

# Lecture 14

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## *Dimension and Rank*

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# Today's Lecture: Outline

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Today ... Dimension, rank

1. Basis and Dimension

2. Rank

Strang's book: Sec 3.3, 3.4

# Today's Lecture: Learning Goals

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After this lecture, you should be able to

1. Identify basis of common spaces
2. Explain why the dimension of a linear space is a well-defined
3. Compute the number of solutions for different  $(r,m,n)$

# Roadmap of Linear Systems

Theme: Solving Linear Systems

Math Tools

What is Learned?

Part 1 Preparation

Matrix multiplication  
Row operations

A method to solve any system

Lec 3,4,5

Numerical Methods

Part 2 Solving Square system

LU Decomposition  
Inverse

“Good” square system:  
Solution  $A^{-1}b$

Lec 6,7,8,9,10

Analytical Expressions

Part 3 Solving rectangular system

Linear space  
Span

Rectangular system:  
Solution  $x_p + N(A)$

Lec 11,12, 13

Part 4 Solution set structure

Linear independence  
Basis  
Dimension

Solution set dim  $(n-r)$   
Column space dim  $r$

Lec 13,14,15





# Review of Related Contents

## From Lec 13: Think: What Other Questions?

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The complete solution is

$$\mathbf{x}_p + N(A) = \mathbf{x}_p + \text{span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_m\}.$$

**Question:** Is there a “simpler” way to express  $\text{span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_m\}$ ?

$\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n$  are **linearly independent** iff the following holds:

$$c_1\mathbf{u}_1 + \dots + c_k\mathbf{u}_k = \mathbf{0} \text{ only happens when } c_1 = \dots = c_k = 0.$$

**General answer:** If  $M$ 's columns are independent, then cannot use fewer vectors to express it.



# Part I Basis

Strang's book Sec. 3.4

# Linear Dependence and Span

## Claim 14.1 (linear dependence and span)

Suppose  $V$  is a linear space over  $\mathbb{R}$ . Suppose  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k \in V$ .

If  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k$  are linear dependent, then there exists  $t \in \{1, \dots, k\}$  such that:

i)  $\mathbf{u}_t$  is a linear combination of  $\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{t-1}, \mathbf{u}_{t+1}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k$ .

ii)  $\text{span}\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\} = \text{span}(\{\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{t-1}, \mathbf{u}_{t+1}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\})$

**In words:**

**First,** LD  $\iff$  one element can be spanned by others.

**Second,** the **span** of these elements **can be further simplified.**

**Corollary:** If  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k$  are linear independent, then  $\text{span}\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\}$  can NOT be simplified (i.e. expressed as the span of  $k - 1$  elements)



## Motivation: What Spans $\mathbb{R}^n$ ?

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4 unit vectors  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  span  $\mathbb{R}^4$ .

**Q1:** Can we use 3 unit vectors to span  $\mathbb{R}^4$ ?

**Q2:** Are there 3 vectors that span  $\mathbb{R}^4$ ?

## Motivation: What Spans $\mathbb{R}^n$ ?

---

5 vectors  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$  span  $\mathbb{R}^4$ .

**Q1:** Can we use 4 vectors in these 5 to span  $\mathbb{R}^4$ ?

**Q2:** Can we use 3 vectors in these 5 to span  $\mathbb{R}^4$ ?

Answer to Q1: No, because they are \_\_\_\_\_

Thus,  $\{\mathbf{e}_1, \dots, \mathbf{e}_4\}$  is not just a spanning set, but also a **minimal spanning set** (cannot be further simplified).

We will give such spanning set a name: **Basis**.

# Basis

## Definition 14.1 (basis)

Suppose  $V$  is a linear space over  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Suppose  $\mathcal{U} \triangleq \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\} \subseteq V$ . We say  $\mathcal{U}$  is a basis if

- (i)  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k$  are linearly independent;
- (ii)  $\text{span}(\mathcal{U}) = V$ .

In words, a basis is a linearly independent set and span the whole space.

**Eg1**  $\{\mathbf{e}_1, \dots, \mathbf{e}_n\}$  is a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . (called “standard basis”)

**Eg2**  $\{\mathbf{u}\}$  is a basis of  $\text{span}\{\mathbf{u}\}$ , if  $\mathbf{u} \neq \mathbf{0}$ .



# Checking Basis

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**Preparation:** Find a candidate set.

