

# Section 3.2

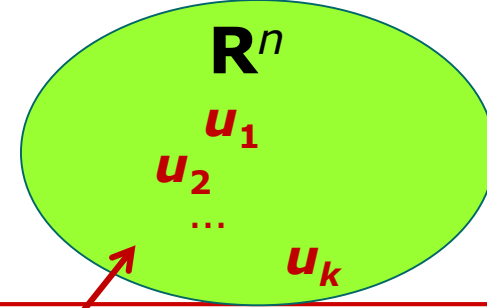
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## Linear Combinations and Linear Spans

### Objective

- What is a linear combination?
- How to express a vector as a linear combination?
- What is a linear span?

What is a linear combination?



## Definition 3.2.1

$\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k$  : a fixed set of vectors in  $\mathbf{R}^n$

$c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k$  : real numbers

$$c_1 \mathbf{u}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{u}_2 + \dots + c_k \mathbf{u}_k$$

is called a **linear combination** of  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k$ .

**Example**  $\mathbf{u}_1 = (2, 1, 0)$   $\mathbf{u}_2 = (-3, 0, 1)$

$$c_1 = 1, c_2 = 1$$

$$1(2, 1, 0) + 1(-3, 0, 1) = (-1, 1, 1)$$

a specific linear combination

$$c_1 = s, c_2 = t$$

$$s(2, 1, 0) + t(-3, 0, 1)$$

general linear combination  
with parameters  $s$  and  $t$

Can every vector be expressed as a linear combination of a given set of vectors?

### Example 3.2.2.1

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$\mathbf{u}_1 = (2, 1, 3)$ ,  $\mathbf{u}_2 = (1, -1, 2)$  and  $\mathbf{u}_3 = (3, 0, 5)$ .

(a)  $\mathbf{v} = (3, 3, 4)$

is a linear combination of  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3$ .

$(3, 3, 4)$  can be expressed as

$$a(2, 1, 3) + b(1, -1, 2) + c(3, 0, 5)$$

(b)  $\mathbf{w} = (1, 2, 4)$

is not a linear combination of  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3$ .

$(1, 2, 4)$  cannot be expressed as

$$a(2, 1, 3) + b(1, -1, 2) + c(3, 0, 5)$$

How to express a vector as a specific linear combination of a given set of vectors?

**Example 3.2.2.1(a)**  $\mathbf{u}_1 = (2, 1, 3)$   $\mathbf{u}_2 = (1, -1, 2)$   $\mathbf{u}_3 = (3, 0, 5)$

Write  $\mathbf{v} = a\mathbf{u}_1 + b\mathbf{u}_2 + c\mathbf{u}_3$

$$(3, 3, 4) = a(2, 1, 3) + b(1, -1, 2) + c(3, 0, 5)$$

Equating components

solve for  $a, b, c$

$$\begin{cases} 2a + b + 3c = 3 \\ a - b = 3 \\ 3a + 2b + 5c = 4 \end{cases}$$

1<sup>st</sup> component

2<sup>nd</sup> component

3<sup>rd</sup> component

So we obtain a linear system in variables  $a, b, c$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} = a \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + b \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + c \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

vector equation form of the linear system (P.43)

How to express a vector as a specific linear combination of a given set of vectors?

**Example 3.2.2.1(a)**  $\mathbf{u}_1 = (2, 1, 3)$   $\mathbf{u}_2 = (1, -1, 2)$   $\mathbf{u}_3 = (3, 0, 5)$

$$(3, 3, 4) = a(2, 1, 3) + b(1, -1, 2) + c(3, 0, 5)$$

can find specific values for  $a, b, c$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 3 & | & 3 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & | & 3 \\ 3 & 2 & 5 & | & 4 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[\text{Elimination}]{\text{Gaussian}} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 3 & | & 3 \\ 0 & -\frac{3}{2} & -\frac{3}{2} & | & \frac{3}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{system is consistent}$$

So  $(3, 3, 4)$  is a linear combination of  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3$ .

To write  $(3, 3, 4)$  as a specific linear combination:

general solution of LS :  $a = 2 - t, b = -1 - t, c = t$

Take  $t = 0$ :  $a = 2, b = -1, c = 0$

$$(3, 3, 4) = 2\mathbf{u}_1 - \mathbf{u}_2 + 0\mathbf{u}_3$$

Take  $t = 1$ :  $a = 1, b = -2, c = 1$

$$(3, 3, 4) = \mathbf{u}_1 - 2\mathbf{u}_2 + \mathbf{u}_3$$

How to show that a vector cannot be expressed as a linear combination of a given set of vectors?

**Example 3.2.2.1(b)**  $\mathbf{u}_1 = (2, 1, 3)$   $\mathbf{u}_2 = (1, -1, 2)$   $\mathbf{u}_3 = (3, 0, 5)$

Write  $\mathbf{w} = a\mathbf{u}_1 + b\mathbf{u}_2 + c\mathbf{u}_3$

$$(1, 2, 4) = a(2, 1, 3) + b(1, -1, 2) + c(3, 0, 5)$$

$$2a + b + 3c = 1$$

$$a - b = 2$$

$$3a + 2b + 5c = 4$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 2 & 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & 2 \\ 3 & 2 & 5 & 4 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{\text{Gaussian Elimination}} \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 2 & 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & -\frac{3}{2} & -\frac{3}{2} & \frac{3}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 \end{array} \right) \quad \text{system is inconsistent}$$

$(1, 2, 4)$  is **not** a linear combination of  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3$ .

How to express a general vector as a linear combination of a given set of vectors?

### Example 3.2.2.2

standard basis vectors

Directional vectors of the x-axis, y-axis, z-axis

Every vector in  $\mathbf{R}^3$  is a linear combination of the following vectors

$$\mathbf{e}_1 = (1, 0, 0), \quad \mathbf{e}_2 = (0, 1, 0), \quad \mathbf{e}_3 = (0, 0, 1)$$

Take a general 3-vector  $(x, y, z)$

$$\begin{aligned}(x, y, z) &= (x, 0, 0) + (0, y, 0) + (0, 0, z) \\ &= x(1, 0, 0) + y(0, 1, 0) + z(0, 0, 1) \\ &= x\mathbf{e}_1 + y\mathbf{e}_2 + z\mathbf{e}_3\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{e.g. } (1, 2, 5) = 1\mathbf{e}_1 + 2\mathbf{e}_2 + 5\mathbf{e}_3$$

# Span preview

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How many linear combinations of  $(2,1,0)$  and  $(-3,0,1)$  are there? **Infinite**

The set of all linear combinations of  $(2,1,0)$  and  $(-3,0,1)$

$$\{s(2, 1, 0) + t(-3, 0, 1) \mid s, t \in \mathbf{R}\}$$

using set notation

We call it: the **linear span** of  $(2,1,0)$  and  $(-3,0,1)$

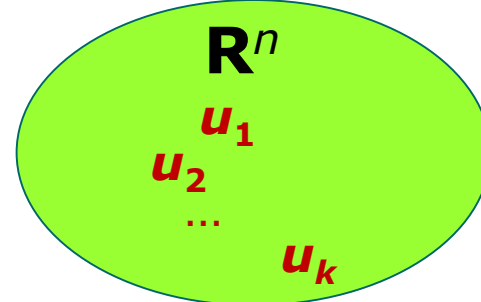
using words (in terms of linear span)

We write it: **span** $\{(2,1,0), (-3,0,1)\}$

using linear span notation



What is a linear span?



