
Math 22 –
Linear Algebra and its
applications

- Lecture 18 -

Instructor: Bjoern Muetzel

GENERAL INFORMATION

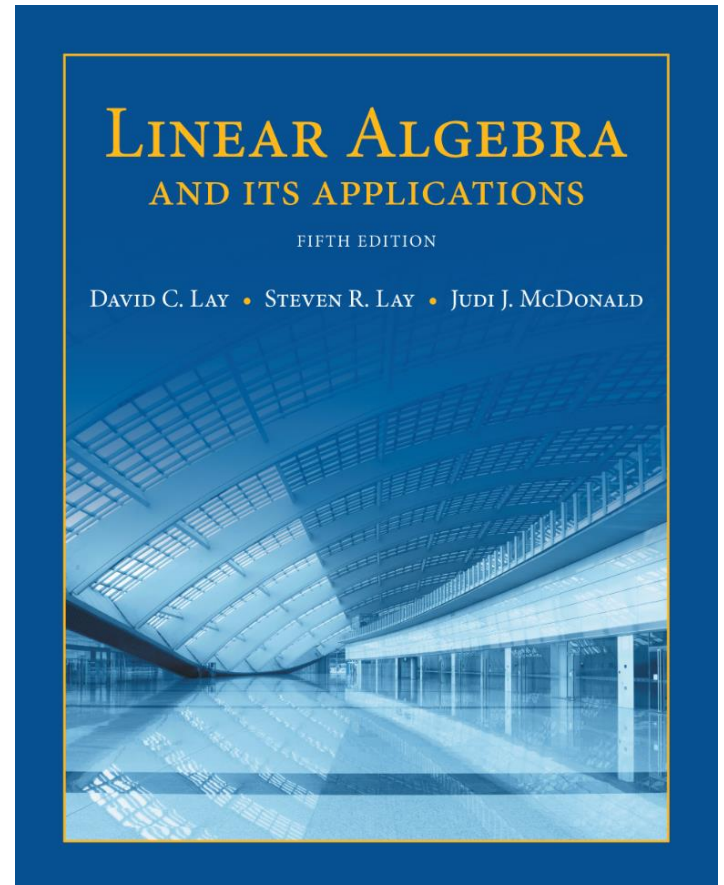
- **Office hours:** Tu 1-3 pm, Th, Sun 2-4 pm in KH 229
Tutorial: Tu, Th, Sun 7-9 pm in KH 105
- **Homework 6:** due next Wednesday at 4 pm outside KH 008.
Please divide into the parts A, C and D. Exercise 1 b) is optional.
- **Project:** Meeting this weekend!
- **Midterm 2:** Friday Nov 1 at 4 pm in Carpenter 013
 - **Topics:** Chapter 2.1 – 4.7 (included)
 - about 8-9 questions
 - **Practice exam 2** available on Sunday

4

Vector Spaces

4.6

RANK OF A MATRIX



- **Summary:**

- 1.) We can consider the rows of a matrix as **row vectors**. The **row space** is the vector space spanned by these vectors.
- 2.) The **Rank Theorem** sums up the relation between the **null space**, the **column space** and the **rank** of a matrix.

THE ROW SPACE

- If A is an $m \times n$ matrix, each row of A has n entries and thus can be identified with a vector in \mathbb{R}^n .
- **Definition:** The set of all linear combinations of the row vectors is called the **row space** of A and is denoted by $\text{Row } A$. Each row has n entries, so $\text{Row } A$ is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n . Clearly

$$\text{Row } A = \text{Col } A^T$$

Motivation: We will see later that $\mathbb{R}^n = \text{Nul } A + \text{Row } A$.

Note: As $\text{Row } A = \text{Col } A^T$ clearly, the pivot columns of A^T form a basis of $\text{Row } A$.

Figure:

However, when we have already calculated the echelon form U of A , then there is an easier way to get a **basis for Row A** :

Theorem 13:

- a) If two matrices A and B are row equivalent, then their row spaces are the same.
- b) If U is the echelon form of A , then the nonzero rows of U form a basis for the row space of A as well as for that of U . Furthermore

$$\boxed{\dim \text{Row } A = \dim \text{Col } A}$$

Warning: This time the **rows of the echelon form U** of A **span the row space Row A** , not the rows of A itself.

THE ROW SPACE

- Proof:** 1.) We noticed in the last lecture that elementary column operations do not change the column space of a matrix.
- 2.) As $\text{Col } A^T = \text{Row } A$ this means that elementary row operations do not change the row space $\text{Row } A$.
- 3.) The non-zero rows of U are linearly independent (as row vectors)
- 4.) Then number of non-zero rows of U is equal to the number of pivot columns of U , hence $\dim \text{Row } A = \dim \text{Col } A$.

THE ROW SPACE

- **Example:** Find bases for the row space, the column space, and the null space of the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & -5 & 8 & 0 & -17 \\ 1 & 3 & -5 & 1 & 5 \\ 3 & 11 & -19 & 7 & 1 \\ 1 & 7 & -13 & 5 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

and determine the dimensions of Row A, Col A and Nul A.

THE ROW SPACE

Observation: Unlike the basis for $\text{Col } A$, the bases for $\text{Row } A$ and $\text{Nul } A$ have no simple connection with the entries in A itself.

THE RANK THEOREM

- **Definition:** The **rank** of A is the dimension of the column space of A .

$$\text{rank } A = \dim \text{Col } A$$

Since $\text{Row } A$ is the same as $\text{Col } A^T$, we have

$$\text{rank } A^T = \dim \text{Col } A^T = \dim \text{Row } A$$

- **Theorem 14*:** Let $T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ be a linear map and A be the corresponding standard matrix. Then
 - a) $\text{rank } A^T = \dim \text{Row } A = \dim \text{Col } A = \text{rank } A$, hence
 - b) $\text{rank } A + \dim \text{Nul } A = n$ or equally
 - c) $\dim T(\mathbb{R}^n) + \dim \text{Nul}(T) = \dim (\mathbb{R}^n)$

Proof: The dimensions of these spaces can be deduced from the number of pivot or non-pivot columns of A (see **Theorem 6** and **13**).

THE RANK THEOREM

Consequence: As the number of pivots can not exceed the number of rows or columns, **Theorem 14*** implies the following two inequalities:

$$1.) \dim \text{Col } A = \text{rank } A \leq \min\{m, n\}$$

$$2.) n - m \leq \dim \text{Nul } A \leq n - \dim \text{Col } A$$

Note: This list could be easily further expanded. However, we will not do this here as every new inequality would be just a logical consequence of the restrictions on the number of pivot or non-pivot columns.

THE RANK THEOREM

- **Example:**

- a. If A is a 7×9 matrix with a two-dimensional null space, what is the rank of A ?
- b. Could a 6×9 matrix B have a two-dimensional null space?

THE INVERTIBLE MATRIX THEOREM (CONTINUED)

- **Theorem:** Let A be an $n \times n$ matrix. Then the following statements are each equivalent to the statement that A is an invertible matrix.
 - m. The columns of A form a basis of \mathbb{R}^n .
 - n. $\text{Col } A = \mathbb{R}^n$
 - o. $\dim \text{Col } A = n$
 - p. $\text{Rank } A = n$
 - q. $\text{Nul } A = \{0\}$
 - r. $\dim \text{Nul } A = 0$

Proof: This follows from **Theorem 14***.

You do **not** have to memorize this theorem!