## **First (independence)**

Check the elements are linearly independent.

## **Second (span)**

Check any element can be expressed as a linear combination.

# Basis: Exercise

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— Find a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$ .

— Find a basis of  $P_2 \triangleq \{f(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 : a_0, a_1, a_2 \in \mathbb{R}\}$

— Is  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ?

— Is  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ?

# Basis of Matrix Space

The set  $B$  consisting of

$$B_{11} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, B_{12} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, B_{21} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, B_{22} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

is a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$ .  $B$  is linearly independent. Also notice that  $\forall A \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$ ,

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} = aB_{11} + bB_{12} + cB_{21} + dB_{22}.$$

In general,  $\{E_{ij}, i = 1, \dots, m; j = 1, \dots, n\}$  is a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ , where  $E_{ij}$  is a matrix with only  $(i, j)$ -th entry being 1 and other entries being 0.



# Basis of Polynomial Space

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1.  $V = P_1$  (polynomials of degree at most 1).

(1)  $\mathbf{p}_1(x) = 1$ ,  $\mathbf{p}_2(x) = x$ ,  $\mathbf{p}_3(x) = 2 - 3x$ . Is  $\mathcal{U} = \{\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3\}$  a basis for  $P_1$ ?

No!  $\mathcal{U}$  is linearly dependent since  $\mathbf{p}_3 = 2\mathbf{p}_1 - 3\mathbf{p}_2$ .

(2)  $\mathcal{U} = \{1, x\}$  is a basis for  $P_1$ .

2. For  $V = P_n$  (polynomials of degree at most  $n$ ),

$\mathcal{U} = \{1, x, x^2, \dots, x^n\}$  is a basis for  $P_n$ .

# Part II Dimension

Strang's book Sec. 3.4

# Size of Bases

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$\{\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \mathbf{e}_3\}$  is a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^3$

$\{\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_1 + \mathbf{e}_2, \mathbf{e}_1 + \mathbf{e}_2 + \mathbf{e}_3\}$  is a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^3$

$\{\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \mathbf{e}_1 + \mathbf{e}_3\}$  is a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^3$

**Question:** what is the next interesting question?



# Size of Bases

---

$\{\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \mathbf{e}_3\}$  is a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^3$

$\{\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_1 + \mathbf{e}_2, \mathbf{e}_1 + \mathbf{e}_2 + \mathbf{e}_3\}$  is a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^3$

$\{\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \mathbf{e}_1 + \mathbf{e}_3\}$  is a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^3$

**Question:** what is the next interesting question?

**One answer:**

**Vote**

**Q1:** What's the smallest basis?

**A) 3   B) 2   C) 1**

**Q2:** What's the biggest basis?

**A)  $\infty$    B) 3   C)  $>3$**

# Too many vectors cannot be a basis

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**Claim 14.2a:** The set of three vectors  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$  is a linearly dependent set, thus not a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

**Claim 14.2b:** columns of  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 & 8 \\ 3 & 8 & 27 \end{bmatrix}$  are linearly dependent.

**Equivalent to:**

**Claim 14.2b'** \_\_\_\_\_ has \_\_\_\_\_ solution

**Proof:**

# Rewriting the Proof in Shape

**Claim 14.2a** equivalent to:

**Claim 14.3a'** \_\_\_\_\_ has \_\_\_\_\_ solution

**Proof** (using shape of matrix, not concrete numbers):

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & * & * \\ * & * & * \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & * & * \\ 0 & * & * \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & f_1 \\ 0 & 1 & f_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{Or} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & \\ 0 & & \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{Or} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & \\ 0 & & \end{bmatrix}$$

\_\_\_\_ rows, \_\_\_\_ columns  $\Rightarrow$  \_\_\_\_\_ one \_\_\_\_ variable

$\Rightarrow$  \_\_\_\_\_ solutions

$\Rightarrow$  Columns of  $2 \times 3$  matrix are independent



# Wide $Ax=0$ has Non-zero Solution

Equivalent to:

**Claim 14.2b** \_\_\_\_\_ has \_\_\_\_\_ solution

**Key Logic Chain of Proof:**

$\infty$ -many  
solutions

Free variables

2 pivots, 3 columns

[this example]

# of pivots < # of columns

[in general]

# Key Lemma

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**Claim 14.3:** Any  $(n + 1)$  vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  are linearly dependent.

