

Row reduction algorithm

matrix  $A \xrightarrow{\text{steps I-IV}} \text{REF of } A \xrightarrow{\text{step V}} \text{RREF of } A$

"forward phase"      "backward phase"

LAST TIME

Ex:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 & -6 & -1 & -2 \\ 2 & 1 & 9 & 9 & 6 \\ 2 & 4 & 0 & 6 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Step I: begin with leftmost nonzero column. It is a pivot column; pivot pos. is at the top

Step II: select a nonzero entry in pivot col. as pivot. If necessary, interchange rows to move this entry into pivot pos.

interchange  $r_1 \leftrightarrow r_3$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 0 & 6 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 9 & 9 & 6 \\ 0 & 2 & -6 & -1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Step III Use row replacement to create zeros in all positions below the pivot

$r_2 \rightarrow r_2 - r_1$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 0 & 6 & 0 \\ 0 & -3 & 9 & 3 & 6 \\ 0 & 2 & -6 & -1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Step IV Cover (or ignore) the rows containing pivot pos. and all rows above it.

Apply steps I-III to the remaining submatrix.

Repeat until there are no nonzero rows to modify.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 0 & 6 & 0 \\ 0 & -3 & 9 & 3 & 6 \\ 0 & 2 & -6 & -1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{r_3 \rightarrow r_3 + \frac{2}{3}r_2} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 0 & 6 & 0 \\ 0 & -3 & 9 & 3 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{(optional)} r_2 \rightarrow -\frac{1}{3}r_2} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 0 & 6 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

new pivot      new pivot

already in REF.  $\Rightarrow$  IV stops

**REF!**

If we want RREF:

Step V: beginning with rightmost pivot and working upward and to the left, create zeros above each pivot. If pivot is not 1, make it 1 by rescaling rows

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 0 & 6 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\substack{r_2 \leftrightarrow r_2 r_3 \\ r_1 \rightarrow r_1 - 4r_2}} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 0 & 0 & -12 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{r_1 \rightarrow r_1 - 4r_2} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 12 & 0 & -12 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Created zeros above pivots

$$\xrightarrow{\substack{\text{rescale} \\ r_1 \rightarrow r_1 \cdot \frac{1}{2}}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 6 & 0 & -6 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \text{RREF of A}$$

Solutions of lin. sys. Suppose augm. mat. of a lin. sys. has been reduced to RREF

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{i.e. system} \quad \begin{cases} x_1 + 3x_3 = -1 \\ x_2 + 2x_3 = 5 \\ 0 = 0 \end{cases}$$

variables  $x_1, x_2$  corresponding to pivot columns are "basic variables";  
var.  $x_3$  corresp to a non-pivot col. is a "free variable".

Can solve for basic variables in terms of free variables:

$$\begin{cases} x_1 = -1 - 3x_3 \\ x_2 = 5 - 2x_3 \end{cases} \quad \text{- description of all sols of the lin. sys.}$$

$x_3$  is free (takes any value)

e.g. can take  $x_3 = 1 \rightarrow (-4, 3, 1)$  is a sol.  
 $-1 - 3 \cdot 1 = -4$   
 $5 - 2 \cdot 1 = 3$

A system is consistent iff REF of the augm. mat. does not have a row of form

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & \dots & 0 & b \\ \vdots & & & \end{bmatrix} \quad (\Leftrightarrow) \quad \begin{matrix} 0 = b \\ \text{contradictory} \\ \text{e.g.} \end{matrix} \quad (\text{i.e. iff the last column is not pivot})$$

• solution of a consistent sys. is unique iff there are no free variables, i.e. no non-pivot columns (except the last one)

# 1.3. Vector equations

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- vector = ordered list of numbers
- column vector = matrix with only one column

## Vectors in $\mathbb{R}^2$

Ex:  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Set of vectors with two (real) entries =:  $\mathbb{R}^2$

- vectors  $\vec{u}, \vec{v}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  are equal if their corresponding components are equal.

