

## SUBSPACES OF $R^n$

**Definition:** A subset  $H$  of  $R^n$  is called a subspace if it has the following three properties:

- i) The zero vector is in  $H$ ,
- ii) For each  $u$  and  $v$  in  $H$ , the sum  $u + v$  is in  $H$ ,
- iii) For each  $u$  in  $H$  and each scalar  $c$ , the vector  $cu$  is in  $H$ .

**Example:** Let

$$e_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } e_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Then,  $\text{Span}\{e_1, e_2\} = H$  is a subspace of  $R^3$ .

**Solution: i)**

$$0 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = 0 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + 0 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ so } 0 \in H.$$

**ii)** Let  $u = a \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + b \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ , and

$$v = c \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + d \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}. \text{ Then,}$$

$$\begin{aligned} u + v &= a \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + b \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + c \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + d \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= (a + c) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + (b + d) \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \in H. \end{aligned}$$

**iii)**

$$\begin{aligned} cu &= c \left( a \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + b \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right) \\ &= ca \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + cb \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \in H. \end{aligned}$$

It is the  $xy$ -plane in  $R^3$ .

**Remark:** If a plane in  $R^3$  does not contain origin 0, then it is not a subspace.

**Example:** Display the set  $\text{Span}\left\{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}\right\}$  in  $R^2$ . Is it a subspace of  $R^2$ ?

It is a line passing through the origin and the point  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ . It is a subspace.

**Remark:** 1) If a line does not pass through the origin, it is not a subspace.

2)  $R^n$  is a subspace of  $R^n$ .

$\{0\}$  is a subspace of  $R^n$ .

**3)** If  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k$  are vectors in  $R^n$ , then  $\text{Span}\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$  is a subspace of  $R^n$ . This is called the subspace spanned by  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k$ .

**Example:** Determine which of the following are subspaces of  $R^3$ .

i) All vectors of the form  $(a, 0, 0)$ .

ii) All vectors of the form  $(a, 1, 1)$ .

iii) All vectors of the form  $(a, b, c)$ , where  $b = a + c$ .

iv) All vectors of the form  $(a, b, c)$ , where  $b = a + c + 1$ .

**Solution:i)**

$$\begin{aligned}u + v &= (a_1, 0, 0) + (a_2, 0, 0) \\ &= (a_1 + a_2, 0, 0) = (a, 0, 0),\end{aligned}$$

$cu = c(a_1, 0, 0) = (ca_1, 0, 0)$ , which is of the form  $(a, 0, 0)$ .

If  $c = 0$ , then  $c(a, 0, 0) = (0, 0, 0)$ .

So, all vectors of the form  $(a, 0, 0)$  is a subspace.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{ii) } (a_1, 1, 1) + (a_2, 1, 1) &= (a_1 + a_2, 2, 2) \\ &= (a, 2, 2),\end{aligned}$$

which is not of the form  $(a, 1, 1)$ .

So, all vectors of the form  $(a, 1, 1)$ , i.e,  $\{(a, 1, 1) \mid a \in R\}$  is not a subspace.

**iii)**

$$\begin{aligned}(a, b, c) &= (a, a + c, c) \\ &= a(1, 1, 0) + c(0, 1, 1)\end{aligned}$$

So,

$$\begin{aligned}&\{(a, a + c, c) \mid a, c \in R\} \\ &= \text{Span}\{(1, 1, 0), (0, 1, 1)\},\end{aligned}$$

which is a subspace.

**vi)**

$$\begin{aligned} & (a_1, b_1, c_1) + (a_2, b_2, c_2) \\ &= (a_1, a_1 + c_1 + 1, c_1) \\ &\quad + (a_2, a_2 + c_2 + 1, c_2) \\ &= (a_1 + a_2, a_1 + a_2 + c_1 + c_2 + 2, c_1 + c_2) \\ &= (a, a + c + 2, c) \end{aligned}$$

which is not of the form

$(a, a + c + 1, c)$ . So,

$\{(a, a + c + 1, c) \mid a, c \in R\}$  is not a subspace.



