

# Tensors

“ML generalization of vectors and matrices to any number of dimensions”

scalar

$x$

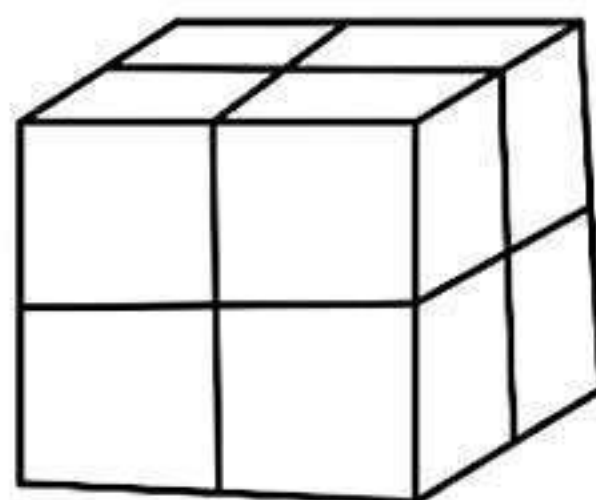
vector

$[x_1 \ x_2 \ x_3]$

matrix

$\begin{bmatrix} x_{1,1} & x_{1,2} \\ x_{2,1} & x_{2,2} \end{bmatrix}$

3-tensor



Dimensions

Mathematical Name

Description

0

scalar

magnitude only

1

vector

array

2

matrix

flat table, e.g., square

3

3-tensor

3D table, e.g., cube

$n$

$n$ -tensor

higher dimensional

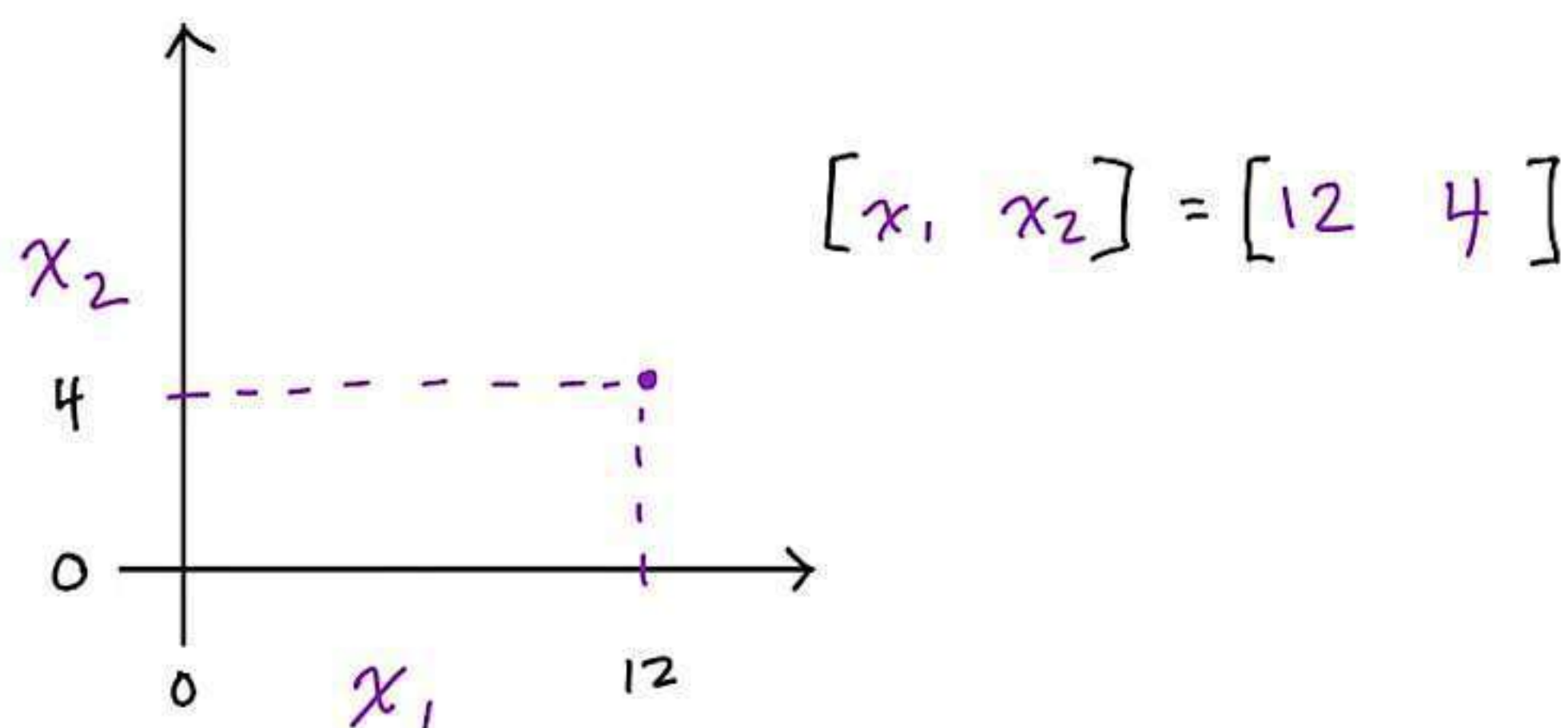
# Scalars

- No dimensions
- Single number
- Denoted in lowercase, italics, e.g.:  $x$
- Should be *typed*, like all other tensors: e.g., int, float32



# Vectors

- One-dimensional array of numbers
