

Lecture 15, RREF and four subspaces.

Given $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, the four subspaces are

1. Col space of A : $C(A) \subset \mathbb{R}^m$, $\dim(C(A)) = r$.
2. Null space of A : $N(A) \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, $\dim(N(A)) = n - r$.
3. Row space of A : $C(A^T) \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, $\dim(C(A^T)) = r$.
4. Left null space of A : $N(A^T) \subset \mathbb{R}^m$, $\dim(N(A^T)) = m - r$.

where $r = \text{rank}(A) \leq \min\{m, n\}$

Example

RREF form $R_0 = \begin{pmatrix} \textcircled{1} & 3 & 5 & 0 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \textcircled{1} & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad m=3, n=5$

$$m=3, n=5, r=2.$$

$C(A)$:
1. pivot cols are col 1 and col 4.

If $A = (a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, a_5) \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 5}$, then

$$C(A) = \text{Span}\{a_1, a_4\}$$

2. $N(A)$: consider $R_0 x = 0$.

$$x_1 + 3x_2 + 5x_3 + 7x_5 = 0.$$

$$x_4 + 2x_5 = 0.$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -3 & -5 & -7 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_5 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$N(A) = \text{Span}\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -7 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

$$\dim(N(A)) = n - r = 5 - 2 = 3.$$

$$R_0^T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 7 & 2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$3. \dim(N(R_0^T)) = \dim(AT)$$

$$R_0^T \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \end{pmatrix} = 0. \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} y_1 = 0. \\ 3y_1 = 0 \\ 5y_1 = 0 \\ y_2 = 0 \\ 7y_1 + 2y_2 = 0. \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} y_1 = 0 \\ y_2 = 0. \end{array}$$

$$N(R_0^T) = \text{Span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

$$\dim(AT) = \dim(N(R_0^T)) = 1.$$

4. $WA = R_0$. W non-singular

$$AT = R_0^T W^{-T}, \quad C(AT) = C(R_0^T)$$

$$C(AT) = \text{Span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 5 \\ 0 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

$$\dim(C(AT)) = 2 = r.$$

Fundamental th. of LA.

$A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, then

$$C(A) \overset{\perp}{\oplus} N(A^T) = \mathbb{R}^m$$

$$C(A^T) \overset{\perp}{\oplus} N(A) = \mathbb{R}^n$$

This is to say:

- 1) $C(A) \perp N(A^T)$
- 2) $C(A^T) \perp N(A)$.

Proof. let $a \in C(A)$, then $a = Ax_0$,
for any $b \in N(A^T)$, $b^T a = b^T A x_0$
 $= \underbrace{(A^T b)^T}_{=0} x_0 = 0.$

2) can be proved similarly.

For two subspaces S , and T : $S \perp T$ means

$$\forall x \in S, y \in T, \quad x^T y = 0$$

Example. If $r(AB) = r(B)$, then for a compatible C

$$r(ABC) = r(BC)$$

Proof. $r(AB) = r(B)$, then ~~not~~ $N(AB) = N(B)$ this is because $N(B) \subset N(AB)$

Now if $ABCx = 0 \Rightarrow Cx \in N(AB) \Rightarrow Cx \in N(B)$
 $BCx = 0 \quad x \in N(BC)$

Ex. A, B square matrices $AB = BA = 0$, $r(A^2) = r(A)$
then $r(A+B) = r(A) + r(B)$

A more detailed Derivation of Gaussian Elimination, RREF and Solving $Ax=b$.

Two basic tools

1) block elimination matrices: 2×2 block matrices

$$\left(\begin{array}{c|c} 1 & \\ \hline -l_1 & I \end{array} \right) \left(\begin{array}{c|c} a_{11} & u_1^T \\ \hline a_{1j} & A_1 \end{array} \right) \equiv E_1 A.$$

when $a_{11} \neq 0$, set $l_1 = a_{1j}/a_{11}$, the above product gives

$$\left(\begin{array}{c|c} a_{11} & u_1^T \\ \hline 0 & A_1 - l_1 u_1^T \end{array} \right)$$

Similarly

$$\left(\begin{array}{c|c} I & \\ \hline & -l_1 \end{array} \right) \left(\begin{array}{c|c} A_1 & u_1 \\ \hline a_{1j}^T & a_{nn} \end{array} \right)$$

when $a_{nn} \neq 0$, set $l_1 = u_1/a_{nn}$, the above product

becomes

$$\left(\begin{array}{c|c} A_1 - l_1 a_{1j}^T & 0 \\ \hline a_{1j}^T & a_{nn} \end{array} \right)$$

2) Transposition matrices

$P_1 = (1, n_1)$ indicating the swapping of 1 and n_1 . When apply P_1 to the left of A , $P_1 A$ is the result of swapping row 1 and row n_1 of A .

