

What is this course about?

$$A\tilde{x} = \tilde{b}$$

Beauty & the beast

Qs: When is $A\tilde{x} = \tilde{b}$ solvable
How big is the set of solutions

Spanning sets & Linear Independence

Burning question

When is a given vector a linear combination of other given vectors?

Motivating example

Is the vector $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ a linear combination of the vectors

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}?$$

want to find scalars x and y such that

$$x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + y \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

considering the system

$$\begin{aligned} x - y &= 1 \\ x + y &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

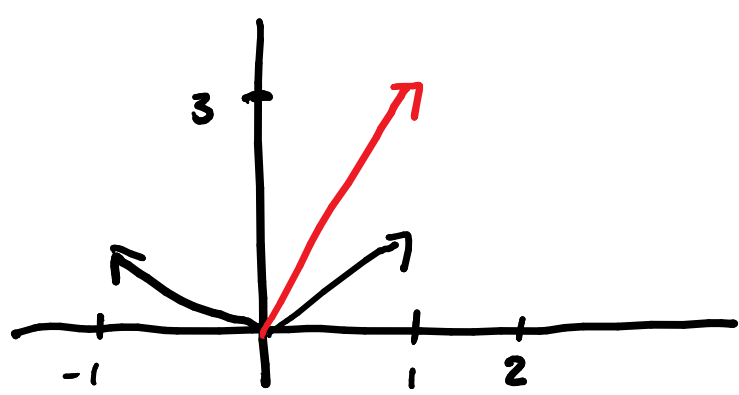
$$\text{or } \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right] = \dots$$

• Solve any way you can

This has a unique solution

$$\begin{aligned} x &= 2 \\ y &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore 2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + 1 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$



Another example

$$\begin{aligned} x - y &= 2 \\ 2x - 2y &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

(Do the same procedure as the last example)

This system has infinitely many solutions

$$\begin{aligned} x &= 2 + t \\ y &= t \end{aligned}$$

This implies that

$$(2+t) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \quad (1)$$

last example

$$\begin{aligned} x - y &= 1 \\ x - y &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

Has no solutions

No solutions that satisfy

$$x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + y \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

- We will be interested in the collection of all linear combinations of a given set of vectors.

Big Idea

$A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ is consistent (solvable) exactly when \vec{b} is a linear combination of the column vectors of A

$$\vec{b} = a_1 x_1 + a_2 x_2 + \dots + a_n x_n$$

\Rightarrow next page

Def

The set of a linear combination of a set of vectors

$$\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n\}$$

is called the span of that set

? How big is the span?

Example

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

Given a plane!

$$\vec{a}_2 = \frac{1}{2}(\vec{a}_1 + \vec{a}_3)$$

Some columns may be redundant - they might be expressible in terms of other columns

We say there is a dependence relation among vectors

$$\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n$$

If we can express one of the vectors in terms of the vectors in term of the others (i.e., linear combination)

Every such dependence verification can be arranged into

$$\frac{1}{2}\vec{a}_1 + (-1)\vec{a}_2 + \frac{1}{2}\vec{a}_3 = 0 \quad \text{a more symmetrical form:}$$

Def

A set of vectors $\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n\}$ is linearly dependent if there are scalars c_1, \dots, c_k (Not all zero) such that

$$c_1\vec{v}_1 + c_2\vec{v}_2 + \dots + c_k\vec{v}_k = 0$$

otherwise the set is called linearly independent

Example (1) $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{L.D}$

(2) $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 8 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{L.D}$

(3) $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{L.I}$

(4) What about

$$\underline{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \underline{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \underline{v}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

Looking for a dependence relation

$$c_1 \underline{v}_1 + c_2 \underline{v}_2 + c_3 \underline{v}_3 = \underline{0}$$

This is the same as solving

$$\left[\underline{v}_1 \mid \underline{v}_2 \mid \underline{v}_3 \right] \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \end{bmatrix} = \underline{0}$$

and asking for a non-trivial solution
(not all c_i 's = 0)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 3 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \underline{c} = \underline{0}$$

Back-substitution shows that $c_3 = 0, c_2 = 0, c_1 = 0$

Hence $\underline{v}_1, \underline{v}_2, \underline{v}_3$ are linearly independent

Linearly independent if all zero

(5) $\underline{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \underline{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \underline{v}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

$$c_1 \underline{v}_1 + c_2 \underline{v}_2 + c_3 \underline{v}_3 = \underline{0}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \underline{c} = \underline{0}$$

= ...

$$\Rightarrow c_2 = 1, c_1 = -1, c_3 = 1$$

$$-\underline{v}_1 + \underline{v}_2 + \underline{v}_3 = \underline{0} (!)$$