

The Fundamental Theorem of Linear Algebra

Gilbert Strang
MIT

Big Picture: Column space and nullspace of A and A^T

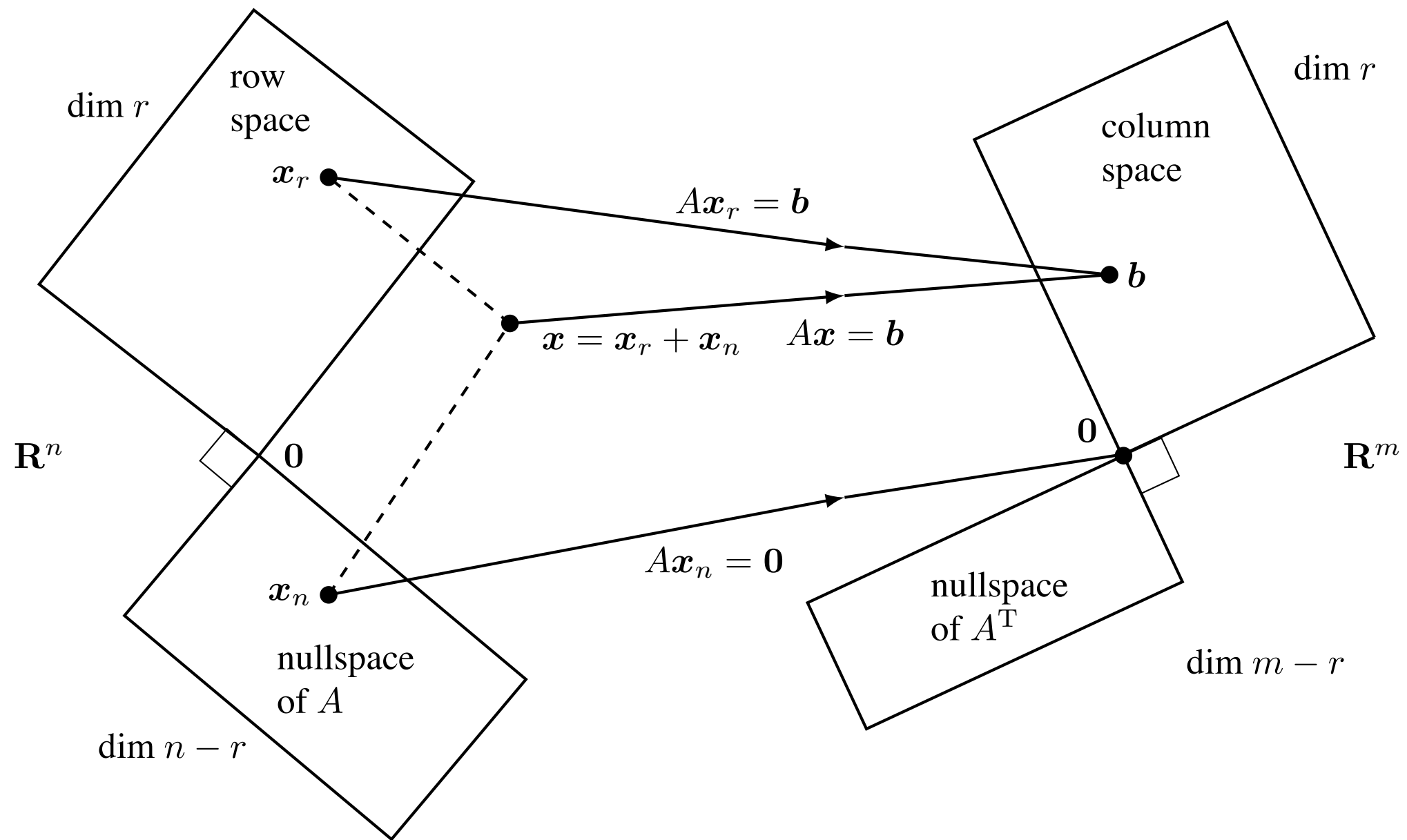


Figure 1: The action of A : Row space to column space, nullspace to zero.

