

Linear Combinations

Let $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3, \dots, \vec{v}_k$ be vectors.

A vector of the form

$$s_1 \vec{v}_1 + s_2 \vec{v}_2 + s_3 \vec{v}_3 + \dots + s_k \vec{v}_k$$

where s_i are scalars, is called a linear combination of $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_k$

Eg. $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ is a linear combination of \vec{v}_1 and \vec{v}_2

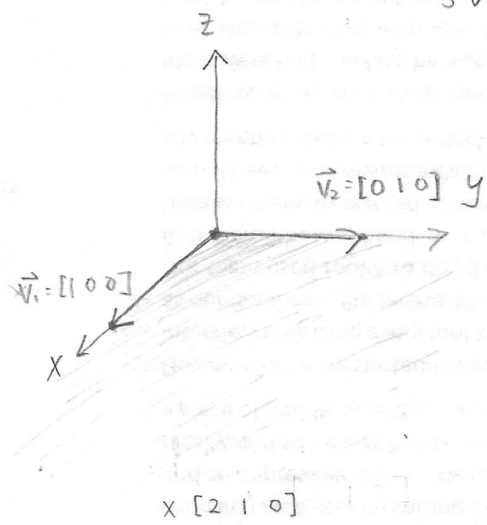
$$\vec{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = 2\vec{v}_1 + 3\vec{v}_2$$

Eg. $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = 2\vec{v}_1 + (1)\vec{v}_2 =$ a linear combination of \vec{v}_1 and \vec{v}_2

Non-Eg. $\vec{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = 0\vec{v}_1 + 0\vec{v}_2 + \dots \vec{v}_3$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ is not a linear combination of } \vec{v}_1 \text{ and } \vec{v}_2$$

$$s\vec{v}_1 + t\vec{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} s \\ t \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



Eg. $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $\vec{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Suppose $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

vv. (210) Find the point of intersection between

$$\begin{aligned}L_1 \quad x &= -t \\ y &= 12 + 2t \\ z &= 11 + 3t\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}L_2 \quad x &= 7 + 2s \\ y &= 2 - 2s \\ z &= 10 + 4s\end{aligned}$$

Note that in \mathbb{R}^3 , 2 lines in general do not intersect, but these have been carefully chosen so they do.

$$\begin{aligned}-t &= 7 + 2s \\ 12 + 2t &= 2 - 2s \\ 11 + 3t &= 10 + 4s\end{aligned}$$

$$2s + t = -7 \quad \Rightarrow \quad t = -7 - 2s \quad t = -7 - 2(-2) = -3$$

$$2t + 2s = -10 \quad \Rightarrow \quad 2(-7 - 2s) + 2s = -10$$

$$3t - 4s = -1 \quad \begin{array}{l} -2s = 4 \\ s = -2 \end{array}$$

$$\Rightarrow 3(-3) - 4(-2) = -1 \quad \checkmark$$

$$(s, t) = (-2, -3) \quad [3, 6, 2]$$

Find the point where the line $x = -3 + 2t$

$$y = 4 + 2t$$

$$z = -3 + 3t$$

intersects the plane $-x + 2y + z = 2$

$$-(-3 + 2t) + 2(4 + 2t) + (-3 + 3t) = 2$$

$$3 - 2t + 8 + 4t - 3 + 3t = 2$$

$$5t = -6$$

$$t = -6/5$$

$$x = -3 + 2(-6/5)$$

$$= -3 - 12/5$$

$$= -5.4$$

$$y = 4 + 2(-6/5)$$

$$= 1.6$$

$$z = -3 + 3(-6/5)$$

$$= -3 - 18/5$$

$$= -6.6$$

$$[-5.4, 1.6, -6.6]$$

Span

$$\text{span} \{ v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k \}$$

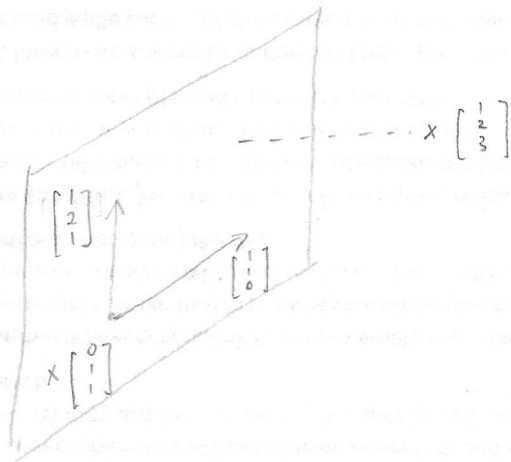
= the set of all linear combinations of v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k

From previous page's example,

$\text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is the plane P

$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ is in the span $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ is not.



Rmk

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = s \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + s \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Are $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$, $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ linear combinations of $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$?

