $Lc=b$
  - then solve  $Ux=c$  by back substitution
- but what have we achieved?

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One square system = two triangular systems

**Example**

Solve the following using an LU decomposition:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 4 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ 21 \end{bmatrix}$$

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## Transposes and permutations

- simple exchange of rows and columns:  $(A^T)_{ij} = A_{ji}$
- rules
  - under addition:  $(A+B)^T = A^T + B^T$
  - under multiplication:  $(AB)^T = B^T A^T$
  - inverses:  $(A^{-1})^T = (A^T)^{-1}$

$Ax$  combines the columns of  $A$  while  $x^T A^T$  combines the rows of  $A^T$  – the same combinations of the same vectors

- the transpose of the column  $Ax$  is the row  $x^T A^T$ , thus

$$(Ax)^T = x^T A^T$$

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## Transposes and permutations

- but what about  $(AB)^T$ ?
  - assume that  $B=[x_1 \ x_2]$  has two columns
  - the columns of  $AB$  are  $Ax_1$  and  $Ax_2$
  - their transposes are  $x_1^T A^T$  and  $x_2^T A^T$
  - these are the rows of  $B^T A^T$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Transposing } AB = \begin{bmatrix} Ax_1 & Ax_2 & \cdots \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{gives } \begin{bmatrix} x_1^T A^T \\ x_2^T A^T \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} \text{ which is } B^T A^T \end{array}$$

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## Transposes and permutations

- this rule extends to more than two matrices
  - $(ABC)^T = C^T B^T A^T$
  - if  $A=LDU$  then  $A^T = U^T D L^T$  – the pivot matrix  $D=D^T$

- if we apply this rule to both sides of  $A^{-1}A=I$  we get

$$A^T (A^{-1})^T = I$$

and similarly if we do the same with  $AA^{-1}=I$  we get

$$(A^{-1})^T A^T = I$$

$A^T$  is invertible exactly when  $A$  is invertible and we can swap the order of transposing and inverting

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## Symmetric matrices

- any matrix where  $A^T = A$ 
  - their inverses are also symmetric
- for any non-symmetric matrix  $R$ , both  $R^T R$  and  $R R^T$  are symmetric – easy to prove
- we can apply elimination to a symmetric matrix
  - the smaller matrices remain symmetric as elimination proceeds

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 7 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \\ & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- and  $U$  is the transpose of  $L$  and we have that

$$A = LDL^T \quad (LDL^T)^T = (L^T)^T D^T L^T = LDL^T$$

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## Permutation matrices

- row exchanges, e.g. for a 3x3 matrix

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & \\ & 1 & \\ & & 1 \end{bmatrix} & P_{21} &= \begin{bmatrix} & 1 & \\ 1 & & \\ & & 1 \end{bmatrix} & P_{32}P_{21} &= \begin{bmatrix} & & 1 \\ 1 & & \\ & 1 & \end{bmatrix} \\ P_{31} &= \begin{bmatrix} & & 1 \\ & 1 & \\ 1 & & \end{bmatrix} & P_{32} &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & \\ & & 1 \\ & 1 & \end{bmatrix} & P_{21}P_{32} &= \begin{bmatrix} & 1 & \\ 1 & & \\ & & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

- $P^{-1}$  is also a permutation matrix
  - the four left matrices above are their own inverse
  - the two right matrices are inverses of each other
    - note that the order is reversed!!!
- $P^{-1} = P^T$ 
  - the four left matrices above are their own transposes
  - the two right matrices are transposes of each other

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## LU factorization with row exchange

- row exchanges are sometimes required in order to produce pivots

$$A = (E^{-1} \dots P^{-1} \dots E^{-1} \dots P^{-1} \dots)U$$

- we can combine all permutations into a single  $P$ 
  - but where do we put it?

