

## May 6 (Lecture 1)

**Overview:** Welcome to MATH 211! Today we will give an overview of the course structure and then get right into some foundational content: vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ !

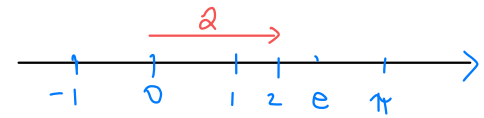
### Learning Goals:

- Be familiar and comfortable with the course and assessment structure.
- Correctly define and do basic operations with vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

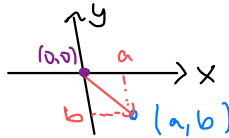
### As you're getting settled:

- (Here's where I would normally put notes about course scheduling, etc.)
  - 30 second stretch break!
  - Friday's Office Hours: 1:00pm - 2:00pm

Let's remind ourselves about what we know: real numbers!

How do we represent real numbers visually?    
 Set of  $\mathbb{R}$

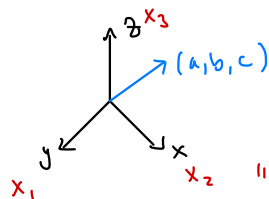
Pairs of real #'s: on a plane!  
 " $\mathbb{R}^2$ "



other notations:  $a\hat{i} + b\hat{j}$

$\begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix}$  "column vector"

Triples of real #'s: " $\mathbb{R}^3$ "  
 "real life space"



or:  $\begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix}$

"right-handed" coordinate system

Sometimes we need more than what we can draw, though:

- length of 200 sea cucumbers  $\mathbb{R}^{200}$
- position and momentum of a particle  $\mathbb{R}^6$
- space and time coords  $\mathbb{R}^4$
- average temp. of one million grams of water  $\mathbb{R}^{1,000,000}$
- relevance of websites to your search term  $\mathbb{R}^{\text{lots}}$

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**Definition.** The set of *vectors* in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is the collection of  $\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$  where each  $x_i$  is a real number. ( $x_i \in \mathbb{R}$ ).

In notation  $\mathbb{R}^n = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} : x_i \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$  "set" <sup>↑</sup> "where" or "such that"

If  $\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $x_i$  is the  $i^{\text{th}}$  component or entry of  $\vec{x}$ .

If  $\vec{x}, \vec{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and each  $x_i = y_i$ , then  $\vec{x}$  and  $\vec{y}$  are equal:  $\vec{x} = \vec{y}$ .

**Example.**  $\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{R}^3$  as before!

In  $\mathbb{R}^5$ :  $\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -2 \\ 4 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^5$ . If  $\vec{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 4 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ , then  $\vec{x} \neq \vec{y}$ . (1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> components are not equal).

Vectors aren't just for "keeping track" of a collection of real numbers; their utility comes from the fact that we can combine them!

**Definition.** Let  $\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\vec{y} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and let  $\alpha$  be a real number (or a *scalar*). "alpha"

The sum of  $\vec{x}$  and  $\vec{y}$  is  $\vec{x} + \vec{y} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 + y_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n + y_n \end{bmatrix}$ . "Vector Addition"

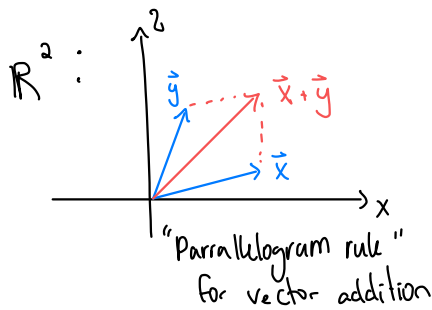
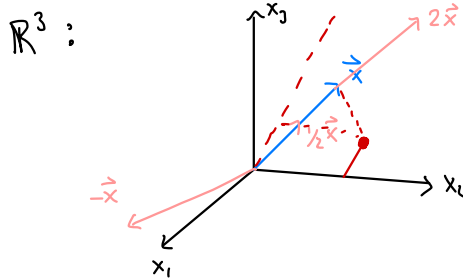
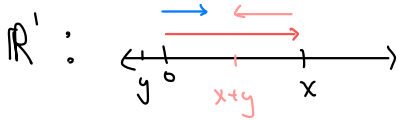
The scalar multiple of  $\vec{x}$  by  $\alpha$  is  $\alpha \vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha x_1 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha x_n \end{bmatrix}$ . "scalar multiplication"

$$\text{In } \mathbb{R}^2: \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ a \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1+(-2) \\ a+1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Example.**  $5 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5(3) \\ 5(1) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 15 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ a \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + 5 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 15 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 14 \\ 8 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Pictures.** For  $n = 1, 2, 3$  we can draw pictures!



p.49 **Definition.** Let  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k$  be vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and let  $c_1, \dots, c_k$  be real numbers. The linear combination of  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k$  with scalars  $c_1, \dots, c_k$  is

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ex.  $c_1 \vec{v}_1 + c_2 \vec{v}_2 + \dots + c_k \vec{v}_k$

**Example.**

In  $\mathbb{R}^2$ : if  $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ a \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\vec{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\vec{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $c_1 = 1 = c_2$ ,  $c_3 = 5$ ,

then:  $1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ a \end{bmatrix} + 1 \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + 5 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 15 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 14 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$

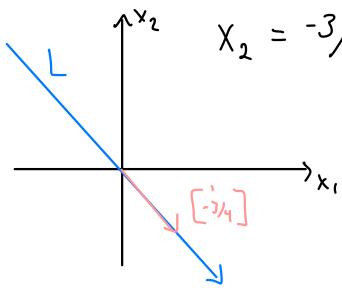
Linear combination!

