

Subspaces

Geometric Algorithms

Lecture 16

Practice Problem

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 4 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{array}{l} R_1 \leftarrow R_1 + R_2 \\ R_3 \leftarrow 2R_3 \\ R_2 \leftrightarrow R_3 \\ \longrightarrow \end{array} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 1 & 5 \\ 2 & 8 & 0 & 4 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = B$$

Consider the following pair of matrices A and B which are row equivalent. Find a matrix E such that $EA = B$.

Answer

$$\begin{array}{l} R_1 \leftarrow R_1 + R_2 \\ R_3 \leftarrow 2R_3 \\ R_2, R_3 \leftarrow R_3, R_2 \end{array} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 4 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 1 & 5 \\ 2 & 8 & 0 & 4 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

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

$$\longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Objectives

1. Introduce the fundamental notions of **subspaces** and **bases**
2. Extend our intuitions about planes in \mathbb{R}^3 to subspaces in \mathbb{R}^n
3. Connected subspaces to matrices so that we can use the techniques we been honing in this course

Keywords

subspace

closed under addition

closed under scaling

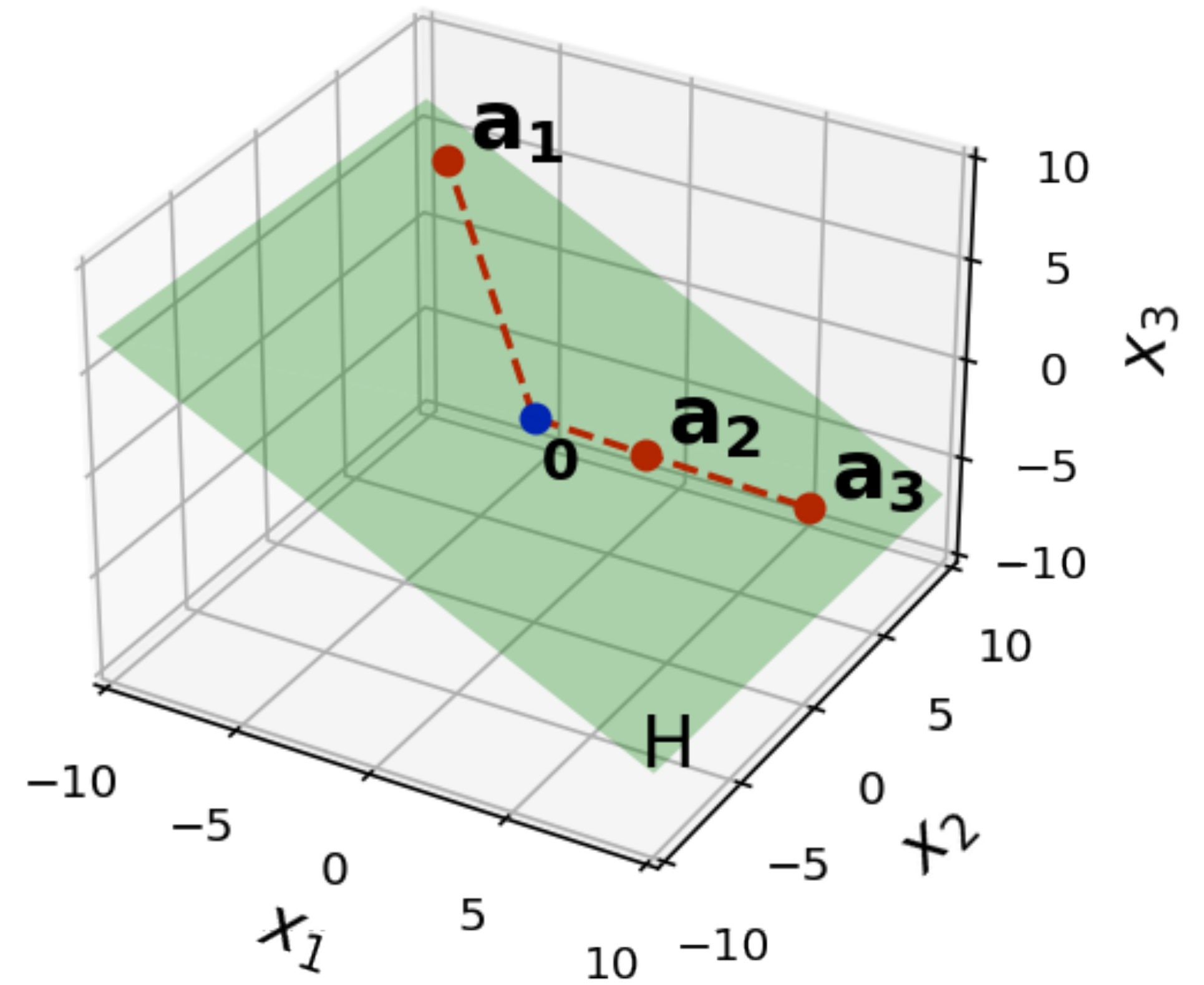
column space

null space

basis

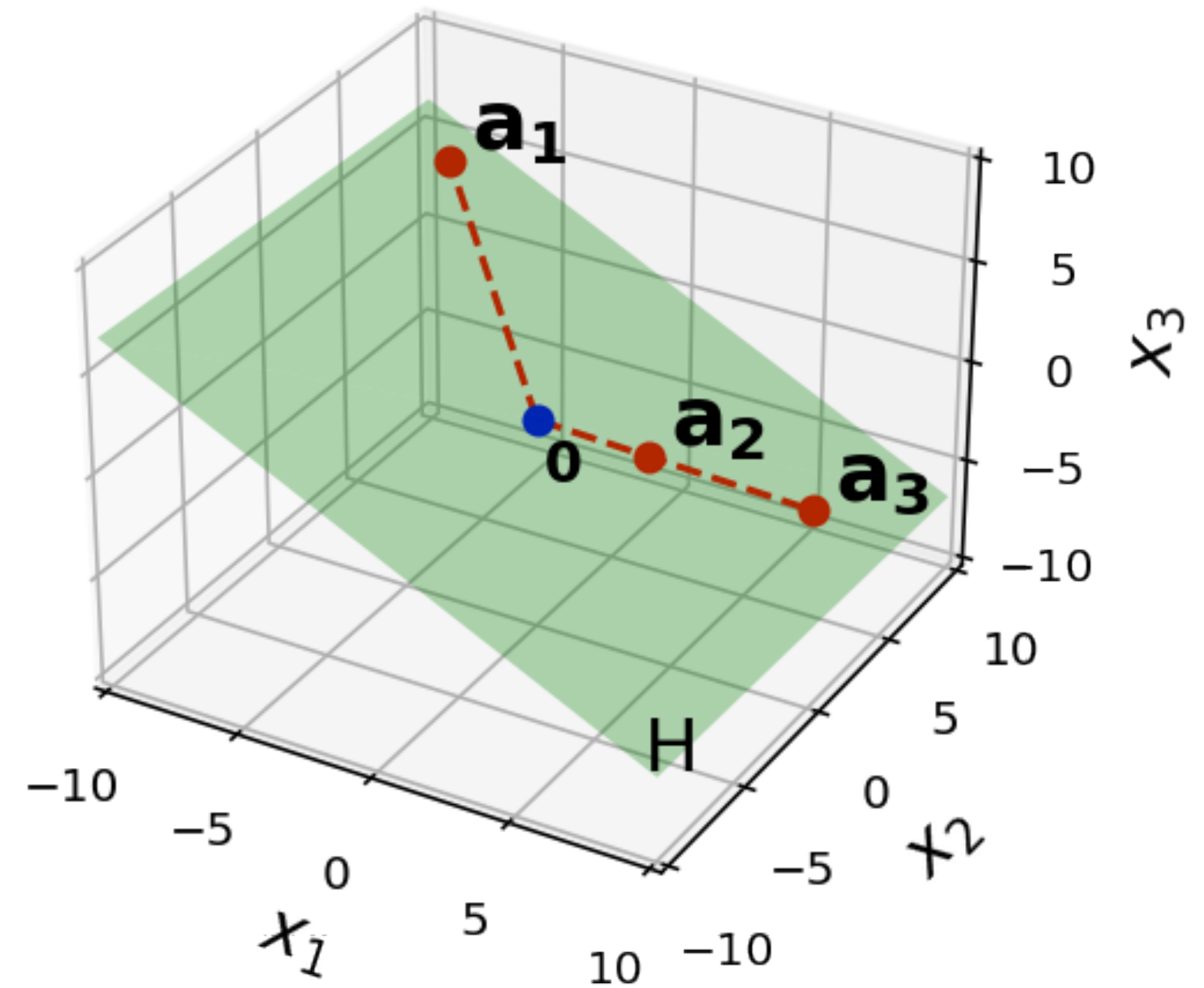
Subspaces

The Idea Behind Subspaces



The Idea Behind Subspaces

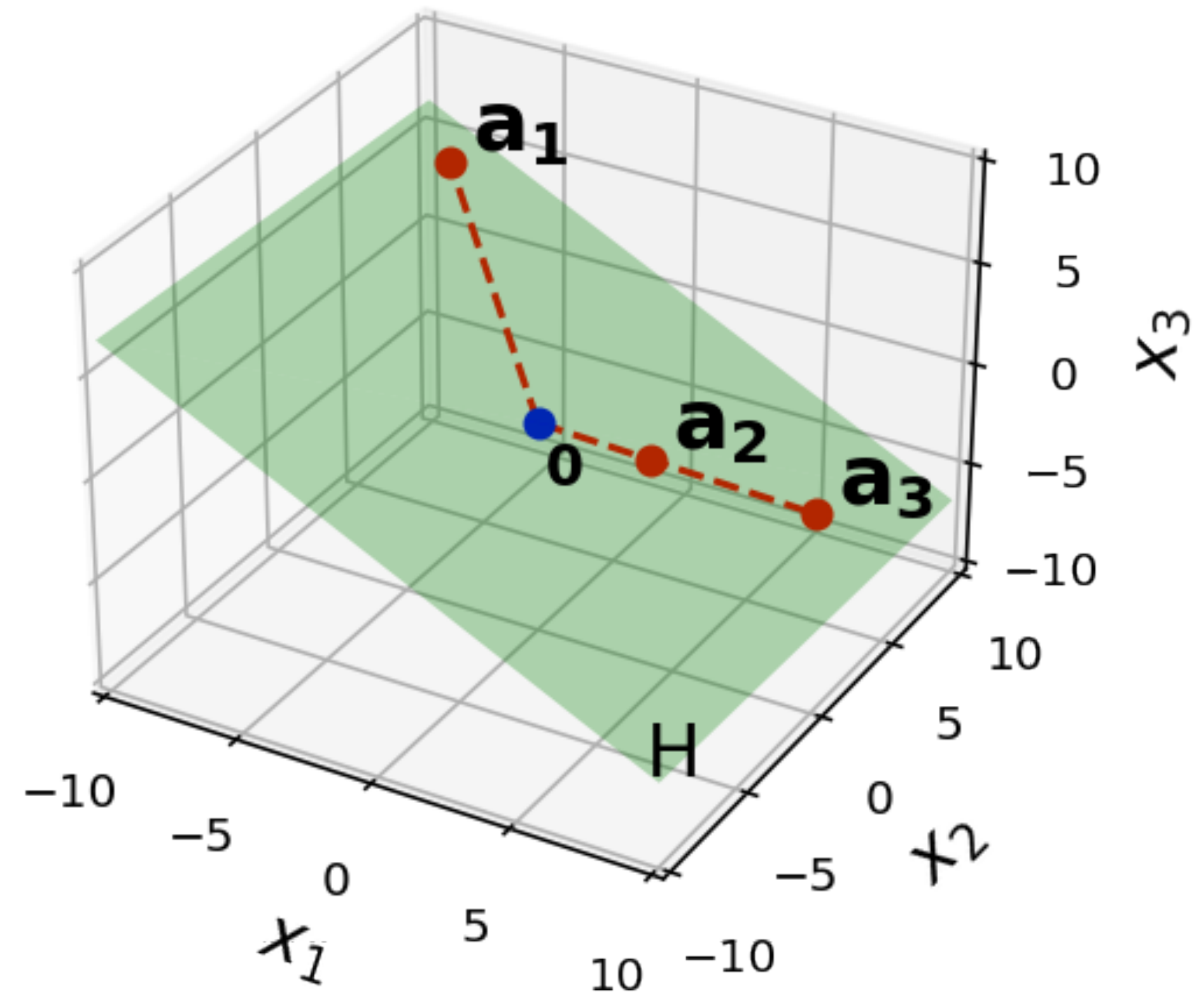
"sub" means "part of" or "below"