## Lemma 14.1

Suppose  $m > n$ .

If  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  is a basis of a linear space  $V$ ,

then any  $m$  elements  $\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_m$  are linearly dependent.

# Unique Representation and Coordinate

**Proposition 14.1** (unique representation)

Suppose  $V$  is a linear space with a basis  $\mathcal{U} \triangleq \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\}$ .

Any  $\mathbf{v} \in V$  can be written **uniquely** as a linear combination of  $\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n$ , namely, there exist unique  $[\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n]^\top \in \mathbf{R}^{n \times 1}$  s.t.

$$\mathbf{x} = \alpha_1 \mathbf{u}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \mathbf{u}_n$$

**Definition 14.1** (**coordinates**)

We say  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$  are the coordinates of  $\mathbf{x}$  with respect to the basis  $\mathcal{U}$ ,

denoted as  $[\mathbf{x}]_{\mathcal{U}} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ \dots \\ \alpha_n \end{bmatrix}$ .

# Coordinates of Elements in Matrix Space

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Eg. Matrix space.

Coordinates of  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 \\ 3 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$

# Dimension = Size of Bases

**Theorem 14.1** (bases have same size)

If  $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_m\}$  and  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  are bases of a linear space  $V$ , then  $m = n$ .

First “big”  
Theorem  
in this course!

All bases have the same size!! We call it “dimension”!

**Proof:**



# Dimension = Size of Bases

**Theorem 14.1** (bases have same size)

If  $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_m\}$  and  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  are bases of a linear space  $V$ , then  $m = n$ .

First “big”  
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in this course!

All bases have the same size!! We call it “dimension”!

**Definition 14.1 (dimension)**

Suppose  $V$  is a linear space.

If  $V$  has a basis  $\mathcal{U}$  with  $n$  elements, then we say the dimension of  $V$  is  $n$ , denoted as  $\dim(V)=n$ , or  $V$  is  $n$ -dimensional.

Eg:  $\dim(\{\mathbf{0}\}) = 0$ , since  $\{\mathbf{0}\}$  has no basis vector.

$\dim(\mathbb{R}^n) = n$ , since  $\{\mathbf{e}_i, i = 1, \dots, n\}$  is the standard

$\dim(\mathbb{R}^{2 \times 3}) = 6$ , since basis.

**Remark:** If there is no finite set of elements that can span  $V$ , we say  $V$  is infinite dimensional.

# Dimension Measures “Size” of Space

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We provide a perspective to understand dimension.

It comes from an old question:

**Question:** Is a plane “larger” than a line?

**You may say:** surely larger; but *in what sense?*

**Option 1:** # of points.

**Option 2:** Dimension.

# Exercise

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**What is the dimension of the following linear spaces?**

Space of  $n \times n$  diagonal triangular matrices

Space of  $n \times n$  upper triangular matrices

$$P_n = \left\{ \sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i \mid a_i \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

$$C \left( \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & a & 0 & c \\ 0 & 1 & b & 0 & d \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & e \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

# Properties of Basis

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A basis is a linearly independent set and span the whole space.

## For finite-dimensional linear space:

A basis is a **minimal spanning set**

(deleting a vector from the basis cannot span the whole space),

Also a **maximal independent set**

(adding a vector to the basis makes the set linearly dependent)

# Quicker Way to Check Basis

## Proposition 14.2

Consider a linear space  $V$  with  $\dim(V) = n$ .

If  $\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n$  are linearly independent, then they form a basis of  $V$ .

If  $\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n \in V$  can span  $V$ , then they form a basis of  $V$ .

**Remark:** For  $n$  vectors, only need to check either “span” or “lin. indep.”, not both.

E.g.  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  are linearly independent, thus a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

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**Recall:** Lec 13:

$n \times n$  matrix  $A$  is **invertible** iff the  $n$  columns are **linearly independent**.

From Prop. 14.2, this is equivalent to:

- Its columns form a **basis**.
- Its columns **span** the whole space, i.e.,  **$Ax=b$  is solvable for any  $b$** .



