

# Lecture 15

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## *Four Fundamental Subspaces*

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# Today's Lecture: Outline

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Today ... Four Fundamental Subspaces

1. Full-rank
2. Nullity
3. Orthogonal complement
4. Four fundamental subspaces

Strang's book: Sec 3.4, 3.5

# Today's Lecture: Learning Goals

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After this lecture, you should be able to

1. Tell the # of solutions of full-row-rank, full-column-rank matrices
2. Judge orthogonal complement of another subspace
3. Tell four fundamental subspaces and their relations

# Review of Related Contents



# Review of Linear Independence and Basis

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

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

$\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n$  form a basis of  $V$  iff the following two hold:

- i) they are linearly independent; [no redundant information; not too many]
- ii) they span  $V$ . [no loss of information; not too few]

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

**Eg2**  $\{E_{ij}, i = 1, \dots, m; j = 1, \dots, n\}$  is a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ .

# Review of Dimension and Rank

**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 supporting Theorem in this course!

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

**Theorem 14.3**

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

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

Second big supporting Theorem in this course!

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

Supporting theorems:

They are so basic that you will take them for granted after 1 year, or even forget they are “theorems”!

**Disclaimer:** Maybe “ $PA=LU$ ” is another “big” theorem, but not a “supporting”-type theorem.

# Part I Full Rank Matrices



# Full Rank Matrix

## Definition 14.4 (full rank matrix)

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

If  $\text{rank}(A) = m$ , then we say  $A$  has full row rank.

行满秩

If  $\text{rank}(A) = n$ , then we say  $A$  has full column rank.

列满秩

If  $\text{rank}(A) = \min\{m, n\}$ , then we say  $A$  has full rank.

满秩

**Remark:** Can also say “ $A$  is a full rank matrix”.

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

Elementary Row operations

4 rows

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

REF 3 col's

3 pivots

Is this full rank, full row rank, full column rank?

✓  
✗

✓



# Row-rank and Column-rank

**Recall:**  $m - r$ ,  $n - r$  are critical for # of solutions.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & F \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$m - r$  shall be interpreted as (# of rows) - (row rank)

$n - r$  shall be interpreted as (# of columns) - (col rank)

**Think:** What's special about "full row rank" and "full col rank" matrix?

Solution set!

# From Lec 13: m-r and n-r

## Lec 14

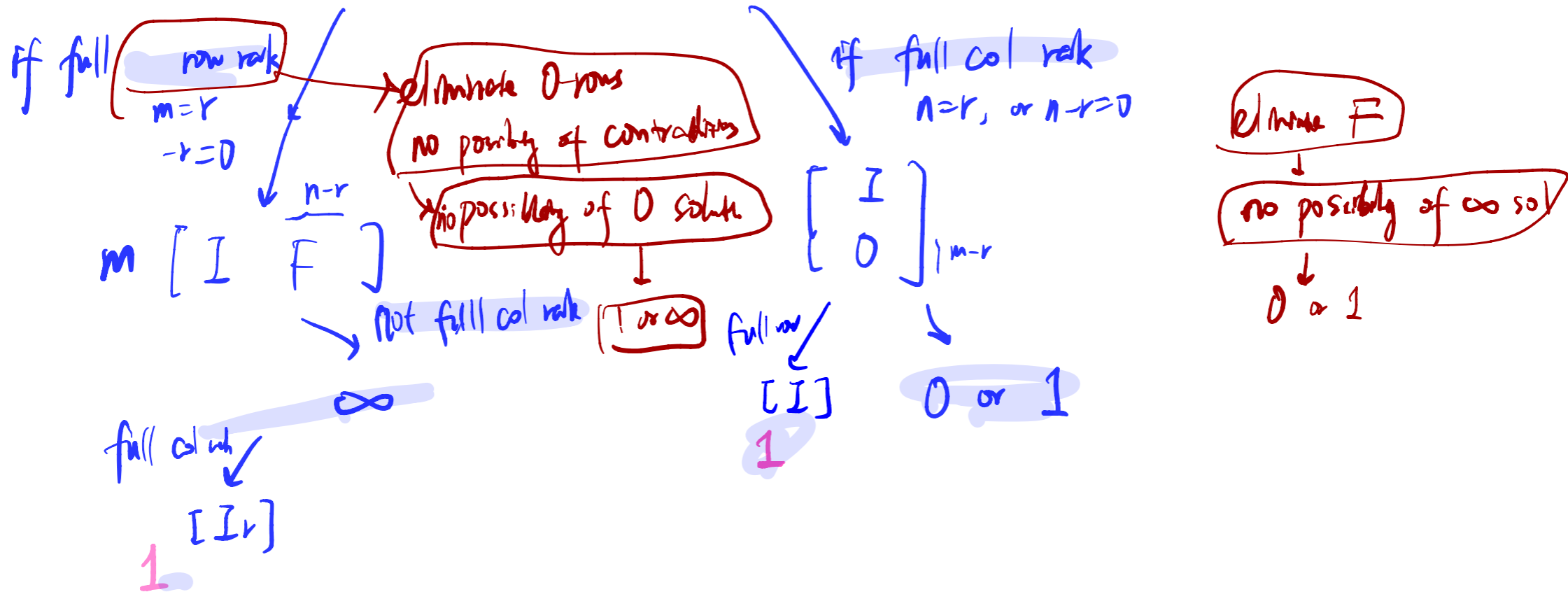
Review of new concepts  
(full rank)

After re-ordering columns of RREF, we get:

$$\begin{matrix} r \\ m-r \end{matrix} \left\{ \begin{matrix} \left[ \begin{matrix} I & F \end{matrix} \right] \\ \left[ \begin{matrix} 0 & 0 \end{matrix} \right] \end{matrix} \right\} \begin{matrix} \left[ \begin{matrix} x_p \\ x_f \end{matrix} \right] \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} \left[ \begin{matrix} \hat{b} \\ c \end{matrix} \right] \end{matrix}$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_r$        $\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{n-r}$

determine # of solutions



# From Lec 13: m-r and n-r

After re-ordering columns of RREF, we get:

$$\begin{array}{l} r \\ m-r \end{array} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \left[ \begin{array}{cc} I & F \end{array} \right] \\ \left[ \begin{array}{cc} 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \left[ \begin{array}{c} x_p \\ x_f \end{array} \right] \end{array} = \begin{array}{l} \left[ \begin{array}{c} \hat{b} \\ c \end{array} \right] \end{array}$$

$\underbrace{\quad}_r \quad \underbrace{\quad}_{n-r}$

determine # of solutions

The only possibility of "No solution"  
is  $m > r$  and  $c \neq 0$ .

Intuition:

Only "free rows" provide  
possibility of contradiction

To get "so-many solutions",  
need  $n > r$ .

Intuition:

Only "free variables" provide  
possibility of many solutions

# Full Row rank and Full Column rank

$$\begin{bmatrix} | & | & | & | \\ v_1 & v_2 & \dots & v_n \\ | & | & | & | \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} = u$$

↑ unique

**Proposition 15.1:** If  $\text{rank}(A) = n$ , i.e., full column rank, then  $Ax = b$  has at most one solution (# of solutions must be 0 or 1; eliminate possibility of  $\infty$ ).

This means: F (free var's) exists in RREF.

Relation: unique representation by independent set

$$A = [v_1, \dots, v_n],$$

where  $v_i$ 's are indep.

Any  $\vec{u} = \alpha_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \vec{v}_n$  has at most one solution  $\{\alpha_i\}$ 's.

$\Rightarrow$  Any  $\vec{u}$  can be written as  $\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \vec{v}_i$  in at most one way.

[Last time: if  $\text{span}\{v_i\} = \text{whole space}$ , then  $\vec{u} = \text{unique rep of } \{v_i\}$  (coordinates)]



# Full Row rank and Full Column rank

**Proposition 15.1:** If  $\text{rank}(A) = n$ , i.e., full column rank, then  $Ax = b$  has **at most one** solution (# of solutions must be 0 or 1; **eliminate possibility of  $\infty$** ).

0 or 1  
 ~~$\infty$~~

This means: F (free var's) exists in RREF.

**Proposition 15.2:** If  $\text{rank}(A) = m$ , i.e., full row rank, then  $Ax = b$  has **at least one solution** (# of solutions must be 1 or  $\infty$ ; **eliminate possibility of 0**)

1 or  $\infty$   
~~0~~

This means: no zero rows.

