

## Announcements: Sep 6

- Midterm 1 on Sep 21
- Quiz 2 Friday in recitation
- WeBWork 2.2 and 2.3 due Wednesday (tonite!)
- My office hours today 2:00-3:00 and Friday 9-10? in Skiles 234
- I hope you come to office hours
- TA Office Hours
  - ▶ Arjun Wed 3-4 Skiles 230
  - ▶ Talha Tue/Thu 11-12 Clough 248
  - ▶ Athreya Tue 3-4 Skiles 230
  - ▶ Olivia Thu 3-4 Skiles 230
  - ▶ James Fri 12-1 Skiles 230
  - ▶ Jesse Wed 9:30-10:30 Skiles 230
  - ▶ Vajraang Thu 9:30-10:30 Skiles 230
  - ▶ Hamed Thu 11:15-12, 1:45-2:45, 3-4:15 Clough 280
- Math Lab Monday - Thursday 11:15-5:15 Clough 280
- PLUS Sessions
  - ▶ Tue/Thu 6-7 Clough 280
  - ▶ Mon/Wed 7-8 Clough 123

## 2.3 Parametric Form

## Free Variables

Solve the system of linear equations in  $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4$ :

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 + 5x_3 &= 0 \\ x_4 &= 0\end{aligned}$$

So the associated matrix is:

$$\left( \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 0 & 5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

To solve, we move the free variable to the right:

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 &= -5x_3 \\ x_2 &= x_2 \quad (\text{free}) \\ x_3 &= x_3 \quad (\text{free}) \\ x_4 &= 0\end{aligned}$$

Or:  $(-5x_3, x_2, x_3, 0)$ . This is a plane in  $\mathbb{R}^4$ .

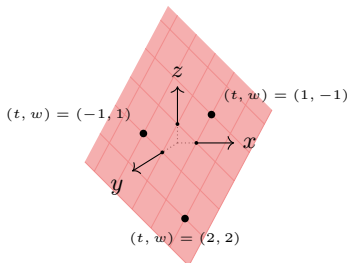
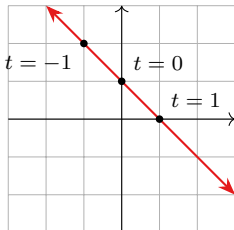
The original equations are the **implicit equations** for the solution. The answer to this question is the **parametric solution**.

# Free variables

## Geometry

If we have a consistent system of linear equations, with  $n$  variables and  $k$  free variables, then the set of solutions is a  $k$ -dimensional plane in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

Why does this make sense?



# Implicit versus parametric equations of planes

Find a parametric description of the plane

$$x + y + z = 1$$

The original version is the **implicit equation** for the plane. The answer to this problem is the **parametric description**.

## Summary

There are *three possibilities* for the reduced row echelon form of the augmented matrix of system of linear equations.

1. The last column is a pivot column.

↪ the system is *inconsistent*.

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right)$$

2. Every column except the last column is a pivot column.

↪ the system has a *unique solution*.

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & \star \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \star \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \star \end{array} \right)$$

3. The last column is not a pivot column, and some other column isn't either.

↪ the system has *infinitely many* solutions; free variables correspond to columns without pivots.

$$\left( \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & \star & 0 & \star & \star \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \star & \star \end{array} \right)$$

# Chapter 3

## System of Linear Equations: Geometry

# Section 3.1

## Vectors



# Outline

- Think of points in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  as vectors.
- Learn how to add vectors and multiply them by a scalar
- Understand the geometry of adding vectors and multiplying them by a scalar
- Understand linear combinations algebraically and geometrically

# Vectors

A **vector** is a matrix with one row or one column. We can think of a vector with  $n$  rows as:

- a point in  $\mathbb{R}^n$
- an arrow in  $\mathbb{R}^n$

To go from an arrow to a point in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , we subtract the tip of the arrow from the starting point. Note that there are many arrows representing the same vector.

Adding vectors / parallelogram rule [▶ Demo](#)

Scaling vectors [▶ Demo](#)

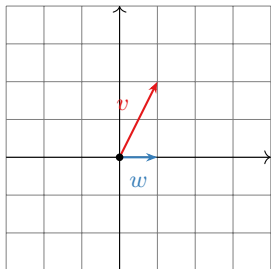
A **scalar** is just a real number. We use this term to indicate that we are scaling a vector by this number.

# Linear Combinations

A **linear combination** of the vectors  $v_1, \dots, v_k$  is any vector

$$c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 + \dots + c_k v_k$$

where  $c_1, \dots, c_k$  are real numbers.



