

## Lecture 09: The Big picture

### Outline:

- 1) The **general solution** to  $A\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{b}$
- 2) The **BIG** ideas
  - A) Linear Independence
  - B) Span
  - C) **Basis**
  - D) Dimension
- 3) Bases and Dimensions for the 4 Fundamental Subspaces of a  $m \times n$  Matrix  $A$   
 $C(A)$ ,  $N(A)$ ,  $C(A^T)$ ,  $N(A^T)$
- 4) Orthogonality of the 4 subspaces

## The General solution to $A\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{b}$

Given  $A$  in  $\mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ , we want to find **all** solutions to  $A\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{b}$  (if they exist)

General Algorithm:

- 1) use Gauss-Jordan Elimination to reduce  $[A \ \mathbf{b}]$  to  $[R \ \mathbf{d}]$
- 2) determine if the rhs is **consistent** (i.e.  $\mathbf{d}$  in  $C(R)$  or  $\mathbf{b}$  in  $C(A)$ )
  - A) if not consistent, there is **no** solution
  - B) if consistent then find one **particular solution** such that  
 $R\mathbf{x}_p = \mathbf{d}$  (or  $A\mathbf{x}_p = \mathbf{b}$ )  
 (combination of **pivot** columns of  $R$  that add to form  $\mathbf{d}$ )
- 3) Find all **special solutions** to  $A\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{0}$  and form null space matrix  $N$
- 4) the **general solution** is  $\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{x}_p+\mathbf{x}_N$  where  $\mathbf{x}_N=N\mathbf{c}$  is **all** vectors in the Null space  $N(A)$

## The General solution to $A\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{b}$

Example #1:  $A=[1 \ 2 \ 1 \ 0 \ 1; 2 \ 4 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0; 1 \ 2 \ 0 \ 1 \ -4]$ ,  $\mathbf{b}=[1 \ 1 \ 1]^T$

## The General solution to $A\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{b}$

Example #2:  $A=[1 \ 1; 1 \ -2; -2 \ 1]$ ,  $\mathbf{b}=[b_1 \ b_2 \ b_3]^T$

**The General solution to  $A\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{b}$** 

Types of solutions...

Three important numbers for any matrix,  $m, n, r$ 

Several types of problems

1) **Full Column Rank** ( $r=n$ ):

all columns linearly independent

 $N(A)=\mathbb{Z}$ 

Either one or none solution

2) **Full Row Rank** ( $r=m$ ):

no zero rows

 $C(A) = \mathbb{R}^m$  $N(A)$  always non-trivial if  $n > m$ 

At least one solution, usually infinite solutions

3) **Full Row and Column Rank** ( $r=n=m$ ): Invertible square

matrices: exactly 1 unique solution.

**The BIG Ideas**

Four critical ideas required to understand Vector Spaces and Subspaces

1) *Linear Independence*2) *Span*3) *Basis*4) *Dimension***Linear Independence**

Definition:

Given a set of vectors,  $\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n$  and scalars  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  the vectors are said to be "**Linearly Independent**" if the only linear combination that adds to zero i.e.

$$x_1\mathbf{a}_1 + x_2\mathbf{a}_2 + x_3\mathbf{a}_3 + \dots + x_n\mathbf{a}_n = \mathbf{0} \quad (1)$$

is when

$$x_1 = x_2 = x_3 = \dots = x_n = 0$$

Comments:

- 1) a **set** of vectors is either Linearly Independent or Linearly Dependent (not e.g.  $\mathbf{a}_3$  is dependent on the rest...)

- 2) if  $\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n$  are real vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ , then we already have an algorithm to determine if a set of vectors is independent or not!

A) Eq. (1) is equivalent to \_\_\_\_\_ where

B) Therefore:

**Linear Independence**

Example:

$$\mathbf{a}_1 = [0 \ 1 \ 0]^T, \quad \mathbf{a}_2 = [1 \ 0 \ 1]^T, \quad \mathbf{a}_3 = [1 \ -2 \ 1]^T$$

**Span**

Definition:

Given a set of vectors,  $\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n$

$\text{span}(\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n)$  is the vector subspace formed by all linear combinations of the vectors

Comments:

we also say a set of vectors  $\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n$  **spans** some subspace  $S$

Examples:

the columns of a matrix  $A$  span \_\_\_\_\_

the special solutions span \_\_\_\_\_

**Span**

Examples:

**Basis (Super Important idea!)**

Definition:

A set of vectors,  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  forms a **basis** for a vector space (or subspace)  $S$  iff

- 1) they are linearly independent
- 2) they span  $S$

Comments:

- 1) a basis is the *minimal* set of vectors required to reconstruct every vector in a vector space

Example: the pivot columns of  $A$  form a basis for \_\_\_\_\_

- 2) There are an *infinite* number of bases for any vector space  $S$

Example: The columns of **any** \_\_\_\_\_  $3 \times 3$  matrix  $A$  forms a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^3$

**Basis: Important properties**

Theorem:

given a particular basis for a vector space  $S$  any other vector  $v$  in  $S$  is described by a **unique** linear combination of the basis vectors.

Proof:

- 1) let  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  be a basis for a vector space  $S$
- 2) let  $v$  be any other vector in  $S$

**Dimension of a vector space**

Definition:

The **dimension** of a vector space  $S$  is the **number** of vectors in any basis for  $S$

Comment:

While there are an infinite number of bases for any vector space  $S$ , the **number** of basis vectors (i.e. the dimension of  $S$ ) is constant.

Example: Give 3 different bases for  $\mathbb{R}^2$

The dimension of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is \_\_\_\_\_

**Dimension of a vector space**

Theorem:

Given a vector space  $S$  of dimension  $n$ , there are exactly  $n$  vectors in every basis for  $S$ .

Proof:

let  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m$  be one basis for a vector space  $S$

let  $w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n$  be another basis  $S$

show that \_\_\_\_\_

- 1) First assume  $n > m$

**Basis and Dimension of the 4 subspaces of a matrix  $A$** 

Given  $A$  in  $\mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  there are actually four fundamental subspaces associated with the matrix  $A$

Name	Symbol	Subspace	Spanned by
1) Column Space			
2) Null Space			
3) Row Space			
4) Left Null Space			

**Basis and Dimension of the 4 subspaces of a matrix  $A$** 

Find the dimension and a basis for each of the 4 subspaces: a recipe

- 1) Reduce  $A$  to  $R = \text{rref}(A)$
- 2) Get  $C(A)$  from  $R$  and  $A$   
basis = pivot columns of \_\_\_\_\_  
 $\dim(C(A)) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$
- 3) Get  $N(A)$  from  $R$   
basis = \_\_\_\_\_  
 $\dim(N(A)) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$
- 4) Get  $C(A^T)$  from  $R$   
basis = \_\_\_\_\_  
 $\dim(C(A^T)) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$
- 5) Get  $N(A^T)$  the hard-way (find Null space of pivot columns of  $A$ )  
 $\dim(N(A^T)) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

***Basis and Dimension of the 4 subspaces of a matrix A***

Example:

A=

R=