

## Chapter 2 : Vector Spaces and Bases

We begin with a definition:

A vector space is a set  $V$  equipped with two operations.

- 1) Addition:  $\vec{v}, \vec{w} \in V \Rightarrow \vec{v} + \vec{w} \in V$
- 2) Scalar Multiplication:  $\vec{v} \in V, c \in \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow c\vec{v} \in V$ .

... These are subject to the following axioms:

- a)  $\vec{v} + \vec{w} = \vec{w} + \vec{v}$
- b)  $\vec{u} + (\vec{v} + \vec{w}) = (\vec{u} + \vec{v}) + \vec{w}$
- c)  $\vec{v} + \vec{0} = \vec{v}$
- d) For each  $\vec{v} \in V$   
 $\vec{v} + (-\vec{v}) = \vec{0}$
- e)  $(c+d)\vec{v} = c\vec{v} + d\vec{v}$  &  $c(\vec{v} + \vec{w}) = c\vec{v} + c\vec{w}$
- f)  $c(c\vec{v}) = (cc)\vec{v}$
- g)  $1\vec{v} = \vec{v}$

Remark: This is an abstraction of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , the set of all  $n$ -dimensional vectors.

Ex let  $V = M_{n \times m}$ , the set of all  $n \times m$  matrices. We've already shown this is a vector space.

Ex

$$P_n = \{ p(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_0 x^0 \}.$$

The set of polynomials of degree  $\leq n$ .

Ex

Let  $I \subset \mathbb{R}$  be an interval, say  $[a, b]$ .

$$\mathcal{F} = \{ \text{All functions } f: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \}.$$

Let's verify the properties of a vector space for  $\mathcal{F}$ .

Need addition.

$$\begin{cases} f, g \in \mathcal{F} \\ c, d \in \mathbb{R} \end{cases}$$

$$h(x) = f(x) + g(x) \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{real-valued} \\ \text{function defined} \\ \text{on } I \end{array}$$

Need scalar mult.

$$h(x) = cf(x) \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{real-valued} \\ \text{function defined} \\ \text{on } I \end{array}$$

## Properties :

a) It is clear

$$h(x) = f(x) + g(x) = g(x) + f(x) \quad \checkmark$$

b)  $f(x) + (g(x) + h(x)) = (f(x) + g(x)) + h(x) \quad \checkmark$

c) The zero element is the "zero function"

$$f(x) + 0 = F(x)$$

d)  $-f(x) \in \mathcal{F}$  so that

$$f(x) + (-f(x)) = 0.$$

e)  $(c+d)f(x) = cf(x) + df(x)$

$$c(f(x) + g(x)) = cf(x) + cg(x)$$

f)  $c(df(x)) = (cd)f(x)$

g)  $1 f(x) = f(x).$

---

## Subspaces :

### Definition

A subspace of a vector space  $V$  is a subset  $W \subset V$  such that  $W$  is itself a vector space with operations (addition & scalar multiplication) inherited from  $V$ .

## Proposition:

A subset  $W \subset V$ ,  $V$  being a vector space  
is a subspace if and only if

- For every  $\vec{v}, \vec{w} \in W$ ,  $\vec{v} + \vec{w} \in W$ ,
- For every  $\vec{v} \in W$ ,  $c\vec{v} \in W$ .

Remark: If we already know  $V$  is a vector space  
and  $W \subset V$  we don't have to check all the  
axioms for  $W$ . We just verify that

- $W$  is closed under addition.
- $W$  is closed under scalar multiplication.

Remark: a, b can be checked in one step by showing  
if  $c, d \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\vec{v}, \vec{w} \in W$  then

$$c\vec{v} + d\vec{w} \in W.$$

Ex Let  $V = \mathbb{R}^3$  and we look for subspaces.