**Corollary 15.1** If  $\text{rank}(A) = m = n$ , then  $Ax=b$  has exactly one solution.

square, then invertible

$$x = A^{-1}b.$$

# Part II Nullity

Strang's book Sec. 3.4

# Back to Question on Expressing Solution Set

The complete solution is

$$\mathbf{x}_p + N(A) = \mathbf{x}_p + \text{span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_{n-r}\}$$

We use  $n - r$  vectors.

**Question:** Is there a “simpler” way to express  $N(A)$ ?  
*fewer vectors*

**More professional:**

Do these  $n - r$  vectors form a *independent* basis of  $N(A)$ ?



# Express Solution Set Using RREF [I, F; 0, 0]

Suppose RREF  $\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} I & F & \hat{b} \\ 0 & 0 & \hat{c} \end{array} \right]$ . (note; after column exchange)

Correspond  $\rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{cc} I & F \\ 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \begin{bmatrix} x_B \\ x_F \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{b} \\ \hat{c} \end{bmatrix}$

$\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} I \cdot x_B + F x_F = \hat{b} \\ 0 = \hat{c} \end{cases}$

if  $\hat{c} = 0$   $\rightarrow x_B = \hat{b} - F x_F$

*matrix*  $\rightarrow$   $N(A)$   
*LC of cols'  $\begin{bmatrix} -F \\ I \end{bmatrix}$*

e.g.  $\begin{cases} x_1 = 3 - 2x_4 \\ x_2 = 4 + 3x_4 \\ x_3 = 1 - x_4 \end{cases}$

$\Rightarrow x = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{b} - F x_F \\ x_F \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{b} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -F \\ I \end{bmatrix} x_F$  is a solution,  $\forall x_F \in \mathbb{R}^{n-r}$

$\Rightarrow$  solution set  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} \hat{b} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -F \\ I \end{bmatrix} \vec{y} \mid \vec{y} \in \mathbb{R}^{n-r} \right\}$

note:  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -F \\ I \end{bmatrix} \vec{y} \mid \vec{y} \in \mathbb{R}^{n-r} \right\}$  should be  $N(A)$

|| by def  $C\left(\begin{bmatrix} -F \\ I \end{bmatrix}\right)$



# Are Columns Linearly Independent?

We know:  $N(A) = \text{span of col's of } \begin{bmatrix} -F \\ I_{n-r} \end{bmatrix}$   
IS this simplifiable?

Q. Are col's of  $\begin{bmatrix} -F \\ I \end{bmatrix}$  independent?

A. Yes.

Proof I Write  $\begin{bmatrix} -F \\ I \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{f}_1 & \dots & \vec{f}_{n-r} \\ \vec{e}_1 & \dots & \vec{e}_{n-r} \end{bmatrix}$

$$\left( \alpha_1 \begin{bmatrix} \vec{f}_1 \\ \vec{e}_1 \end{bmatrix} + \dots + \alpha_{n-r} \begin{bmatrix} \vec{f}_{n-r} \\ \vec{e}_{n-r} \end{bmatrix} = 0 \right) \Rightarrow (\alpha_1 = \dots = \alpha_{n-r} = 0)$$

$$\begin{cases} \alpha_1 \vec{f}_1 + \dots + \alpha_{n-r} \vec{f}_{n-r} = 0 \\ \alpha_1 \vec{e}_1 + \dots + \alpha_{n-r} \vec{e}_{n-r} = 0 \end{cases} \left. \begin{array}{l} \Downarrow \\ \nearrow \end{array} \right\} \vec{e}_i \text{'s are indep.}$$

By def: col's are indep.

Proof II  $\begin{bmatrix} -F \\ I \end{bmatrix} \vec{y} = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} -F\vec{y} = 0 \\ \vec{y} = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \vec{y} = 0,$

So col's are indep.

# Solution of $Ax=0$

Linear system:

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Pivot columns} \\ \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \end{array}
 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}
 \begin{array}{c} \text{Pivot variables} \\ \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \end{array}
 \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix}
 =
 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -F \\ I \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -4 \\ -3 & -1 \\ -2 & -2 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}
 \quad \text{Solution } x = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -4 \\ -3 & -1 \\ -2 & -2 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}
 \begin{bmatrix} s \\ t \end{bmatrix} = s \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \\ -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ -1 \\ -2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Free variables

The two columns of M are linearly independent.

Why?

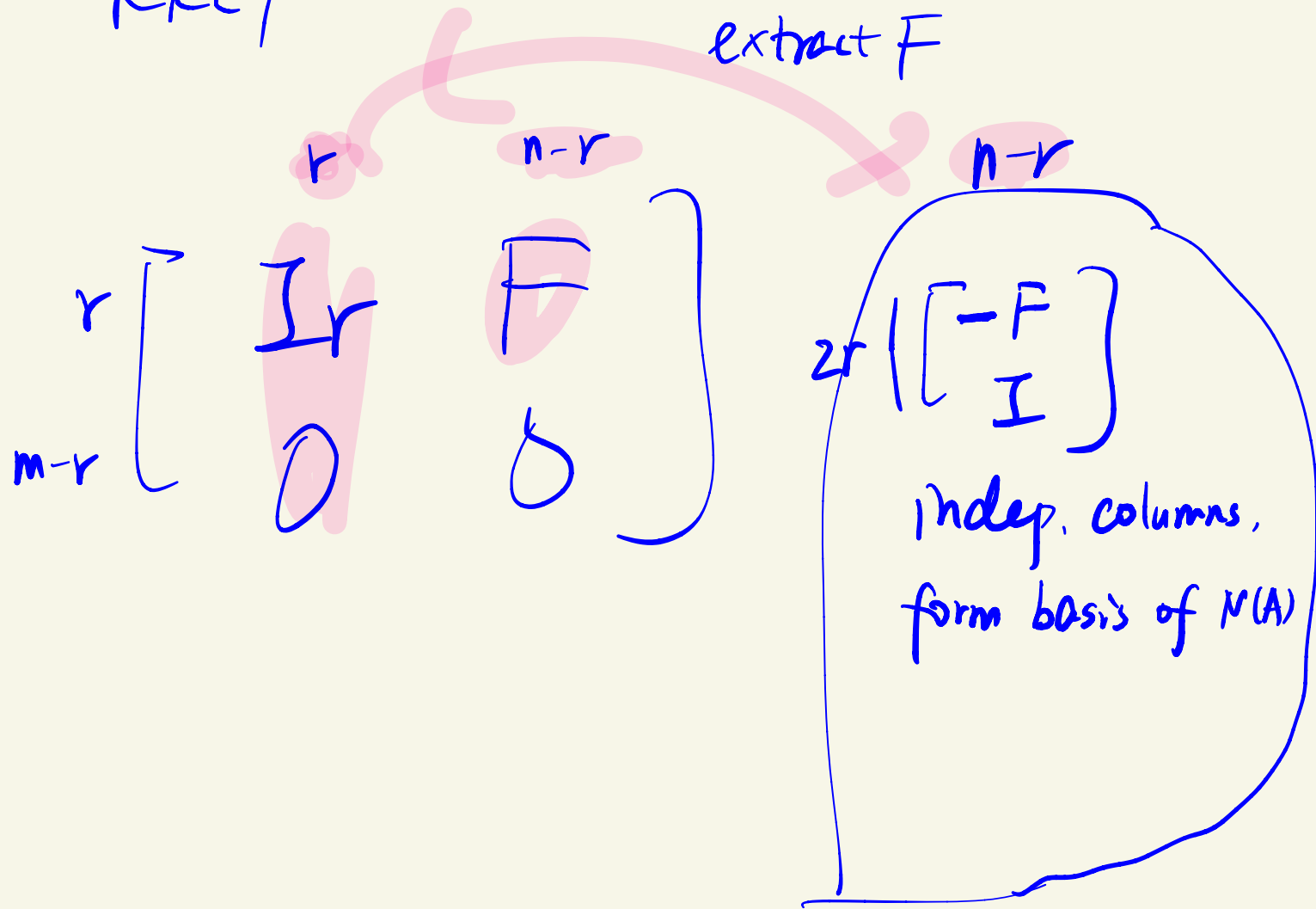
In general,  $(n - r)$  columns of M are linearly independent.

