

Review

**linear combination**:  $\alpha_1 \vec{v}_1 + \alpha_2 \vec{v}_2 + \dots + \alpha_n \vec{v}_n = \vec{b}$   
 "b is a linear combination of  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n$ "

Ex:  $\vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$   $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  Ex:  $\vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$   
 $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \alpha_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$   $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \alpha_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$   
 $\alpha_1 = 2$

Ex: is  $\vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$  a linear combination of  $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\vec{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ?

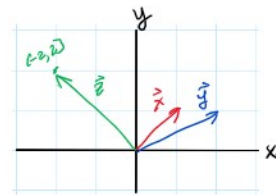
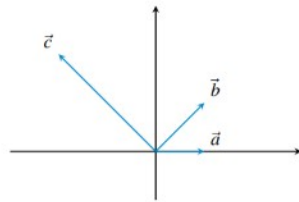
i.e. does there exist some  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2$  such that  
 $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \alpha_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \alpha_2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \end{bmatrix}$   
 yes!  $\alpha_1 = 1$   
 $\alpha_2 = 2$   $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & | & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & | & 2 \end{bmatrix}$   
 $\vec{b}$  is a linear combo of  $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2$

def of **span**: for a set of vectors  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n$   
 $\text{span} \{ \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n \} = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \vec{v}_i \mid \alpha_i \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$   
 "all possible linear combinations of  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n$ "

Ex:  $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$   $\vec{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$   
 $\text{span} \{ \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2 \} = \alpha_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \alpha_2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} * \\ * \end{bmatrix}$   
 $\alpha_1 = 1$   $\alpha_1 = 100$   $\rightarrow$  inf combinations of  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2$   
 $\alpha_2 = 1$   $\alpha_2 = 300$   
 $\rightarrow$  span all of  $\mathbb{R}^2$   
 describes every 2-dimensional vector

1. Visualizing Span

We are given a point  $\vec{c}$  that we want to get to, but we can only move in two directions:  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$ . We know that to get to  $\vec{c}$ , we can travel along  $\vec{a}$  for some amount  $\alpha$ , then change direction, and travel along  $\vec{b}$  for some amount  $\beta$ . We want to find these two scalars  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , such that we reach point  $\vec{c}$ . That is,  $\alpha\vec{a} + \beta\vec{b} = \vec{c}$ .



(a) First, consider the case where  $\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\vec{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ , and  $\vec{z} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ . Draw these vectors on a sheet of paper.

(b) We want to find the two scalars  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , such that by moving  $\alpha$  along  $\vec{x}$  and  $\beta$  along  $\vec{y}$  so that we can reach  $\vec{z}$ . Write a system of equations to find  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  in matrix form.

$$\vec{z} = \alpha \vec{x} + \beta \vec{y} \quad \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \alpha \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \beta \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \alpha \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 2\beta \\ \beta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha + 2\beta \\ \alpha + \beta \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{cases} -2 = \alpha + 2\beta \\ 2 = \alpha + \beta \end{cases}$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 2 & -2 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right]$$

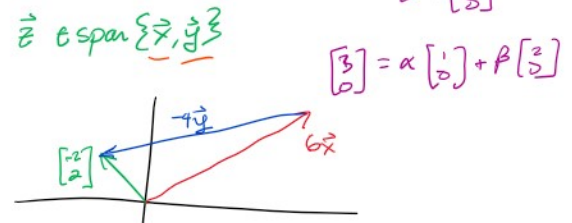
(c) Solve for  $\alpha, \beta$ .

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 2 & -2 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - R_1} \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & -1 & 4 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{R_2 \leftarrow \frac{R_2}{-1}} \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & -4 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{R_1 \leftarrow R_1 - 2R_2} \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 & -4 \end{array} \right]$$

$\alpha = 6$   $\beta = -4$  *\* unique*

$\text{span} \{ \vec{x}, \vec{y} \} = \alpha \vec{x} + \beta \vec{y}$

$\vec{z} = 6\vec{x} - 4\vec{y}$   
 $\vec{z}$  is a lin combo of  $\vec{x}, \vec{y}$



## 2. Span basics

(a) What is  $\text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ ?

$$= \alpha_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \alpha_2 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{for any } \alpha_1, \alpha_2$$

Ex:  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  in  $\text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ ?