- Denoted in lowercase, italics, bold, e.g.:  $\mathbf{x}$
- Arranged in an order, so element can be accessed by its index
  - Elements are scalars so *not* bold, e.g., second element of  $\mathbf{x}$  is  $x_2$
- Representing a point in space:
  - Vector of length two represents location in 2D matrix (shown)
  - Length of three represents location in 3D cube
  - Length of  $n$  represents location in  $n$ -dimensional tensor



# Vector Transposition

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 \end{bmatrix}^T = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

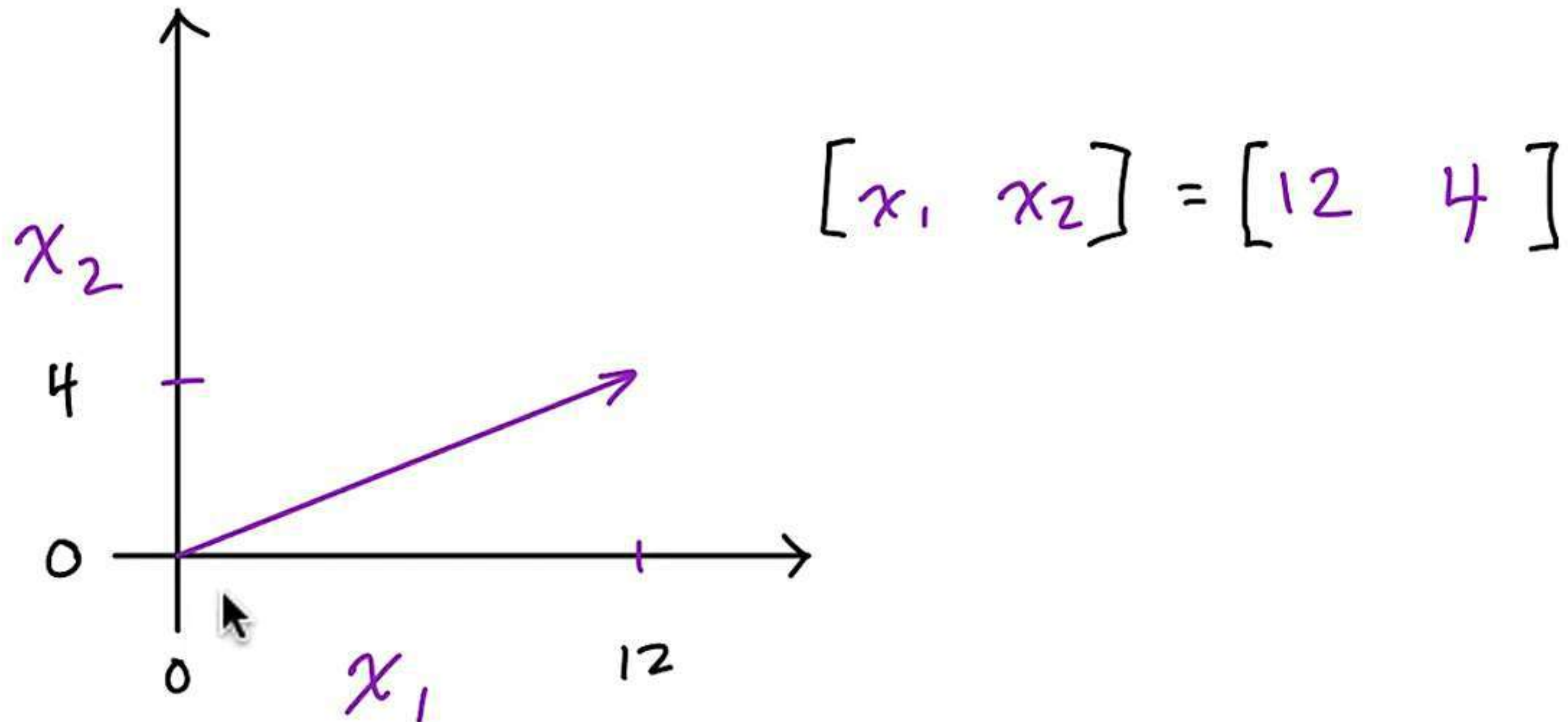
row vector                      column vector