- Trivial subspace  $W = \{0\}$

Let  $c, d \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\vec{v}, \vec{w} \in W$

$$c\vec{v} + d\vec{w} = c0 + d0 = (c+d)0 = 0 \in W \checkmark$$

b)  $W = \mathbb{R}^3$  (possibly the other trivial subspace)

c)  $W = \left\{ v \in V : v = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$   
 $x \in \mathbb{R}$

Let  $c, d \in \mathbb{R}$   $\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\vec{w} = \begin{pmatrix} y \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

then  $c\vec{v} + d\vec{w} = c\begin{pmatrix} x \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + d\begin{pmatrix} y \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} cx + dy \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$cx + dy \in \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} cx + dy \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \in W. \quad \checkmark$$

d)  $W = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} : x + y + z = 0 \right\}$

Let

$$\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \\ z_1 \end{pmatrix}, \vec{w} = \begin{pmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} x_1 + y_1 + z_1 = 0 \\ x_2 + y_2 + z_2 = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

$$c, d \in \mathbb{R}.$$

$$c\vec{v} + d\vec{w} = \begin{pmatrix} cx_1 + dx_2 \\ cy_1 + dy_2 \\ cz_1 + dz_2 \end{pmatrix}. \text{ We need the sum condition:}$$

$$cx_1 + dx_2 + cy_1 + dy_2 + cz_1 + dz_2$$

$$= c(x_1 + y_1 + z_1) + d(x_2 + y_2 + z_2) = 0 \quad \checkmark$$

What isn't a subspace? :

a)  $W = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} : x, y \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$ .

Why?

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \notin W.$$

OR

$$0 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \notin W \quad (\text{a subspace must contain the zero element})$$

b)  $W = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} : x \geq 0, y \geq 0, z \geq 0 \right\}$

contains zero ~~is~~ element. What goes wrong?

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \in W, -\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \notin W!$$

In  $\mathbb{R}^3$  we have four different types of subspaces:

a)  $W = \mathbb{R}^3$

b) A plane passing through the origin

c) A line passing through the origin

d)  $\{\mathbf{0}\}$

## Span and Linear Independence

Let  $v_1, \dots, v_k$  belong to a vector space  $V$ .

A sum of the form

$$c_1 \vec{v}_1 + c_2 \vec{v}_2 + \dots + c_k \vec{v}_k = \sum_{i=1}^k c_i \vec{v}_i.$$

is known as a linear combination of  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k$ .

Their span is the subset

$$W = \text{span} \{ \vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k \} \subset V \text{ consisting of}$$

all possible linear combinations.

- $\text{span} \{ \vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k \}$  is a subspace of  $V$ .

$$\vec{v} = \sum_{i=1}^k c_i \vec{v}_i, \quad \vec{w} = \sum_{i=1}^k d_i \vec{v}_i$$

$$a\vec{v} + b\vec{w} = a \sum_{i=1}^k c_i \vec{v}_i + b \sum_{i=1}^k d_i \vec{v}_i$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^k ac_i \vec{v}_i + \sum_{i=1}^k bd_i \vec{v}_i = \sum_{i=1}^k \underbrace{(ac_i + bd_i)}_{e_i} \vec{v}_i$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^k e_i \vec{v}_i \in \text{span} \{ \vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k \}. \quad \checkmark$$

Let's look at  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . Pick two vectors:

$$\vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

By the previous argument about the types of subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  that exist, we know

$W = \text{span}\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2\}$  must be either a plane or a line.

It is not too hard to see  $W$  is a plane.

Q: How do we find if  $\vec{v}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \in W$ ?

Find constants  $c_1, c_2$  (if they exist) such that

$$c_1 \vec{v}_1 + c_2 \vec{v}_2 = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{weighted sum})$$

This can be expressed in matrix form:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Apply GE:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{r} | \begin{array}{l} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 \end{array} \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} c_2 = -2 \\ c_1 = 2 \end{array}$$

Luckily, the last two equations are redundant.

$$\Rightarrow \vec{v}_3 \in W.$$

Change  $\vec{v}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right) \leftarrow \text{inconsistent } c_2=0 \cancel{c_2=-1}$$

$\Rightarrow \vec{v}_3 \notin W$ .

Definition: Vectors  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k \in V$  are said to be linearly dependent if there exists scalars  $c_1, \dots, c_k$ , NOT ALL ZERO, such that

$$c_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + c_k \vec{v}_k = \vec{0}.$$

Vectors that are not linearly dependent are called linearly independent.

How do we check if vectors are linearly independent?

Theorem: Let  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and let

$A = (\vec{v}_1 \ \vec{v}_2 \ \dots \ \vec{v}_k)$  be the  $n \times k$  matrix. Then

1) The vectors  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k$  are LD if and only if  $A\vec{c} = \vec{0}$  has a non-zero solution.

