

# LINEAR SPAN II

## DISCUSSION

Suppose  $S = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ . We want to determine if  $\text{span}(S) = \mathbb{R}^n$ .

$$\mathbf{u}_1 = (a_{11}, a_{12}, \dots, a_{1n}) \quad \mathbf{u}_2 = (a_{21}, a_{22}, \dots, a_{2n}) \quad \dots \quad \mathbf{u}_k = (a_{k1}, a_{k2}, \dots, a_{kn})$$

For any  $\mathbf{v} = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , consider the equation:

$$c_1 \mathbf{u}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{u}_2 + \dots + c_k \mathbf{u}_k = \mathbf{v}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & c_1(a_{11}, a_{12}, \dots, a_{1n}) + c_2(a_{21}, a_{22}, \dots, a_{2n}) + \dots + c_k(a_{k1}, a_{k2}, \dots, a_{kn}) \\ &= (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n) \end{aligned}$$

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$$c_1 (a_{11}, a_{12}, \dots, a_{1n}) + c_2 (a_{21}, a_{22}, \dots, a_{2n}) + \dots + c_k (a_{k1}, a_{k2}, \dots, a_{kn}) \\ = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n)$$

$$\begin{cases} a_{11}c_1 & + & a_{21}c_2 & + & \dots & + & a_{k1}c_k & = & v_1 \\ a_{12}c_1 & + & a_{22}c_2 & + & \dots & + & a_{k2}c_k & = & v_2 \\ \vdots & & \vdots & & & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{1n}c_1 & + & a_{2n}c_2 & + & \dots & + & a_{kn}c_k & = & v_n \end{cases}$$

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$$c_1 \mathbf{u}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{u}_2 + \dots + c_k \mathbf{u}_k = \mathbf{v} \quad (*)$$

$$c_1 (a_{11}, a_{12}, \dots, a_{1n}) + c_2 (a_{21}, a_{22}, \dots, a_{2n}) + \dots + c_k (a_{k1}, a_{k2}, \dots, a_{kn}) = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n)$$

k columns

n rows

$$\left( \begin{array}{c|c} \mathbf{A} & \begin{matrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{matrix} \end{array} \right)$$

If a row-echelon form of  $\mathbf{A}$  does not have a zero row,

$(*)$  is always consistent regardless of  $\mathbf{v}$

$$\Rightarrow \text{span}(S) = \mathbb{R}^n$$

# DISCUSSION

Suppose  $S = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ . We want to determine if  $\text{span}(S) = \mathbb{R}^n$ .

$$c_1 \mathbf{u}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{u}_2 + \dots + c_k \mathbf{u}_k = \mathbf{v} \quad (*)$$

$$c_1(a_{11}, a_{12}, \dots, a_{1n}) + c_2(a_{21}, a_{22}, \dots, a_{2n}) + \dots + c_k(a_{k1}, a_{k2}, \dots, a_{kn}) \\ = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n)$$

If a row-echelon form of  $A$  has at least one zero row,

(\*) is not always consistent

$$\Rightarrow \text{span}(S) \neq \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$\begin{matrix} & & k \text{ columns} \\ n & \left( \begin{array}{c|c} & \begin{matrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{matrix} \end{array} \right. \\ \text{rows} & \left. \begin{array}{c} A \\ \hline 0 \quad 0 \quad \dots \quad 0 \quad 0 \end{array} \right) \end{matrix}$$

## EXAMPLE

From earlier example:

Show that  $\text{span}\{(1,0,1), (1,1,0), (0,1,1)\} = \mathbb{R}^3$ .

We need to show that every vector in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  can be written as a linear combination of  $(1,0,1), (1,1,0), (0,1,1)$ .

$$a(1,0,1) + b(1,1,0) + c(0,1,1) = (x, y, z)$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & x \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & y \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & z \end{array} \right) \longrightarrow \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & x \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & y \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & z - x + y \end{array} \right)$$

No zero row

## EXAMPLE

From earlier example:

Show that  $\text{span}\{(1,1,1), (1,2,0), (2,1,3), (2,3,1)\} \neq \mathbb{R}^3$ .