**Example:** Let  $H$  be the set of all vectors of the form  $\begin{bmatrix} 2t \\ 0 \\ -t \end{bmatrix}$ . Show that  $H$  is a subspace of  $R^3$ .

**Solution: First way:**

i) For  $t = 0$ ,  $0 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \in H$ .

ii) Let  $u = \begin{bmatrix} 2t_1 \\ 0 \\ -t_1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $v = \begin{bmatrix} 2t_2 \\ 0 \\ -t_2 \end{bmatrix}$

be two vectors in  $H$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} u + v &= \begin{bmatrix} 2t_1 \\ 0 \\ -t_1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 2t_2 \\ 0 \\ -t_2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 2(t_1 + t_2) \\ 0 \\ -(t_1 + t_2) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2t \\ 0 \\ -t \end{bmatrix} \in H. \end{aligned}$$

iii)

$$\begin{aligned} cu &= c \begin{bmatrix} 2t \\ 0 \\ -t \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} c2t \\ 0 \\ c(-t) \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 2(ct) \\ 0 \\ -(ct) \end{bmatrix} \in H. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $H$  is a subspace.

**Second way:**

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2t \\ 0 \\ -t \end{bmatrix} = t \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad t \in R. \quad \text{Then,}$$

$H = \text{Span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ , and so  $H$  is a subspace.

**Example:** Let  $W$  be the set of all vectors of the form  $\begin{bmatrix} s + 3t \\ s - t \\ 2s - t \\ 4t \end{bmatrix}$ . Show that  $W$  is a subspace of  $R^4$ .

**Solution:**

$$\begin{bmatrix} s + 3t \\ s - t \\ 2s - t \\ 4t \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} s \\ s \\ 2s \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 3t \\ -t \\ -t \\ 4t \end{bmatrix} = s \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$\text{Thus, } W = \text{Span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \right\},$$

and So,  $W$  is a subspace of  $R^4$ .

**Example:** Let  $W$  be the set of all vectors of the form  $\begin{bmatrix} -a + 1 \\ a - 6b \\ 2b + a \end{bmatrix}$ . Is  $W$  a subspace of  $R^3$ ?

**Solution:** The equation

$$0 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -a + 1 \\ a - 6b \\ 2b + a \end{bmatrix}$$

is not satisfied for any  $a$  and  $b$ . So,  $W$  is not a subspace.

**Note:** If  $u$  and  $v$  are two vectors in  $W$ , then  $u + v$  is not in  $W$  either.

## Column Space and Null Space of a Matrix

**Definition:** The column space of a matrix  $A$  is the set,  $\text{Col}A$ , of all linear combinations of the columns of  $A$ , i.e., the subspace spanned by the columns of  $A$ .

The null space of a matrix  $A$  is the set,  $\text{Nul}A$ , of all solutions to the homogenous equation  $AX = 0$ .

**Example:** Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & -4 \\ -3 & 7 & 6 \\ -4 & 6 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$

and  $b = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -5 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Is  $b$  in the column space of  $A$ ?

Is  $\begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$  in the null space of  $A$ ?

**Solution:**

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & -4 & | & 3 \\ -3 & 7 & 6 & | & -5 \\ -4 & 6 & -2 & | & 0 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & -4 & | & 3 \\ 0 & -2 & -6 & | & 4 \\ 0 & -6 & -18 & | & 12 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & -4 & | & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & | & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 5 & | & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & | & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_1 = -3 - 5t$$

$$x_2 = -2 - 3t$$

$$x_3 = t$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -5 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = (-3 - 5t) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix} + (-2 - 3t) \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 7 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ 6 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix},$$

and so  $b$  is in  $\text{Col}A$ .

$$\begin{aligned} A \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & -4 \\ -3 & 7 & 6 \\ -4 & 6 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 5 - 9 + 4 \\ -15 + 21 - 6 \\ -20 + 18 + 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $\begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$  is in the  $\text{Nul}A$ .



## Basis for a Subspace

**Definition:** A basis for a subspace  $H$  of  $R^n$  is a linearly independent set (in  $H$ ) which spans  $H$ .

**Example:** Find a basis for the null space of the matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & -4 \\ -3 & 7 & 6 \\ -4 & 6 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$ .

