



**Course Name: Linear Algebra (MT 104)**

**Topic: Vector Equation (Exercise 1.3)**

**Instructor: Dr. Sara Aziz**

*saraazizpk@gmail.com*

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Practice Question

Discuss **Exercise 1.2**

## 1.3 Vector Equations

- Vector in  $\mathbf{R}^2$ 
  - Geometric Description of  $\mathbf{R}^2$
  - Parallelogram Rule
- Vectors in  $\mathbf{R}^n$
- Linear Combinations
  - Example: Linear Combinations of Vectors in  $\mathbf{R}^2$
- Vector Equation
- Span of a Set of Vectors: Definition
- Spanning Sets in  $\mathbf{R}^3$ 
  - Geometric Description of  $\text{Span}\{v\}$
  - Geometric Description of  $\text{Span}\{u, v\}$

## Recall: Vectors

### Key Concepts to Master

linear combinations of vectors and a spanning set.

### Vectors in $\mathbb{R}^n$

vectors with  $n$  entries:  $\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ \vdots \\ u_n \end{bmatrix}$ , a matrix with one column.

### Geometric Description of $\mathbb{R}^2$

Vector  $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$  is the point  $(x_1, x_2)$  in the plane.

$\mathbb{R}^2$  is the set of all points in the plane.

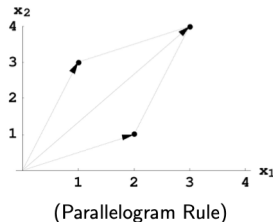
## Parallelogram Rule

### Parallelogram Rule for Addition of Two Vectors

If  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  in  $\mathbf{R}^2$  are represented as points in the plane, then  $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}$  corresponds to the fourth vertex of the parallelogram whose other vertices are  $\mathbf{0}$ ,  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$ . (Note that  $\mathbf{0} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .)

#### Example

Let  $\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .  
Graphs of  $\mathbf{u}$ ,  $\mathbf{v}$  and  $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}$  are:

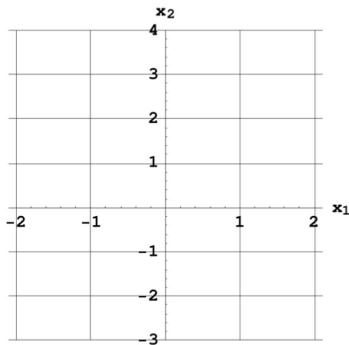


## Vectors in $\mathbb{R}^2$ : Example

### Example

Let  $\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Express  $\mathbf{u}$ ,  $2\mathbf{u}$ , and  $-\frac{3}{2}\mathbf{u}$  on a graph.



## Linear Combination of Vectors

### Linear Combinations of Vectors

Given vectors  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p$  in  $\mathbf{R}^n$  and given scalars  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_p$ , the vector  $\mathbf{y}$  defined by

$$\mathbf{y} = c_1\mathbf{v}_1 + c_2\mathbf{v}_2 + \dots + c_p\mathbf{v}_p$$

is called a **linear combination** of  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p$  using weights  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_p$ .

### Examples (Linear Combinations of $\mathbf{v}_1$ and $\mathbf{v}_2$ )

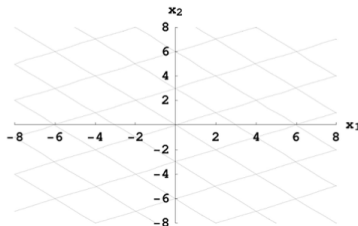
$$3\mathbf{v}_1 + 2\mathbf{v}_2, \quad \frac{1}{3}\mathbf{v}_1, \quad \mathbf{v}_1 - 2\mathbf{v}_2, \quad \mathbf{0}$$

## Linear Combination of Vectors: Example

### Example

Let  $\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ . Express each of the following as a linear combination of  $\mathbf{v}_1$  and  $\mathbf{v}_2$ :

$$\mathbf{a} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{c} = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{d} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}$$





## Linear Combination of Vectors: Example

### Example

Let  $\mathbf{a}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{a}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \\ 14 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{a}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 6 \\ 10 \end{bmatrix}$ , and  $\mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 8 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Determine if  $\mathbf{b}$  is a linear combination of  $\mathbf{a}_1$ ,  $\mathbf{a}_2$ , and  $\mathbf{a}_3$ .

**Solution:** Vector  $\mathbf{b}$  is a linear combination of  $\mathbf{a}_1$ ,  $\mathbf{a}_2$ , and  $\mathbf{a}_3$  if we can find weights  $x_1, x_2, x_3$  such that

$$x_1\mathbf{a}_1 + x_2\mathbf{a}_2 + x_3\mathbf{a}_3 = \mathbf{b}.$$

Vector Equation (fill-in):

$$x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \\ 14 \end{bmatrix} + x_3 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 6 \\ 10 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 8 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Linear Combination of Vectors: Example(cont.)

