

# Welcome to Lecture 3 Linear Combinations,

Spans, Linear Independence!

This week: Fri: Quiz through §1.4

Next week: HW due M, W

Fri: Quiz through §1.9

"One of the reasons there are so many terms for conditions of ice is that the mariners observing it were often trapped in it, and had nothing to do except look at it." Alec Wilkinson

# Notation First examples of vector spaces

$\mathbb{R}^m$  = set of  $m$ -vectors with  
real components

$$\underline{x} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_m \end{bmatrix} \quad a_i \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\mathbb{C}^m = \dots$$

$$\underline{x} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 + ib_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_m + ib_m \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{--- complex components}$$

$a_i, b_i \in \mathbb{R}$

## Basic operations for $m$ -vectors:

$$1) \text{ Add } \underline{x} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_m \end{bmatrix}, \underline{y} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ \vdots \\ b_m \end{bmatrix} \rightsquigarrow \underline{x} + \underline{y} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 + b_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_m + b_m \end{bmatrix}$$

$$2) \text{ Scale by number } c \cdot \underline{x} = \begin{bmatrix} ca_1 \\ \vdots \\ ca_m \end{bmatrix}, \quad c \text{ number}$$

$$3) \text{ Dot product } \underline{x} \cdot \underline{y} = a_1 b_1 + \dots + a_m b_m$$

Satisfy many helpful properties

New perspective on lin systs: vector eqns

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 1 & & & \\ \gamma_1 & \gamma_2 & \dots & \gamma_n & \\ \hline & & & & \bar{b} \end{array} \right] \\ \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{n+1} \end{array} \right. \quad \gamma_i, \bar{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$$

Lin syst is same as vector eqn

$$x_1 \gamma_1 + x_2 \gamma_2 + \dots + x_n \gamma_n = \bar{b}$$

scalar variables



Def  $\underline{u}$  is a linear combination of

$y_1, \dots, y_k$  if there are  $a_1, \dots, a_k$

so that

$$\underline{u} = a_1 y_1 + \dots + a_k y_k$$

Observe  $\underline{u}$  is a lin comb of  $y_1, \dots, y_k$



$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ y_1 & y_2 & \dots & y_k \\ 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ \vdots \\ a_k \end{bmatrix} = \underline{u}$$

is consistent (has a soln)

Exer For what  $c$  is  $\underline{u}$  a lin comb of  $y_1, y_2$ ?

$$\underline{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ c \end{bmatrix} \quad y_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad y_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Soln For what  $c$  is lin syst consistent

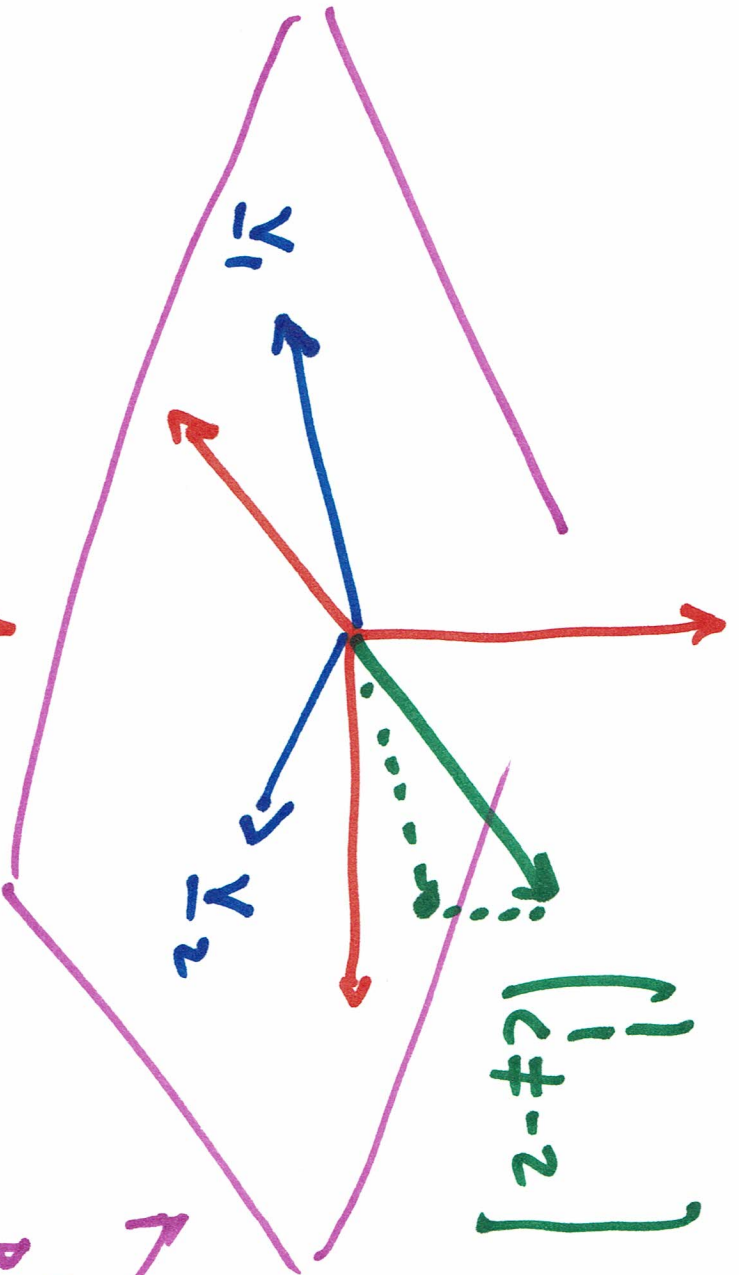
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & c \end{bmatrix} \quad ?$$