# Why RREF provides (n-r) indep. Columns?

$$\begin{bmatrix} -F \\ I \end{bmatrix}$$

- ①  $N(A) = \text{Span of columns of } \begin{bmatrix} -F \\ I \end{bmatrix}$  span  
+ indep
- ② Col's of  $\begin{bmatrix} -F \\ I \end{bmatrix}$  are indep
- Col's of  $\begin{bmatrix} -F \\ I \end{bmatrix}$  is basis of  $N(A)$  basis
- $\Downarrow$  dim  
dim of  $N(A) \rightarrow n-r$

RREF





# Nullity

## **Definition 15.1** (Nullity)

The dimension of the null space  $\dim(N(A))$  is called the “nullity” of  $A$ .

“Nullity” is the “true size” of solution set.

# Nullity

## Definition 15.1 (Nullity)

The dimension of the null space  $\dim(N(A))$  is called the “nullity” of  $A$ .

“Nullity” is the “true size” of solution set.

Previous slide shows:  $\dim(N(A)) = n - r$ . Equivalently:

$$\begin{matrix} \downarrow \\ \left[ \begin{array}{cc} I_r & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \end{matrix}$$

## Theorem 15.1 (rank-nullity theorem)

Suppose  $A$  has  $n$  columns. Then

$$\text{rank}(A) + \dim(N(A)) = n.$$

generalize

**Corollary 15.2** If  $\text{rank}(A) = n$ , then  $\dim(N(A)) = 0$ , i.e.,  $Ax = 0$  has a trivial solution  $\mathbf{0}$ .

square:  $A^{-1} \exists \iff Ax=0$  has unique solution  $x=0$ .

# Invertibility Conditions

## Theorem 15.2 (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. The linear system  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  is solvable for any  $\mathbf{b}$ .
10.  $\dim(N(A)) = 0$ , or  $N(A) = \{\mathbf{0}\}$ .

Equation solving

Rank

Span

Linear independence

Basis

Col space Dimension

Equation solving

Null space dim



# Part III Orthogonality

Strang's book Sec. 3.4



# Motivation

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**To better understand rank-nullity theorem**, need to introduce:  
Orthogonality.

**Motivation:** Row form of  $Ax=0$ .

**Row form:**

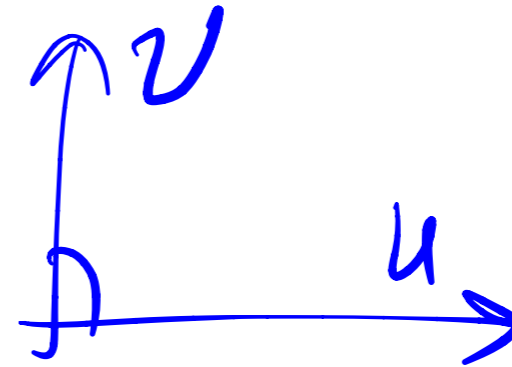
$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a}_{(1)}^\top \\ \mathbf{a}_{(2)}^\top \\ \dots \\ \mathbf{a}_{(n)}^\top \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} = 0$$

# Orthogonality

## Definition 15.2 (Orthogonal)

Two vectors  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  are orthogonal if  $\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{v} = 0$ . Denote  $\mathbf{u} \perp \mathbf{v}$ .

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{y}}{\|\mathbf{x}\| \|\mathbf{y}\|} = \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{v}$$



Thus

$\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$  are orthogonal  $\Leftrightarrow \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{y} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \cos \theta = 0 \Leftrightarrow \theta$  is the right angle.

## Examples:

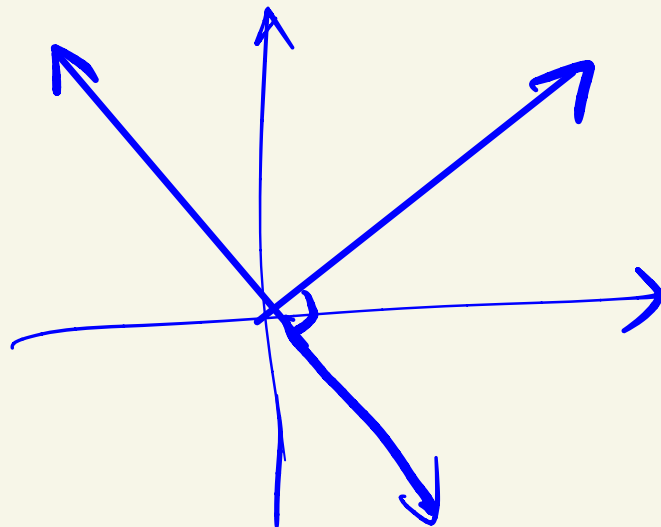
Vectors  $[3, 2]^T$  and  $[-4, 6]^T$  are orthogonal in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

Vectors  $[2, -3, 1]^T$  and  $[1, 1, 1]^T$  are orthogonal in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

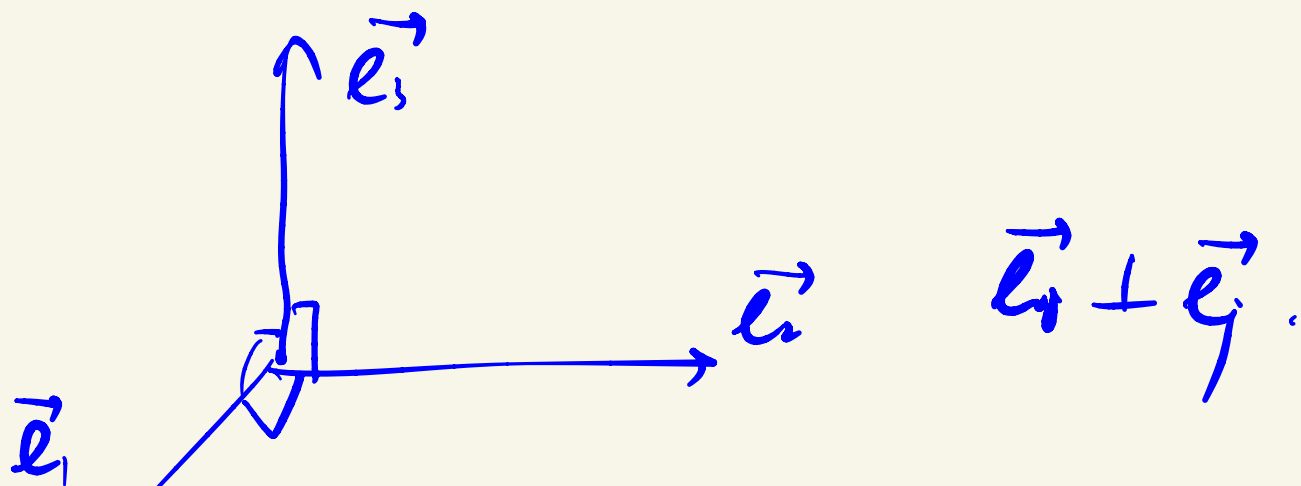
# Examples

vector  $\perp$  vector.

2D



3D.



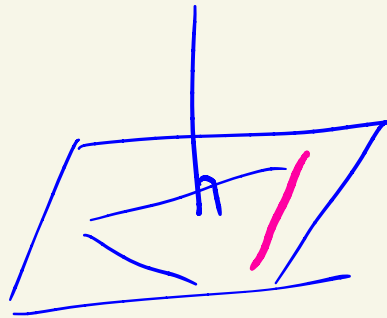
$\vec{e}_i + \vec{e}_j$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \perp \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

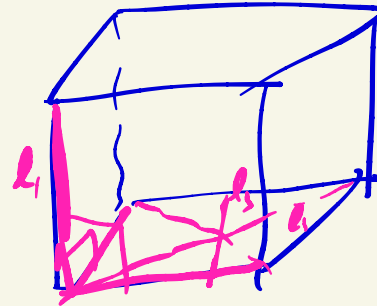
# Vector $\perp$ space.

High school. one line  $\perp$  two line.

$\Rightarrow$   $\perp$  plane of two line.