$$m > n \text{ in } Ax = b \quad \text{Solve } A^T A \hat{x} = A^T b$$

$$\text{Projection } p = A\hat{x} = A(A^T A)^{-1} A^T b = Pb$$

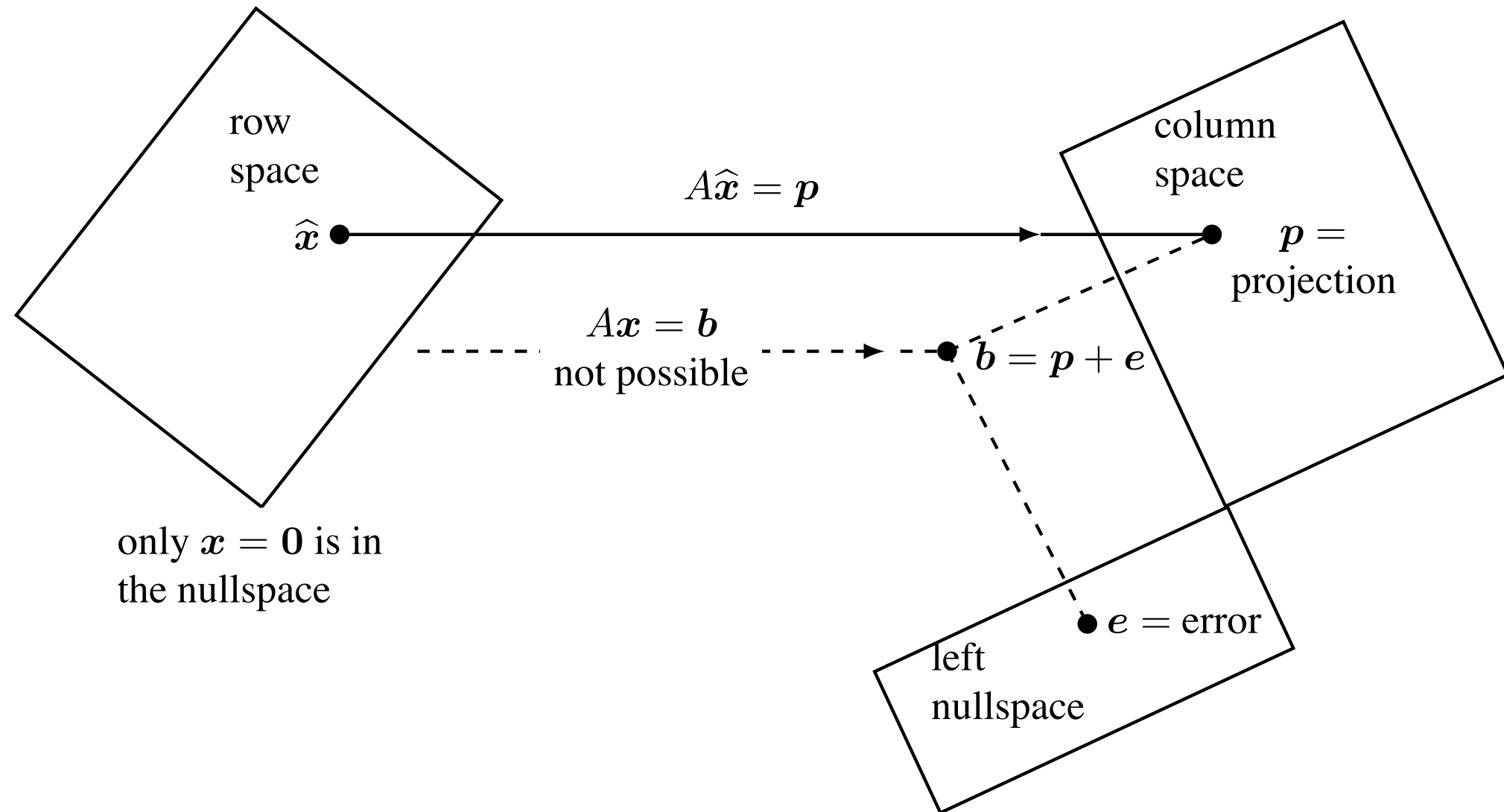


Figure 2: Least squares: \hat{x} minimizes $\|b - Ax\|^2$ by solving $A^T A \hat{x} = A^T b$.