E.g.  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \neq \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$

- for  $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^2$ , can form the sum  $\vec{u} + \vec{v}$  by adding corresp. entries of  $u, v$

e.g.  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 + (-1) \\ 3 + 5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 8 \end{bmatrix}$

- for  $\vec{u} \in \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $c$  a number, the scalar multiple  $c \cdot \vec{u}$  is obtained by multiplying each entry of  $u$  by  $c$ :

$3 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \cdot 2 \\ 3 \cdot 7 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 21 \end{bmatrix}$

Ex: for  $\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ , find  $5\vec{u}, -2\vec{v}, 5\vec{u} + (-2\vec{v})$

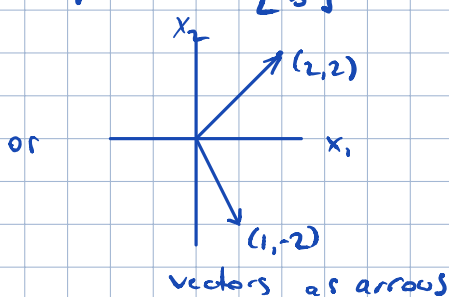
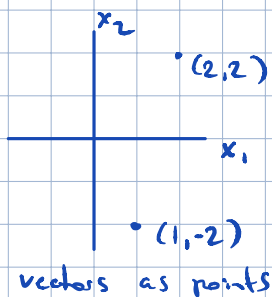
Sol:  $5\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}, -2\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} -6 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}, 5\vec{u} + (-2\vec{v}) = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -9 \end{bmatrix}$

Notation: can write  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} = (2, 7) \neq \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$   
↑  
 2x1 matrix      comma!      1x2 matrix  
 + shorthand for a column vector

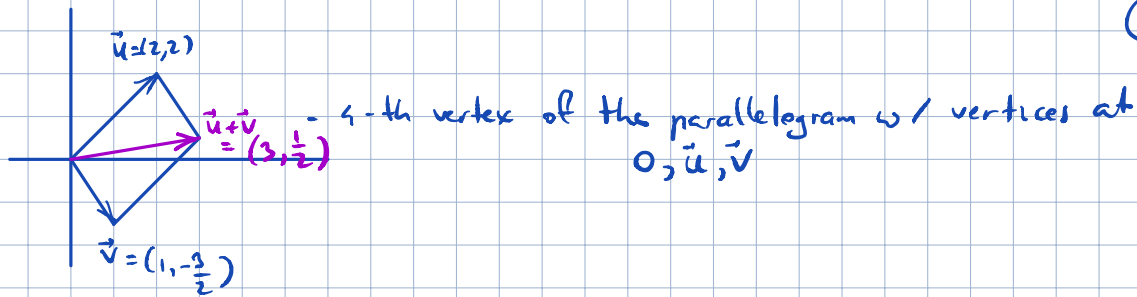
## Geometric description of vectors in $\mathbb{R}^2$

point  $(a, b)$  on the coordinate plane  $\sim \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix}$

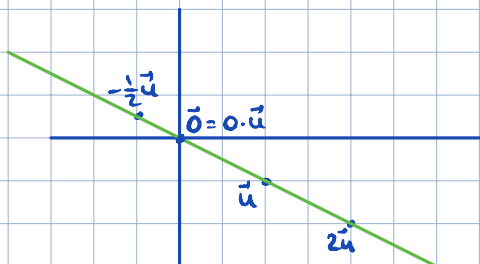
So:  $\mathbb{R}^2 =$  set of all points on the plane



Semi parallelogram rule



multiple Ex:  $\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$  Display  $\vec{u}, 2\vec{u}, -\frac{1}{2}\vec{u}$



## Vectors in $\mathbb{R}^n$

$\mathbb{R}^n =$  set of vectors of form  $\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ \vdots \\ u_n \end{bmatrix}$  ( $n \times 1$  matrices)

• can add two vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$   
(must be of the same size!)

$$\vec{u} + \vec{v}$$

• can form a scalar multiple  $c \cdot \vec{u}$

(one has commutativity, associativity, distributivity, like for numbers)

• zero vector  $\vec{0} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\vec{0} + \vec{u} = \vec{u}$

• negative of a vector  $-\vec{u} = (-1) \cdot \vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} -u_1 \\ -u_2 \\ \vdots \\ -u_n \end{bmatrix}$  Then  $(-\vec{u}) + \vec{u} = \vec{0}$