We will use the above two tools to construct REF and RREF of $A \in K^{m \times n}$

One key difference from GE for nonsingular A is we need to find the next nonzero column in the current submatrix, rather than just use its 1st col.

Suppose we have done $k-1$ steps of elimination, the reduced matrix has the form

$$E_{k_1} P_{k_1} \dots E_{1_1} P_{1_1} A = \left(\begin{array}{c|c|c|c} * & & * & \\ \hline 0 & 0 & \text{shaded} & \text{crossed} \\ \hline \end{array} \right)$$

current submatrix.

\uparrow
 n_k

where we indicate n_k (overall col number) as the 1st nonzero col in the current submatrix.

We can use transposition and block elimination

to reduce the current submatrix to

$$\left(\begin{array}{c|c|c|c} & \alpha_k & * & \dots & * \\ \hline 0 & 0 & & & * \\ \hline \end{array} \right)$$

let P_k, E_k be the corresponding transposition matrix, and block elimination matrix.

$$E_k P_k (E_{k-1} P_{k-1} \dots E_1 P_1 A) = \left[\begin{array}{c|ccc} \alpha_1 * \dots * & & & \\ \hline 0 & \alpha_2 * \dots * & & \\ \hline & 0 & \ddots & \\ \hline & & 0 & \alpha_k * \dots * \\ \hline & & & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

This process will terminate when the current submatrix is all zero (or α_k is either in the last col or last row)

Let us assume the process terminates after r steps.

$$E_r P_r \dots E_1 P_1 A = \left[\begin{array}{c|ccc} \alpha_1 * \dots * & & & \\ \hline 0 & \alpha_2 * \dots * & & \\ \hline & 0 & \ddots & \\ \hline & & 0 & \alpha_r * \dots * \\ \hline & & & 0 \end{array} \right] \equiv U_0$$

is what we call row echelon form REF.

U_0 has exactly r nonzero rows,
nonzero pivot α_k starts row k , and its col # is n_k .
all the zero rows are below the nonzero rows.

n_1, n_2, \dots, n_r indicate the first r independent
cols of A , i.e. partition $A = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$

then $(a_{n_1}, a_{n_2}, \dots, a_{n_r})$ are independent.

and they are called pivot cols because each
contains a nonzero pivot α_k .

with U_0 , we can already solve $Ax=0$,
i.e., finding $N(A)$, and solve $Ax=b$ if

$b \in C(A)$. More examples to come

In U_0 , the pivot w_k are scattered around, we can use column transpositions to move them to the first r cols of the matrix.

For example, $Q_1 = (1, n_1)$, when applied to the right of U_0 , exchange its col 1 and n_1

Then $U_0 Q_1 \dots Q_r$ with $Q_1 = (1, n_1), \dots, Q_r = (r, n_r)$

$$= \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} \alpha_1 & & * & * \\ 0 & \alpha_2 & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & \alpha_r & \\ \hline & & & & 0 \end{array} \right) \equiv \left(\begin{array}{c|c} U_1 & U_2 \\ \hline 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \quad \text{where } U_1 \in \mathbb{R}^r$$

is upper tri and nonsingular

Hence $E_r P_r \dots E_1 P_1 A Q_1 \dots Q_r = \left(\begin{array}{c|c} U_1 & U_2 \\ \hline 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$

$C(A) = \text{span}\{c_j\}$ with dimension r

when we bring the cols of $\left(\begin{array}{c|c} I_r & F \\ \hline 0 & 0 \end{array}\right)$ to its original positions by post-multiply Q^T . the result is the reduced row echelon form RREF.

$$R_0 = \left(\begin{array}{c|c} I_r & F \\ \hline 0 & 0 \end{array}\right) Q^T \equiv \begin{pmatrix} R \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$A = CR$ the so-called col-row decomposition.

R_0 has the form

$$\left[\begin{array}{c|ccc|c} & n_1 & n_2 & \dots & n_r \\ \hline & 1 & * & 0 & * \\ \hline & & 1 & * & 0 & * \\ & & & \ddots & & \\ & & & & 1 & * & \dots & * \\ \hline & 0 & 0 & 0 & & 0 \end{array} \right], \quad I_n = (e_1, \dots, e_n)$$

→ pivot col n_k is simply e_k , $k=1, \dots, n$.