

Null Space of a matrix $\underline{N(A)}$

The set of all solutions of $\boxed{\downarrow A\vec{x} = \vec{0}_{n \times 1}}$

$\begin{bmatrix} \downarrow \\ x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$

$$\underline{N(A)} = \left\{ \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \boxed{A\vec{x} = \vec{0}} \right\} \leq \mathbb{R}^n$$

the vector space
of all $n \times 1$ column vectors

* $\underline{N(A)}$ is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

1) $\vec{0}_{\mathbb{R}^n} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}_{n \times 1} \in \boxed{N(A)}$ $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ is the trivial solution of $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}_{m \times 1}$

2) If \vec{x} and \vec{y} are two solutions of $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$

$$\Rightarrow A\vec{x} = \vec{0} \quad \text{and} \quad A\vec{y} = \vec{0}$$

$$\Rightarrow A(\underbrace{\vec{x} + \vec{y}}_{\vec{0}}) = \underbrace{A\vec{x}}_0 + \underbrace{A\vec{y}}_0 = \vec{0}$$

$\Rightarrow \vec{x} + \vec{y}$ is also a solution of $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$. ✓

3) If \vec{x} is a solution of $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ and $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\Rightarrow A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$$

$$\Rightarrow A(\underbrace{\alpha \vec{x}}_0) = \alpha \underbrace{A\vec{x}}_0 = \vec{0} \quad \checkmark$$

$\Rightarrow \alpha \vec{x}$ is also a solution of $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$. ✓

$$\Rightarrow \underline{N(A)} \leq \mathbb{R}^n$$

Q) $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}_{2 \times 4}$ What is the Null Space of A ?

↙
all solutions of $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}_{2 \times 4} \begin{bmatrix} \vec{x} \\ \vec{x}_1 \\ \vec{x}_2 \\ \vec{x}_3 \\ \vec{x}_4 \end{bmatrix}_{4 \times 1} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}_{2 \times 1}$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{-2r_1+r_2 \rightarrow r_2} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & -2 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\xrightarrow{-1r_2 \rightarrow r_2} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & -1 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\xrightarrow{-r_2+r_1 \rightarrow r_1} \left[\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & -1 & 0 \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \text{RREF}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 - \cancel{x_3} + \cancel{x_4} &= 0 & x_3 = r \in \mathbb{R} & x_4 = s \in \mathbb{R} \\ \underline{x_2 + 2\cancel{x_3} - \cancel{x_4}} &= 0 & \text{free variables} \\ &\quad r & x_1 = r - s \\ &\quad s & x_2 = -2r + s \end{aligned}$$

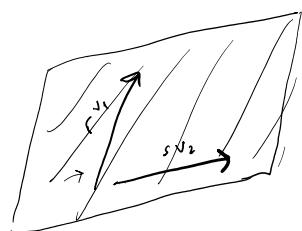
a typical solution vector

$$\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} r-s \\ -2r+s \\ r \\ s \end{bmatrix} : r, s \in \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \text{infinitely many solutions}$$

$$r \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + s \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} r-s \\ -2r+s \\ r \\ s \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\boxed{N(A)} = \left\{ r \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + s \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} : r, s \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

$$N(A) \leq \mathbb{R}^n$$



$$r=1 \\ r=4$$

All linear combinations of vectors $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

Span of vectors $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{N(A) = \text{Span} \left\{ \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}, \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}} \right\}}$$

Linear Combinations & Span

Let $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n$ be a set of vectors.

A linear combination is

$$\alpha_1 \vec{v}_1 + \alpha_2 \vec{v}_2 + \dots + \alpha_n \vec{v}_n \quad \text{where } \underbrace{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathbb{R}}_{\text{specific number}}$$

All linear combinations of $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n = \text{Span}\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n\}$

$$\forall \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathbb{R} \quad \alpha_1 \vec{v}_1 + \alpha_2 \vec{v}_2 + \dots + \alpha_n \vec{v}_n$$

Ex/ $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

a linear combination $\rightarrow 2\vec{v}_1 + 3\vec{v}_2 + (-1)\vec{v}_3 = \dots$

all linear combinations $= \text{Span}\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3\} = \left\{ r \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + s \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} : r, s, t \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$

Spanning Set

If you can obtain all elements of V as a linear combination of a set of vectors, this set is called a spanning set of V .

$$V = \text{Span}\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$$

$$\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\} = \text{the spanning set of } V$$

Ex/ Find a spanning set for \mathbb{R}^2

$$\mathbb{R}^2 = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} : x, y \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$
$$x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + y \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \stackrel{?}{=} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

You can write any vector $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^2$, as a linear combination of $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

pick $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^2 \quad \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = 2 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + 3 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \checkmark$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ span } \mathbb{R}^2.$$

$$\Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \text{ is a } \checkmark \text{ spanning set for } \mathbb{R}^2$$

$\Rightarrow \left\{ \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{e_1}, \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{e_2} \right\}$ is a minimum spanning set for \mathbb{R}^2

$$\Rightarrow \text{Span} \left\{ \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{e_1}, \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{e_2} \right\} = \mathbb{R}^2$$

