

Find the dimension and a basis of the solution space  $W$  of each homogeneous system:

$$\begin{array}{lll} x + 2y + 2z - s + 3t = 0 & x + 2y + z - 2t = 0 & x + y + 2z = 0 \\ x + 2y + 3z + s + t = 0, & 2x + 4y + 4z - 3t = 0 & 2x + 3y + 3z = 0 \\ 3x + 6y + 8z + s + 5t = 0 & 3x + 6y + 7z - 4t = 0 & x + 3y + 5z = 0 \end{array}$$

(a) (b) (c)

(a) Reduce the system to echelon form:

$$\begin{array}{l} x + 2y + 2z - s + 3t = 0 \\ z + 2s - 2t = 0 \\ 2z + 4s - 4t = 0 \end{array} \quad \text{or} \quad \begin{array}{l} x + 2y + 2z - s + 3t = 0 \\ z + 2s - 2t = 0 \end{array}$$

The system in echelon form has two (nonzero) equations in five unknowns. Hence the system has  $5 - 2 = 3$  free variables, which are  $y, s, t$ . Thus  $\dim W = 3$ . We obtain a basis for  $W$ :

- (1) Set  $y = 1, s = 0, t = 0$  to obtain the solution  $v_1 = (-2, 1, 0, 0, 0)$ .
- (2) Set  $y = 0, s = 1, t = 0$  to obtain the solution  $v_2 = (5, 0, -2, 1, 0)$ .
- (3) Set  $y = 0, s = 0, t = 1$  to obtain the solution  $v_3 = (-7, 0, 2, 0, 1)$ .

The set  $\{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$  is a basis of the solution space  $W$ .

(b) (Here we use the matrix format of our homogeneous system.) Reduce the coefficient matrix  $A$  to echelon form:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & -2 \\ 2 & 4 & 4 & -3 \\ 3 & 6 & 7 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

This corresponds to the system

$$\begin{array}{l} x + 2y + 2z - 2t = 0 \\ 2z + t = 0 \end{array}$$

The free variables are  $y$  and  $t$ , and  $\dim W = 2$ .

- (i) Set  $y = 1, z = 0$  to obtain the solution  $u_1 = (-2, 1, 0, 0)$ .
- (ii) Set  $y = 0, z = 2$  to obtain the solution  $u_2 = (6, 0, -1, 2)$ .

Then  $\{u_1, u_2\}$  is a basis of  $W$ .

(c) Reduce the coefficient matrix  $A$  to echelon form:

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

This corresponds to a triangular system with no free variables. Thus 0 is the only solution, that is,  $W = \{0\}$ . Hence  $\dim W = 0$ .



Find a homogeneous system whose solution set  $W$  is spanned by

$$\{u_1, u_2, u_3\} = \{(1, -2, 0, 3), (1, -1, -1, 4), (1, 0, -2, 5)\}$$

Let  $v = (x, y, z, t)$ . Then  $v \in W$  if and only if  $v$  is a linear combination of the vectors  $u_1, u_2, u_3$  that span  $W$ . Thus form the matrix  $M$  whose first columns are  $u_1, u_2, u_3$  and whose last column is  $v$ , and then row reduce  $M$  to echelon form. This yields

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & x \\ -2 & -1 & 0 & y \\ 0 & -1 & -2 & z \\ 3 & 4 & 5 & t \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & x \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 2x+y \\ 0 & -1 & -2 & z \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & -3x+t \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & x \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 2x+y \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2x+y+z \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -5x-y+t \end{bmatrix}$$

Then  $v$  is a linear combination of  $u_1, u_2, u_3$  if  $\text{rank}(M) = \text{rank}(A)$ , where  $A$  is the submatrix without column  $v$ . Thus set the last two entries in the fourth column on the right equal to zero to obtain the required homogeneous system:

$$2x + y + z = 0$$

$$5x + y - t = 0$$



Consider the following subspaces of  $\mathbf{R}^5$ :

$$U = \text{span}(u_1, u_2, u_3) = \text{span}\{(1, 3, -2, 2, 3), (1, 4, -3, 4, 2), (2, 3, -1, -2, 9)\}$$

$$W = \text{span}(w_1, w_2, w_3) = \text{span}\{(1, 3, 0, 2, 1), (1, 5, -6, 6, 3), (2, 5, 3, 2, 1)\}$$

Find a basis and the dimension of: (a)  $U + W$ , (b)  $U \cap W$ .

(a)  $U + W$  is the space spanned by all six vectors. Hence form the matrix whose rows are the given six vectors, and then row reduce to echelon form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & -2 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 4 & -3 & 4 & 2 \\ 2 & 3 & -1 & -2 & 9 \\ 1 & 3 & 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 5 & -6 & 6 & 3 \\ 2 & 5 & 3 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & -2 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & -3 & 3 & -6 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 2 & -4 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 7 & -2 & -5 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & -2 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The following three nonzero rows of the echelon matrix form a basis of  $U \cap W$ :

$$(1, 3, -2, 2, 3), (0, 1, -1, 2, -1), (0, 0, 1, 0, -1)$$

Thus  $\dim(U + W) = 3$ .

(b) Let  $v = (x, y, z, s, t)$  denote an arbitrary element in  $\mathbf{R}^5$ . First find, say as in Problem 4.49, homogeneous systems whose solution sets are  $U$  and  $W$ , respectively.

Let  $M$  be the matrix whose columns are the  $u_i$  and  $v$ , and reduce  $M$  to echelon form:

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & x \\ 3 & 4 & 3 & y \\ -2 & -3 & -1 & z \\ 2 & 4 & -2 & s \\ 3 & 2 & 9 & t \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & x \\ 0 & 1 & -3 & -3x + y \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -x + y + z \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 4x - 2y + s \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -6x + y + t \end{bmatrix}$$

Set the last three entries in the last column equal to zero to obtain the following homogeneous system whose solution set is  $U$ :

$$-x + y + z = 0, \quad 4x - 2y + s = 0, \quad -6x + y + t = 0$$

Now let  $M'$  be the matrix whose columns are the  $w_i$  and  $v$ , and reduce  $M'$  to echelon form:

$$M' = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & x \\ 3 & 5 & 5 & y \\ 0 & -6 & 3 & z \\ 2 & 6 & 2 & s \\ 1 & 3 & 1 & t \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & x \\ 0 & 2 & -1 & -3x + y \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -9x + 3y + z \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 4x - 2y + s \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2x - y + t \end{bmatrix}$$

Again set the last three entries in the last column equal to zero to obtain the following homogeneous system whose solution set is  $W$ :

$$-9x + 3y + z = 0, \quad 4x - 2y + s = 0, \quad 2x - y + t = 0$$

Combine both of the above systems to obtain a homogeneous system, whose solution space is  $U \cap W$ , and reduce the system to echelon form, yielding

$$\begin{aligned} -x + y + z &= 0 \\ 2y + 4z + s &= 0 \\ 8z + 5s + 2t &= 0 \\ s - 2t &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

There is one free variable, which is  $t$ ; hence  $\dim(U \cap W) = 1$ . Setting  $t = 2$ , we obtain the solution  $u = (1, 4, -3, 4, 2)$ , which forms our required basis of  $U \cap W$ .