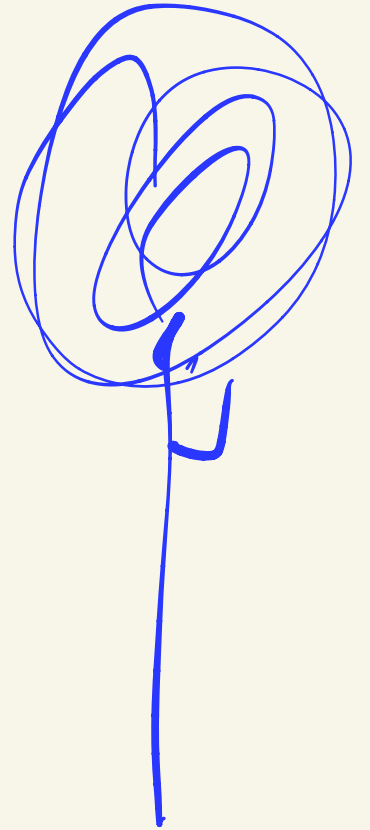
vec  $\perp$  2D space.



Extend. vec  $\perp$  any subspace  $U$ .

Def.  $\vec{v} \in V$ ,  $U$  is a subspace of  $V$ .

$\vec{v} \perp U$  iff  $\vec{v} \perp \vec{u}$ ,  $\forall \vec{u} \in U$ .



# Space $\perp$ Space



Can say  $\text{span}(\{v_i\}) \perp \text{span}(\{u_j\})$  if  $v_i \perp u_j, \forall i, j$ .

Def. Subspaces  $U$  and  $V$ .

We say  $U \perp V$  iff  $u \perp v, \forall u \in U, v \in V$ .

4D space

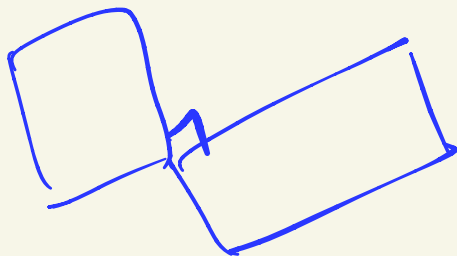


示意图 (illustration).



# Orthogonal Subspaces

If  $x$  is in the solution set of  $Ax = 0$ , then

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a}_{(1)}^T \\ \mathbf{a}_{(2)}^T \\ \dots \\ \mathbf{a}_{(n)}^T \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} = 0$$

$$\mathbf{a} \perp \mathbf{x}, \forall \mathbf{a} \in \text{Row}(A), \mathbf{x} \in N(A). (*)$$

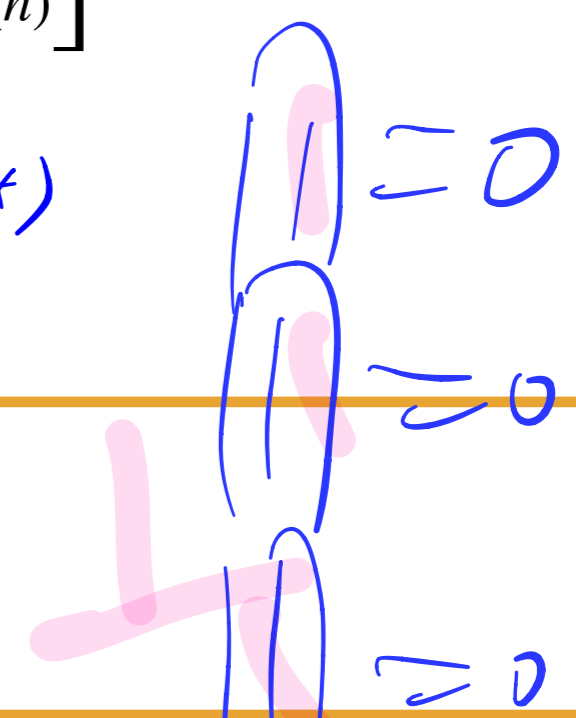
*(prove in next two pages)*

*by Def.*

## Definition 15.3 (Orthogonal subspaces)

We say two subspaces  $U, V \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  are orthogonal if  $\mathbf{u} \perp \mathbf{v}, \forall \mathbf{u} \in U, \mathbf{v} \in V$ . Denoted as  $U \perp V$ .

**Fact:**  $\text{Row}(A) \perp N(A)$



# Orthogonal Subspaces

$$2x_1 + 4x_2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \perp \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

If  $x$  is in the solution set of  $Ax = 0$ , then

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a}_{(1)}^T \\ \mathbf{a}_{(2)}^T \\ \dots \\ \mathbf{a}_{(n)}^T \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\mathbf{x} \in N(A) \implies \mathbf{a} \perp \mathbf{x}, \forall \mathbf{a} \in \text{Row}(A)$$

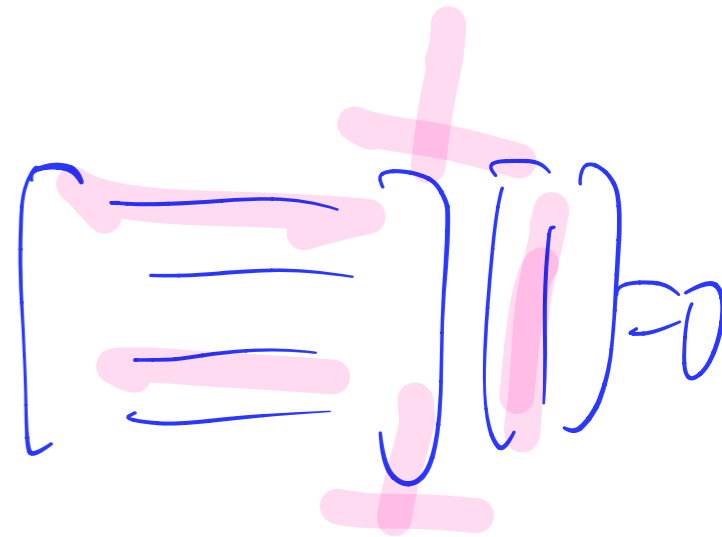
$$x \in N(A) \Leftrightarrow Ax = 0 \Leftrightarrow \overset{\text{row form}}{\vec{a}_{(i)}^T \vec{x} = 0}, i=1, \dots, n.$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x \perp \vec{a}_{(i)}, \forall i.$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x \perp \beta_1 \vec{a}_{(1)} + \dots + \beta_n \vec{a}_{(n)}, \forall \beta_1, \dots, \beta_n \in \mathbb{R}.$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x \perp \vec{a}, \forall \vec{a} \in \text{Row}(A)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x \perp \text{Row}(A)$$



Now  $A\vec{x} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \vec{x} \perp \text{Row}(A)$ .

any  $\vec{x}$  satisfying  $A\vec{x} = 0$ ,  $\Rightarrow \vec{x} \perp \text{Row}(A)$

all of such  $\vec{x}$

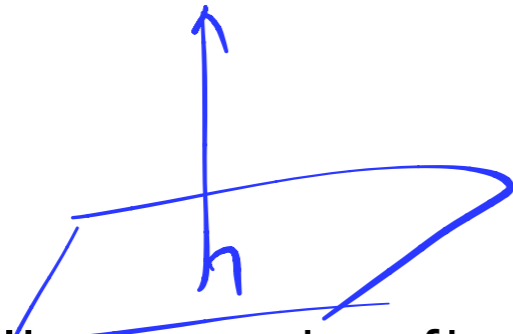
$N(A)$

$\Rightarrow N(A) \perp \text{Row}(A)$ .