## Definition 3.2.3

$u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k$  :  $k$  (finite) vectors in  $\mathbf{R}^n$ .

The set of all linear combinations of  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k$

$$\{c_1 u_1 + c_2 u_2 + \dots + c_k u_k \mid c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k \text{ in } \mathbf{R}\}$$

=

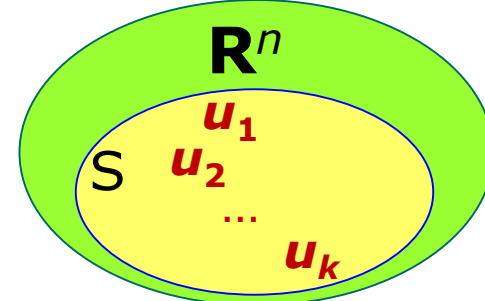
This set is called

the linear span of  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k$

“Linear span” is always used w.r.t. a set of vectors

This set is denoted by  $\text{span}\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k\}$

What is a linear span?



### Definition 3.2.3

$S = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k\}$  : a (finite) subset of  $\mathbf{R}^n$ .

The set of all linear combinations of  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k$

$$\{c_1 u_1 + c_2 u_2 + \dots + c_k u_k \mid c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k \text{ in } \mathbf{R}\}$$

$$= \text{span}\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k\} = \text{span}(S)$$

This set is called

the linear span of  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k$

the linear span of  $S$

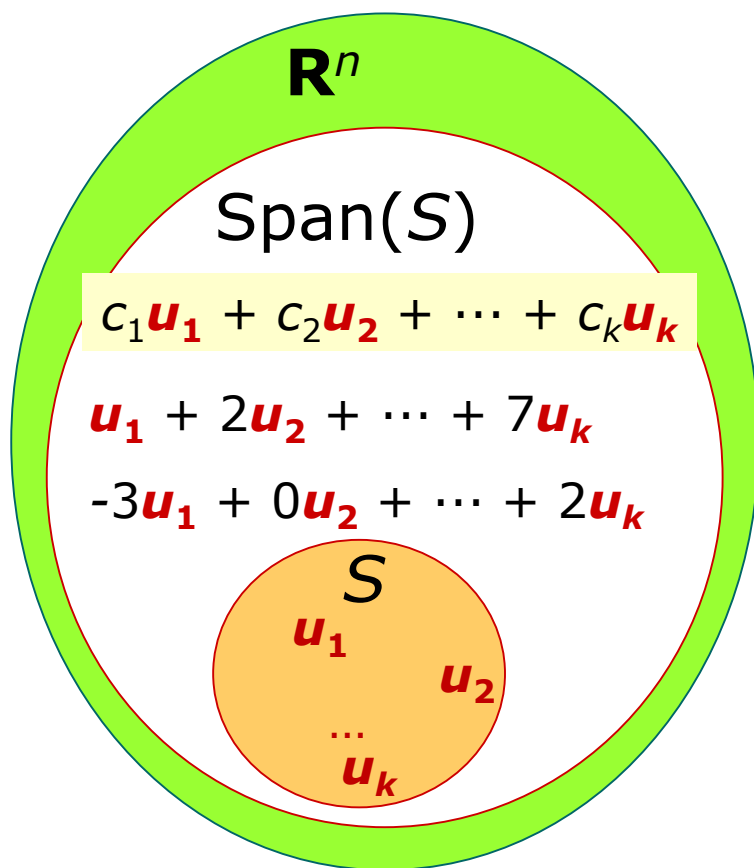
“Linear span” is always used w.r.t. a set of vectors

This set is denoted by

# What is a linear span?

## Definition 3.2.3

$S = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\}$  a finite collection of vectors in  $\mathbf{R}^n$



$$\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k \in \mathbf{R}^n$$

$$S \subseteq \mathbf{R}^n$$

$$\text{span}(S) \subseteq \mathbf{R}^n$$

$$S \subseteq \text{span}(S)$$

$\text{span}(S)$  can be equal to  $\mathbf{R}^n$   
but not always.

## Vectors belong to a linear span

### Example 3.2.4.1

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In Example 3.2.2.1,

$\mathbf{u}_1 = (2, 1, 3)$ ,  $\mathbf{u}_2 = (1, -1, 2)$  and  $\mathbf{u}_3 = (3, 0, 5)$ .

(a)  $\mathbf{v} = (3, 3, 4)$       (b)  $\mathbf{w} = (1, 2, 4)$

$\mathbf{v}$  is a linear combination of  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3$ .

$$\mathbf{v} \in \text{span}\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3\}$$

$\mathbf{w}$  is not a linear combination of  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3$ .

$$\mathbf{w} \notin \text{span}\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3\}$$

Express a linear span in explicit set notation form

### Example 3.2.4.2

$$S = \{(1, 0, 0, -1), (0, 1, 1, 0)\} \subseteq \mathbf{R}^4 \quad \boxed{\text{span}(S) \subseteq \mathbf{R}^4}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{span}(S) &= \text{span}\{(1, 0, 0, -1), (0, 1, 1, 0)\} \quad \text{linear span form} \\ &= \{a(1, 0, 0, -1) + b(0, 1, 1, 0) \mid a, b \in \mathbf{R}\} \\ &= \{(a, b, b, -a) \mid a, b \in \mathbf{R}\} \quad \text{explicit form} \end{aligned}$$

A general vector in  $\text{span}(S)$ :

$$a(1, 0, 0, -1) + b(0, 1, 1, 0) = (a, b, b, -a).$$

# Section 3.2

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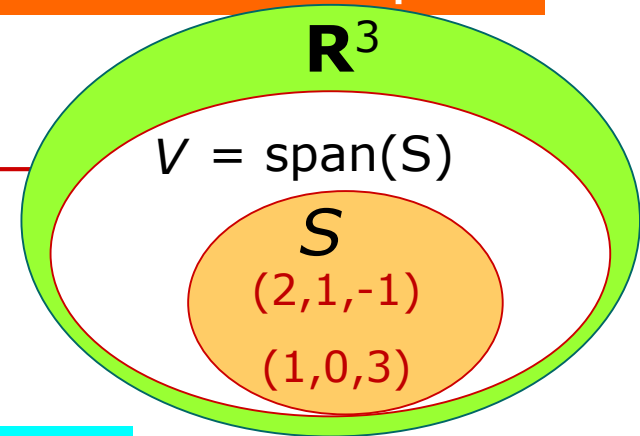
## Linear Combinations and Linear Spans

### Objective

- How to express a linear span in explicit set notation?
- How to express a set notation as a linear span?
- How to show a linear span is (is not) equal to  $\mathbf{R}^n$ ?
- How to show a linear span is contained in another?