- two solutions

- move row exchanges to the left side

- $PA=LU$

- perform row exchanges after elimination

- $A=L_1P_1U_1$

- $P_1$  puts rows into the right order in  $U_1$

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## LU factorization with row exchange

- e.g.: 
$$\begin{array}{c} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 7 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 7 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 3 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \\ A \qquad \qquad PA \qquad \qquad \ell_{31}=2 \qquad \qquad \ell_{32}=3 \end{array}$$

the matrix is now in good order and it factorises as follows

$$PA = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = LU$$

so long as  $A$  is invertible

Linear algebra

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## Vector spaces and subspaces

- columns of  $Ax$  and  $AB$  are linear combinations of  $n$  vectors
  - the columns of  $A$
  - vector spaces and subspaces
- most simple examples are  $\mathbb{R}^1, \mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{R}^3$ , etc
  - $\mathbb{R}^n$  :  $n$ -dimensional space
  - all column vectors  $v$  with  $n$  components
- rules
  - commutative law:  $v + w = w + v$
  - distributive law:  $c(v + w) = cv + cw$
  - zero vector:  $0 + v = v$

Linear algebra

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## Vector spaces and subspaces

- some other vector spaces
  - $M$  : all real 2 by 2 matrices
  - $F$  : all real functions of  $f(x)$
  - $Z$  : consists only of a zero vector
- in all cases additions and multiplications result in new vectors that stay in the vector space

Linear algebra

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## Subspaces

- a subspace of a vector space is a set of vectors that satisfies two requirements
- if  $v$  and  $w$  are vectors in the subspace and  $c$  is any scalar, then
  - $v + w$  is in the subspace
  - $cv$  is in the subspace
- all linear combinations stay in the subspace
- every subspace contains the zero vector

Linear algebra

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## Subspaces

- planes that don't contain the origin are not subspaces
  - i.e. for  $v$  on such a plane,  $-v$  &  $0v$  are not on the plane
- keeping only parts of the subspace violate the conditions
  - e.g. keeping only vectors  $(x,y)$  where  $x \& y > 0$
  - e.g. even if we include  $(x,y)$  where  $x \& y < 0$
- a subspace containing  $v$  and  $w$  contain all linear combinations of  $cv + dw$

Linear algebra

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## The column space of A

- we are interested in subspaces associated with  $Ax = b$
- when  $A$  is not invertible the system is solvable for some  $b$  but not for others
  - it is solvable only when  $b$  is in the column space of  $A$
- the column space of  $A$  contains all linear combinations of its columns – all possible combinations  $Ax$
- the columns of an  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$  have  $m$  components
  - the set of all column combinations  $Ax$  are a subspace
  - the column space is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^m$

Linear algebra

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## The column space of A

### Example

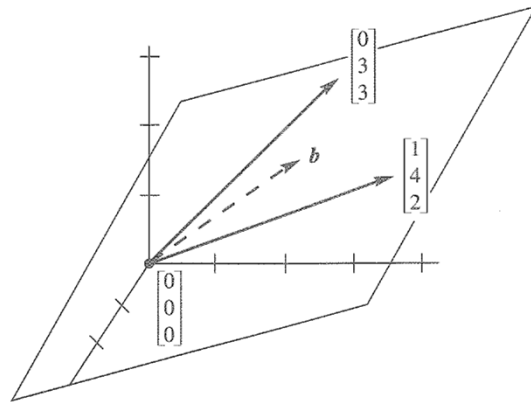
$$Ax = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 4 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = b \quad \text{which is} \quad x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = b$$

- the column combinations fill up the column space which is in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ 
  - the column space is actually a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$
- if the right side  $b$  lies on that plane then it is one of those combinations and the corresponding  $(x_1, x_2)$  is a solution
- if the right side is not on the plane then there is no solution to what are 3 equations in 2 unknowns
- the column space is denoted by  $C(A)$

Linear algebra

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## The column space of A



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

$$b = x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Linear algebra

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## The column space of A

### Example

Describe the column spaces of the following matrices

$$I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

but note that there will be more solutions to B than I and A... why?