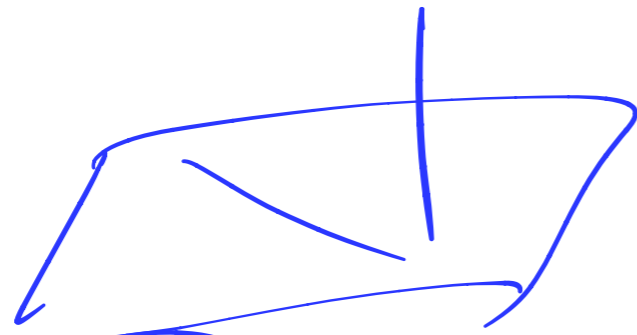
# Examples and Non-example

**Eg 1:** Floor and vertical flag are orthogonal

$U \perp V$



**Eg 2:** One line on the floor and vertical flag are orthogonal



**Non-example:** Floor and wall are not orthogonal.

i.e., in 3D space,  $xy$  plane and  $xz$  plane are NOT orthogonal

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \swarrow \\
 \text{span}(\{\vec{e}_1, \vec{e}_2\}) \\
 * \text{span}(\{\vec{e}_1, \vec{e}_3\})
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{l}
 U \perp V \\
 U \in U \\
 V \in V
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{l}
 \vec{e}_1 \\
 \perp \\
 \vec{e}_3
 \end{array}$$

# Set of All Orthogonal Vectors?

Shenzhen's all company

GDP growth. 5.4% ↗

Managers view

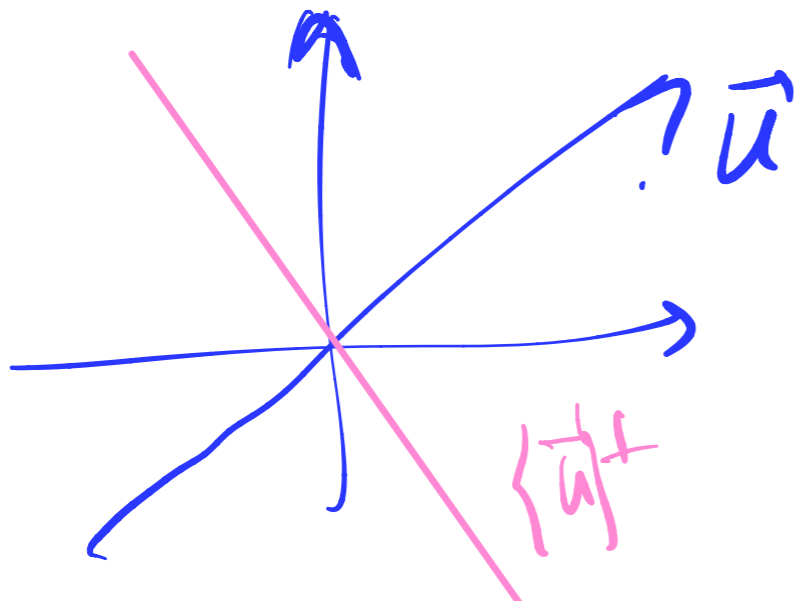
In 3D space, what vectors are orthogonal to  $e_3 = [0, 0, 1]^T$ ?



$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \perp \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \vec{e}_1, \quad \perp \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \vec{e}_2 \\ \perp \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \vec{e}_1 + 2\vec{e}_2$$

Collect all vectors that are orthogonal to  $e_3 = [0, 0, 1]^T$ , form a space?

$\{\vec{e}_3\}^\perp$  ortho complement

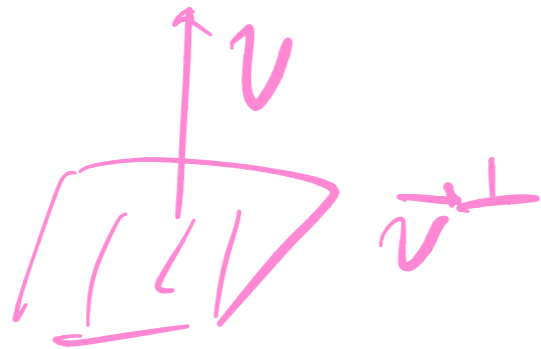




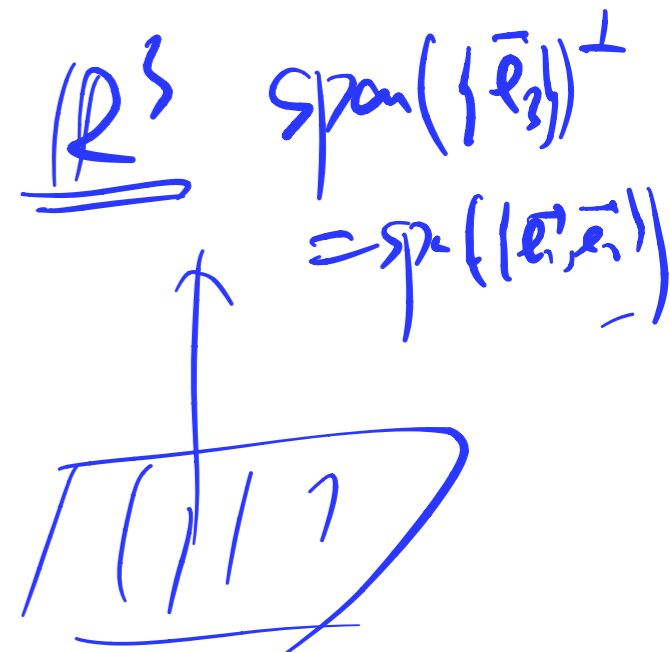
# Orthogonal Complement of Subspace

**Definition:** A vector  $v$  is orthogonal to subspace  $U$  iff  $v \perp u, \forall u \in U$ .

Diagram



There can be many vectors that are orthogonal to subspace  $U$ . Collect all of them, we obtain space



$$\mathbb{R}^5$$

$$\text{span}(\{\vec{e}_1, \vec{e}_2\})$$

$$\text{span}(\{\vec{e}_1, \vec{e}_2\})^\perp = \text{span}(\{\vec{e}_3, \vec{e}_4, \vec{e}_5\})$$

# Orthogonal Complement of Subspace

**Definition:** A vector  $v$  is orthogonal to subspace  $U$  iff \_\_\_\_\_

There can be many vectors that are orthogonal to subspace  $U$ .  
Collect all of them, we obtain \_\_\_\_\_

**Definition 15.4** (Orthogonal complement)

For any subspace  $V \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ , the set of vectors that are orthogonal to  $V$

$$\{\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \mathbf{u} \perp \mathbf{v}, \forall \mathbf{v} \in V\}.$$

is called the orthogonal complement of  $V$ , denoted as  $U = V^\perp$ .

(reads "V perp")

**Remark:** A subspace has a unique orthogonal complement!

# Orthogonal Complement: Matrix Row/Null Space

**Recall:**  $\text{Row}(A) \perp \text{N}(A)$ , even stronger:  $\text{Row}(A) = \text{N}(A)^\perp$ .

If  $\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a}_{(1)}^\top \\ \mathbf{a}_{(2)}^\top \\ \dots \\ \mathbf{a}_{(n)}^\top \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  then  $x$  is in the solution set of  $Ax = \mathbf{0}$

How is this statement different from a previous slide?

$\text{N}(A)$

= (Solution set of  $Ax = \mathbf{0}$ )

=  $\{x \mid a_{(1)}^\top x = \dots = a_{(n)}^\top x = 0\}$

=  $\{x \mid x \perp \vec{a}_{(i)}, \forall i\}$

=  $\{x \mid x \perp \sum \beta_i a_{(i)}, \forall \beta_1, \dots, \beta_n \in \mathbb{R}\}$

=  $\{x \mid x \perp \vec{a}, \forall a \in \text{Row}(A)\}$

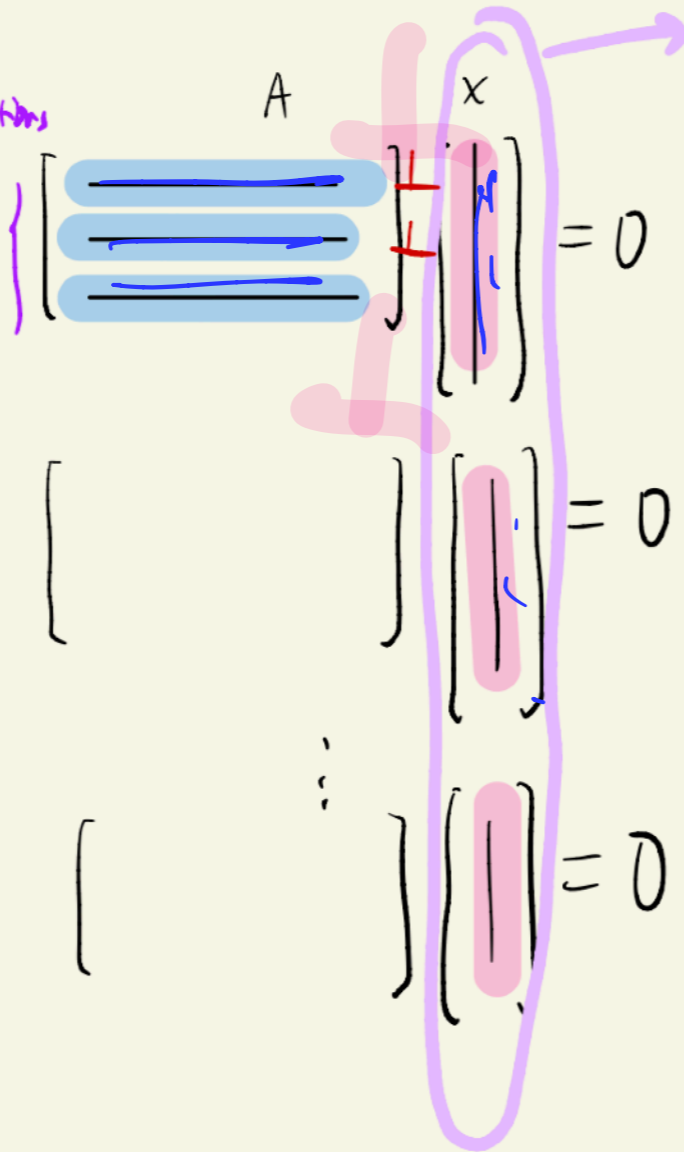
=  $\text{Row}(A)^\perp$

# Intuition

$$\underline{Ax=0}$$

All linear combinations of rows form a set (space)