Corresponding System:

$$\begin{array}{rcrcrcrcrcrl} x_1 & + & 4x_2 & + & 3x_3 & = & -1 \\ & & 2x_2 & + & 6x_3 & = & 8 \\ 3x_1 & + & 14x_2 & + & 10x_3 & = & -5 \end{array}$$

Corresponding Augmented Matrix:

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 4 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & 6 & 8 \\ 3 & 14 & 10 & -5 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[ \begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right] \implies \begin{array}{l} x_1 = \text{---} \\ x_2 = \text{---} \\ x_3 = \text{---} \end{array}$$

## Linear Combination of Vectors: Example(Review)

**Review of the last example:**  $\mathbf{a}_1$ ,  $\mathbf{a}_2$ ,  $\mathbf{a}_3$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  are columns of the augmented matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & 6 & 8 \\ 3 & 14 & 10 & -5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow$   
 $\mathbf{a}_1 \quad \mathbf{a}_2 \quad \mathbf{a}_3 \quad \mathbf{b}$

Solution to

$$x_1\mathbf{a}_1 + x_2\mathbf{a}_2 + x_3\mathbf{a}_3 = \mathbf{b}$$

is found by solving the linear system whose augmented matrix is

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} \mathbf{a}_1 & \mathbf{a}_2 & \mathbf{a}_3 & \mathbf{b} \end{array} \right].$$

## Linear Combination & Vectors Equation

### Vector Equation

A vector equation

$$x_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + x_2 \mathbf{a}_2 + \cdots + x_n \mathbf{a}_n = \mathbf{b}$$

has the same solution set as the linear system whose augmented matrix is

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} \mathbf{a}_1 & \mathbf{a}_2 & \cdots & \mathbf{a}_n & \mathbf{b} \end{array} \right].$$

In particular,  $\mathbf{b}$  can be generated by a linear combination of  $\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n$  if and only if there is a solution to the linear system corresponding to the augmented matrix.

## Span of a Set of Vectors: Example

### Example

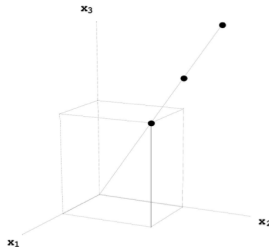
Let  $\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Label the origin  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

together with

$\mathbf{v}$ ,  $2\mathbf{v}$  and  $1.5\mathbf{v}$

on the graph.



$\mathbf{v}$ ,  $2\mathbf{v}$  and  $1.5\mathbf{v}$  all lie on the same line.

**$\text{Span}\{\mathbf{v}\}$**  is the set of all vectors of the form  $c\mathbf{v}$ .

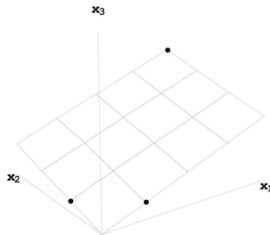
Here,  **$\text{Span}\{\mathbf{v}\}$**  = a line through the origin.

## Span of a Set of Vectors: Example (cont.)

### Example

Label

$\mathbf{u}$ ,  $\mathbf{v}$ ,  $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}$  and  $3\mathbf{u} + 4\mathbf{v}$   
on the graph.



$\mathbf{u}$ ,  $\mathbf{v}$ ,  $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}$  and  $3\mathbf{u} + 4\mathbf{v}$  all lie in the same plane.

**$\text{Span}\{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}\}$**  is the set of all vectors of the form  $x_1\mathbf{u} + x_2\mathbf{v}$ .  
Here,  **$\text{Span}\{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}\}$**  = a plane through the origin.

## Span of a Set of Vectors: Definition

### Span of a Set of Vectors

Suppose  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p$  are in  $\mathbf{R}^n$ ; then

**Span** $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$  = set of all linear combinations of  
 $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p$ .

### Span of a Set of Vectors (Stated another way)

**Span** $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$  is the collection of all vectors that can be written as

$$x_1\mathbf{v}_1 + x_2\mathbf{v}_2 + \cdots + x_p\mathbf{v}_p$$

where  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p$  are scalars.

## Span of a Set of Vectors: Example

### Example

Let  $\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ .

- (a) Find a vector in  $\mathbf{Span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\}$ .
- (b) Describe  $\mathbf{Span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\}$  geometrically.



## Spanning Sets in $\mathbb{R}^3$

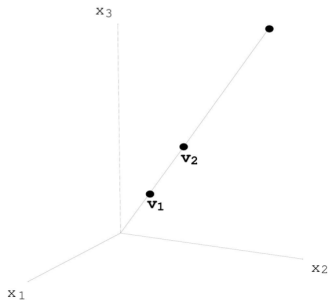
### Example

$\mathbf{v}_2$  is a multiple of  $\mathbf{v}_1$

$$\text{Span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\} = \text{Span}\{\mathbf{v}_1\}$$

$$= \text{Span}\{\mathbf{v}_2\}$$

(line through the origin)



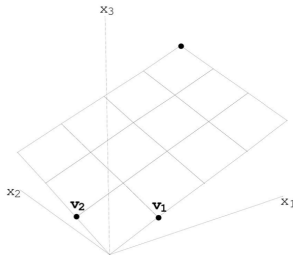
## Spanning Sets in $\mathbb{R}^3$ (cont.)

### Example

$$\text{Let } \mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{and } \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Is  $\text{Span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\}$  a line or a plane?



$\mathbf{v}_2$  is **not** a multiple of  $\mathbf{v}_1$   
 $\text{Span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\} = \text{plane through the origin}$

## Spanning Sets

### Example

Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ 3 \\ 17 \end{bmatrix}$ . Is  $\mathbf{b}$  in the plane spanned by the columns of  $A$ ?

**Solution:** ? Do  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  exist so that

$$x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ 3 \\ 17 \end{bmatrix}$$

Corresponding augmented matrix:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 8 \\ 3 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 5 & 17 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 8 \\ 0 & -5 & -21 \\ 0 & 5 & 17 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 8 \\ 0 & -5 & -21 \\ 0 & 0 & -4 \end{bmatrix}$$

So  $\mathbf{b}$  is not in the plane spanned by the columns of  $A$ .