

Section 4.2

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Section4.2\_Lay6e

4.2 Null Spaces and Column Spaces

Recall:

A subspace  $H$  of a vector space  $V$  is a set of vectors in  $V$  which is closed under addition and scalar multiplication.

Example 4.2.1. Is the set of solutions to the matrix equation  $Ax = 0$  for  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  a vector space?

Solution: zero vector? Yes,  $x = 0$  is a solution to the equation.

Closed? Suppose  $u$  and  $v$  are solutions to  $Ax = 0$ . What about  $u + v$ ?

$$A(u + v) = Au + Av = 0 + 0$$

Therefore closed.

The set of solutions to the equation  $Ax = 0$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  called the null space of matrix  $A$

Null Space

Definition 4.4. The null space of a matrix  $A$  (Nul  $A$ ) is the span of the vectors obtained by solving  $Ax = 0$ .

$$\text{Nul } A = \{x : x \text{ is in } \mathbb{R}^n \text{ and } Ax = 0\}$$

Example 4.2.2. Suppose the reduced echelon form for a matrix  $A$  is  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & -1 & 8 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ . Find the solution set of the equation  $Ax = 0$ . (ie. Find Nul  $A$ )

$7x = 0$   
 $\leftarrow x = 0$

$Au = 0$   
 $Av = 0$

All solutions to homogeneous equation.

$\rightarrow x_1 + 3x_2 - x_4 + 8x_5 = 0$   
 $\rightarrow x_3 - 2x_4 + x_5 = 0$

$x_1 = -3x_2 + x_4 - 8x_5$   
 $x_2 = x_2$   
 $x_3 = 2x_4 - x_5$   
 $x_4 = x_4$   
 $x_5 = x_5$

Solution to  $Ax = 0$

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} x_2 + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} x_4 + \begin{bmatrix} -8 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} x_5$$

Solution to  $Ax = 0$

$$\text{Nul } A = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -8 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

Example 4.2.3. Consider the linear transformation  $T(x) = Ax$  where  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & 5 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .

1. Is the vector  $x = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  in Nul  $A$ ?

$\mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$

$A \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1+6-1 \\ 2+15 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 17 \end{bmatrix} \neq 0$  NO

1. Is the vector  $x = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  in Nul  $A$ ? Is  $A \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = 0$ ?

2. Find a description of Nul  $A$ .  $[A|0] \text{ RREF}$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & -1 & 0 \\ 2 & 5 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{R_2 - 2R_1} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{R_1 - 2R_2} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -5 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

$x_1 - 5x_3 = 0$   
 $x_2 + 2x_3 = 0$

$$\begin{cases} x_1 = 5x_3 \\ x_2 = -2x_3 \\ x_3 = x_3 \end{cases}$$

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} x_3$$

$$\text{Nul } A = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

#### Column Spaces

**Definition 4.5.** The **column space** of a matrix  $A = [a_1 \ a_2 \ \dots \ a_n]$  (Col  $A$ ) is the span of the columns of  $A$ .

$$\text{Col } A = \text{Span} \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$$

$$\text{Col } A = \{b : b = Ax \text{ for some } x \in \mathbb{R}^n\}$$

1<sup>st</sup> two columns

**Example 4.2.4.** Consider the matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & 5 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .

1. What is Col  $A$ ?

2. What is the smallest representation of Col  $A$ ?

#1  $\text{Col } A = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

#2  $\text{Col } A = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

Smallest representation of Col  $A$  is the pivot columns in the ORIGINAL matrix.