shape is (1, 3)                      (3, 1)



# Norms

Vectors represent a magnitude and direction from origin:



**Norms** are functions that quantify vector magnitude.

# $L^2$ Norm

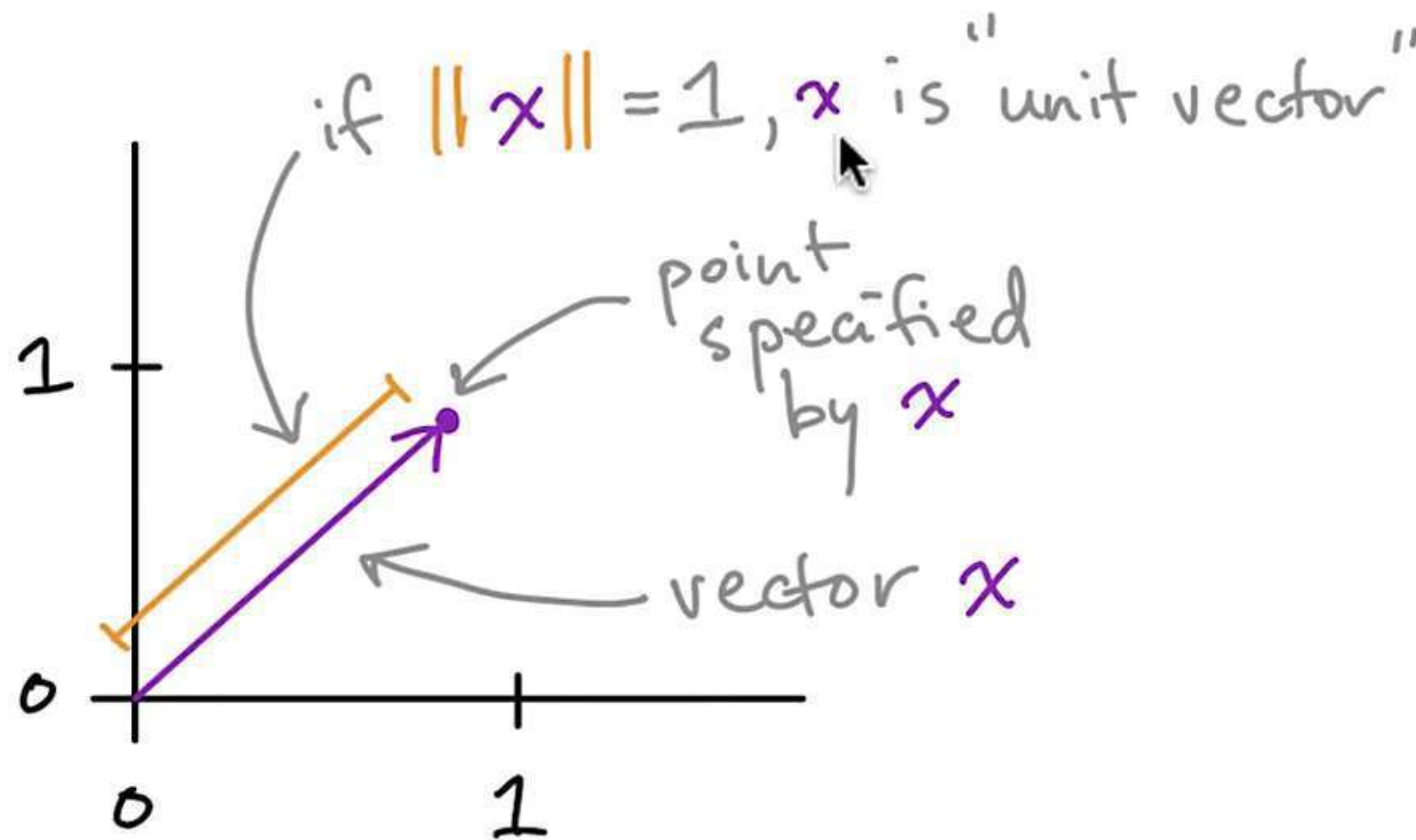
- Described by:

$$\|\mathbf{x}\|_2 = \sqrt{\sum_i x_i^2}$$

- Measures simple (Euclidean) distance from origin
- Most common norm in machine learning
  - Instead of  $\|\mathbf{x}\|_2$ , it can be denoted as  $\|\mathbf{x}\|$

# Unit Vectors

- Special case of vector where its length is equal to one
- Technically,  $\mathbf{x}$  is a unit vector with "unit norm", i.e.:  $||\mathbf{x}|| = 1$





# $L^1$ Norm

- Described by:

$$\|x\|_1 = \sum_i |x_i|$$

- Another common norm in ML
- Varies linearly at all locations whether near or far from origin
- Used whenever difference between zero and non-zero is key



# Squared $L^2$ Norm

- Described by:  $\| \mathbf{x} \|_2^2 = \sum_i x_i^2$
- Computationally cheaper to use than  $L^2$  norm because:
  - Squared  $L^2$  norm equals simply  $\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x}$
  - Derivative (used to train many ML algorithms) of element  $x$  requires that element alone, whereas  $L^2$  norm requires  $\mathbf{x}$  vector
- Downside is it grows slowly near origin so can't be used if distinguishing between zero and near-zero is important



# Max Norm (or $L^\infty$ Norm)

- Described by:

$$\|x\|_\infty = \max_i |x_i|$$

- Final norm we'll discuss; also occurs frequently in ML
- Returns the absolute value of the largest-magnitude element



# Generalized $L^p$ Norm

- Described by:

$$\|x\|_p = \left( \sum_i |x_i|^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$$