# Invertibility Conditions

## Theorem 14.2a (Equivalent Conditions for Invertibility)

Let  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ .

The following statements are equivalent:

1.  $A$  is invertible
2. The linear system  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  has a unique solution  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$
3.  $A$  is a product of elementary matrices
4.  $A$  has  $n$  pivots; or equivalently:  $\text{rank}(A) = n$
5. The columns of  $A$  span  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
6. The columns of  $A$  are linearly independent;
7. The columns of  $A$  form a basis;
8.  $\dim(C(A)) = n$ .
9.  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  is solvable for any  $\mathbf{b}$

Equation solving

Rank

Span

Linear independence

Basis

Dimension

Equation solving

Most major concepts we learned so far are related to invertibility.

# Part III Rank

Strang's book Sec. 3.4

# Rank

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The number of pivots  $r$  is important.

It is so important that we give it a name.

## **Definition 14.3 (rank)**

The rank of a matrix  $A$  is the number of pivots, denoted as  $\text{rank}(A)$ .

**Remark:** This is a computational definition.

In the future, we will introduce equivalent definitions that are more fundamental.

**Property:** For  $m \times n$  matrix,  $\text{rank}(A) \leq \min\{m, n\}$ .



## # of Solutions for Different Cases of m, n and r

After proper re-ordering of columns, any RREF can be written as

$$\begin{bmatrix} I_r & F \\ \mathbf{0}_{(m-r) \times r} & \mathbf{0}_{(m-r) \times (n-r)} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_P \\ x_F \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{b}}_{r \times 1} \\ \mathbf{c}_{(m-r) \times 1} \end{bmatrix}.$$

**Case 1:**  $r < m$ :

[there are zero rows]

IF  $\mathbf{c}_{(m-r) \times 1} \neq \mathbf{0}$ :

[get 0 = non-zero]

REPORT No solution.

ELSE

[get 0 = 0 equations]

Dependent on how large n,m,r, some of the blocks may disappear.

# # of Solutions for Different Cases of m, n and r

After proper re-ordering of columns, any RREF can be written as

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Dependent on how large n,m,r, some of the blocks may disappear.

IF  $\mathbf{c}_{(m-r) \times 1} \neq \mathbf{0}$ :

[get 0 = non-zero]

REPORT **No solution.**

ELSE

[get 0 = 0 equations]

IF  $r = n$ :

[no free column]

$$\begin{bmatrix} I_r \\ \mathbf{0}_{(m-r) \times r} \end{bmatrix}$$

REPORT: **1 solution**

ELSE:

[there are free columns]

$$\begin{bmatrix} I_r & F \\ \mathbf{0}_{(m-r) \times r} & \mathbf{0}_{(m-r) \times (n-r)} \end{bmatrix}$$

REPORT:  **$\infty$  solutions.**

# # of Solutions for Different Cases of m, n and r

After proper re-ordering of columns, any RREF can be written as

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Dependent on how large n,m,r, some of the blocks may disappear.

IF  $\mathbf{c}_{(m-r) \times 1} \neq \mathbf{0}$ :

[get 0 = non-zero]

REPORT: No solution.

ELSE

[get 0 = 0 equations]

IF  $r = n$ :

[no free column]

$$\begin{bmatrix} I_r \\ \mathbf{0}_{(m-r) \times r} \end{bmatrix}$$

REPORT: 1 solution

ELSE:

[there are free columns]

$$\begin{bmatrix} I_r & F \\ \mathbf{0}_{(m-r) \times r} & \mathbf{0}_{(m-r) \times (n-r)} \end{bmatrix}$$

REPORT:  $\infty$  solutions.

**Case 2:**  $r = m$ :

[No zero rows]

IF  $r = n$ :

[no free column]

$$[I_r]$$

REPORT: 1 solution

ELSE:

[there are free columns]

$$[I_r \quad F]$$

REPORT:  $\infty$  solutions.

# # of Solutions for Different Cases of m, n and r

After proper re-ordering of columns, any RREF can be written as

$$\begin{bmatrix} I_r & F \\ \mathbf{0}_{(m-r) \times r} & \mathbf{0}_{(m-r) \times (n-r)} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_P \\ x_F \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{b}}_{r \times 1} \\ \mathbf{c}_{(m-r) \times 1} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Dependent on how large n,m,r, some of the blocks may disappear.