Row(A)



all solutions form a set (space).



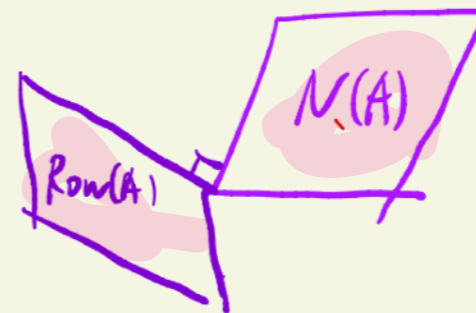
$$\begin{aligned} a_i^T x &= 0 \\ \iff \\ a_i &\perp x \end{aligned}$$

## Intuition.

Each row  $\perp$  each solution



$$\text{Space of rows} = (\text{Space of solutions})^\perp$$



# Examples and Non-example

---

**Eg 1:** Floor = (vertical flag)<sup>⊥</sup>,

Or in 3D space,  $\text{span}(\{e_1, e_2\}) = \text{span}(\{e_3\})^\perp$

**Eg 2: in 2D,** x-axis = (y-axis)<sup>⊥</sup>,

Or  $\text{span}(\{e_1\}) = \text{span}(\{e_2\})^\perp$

**Non-example:** One line on the floor  $\neq$  (vertical flag)<sup>⊥</sup>

Or in 3D, x-axis  $\neq$  (y-axis)<sup>⊥</sup>.



## Facts

①  $\text{Row}(A) = N(A)^\perp$ . (just now)

②  $\dim(\text{Row}(A)) + \dim(N(A)) = n$ .  
(20 yrs ago!)

Guess. (not just matrix)

$U = V^\perp \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$   $\implies$

combine to get  
whole space

$\dim(U) + \dim(V) = n$

combine dim to get

whole dim

# Dimension of Orthogonal Complement

## Theorem 15.2 (dim of V perp)

Suppose  $S$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Then  $S^\perp$  is a subspace and

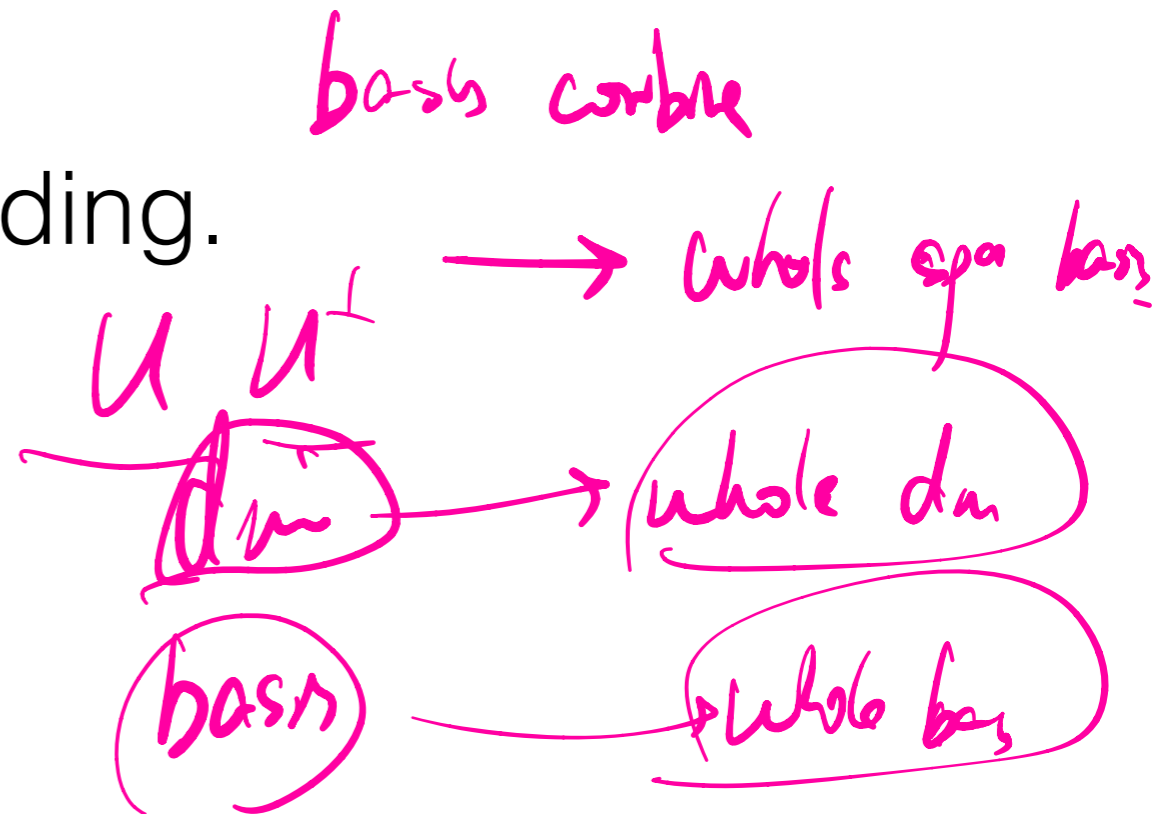
$$\dim(S) + \dim(S^\perp) = n.$$

*dim sum = n*

Furthermore, if  $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_r\}$  is a basis of  $S$ , and  $\{\mathbf{u}_{r+1}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n\}$  is a basis of  $S^\perp$ , then  $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_r, \mathbf{u}_{r+1}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n\}$  is a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

Proof: see next page; for reading.

**Remark:**  $(S^\perp)^\perp = S$ .



# Reading: Proof of Thm 15.2

## Proof.

(1) If  $S = \emptyset$ , then  $S^\perp = \mathbb{R}^n$ , the statement is true.

(2) Assume that  $S \neq \emptyset$ , then let  $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_r\}$  be a basis for  $S$ , let  $A = [\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_r]$ , then  $S = \text{Col}(A)$ ,  $\text{rank}(A) = \text{rank}(A^T) = r$  and

$$S^\perp = \text{Col}(A)^\perp = \text{Null}(A^T)$$

By the Rank-Nullity theorem, we have  $\text{rank}(A^T) + \dim(\text{Null}(A^T)) = n$ , thus

$$\dim S + \dim S^\perp = n$$

Now suppose that the following linear combination is zero, i.e.,

$$\alpha_1 \mathbf{u}_1 + \dots + \alpha_r \mathbf{u}_r + \alpha_{r+1} \mathbf{u}_{r+1} + \dots + \alpha_n \mathbf{u}_n = \mathbf{0}$$

then

$$\alpha_1 \mathbf{u}_1 + \dots + \alpha_r \mathbf{u}_r = -\alpha_{r+1} \mathbf{u}_{r+1} - \dots - \alpha_n \mathbf{u}_n$$

The LHS is a vector in  $S$  and the RHS is a vector in  $S^\perp$ , since  $S \cap S^\perp = \{\mathbf{0}\}$ , then

$$\alpha_1 \mathbf{u}_1 + \dots + \alpha_r \mathbf{u}_r = \mathbf{0} = -\alpha_{r+1} \mathbf{u}_{r+1} - \dots - \alpha_n \mathbf{u}_n$$

Since  $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_r\}$  is a basis for  $S$  and  $\{\mathbf{u}_{r+1}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n\}$  is a basis for  $S^\perp$ , thus

$$\alpha_1 = \dots = \alpha_r = \alpha_{r+1} = \dots = \alpha_n = 0$$

Thus,  $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_r, \mathbf{u}_{r+1}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n\}$  is a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

# Example: Revisit Solution Set of $Ax=0$

Linear system:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

*5 cols* (handwritten above the matrix)

*pivot rows* (handwritten to the left of the first three rows)

Solution  $x = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -4 \\ -3 & -1 \\ -2 & -2 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} s \\ t \end{bmatrix} = s \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \\ -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ -1 \\ -2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

*$u_4$*  (handwritten below the first vector)

*$u_5$*  (handwritten below the second vector)

Row(A) =  $N(A)^\perp$   
Verify Thm 15.2.