SVD = Singular Value Decomposition

$$A = U \Sigma V^T \quad (m \times m) \quad (m \times n) \quad (n \times n)$$

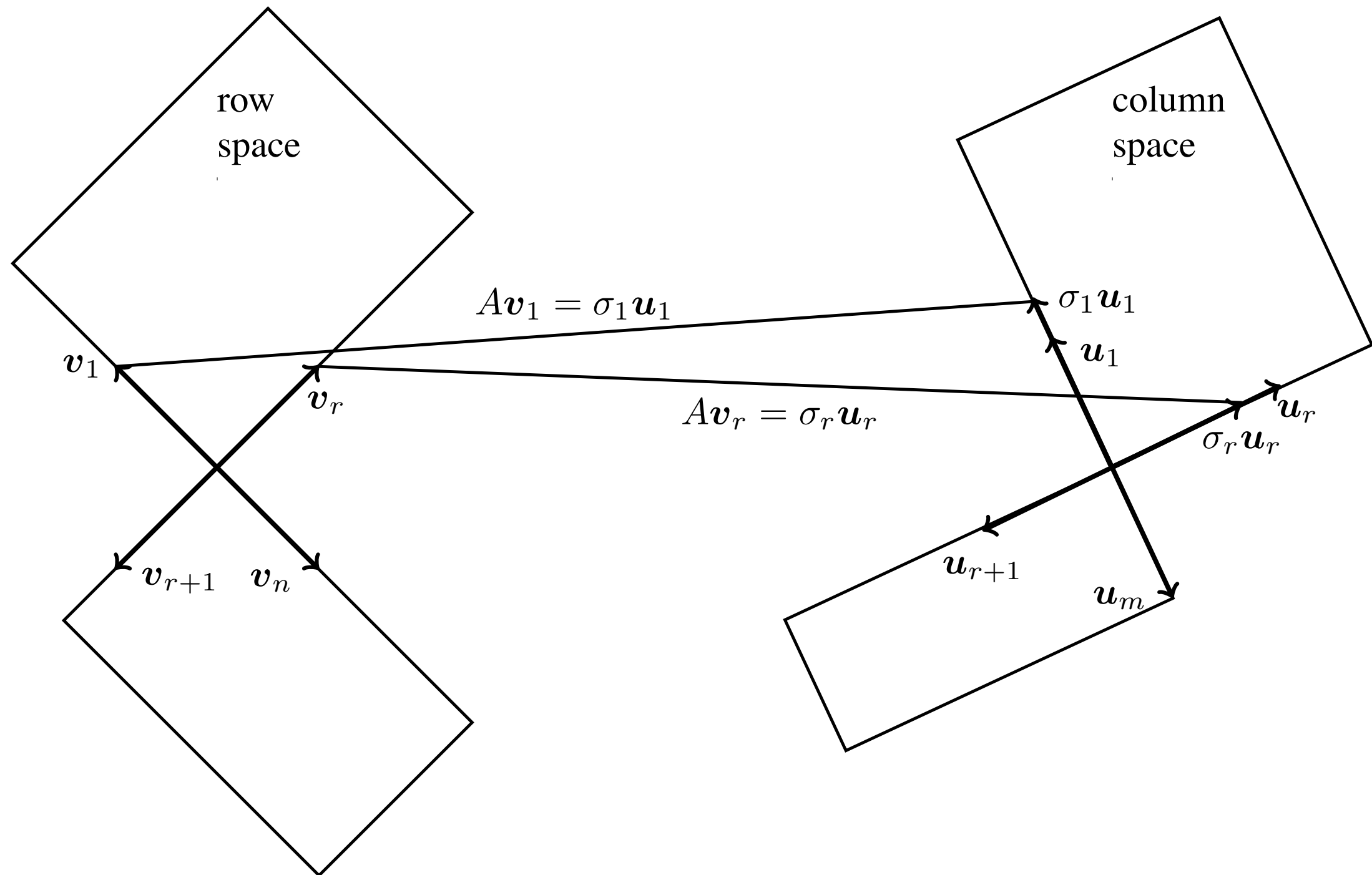


Figure 3: Orthonormal bases that diagonalize A .