Linear algebra

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## The nullspace of A

- the nullspace describes the solutions to  $Ax = 0$ 
  - one obvious solution,  $x = 0$
  - for invertible matrices it's the only solution
- an  $m \times n$  matrix has a nullspace  $N(A)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ 
  - specifically the nullspace is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$
- if the right side  $b$  is not 0 then the solutions of  $Ax = b$  do not form a subspace:  $x = 0$  is only a solution if  $b = 0$ 
  - when the set of solutions does not include  $x = 0$  it cannot be a subspace

Linear algebra

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## The nullspace of A

### Example

The equation  $x + 2y + 3z = 0$  comes from the matrix

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

The equation produces a plane through the origin. This is the nullspace, a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

The solutions to  $x + 2y + 3z = 6$  also form a plane, but not a subspace.

Linear algebra

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## The nullspace of A

### Example

Describe the nullspace of

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

The nullspace  $N(A)$  contains all multiples of

$$s = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

so the nullspace is a line.

Do the same for

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 8 \end{bmatrix} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} A \\ 2A \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad C = [A \quad 2A]$$

Linear algebra

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## The nullspace of A

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 & 4 \\ 3 & 8 & 6 & 16 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{becomes} \quad U = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow$   
 pivot columns    free columns

- produce zeros above the pivots by eliminating upwards

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{becomes} \quad R = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\uparrow \quad \uparrow$   
 pivot columns contain 1

- produce ones in the pivots by dividing the whole row by its pivot

$$s_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad s_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\leftarrow$  pivot  
 $\leftarrow$  variables  
 $\leftarrow$  free  
 $\leftarrow$  variables

- the r.h.s is not changed – it's all zero!
  - nullspace stays the same

Linear algebra

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## The nullspace of $A$

- to describe the nullspace we determine the special solutions to  $Ax = 0$ 
  - $N(A)$  contains all combinations of the special solutions
- when the only solution to  $Ax = 0$  is  $x = 0$ , the nullspace contains only that special vector  $x = 0$ 
  - the zero or trivial combination
  - the nullspace is  $\mathbf{Z}$
  - this tells us that the columns of  $A$  are independent
  - no combination of columns gives us the zero vector except the zero combination

Linear algebra

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## Solving $Ax = 0$ by elimination

- involves:
  - forward elimination from  $A \rightarrow U \rightarrow R$
  - backward substitution in  $Ux = 0$  or  $Rx = 0$  to find  $x$
- there may not be  $n$  pivots, e.g.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 2 & 8 & 10 \\ 3 & 3 & 10 & 13 \end{bmatrix} \text{ becomes } U = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

there are four unknowns and only two pivots so there are infinitely many solutions – but how to describe them?

- pivot variables and free variables

Linear algebra

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## Solving $Ax = 0$ by elimination

$$x = x_2 \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{special}} + x_4 \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{special}} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -x_2 - x_4 \\ x_2 \\ -x_4 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{complete}}$$

- P : the pivot variables are  $x_1$  and  $x_3$
- F : the free variables are  $x_2$  and  $x_4$
- these solve  $Ux=0$  and therefore  $Ax=0$
- every solution is
  - a combination of the special solution
  - in the nullspace  $N(A)$
- the combinations fill out the nullspace

Linear algebra

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## Echelon matrices

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} x & x & x & x & x & x & x \\ 0 & x & x & x & x & x & x \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & x & x \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

3 pivot variables  $x_1, x_2, x_6$

4 free variables  $x_3, x_4, x_5, x_7$

four special solutions in  $N(U)$

- what are the column and nullspaces?
- if  $A$  has more columns than rows ( $n > m$ )
  - there at most  $m$  pivots
  - there is at least 1 free variable
  - $Ax = 0$  has at least one special solution – not  $x = 0$
- the number of free variables dictates the dimension of the nullspace – a subspace

Linear algebra

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## The reduced Echelon matrix, $R$

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ becomes } R = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- if  $A$  is invertible then  $R = I$
- zeros in  $R$  make it easy to find the special solutions
  - the nullspace  $N(A) = N(U) = N(R)$

$$x = x_2 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_4 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ as before}$$