$\Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ may also be a spanning set for \mathbb{R}^2

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = 2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + 3 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + 0 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + 0 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \quad \checkmark$$

\checkmark A minimum spanning set for $\mathbb{R}^3 = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{\vec{e}_1} + \underbrace{y \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{\vec{e}_2} + \underbrace{z \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\vec{e}_3} \in \mathbb{R}^3$$

\checkmark Let $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ $\vec{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ $\vec{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Is $\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3\}$ a spanning set for \mathbb{R}^3 ?

a typical element of this vectorspace $= \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^3$
 $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\alpha_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\downarrow} + \underbrace{\alpha_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{\downarrow} + \underbrace{\alpha_3 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{\downarrow}$$

Can you find $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3$ in terms of x, y, z ? \checkmark If yes

$$\rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3 \\ \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 \\ \alpha_1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3 = x \\ \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 = y \\ \alpha_1 = z \end{array} \right. \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{solve this system} \\ \downarrow \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \checkmark \\ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^3 \\ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} = \cancel{1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \cancel{-2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \cancel{-3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ x=2 \quad y=5 \quad z=7 \\ \alpha_2 = y - z = 5 - 7 \\ \alpha_3 = x - y = 2 - 5 \end{array}$$

$\boxed{\begin{array}{l} \alpha_1 = z \\ \alpha_2 = y - z \\ \alpha_3 = x - y \end{array}}$ \checkmark
 \uparrow if you can find a solution \Rightarrow YES!

$$\begin{array}{l} x=2 \\ y=7 \\ z=7 \end{array}$$

✓

$$\alpha_2 = y - z \\ = 7 - 7$$

$$\alpha_3 = x - y \\ = 2 - 7$$

Find a
solution
⇒ Yes!

⇒ $\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3\}$ is a spanning set for \mathbb{R}^3 .

~~Ex~~

$$\text{Let } \vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Is $\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3\}$ a spanning set for \mathbb{R}^3 ?

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \alpha_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} + \alpha_2 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + \alpha_3 \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$$

Can you find $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3$ in terms of x, y, z ?

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 + 2\alpha_2 + 4\alpha_3 \\ 2\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 - \alpha_3 \\ 4\alpha_1 + 3\alpha_2 + \alpha_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_1 + 2\alpha_2 + 4\alpha_3 &= x \\ 2\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 - \alpha_3 &= y \\ 4\alpha_1 + 3\alpha_2 + \alpha_3 &= z \end{aligned}$$

the augmented matrix

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 4 & x \\ 2 & 1 & -1 & y \\ 4 & 3 & 1 & z \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow[-2r_1+r_2 \rightarrow r_2]{-4r_1+r_3 \rightarrow r_3} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 4 & x \\ 0 & -3 & -9 & -2x+y \\ 0 & -5 & -15 & -4x+z \end{array} \right]$$

$$\xrightarrow{-1/3 r_2 \rightarrow r_2} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 4 & x \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & (2x-y)/3 \\ 0 & -5 & -15 & -4x+z \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{5r_2+r_3 \rightarrow r_3} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 4 & x \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & (2x-y)/3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & (\frac{5}{3}(2x-y) - 4x+z) \end{array} \right]$$

if ≠ 0
There is no solution.

We should be finding a solution for all x, y, z
But we couldn't.

⇒ $\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3\}$ is not a spanning set for \mathbb{R}^3 .

11. Determine whether the following are spanning sets for \mathbb{R}^2 :

(a) $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$

(b) $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$

(c) $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$

(d) $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$

$$\left(\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \right) = \alpha_1 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \alpha_2 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Can you find α_1, α_2 in terms of x, y ?

$$\rightarrow \text{(c)} \quad \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

$$\rightarrow \text{(d)} \quad \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

$$\text{(e)} \quad \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

12. Which of the sets that follow are spanning sets for \mathbb{R}^3 ? Justify your answers.

$$\rightarrow \text{(a)} \quad \{(1, 0, 0)^T, (0, 1, 1)^T, (1, 0, 1)^T\}$$

$$\rightarrow \text{(b)} \quad \{(1, 0, 0)^T, (0, 1, 1)^T, (1, 0, 1)^T, (1, 2, 3)^T\}$$

$$\rightarrow \text{(c)} \quad \{(2, 1, -2)^T, (3, 2, -2)^T, (2, 2, 0)^T\}$$

$$\rightarrow \text{(d)} \quad \{(2, 1, -2)^T, (-2, -1, 2)^T, (4, 2, -4)^T\}$$

$$\rightarrow \text{(e)} \quad \{(1, 1, 3)^T, (0, 2, 1)^T\}$$

13. Given

$$\underline{x_1} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \underline{x_2} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\underline{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}, \quad y = \begin{pmatrix} -9 \\ -2 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

(a) Is $x \in \text{Span}(x_1, x_2)$?

(b) Is $y \in \text{Span}(x_1, x_2)$?

Prove your answers.

$$\text{a)} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} = \alpha_1 \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + \alpha_2 \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\alpha_1 = ? \quad \alpha_2 = ?$$