

Last time: · p.v.f. of LES solns.

· LES as vector and matrix equations.

Today: · Spans and related questions (we'll try to answer them via echelon forms as usual.)

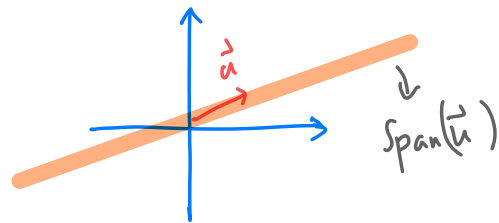
Def. (the span of a set of vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ) Let  $S = \{ \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_k \}$  be a set of vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  for some  $n \geq 1$ . The span of  $S$  or the span of  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k$  is the set of all possible linear combinations of  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k$ , i.e., it's the set

$$\text{Span}(\{ \vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k \}) := \{ c_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + c_k \vec{v}_k \mid c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k \in \mathbb{R} \}.$$

## Some examples.

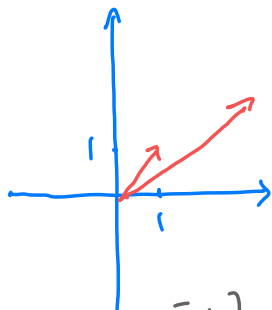
(1). Consider the set  $\mathbb{R}$  of real numbers and take  $\vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}$ . (So  $\vec{v}$  is just a number  $[a_1]$ )  
if  $\vec{v} = 0$  ( $[0]$ ), then  $\text{Span}(\vec{v}) = \{c \cdot [0] \mid c \in \mathbb{R}\} = \{[0]\}$   
if  $\vec{v} \neq 0$ , (say  $\vec{v} = [d]$ ,  $d \neq 0$ ), then  $\text{Span}(\vec{v}) = \{[cd] : c \in \mathbb{R}\} = \{[x] : x \in \mathbb{R}\} = \mathbb{R}$  (the entire real line)

(2) Consider the plane  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , and take  $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^2$ .  
if  $\vec{u} = \vec{0}$ , then  $\text{Span}(\vec{u}) = \{\vec{0} = [0]\}$ . (point)  
if  $\vec{u} \neq \vec{0}$ , then  $\text{Span}(\vec{u}) = \{c\vec{u} \mid c \in \mathbb{R}\} \rightarrow$  the line in the direct (or the opp. direction of  $\vec{u}$ )



$$\text{if } \vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\text{Span}(\{\vec{u}, \vec{v}\}) = \left\{ x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + y \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} : x, y \in \mathbb{R} \right\} \stackrel{\text{claim}}{=} \mathbb{R}^2$$



The claim, put another way:

$$\text{the vec eq. } x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + y \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix}$$

has a soln for all  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ .

$$\text{if } \vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Span}(\{\vec{u}, \vec{v}\}) &= \left\{ x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + y \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} : x, y \in \mathbb{R} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x+2y \\ x+2y \end{bmatrix} : x, y \in \mathbb{R} \right\} \\ &= \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} z \\ z \end{bmatrix} : z \in \mathbb{R} \right\} \rightarrow \text{line in the common dir of } \vec{u}, \vec{v}. \end{aligned}$$

## Problem 1: Span membership.

E.g. Take  $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\vec{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  and  $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^3$ .

Note: The following questions are all equivalent:

• Is  $\vec{v}$  in  $\text{Span}\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2\}$ ?

• (vec. eq.) Does the eq.  $x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + y \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  have a soln?

• (matrix eq.) Does the eq.  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  have a soln?

• (lin. sys.) 
$$\begin{cases} x + 2y = 1 \\ 2x + 5y = 1 \\ y = 1 \end{cases}$$

We know the answer!

(in terms of the aug.

matrix  $\text{EF} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 5 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)$ )

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \in \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

More generally ...  
no soln, so  $\vec{v} \notin \text{Span}\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2\}$ .