Linear algebra

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## The rank and row reduced echelon form

- $R$  can be obtained from an elimination matrix:  $EA = R$ 
  - square matrix  $E$  is the product of the elementary matrices,  $E_{ij}$ ,  $P_{ij}$  and  $D^{-1}$
  - $E$  is obtained from row reduction on  $[A \ I]$  since
 
$$E[A \ I] = [R \ E]$$
  - which is Gauss-Jordan elimination
- when  $A$  is square and invertible,  $EA = R = I$ 
  - $E$  is then  $A^{-1}$
- here we consider all (rectangular) matrices
  - $E$  will obtain  $R$ , but  $R$  will not necessarily equal  $I$
  - it shows us the pivot columns and special solutions

Linear algebra

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## The rank of a matrix

- reflects the true size of the linear system
- the rank is equal to the number of pivots,  $r$ 
  - $r \leq m$  and  $r \leq n$
  - when  $r = m$  the matrix is of full row rank
    - no zero rows in  $R$
  - when  $r = n$  the matrix is of full column rank
    - no free variables
- a square, invertible matrix has  $r = m = n$  and  $R = I$
- at higher levels
  - the matrix has  $r$  independent rows and columns
  - $r$  is the dimension of the row and column space

Linear algebra

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## The pivot columns

- pivots in  $R$  are all 1
  - respective columns form an  $I$  matrix which is  $r \times r$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 & -3 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 & 6 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \text{ becomes } R = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- for this example

$$E = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } E^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

the  $r$  pivot columns of  $A$  are the first  $r$  columns of  $E^{-1}$

- $A = E^{-1}R$ : each column of  $A$  is  $E^{-1}$  times a column of  $R$
- 1's in the pivots of  $R$  pick out first  $r$  columns of  $E^{-1}$

Linear algebra

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## The pivot columns

- pivot columns are **not** combinations of earlier columns
  - clearly true for  $R$  and also true for  $A$
  - since  $Ax = 0$  exactly when  $Rx = 0$ 
    - solutions do not change during elimination
- free columns **are** combinations of earlier columns
  - the combinations are given exactly by the special solutions

Linear algebra

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## Special solutions

- special solutions have one free variable equal to 1
  - all others are zero
- special solutions can be read off directly from  $R$  to give the nullspace matrix  $N$

$$Rx = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad N = \begin{bmatrix} -3 & -2 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -4 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} \text{not free} \\ \text{free} \\ \text{not free} \\ \text{free} \\ \text{free} \end{matrix}$$

which gives the full solution to  $Ax = 0$  (and  $Rx = 0$ )

- note once again the presence of the  $I$  matrix

Linear algebra

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## Special solutions

- there is a special solution for each free variable
  - with  $r$  pivot columns there are  $n - r$  free variables
  - free solutions are independent

- for  $Ax = 0$ 
  - $n$  unknowns
  - $r$  independent equations
  - $n - r$  independent solutions

- in the case where the first  $r$  columns are pivot columns

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} I & F \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} r \text{ pivot rows} \\ m-r \text{ zero rows} \end{array} \quad N = \begin{bmatrix} -F \\ I \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} r \text{ pivot variables} \\ n-r \text{ free variables} \end{array}$$

$r$  pivot columns     $n-r$  free columns

Linear algebra

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## Special solutions

- and note that  $RN = \begin{bmatrix} I & F \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -F \\ I \end{bmatrix} = I(-F) + FI = 0$

- the columns of  $N$  solve  $Rx = Ax = 0$
- pivot variables come by changing signs ( $F$  to  $-F$ ) in the free columns of  $R$

$$I \begin{bmatrix} \text{pivot} \\ \text{variables} \end{bmatrix} = -F \begin{bmatrix} \text{free} \\ \text{variables} \end{bmatrix}$$

- in each special solution the free variables are a column of  $I$
- then the pivot variables are a column of  $-F$
- they give the nullspace matrix  $N$

Linear algebra

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## Special solutions

- this holds irrespective of the order of the pivot and free columns
- also note that no matter what method we use to reduce  $A$  we always obtain the same  $R$

**Example:** The special solutions of  $x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 0$  are

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

and the coefficient matrix is  $[1 \ 2 \ 3] = [I \ F]$ . The rank is 1 so there are  $n - r = 2$  special solutions in  $N$ . Their first components are  $-F = [-2 \ -3]$ . The other free variables come from  $I$ .