In  $\mathbb{R}^4$ :  $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\vec{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ 4 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $c_1 = -1$ ,  $c_2 = 1/2$ , then:  $c_1 \vec{v}_1 + c_2 \vec{v}_2 =$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -2 \\ -3 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -3 \\ -1 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Question.** Why do we call them "linear" combinations?

**Answer.** How do we describe this line in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  using vectors?



↳ For vectors  $\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ -3/4 x_1 \end{bmatrix} = x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3/4 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Vectors on L are all scalar multiples of  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3/4 \end{bmatrix}$ !

+  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$   
 \* wouldn't have change to line.

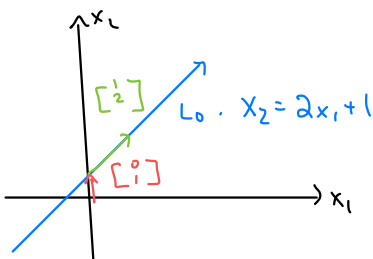
◦  $3/4 x_1 + x_2 = 0$

◦ or  $3x_1 + 4x_2 = 0$

◦  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3/4 \end{bmatrix}$  \* "in terms of  $x_1$ "

$L = \left\{ x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3/4 \end{bmatrix} : x_1 \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$ .

◦ What about this line?

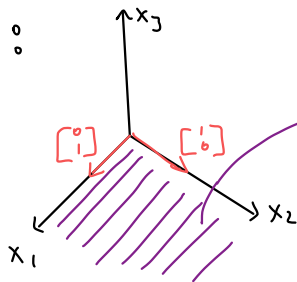


$\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ 2x_1 + 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ 2x_1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$   
 $= x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

"Vector equation for  $L_0$ ".

direction vector      a point/vector on the line.

In  $\mathbb{R}^3$ :



$\begin{bmatrix} s \\ t \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} s \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ t \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = s \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

\*  $x_1, x_2$ -plane is all linear combinations of

$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ !

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**Theorem (1.4.1).** For all  $\vec{v}, \vec{w}, \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$ , we have:

1.  $\vec{v} + \vec{w} \in \mathbb{R}^n$
2.  $\vec{v} + \vec{w} = \vec{w} + \vec{v}$
3.  $(\vec{v} + \vec{w}) + \vec{x} = \vec{v} + (\vec{w} + \vec{x})$
4. There is a vector  $\vec{0}$  (the zero vector) such that  $\vec{v} + \vec{0} = \vec{v}$ .
5. For each  $\vec{v}$  there is  $-\vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  such that  $\vec{v} + (-\vec{v}) = \vec{0}$
6.  $t\vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$
7.  $s(t\vec{v}) = (st)\vec{v}$
8.  $(s + t)\vec{v} = s\vec{v} + t\vec{v}$
9.  $t(\vec{v} + \vec{w}) = t\vec{v} + t\vec{w}$
10.  $1\vec{v} = \vec{v}$ .

"additive inverse" →

"distributive properties" {

★ These rules help you do computations not just "concretely" but also "abstractly"!

### Notes.

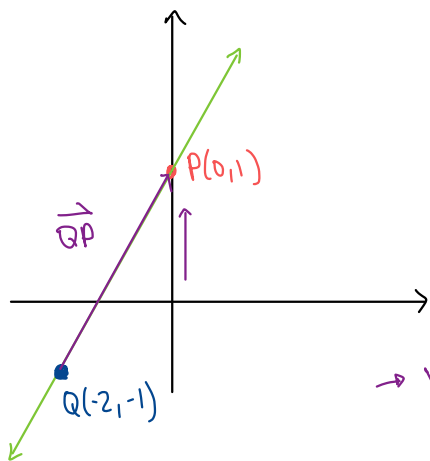
- Zero vector:  $\vec{0} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  (easy to check) (Not empty!)
- What should  $-\vec{v}$  be? If  $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{bmatrix}$ , then  $-\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} -v_1 \\ \vdots \\ -v_n \end{bmatrix}$ .
- We can use these equations in both "directions",

$$\begin{bmatrix} s \\ t \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = s \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

[Solutions added in "post-production"]  
 c.f. pg. 8-14 in the textbook

## More examples. "that goes through"

- Let  $L$  be the line between  $P(0,1)$  and  $Q(-2,-1)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Find the vector equation of  $L$ . Is  $R(3,4)$  on  $L$ ?



• What is the direction of the line?

↳ Try finding  $\vec{QP}$ .

$$\vec{QP} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \text{"direction vector" for } L.$$

Now, translate by a point on the line, say  $p = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

→ Vector EQ for  $L$ :  $\vec{x} = t \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

↑ some scalar vector      ↑ direction      ↑ point on the line.

Is  $R(3,4)$  on  $L$ ?  
 i.e.  $\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} = t \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ?  
 $\begin{cases} 3 = 2t \\ 4 = 2t + 1 \end{cases}$  If  $t = 3/2$ , then yes! solves the eq.

- Find the vector EQ of the plane containing  $P(1,2,0)$ ,  $Q(2,1,0)$ ,  $R(0,0,1)$ . Is  $O(0,0,0)$  on the plane?

$$\vec{RP} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \vec{RQ} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Vectors between points in the plane are linear combinations of  $\vec{RP}$  and  $\vec{RQ}$ !

Then, translate by a point in the plane, eg.  $R(0,0,1)$ ! so the vector EQ for the plane is

$$\vec{x} = s \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Is  $O(0,0,0)$  in the plane? Well, if  $\vec{x} = \vec{0} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ , then:

$$\begin{cases} 0 = s + 2t \\ 0 = 2s + t \\ 0 = 1 - s - t \end{cases} \quad \text{subtract the first EQ from the second:}$$

$$s - t = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad t = s.$$

But then  $t = s = 0$ , so  $z = 0$ ... which doesn't work!

⇒ No, not in the plane!