(1) dim sum.

Row space dim = 3

Null space dim = 2

$3 + 2 = 5$

Row space basis:

$$\mathbf{u}_1 = [1 \ 0 \ 0 \ -1 \ 4]^T$$

$$\mathbf{u}_2 = [0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 3 \ 1]^T$$

$$\mathbf{u}_3 = [0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 2 \ 2]^T.$$

(2) Basis.

Null space basis:

$$\mathbf{u}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \\ -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_5 = \begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ -1 \\ -2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

①  $\vec{u}_1, \vec{u}_2, \vec{u}_3, \vec{u}_4, \vec{u}_5$  indep.

② 5 vec. in  $\mathbb{R}^5$ .

$\Rightarrow$  basis

## Back to Question on Expressing Solution Set

---

The complete solution is

$$\mathbf{x}_p + N(A) = \mathbf{x}_p + \text{span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_{n-r}\}$$

We use  $n - r$  vectors.

**Question:** Can we use fewer vectors to express  $N(A)$ ?

# Back to Question on Expressing Solution Set

The complete solution is

$$\mathbf{x}_p + N(A) = \mathbf{x}_p + C(M) = \mathbf{x}_p + \alpha_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + \dots + \mathbf{v}_{n-r}.$$

We use  $n - r$  vectors.

**Question:** Can we use fewer vectors to express  $N(A)$ ?

**Answer:** "no".

part I

Because **Rank-nullity theorem says:** For rank- $r$  matrix  $A$ , need exactly  $(n - r)$  vectors to express solution set of  $Ax=0$ .

part II

**Deeper understanding:** null space is **orthogonal complement** of the row space, so dim is  $(n-r)$





$$\underbrace{[1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 4 \ 5]}_A \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{pmatrix} = 0,$$

↓  
dim of  $N(A)$

$\vec{u}$  is one vec in  $\mathbb{R}^5$ , remaining 4 vectors  $\perp \vec{u}$ ,  
 $\dim(N(A)) = 4$ .

$$A: \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 2 & 4 & 6 & 8 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

1-D row space  
 in  $\mathbb{R}^4$

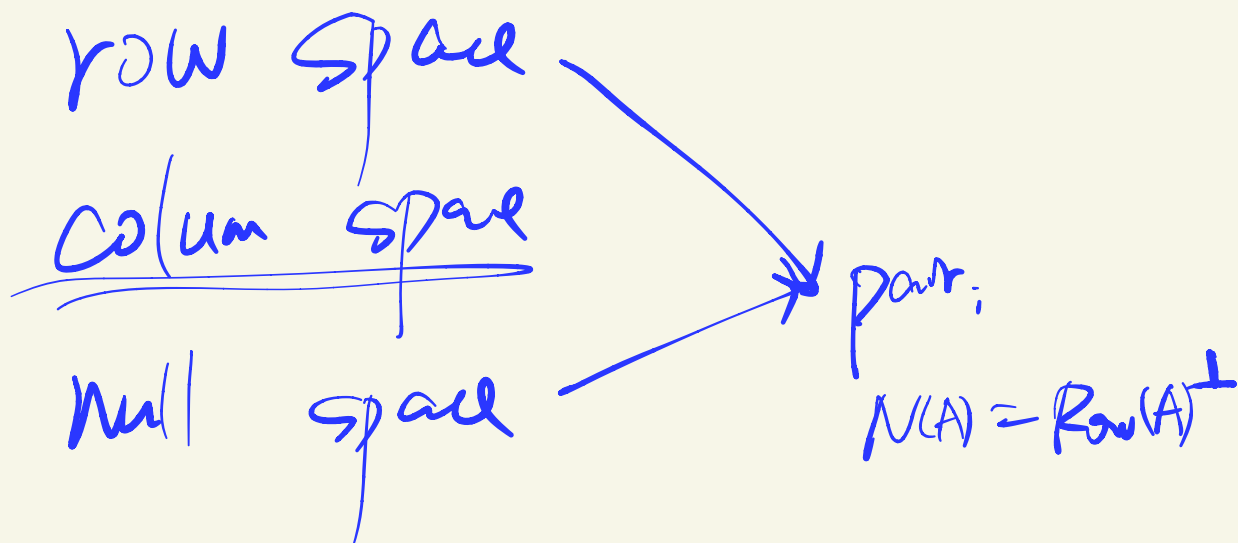
$$\dim(N(A)) = 3$$

# Part IV Four Fundamental Subspaces

Strang's book Sec. 3.5



# Matrix A



$$C(A) = \text{Row}(A^T)$$



# Left Null Space

## Definition 15.3 (left null space)

The left null space of a matrix  $A$  is defined as  $N(A^T)$ .

Think: What is this space?

$$\{ \vec{y} \mid A^T \vec{y} = 0 \}$$

Hint: using linear equations.

$$\Leftrightarrow \{ \vec{y} \mid \vec{y}^T A = 0 \}$$

LC of row

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

LC of col



# Left Null Space

## Definition 15.3 (left null space)

The left null space of a matrix  $A$  is defined as  $N(A^T)$ .

Think: What is this space?

Hint: using linear equations.

## Corollary 15.2

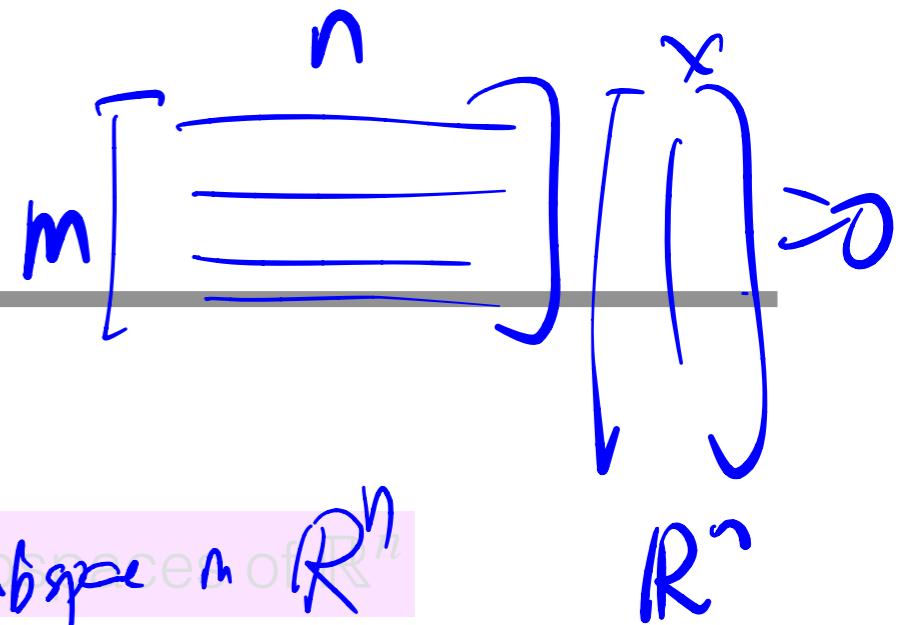
Suppose  $A$  has  $m$  rows. Then

$$\dim(C(A)) \iff \text{rank}(A) + \dim(N(A^T)) = m.$$

Row space dim + Left null space dim =  $m$ .