Linear algebra

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## The complete solution to $Ax = b$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 6 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{has the augmented matrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 & 6 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 & 6 & 7 \end{bmatrix} = [A \ b]$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 6 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{has the augmented matrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = [R \ d]$$

- $x_2 = x_4 = 0$  are free variables,  $x_1 = 1$  and  $x_3 = 6$  are pivot variables taken from  $d$ , giving the particular solution  $x_p = [1 \ 0 \ 6 \ 0]^T$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 6 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 6 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Pivot variables } 1, 6 \\ \text{Free variables } 0, 0 \end{array}$$

Linear algebra

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## The complete solution to $Ax = b$

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

Pivot variables 1,6  
Free variables 0, 0

- $x_2 = x_4 = 0$  are free variables,  $x_1 = 1$  and  $x_3 = 6$  are pivot variables taken from  $d$ , giving  $x_p = (1, 0, 6, 0)$ 
  - after row reduction we solve  $Rx = d$
  - the particular solution solves  $Ax_p = b$
  - the  $n - r$  special solutions solve  $Ax_n = 0$

Linear algebra

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## The complete solution to $Ax = b$

- given a square invertible matrix, what are  $x_p$  and  $x_n$ ?
  - the particular solution is  $A^{-1}b$
  - there are no special solutions – no free variables
    - the null space contains only the zero vector
  - the complete solution is  $x = x_p + x_n = A^{-1}b + 0$
  - solution  $A^{-1}b$  appears in the extra column
    - the reduced form of  $A$  is  $R = I$
  - in this case  $[A \ b]$  is reduced to  $[I \ A^{-1}b]$
  - $Ax = b$  is reduced all the way to  $x = A^{-1}b$

Linear algebra

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## The complete solution to $Ax = b$

**Example:** Find the condition on  $(b_1, b_2, b_3)$  for  $Ax = b$  to be solveable if:

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

This condition puts  $b$  in the column space of  $A$ . Find the complete  $x = x_p + x_n$ .

$A$  has full column rank  $r = n$

— here

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} n \text{ by } n \text{ identity matrix} \\ m - n \text{ rows of zeros} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} I \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

there are no free variables —  $F$  is empty

Linear algebra

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## The complete solution to $Ax = b$

- for every matrix  $A$  of full column rank ( $m \geq n = r$ )
  - all columns of  $A$  are pivot columns
  - there are no free variables or special solutions
  - $N(A)$  contains only  $x = 0$
  - if  $Ax = b$  has a solution it is unique
- we will also see that
  - $A$  has independent columns
  - $A^T A$  is invertible
  - there will be  $m - n$  zero rows in  $R$
  - there will be  $m - n$  conditions on  $b$  in order to have  $0 = 0$  in those rows

Linear algebra

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## The complete solution to $Ax = b$

- for every matrix  $A$  of full row rank ( $r = m \leq n$ )
  - all rows of  $A$  have pivots and  $R$  has no zero rows
  - $Ax = b$  has a solution for any right side  $b$
  - the column space is the whole space  $\mathbb{R}^m$
  - there are  $n - r = n - m$  special solutions in the nullspace of  $A$
  - the rows are linearly independent

Linear algebra

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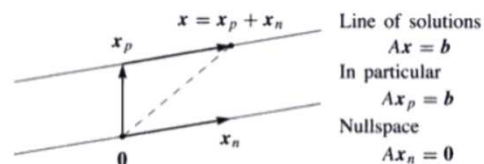
## The complete solution to $Ax = b$

