

Ex. 6 Illustration for concept of range.

Find  $\mathcal{R}(A)$ , where

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Sol'n:  $\mathcal{R}(A)$  consists of all possible  $A\underline{x}$ , where  $\underline{x}$  is any vector (in  $\mathbb{R}^5$ ). So:

$$A\underline{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} x_1 + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} x_2 + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} x_3 + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} x_4 + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} x_5$$

↑ Key Formula

↙  $\left[ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + 2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right]$     ↘  $3 \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} (x_1 + x_2 + x_4) + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} (x_3 + 2x_4 + 3x_5)$$

$$\equiv \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} c_1 + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} c_2 \quad (\text{with any } c_1, c_2).$$

Moral: • It is easy to see that

$$A\underline{x} = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ and so } \underline{y} = A\underline{x} \text{ will have}$$

the 3rd component ( $y_3$ ) equal zero for any  $\underline{x}$ .

- Therefore, geometrically,  $\mathcal{R}(A)$  will be the plane containing all vectors whose 3rd component is zero, i.e., the  $xy$ -plane in 3D.