Four types for $R$	$\begin{bmatrix} I \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix}$	$\begin{bmatrix} I & F \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix}$	$\begin{bmatrix} I \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix}$	$\begin{bmatrix} I & F \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix}$
<b>Their ranks</b>	$r = m = n$	$r = m < n$	$r = n < m$	$r < m, r < n$
# of solutions	1	$\infty$	0 or 1	0 or $\infty$
# of solutions when $\mathbf{c}_{(m-r) \times 1} = \mathbf{0}$	1	$\infty$	1	$\infty$



# Relation of Dimension and Rank

Thm 14.2 implies:  $\text{rank}(A) = n \iff \dim(C(A)) = n$ .

Let's recall what it means.

$\text{rank}(A) = n \iff n$  pivots

$\iff Ax=0$  has unique solution 0

i.e.  $Ax=0$  has no non-zero solution

$\iff n$  columns are linearly independent

$\iff C(A)$  has dimension  $n$

[Def of rank]

[row transf. does not  
change solution]

[Def of lin. ind.]

[Fact 14.1; Def of dim]

Anything interesting to guess?

**Guess:**  $\text{rank}(A) = \dim(C(A))$ , for any  $A$ .

# Definition: Row Space

## Definition 14.2 (row space)

Suppose  $A = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a}_{(1)}^\top \\ \dots \\ \mathbf{a}_{(m)}^\top \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  is a linear space.

Then  $\text{span}(\{\mathbf{a}_{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{a}_{(m)}\}) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is called the row space of  $A$ , denoted as **Row(A)**.

**In words: A's row space is the span of A's row vectors.**

Remark:  $\text{Row}(A) = C(A^\top)$ .

Eg:  $C(I_n) = \underline{\hspace{10em}}$

**Eg:** Row space of  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 4 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$  is the set

$$\left\{ \alpha_1 [1,0]^\top + \alpha_2 [4,3]^\top + \alpha_3 [2,3]^\top \mid \alpha_1, \alpha_2 \in \mathbb{R} \right\}.$$

## What is $\dim(\text{Row}(R))$ ?

Consider the RREF  $R$ .

The diagram shows a 4x5 matrix in RREF form. The first three rows are pivot rows, and the last row is a non-pivot row. Blue arrows point from the labels 'Pivot rows' and 'Non-pivot rows' to their respective rows in the matrix. The matrix is equal to a column vector of row vectors:  $\mathbf{u}_1^T, \mathbf{u}_2^T, \mathbf{u}_3^T,$  and a zero row  $\mathbf{0}_{1 \times 4}$ .

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Pivot rows} \\ \text{Non-pivot rows} \end{array} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & a & 0 & c \\ 0 & 1 & b & 0 & d \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & e \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1^T \\ \mathbf{u}_2^T \\ \mathbf{u}_3^T \\ \mathbf{0}_{1 \times 4} \end{bmatrix} .$$

**Observation 1:**  $\text{Span}\{\text{rows}\} = \text{span}\{\text{pivot rows}\}$ .

**Observation 2:** Pivot rows are linearly independent.

Why?

Together:  $\dim(\text{Row}(R)) = \# \text{ of pivots} = r$ .

# Rank Theorem

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## **Definition 14.3 (row-rank and column rank)**

Row-rank of  $A$  is defined as  $\dim(\text{Row}(A))$ , denoted as  $r_R(A)$ .

Column-rank of  $A$  is defined as  $\dim(\text{C}(A))$ , denoted as  $r_C(A)$ .

## **Theorem 14.3**

Row-rank, column-rank and rank of a matrix are the same, i.e.,

$$r_R(A) = r_C(A) = \text{rank}(A).$$

Equivalent expression:  **$\dim(\text{Row}(A)) = \dim(\text{C}(A)) = \# \text{ of pivots.}$**

## Example

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

$$\text{Row}(A) = \mathbf{Span} \left( [1, 2, 0, 0]^T, [0, 0, 1, 0]^T, [0, 0, 0, 1]^T \right)$$

$$r_R(A) = 3.$$

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

$$C(A) = \mathbf{Span} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

$$r_C(A) = 3.$$

3 pivots,  
So  $\text{rank}(A) = 3$ .

