

Defn: If  $v_1, \dots, v_p$  are vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , The

set of all linear combinations of

$$v_1, \dots, v_p \text{ is } \{ v = c_1 v_1 + \dots + c_p v_p \mid$$

$c_1, \dots, c_p \in \mathbb{R} \}$  is called the subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  spanned

(or generated) by  $v_1, \dots, v_p$  &

denoted by  $\text{Span}\{v_1, \dots, v_p\}$  or  $\langle v_1, \dots, v_p \rangle$

is a vector  $w \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is in the span of  $v_1, \dots, v_p$  if there exist a soln of

The vector eqn 
$$x_1 v_1 + x_2 v_2 + \dots + x_p v_p = w$$

Geometrically: The span of one vector

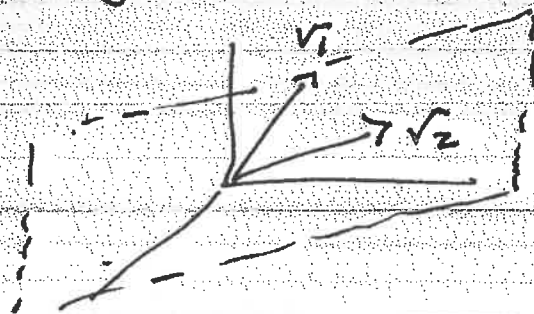
$$v = \{ t v \mid t \in \mathbb{R} \}$$
 is in the line

through the origin in the direction  $v$ .

The span of 2 vectors  $v_1$  &  $v_2$  <sup>(not multiples of each other)</sup> is the

plane through the origin that they

lie in.



Ex Prove that the vectors  $v_1 = (1, -1, 0)$

$v_2 = (1, 0, 2)$  &  $v_3 = (0, 1, 1)$  are linearly independent. i.e. Show that the only

sols of the vector eqn

$$x_1 (1, 0, 2) + x_2 (0, 1, 1) + x_3 (1, -1, 0) = (0, 0, 0)$$

is the trivial soln  $x_1 = x_2 = x_3 = 0$

$$\text{i.e. } x_1 + x_3 = 0$$

$$x_2 - x_3 = 0$$

$$2x_1 + x_3 = 0$$



$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{R_3 - 2R_1}$$

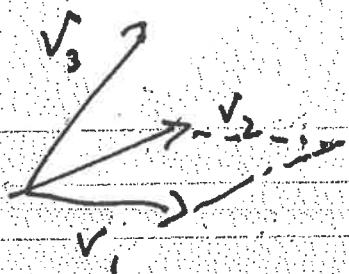
$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{\begin{array}{l} R_1 + R_3 \\ (-)DR_3 \\ R_2 - R_3 \end{array}}$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right) \Rightarrow x_3 = x_2 = x_1 = 0$$

Geometrically: The vectors  $v_1, v_2, v_3$

don't lie in a plane but point into 3 different "dimensions"

Picture:



So we can use

these 3 vectors  $v_1 = (1, -1, 0)$ ,  $v_2 = (1, 0, 2)$

&  $v_3 = (0, 1, 1)$  as axes in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  instead

of  $e_1 = (1, 0, 0)$ ,  $e_2 = (0, 1, 0)$  &  $e_3 = (0, 0, 1)$

and express any vector as a

linear combination, of  $v_1, v_2, v_3$ .

e.g.  $v = (5, -1, 7) =$

$$2(1, -1, 0) + 3(1, 0, 2) + 1(0, 1, 1)$$

By solving the system

$$(5, -1, 7) = x_1(1, -1, 0) + x_2(1, 0, 2) + x_3(0, 1, 1)$$

$$\text{ie } \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & 5 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 7 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{R_2 + R_1}$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 7 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{\begin{array}{l} R_1 - R_2 \\ R_3 - 2R_2 \end{array}} \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 \end{array} \right)$$

$$\xrightarrow{\begin{array}{l} R_1 - R_3 \\ R_2 + R_3 \end{array}} \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 \end{array} \right) \Rightarrow x_3 = 1, x_2 = 3$$