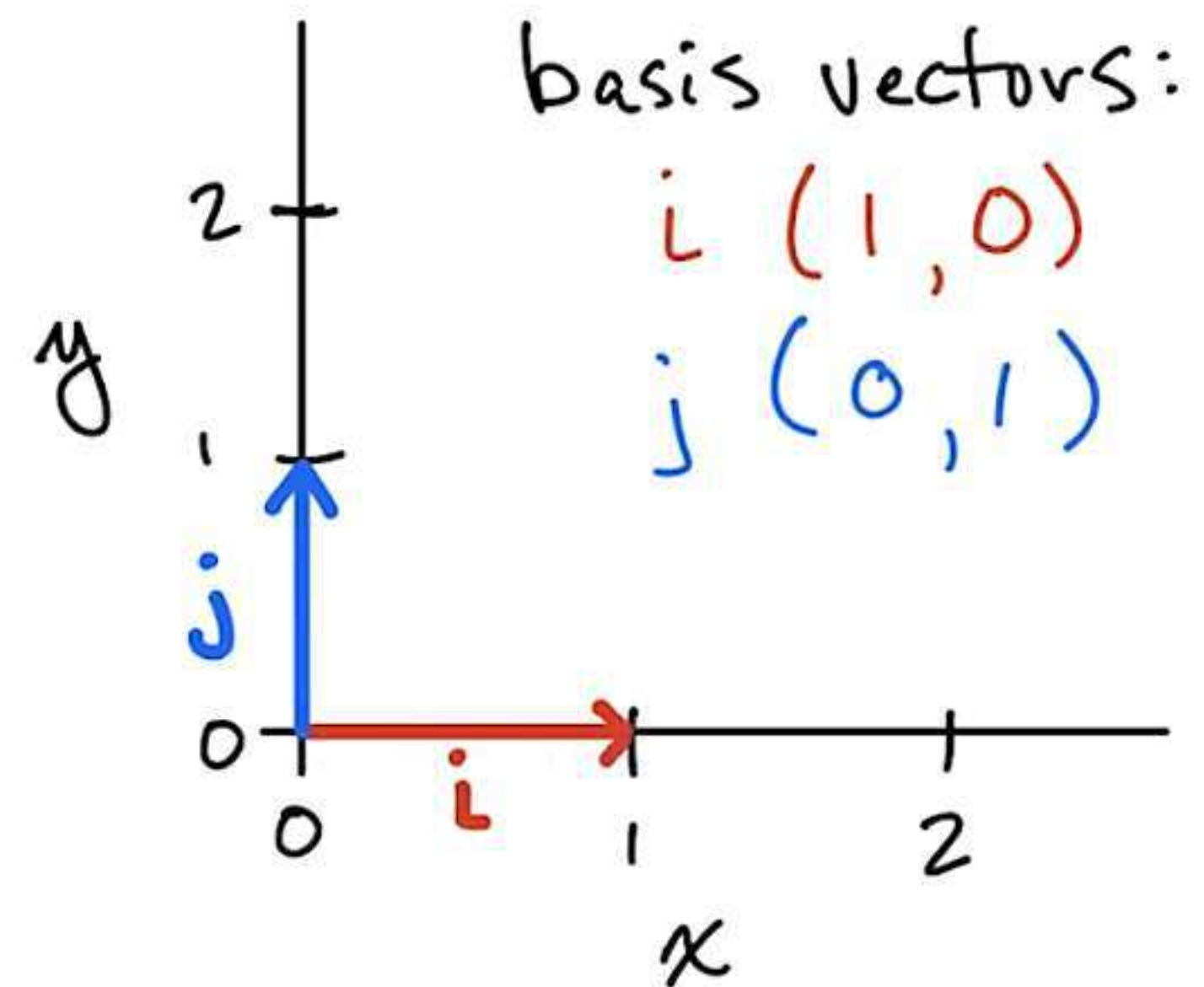
- $p$  must be:
  - A real number
  - Greater than or equal to one
- Can derive  $L^1$ ,  $L^2$ , and  $L^\infty$  norm formulae by substituting for  $p$
- Norms, particularly  $L^1$  and  $L^2$ , used to regularize objective functions



# Orthogonal Vectors

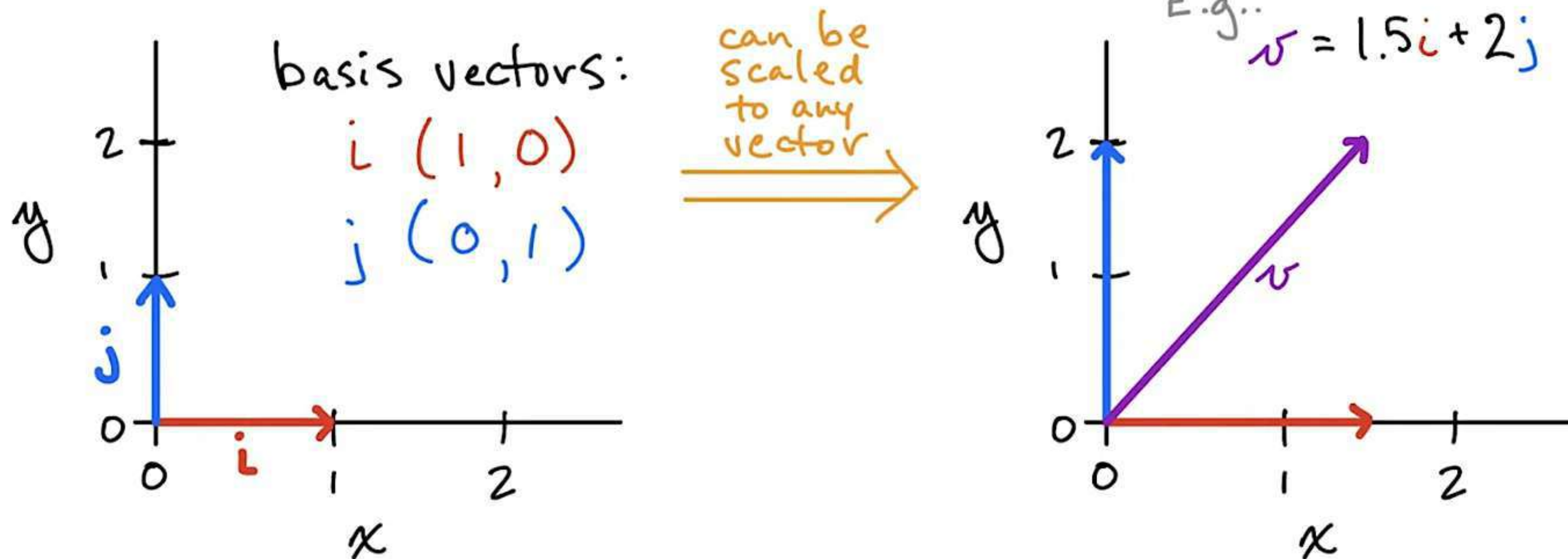
- $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$  are orthogonal vectors if  $\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{y} = 0$
- Are at  $90^\circ$  angle to each other (assuming non-zero norms)
- $n$ -dimensional space has max  $n$  mutually orthogonal vectors (again, assuming non-zero norms)
- **Orthonormal** vectors are orthogonal *and* all have unit norm
  - Basis vectors are an example