The Idea Behind Subspaces

"sub" means "part of" or "below"

A plane in \mathbb{R}^3 looks like a (possibly tilted) copy of \mathbb{R}^2

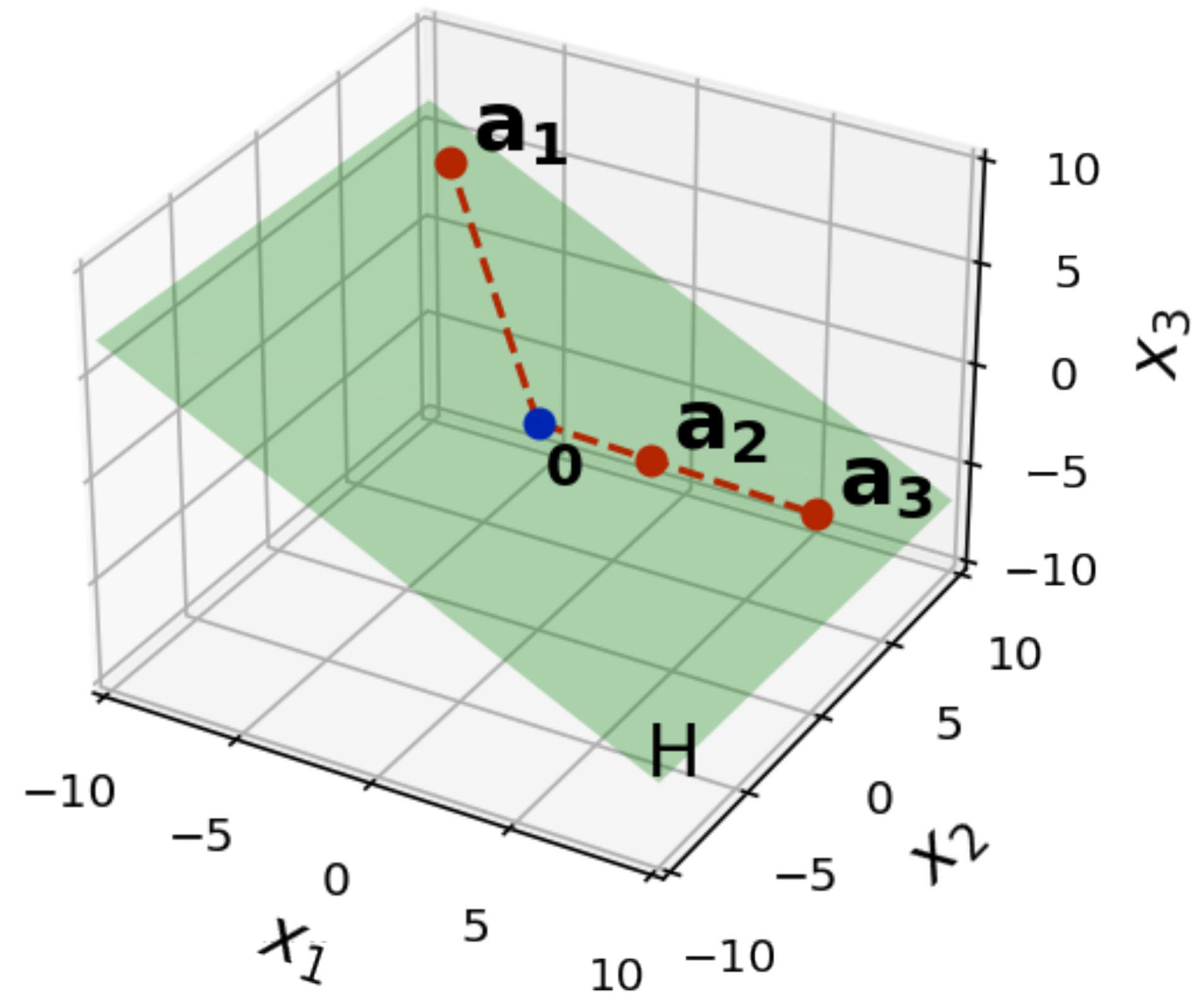


The Idea Behind Subspaces

"sub" means "part of" or "below"

A plane in \mathbb{R}^3 looks like a (possibly tilted) copy of \mathbb{R}^2

Subspaces *generalize* of this idea.