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \alpha_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \alpha_2 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

can we find  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2$ ?  
NO

(b) Is  $\begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 5 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  in  $\text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ ?

$$\begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 5 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \alpha_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \alpha_2 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 2 & 5 \\ 2 & 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & 9/3 \\ 0 & 1 & 8/3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\alpha_1 = \frac{9}{3} \quad \alpha_2 = \frac{8}{3} \quad \text{unique}$$

can find  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2$

yes it is in the span

(c) What is a possible choice for  $\vec{v}$  that would make  $\text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \vec{v} \right\} = \mathbb{R}^3$ ?

$$\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ or } \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \text{ or } \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} * \\ * \\ * \end{bmatrix} = \alpha_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \alpha_2 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \alpha_3 \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & v_1 & * \\ 2 & 1 & v_2 & * \\ 0 & 0 & v_3 & * \end{array} \right]$$

must have a unique soln

$v_3 \neq 0$

(d) For what values of  $b_1, b_2, b_3$  is the following system of linear equations consistent? ("Consistent" means there is at least one solution.)

$$\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

unique or inf

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 2 & b_1 \\ 2 & 1 & b_2 \\ 0 & 0 & b_3 \end{array} \right]$$

$b_1, b_2$  can be anything

$$b_3 = 0$$

$$\vec{b} = x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Now let's look at the iPython demo!

## 3. Span Proofs

Given some set of vectors  $\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n\}$ , show the following:

(a)  $\text{span}\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n\} = \text{span}\{\alpha \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n\}$ , where  $\alpha$  is a non-zero scalar

In other words, we can scale our spanning vectors and not change their span.

$$\vec{q} \in \text{span}\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n\}$$

$$\vec{r} \in \text{span}\{\alpha \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n\}$$

$$\vec{q} = a_1 \vec{v}_1 + a_2 \vec{v}_2 + \dots + a_n \vec{v}_n$$

$$\vec{r} = b_1 (\alpha \vec{v}_1) + b_2 \vec{v}_2 + \dots + b_n \vec{v}_n$$

for some scalars  $a_i$

for some scalars  $b_i$

$$\vec{q} = a_1 \vec{v}_1 + a_2 \vec{v}_2 + \dots + a_n \vec{v}_n = \left(\frac{a_1}{\alpha}\right) (\alpha \vec{v}_1) + a_2 \vec{v}_2 + \dots + a_n \vec{v}_n$$

$$\vec{q} \in \text{span}\{\alpha \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n\}$$

$$a_1 \vec{v}_1 = \frac{a_1}{\alpha} \alpha \vec{v}_1$$

$$\text{span}\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n\} \subseteq \text{span}\{\alpha \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n\}$$

$$\vec{r} = b_1 (\alpha \vec{v}_1) + b_2 \vec{v}_2 + \dots + b_n \vec{v}_n = (b_1 \alpha) \vec{v}_1 + b_2 \vec{v}_2 + \dots + b_n \vec{v}_n$$

$$\vec{r} \in \text{span}\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n\}$$

$$\text{span}\{\alpha \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n\} \subseteq \text{span}\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n\}$$

$$\text{span}\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n\} = \text{span}\{\alpha \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n\}$$

(b) (Practice)

$$\text{span}\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n\} = \text{span}\{\vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n\}$$

In other words, we can replace one vector with the sum of itself and another vector and not change their span.

## Strategies for Proofs

- write out mathematical defn for what you know & what you want to show
- try simple examples to find patterns
- manipulate the defns to get from what you know to what you want to show

Ex:  $\text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \stackrel{?}{=} \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \alpha_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \alpha_2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = 1 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + 2 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \alpha_1 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \alpha_2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + 2 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Ex:  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \in \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ ?

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \in \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$$\text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \subseteq \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

↑ subset similar to less than or equal to