Thm 1. Let  $A = [C | \vec{v}]$  where  $C = [\vec{v}_1 | \vec{v}_2 | \dots | \vec{v}_k]$ .

Then the following are equivalent (T.F.A.E.):

(a)  $\vec{v} \in \text{Span}\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k\}$

(b) The vec equation  $x_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + x_k \vec{v}_k = \vec{v}$  has a soln.

(c) The matrix eq.  $C \vec{x} = \vec{v}$  has a soln.

(d) The LES with aug. matrix  $A$  has a soln.

↕ known

(e). Some echelon form of  $A$  has no row of the form  $[0 \ 0 \ \dots \ 0 \ b]$  where  $b \neq 0$ .

(e') The last  $\uparrow$  col of  $A$  is not pivot.

Ex. Let  $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\vec{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  and  $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 8 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^3$ .

Q:  $\vec{v} \in \text{Span}\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2\}$  ?

Soln: We row-reduce the matrix  $A = [\vec{v}_1 \mid \vec{v}_2 \mid \vec{v}]$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 7 \\ 2 & 5 & 8 \\ 3 & 6 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 7 \\ 0 & -3 & -6 \\ 0 & -6 & -12 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 7 \\ 0 & -3 & -6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Since  $EF(A)$  has no row of the form  $[0 \ 0 \ \dots \ 0 \ b]$  where E.F.  $b \neq 0$ , it follows (from Thm 1) that  $\vec{v} \in \text{Span}\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2\}$ .  $\square$

## Problem 2. Spanning sets of $\mathbb{R}^n$

Q: How can we tell if a given set spans  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ?

Def (Spanning sets)

A set of vectors  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is said to

span  $\mathbb{R}^n$  / be a spanning set of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  if  $\text{Span}(S) = \mathbb{R}^n$ .

Examples / Nonexamples:

By the examples on Page 2,

•  $S = \{\vec{v}\} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} d \end{bmatrix} \right\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^1$  spans  $\mathbb{R}^1$  iff  $d \neq 0$ .

• The set  $S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  spans  $\mathbb{R}^2$  by our claim;  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  does not span  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

• Claim 2: The set  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  spans  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Reason:  $\forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}, \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix} = a \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + b \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Thm. Let  $S = \{ \vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k \} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  and let  $C = [ \vec{v}_1 \mid \vec{v}_2 \mid \dots \mid \vec{v}_k ]$   
 Then TFAE. (say  $v_i = \begin{bmatrix} a_{i1} \\ a_{i2} \\ \vdots \\ a_{in} \end{bmatrix}$ )

(a)  $S$  is a spanning set of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

(b) The vec. eq.  $x_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + x_k \vec{v}_k = \vec{v}$  has a soln for all  $\vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

(c) The matrix eq.  $C \cdot \vec{x} = \vec{v}$  has a soln for all  $\vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

(d) The lin system  $\begin{cases} a_{11}x_1 + \dots + a_{1k}x_k = b_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_{m1}x_1 + \dots + a_{mk}x_k = b_m \end{cases}$  has a soln  $\forall b_1, b_2, \dots, b_m \in \mathbb{R}$   
 ↕ nontrivial, to be proved

(e) Some echelon form of  $A$  has no row of zeros.

(e') Every row of  $A \ni$  pivot.

Pf: We've argued (a)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (b)  $\Leftrightarrow$  ...  $\Leftrightarrow$  (d). Need (d)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (e) → next time.



Example. 11)  $D_0$   $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$   $\vec{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\vec{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 8 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}$  span  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ?

i.e., is  $S = \{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3\}$  a spanning set of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ?

Soln:  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 7 \\ 2 & 5 & 8 \\ 3 & 6 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{easier}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 7 \\ 0 & -3 & -6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

EF( $[\vec{v}_1 | \vec{v}_2 | \vec{v}_3]$ ) has a zero row, so  $S$  is not a spanning set of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

(2). Ex: Does the set  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  span  $\mathbb{R}^2$ ?

Next time: pf. of Thm 2.  
linear independence.