Cases  $c \neq -2$  pivot in last col of REF  
so no soln

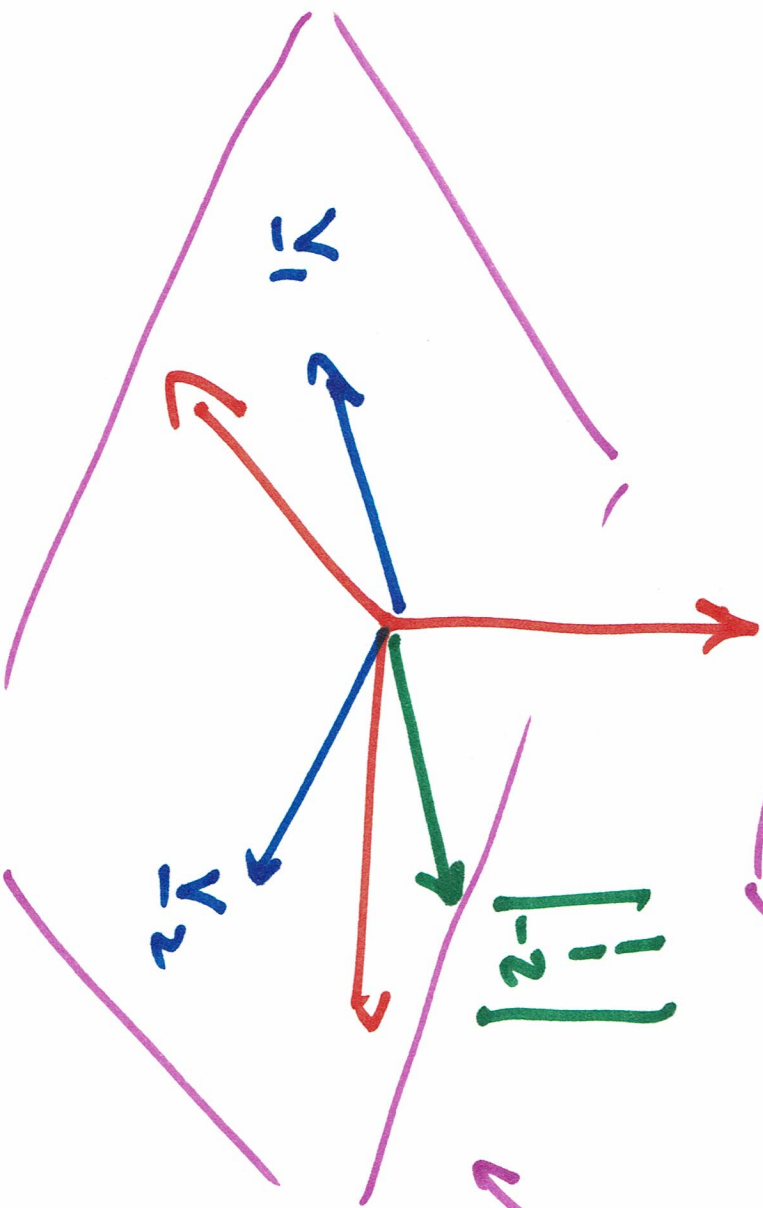
$c = -2$  Soln  $x_1 = 1, x_2 = 2$

# Picture

$$\underline{c \neq -2}$$



$$\underline{c = -2}$$



plane of  
lin cmb



Def (noun) span of  $y_1, \dots, y_n$  is

Span  $\{y_1, \dots, y_n\} = \{ \text{all lin combs of } y_1, \dots, y_n \}$

$$= \{ a_1 y_1 + \dots + a_n y_n \}$$

$a_i$  numbers

$$\subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$$

" is a subset of "  
 $m = \text{size of vectors.}$

Observe  $\bar{y}$  is in  $\text{Span}\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} | & | & & | & | \\ \bar{y}_1 & \bar{y}_2 & \dots & \bar{y}_k & \vdots \\ | & | & & | & | \\ \hline & & & & \bar{y} \end{bmatrix} \text{ is consistent}$$