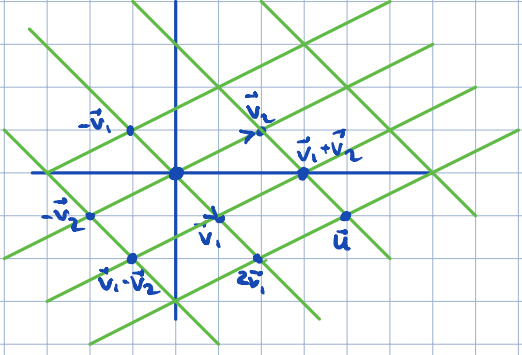
• Also, notation:  $\vec{u} + (-\vec{v}) =: \vec{u} - \vec{v}$

## Linear combinations

for vectors  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and scalars  $c_1, \dots, c_p$ , the vector  $\vec{y} = c_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + c_p \vec{v}_p$  is called the linear combination of  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p$  with weights  $c_1, \dots, c_p$

Ex: some lin. comb. of  $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2$ :  $3\vec{v}_1 - \frac{5}{7}\vec{v}_2$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}\vec{v}_1 = \frac{1}{2}\vec{v}_1 + 0 \cdot \vec{v}_2$ ,  $\vec{0} = 0 \cdot \vec{v}_1 + 0 \cdot \vec{v}_2$

Ex: some lin. comb. of  $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\vec{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ :



Q: express  $\vec{u}$  as a lin. comb. of  $\vec{v}_1$  and  $\vec{v}_2$

Sol: by parallelogram rule,  $\vec{u} = 2\vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2$

Ex:  $\vec{a}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\vec{a}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -5 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}$

Q: can  $\vec{b}$  be generated as a lin. comb. of  $\vec{a}_1, \vec{a}_2$ ?

I.e. can we find weights  $x_1, x_2$  such that

$x_1 \vec{a}_1 + x_2 \vec{a}_2 = \vec{b}$  ? (\*)

(\*) means

$$x_1 \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\vec{a}_1} + x_2 \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -5 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}}_{\vec{a}_2} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}}_{\vec{b}}$$

$$\text{l.h.s.} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ -3x_1 \\ -x_1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 3x_2 \\ -5x_2 \\ 2x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 + 3x_2 \\ -3x_1 - 5x_2 \\ -x_1 + 2x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

So: (\*) is true iff  $\begin{cases} x_1 + 3x_2 = -1 \\ -3x_1 - 5x_2 = -1 \\ -x_1 + 2x_2 = -4 \end{cases}$  - linear system!

Augmented matrix:  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & -1 \\ -3 & -5 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 4 & -4 \\ 0 & 5 & -5 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 5 & -5 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

RREF

So, the system is equiv. to  $\begin{cases} x_1 = 2 \\ x_2 = -1 \\ 0 = 0 \end{cases}$

thus:  $2\vec{a}_1 + (-1)\vec{a}_2 = \vec{b}$  -  $\vec{b}$  is a lin. comb. of  $\vec{a}_1, \vec{a}_2$

$$2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} + (-1) \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -5 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Note: the augm. mat. of our system was  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & -1 \\ -3 & -5 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 & -4 \end{bmatrix}$  notation =  $[\vec{a}_1 \ \vec{a}_2 \ \vec{b}]$

• Equation  $x_1 \vec{a}_1 + \dots + x_p \vec{a}_p = \vec{b}$  has the same solution set as the lin. sys. whose augm. mat. is  $[\vec{a}_1 \dots \vec{a}_p \vec{b}]$  (\*\*)

In particular,  $\vec{b}$  can be generated as a lin. comb. of  $\vec{a}_1, \dots, \vec{a}_p$  iff there exists a solution for the lin. sys. corresponding to the matrix (\*\*)

Def Let  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . The set of all lin. comb. of  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p$  is denoted

$\text{Span}\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p\}$  = "subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  spanned (or generated) by  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p$ "

I.e.  $\text{Span}\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p\}$  = set of all vectors that can be written in the form  $c_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + c_p \vec{v}_p$  with  $c_1, \dots, c_p$  scalars

• vector  $\vec{b}$  is in  $\text{Span}\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p\}$  iff vector equation  $x_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + x_p \vec{v}_p = \vec{b}$  has a solution  $\Leftrightarrow$  lin. sys. with Augm. Mat.  $[\vec{v}_1 \dots \vec{v}_p \vec{b}]$  has a solution

•  $\text{Span}\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p\}$  contains every scalar multiple of  $\vec{v}_i$  and in particular contains  $\vec{0}$ .