

Daily vocabulary: linearly dependent and linearly independent.

## Warm Up

1. Here is an  $Ax = b$  problem:

along with a helpful row reduction:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ -2 & 1 & 1 & -2 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 & 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 3 & -1 & 1 & 10 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 9 \\ 5 \\ 8 \\ 20 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & | & 9 \\ -2 & 1 & 1 & -2 & 1 & | & 5 \\ -1 & -1 & 1 & 2 & 2 & | & 8 \\ 3 & -1 & 1 & 10 & 2 & | & 20 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & | & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & | & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 & 0 & | & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & | & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

(a) Give the solution to  $Ax = b$  in parametric form

(b) Describe the geometry of the solution (e.g. “a plane in  $\mathbb{R}^4$ ”).

(c) What does the fact that there is not a row of 0s in  $\text{rref}(A)$  mean about  $A$ ?

# Linear Dependence

**Def.** A set of vectors  $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_k$  is *linearly dependent* if there exist a set of scalars  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k$ , that are not all zero, such that

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

Otherwise, the vectors are *linearly independent*.

- Each of these have a fairly easy-to-see dependence relation. Find one in each case.

$$(a) \quad \text{---} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + \text{---} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \text{---} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$(b) \quad \text{---} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \text{---} \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -6 \\ 6 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + \text{---} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$(c) \quad \text{---} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \text{---} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} + \text{---} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \text{---} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

- An equivalent definition of linear independence is the following: A set of vectors  $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_k$  is linearly dependent if and only if you can write at least one of them as a linear combination of the others. Show that this is true in the above examples.

(a)

(b)

(c)

- Remember that the matrix vector product gives a linear combination of the columns of a matrix  $A$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} | & | & \cdots & | \\ \vec{v}_1 & \vec{v}_2 & \cdots & \vec{v}_k \\ | & | & \cdots & | \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ \vdots \\ c_k \end{bmatrix} = c_1 \vec{v}_1 + c_2 \vec{v}_2 + \dots + c_k \vec{v}_k = \vec{0}.$$

This means that:

$$\text{nonzero solution to } Ax = \vec{0} \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad \text{dependence relation among columns of } A.$$

4. Use #3 to find a dependence relation among the following vectors:

$$\text{---} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} + \text{---} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \text{---} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \text{---} \begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ 5 \\ -7 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

As usual, the following row reduction is helpful.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 & -4 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & 5 \\ 3 & 1 & 0 & -7 \\ 5 & 1 & 1 & -9 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

5. Decide if the columns of theses matrices are linearly independent?. Do the columns span  $\mathbb{R}^4$  ? If they are dependent, give a dependence relation.

(a) linearly dependent or linearly independent; span  $\mathbb{R}^4$ ? yes no; dependence relation

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 4 \\ 2 & -1 & 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 & 7 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

(b) linearly dependent or linearly independent; span  $\mathbb{R}^4$ ? yes no; dependence relation

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & -1 & 1 & 5 & 0 & 7 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & 3 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -2 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

(c) linearly dependent or linearly independent; span  $\mathbb{R}^4$ ? yes no; dependence relation

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \\ -3 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$