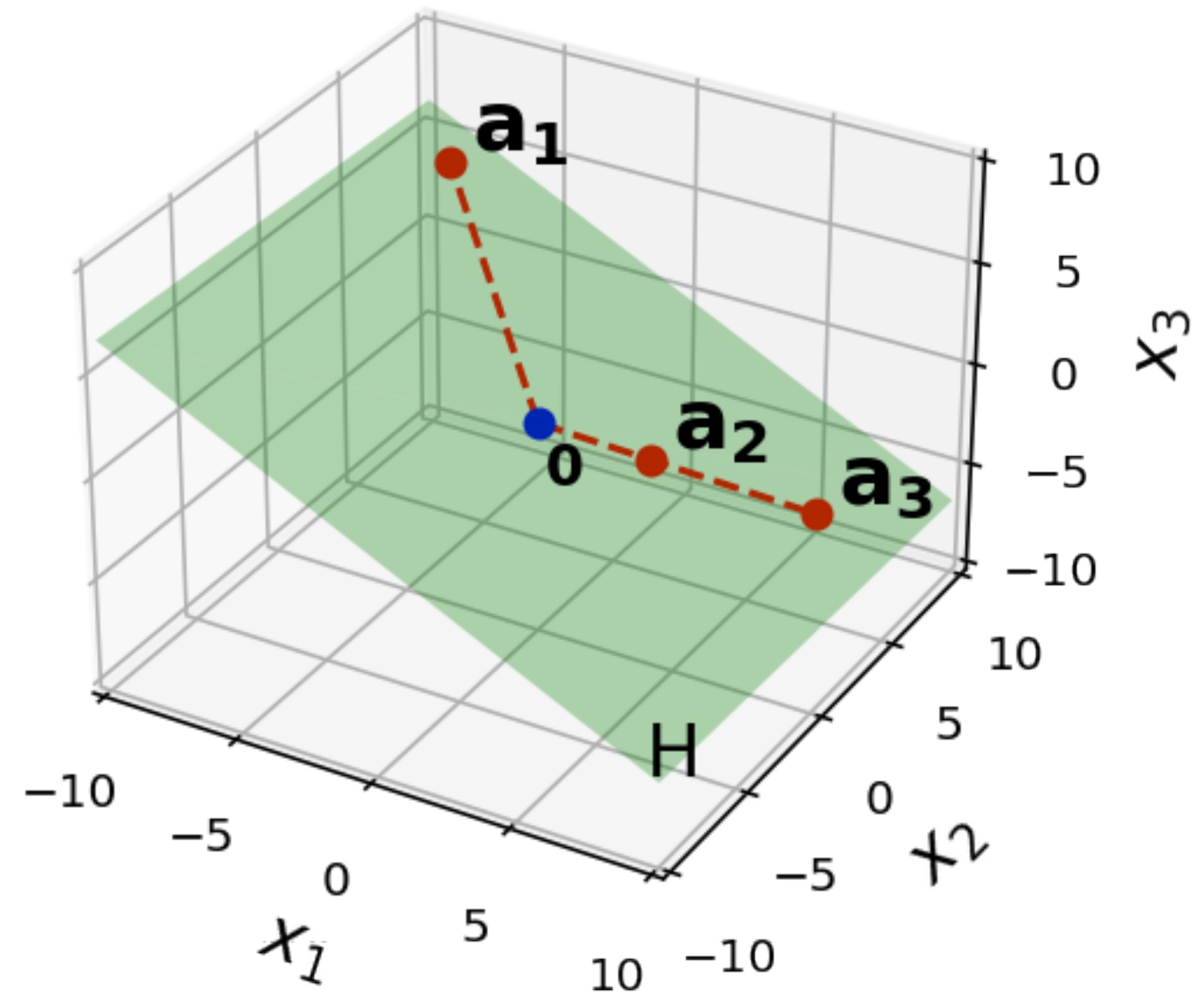
The Idea Behind Subspaces

"sub" means "part of" or "below"

A plane in \mathbb{R}^3 looks like a (possibly tilted) copy of \mathbb{R}^2

Subspaces *generalize* of this idea.

For example, there can be a "possibly tilted copy" of \mathbb{R}^3 sitting in \mathbb{R}^5



An Aside: Flatland, Relativity, Higher Dimensions

An Aside: Flatland, Relativity, Higher Dimensions

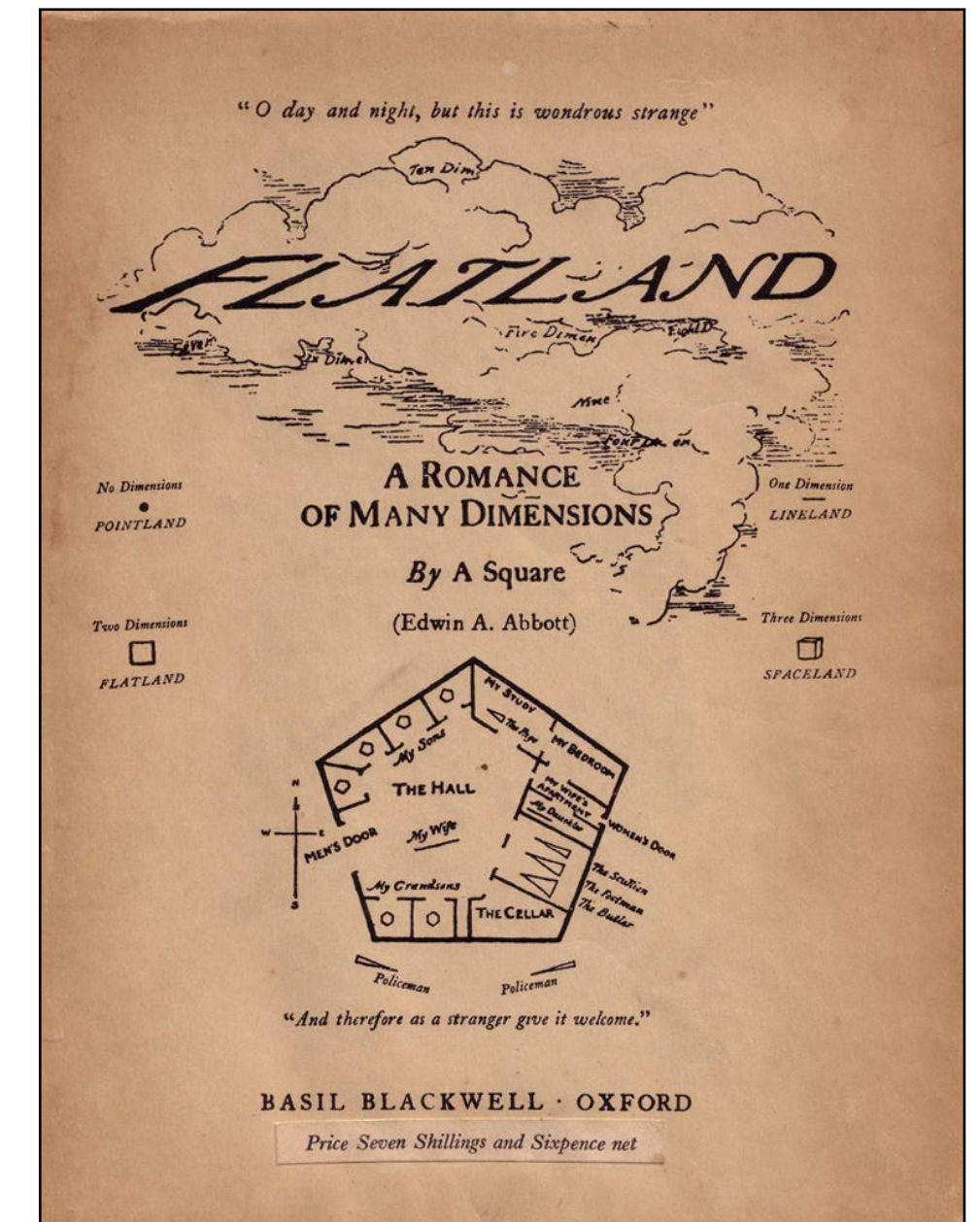
Imagine if the universe were 2D. Then we would be flat objects seeing in 1D.