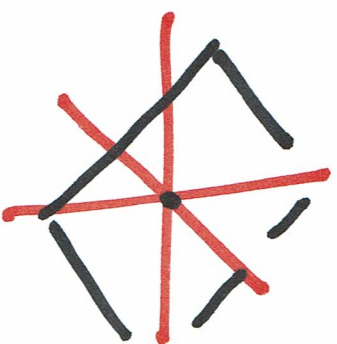
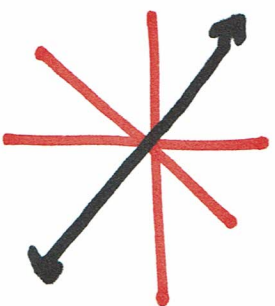
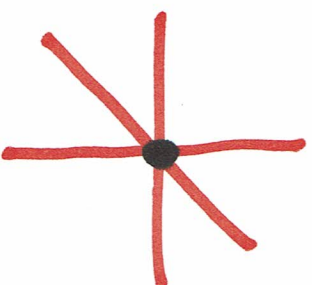
What kind of subset of  $\mathbb{R}^m$  is a span?  
(... to be made more precise ...)

Possibilities:

1)  $\{0\}$  origin alone

2) line through origin

3) plane through origin  
⋮



Def (verb)  $y_1, \dots, y_k$  spans  $\mathbb{R}^m$

if  $\text{Span}\{y_1, \dots, y_k\} = \mathbb{R}^m$

Every vector in  $\mathbb{R}^m$  is a lin comb  
of  $y_1, \dots, y_k$

Observe  $y_1, \dots, y_k$  spans  $\mathbb{R}^m$

$m$ -vectors



$$\begin{bmatrix} | & & | \\ y_1 & \dots & y_k \\ | & & | \end{bmatrix} \bar{y}$$

