

Today: § 1.3: Vector Equations

& § 1.4: The Matrix Equation  $A\underline{x} = \underline{b}$

Next: § 1.5: Solution Sets

Reminders:

MyMathLab Homework #1 & #2: Due Mon, Jan 22

MATLAB Homework #1: Due **THIS** Fri Jan 19

# Linear Combinations

Given vectors  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n$  a linear combination is a vector of the form

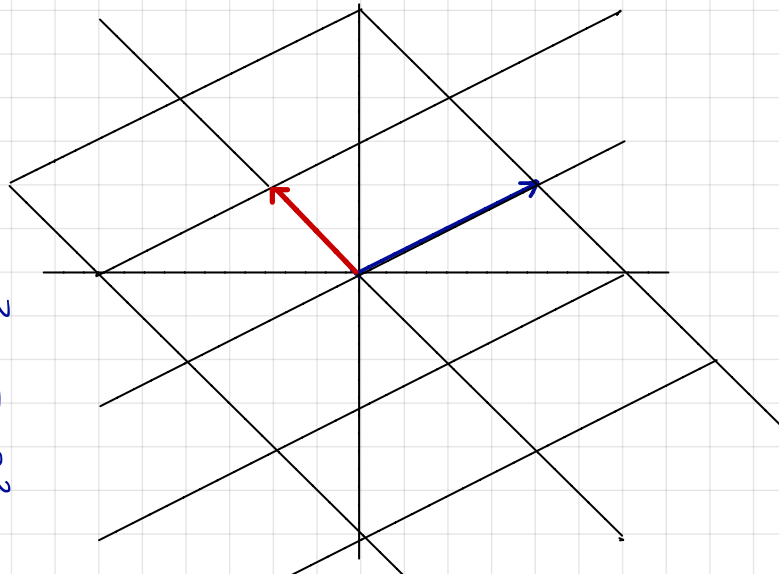
$$x_1 u_1 + x_2 u_2 + \dots + x_n u_n$$

for some scalars  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ .

Eg.  $\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$   $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

## Span

The **span** of a collection of vectors is the set of all linear combinations of those vectors.



E.g. Is  $\begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 4 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$  in the span generated by  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  ?

The question "Is  $\underline{w}$  in the span of  $\underline{v}_1, \underline{v}_2, \dots, \underline{v}_n$ ?"  
is the same as the question

"Is the system whose augmented matrix  
is  $\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} \underline{v}_1 & \underline{v}_2 & \dots & \underline{v}_n \\ \hline & & & \underline{w} \end{array} \right]$  ?"

To answer this question, we use   
to carry this augmented matrix to ,  
and check to see if

## §1.4 The matrix equation $A\underline{x} = \underline{b}$

### Matrix multiplication

Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} \underline{a}_1 & \underline{a}_2 & \dots & \underline{a}_n \end{bmatrix}$  be an  $m \times n$  matrix.

Let  $\underline{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  be a column vector, whose number  $n$  of entries matches the number of                      in  $A$ .

$$A\underline{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \underline{a}_1 & \underline{a}_2 & \dots & \underline{a}_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} :=$$

E.g.  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ 8 & 0 \\ -5 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}$

E.g. Compute

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & -5 & 3 \\ 1 & 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} = 4 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + 3 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -5 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + 7 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ -15 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -7 \\ 21 \\ 28 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 6 \\ 32 \end{bmatrix}$$

E.g. If  $\underline{u}_1, \underline{u}_2, \underline{u}_3$  are three column vectors, write the linear combination  $2\underline{u}_1 - 3\underline{u}_2 + 8\underline{u}_3$  as a matrix product.

Matrix multiplication is a concise way of representing

The most basic algebra equation is  $ax = b$ .

If  $A$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix, and  $\underline{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$  is a column vector, can we solve the matrix equation  $A\underline{x} = \underline{b}$  for  $\underline{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ?

E.g.  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 4 \\ -4 & 2 & 6 \\ -3 & 2 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\underline{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

Theorem:  $A\underline{x} = \underline{b}$  can be solved if and only if

$\underline{b}$  is a   of the columns of  $A$   
iff  $\underline{b} \in$    of the columns of  $A$ .

E.g.  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 4 \\ -4 & 2 & 6 \\ -3 & 2 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$

Question: can I solve  $A\underline{x} = \underline{b}$  for  
any choice of  $\underline{b}$ ?

I.e. Is every vector  $\underline{b} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  in

 ?



Theorem: Let  $A$  be an  $m \times n$  matrix.

The following four statements are equivalent.

(a)  $A\underline{x} = \underline{b}$  can be solved for  $\underline{x}$ , for any  $\underline{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ .

(b) Every vector  $\underline{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$  is a linear combination of the columns of  $A$ .

(c) The columns of  $A$  span  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .

(d)  $A$  has a pivot in each row.

Eg. Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 5 & -4 & 1 \\ -3 & -2 & 4 & 2 \\ 6 & 1 & -8 & -7 \end{bmatrix}$ . Do the columns of  $A$  span  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ?

↓ rref (MATLAB)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -4/3 & -4/3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Question: Is  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  in the span of the columns of  $A$ ?

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 3 & 4 & 0 & 0 \\ -4 & 2 & -6 & 4 & 0 \\ 3 & -2 & -7 & 2 & 1 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\text{rref}} \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 0 & -4/3 & -4/3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$