An Aside: Flatland, Relativity, Higher Dimensions

Flatland by Edwin A. Abbott

Imagine if the universe were 2D. Then we would be flat objects seeing in 1D.

You would never "know" if that plane was sitting in some 3D space, and you'd never know if it was tilted.



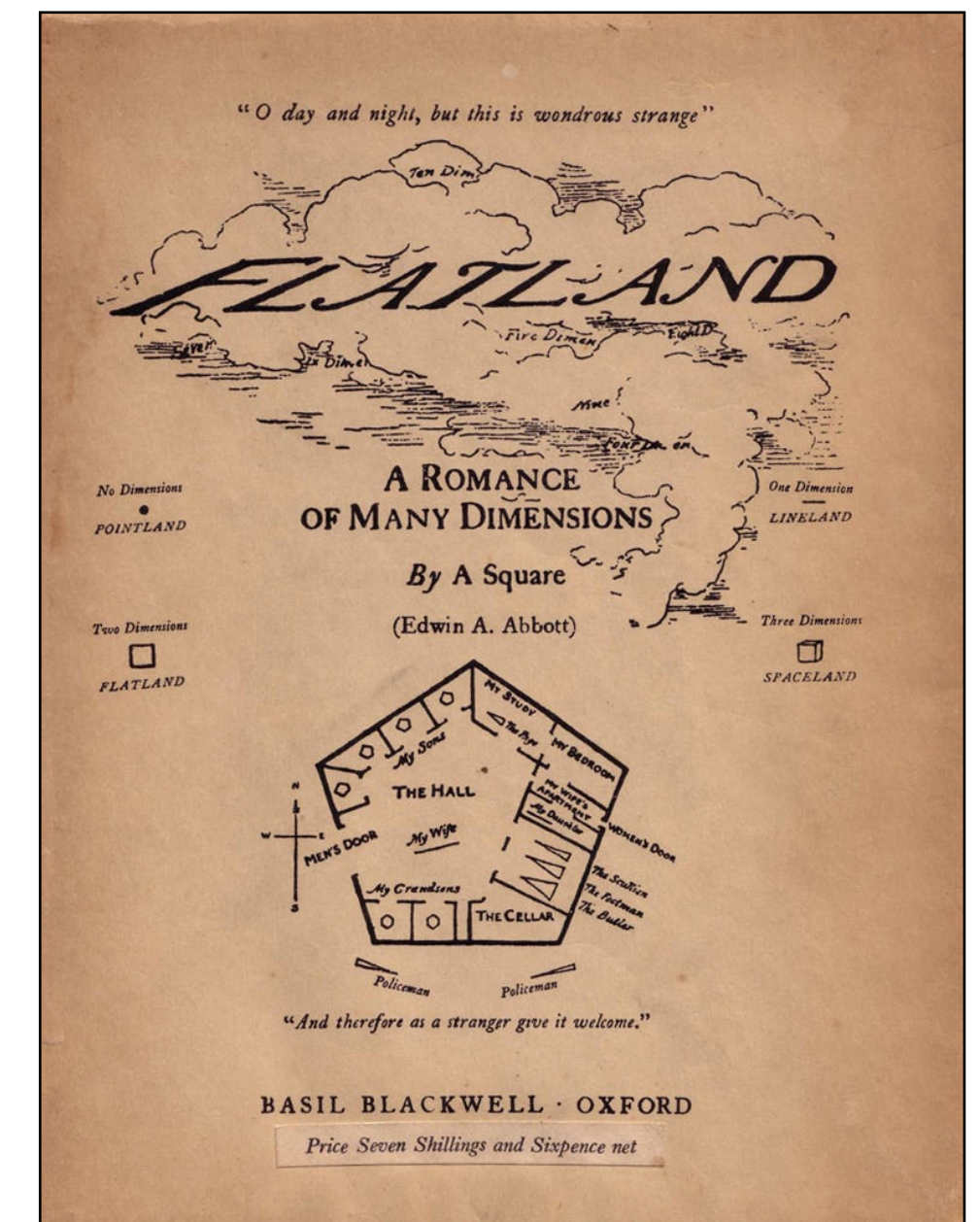
An Aside: Flatland, Relativity, Higher Dimensions

Flatland by Edwin A. Abbott

Imagine if the universe were 2D. Then we would be flat objects seeing in 1D.

You would never "know" if that plane was sitting in some 3D space, and you'd never know if it was tilted.

You'd have to be "on the outside" to see this.