Thus,  $r_R(A) = r_C(A) = \mathbf{\text{rank}(A)}$ .



# Concluding Part

Strang's book Sec. 3.4



# How to Fill the Gap Between Courses and Homework & Exam?

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First, figure out all logic & proofs of the lectures

Second, work on more practice problems.

—Different from high school:


High school: Teachers (almost) provide you all needed problems.

University: You need to seek more practice problems yourself.

[Active learning]

—Where? Textbook practice problems.

—Too many? Pick a few to work on. It is part of the challenge.



# Summary Today (write Your Own)

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**One sentence summary:**

**Detailed summary:**

# Summary Today (of Instructor)

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## One sentence summary:

Dimension, Rank and Nullity.

## Detailed summary:

### 1. Basis and Dimension

- Dimension of linear space = size of any basis.
- Theorem 14.1: Any basis has the same size (size = # of vectors in the basis).

### 2. Rank

Column/row-rank = dim of column/row space

**Rank theorem: row-rank = column-rank = rank** (= # of pivots)

### 3. Nullity

—Nullity = dimension of null space.

—Nullity theorem:  $\text{Nullity} + \text{rank} = n$ .

**Byproduct:** Conditions for checking invertibility by dim, rank, nullity, linear independence.

Appendix: Proof of Rank =  
Row Rank = Column Rank



# Revisiting Solution Set of $Ax=0$

Linear system:

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{Pivot columns} \\
 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & a & 0 & c \\ 0 & 1 & b & 0 & d \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & e \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}
 \end{array}
 \begin{array}{c}
 \text{Pivot variables} \\
 \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}
 \end{array}$$

Free columns
Free variables

The complete solution is

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} = \alpha \begin{bmatrix} -a \\ -b \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \beta \begin{bmatrix} -c \\ -d \\ 0 \\ -e \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \forall \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Plugging in solutions:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & a & 0 & c \\ 0 & 1 & b & 0 & d \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & e \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -a \\ -b \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (-a)\mathbf{v}_1 + (-b)\mathbf{v}_2 + \mathbf{v}_3 = 0.$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & a & 0 & c \\ 0 & 1 & b & 0 & d \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & e \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -c \\ -d \\ 0 \\ -e \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (-c)\mathbf{v}_1 + (-d)\mathbf{v}_2 + (-e)\mathbf{v}_4 + \mathbf{v}_5 = 0.$$

$\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3$  can express  $\mathbf{v}_4, \mathbf{v}_5$ .  
They are linearly independent.

## Column Space Dim = Rank

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**Fact 1:** In RREF, free columns can be expressed as LC of pivot columns.

**Fact 2:**  $\dim(\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{R})) = \# \text{ of pivot columns} = \mathbf{r}$ .

What about  $\dim(\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{A}))$ ?

Guess:  $\dim(\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{A})) = \dim(\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{R}))$ .



$\dim(\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{A})) = \mathbf{r}$ .

**Lemma 14.2** Elementary row operations do not change dimension of column space.

# Elementary Row Operation does Not Change LC Relation

Pivot columns

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & a & 0 & c \\ 0 & 1 & b & 0 & d \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & e \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -a \\ -b \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Free columns

$$\Leftrightarrow (-c)\mathbf{v}_1 + (-d)\mathbf{v}_2 + (-e)\mathbf{v}_4 + \mathbf{v}_5 = \mathbf{0}.$$

Consider the matrix  $\hat{R}$  that becomes  $R$  after one step of elementary row operation.

$$\hat{R} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & a & -\beta & c-\beta e \\ 0 & 1 & b & 0 & d \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & e \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\beta R_3 + R_1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & a & 0 & c \\ 0 & 1 & b & 0 & d \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & e \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Check: } (-c)\mathbf{v}_1 + (-d)\mathbf{v}_2 + (-e)\hat{\mathbf{v}}_4 + \hat{\mathbf{v}}_5 =$$