**Proof:** Consider  $B = A^T$

# Four Fundamental Subspaces



$C(A^T)$ , Subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$

**Row space** dim  $r$

ortho complement sum =  $n$

**null space** dim  $n-r$

$N(A)$ , Subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$



# Four Fundamental Subspaces

$C(A)$ , Subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^m$        $C(A^T)$ , Subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^n$   
**Column space dim  $r$**       =      **Row space dim  $r$**

ortho-comp | sum =  $m$

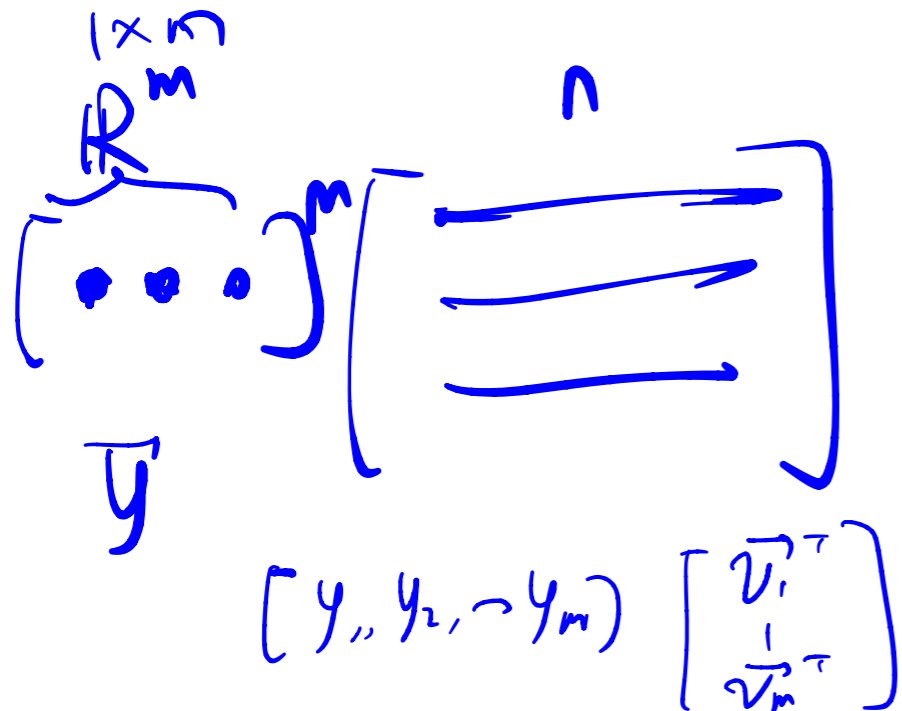
Ortho-complement | sum =  $n$

**Left null space dim  $m-r$**

**null space dim  $n-r$**

$N(A^T)$ , Subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^m$

$N(A)$ , Subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^n$



# Fundamental Theorem of Linear Algebra

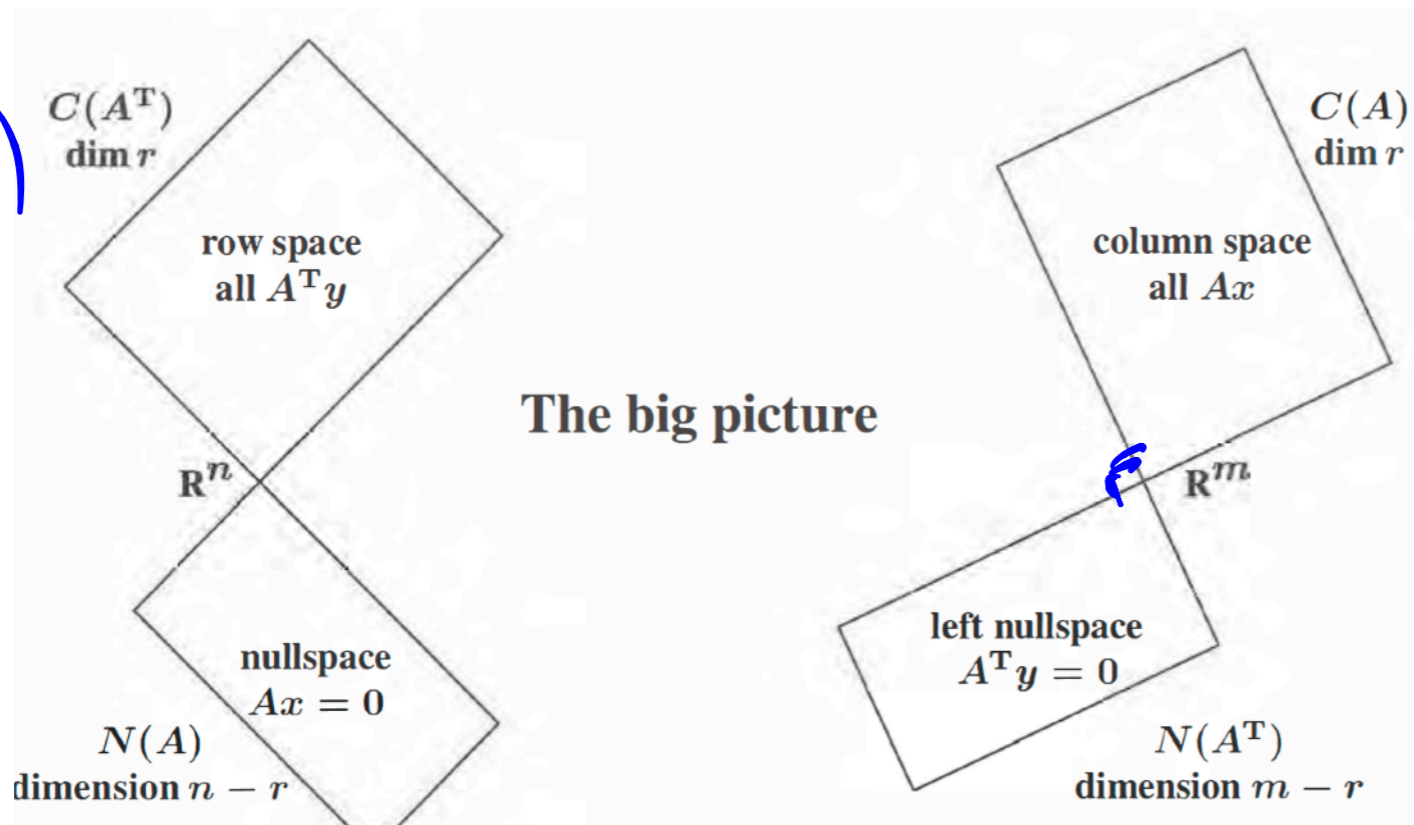
## Theorem 15.3 (Fundamental Theorem of Linear Algebra)

Suppose  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ . Then:

(1)  $N(A) = \text{Row}(A)^\perp$ ,  $\dim(N(A)) = n - \text{rank}(A)$ .

(2)  $N(A^T) = \text{Col}(A)^\perp$ ,  $\dim(N(A^T)) = m - \text{rank}(A)$ .

*Row(A)*



$\mathbb{R}^n$

$\mathbb{R}^m$

# Summary of Solving Rectangular Linear Systems

## What have we learned, for solving $Ax=b$ ?

1) For any linear system, can transform to RREF.

Lec 12

2) From RREF, can write the solution set as  $x_p + N(A)$

Lec 13

where  $N(A) = \text{span of } (n - r) \text{ vectors}$

$\downarrow$   
(n-r) vec

3) The solution set ~~cannot~~ be simplified (use  $< (n-r)$  vec).  
rank-nullity theorem

Lec 14-15


## A new view for solving $Ax=0$ :

Lec 15

It is just finding

orthogonal complement of  $\text{Row}(A)$

$(\Rightarrow) (1)$



# 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:

Four Fundamental Subspaces

## Detailed summary:

### 1. Full rank

—Full row rank and full column rank  $\implies$  # of solutions

### 2. Nullity

—Nullity = dimension of null space.

—Rank-Nullity theorem: **Nullity + rank =  $n$** .

### 3. Orthogonality

—Orthogonal complement  $V^\perp$  has dimension  $n - \dim(V)$

### 4. Four fundamental subspaces

—null space = ( **row** space) $^\perp$ ; left null space = (**Column**space) $^\perp$ .

—dim:  $m - r, n - r$ .

**Mid-term exam:**

**Time:** Nov 5, Sunday, 16:30-18:30.

**Place:** Stadium.

**Range:** Lec 1-14.