Express an explicit set notation form as linear span

### Example 3.2.4.3



Let  $V = \{ (2a + b, a, 3b - a) \mid a, b \in \mathbf{R} \} \subseteq \mathbf{R}^3$ .

explicit form

Rewrite the general form:

$$(2a + b, a, 3b - a) = a(2, 1, -1) + b(1, 0, 3).$$

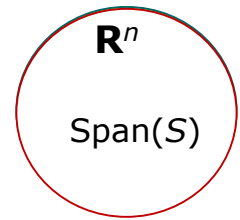
So  $V = \text{span}\{(2, 1, -1), (1, 0, 3)\}$ .

linear span  
form

The subset  $V$  is spanned by  $(2, 1, -1), (1, 0, 3)$

$(2, 1, -1), (1, 0, 3)$  spans the subset  $V$ .

# How to show a linear span equal to $\mathbf{R}^n$ ?



## Example 3.2.4.4

To show:  $\text{span}\{(1, 0, 1), (1, 1, 0), (0, 1, 1)\} = \mathbf{R}^3$

Same as showing:

every vector  $(x, y, z)$  in  $\mathbf{R}^3$  can be written as linear combination of the three vectors

Write  $(x, y, z) = a(1, 0, 1) + b(1, 1, 0) + c(0, 1, 1)$

Convert into linear system

$$\begin{cases} a + b & = x \\ & b + c = y \\ a & + c = z \end{cases}$$

$a, b, c$  are variables

$x, y, z$  are treated as constants.

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

To show:  
The system is consistent



## Example 3.2.4.4

$$(x, y, z) = a(1, 0, 1) + b(1, 1, 0) + c(0, 1, 1)$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & x \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & y \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & z \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow[\text{Elimination}]{\text{Gaussian}} \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & x \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & y \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & z - x + y \end{array} \right)$$

The system is **consistent** regardless of the values of  $x, y, z$ .

→ So we can always solve for  $a, b, c$  for any vector  $(x, y, z)$ .

Every  $(x, y, z)$  in  $\mathbf{R}^3$  is a linear combination of the three given vectors

$$\text{So } \text{span}\{(1, 0, 1), (1, 1, 0), (0, 1, 1)\} = \mathbf{R}^3$$

# How to show a linear span equal to $\mathbf{R}^n$ ?

## Example 3.2.4.4

Solve  $a, b, c$  in terms of  $x, y, z$

$$(x, y, z) = a(1, 0, 1) + b(1, 1, 0) + c(0, 1, 1)$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & x \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & y \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & z - x + y \end{array} \right) \longrightarrow \begin{cases} a + b = x \\ b + c = y \\ 2c = z - x + y \end{cases}$$

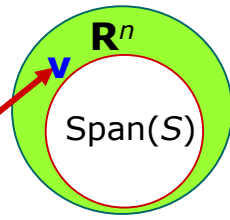
Solution:  $c = \frac{-x+y+z}{2}$   $b = \frac{x+y-z}{2}$   $a = \frac{x-y+z}{2}$

$$(x, y, z) = \left( \frac{x-y+z}{2} \right) (1, 0, 1) + \left( \frac{x+y-z}{2} \right) (1, 1, 0) + \left( \frac{-x+y+z}{2} \right) (0, 1, 1)$$

e.g.  $(1, 2, 5) = 2(1, 0, 1) + (-1)(1, 1, 0) + 3(0, 1, 1)$

Every  $(x, y, z)$  can be expressed as a linear combination of  $(1, 0, 1)$ ,  $(1, 1, 0)$  and  $(0, 1, 1)$  in **exactly** one way.

How to show a linear span not equal to  $\mathbf{R}^n$ ?



### Example 3.2.4.5

To show:  $\text{span}\{(1,1,1), (1,2,0), (2,1,3), (2,3,1)\} \neq \mathbf{R}^3$

$$(x, y, z) = a(1, 1, 1) + b(1, 2, 0) + c(2, 1, 3) + d(2, 3, 1)$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 1 & 2 & 2 & x \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & 3 & y \\ 1 & 0 & 3 & 1 & z \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{\text{G.E.}} \left( \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 1 & 2 & 2 & x \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 1 & y - x \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & y + z - 2x \end{array} \right)$$

The system is inconsistent when  $y + z - 2x \neq 0$ .

e.g.  $x = 1, y = 0, z = 0$

So  $(1, 0, 0) \notin \text{span}\{(1,1,1), (1,2,0), (2,1,3), (2,3,1)\}$

How to determine whether a linear span is equal to  $\mathbf{R}^n$  or not?

## Discussion 3.2.5

$$\text{span}\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\} = \mathbf{R}^n ?$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{u}_1 &= (a_{11}, a_{12}, \dots, a_{1n}), \\ \mathbf{u}_2 &= (a_{21}, a_{22}, \dots, a_{2n}), \\ &\vdots \\ \mathbf{u}_k &= (a_{k1}, a_{k2}, \dots, a_{kn}).\end{aligned}$$

Consider the linear system

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{21} & \dots & a_{k1} \\ a_{12} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{k2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{1n} & a_{2n} & \dots & a_{kn} \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{.E.}} \begin{pmatrix} * & * & \dots & * \\ 0 & * & \dots & * \\ \vdots & \ddots & * & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & * \end{pmatrix} \text{ REF}$$

**A** **R**

**R** has no zero row  
system is always consistent  
 $\text{span}\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\} = \mathbf{R}^n$

**R** has a zero row  
system may be inconsistent  
 $\text{span}\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\} \neq \mathbf{R}^n$

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A condition for a linear span to be not equal to  $\mathbf{R}^n$

## Theorem 3.2.7

Let  $S = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\}$  be a set of vectors in  $\mathbf{R}^n$ .