$m \times n = \text{rows} \times \text{columns}$

**Example 4.2.5.**  $A$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix. Mark each statement TRUE or FALSE.

- T 1. The null space of  $A$  is the solution set of the equation  $Ax = 0$ .
- F 2. The null space of an  $m \times n$  matrix is in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .
- T 3. The column space of  $A$  is the range of the mapping  $x \mapsto Ax$ .
- T 4. Col  $A$  is the set of all vectors that can be written as  $Ax$  for some  $x$ .
- T 5. A null space is a vector space.
- T 6. The column space of an  $m \times n$  matrix is in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .
- F 7. Col  $A$  is the set of all solutions of  $Ax = b$ .
- T 8. The range of a linear transformation is a vector space.

null space in  $\mathbb{R}^n$

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & & \vdots \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ \vdots \\ b_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Col  $A$  span of columns of  $A$ .  
 $Ax =$  all linear combinations of the columns of  $A$ .

**Example 4.2.6.** Let

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & x_4 & x_5 \\ 1 & 4 & 2 & 6 & 8 \\ 1 & 3 & 2 & -2 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 & 1 & 5 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Find Nul  $A$ , Col  $A$  and the simplest form of Col  $A$ . The reduced echelon form of  $A$  is

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 12 & 8 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 8 & 7 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -19 & -14 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

because spans  $\mathbb{R}^3$

$$\text{Col } A = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= -12x_4 - 8x_5 \\ x_2 &= -8x_4 - 7x_5 \\ x_3 &= 19x_4 + 14x_5 \\ x_4 &= x_4 \\ x_5 &= x_5 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Nul } A = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -12 \\ -8 \\ 19 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -8 \\ -7 \\ 14 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$x_4 \qquad x_5$

Ex:  $A$  is  $n \times n$  matrix

If  $\text{Col } A = \text{Nul } A$

Show  $\text{Nul } A^2 = \mathbb{R}^n$

PS: Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$

then  $Ax \in \text{Col } A$

$\text{Col } A = \text{Nul } A$  so

$\in$  IS an element of

If  $y \in \text{Nul } A$   
 then  $Ay = 0$

$$\text{Col } A = \text{Nul } A \text{ so}$$

$$\text{then } \overset{\sim}{A}y = 0$$

$$Ax \in \text{Nul } A$$

$$\text{so } A(Ax) = 0$$

$$A^2x = 0$$

↑

$$\text{so } x \in \text{Nul } A^2$$

$$\leftarrow \text{so } \text{Nul } A^2 = \mathbb{R}^n$$

Row space is the span of the rows of  $A$ .

Row Equivalent matrices; can get to the other matrix with row operations

$$A \sim B$$

To find row space use the nonzero rows of the RREF form of  $A$ .

Example 4.2.6. Let

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -5 & -15 & 2 & 1 & -38 \\ -3 & -9 & 1 & 1 & -23 \\ -2 & -6 & 2 & -2 & -14 \end{bmatrix}$$

use pivot columns IN ORIGINAL.

Find Nul  $A$ , ~~the~~ Row  $A$  and the simplest form of Col  $A$ . The reduced echelon form of  $A$  is

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & x_4 & x_5 \\ 1 & 3 & 0 & -1 & 8 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{cases} x_1 + 3x_2 - x_4 + 8x_5 = 0 \\ x_3 - 2x_4 + x_5 = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$x_1 = -3x_2 + x_4 - 8x_5$$

$$x_2 = x_2$$

$$x_3 = 2x_4 - x_5$$

$$x_4 = x_4$$

$$x_5 = x_5$$

$$\text{nul } A = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -8 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$x_2 \quad x_4 \quad x_5$

-5-

$$x_4 = x_4$$

$$x_5 = x_5$$

$$\text{Col } A = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ -3 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$$\text{Row } A = \{ \langle 1, 3, 0, -1, 8 \rangle, \langle 0, 0, 1, -2, 1 \rangle \}$$

Example 4.2.7. Find the row space, column space and null space of  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Need RREF for Nul A

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_1 - R_3 \rightarrow R_3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 - R_3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Col } A = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$$\text{Row } A = \{ [1 \ 2 \ 0 \ -1], [0 \ -1 \ 1 \ 1] \}$$