2) The vectors  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k$  are LI if and only if  $A\vec{c} = \vec{0}$  has only the trivial solution,  $\vec{c} = \vec{0}$ .

3) A vector  $\vec{b}$  lies in the span of  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k$  if and only if the linear system

$$A\vec{c} = \vec{b}$$

is compatible (has at least one solution).

Ex Are the vectors

$$\vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}, \vec{v}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -4 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}, \vec{v}_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

LD or LI? (Linearly dependent or linearly independent).

Construct the matrix (no RHTS since it is zero)

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 1 & 4 \\ 2 & 0 & -4 & 2 \\ -1 & 4 & 6 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\begin{array}{l} -2r_1 + r_2 \rightarrow r_2 \\ r_2 + r_3 \rightarrow r_3 \end{array}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & -6 & -6 & -6 \\ 0 & 7 & 7 & 7 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{6}r_2 + r_3 \rightarrow r_3 \quad \left( \begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 3 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & -6 & -6 & -6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \quad (\text{row echelon form})$$

$$A\vec{c} = 0 : \quad \rightarrow \quad \left( \begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 3 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$c_1 + 3c_2 + c_3 + 4c_4 = 0$$

$$c_2 + c_3 + c_4 = 0$$

$$\vec{c} = \begin{pmatrix} -3c_2 - c_3 - 4c_4 \\ -c_3 - c_4 \\ c_3 \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{matrix} \leftarrow \text{Many solutions.} \\ \text{LD!} \end{matrix}$$

## Facts:

- Any collection of  $k \geq n$  vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is linearly dependent.
- A set of  $k$  vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is linearly independent if and only if the corresponding matrix  $A$  has rank  $k$ . (This requires  $k \leq n$ ).

Rank — number of non-zero pivots.

$A$  — has  $n$  rows — maximum of  $n$  pivots.  
— maximum rank of  $n$ .

- A set of  $k$  vectors spans  $\mathbb{R}^n$  iff and only if their  $n \times k$  matrix has rank  $n$ .  
(This requires  $k \geq n$ ).

Note the difference between Linear independence and spanning:

LI: Does each vector encode information not encoded by any other vector?

Span: Do all of the vectors encode the whole space even if some vectors are redundant?

## Basis and Dimension

- Definition A basis of a vector space  $V$  is a finite collection of elements  $v_1, \dots, v_n \in V$  such that
  - a) spans  $V$ , and
  - b) is linearly independent.

Ex

$$\left\{ \vec{e}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \vec{e}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \vec{e}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . (A basis is a set).

## Important theorem:

- Every basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  consists of exactly  $n$  vectors.
- A set of  $n$  vectors is a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  if and only if the matrix  $A = (\vec{v}_1 \dots \vec{v}_n)$  is non-singular (rank  $n$ ).

## And more facts:

- Suppose  $V$  has a basis  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n$  then every other basis has the same number of elements. This number is called the dimension.

Suppose  $V$  is an  $n$ -dimensional vector space.

- a) Every set of more than  $n$  elements is linearly dependent.

Why? Too many elements - can't be a basis.

If  $W = \text{span}\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k\} \subset V$ ,  $k > n$ .

By definition  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k$  spans  $W$

$$\dim W \leq \dim V = n,$$

but it is not a basis. (must have exactly  $n$  elements)  
If  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k$  fails to be a basis it must either  
not span or not be linearly independent.

But it spans  $W$  so it must fail the linear independence!

- b) No set of less than  $n$  elements spans  $V$ .

Why?

Assume  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n$  is a basis for  $V$ .

Also assume  $\vec{w}_1, \dots, \vec{w}_{n-1}$  spans  $V$ .

Then each  $\vec{v}_j$  can be written as a sum of  
 $\vec{w}_1, \dots, \vec{w}_{n-1}$ .

$\Rightarrow \dim V \leq n-1$ , which is not true!

c) A set of  $n$  elements forms a basis if and only if it spans  $V$ .

d) A set of  $n$  elements forms a basis if and only if it is linearly independent.

