

An Example

Ex:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 6 & 9 & 7 \\ -1 & -3 & 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^L \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^U$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] \longrightarrow \left[\begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 5 & -2 & 1 \end{array} \right]^{L^{-1}}$$

We conclude that

$$N(A^T) = \text{Span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

(Recall: $Ax = b$ is consistent for the A here only if $b_3 - 2b_2 + 5b_1 = 0$. Compare this with the basis vector here.)