If  $k < n$ , then  $S$  cannot span  $\mathbf{R}^n$ .  $\text{span}(S) \neq \mathbf{R}^n$

More rows than columns

$$\left( \begin{array}{cccc|c} a_{11} & a_{21} & \cdots & a_{k1} & x \\ a_{12} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{k2} & y \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{1n} & a_{2n} & \cdots & a_{kn} & z \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{\text{R.E.}} \left( \begin{array}{cccc|c} * & * & \cdots & * & * \\ 0 & * & \cdots & * & * \\ \vdots & \ddots & * & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & & 0 & * \end{array} \right) \text{ REF}$$

**A** **R**

The REF  $\mathbf{R}$  of  $\mathbf{A}$  must have a zero row,  
so the system may be inconsistent,  
and  $\text{span}(S) \neq \mathbf{R}^n$ .

A condition for a linear span to be not equal to  $\mathbf{R}^n$

## Theorem 3.2.7

Let  $S = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\}$  be a set of vectors in  $\mathbf{R}^n$ .

If  $k < n$ , then  $S$  cannot span  $\mathbf{R}^n$ .  $\text{span}(S) \neq \mathbf{R}^n$

## Example 3.2.8

$$\text{span}\{\mathbf{u}\} \neq \mathbf{R}^2$$

$$\text{since } k = 1 < n = 2$$

$$\text{span}\{\mathbf{u}\} \neq \mathbf{R}^3$$

$$\text{since } k = 1 < n = 3$$

$$\text{span}\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2\} \neq \mathbf{R}^3$$

$$\text{since } k = 2 < n = 3$$

Every linear span contains the zero vector

## Theorem 3.2.9.1

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Let  $S = \{ \mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k \}$   $\leftarrow$  any set

The zero vector  $\mathbf{0} \in \text{span}(S)$ .

### Proof

$$c_1 \mathbf{u}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{u}_2 + \dots + c_k \mathbf{u}_k \in \text{span}(S)$$

for any  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k$  in  $\mathbf{R}$

In particular

$$0\mathbf{u}_1 + 0\mathbf{u}_2 + \dots + 0\mathbf{u}_k \in \text{span}(S)$$


$$\mathbf{0} \in \text{span}(S)$$

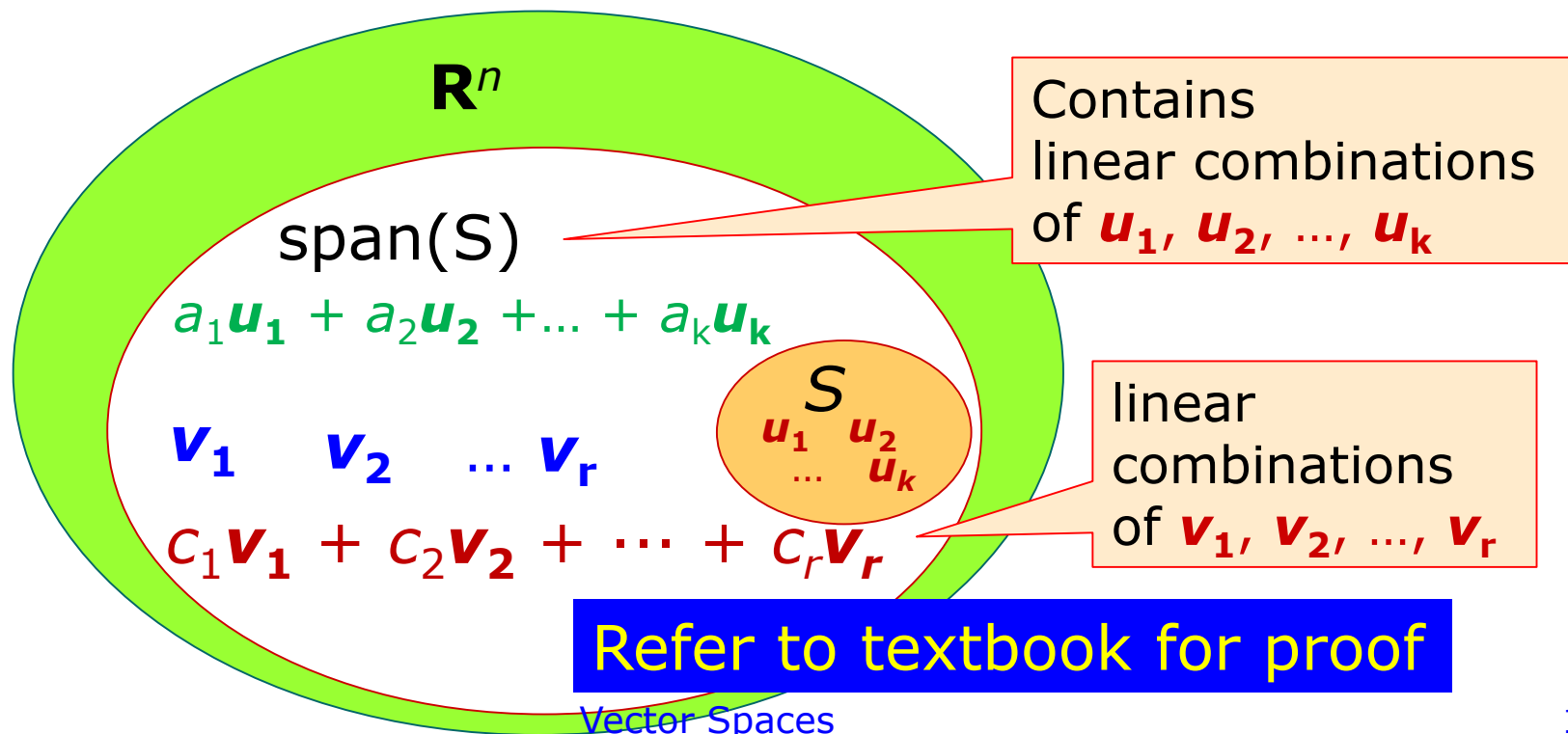
Any linear combination of vectors in a linear span is again a vector in the linear span.

## Theorem 3.2.9.2

Let  $S = \{ \mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k \} \subseteq \mathbf{R}^n$

If  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_r \in \text{span}(S)$  and  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_r \in \mathbf{R}$

then  $c_1\mathbf{v}_1 + c_2\mathbf{v}_2 + \dots + c_r\mathbf{v}_r \in \text{span}(S)$





Any linear combination of vectors in a linear span is again a vector in the linear span.