Assume  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n$  spans  $V$ . What can we say about  $\dim V$ ?

$$\dim V \leq n !$$

## Fundamental Matrix Subspaces

Definitions:

$(\text{rng } A)$

- The range of a matrix  $A$  is the span of its columns, also called the column space.
- The kernel of a matrix  $A$   $\stackrel{(\text{ker } A)}{\sim}$  is the set of vectors

$$\ker A = \{ \vec{z} : A\vec{z} = 0 \}.$$

If  $A$  is  $m \times n$ , for  $A\vec{z}$  to make sense  $\vec{z} \in \mathbb{R}^n \leftarrow (n \times 1)$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A\vec{z} & = \vec{b} \\ mxn \quad nx1 & \quad mx1 & \Rightarrow \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{rng } A \subset \mathbb{R}^m \\ \ker A \subset \mathbb{R}^n \end{array}$$

Let us verify that  $\text{rng } A$  and  $\ker A$  are indeed subspaces.

let  $\vec{x}, \vec{y} \in \text{rng } A \subset \mathbb{R}^m$ , check that  $c\vec{x} + d\vec{y} \in \text{rng } A$ .

$$\Rightarrow \vec{v}, \vec{w} \in \mathbb{R}^n \quad \vec{x} = A\vec{v}, \vec{y} = A\vec{w}$$

Consider

$$A(c\vec{v} + d\vec{w}) = \underbrace{A(c\vec{v})}_{\in \mathbb{R}^n} + \underbrace{A(d\vec{w})}_{\in \mathbb{R}^m} = c\vec{x} + d\vec{y}$$

This is in the range!

let  $\vec{v}, \vec{w} \in \ker A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ , check that  $c\vec{v} + d\vec{w} \in \ker A$

$$A(c\vec{v} + d\vec{w}) = c\overbrace{A\vec{v}}^0 + d\overbrace{A\vec{w}}^0 = 0.$$

$\hat{\wedge}$  this is in the kernel!

Ex Compute the kernel of

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 & 0 & 3 \\ 2 & -3 & -1 & -4 \\ 3 & -5 & -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Q: Is there a kernel?  $A : \mathbb{R}^4 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  (lose a dimension, must be a kernel).

$$A = LU, \quad U = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & -10 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 - 2x_2 + 3x_4 = 0 &\Rightarrow x_1 = +2x_2 - 3x_4 \\ x_2 - x_3 - 10x_4 = 0 &\Rightarrow \begin{cases} x_2 = x_3 + 10x_4 \\ x_1 = 2(x_3 + 10x_4) - 3x_4 \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

$$x_1 = 2x_3 + 17x_4$$

$$\vec{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2x_3 + 17x_4 \\ x_3 + 10x_4 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{pmatrix} = x_3 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + x_4 \begin{pmatrix} 17 \\ 10 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

How do we write the kernel?

$$\text{Ker } A = \left\{ x_3 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + x_4 \begin{pmatrix} 17 \\ 10 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} : x_3, x_4 \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

OR

$$\text{Ker } A = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 17 \\ 10 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}.$$

Now compute the range:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 & 0 & 3 \\ 2 & -3 & -1 & -4 \\ 3 & -5 & -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{LU}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & -10 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

If I have time later, I will prove this result but  
 to find the range (column space), first look  
 at what columns of  $A$  have a pivot.

- Columns 1 & 2

Then the same columns of  $A$  span the range.

$$\text{ran } A = \text{rng } A = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -3 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} \right\}.$$

Theorem The linear system  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  has a solution  $\vec{x}^*$  if and only if  $\vec{b}$  lies in the range of  $A$ .

If this occurs, then  $\vec{x}$  is a solution to the linear system if and only if

$$\vec{x} = \vec{x}^* + \vec{z}$$

where  $\vec{z} \in \ker A$ .

Proof: The statement  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  implies that  $\vec{b}$  must be in the range of  $A$ .

1)  $A\vec{x} = A(\vec{x}^* + \vec{z}) = A\vec{x}^* + A\vec{z}^{\neq 0} = A\vec{x}^* = \vec{b} \checkmark$

2) Let  $\vec{x}_1$  and  $\vec{x}_2$  be any two solutions:

then

$$A(\vec{x}_1 - \vec{x}_2) = \vec{b} - \vec{b} = 0 \Rightarrow \vec{x}_1 - \vec{x}_2 \in \text{ker } A$$

Let  $\vec{x}_1 = \vec{x}^*$ . Any other solution  $\vec{x}_2$  must differ from  $\vec{x}^*$  by an element of the kernel:

$$\vec{x}_2 - \vec{x}^* = \vec{z} \in \text{ker } A.$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{x}_2 = \vec{x}^* + \vec{z} \quad \checkmark.$$

Remark: To find the most general solution we need to find a solution of  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  and then characterize the kernel of  $A$ . Of course, if such a solution exists.