**Solution:** We need to find the set of all solutions to  $AX = 0$ . In the previous example, we had that

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -3 & -4 & 0 \\ -3 & 7 & 6 & 0 \\ -4 & 6 & -2 & 0 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right].$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -5t \\ -3t \\ t \end{bmatrix} = t \begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ -3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ -3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  is a basis for  $\text{Nul}A$ .

**Example:** Find a basis for  $\text{Col}A$ .

**Solution:** We know that

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & -4 \\ -3 & 7 & 6 \\ -4 & 6 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Since the first and the second columns of the matrix  $A$  have pivot positions,

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 7 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

is a basis for  $\text{Col}A$ .

## Dimension of a Subspace

**Definition:** The dimension of a nonzero subspace  $H$ , denoted by  $\dim H$ , is the number of vectors in any basis for  $H$ .

The dimension of the zero subspace  $\{0\}$  is 0.

The rank of a matrix  $A$ , denoted by  $\text{rank} A$ , is the dimension of the column space of  $A$ .

**The Rank Theorem:** If a matrix  $A$  has  $n$  columns, then

$$\text{rank}A + \dim \text{Nul}A = n.$$

**Example:** For the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & -4 \\ -3 & 7 & 6 \\ -4 & 6 & -2 \end{bmatrix},$$

we have found that

$$\text{rank}A = \dim \text{Col}A = 2, \text{ and } \dim \text{Nul}A = 1.$$

$$2 + 1 = 3 = \# \text{ of columns of } A.$$

**Example:** We are given that

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & 2 & 5 \\ -2 & 6 & 0 & -3 \\ 4 & -12 & -4 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & 2 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = B.$$

- i) Find bases for  $\text{Col}A$  and  $\text{Nul}A$ .
- ii) Find  $\dim \text{Col}A$  and  $\dim \text{Nul}A$ .
- iii) Verify the Rank Theorem.

**Solution:** i)  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

is a basis for  $\text{Col}A$ .

Solving  $AX = 0$  is equivalent to solving  $BX = 0$ .

$$x_4 = t, \quad x_3 = (-7/4)t, \quad x_2 = s,$$

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= 3s - 2x_3 - 5t = 3s - 2(-7/4)t - 5t \\ &= 3s + (7/2)t - 5t = 3s - (3/2)t. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3s - (3/2)t \\ s \\ (-7/4)t \\ t \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} s + \begin{bmatrix} -3/2 \\ 0 \\ -7/4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} t.$$

Then,

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -3/2 \\ 0 \\ -7/4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

is a basis for  $\text{Nul}A$ .

**ii)**  $\text{rank}A = \dim \text{Col}A = 2$ ,  $\dim \text{Nul}A = 2$ .

**iii)**

$$\text{rank}A + \dim \text{Nul}A$$

$$= 2 + 2$$

$$= 4$$

$$= \# \text{ of columns of } A$$

**Example:** We are given that

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -5 & -1 & 4 & 4 \\ -2 & 4 & 2 & 7 & 8 \\ 5 & -9 & -3 & -3 & -4 \\ -2 & 6 & 6 & 5 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\sim \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -5 & -1 & 4 & 4 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = B.$$

- i) Find bases for  $\text{Col}A$  and  $\text{Nul}A$ .
- ii) Find  $\dim \text{Col}A$  and  $\dim \text{Nul}A$ .
- iii) Verify the Rank Theorem.

**Solution:** i) A basis for  $\text{Col}A$  is

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -2 \\ 5 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ 4 \\ -9 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 7 \\ -3 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \right\}.$$

**a basis for  $\text{Nul}A$ :**

$AX = 0 \iff BX = 0$ . So, let us solve  $BX = 0$ .

$$x_5 = t, \quad x_4 = -t, \quad x_3 = s,$$

$$2x_2 + 4x_3 + 3x_5 = 0,$$

$$x_2 = -2x_3 - (3/2)x_5 = -2s - (3/2)t,$$

$$3x_1 - 5x_2 - x_3 = 0,$$

$$x_1 = (5/3)x_2 + (1/3)x_3$$

$$= (5/3)[-2s - (3/2)t] + (1/3)s$$

$$= -3s - (5/2)t$$

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -3s - (5/2)t \\ -2s - (3/2)t \\ s \\ -t \\ t \end{bmatrix}$$



$$= \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} s + \begin{bmatrix} -5/2 \\ -3/2 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} t.$$

Then,

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -5/2 \\ -3/2 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

is a basis for  $\text{Nul}A$ .