• Suppose that $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = s \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} s + t \\ s + 2t \\ t \end{cases} \begin{matrix} \textcircled{A} \\ \textcircled{B} \\ \textcircled{C} \end{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Put } \textcircled{C} \text{ into } \textcircled{A}; \quad s + (1) = 0 \quad t = 1 \\ s = -1 \quad s = -1$$

$$\text{Put } \textcircled{C} \text{ and } s \text{ into } \textcircled{B}: \quad (-1) + 2(1) = 1$$

$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = (-1) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + (1) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$, so it is a linear combination of the two.

• Suppose that $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = s \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$$s + t = 1 \quad \textcircled{A}$$

$$s + 2t = 2 \quad \textcircled{B}$$

$$t = 3 \quad \textcircled{C}$$

$$\textcircled{C} \Rightarrow \textcircled{A}, \quad s + (3) = 1 \\ s = -2$$

$$\Rightarrow \textcircled{B} \quad (-2) + 2(3) = 4$$

$4 \neq 2$: contradiction

No solution; $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ is not a linear combination of $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

Not on the plane: see spans, next pg

$$\text{WW3 (4)} \quad \vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{w} = \begin{bmatrix} -7 \\ 5 \\ h \end{bmatrix}$$

For what value(s) of h can \vec{w} be expressed as a linear combination of \vec{u} and \vec{v} ?

$$x[-1, 3, -5] + y[4, -4, 3] = [-7, 5, h]$$

$$-x + 4y = -7 \quad \text{(A)}$$

$$3x - 4y = 5 \quad \text{(B)} \quad \text{---} \quad -x - 4y = 5$$

$$-5x + 3y = h \quad \text{(C)}$$

$$\text{(A) + (B)} : 2x = -2, \quad x = -1 \quad \text{(D)}$$

$$\text{(D) - (A)} \quad -(-1) + 4y = 7, \quad y = 3/2 \quad \text{(E)}$$

$$\text{check (B)} \quad 3(-1) - 4(3/2) = -9 \quad \times$$

$$\text{(A) - (B)} : -4x + 8y = -12$$

$$-x + 2y = -3$$

$$x = 3 + 2y \quad \text{(F)}$$

$$\text{(F) } \rightarrow \text{(A)} \quad -3 + 2y = -7$$

$$y = -2 \quad \rightarrow \text{(E)}$$

$$x = 3 + 2(-2)$$

$$x = -1 \quad \text{(G)}$$

$$\text{check: } -(-1) + 4(-2) = -7 \quad \checkmark$$

$$3(-1) - 4(-2) = 5 \quad \checkmark \quad (x, y) = (-1, -2)$$

$$-5(-1) + 3(-2) = h$$

$$5 - 6 = h$$

$$h = -1$$

$$\text{W3.1) } \vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Are these linear combinations? (of \vec{u} and \vec{v})

$$\begin{aligned} s\vec{u} + t\vec{v} &= s[-2, 2, -1] + t[1, 1, -2] \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} -2s \\ 2s \\ -s \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} t \\ t \\ -2t \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} t-2s \\ t+2s \\ -2t-s \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a) } \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 5 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} t-2s \\ t+2s \\ -2t-s \end{bmatrix} & (5-2s)-2s &= -3 \\ & & s-t+2s &= 5-4s = -3 \\ & & t=5-2s & s=2 \\ & & t=5-2(2) & = -2(1) - (-2) \\ & & & = -4 \\ (s, t) &= (2, 1) & & = 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{b) } \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} t-2s \\ t+2s \\ -2t-s \end{bmatrix} & 0 &= -2t-s & t-2(-2t) &= 1 & (-1/3) + 2(2/3) &= 3 \\ & & s &= -2t & -3t &= 1 & 4/3 - 1/3 &= 1 \\ & & s &= -2(-1/3) & t &= -1/3 & & \text{contradiction} \\ \text{Not a linear combination.} & & & = 2/3 & & & & \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{c) } \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} t-2s \\ t+2s \\ -2t-s \end{bmatrix} & 2 &= t-2s & (2+2s)+2s &= -1 & 3 &= -2(1/2) - (-3/4) \\ & & t &= 2+2s & 4s &= -3 & & = -1 + 3/4 \\ & & t &= 2+2(-3/4) & s &= -3/4 & & \text{Contradiction} \\ & & & = 1/2 & & & & \end{aligned}$$

Not a linear combination

$$\begin{aligned} \text{d) } \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} t-2s \\ t+2s \\ -2t-s \end{bmatrix} & 4 &= t-2s & 0 &= (4+2s) + 2s & -3 &= -2(2) - (-1) \\ & & t &= 4+2s & s &= -1 & & = -4 + 1 \\ & & t &= 4+2(-1) & & & & \\ & & & = 2 & & & & \end{aligned}$$

$(s, t) = (-1, 2)$