Ex Consider

$$A\vec{x} = \vec{b} \text{ when a) } \vec{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{b) } \vec{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 \\ 1 & -2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Find all solutions  $\vec{x}$  if they exist.

a)

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 1 & - & 3 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$-r_1 + r_3 \rightarrow r_3 \quad \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & -2 & 4 & -2 \end{array} \right)$$

$$2r_2 + r_3 \rightarrow r_3 \quad \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \quad \leftarrow \text{compatible.}$$

- Find a solution:

$$\vec{x}^* = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Characterize kernel: zero right-hand side:

$$\begin{aligned} x - z &= 0 \\ y - 2z &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad \vec{z} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ z \end{pmatrix} = z \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\ker A = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$

$\Rightarrow$  Every solution is of the form:

$$\vec{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + c \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad c \in \mathbb{R}.$$

$$b) \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 & 3 & 1 \end{array} \right)$$

$\xrightarrow{\text{GE}}$   $\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \text{incompatible, no solution.}$

### The Superposition Principle

Suppose we know solutions  $\vec{x}_1^*, \dots, \vec{x}_k^*$  to each of the systems

$$A\vec{x} = \vec{b}_1, \dots, A\vec{x} = \vec{b}_k. \quad (\text{implying } \vec{b}_j \in \text{rng } A).$$

Then a solution of

$$A\vec{x} = c_1\vec{b}_1 + \dots + c_k\vec{b}_k \quad \text{is}$$

$$\vec{x}^* = c_1\vec{x}_1^* + \dots + c_k\vec{x}_k^*,$$

and the most general solution is

$$\vec{x} = c_1\vec{x}_1 + \dots + c_k\vec{x}_k + \vec{z}$$

where  $\vec{z} \in \ker A$ .

## Adjoint Systems, Cokernel and Corange.

- The adjoint to a linear system  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  of  $m$  equations in  $n$  unknowns is the linear system

$$A^T y = \vec{f}$$

consisting of  $n$  equations in  $m$  unknowns.

Definition The corange of an  $m \times n$  matrix is the range of its transpose,

$$\text{corng } A = \text{rng } A^T = \{ A^T y : y \in \mathbb{R}^m \} \subset \mathbb{R}^n.$$

The cokernel, or left null space of a matrix  $A$  is the kernel of its transpose:

$$\text{coker } A = \ker A^T = \{ w \in \mathbb{R}^m : A^T w = 0 \}.$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{rng } A - \text{column space} - \text{subspace of } \mathbb{R}^m \text{ spanned by} \\ \qquad \qquad \qquad \text{the columns of } A \\ \text{corng } A - \text{row space} - \text{subspace of } \mathbb{R}^n \text{ spanned by} \\ \qquad \qquad \qquad \text{the rows of } A \end{array} \right.$$

## The Fundamental Theorem of Linear Algebra

Let  $A$  be an  $m \times n$  matrix of rank  $r$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}\dim \text{coker } A &= \dim \text{rng } A = \text{rank } A \\ &= \text{rank } A^T = r\end{aligned}$$

$$\dim \ker A = n - r$$

$$\dim \text{coker } A = m - r$$

How to remember / interpret this?

- We think of  $A$  as a transformation of the space  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to  $\mathbb{R}^m$

$$A : \mathbb{R}^n \mapsto \mathbb{R}^m.$$

- The rank is a measure of how much of the information in the domain is preserved to the range.
- A dimension in the domain must be either mapped to zero or something "useful";  $r$  is the dimension of what is "useful."

$$\begin{array}{ccc} n & \xrightarrow{\quad} & r \text{ useful} & \leftarrow \text{rank} \\ & & \downarrow & \\ & & n-r \text{ zero} & \leftarrow \text{kernel.} \end{array}$$

$$\dim \text{rng } A + \dim \ker A = n \quad A: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \dim \text{rng } A^T + \dim \ker A^T = m \\ \dim \text{cormg } A + \dim \text{coker } A = m \end{array} \right. \quad A^T: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$$