## Theorem 3.2.9.2

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Let  $S = \{ \mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k \} \subseteq \mathbf{R}^n$

If  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_r \in \text{span}(S)$  and  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_r \in \mathbf{R}$

then  $c_1\mathbf{v}_1 + c_2\mathbf{v}_2 + \dots + c_r\mathbf{v}_r \in \text{span}(S)$

Consequent of theorem

if  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v} \in \text{span}(S)$ , then  $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} \in \text{span}(S)$ .

Closure property under vector addition

if  $\mathbf{u} \in \text{span}(S)$  and  $c \in \mathbf{R}$ , then  $c\mathbf{u} \in \text{span}(S)$ .

Closure property under scalar multiplication

# Motivation

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## Example 3.2.11.1

$$\text{span} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1 = (1, 0, 1) \\ \mathbf{u}_2 = (1, 1, 2) \\ \mathbf{u}_3 = (-1, 2, 1) \end{bmatrix} \stackrel{?}{=} \text{span} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v}_1 = (1, 2, 3) \\ \mathbf{v}_2 = (2, -1, 1) \end{bmatrix}$$

How are the two linear spans related?

Given two sets  $A$  and  $B$ .

To show  $A = B$ : We check  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq A$ .

How to show  $\text{span}(S_1) \subseteq \text{span}(S_2)$ ?

### Example 3.2.11.1

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathbf{u}_1 = (1, 0, 1) & \mathbf{v}_1 = (1, 2, 3) \\ \mathbf{u}_2 = (1, 1, 2) & \mathbf{v}_2 = (2, -1, 1) \\ \mathbf{u}_3 = (-1, 2, 1) & \end{array}$$

Show  $\text{span}\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3\} \subseteq \text{span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\}$  :

Need to show: each  $\mathbf{u}_i$  can be written as  $a\mathbf{v}_1 + b\mathbf{v}_2$  for some real number  $a$  and  $b$

$$a\mathbf{v}_1 + b\mathbf{v}_2 = \mathbf{u}_1$$



$$\begin{cases} a + 2b = 1 \\ 2a - b = 0 \\ 3a + b = 1 \end{cases}$$

$$a\mathbf{v}_1 + b\mathbf{v}_2 = \mathbf{u}_2$$



$$\begin{cases} a + 2b = 1 \\ 2a - b = 1 \\ 3a + b = 2 \end{cases}$$

$$a\mathbf{v}_1 + b\mathbf{v}_2 = \mathbf{u}_3$$



$$\begin{cases} a + 2b = -1 \\ 2a - b = 2 \\ 3a + b = 1 \end{cases}$$

Need to show all three linear systems are consistent

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & -1 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right)$$

$\mathbf{v}_1 \quad \mathbf{v}_2 \quad \mathbf{u}_1$

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right)$$

$\mathbf{v}_1 \quad \mathbf{v}_2 \quad \mathbf{u}_2$

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & -1 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right)$$

$\mathbf{v}_1 \quad \mathbf{v}_2 \quad \mathbf{u}_3$

How to show  $\text{span}(S_1) \subseteq \text{span}(S_2)$ ?

### Example 3.2.11.1

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{u}_1 &= (1, 0, 1) & \mathbf{v}_1 &= (1, 2, 3) \\ \mathbf{u}_2 &= (1, 1, 2) & \mathbf{v}_2 &= (2, -1, 1) \\ \mathbf{u}_3 &= (-1, 2, 1) \end{aligned}$$

We can solve the three systems simultaneously:

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|cc|c} 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 2 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow[\text{Elimination}]{\text{Gauss-Jordan}} \left( \begin{array}{cc|c|c|c} 1 & 0 & \frac{1}{5} & \frac{3}{5} & \frac{3}{5} \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{2}{5} & \frac{1}{5} & -\frac{4}{5} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

All the three systems are consistent.

This shows each  $\mathbf{u}_i$  can be written as  $a\mathbf{v}_1 + b\mathbf{v}_2$  for some real number  $a$  and  $b$ ,

So  $\text{span}\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3\} \subseteq \text{span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\}$ . **Theorem 3.2.9.2**

By solve the three systems, we get:

$$\mathbf{u}_1 = \frac{1}{5}\mathbf{v}_1 + \frac{2}{5}\mathbf{v}_2 \quad \mathbf{u}_2 = \frac{3}{5}\mathbf{v}_1 + \frac{1}{5}\mathbf{v}_2 \quad \mathbf{u}_3 = \frac{3}{5}\mathbf{v}_1 - \frac{4}{5}\mathbf{v}_2$$

How to show  $\text{span}(S_1) \subseteq \text{span}(S_2)$ ?

## Theorem 3.2.10

Let  $S_1 = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\}$  and  $S_2 = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_m\}$  be subsets of  $\mathbf{R}^n$ .

Every linear combination of  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k$  belongs to  $\text{span}(S_2)$

Then

$$\text{span}(S_1) \subseteq \text{span}(S_2)$$

if and only if

each  $\mathbf{u}_i$  is a linear combination of  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_m$ .

Every  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k$  belongs to  $\text{span}(S_2)$

How to show  $\text{span}(S_1) = \text{span}(S_2)$ ?

## Example 3.2.11.1

span  $\begin{cases} \mathbf{u}_1 = (1, 0, 1) \\ \mathbf{u}_2 = (1, 1, 2) \\ \mathbf{u}_3 = (-1, 2, 1) \end{cases}$

to show



span  $\begin{cases} \mathbf{v}_1 = (1, 2, 3) \\ \mathbf{v}_2 = (2, -1, 1) \end{cases}$

Need to show

$$\text{span}\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3\} \subseteq \text{span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\}$$

Check consistencies

$$\text{span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\} \subseteq \text{span}\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3\}$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|cc|c} 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 2 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 \end{array} \right)$$

$\mathbf{v}_1$   $\mathbf{v}_2$   $\mathbf{u}_1$   $\mathbf{u}_2$   $\mathbf{u}_3$

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|cc} 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & 3 & 1 \end{array} \right)$$

$\mathbf{u}_1$   $\mathbf{u}_2$   $\mathbf{u}_3$   $\mathbf{v}_1$   $\mathbf{v}_2$

How to show  $\text{span}(S_1) \neq \text{span}(S_2)$ ?