We need to show that there is some vector in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  that cannot be written as a linear combination of  $(1,1,1), (1,2,0), (2,1,3), (2,3,1)$ .

$$a(1,1,1) + b(1,2,0) + c(2,1,3) + d(2,3,1) = (x, y, z)$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 1 & 2 & 2 & x \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & 3 & y \\ 1 & 0 & 3 & 1 & z \end{array} \right) \longrightarrow \left( \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 1 & 2 & 2 & x \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 1 & y-x \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & y+z-2x \end{array} \right)$$

Has zero row

# THEOREM

Let  $S = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\}$  be a set of vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

If  $k < n$ , then  $S$  cannot span  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

If  $k < n$ , then a row-echelon form of  $A$  has at least one zero row  $\Rightarrow S$  cannot span  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

Suppose  $S = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ . We want to determine if  $\text{span}(S) = \mathbb{R}^n$ .

$$c_1 \mathbf{u}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{u}_2 + \dots + c_k \mathbf{u}_k = \mathbf{v} \quad (*)$$

$$\begin{array}{c} n \\ \text{rows} \end{array} \left( \begin{array}{c|c} \begin{array}{c} k \text{ columns} \\ \mathbf{A} \\ 0 \ 0 \ \dots \ 0 \ 0 \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{array} \end{array} \right)$$

If a row-echelon form of  $A$  has at least one zero row,

$(*)$  is not always consistent



## EXAMPLE

- 1) One vector cannot span  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .
- 2) One or two vectors cannot span  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

## THEOREM

Let  $S = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ .

1)  $\mathbf{0} \in \text{span}(S)$

**Proof:**

$\text{Span}(S)$  contains all linear combinations of  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k$ .

In particular, it contains

$$0\mathbf{u}_1 + 0\mathbf{u}_2 + \dots + 0\mathbf{u}_k = \mathbf{0}$$

# THEOREM

Let  $S = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ .

2) For any  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_r \in \text{span}(S)$  and  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_r \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$c_1\mathbf{v}_1 + c_2\mathbf{v}_2 + \dots + c_r\mathbf{v}_r \in \text{span}(S).$$

**Proof:**

$$\mathbf{v}_1 \in \text{span}(S) \Rightarrow \mathbf{v}_1 = d_{11}\mathbf{u}_1 + d_{12}\mathbf{u}_2 + \dots + d_{1k}\mathbf{u}_k$$

$$\mathbf{v}_2 \in \text{span}(S) \Rightarrow \mathbf{v}_2 = d_{21}\mathbf{u}_1 + d_{22}\mathbf{u}_2 + \dots + d_{2k}\mathbf{u}_k$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\mathbf{v}_r \in \text{span}(S) \Rightarrow \mathbf{v}_r = d_{r1}\mathbf{u}_1 + d_{r2}\mathbf{u}_2 + \dots + d_{rk}\mathbf{u}_k$$

# THEOREM

Proof:

$$\mathbf{v}_1 \in \text{span}(S) \Rightarrow \mathbf{v}_1 = d_{11}\mathbf{u}_1 + d_{12}\mathbf{u}_2 + \dots + d_{1k}\mathbf{u}_k$$

$$\mathbf{v}_2 \in \text{span}(S) \Rightarrow \mathbf{v}_2 = d_{21}\mathbf{u}_1 + d_{22}\mathbf{u}_2 + \dots + d_{2k}\mathbf{u}_k$$

$\vdots$

$$\mathbf{v}_r \in \text{span}(S) \Rightarrow \mathbf{v}_r = d_{r1}\mathbf{u}_1 + d_{r2}\mathbf{u}_2 + \dots + d_{rk}\mathbf{u}_k$$

$$\begin{aligned} c_1\mathbf{v}_1 + c_2\mathbf{v}_2 + \dots + c_r\mathbf{v}_r &= c_1(d_{11}\mathbf{u}_1 + d_{12}\mathbf{u}_2 + \dots + d_{1k}\mathbf{u}_k) \\ &\quad + c_2(d_{21}\mathbf{u}_1 + d_{22}\mathbf{u}_2 + \dots + d_{2k}\mathbf{u}_k) \\ &\quad + \dots + c_r(d_{r1}\mathbf{u}_1 + d_{r2}\mathbf{u}_2 + \dots + d_{rk}\mathbf{u}_k) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= (c_1d_{11} + c_2d_{21} + \dots + c_rd_{r1})\mathbf{u}_1 + (c_1d_{12} + c_2d_{22} + \dots + c_rd_{r2})\mathbf{u}_2 \\ &\quad + \dots + (c_1d_{1k} + c_2d_{2k} + \dots + c_rd_{rk})\mathbf{u}_k \in \text{span}(S) \end{aligned}$$

## WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Let  $S = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ .

1)  $\mathbf{0} \in \text{span}(S)$

$\mathbf{0}$  is always an element in  $\text{span}(S)$ . In other words, if a set does not contain  $\mathbf{0}$ , then it cannot be a linear span.

2) For any  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_r \in \text{span}(S)$  and  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_r \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$c_1\mathbf{v}_1 + c_2\mathbf{v}_2 + \dots + c_r\mathbf{v}_r \in \text{span}(S).$$

$\text{span}(S)$  (any linear span) is "closed" under linear combinations.

## SUMMARY

- 1) Detailed discussion on checking if  $\text{span}(S) = \mathbb{R}^n$ .
- 2) We can never span  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with less than  $n$  vectors.
- 3) Two properties of  $\text{span}\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\}$ .