is consistent  
for any  $\bar{y} \in \mathbb{R}^m$



coeff matrix

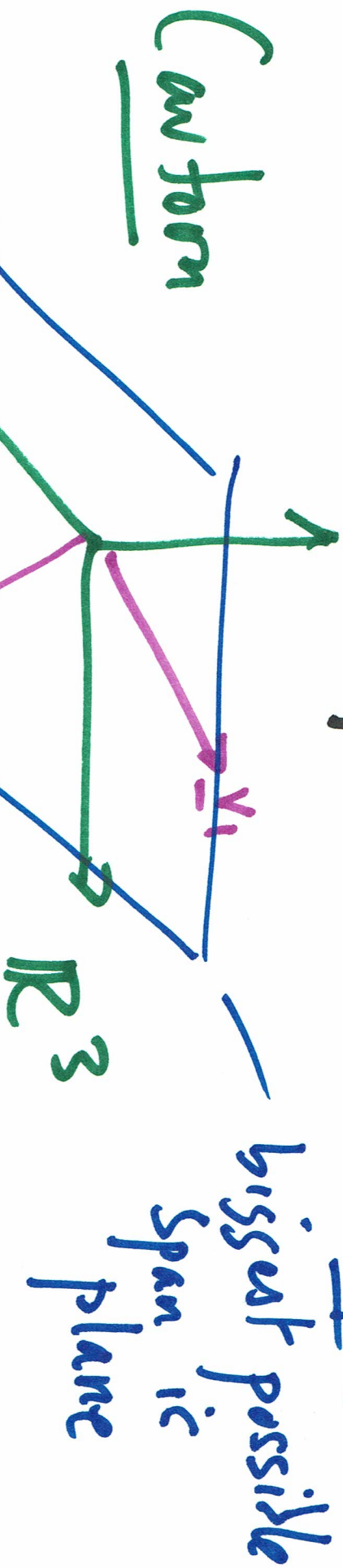
$$\begin{bmatrix} | & & | \\ y_1 & \dots & y_k \\ | & & | \end{bmatrix} \text{ has}$$

a pivot in each row so  $m$  pivots

Exer Is it possible for two vectors

$v_1, v_2$  to span  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ?

Expect:



Expect  $\text{Span}\{v_1, v_2\} \neq \mathbb{R}^3$

Let's convince ourselves  $\text{Span}\{v_1, v_2\} \neq \mathbb{R}^3$

Can we solve

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & \vdots & b \\ -1 & -1 & \vdots & b \end{bmatrix} \text{ for any } b \in \mathbb{R}^3?$$

row  
reduce  
 $\rightsquigarrow$

RREF

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & \vdots & b \\ w_1 & w_2 & \vdots & y \\ & & 1 & \end{bmatrix}$$

Possibilities for  
coeff matrix:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & * \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Never is there a pivot in each row!  
(3 rows, but 2 cols so at  
most 2 pivots)

Take  $y = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  then ~~the~~ ~~matrix~~ ~~is~~ ~~then~~ ~~in~~ ~~sys~~ ~~t~~ ~~is~~ ~~inconsistent!~~

Find  $\underline{b}$  by inverting row ops  
then starting from  $y$ .



Main conclusion If  $v_1, \dots, v_k$  spans  $\mathbb{R}^m$   
then must have  $k \geq m$ !

Caution If  $k \geq m$ , not nec true  
that  $v_1, \dots, v_k$  spans  $\mathbb{R}^m$

Ex  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ,  $v_1 = v_2 = \dots = v_{10^6} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$   
 $m=3$ ,  $k=10^6$

Def 1)  $y_1, \dots, y_k$  is linearly dependent

if there are numbers  $a_1, \dots, a_k$   
not all 0 (at least one  $a_i$  is  
not zero)

$$\text{such that } a_1 y_1 + \dots + a_k y_k = \underline{0}$$

2) Else  $y_1, \dots, y_k$  are linearly  
independent

What does lin indep mean directly?

$v_1, \dots, v_k$  is lin indep means

whenever  $a_1 v_1 + \dots + a_k v_k = \underline{0}$

we have  $a_1 = \dots = a_k = 0$



# Summary for list $y_1, \dots, y_k \in \mathbb{R}^m$

Spans  $\mathbb{R}^m$ ?

Want many vectors  
in small space  
Need  $k \geq m$

Lin Indep?

Want few vectors  
in big space  
Need  $k \leq m$

Adding vectors to  
list only helps

Deleting vectors  
from list only helps

$$\begin{bmatrix} | & & | \\ y_1 & \dots & y_k \\ | & & | \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} | \\ b \\ | \end{bmatrix}$$

has soln any  $b$

pivot in each row of coeffs

$$\begin{bmatrix} | & & | \\ y_1 & \dots & y_k \\ | & & | \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} | \\ 0 \\ | \end{bmatrix}$$

has unique soln  $0$

pivot in each col of coeffs