- **Example:** The following system has  $n = 3$  unknowns but only two equations. The rank is  $r = m = 2$ .

$$\begin{aligned} x + y + z &= 3 \\ x + 2y - z &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

Show that the complete solution is given by

$$x = x_p + x_n = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_3 \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



Linear algebra

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## The complete solution to $Ax = b$

- four possibilities depending on the rank
  - $r = m$  and  $r = n$ : square and invertible, 1 solution
  - $r = m$  and  $r < n$ : short and wide, infinite solutions
  - $r < m$  and  $r = n$ : tall and thin, 0 or 1 solution
  - $r < m$  and  $r < n$ : unknown shape, 0 or infinite solutions
- $R$  will fall into the same category as  $A$
- with the pivot columns first

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} I & F \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Linear algebra

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## Linear independence

- the columns of  $A$  are linearly independent when the only solution to  $Ax = 0$  is  $x = 0$ 
  - no other combination  $Ax$  gives the zero vector
  - $N(A)$  contains only the zero vector
- the sequence of vectors  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  is linearly independent if the only combination that gives the zero vector is  $0v_1 + 0v_2 + \dots + 0v_n$



Linear algebra

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## Linear independence

**Example:** Determine whether the columns of  $A$  are independent or dependent if we know that:

$$Ax = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 5 \\ 1 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

Linear algebra

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## Linear independence

- the columns of  $A$  are independent exactly when  $r = n$ 
  - there are  $n$  pivots
  - only  $x = 0$  is in the nullspace
- for square matrices independent columns imply independent rows
- any set of  $n$  vectors in  $\mathbf{R}^m$  must be linearly dependent for  $n > m$ , then  $Ax = 0$  will have a nonzero solution

Linear algebra

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## Vectors that span a subspace

- combinations of the columns,  $Ax$ , span the column space
  - the column space is spanned by the columns
  - $C(A)$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^m$
- a set of vectors spans a space if their linear combinations fill the space
- combinations of the rows of  $A$  span the row space
  - $C(A^T)$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$

Linear algebra

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## Vectors that span a subspace

**Example:** the column space of  $A$  is spanned by the two columns of  $A$  – a plane in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . The row space is spanned by the three rows of  $A$  – all of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 2 & 7 \\ 3 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \quad m = 3 \quad \text{and} \quad n = 2$$

Linear algebra

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## A basis for a vector space

- two properties
  - the vectors are linearly independent
  - the vectors span the space
- every vector in the vector space is a combination of the basis vectors
- the standard bases for  $\mathbb{R}^n$  come from the  $n$  by  $n$  identity matrix  $I$  – but they are not the only possibilities
  - the columns of any invertible  $n$  by  $n$  matrix give a valid basis

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{or} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Linear algebra

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## A basis for a vector space

- when  $A$  is invertible its columns are independent
  - only solution to  $Ax = 0$  is  $x = 0$
  - columns span the whole space  $\mathbb{R}^n$  because every vector  $b$  is a combination of the columns
  - $Ax = b$  can always be solved by  $x = A^{-1}b$
- the vectors  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  are a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$  exactly when they are the columns of an  $n$  by  $n$  invertible matrix
  - $\mathbb{R}^n$  has infinitely many bases
- the pivot columns of  $A$  are a basis for its column space
- the pivot rows of  $A$  are a basis for its row space

Linear algebra

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## A basis for a vector space

**Example:** Reduce  $A$  to  $R$  and then find and compare bases for their column and row spaces.

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

**Example:** Find a basis for the column space of

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

**Example:** How would you find a basis for the space spanned by five vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^7$ ?

N.B. the differences between the column spaces of  $A$  and  $R$  !!!

