

Exercise 5:

Compute  $u + v + w$  and  $2u + 2v + w$ . How do you know  $u, v, w$  lie in a plane.

$$u = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

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

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

One should expect that three vectors must always express any  $R^3$  point as a linear combination, but in this example we can see, the linear combination of  $u + v + w$  "only" express a plane.

One hint is that summing all vector we have the zero vector. This means that the third vector does not increase the expressiveness of the linear combination.

This happen because the vector  $w$  can be written as a linear combination of  $u$  and  $v$ .

The following proof explains why  $w$  does not increase the expressiveness of  $u$  and  $v$ .

$$u + v + w = 0$$

$$u + v = -w$$

$$-u - v = w$$

$$A = au + bv + cw$$

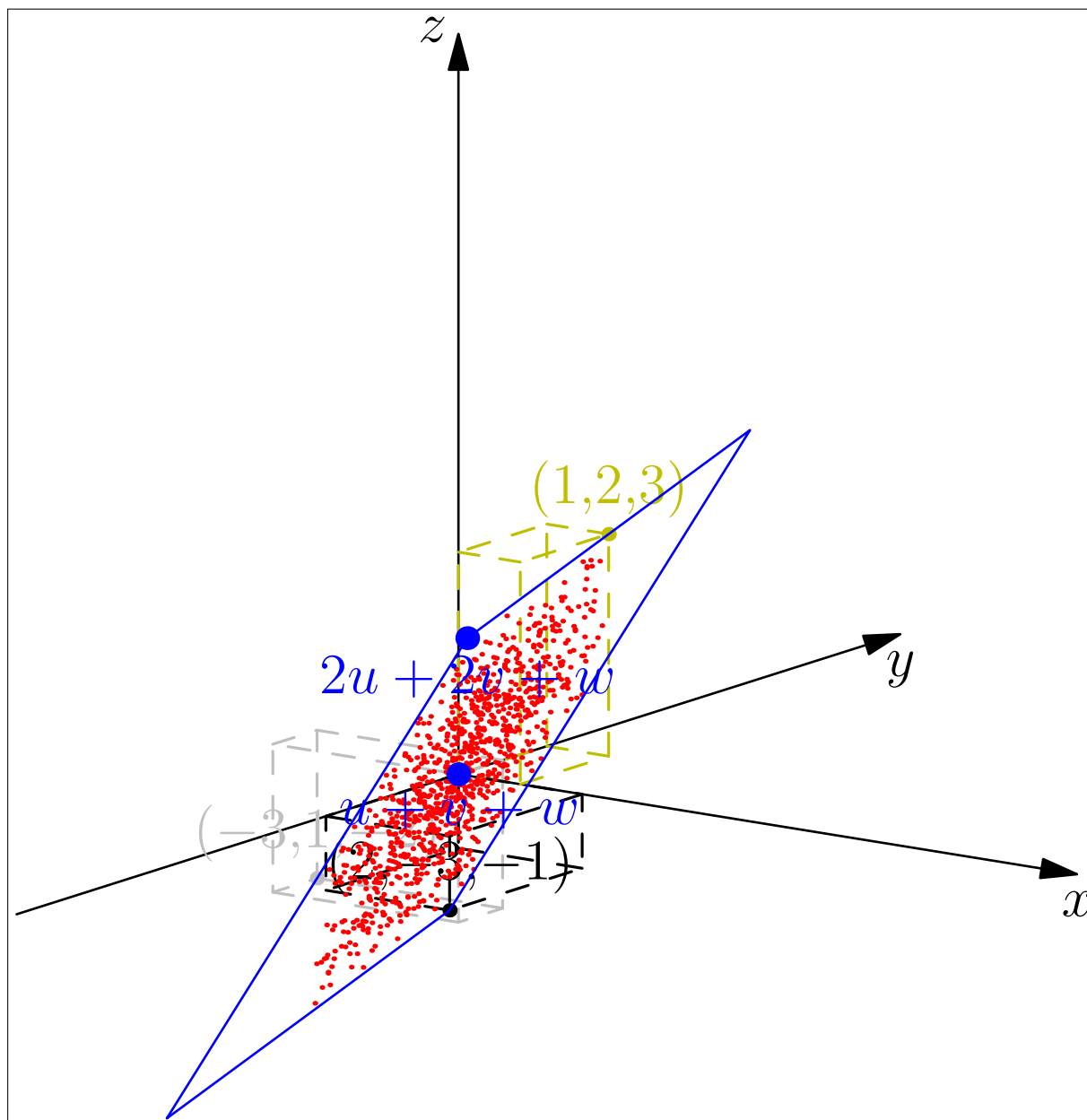
$$A = au + bv + c(-u - v)$$

$$A = au + bv - cu - cv$$

$$A = (a - c)u + (b - c)v$$

$$A = a_2u + b_2v$$

In this image, the blue plane represents all possible linear combinations of all three vectors. The red dots are random linear combinations.



In this image we see exactly how all random linear combinations fall in the plane.