*Hands-on code demo*



# Basis Vectors

- Can be scaled to represent *any* vector in a given vector space
- Typically use unit vectors along axes of vector space (shown)





# Exercises

1. What is the transpose of this vector?

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 \\ 2 \\ -3 \\ -23 \end{bmatrix}$$

2. Using algebraic notation, what are the dimensions of this matrix  $Y$ ?

$$Y = \begin{bmatrix} 42 & 4 & 7 & 99 \\ -99 & -3 & 17 & 22 \end{bmatrix}$$

3. Using algebraic notation, what is the position of the element in this matrix  $Y$  with the value of 17?



# Generic Tensor Notation

- Upper-case, bold, italics, sans serif, e.g., ***X***
- In a 4-tensor ***X***, element at position  $(i, j, k, l)$  denoted as ***X*** <sub>$(i, j, k, l)$</sub>

# Segment 1: Data Structures for Algebra

- What Linear Algebra Is
- A Brief History of Algebra
- Tensors
- Scalars
- Vectors and Vector Transposition
- Norms and Unit Vectors
- Basis, Orthogonal, and Orthonormal Vectors
- Arrays in NumPy
- Matrices
- Tensors in TensorFlow and PyTorch



# ML Foundations Series

*Intro to Linear Algebra* is foundational for:

1. **Intro to Linear Algebra**
2. **Linear Algebra II: Matrix Operations**
3. Calculus I: Limits & Derivatives
4. Calculus II: Partial Derivatives & Integrals
5. Probability & Information Theory
6. Intro to Statistics
7. Algorithms & Data Structures
8. **Optimization**



# Intro to Linear Algebra

1. Data Structures for Algebra
2. **Common Tensor Operations**
3. Matrix Properties

# Segment 2: Tensor Operations

- Tensor Transposition
- Basic Tensor Arithmetic
- Reduction
- The Dot Product
- Solving Linear Systems



# Tensor Transposition

- Transpose of scalar is itself, e.g.:  $x^T = x$
- Transpose of vector, seen earlier, converts column to row (and vice versa)
- Scalar and vector transposition are special cases of **matrix transposition**:
  - Flip of axes over **main diagonal** such that:

$$(X^T)_{i,j} = X_{j,i}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_{1,1} & x_{1,2} \\ x_{2,1} & x_{2,2} \\ x_{3,1} & x_{3,2} \end{bmatrix}^T = \begin{bmatrix} x_{1,1} & x_{2,1} & x_{3,1} \\ x_{1,2} & x_{2,2} & x_{3,2} \end{bmatrix}$$



# Exercises

1. What is  $Y^T$ ?

$$Y = \begin{bmatrix} 42 & 4 & 7 & 99 \\ -99 & -3 & 17 & 22 \end{bmatrix}$$

2. What is the Hadamard product of these matrices?

$$\begin{bmatrix} 25 & 10 \\ -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \odot \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 7 \\ 10 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$$

3. What is the dot product of the tensors  $w$  and  $x$ ?

$$w = [-1 \quad 2 \quad -2]$$

$$x = [5 \quad 10 \quad 0]$$