Linear algebra

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## Dimension of a vector space

- all the different bases for the same space have the same number of vectors – this is the dimension of the space
- if  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  and  $w_1, \dots, w_n$  are two bases for the same space, then  $m = n$ 
  - $w_1$  must be a combination of the  $v$ 's
  - if  $w_1 = a_{11}v_1 + \dots + a_{m1}v_m$  – the first column of a matrix multiplication

$$W = \begin{bmatrix} w_1 & w_2 & \dots & w_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 & v_2 & \dots & v_m \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix} = VA$$

- we don't know each  $a_{ij}$  but we know that  $A$  is  $m$  by  $n$

Linear algebra

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## Dimension of a vector space

- $A$  has a row for every  $v$  and a column for every  $w$ 
  - if we assume that  $n > m$  it is a short, wide  $m \times n$  matrix
  - there is a nonzero solution to  $Ax = 0$
  - then  $VAx = 0$  and  $Wx = 0$
  - a combination of the  $w$ 's gives zero
  - columns of  $W$  cannot be a basis
  - same outcome if we consider  $m > n$ ,
  - therefore  $m$  must equal  $n$
- the dimension of a vector space is the number of vectors in every basis
- the dimension of the column space is the rank of the matrix

Linear algebra

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## Bases for matrix spaces and function spaces

- not just column vectors – matrices and functions too!
- all 2 by 2 matrices might have bases

$$A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

bases easily found for e.g. all diagonal, all upper triangular matrices, or all symmetric matrices etc.

Linear algebra

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## Dimensions of the four subspaces

- the rank of a matrix defines the dimension of all four subspaces
  - two subspaces from  $A$ , two from  $A^T$
- row space  $C(A^T)$  a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ 
  - also the column space of  $A^T$
- column space  $C(A)$  a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^m$
- nullspace  $N(A)$  a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$
- left nullspace  $N(A^T)$  a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^m$ 
  - nullspace of  $A^T$  – obtained by solving  $A^T y = 0$ 
    - an  $n \times m$  system
    - vectors  $y$  go on the left when written as  $y^T A = 0^T$
- all of these spaces are connected

Linear algebra

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## Dimensions of the four subspaces

- we will learn about two fundamental theorems of linear algebra
- Fundamental Theorem 1
  - the column space and the row space have the same dimension  $r$  – the rank of the matrix  $A$
  - the two nullspaces have dimensions  $n-r$  and  $m-r$ 
    - they make up the full dimensions  $n$  and  $m$
- Fundamental Theorem 2
  - we will see how these four subspaces fit together

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## Dimensions of the four subspaces

- we can reduce  $A$  to its row echelon form  $R$ 
  - the dimensions of the four subspaces are the same for both  $A$  and  $R$

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## Dimensions of the four subspaces

### Example

Take a matrix  $R$ , where  $m = 3$ ,  $n = 5$  and  $r = 2$

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 5 & 0 & 9 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{pivot rows 1 and 2} \\ \text{pivot columns 1 and 4} \end{array}$$

- the rank of  $R$  is  $r = 2$
- the row space of  $R$  has dimension  $r$ 
  - pivot rows 1 and 2 span the row space, they are independent and form a basis

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## Dimensions of the four subspaces

### ...example (cont.)

- the column space of  $R$  has dimension  $r$ 
  - pivot columns 1 and 4 span the column space, they are independent and form a basis
    - $c_2 = 3c_1$  : special solution is  $s_2 = (-3, 1, 0, 0, 0)^T$
    - $c_3 = 5c_1$  : special solution is  $s_3 = (-5, 0, 1, 0, 0)^T$
    - $c_5 = 9c_1 + 8c_4$  : special solution is  $s_5 = (-9, 0, 0, -8, 1)^T$

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## Dimensions of the four subspaces

### ...example (cont.)

- the nullspace has dimension  $n - r = 5 - 2 = 3$ 
  - there are no pivots in columns 2, 3 and 5
  - these three free variables lead to the three special solutions to  $Rx = 0$  which are independent and form a basis
  - we have the same special solutions as before
  - $Rx = 0$  has the complete solution  $x = x_2s_2 + x_3s_3 + x_5s_5$
  - the pivot variables  $x_1$  and  $x_4$  are totally determined by  $Rx = 0$