## Example 3.2.11.2

$$\text{span} \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{u}_1 = (1, 1, 0, 2) \\ \mathbf{u}_2 = (1, 0, 0, 1) \\ \mathbf{u}_3 = (0, 1, 0, 1) \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{to show} \\ \subseteq \\ \neq \end{array} \quad \text{span} \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{v}_1 = (1, 1, 1, 1) \\ \mathbf{v}_2 = (-1, 1, -1, 1) \\ \mathbf{v}_3 = (-1, 1, 1, -1) \end{array}$$

$$\text{span}\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3\} \subseteq \text{span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3\}$$

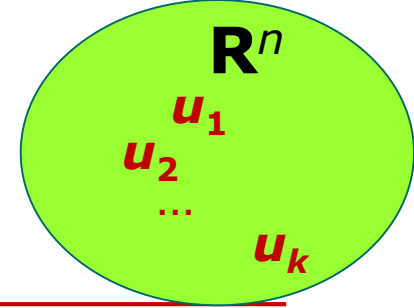
Show that the augmented matrix  
 $(\mathbf{v}_1 \ \mathbf{v}_2 \ \mathbf{v}_3 \mid \mathbf{u}_1 \mid \mathbf{u}_2 \mid \mathbf{u}_3)$  is consistent.

$$\text{span}\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3\} \neq \text{span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3\}$$

Show that  $\text{span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3\} \not\subseteq \text{span}\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3\}$

Show that the augmented matrix  
 $(\mathbf{u}_1 \ \mathbf{u}_2 \ \mathbf{u}_3 \mid \mathbf{v}_1 \mid \mathbf{v}_2 \mid \mathbf{v}_3)$  is inconsistent.

What is a redundant vector in  $\text{span}(S)$ ?



## Theorem 3.2.12

Suppose  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k$  are vectors taken from  $\mathbf{R}^n$ .

If  $u_k$  is a linear combination of  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{k-1}$ ,

then

$$u_k = d_1 u_1 + d_2 u_2 + \dots + d_{k-1} u_{k-1}$$

$$\text{span} \{ u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{k-1} \} = \text{span} \{ u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{k-1}, u_k \}$$

$$c_1 u_1 + c_2 u_2 + \dots + c_{k-1} u_{k-1} \longleftrightarrow c_1 u_1 + c_2 u_2 + \dots + c_{k-1} u_{k-1} + c_k u_k$$

We say  $u_k$  is a “redundant” vector in

$\text{span} \{ u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{k-1}, u_k \}$ . If  $u_k$  is a linear combination of  $(u_i \rightarrow u_{k-1})$

If  $u \in \text{span}(S)$ , then  $\text{span}(S) = \text{span}(S \cup u)$



# Geometrical meaning of linear span

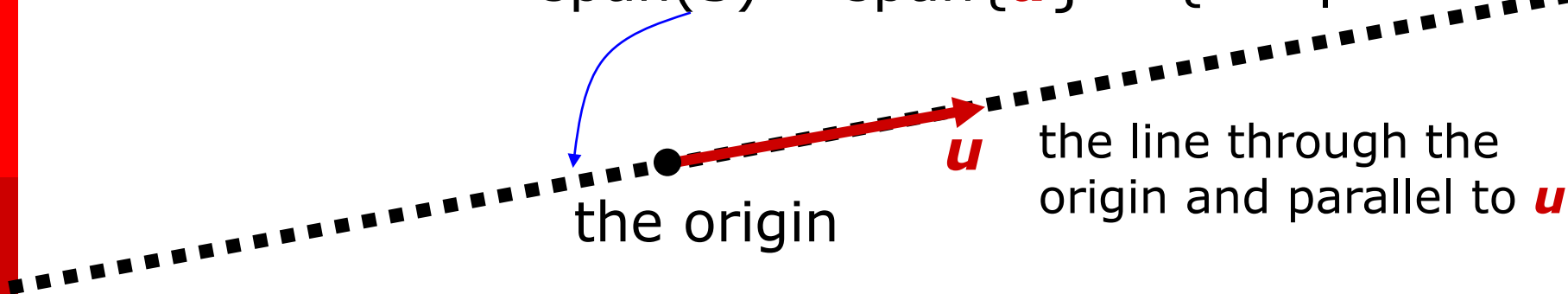
## Discussion 3.2.14.1

span = extend across (Oxford Dictionary)

In  $\mathbf{R}^2$  and  $\mathbf{R}^3$

$S = \{\mathbf{u}\}$  ( $\mathbf{u}$  is a non-zero vector)

$$\text{span}(S) = \text{span}\{\mathbf{u}\} = \{c\mathbf{u} \mid c \text{ in } \mathbf{R}\}$$



$\text{span}(S) = \text{span}\{\mathbf{u}\}$  represents a line through the origin

# Geometrical meaning of linear span

## Discussion 3.2.14.2

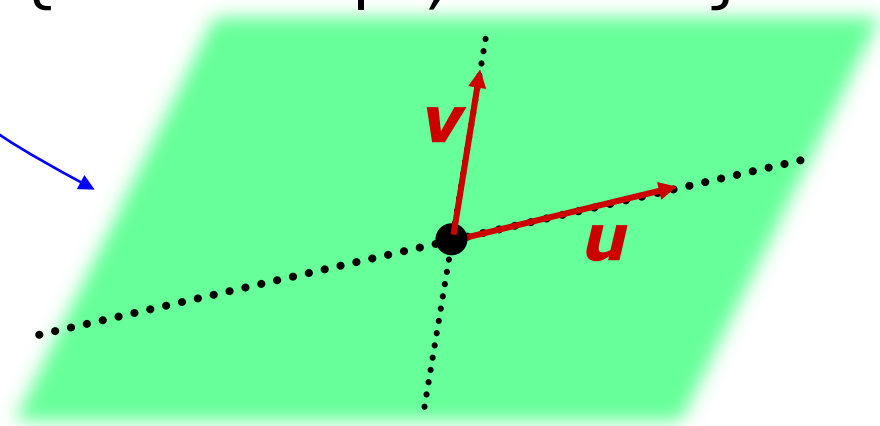
span = extend across (Oxford Dictionary)

In  $\mathbf{R}^2$  and  $\mathbf{R}^3$

$S = \{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}\}$  ( $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}$  are two non-parallel vectors)

$$\begin{aligned}\text{span}(S) &= \text{span}\{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}\} \\ &= \{s\mathbf{u} + t\mathbf{v} \mid s, t \in \mathbf{R}\}\end{aligned}$$

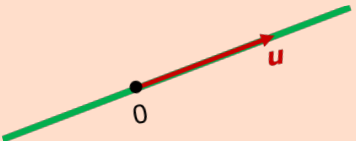
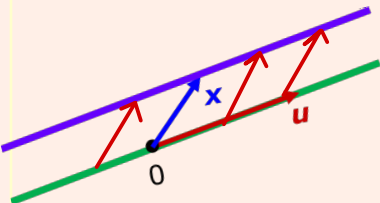
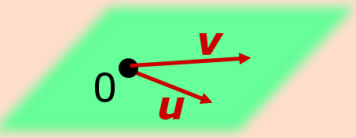
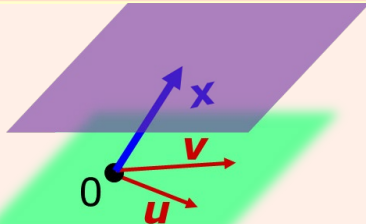
the plane containing  
the origin and parallel  
to  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$