Pseudoinverse A^+ is n by m

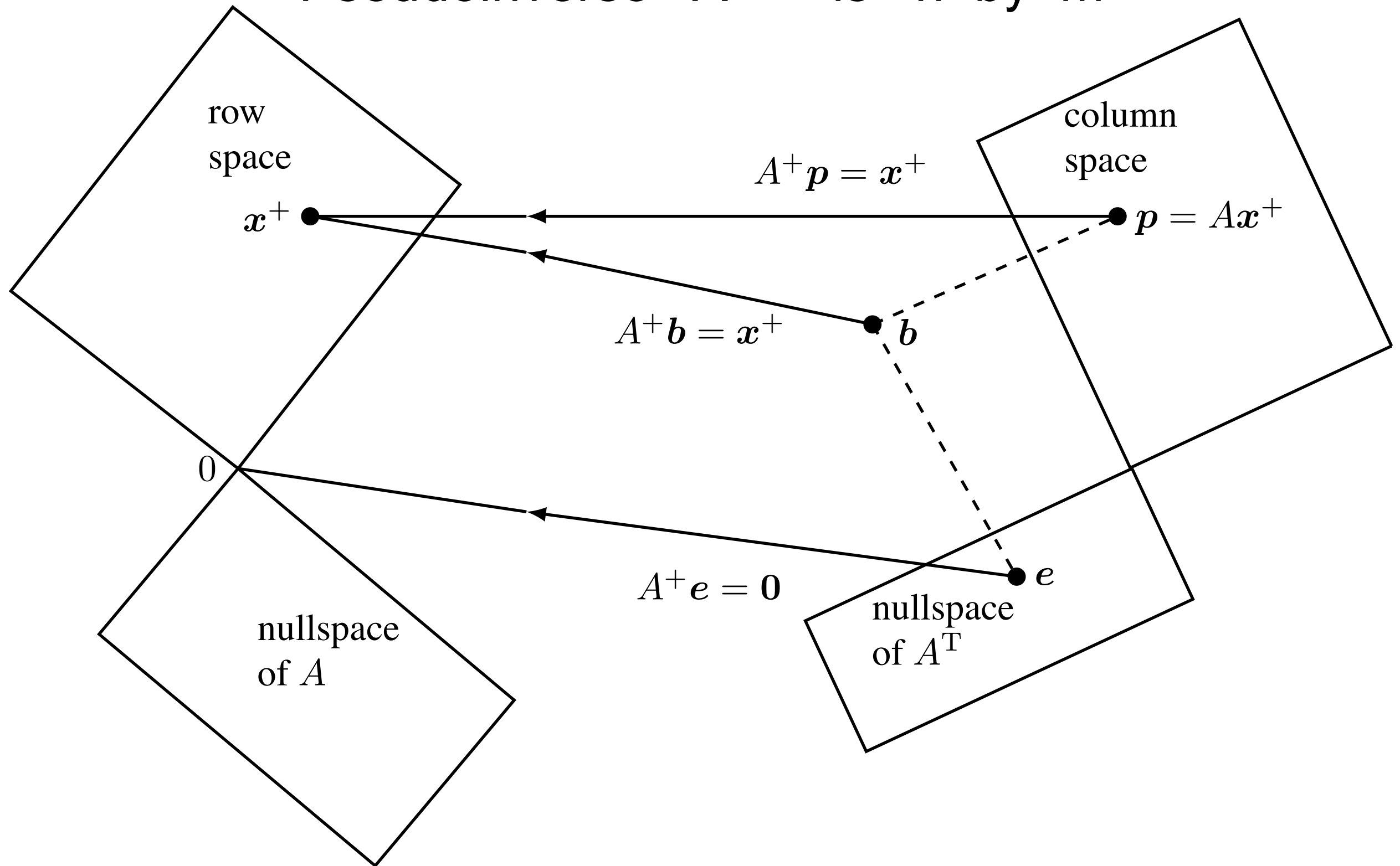


Figure 4: The inverse of A (where possible) is the pseudoinverse A^+ .

SVD

Construct V, Σ, U in $A = U \Sigma V^T$

v_1, \dots, v_r orthonormal eigenvectors of $A^T A$

$$A^T A v_i = \lambda_i v_i \quad \lambda_i = \sigma_i^2 \quad \lambda_i > 0$$

KEY $u_i = A v_i$ are orthogonal because

$$(A v_i)^T (A v_j) = v_i^T (A^T A v_j) = \lambda_j v_i^T v_j$$

Normalize to length 1 Divide u_i by $\sigma_i = \|u_i\|$

Choose v_{r+1}, \dots, v_n orthonormal in $N(A)$

Choose u_{r+1}, \dots, u_n orthonormal in $N(A^T)$

Then $A v_1 = \sigma_1 u_1 \quad \dots \quad A v_r = \sigma_r u_r$

row rank = column rank

Factor $A_{m \times n} = C_{m \times r} D_{r \times n} = [c_1 \dots c_r][d_1 \dots d_n]$

Basis for column space in C : $\dim r$

Coefficients for each column are in D

Look again, REVERSED $A = \begin{bmatrix} \text{row 1} \\ \vdots \\ \text{row m} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \text{row 1} \\ \vdots \\ \text{row r} \end{bmatrix}$

$A = CD$ expresses rows of A by rows of D

Coefficients for each row are in C

Then row space has dimension $\leq r$

row rank = column rank

Start x_1, \dots, x_r basis for row space

Show Ax_1, \dots, Ax_r independent in column space

Suppose $0 = c_1Ax_1 + \dots + c_rAx_r$

$$= A(c_1x_1 + \dots + c_rx_r) = Av$$

v is in row space and null space: $v = 0$.

Then $c_i = 0$ since x_i are a basis.