

DEFINITION

*reduced row–echelon form*

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DEFINITION & THEOREM

*number of solutions of a linear system*

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DEFINITION

*subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^n$*

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DEFINITION

*linear independence*

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THEOREM

*number of vectors in a basis*

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DEFINITION

*rank*

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DEFINITION

*linear combination*

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THEOREM

*image and kernel are subspaces*

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DEFINITION

*basis*

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ALGORITHM

*constructing a basis of the image*

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The *rank* of a matrix  $A$ , is the number of leading 1s in  $rref(A)$ .

A *linear combination* is a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  created by adding together scalar multiples of other vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . For example, if  $c_1, \dots, c_m$  are in  $\mathbb{R}$ , then

$$\vec{x} = c_1\vec{v}_1 + c_2\vec{v}_2 + \dots + c_m\vec{v}_m$$

is a *linear combination*. We say  $\vec{x}$  is a *linear combination* of  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_m$ .

If  $T(\vec{x}) = A\vec{x}$  is a linear transformation from  $\mathbb{R}^m$  to  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , then

- $ker(T) = ker(A)$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^m$
- $im(T) = im(A)$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$

Consider vectors  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_m$  from a subspace  $V$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . These vectors are said to form a *basis* of  $V$ , if they meet the following two requirements:

1. they span  $V$
2. they are linearly independent

To construct a basis of the image of  $A$ , pick those column vectors of  $A$  that correspond to the columns of  $rref(A)$  that contain leading 1s.

A matrix is in *reduced row–echelon form* if all of the following conditions are satisfied:

1. If a row has nonzero entries, then the first nonzero entry is 1.
2. If a column contains a leading 1, then all other entries in that column are zero.
3. If a row contains a leading 1, then each row above contains a leading 1 further to the left.

If a system has at least one solution, then it is said to be *consistent*. If a system has no solutions, then it is said to be *inconsistent (overdetermined)*.

A *consistent* system has either

- infinitely many solutions (*underdetermined*)
- exactly one solution (*exactly determined*)

A subset  $W$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is called a *subspace* of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  if it has the following three properties:

1.  $W$  contains the zero vector for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
2.  $W$  is closed under addition (if  $\vec{w}_1$  and  $\vec{w}_2$  are both in  $W$ , then so is  $\vec{w}_1 + \vec{w}_2$ ).
3.  $W$  is closed under scalar multiplication (if  $\vec{w}$  is in  $W$  and  $k$  is any scalar, then  $k\vec{w}$  is also in  $W$ ).

Consider vectors  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_m$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . These vectors are said to be *linearly independent* if none of them is a linear combination of the preceding vectors. One way to think of this is that none of the vectors is redundant.

Otherwise the vectors are said to be *linearly dependent*.

All bases of a subspace  $V$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  consist of the same number of vectors. In other words, they all have the same dimension.

DEFINITION

*linear relations*

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THEOREM

*rank-nullity theorem*

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DEFINITION

*dimension*

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DEFINITION

*linear transformation*

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THEOREM

*linearity*

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THEOREM

$\det(A^T) =$

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THEOREM

$\ker(A) =$

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THEOREM

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

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$(AB)^T =$

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DEFINITION

*symmetric and  
skew-symmetric matrices*

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For any  $n \times m$  matrix  $A$  the following equation holds:

$$\dim(\text{im}(A)) + \dim(\text{ker}(A)) = m$$

Alternatively, if we define the  $\dim(\text{ker}(A))$  to be the *nullity* of  $A$ , then we can rewrite the above as:

$$\text{rank}(A) + \text{nullity}(A) = m$$

Some mathematicians refer to this as the fundamental theorem of linear algebra.

A function  $T$  that maps vectors from  $\mathbb{R}^m$  to  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is called a *linear transformation* if there is an  $n \times m$  matrix  $A$  such that

$$T(\vec{x}) = A\vec{x}$$

for all  $\vec{x}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .

Consider vectors  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_m$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . An equation of the form

$$c_1\vec{v}_1 + \dots + c_m\vec{v}_m = \vec{0}$$

is called a *linear relation* among the vectors  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_m$ . The *trivial relation* with  $c_1, \dots, c_m = 0$  is always true. *Non-trivial relations* (where at least one of the coefficients  $c_i$  is nonzero) may or may not exist among the vectors.

For any subspace  $V$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , the number of vectors in a basis of  $V$  is called the *dimension* of  $V$  and is denoted by  $\dim(V)$ .

A transformation  $T$  is *linear* iff (if and only if), for all vectors  $\vec{v}, \vec{w}$  and all scalars  $k$

- $T(\vec{v} + \vec{w}) = T(\vec{v}) + T(\vec{w})$
- $T(k\vec{v}) = kT(\vec{v})$

$$\det(A^T) = \det(A)$$

$$(\text{im}A)^\perp = \text{ker}(A^T)$$

$$\text{ker}(A) = \text{ker}(A^T A)$$

Square matrix  $A$  is *symmetric*  $\Leftrightarrow A^T = A$

$$(AB)^T = B^T A^T$$

Square matrix  $A$  is *skew-symmetric*  $\Leftrightarrow A^T = -A$

DEFINITION

*orthogonal complement*

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THEOREM

*determinants of similar matrices*

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THEOREM

*the determinant in terms of the columns*

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DEFINITION

*eigenvectors and eigenvalues*

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DEFINITION

*trace*

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*properties of orthogonal matrices*

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*determinant of an inverse*

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*elementary row operations and determinants*

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*eigenvalues and characteristic equation*

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THEOREM

*characteristic equation of a  $2 \times 2$  matrix*

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Consider an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$ . The following statements are equivalent:

1.  $A$  is an orthogonal matrix
2. The columns of  $A$  form an orthonormal basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$
3.  $A^T A = I_n$
4.  $A^{-1} = A^T$
5.  $\forall \vec{x} \in \mathbf{R}^n \quad \|A\vec{x}\| = \|\vec{x}\|$  (preserves length)

$$\det(A^{-1}) = (\det A)^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det(A)}$$

For any  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$ , and any scalar  $k$ :

Elementary row op	Effect on determinant
scalar multiplication	$\det(A) \rightarrow k \cdot \det(A)$
row swap	$\det(A) \rightarrow -\det(A)$
multiple of one row added to another	$\det(A) \rightarrow \det(A)$

Analogous results hold for column operations.

The eigenvalues of an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  correspond to the solutions of the *characteristic equation* given by:

$$|A - \lambda I| = 0$$

Given a  $2 \times 2$  matrix  $A$ :

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \lambda^2 - \text{tr}(A)\lambda + \det(A) = 0$$

Consider a subspace  $V$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . The *orthogonal complement*  $V^\perp$  of  $V$  is the set of those vectors  $\vec{x}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  that are orthogonal to all vectors in  $V$ :

$$V^\perp = \{\vec{x} : \vec{v} \cdot \vec{x} = 0, \forall \vec{v} \in V\}$$

Note that  $V^\perp$  is the kernel of the orthogonal projection onto  $V$ .

$$A \sim B \Rightarrow \det(A) = \det(B)$$

If  $A$  is an  $n \times n$  matrix with columns,  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n$ , then,

$$|\det(A)| = \|\vec{v}_1\| \|\vec{v}_2^\perp\| \cdots \|\vec{v}_n^\perp\|$$

where  $\vec{v}_1^\perp, \dots, \vec{v}_n^\perp$  are defined as in the Gram-Schmidt process.

Consider an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$ . A **nonzero** vector  $\vec{v}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is called an *eigenvector* of  $A$  if  $A\vec{v}$  is a scalar multiple of  $\vec{v}$ . That is, if

$$A\vec{v} = \lambda\vec{v}$$

for some scalar  $\lambda$ . Note that this scalar may be zero. This scalar  $\lambda$  is called the *eigenvalue* associated with the eigenvector  $\vec{v}$ .

The sum of the diagonal entries of a square matrix  $A$  is called the *trace* of  $A$ , and is denoted by  $\text{tr}(A)$ .