$\text{span}(S) = \text{span}\{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}\}$  represents a plane through the origin




# Lines and planes in terms of linear span

## Discussion 3.2.15

Objects	Geometrical	Span	Set notation
Line through origin		$\text{span}\{\mathbf{u}\}$	$\{\mathbf{tu} \mid t \in \mathbf{R}\}$
Line not through origin		$\mathbf{x} + \text{span}\{\mathbf{u}\}$	$\{\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{tu} \mid t \in \mathbf{R}\}$ $\{\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{w} \mid \mathbf{w} \in \text{span}\{\mathbf{u}\}\}$
Plane through origin		$\text{span}\{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}\}$	$\{\mathbf{tu} + \mathbf{sv} \mid t, s \in \mathbf{R}\}$
Plane not through origin		$\mathbf{x} + \text{span}\{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}\}$	$\{\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{tu} + \mathbf{sv} \mid t, s \in \mathbf{R}\}$ $\{\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{w} \mid \mathbf{w} \in \text{span}\{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}\}\}$

# Fill in the blanks

a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  , a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  , a line in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  , a plane in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  ,  
the entire  $\mathbb{R}^3$  space

1. A linear combination of two vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  is a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .
2. A linear combination of three vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  is a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .
3. A linear span of one vector in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  is a line in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .  

4. A linear span of two vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  is a plane in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .  
  
  

Condition for the statement to be true

3 vectors lie on the same plane
5. A linear span of three vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  is the entire  $\mathbb{R}^3$  space.

# Section 3.3

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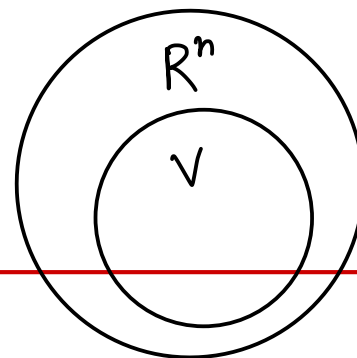
## Subspaces

### Objective

- What is a **subspace**?
- How to show that a subset of  $\mathbf{R}^n$  is a subspace?
- What are some subspaces of  $\mathbf{R}^n$ ?
- What is a **solution space** of a LS?

What is a subspace of  $\mathbf{R}^n$ ?

## Definition 3.3.2



Let  $V$  be a subset of  $\mathbf{R}^n$

no condition

$V$  is called a subspace of  $\mathbf{R}^n$  provided ...

condition applies

there is a set  $S = \{ \mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k \}$  of  $\mathbf{R}^n$  such that  $V = \text{span}(S)$

condition of subspace

i.e.  $V$  can be expressed in linear span form.

$$\text{span} \{ \mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3 \}$$

Every subspace of  $\mathbf{R}^n$  is a subset of  $\mathbf{R}^n$ .

Not every subset of  $\mathbf{R}^n$  is a subspace of  $\mathbf{R}^n$ .

$\{\mathbf{0}\}$  and  $\mathbf{R}^n$  are subspaces of  $\mathbf{R}^n$

### Remark 3.3.3

condition of  
subspace  $V = \text{span}(S)$

1.  $\{\mathbf{0}\}$  is a subspace of  $\mathbf{R}^n$ . zero space

Take  $S = \{\mathbf{0}\}$

$$\{\mathbf{0}\} = \text{span}\{\mathbf{0}\}$$

2.  $\mathbf{R}^3$  is a subspace of  $\mathbf{R}^3$ .

Take  $S$  to be standard basis vectors for  $\mathbf{R}^3$

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = (1, 0, 0), \mathbf{v}_2 = (0, 1, 0), \mathbf{v}_3 = (0, 0, 1)$$

$$\mathbf{R}^3 = \text{span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3\}$$

Refer to Example 3.2.2

$\mathbf{R}^n$  is a subspace of  $\mathbf{R}^n$ .

Take  $S$  to be standard basis vectors for  $\mathbf{R}^n$

$$\mathbf{e}_1 = (1, 0, \dots, 0), \mathbf{e}_2 = (0, 1, \dots, 0), \dots, \mathbf{e}_n = (0, \dots, 0, 1)$$

$$\mathbf{R}^n = \text{span}\{\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \dots, \mathbf{e}_n\}$$

# How to show that a given subset is a subspace?

## Example 3.3.4.1

→  $V_1 = \{ (a+4b, a) \mid a, b \in \mathbf{R} \}$  explicit form

$$(a + 4b, a) = (a, a) + (4b, 0)$$

$$= a(1, 1) + b(4, 0) \text{ general linear combination}$$

$V_1$  is the set of all linear combinations of  $(1, 1)$  and  $(4, 0)$

→  $V_1 = \text{span}\{(1, 1), (4, 0)\}$  linear span form

$V_1$  is a subspace of  $\mathbf{R}^2$

In fact  $V_1 = \mathbf{R}^2$  span of 2 vectors is a plane  $= \mathbf{R}^2$



# How to show that a given subset is a subspace?

## Example 3.3.4.2

→  $V_2 = \{ (x, y, z) \mid x + y - z = 0 \}$  implicit form

$$V_2 = \{ (t - s, s, t) \mid s, t \in \mathbf{R} \} \quad \text{explicit form}$$

$$(t - s, s, t) = (t, 0, t) + (-s, s, 0)$$

$$= t(1, 0, 1) + s(-1, 1, 0)$$

general linear combination

$V_2$  is the set of all linear combinations of  $(1, 0, 1)$  and  $(-1, 1, 0)$

→  $V_2 = \text{span}\{(1, 0, 1), (-1, 1, 0)\}$  linear span form

$V_2$  is a subspace of  $\mathbf{R}^3$

In fact  $V_2$  is a plane in  $\mathbf{R}^3$ .

## How to show a given subset is not a subspace?

### Example 3.3.4.3

$V_3 = \{ (1, a) \mid a \text{ in } \mathbf{R} \}$  subset of  $\mathbf{R}^2$

$$(1, a) = (1, 0) + (0, a) \overset{\text{need a parameter}}{=} (1, 0) + a(0, 1)$$

linear Combi but not a general linear combination

$V_3$  is not a linear span of “any” set of vectors

“So”  $V_3$  is not a subspace of  $\mathbf{R}^2$

There is an easier way: Use theorem 3.2.9.1

$$(0, 0) \notin V_3 = \{ (1, a) \mid a \text{ in } \mathbf{R} \}$$

$\Rightarrow$  not a subspace of  $\mathbf{R}^2$

If a subset of  $\mathbf{R}^n$  does not contain the zero vector  $\mathbf{0}$ , then it is not a linear span.