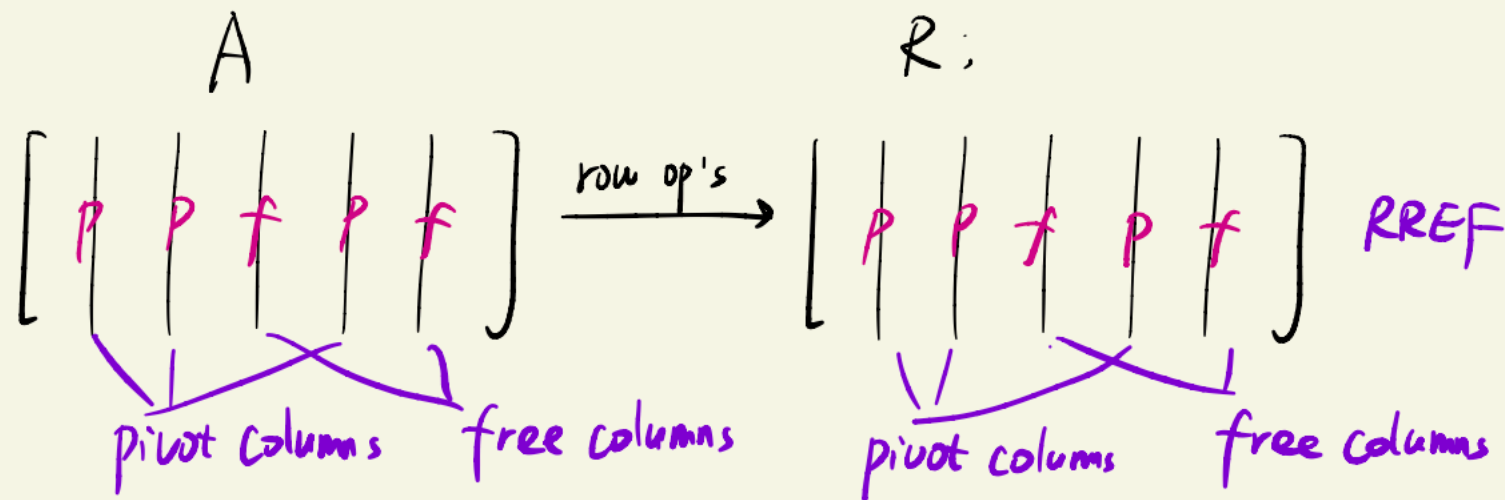
**Claim 14.1:** Elementary row operation does not change “linear combination” relation.

i.e. if  $\alpha_1 \cdot (\text{Column } 1) + \dots + \alpha_n \cdot (\text{Column } n) = \mathbf{0}$  holds for  $M$ , then it holds for the row-transformed matrix too.



# Finishing Proof

to prove  $\dim(C(A)) = \dim(C(R)) = r$ .



$r$  pivot cols of  $A$  form a basis of  $C(A)$

$\Downarrow$   
 $\dim(C(A)) = r$ .

	pivot columns of $A$ span free columns of $A$	$\Leftarrow$ <small>Claim 14.1</small>	pivot columns of $R$ span free columns of $R$
$r$ pivot cols of $A$ form a basis of $C(A)$	pivot columns of $A$ are lin. independent	$\Leftarrow$ <small>Claim 14.1</small>	pivot columns of $R$ are lin. independent

# Elementary Row Operations do Not Change Row Space

Consider the matrix  $\hat{R}$  that becomes  $R$  after one step of elementary row operation.

$$W = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{w}_1^T \\ \mathbf{w}_2^T \\ \mathbf{w}_3^T \\ \mathbf{w}_4^T \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\beta R_3 + R_1} \begin{bmatrix} \beta \mathbf{w}_3^T + \mathbf{w}_1^T \\ \mathbf{w}_2^T \\ \mathbf{w}_3^T \\ \mathbf{w}_4^T \end{bmatrix} = \hat{W}.$$

$$\text{Row}(W) = \text{span}\{\mathbf{w}_1, \mathbf{w}_2, \mathbf{w}_3, \mathbf{w}_4\}$$

$$\text{span}\{\beta \mathbf{w}_3 + \mathbf{w}_1, \mathbf{w}_2, \mathbf{w}_3, \mathbf{w}_4\} = \text{Row}(W).$$

**Claim 14.2:** Elementary row operation does not change the row space.

$$\text{dim}(\text{Row}(R)) = \# \text{ of pivots} = r$$

$$\text{dim}(\text{Row}(A)) = r.$$