**ii)**  $\text{rank}A = \dim \text{Col}A = 3$ ,  $\dim \text{Nul}A = 2$ .

**iii)**

$$\text{rank}A + \dim \text{Nul}A$$

$$= 3 + 2$$

$$= 5$$

$$= \# \text{ of columns of } A$$

**Example:** Find a basis for the subspace spanned by the vectors

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ -4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 5 \\ 9 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ -2 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ -6 \\ -8 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

**Solution:**

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & -1 & 5 \\ -2 & 5 & 0 & -6 \\ -4 & 9 & -2 & -8 \\ 3 & -5 & 5 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{array}{l} R'_2 = R_2 + 2R_1 \\ R'_3 = R_3 + 4R_1 \\ R'_4 = R_4 - 3R_1 \end{array}$$

$$\sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & -1 & 5 \\ 0 & -1 & -2 & 4 \\ 0 & -3 & -6 & 12 \\ 0 & 4 & 8 & -16 \end{bmatrix} \begin{array}{l} R'_3 = R_3 - 3R_2 \\ R'_4 = R_4 + 4R_2 \end{array}$$

$$\sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & -1 & 5 \\ 0 & -1 & -2 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

A basis for the subspace spanned by the given vectors is

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ -4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 5 \\ 9 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix} \right\}.$$

**Remark:** We have

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & -1 & 5 \\ -2 & 5 & 0 & -6 \\ -4 & 9 & -2 & -8 \\ 3 & -5 & 5 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & -1 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & -4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad R'_1 = R_1 + 3R_2$$

$$\sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 5 & -7 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & -4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ and thus,}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ -2 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} = 5 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ -4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + 2 \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 5 \\ 9 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ -6 \\ -8 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = -7 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ -4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} - 4 \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 5 \\ 9 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}.$$

## Coordinate Vector

**Definition:** Let  $H$  be a subspace,  $\mathcal{B} = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  be a basis for  $H$ , and  $x \in H$ . Then,

$$x = c_1v_1 + c_2v_2 + \cdots + c_nv_n,$$

and the vector

$$[x]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{bmatrix}$$

is called the coordinate vector of  $x$  relative to basis  $\mathcal{B}$ .

**Example:** Let  $H$  be a subspace with a basis

$$\mathcal{B} = \left\{ b_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, b_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \right\}.$$

Find the coordinate vector of

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} -9 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} \text{ relative to basis } \mathcal{B}.$$

**Solution:** We need to find  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  such that

$$\begin{bmatrix} -9 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} = c_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & -3 & -9 \\ -3 & 5 & 7 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & -3 & -9 \\ 0 & -4 & -20 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\sim \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & -3 & -9 \\ 0 & 1 & 5 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 & 5 \end{array} \right],$$

which gives  $c_1 = 6$ , and  $c_2 = 5$ . Thus,

$$[x]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Example:** Let  $H$  be a subspace with a basis

$$\mathcal{B} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 5 \\ -6 \end{bmatrix} \right\}.$$

Find the coordinate vector of

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} -8 \\ -1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} \text{ relative to basis } \mathcal{B}.$$

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned} \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} -3 & 7 & -8 \\ 1 & 5 & -1 \\ -4 & -6 & -3 \end{array} \right] &\sim \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 5 & -1 \\ -3 & 7 & -8 \\ -4 & -6 & -3 \end{array} \right] \\ &\sim \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 5 & -1 \\ 0 & 22 & -11 \\ 0 & 14 & -7 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 5 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \end{aligned}$$



$$\sim \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & 3/2 \\ 0 & 1 & -1/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right],$$

which gives  $c_1 = 3/2$ , and  $c_2 = -1/2$ .

Thus,

$$[x]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3/2 \\ -1/2 \end{bmatrix}$$