
Linear Systems

Math 214 Spring 2008
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Fowler 309 MWF 9:30 am - 10:25 am
<http://faculty.oxy.edu/ron/math/214/08/>

Class 17: Friday March 7

TITLE Subspaces Associated With Matrices; Dimension and Basis

CURRENT READING Poole 3.5 and 6.1

Summary

Let's continue discussing vector spaces associated with matrices and formally define the concept of dimension.

Homework Assignment

HW16: Poole, Section 3.5: 17, 18, 21, 24, 39, 40, 41, 42. EXTRA CREDIT 44, 50.

Recall: Let A be an $m \times n$ matrix. The **row space** of A is the subspace of \mathbb{R}^n spanned by the rows of A and is denoted $\text{row}(A)$. The **column space** of A is the subspace of \mathbb{R}^m spanned by the columns of A and is denoted $\text{col}(A)$.

Warm-Up

Given $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$. Find $\text{col}(A)$ and $\text{row}(A)$.

DEFINITION

The **null space** of a $m \times n$ matrix is the subspace of \mathbb{R}^n consisting of all solutions of the homogeneous linear system $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$. It is denoted by $\text{null}(A)$.

Theorem 3.21

The set N of all solutions to the homogeneous linear system $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ where A is a $m \times n$ matrix is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

Exercise

Prove Theorem 3.21 (that the nullspace of a matrix A is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n).

DEFINITION

The **basis** of a subspace \mathcal{S} of \mathbb{R}^n is a set of vectors in \mathcal{S} which is **linear independent** and **spans** \mathcal{S} . The plural of basis is bases.

Q: Are bases for a subspace unique? **A:** Heck, no! (Why not?)

GROUPWORK

Write down three examples of bases for \mathbb{R}^2 .

Theorem 3.23

The number of vectors found in a basis for a subspace \mathcal{S} of \mathbb{R}^n is the same. Any two bases for \mathcal{S} have the same number of vectors.

DEFINITION

The number of vectors in a basis for a subspace \mathcal{S} of \mathbb{R}^n is known as the **dimension** of \mathcal{S} and is denoted $\dim(\mathcal{S})$. This result is known as the **Basis Theorem**.

EXAMPLE

$$\text{Given } A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 & 1 & 6 \\ 2 & -1 & 0 & 1 & -1 \\ -3 & 2 & 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 4 & 1 & 6 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \text{rref}(A) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Let's write down bases for $\text{col}(A)$, $\text{row}(A)$ and $\text{null}(A)$.

Theorem 3.20

If B is a matrix formed from applying elementary row operations to A and thus B is row equivalent to A , then $\text{row}(A) = \text{row}(B)$.

Elementary row operations **do not affect** the row space of a matrix, but they **do change** the column space of a matrix. Given $R = \text{rref}(A)$. $\text{row}(A) = \text{row}(R)$ but $\text{col}(A) \neq \text{col}(R)$.

Theorem 3.27

The Fundamental Theorem of Invertible Matrices (Version 2). Let A be a $n \times n$ matrix. Each of the following statements is equivalent:

- (a) A is invertible.
- (b) $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ has a unique solution for every \vec{b} in \mathbb{R}^n .
- (c) $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ has only the trivial solution.
- (d) The reduced row echelon form of A , $\text{rref}(A)$, is I_n .
- (e) A is a product of elementary matrices.
- (f) $\text{rank}(A) = n$.
- (g) $\text{nullity}(A) = 0$.
- (h) The column vectors of A are linearly independent.
- (i) The column vectors of A span \mathbb{R}^n .
- (j) The column vectors of A form a basis for \mathbb{R}^n .
- (k) The row vectors of A are linearly independent.
- (l) The row vectors of A span \mathbb{R}^n .
- (m) The row vectors of A form a basis for \mathbb{R}^n .

Standard Basis and Coordinates

The standard unit vectors in \mathbb{R}^n are the n rows and columns of the identity matrix I_n . A **standard basis** for \mathbb{R}^n would be a collection of n of these vectors, usually denoted $\hat{e}_1, \hat{e}_2, \hat{e}_3, \dots, \hat{e}_n$.

Theorem 3.28

Let \mathcal{S} be a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n and let $\beta = \{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3, \dots, \vec{v}_k\}$ be a basis for \mathcal{S} . For every vector \vec{v} in \mathcal{S} there is exactly one way to write \vec{v} as a linear combination of the basis vectors in β :

$$\vec{v} = c_1\vec{v}_1 + c_2\vec{v}_2 + c_3\vec{v}_3 + \dots + c_k\vec{v}_k$$

DEFINITION

These numbers c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k are called the **coordinates of \vec{v} with respect to β** .

The vector $[\vec{v}]_\beta = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \\ \vdots \\ c_k \end{bmatrix}$ is known as the **coordinate vector of \vec{v} with respect to β** .

EXAMPLE

Poole, page 209, #49. Show that $(1, 6, 2)$ is in $\text{span}(\beta)$, where $\beta = \{(1, 2, 0), (1, 0, -1)\}$ and find the coordinate vector $[\vec{w}]_\beta$.

CLICKER QUESTION 17.1

The column space of the matrix $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$ consists of

1. all linear combinations of the columns of A .
2. a line in \mathbb{R}^2 .
3. all multiples of the vector $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$.
4. All of the above
5. None of the above

CLICKER QUESTION 17.2

Which of the following vectors is in the row space of the matrix $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$?

1. $\vec{x} = [-2 \ 4]$
2. $\vec{x} = [4 \ 8]$
3. $\vec{x} = [0 \ 0]$
4. $\vec{x} = [8 \ 4]$
5. More than one of the above
6. None of the above

CLICKER QUESTION 17.3

The *null space* of a matrix A is the set of vectors \vec{x} that solve $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$. Which of the following vectors is in the null space of the matrix $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$?

1. $\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$
2. $\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$
3. $\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$
4. All of the above
5. None of the above

CLICKER QUESTION 17.4

How many solutions \vec{x} are there to $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ where $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$?

1. 0 solutions
2. 1 solution
3. 2 solutions
4. Infinite number of solutions

CLICKER QUESTION 17.5

Which of the following sets of vectors forms a basis (linearly independent spanning set) for \mathbb{R}^3 ?

1. $\{(1, 0, 0), (0, 1, 0), (0, 0, 1)\}$
2. $\{(1, 0, 1), (1, 1, 0), (1, 1, 1)\}$
3. $\{(2, 0, 0), (0, 5, 0), (0, 0, 8)\}$
4. All are bases for \mathbb{R}^3 .

CLICKER QUESTION 17.6

The row space of the matrix $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$ consists of

1. All linear combinations of the columns of A^T .
2. All multiples of the vector $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$.
3. All linear combinations of the rows of A .
4. All of the above
5. None of the above

CLICKER QUESTION 17.7

Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 2 & -1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$. How many vectors are in the nullspace of A ?

1. Only one
2. Probably more than one, but it's hard to say how many
3. An infinite number