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## Dimensions of the four subspaces

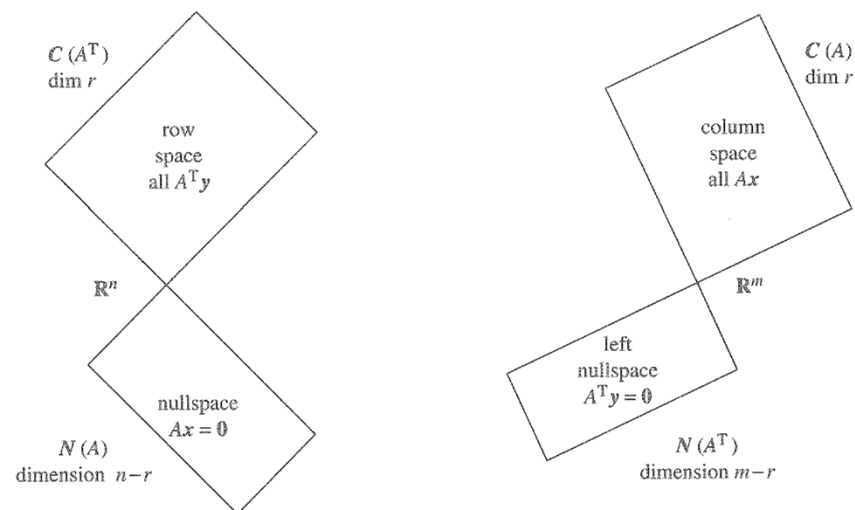
### ...example (cont.)

- the nullspace of  $R^T$  has dimension  $m - r = 3 - 2 = 1$
- $R^T y = 0$  looks for combinations of the columns of  $R^T$  that produce 0:
  - $y_1(1,3,5,0,9) + y_2(0,0,0,1,8) + y_3(0,0,0,0,0) = (0,0,0,0,0)$
- the nullspace thus contains all vectors in  $(0,0,y_3)$ 
  - it is the line of all multiples of the basis vector  $(0,0,1)$
- in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  the row space and nullspace have dimensions  $r$  and  $n - r$  (the two add to  $n$ )
- in  $\mathbb{R}^m$  the column space and the left nullspace have dimension  $r$  and  $m - r$  (the two add to  $m$ )

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## Dimensions of the four subspaces



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## Dimensions of the four subspaces

- $A$  and  $R$  have the same subspace dimensions
  - they are connected according to  $EA = R$  and  $A = E^{-1}R$
- $A$  has the same row space, dimension and basis as  $R$ 
  - every row of  $A$  is a combination of the rows of  $R$
  - every row of  $R$  is a combination of the rows of  $A$
- the column spaces of  $A$  and  $R$  have the same dimension
  - but the column spaces are NOT the same!
  - $Ax = 0$  when  $Rx = 0$  – same combination of columns
  - $r$  pivot columns of  $A$  are the basis for its column space
  - $r$  pivot columns of  $R$  are the basis for its column space

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## Dimensions of the four subspaces

- $A$  has the same nullspace, dimension and basis as  $R$ 
  - elimination doesn't change the solutions
  - the special solutions are a basis for this nullspace
  - there are  $n - r$  free variables, so the dimension is  $n - r$
- the left nullspace of  $A$  has dimension  $m - r$ 
  - if we know the dimensions of  $A$  then we know them for  $A^T$
  - $A^T$  is  $n \times m$  so the “whole space” is now  $\mathbb{R}^m$
  - $r + (m - r) = m$

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## 1<sup>st</sup> Fundamental Theorem of Linear Algebra

the column space and row space both have dimension  $r$

$$C(A) = C(A^T) = r$$

the nullspaces have dimensions  $n - r$  and  $m - r$

$$N(A) = n - r \quad \text{and} \quad N(A^T) = m - r$$

## 1<sup>st</sup> Fundamental Theorem of Linear Algebra

### Example

Describe the spaces of

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$