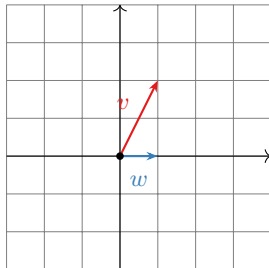
Let  $v = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $w = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ .

What are some linear combinations of  $v$  and  $w$ ?

Poll

Is there a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  that is not a linear combination of  $v$  and  $w$ ?

- true
- false



## Linear Combinations

What are some linear combinations of  $(1, 1)$ ?

What are some linear combinations of  $(1, 1)$  and  $(2, 2)$ ?

What are some linear combinations of  $(0, 0)$ ?

## Linear Combinations

Is  $\begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 16 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$  a linear combination of  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ?

Write down an equation in order to solve this problem. This is called a **vector equation**.

Notice that the vector equation can be rewritten as a system of linear equations. Solve it!

## Summary of Section 3.1

- A vector is a point/arrow in  $\mathbb{R}^n$
- We can add/scale vectors algebraically & geometrically (parallelogram rule)
- A linear combination of vectors  $v_1, \dots, v_k$  is a vector

$$c_1 v_1 + \dots + c_k v_k$$

where  $c_1, \dots, c_k$  are real numbers.

- Asking the question of whether a certain vector is a linear combination of certain other vectors gives us a vector equation.
- Vector equations are the same as linear systems.

# Section 3.2

## Vector Equations and Spans



## Outline of Section 3.2

- Learn the equivalences:

vector equations  $\leftrightarrow$  augmented matrices  $\leftrightarrow$  linear systems

- Learn the definition of **span**
- Learn the relationship between spans and consistency

## Linear combinations, vector equations, and linear systems

We just saw the following question:

Is  $\begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 16 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$  a linear combination of  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ?

And saw it was the same as a vector equation:

$$c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 16 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

which is the same as the system of linear equations:

$$c_1 - c_2 = 8$$

$$2c_1 - 2c_2 = 16$$

$$6c_1 + c_2 = 3$$

which we solve by row reducing, and we get  $(c_1, c_2) = (5, -3)$ .

## Linear combinations, vector equations, and linear systems

In general, asking if  $b$  is a linear combination of  $v_1, \dots, v_k$  is the same as solving the vector equation

$$c_1 v_1 + \cdots c_k v_k = b$$

which is the same as asking if the system of linear equations corresponding to the augmented matrix

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|ccc} | & | & & | & | \\ v_1 & v_2 & \cdots & v_k & b \\ | & | & & | & | \end{array} \right),$$

is consistent.

Compare with the previous slide! Make sure you are comfortable going back and forth between the specific case (last slide) and the general case (this slide).

## Span

Essential vocabulary word!

Span $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\} = \{c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 + \dots + c_k v_k \mid c_i \text{ in } \mathbb{R}\} \leftarrow$  (set builder notation)  
 = the set of all linear combinations of vectors  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k$   
 = plane through the origin and  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k$ .

Four ways of saying the same thing:

- $b$  is in  $\text{Span}\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$
- $b$  is a linear combination of  $v_1, \dots, v_k$
- the vector equation  $c_1v_1 + \dots + c_kv_k = b$  has a solution
- the system of linear equations corresponding to

$$\left( \begin{array}{c|c|c|c|c} | & | & & | & | \\ v_1 & v_2 & \cdots & v_k & b \\ | & | & & | & | \end{array} \right),$$

is consistent.

## Pictures for spans

What are the possibilities for the span of one vector in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ ?

What are the possibilities for the span of two vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ ?

▶ Demo

What are the possibilities for the span of one vector in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ?

What are the possibilities for the span of two vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ?

What are the possibilities for the span of three vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ?

▶ Demo

Conclusion: Spans are planes, and the dimension of the plane is **at most** the number of vectors you started with.

## Summary of Section 3.2

- Checking if a linear system is consistent is the same as asking if the column vector on the end of an augmented matrix is in the span of the other column vectors.
- Spans are planes, and the dimension of the plane is **at most** the number of vectors you started with.

## Application

Consider the production costs:

	Materials	Labor	Overhead
Widget	\$1	\$2	\$3
Gadget	\$4	\$5	\$6

**Q.** What are possible expenditures on materials, labor, and overhead?

**Q.** If we have a budget of \$11 for materials, \$16 for labor, and \$20 for overhead, can we spend our entire budget by making widgets and gadgets?