An Aside: Flatland, Relativity, Higher Dimensions

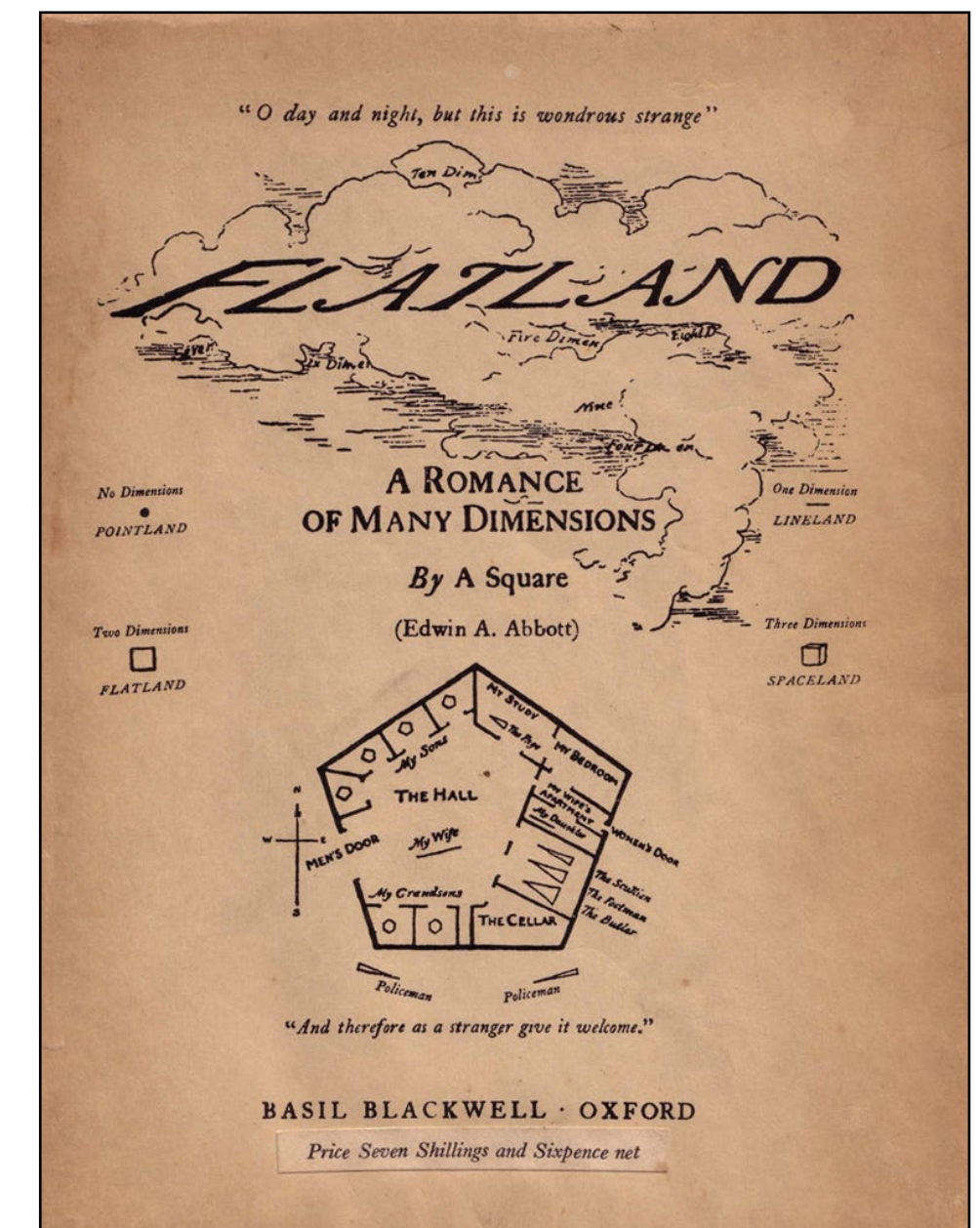
Flatland by Edwin A. Abbott

Imagine if the universe were 2D. Then we would be flat objects seeing in 1D.

You would never "know" if that plane was sitting in some 3D space, and you'd never know if it was tilted.

You'd have to be "on the outside" to see this.

The moral. We have to be careful regarding our intuitions about higher-dimensional subspaces.



An Aside: Flatland, Relativity, Higher Dimensions

Flatland by Edwin A. Abbott

Imagine if the universe were 2D. Then we would be flat objects seeing in 1D.