$\& x_1 = 2$

Another way to say this is that every vector  $w \in \mathbb{R}^3$  is in the span of  $v_1 = (1, -1, 0)$  &  $v_2 = (1, 0, 2)$  &  $v_3 = (0, 1, 1)$  i.e.  $\mathbb{R}^3 = \text{Span}\{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$  & Recall also that  $v_1, v_2$  &  $v_3$  are linearly independent. Any collection

of 3 vectors  $\{w_1, w_2, w_3\}$  s.t.

(i)  $\mathbb{R}^3 = \text{Span}\{w_1, w_2, w_3\}$  &

(ii)  $\{w_1, w_2, w_3\}$  are linearly independent is called a Basis for  $\mathbb{R}^3$  (a set of axes geometrically for  $\mathbb{R}^3$ )

Ex: Prove that  $(1, 2, 1)$ ,  $(1, 3, 1)$  &  $(1, 0, 1)$  is not a basis

Hint: Can you express  $(1, 1, -2)$  as a linear combination of  $(1, 2, 1)$ ,  $(1, 3, 1)$  &  $(1, 0, 1)$ ?

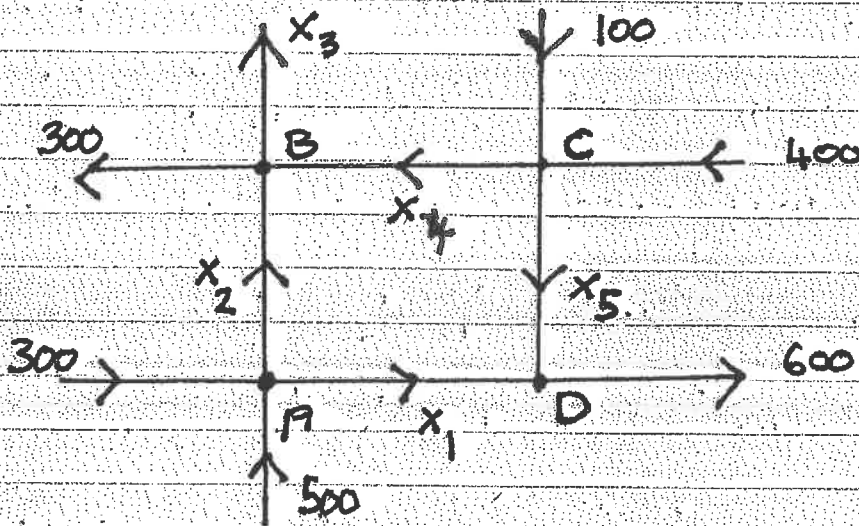
Applications: Systems of linear eqns arise naturally in many

area of Science, Business & Maths & Computing

e.g. Balancing chemical eqns &

## Studying Network Flow.

Ex: Consider the traffic flow in a city illustrated by the following diagram.



At each junction A, B, C, D flow in = flow out.

	Flow in	Flow out
A	$300 + 500$	$= x_1 + x_2$

B	$x_2 + x_4$	$= 300 + x_3$
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C	$100 + 400$	$= x_4 + x_5$
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D	$x_1 + x_5$	$= 600$
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& Total flow in = Total flow out

$$\Rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 800 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 300 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 500 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 600 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 400 \end{array} \right)$$

The last eqn comes from Total flow

$i_n = \text{total flow out } i_o$

$$500 + 300 + 100 + 400 = 300 + x_5 + 600,$$

Solving we see that  $x_5$  is free

$$x_1 = 600 - x_5, \quad x_2 = 200 + x_5, \quad x_3 = 400,$$

$$x_4 = 500 - x_5 \quad \& \quad x_5 \text{ free.}$$