How to show a given subset is not a subspace?

### Example 3.3.4.4

$V_4 = \{ (x, y, z) \mid x^2 \leq y^2 \leq z^2 \}$  subset of  $\mathbf{R}^3$

e.g.  $(1, 1, 2), (1, 1, -2), (0, 0, 0) \in V_4$

**Note:** Having zero vector in a set  $V$   
does not guarantee  $V$  is a subspace

Take two vectors in  $V$ ,  
show that the sum is not in  $V$ .

Use theorem 3.2.9.2

$(1, 1, 2) + (1, 1, -2) = (2, 2, 0) \notin V_4$  Not a linear span

Violate the closure property of linear span  
(theorem 3.2.9.2)

So  $V_4$  is not a subspace of  $\mathbf{R}^3$

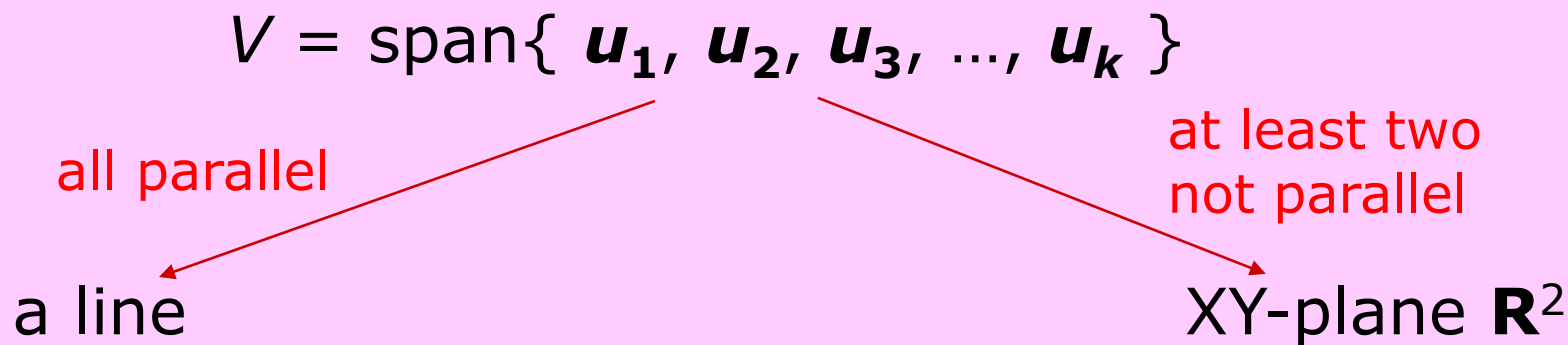
## Geometrical interpretation of subspaces of $\mathbf{R}^2$

### Remark 3.3.5.1

The following are **all the subspaces** of  $\mathbf{R}^2$ :

- a.  $\{\mathbf{0}\}$  spanned by zero vector  $\mathbf{0}$
- b. any line that passes through the origin  
spanned by one **non-zero** vector  $\mathbf{u}$
- c.  $\mathbf{R}^2$  spanned by two **non-parallel** vectors  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}$

Why are there **no other** subspaces of  $\mathbf{R}^2$ ?



## Geometrical interpretation of subspaces of $\mathbf{R}^3$

### Remark 3.3.5.2

The following are **all the subspaces** of  $\mathbf{R}^3$ :

- a.  $\{\mathbf{0}\}$  spanned by zero vector  $\mathbf{0}$
- b. any line through the origin spanned by one **non-zero** vector  $\mathbf{u}$
- c. any plane containing the origin
- d.  $\mathbf{R}^3$ 
  - spanned by two **non-parallel** vectors  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}$
  - spanned by three vectors  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w}$  not lying on a plane

## What is a solution space?

Closure properties  
under vector addition  
and scalar multiplication

### Theorem 3.3.6

$$\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{0}$$

The solution set of a homogeneous linear system in  $n$  variables is a subspace of  $\mathbf{R}^n$ .

The solution set of every homogeneous LS can be written as a linear span

We call it the solution space of the system.

The solution set of non-homogeneous LS is not a subspace of  $\mathbf{R}^n$ .

## Example 3.3.7

Homogeneous system

$$\begin{cases} x - 2y + 3z = 0 \\ 2x - 4y + 6z = 0 \\ 3x - 6y + 9z = 0 \end{cases}$$

general solution

$$\begin{cases} x = 2s - 3t \\ y = s \\ z = t \end{cases}$$

subspace of  $\mathbf{R}^3$

linear span form

$$\text{span}\{(2, 1, 0), (-3, 0, 1)\} = \{(2s - 3t, s, t) \mid s, t \text{ in } \mathbf{R}\}$$

solution set

$$s(2, 1, 0) + t(-3, 0, 1)$$

general linear combination

## Closure property of subspaces

### Remark 3.3.8

Let  $V$  be a non-empty subset of  $\mathbf{R}^n$ .

Then

$V$  is a subspace of  $\mathbf{R}^n$

if and only if

for all  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in V$  and  $c, d \in \mathbf{R}$ ,  $c\mathbf{u} + d\mathbf{v} \in V$ .

closure properties under addition & scalar multiplication

This is the actual definition of subspaces in **abstract linear algebra**.

To show a subset  $V$  is a subspace,

- (i) check that it contains the zero vector;
- (ii) take two general vectors  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}$  in  $V$  and  $c, d \in \mathbf{R}$ , show that  $c\mathbf{u} + d\mathbf{v} \in V$ .



# To show subspace (or not)

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To show a subset  $S$  of  $\mathbf{R}^n$  is a subspace:

- Express  $S$  as a linear span
- Show that  $S$  is the solution set of a homogeneous system
- (For  $\mathbf{R}^2$  and  $\mathbf{R}^3$ ) show that  $S$  represents a line or plane through origin.

To show a subset  $S$  of  $\mathbf{R}^n$  is not a subspace:

- Show that the zero vector is not in  $S$
- Find  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in S$  such that  $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} \notin S$
- Find  $\mathbf{v} \in S$  and a scalar  $c$  such that  $c\mathbf{v} \notin S$
- (For  $\mathbf{R}^2$  and  $\mathbf{R}^3$ ) show that  $S$  is not a line or plane through origin.