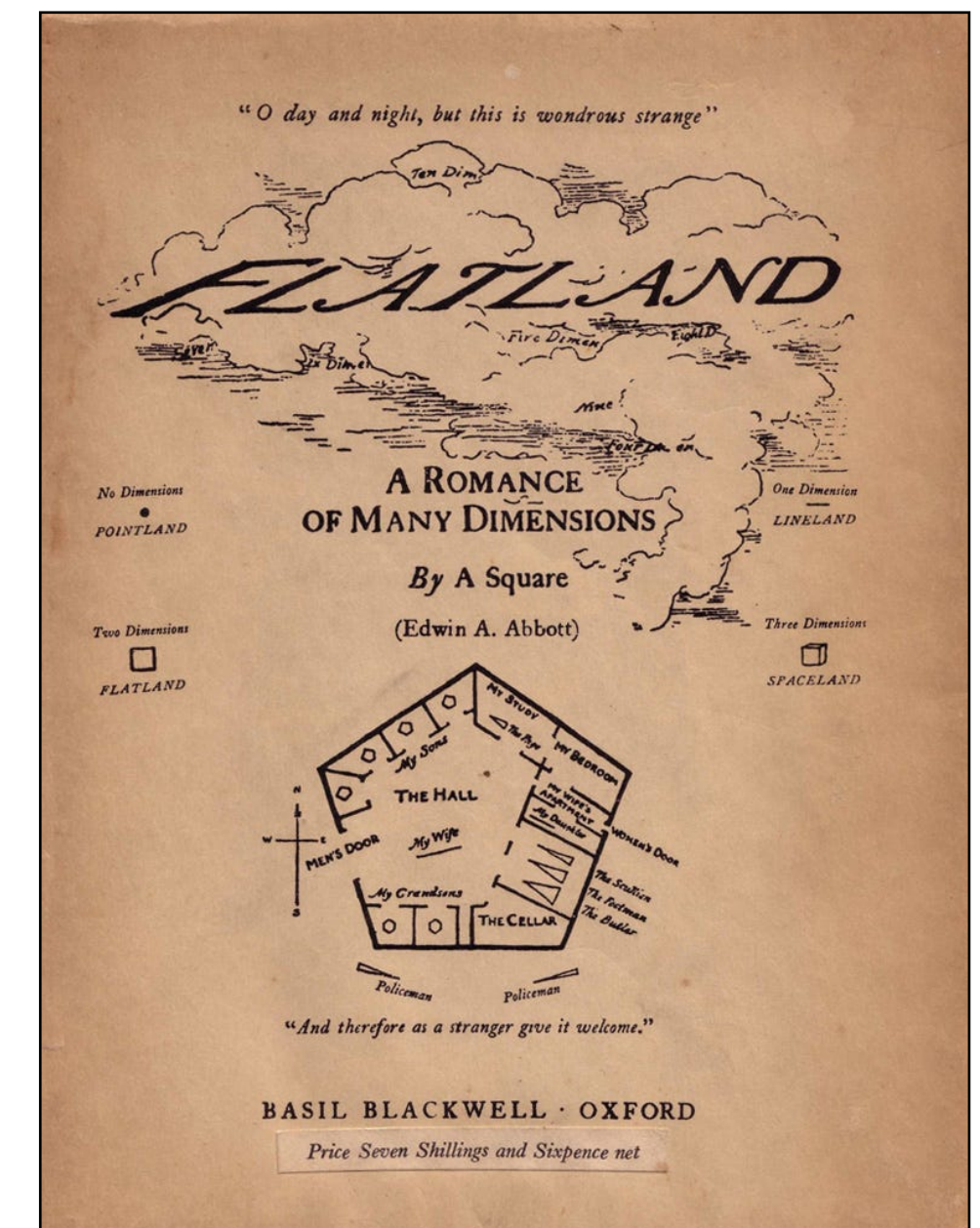
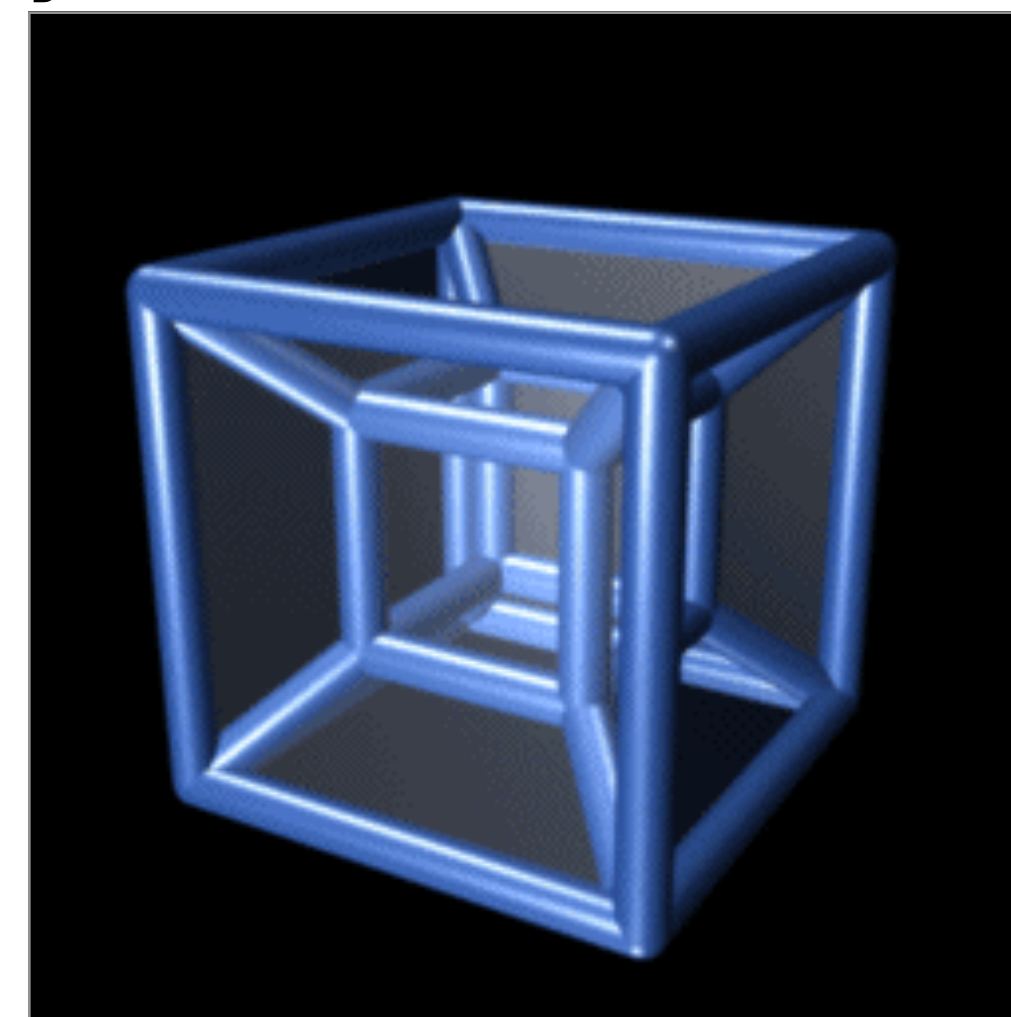
You would never "know" if that plane was sitting in some 3D space, and you'd never know if it was tilted.

You'd have to be "on the outside" to see this.

The moral. We have to be careful regarding our intuitions about higher-dimensional subspaces.

A 3D subspace of \mathbb{R}^7 "looks like" 3D space from the inside, but from the outside it may be "tilted."

Projection of the 4D cube



Subspace (Algebraic Definition)

Definition. A subspace of \mathbb{R}^n is a set H of vectors in \mathbb{R}^n such that

1. for every \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} in H , the vector $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}$ is in H
2. for every \mathbf{u} in H and scalar c , the vector $c\mathbf{u}$ is in H

Subspace (Algebraic Definition)

Definition. A subspace of \mathbb{R}^n is a set H of vectors in \mathbb{R}^n such that

1. for every \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} in H , the vector $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}$ is in H **H is closed under addition**
2. for every \mathbf{u} in H and scalar c , the vector $c\mathbf{u}$ is in H **H is closed under scaling**

Subspace (Algebraic Definition)

Definition. A subspace of \mathbb{R}^n is a set H of vectors in \mathbb{R}^n such that

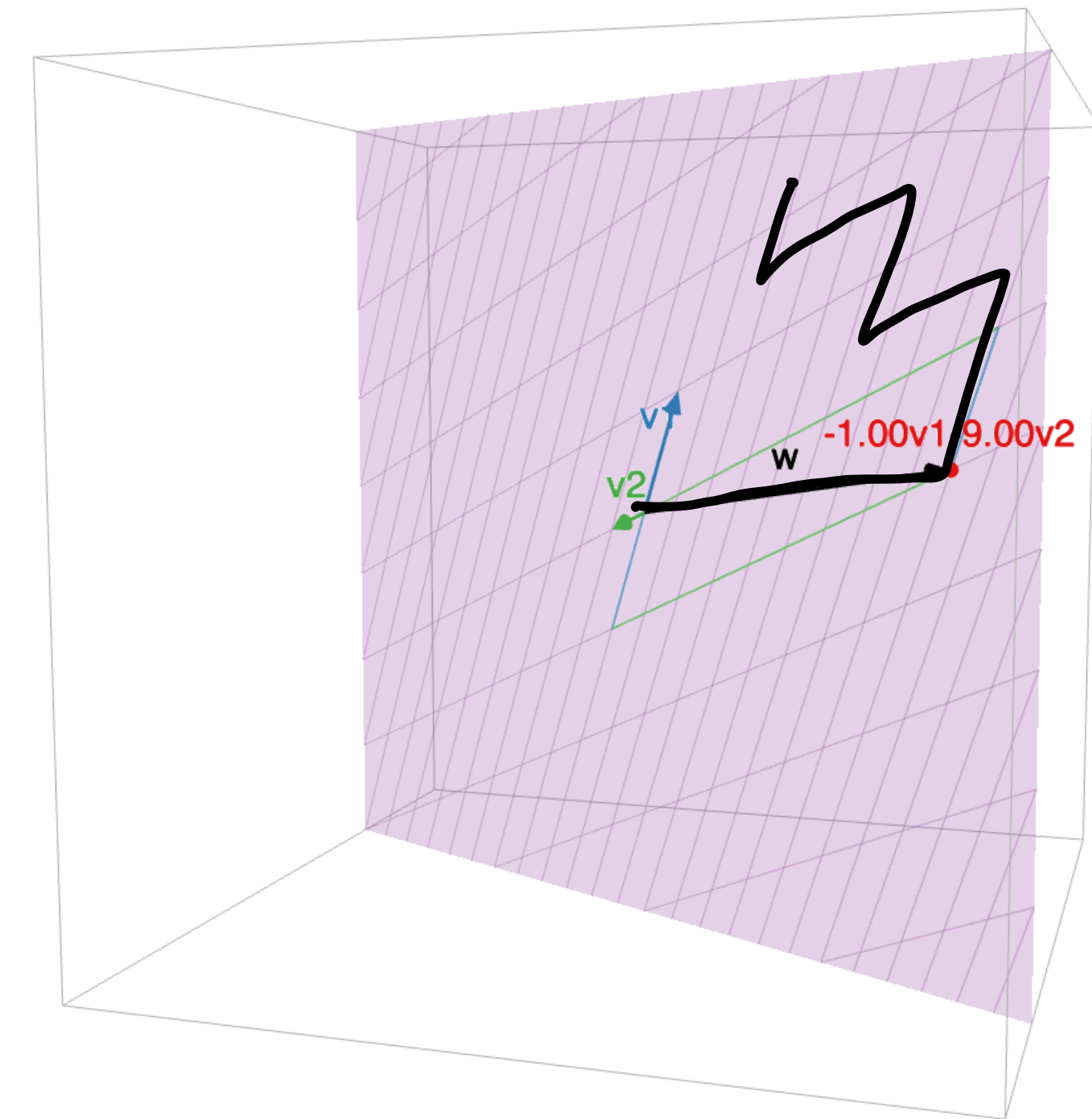
1. for every u and v in H , the vector $u+v$ is in H **H is closed under addition**
2. for every u in H and scalar c , the vector cu is in H **H is closed under scaling**

!! Subspaces must "live" somewhere !!

How to Think About this Definition

It's not possible to
"leave" H by addition } linear
or scaling. } comb.

(recall this is also how we discussed spans)



How To: Verifying Subspaces

How To: Verifying Subspaces

Question. Verify that H is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

How To: Verifying Subspaces

Question. Verify that H is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

Solution.

1. Show that if \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} are in H then so is $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}$.

How To: Verifying Subspaces

Question. Verify that H is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

Solution.

1. Show that if \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} are in H then so is $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}$.
2. Show that if \mathbf{u} is in H then so is $c\mathbf{u}$ for any scalar c .

How To: Verifying Non-Subspaces

How To: Verifying Non-Subspaces

Question. Verify that H is *not* a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

How To: Verifying Non-Subspaces

Question. Verify that H is *not* a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

Solution.

Find \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} in H such that $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}$ is not in H .

How To: Verifying Non-Subspaces

Question. Verify that H is *not* a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

Solution.

Find \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} in H such that $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}$ is not in H .

OR

Find \mathbf{u} in H such that $c\mathbf{u}$ is not in H for *some* scalar c .

Subspaces must include the origin

Fact. For any subspace H of \mathbb{R}^n , the zero vector is in H . In set notation: $\mathbf{0} \in H$

Verify:

$$\begin{array}{l} \vec{v} \in H \implies \mathbf{0} \vec{v} = \vec{\mathbf{0}} \in H \\ \Downarrow \\ -\vec{v} \in H \\ \Downarrow \\ \vec{v} - \vec{v} = \vec{\mathbf{0}} \in H \end{array}$$

closure under scaling

closure under addition

How To: Verifying Non-Subspaces

How To: Verifying Non-Subspaces

Question. Verify that H is *not* a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

How To: Verifying Non-Subspaces

Question. Verify that H is *not* a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

Solution.

Find \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} in H such that $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}$ is not in H .

How To: Verifying Non-Subspaces

Question. Verify that H is *not* a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

Solution.

Find \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} in H such that $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}$ is not in H .

OR

Find \mathbf{u} in H such that $c\mathbf{u}$ is not in H for *some* scalar c .

How To: Verifying Non-Subspaces

Question. Verify that H is *not* a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

Solution.

Find \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} in H such that $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}$ is not in H .

OR

Find \mathbf{u} in H such that $c\mathbf{u}$ is not in H for *some* scalar c .

OR

Show that $\mathbf{0}$ is not in H .

Example: The Origin

Fact. The set $\{\mathbf{0}_n\}$ is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n

Verify:

closure under $+$: $\vec{\mathbf{0}}_n + \vec{\mathbf{0}}_n = \vec{\mathbf{0}} \in \{\vec{\mathbf{0}}\}$ ✓

closure under scaling: $\vec{\mathbf{0}}_n \in \{\vec{\mathbf{0}}\}$ $c\vec{\mathbf{0}} = \vec{\mathbf{0}} \in \{\vec{\mathbf{0}}\}$ ✓

Example: \mathbb{R}^n

Fact. The set \mathbb{R}^n is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n (in other words, \mathbb{R}^n is a subspace of itself).

addition: $u \in \mathbb{R}^n \quad v \in \mathbb{R}^n \quad u+v \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ✓

scaling: $u \in \mathbb{R}^n \quad \Rightarrow \quad c u \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ✓

Example: Spans

Fact. For any set of vectors v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n of \mathbb{R}^n , the set $\text{span}\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

S

therefor $u+w \in S$

Verify:

addition: $u \in S$ $w \in S$

$$u = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i v_i$$

$$u + w = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i v_i + \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i v_i$$

$$w = \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i v_i$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n (\alpha_i + \gamma_i) v_i$$

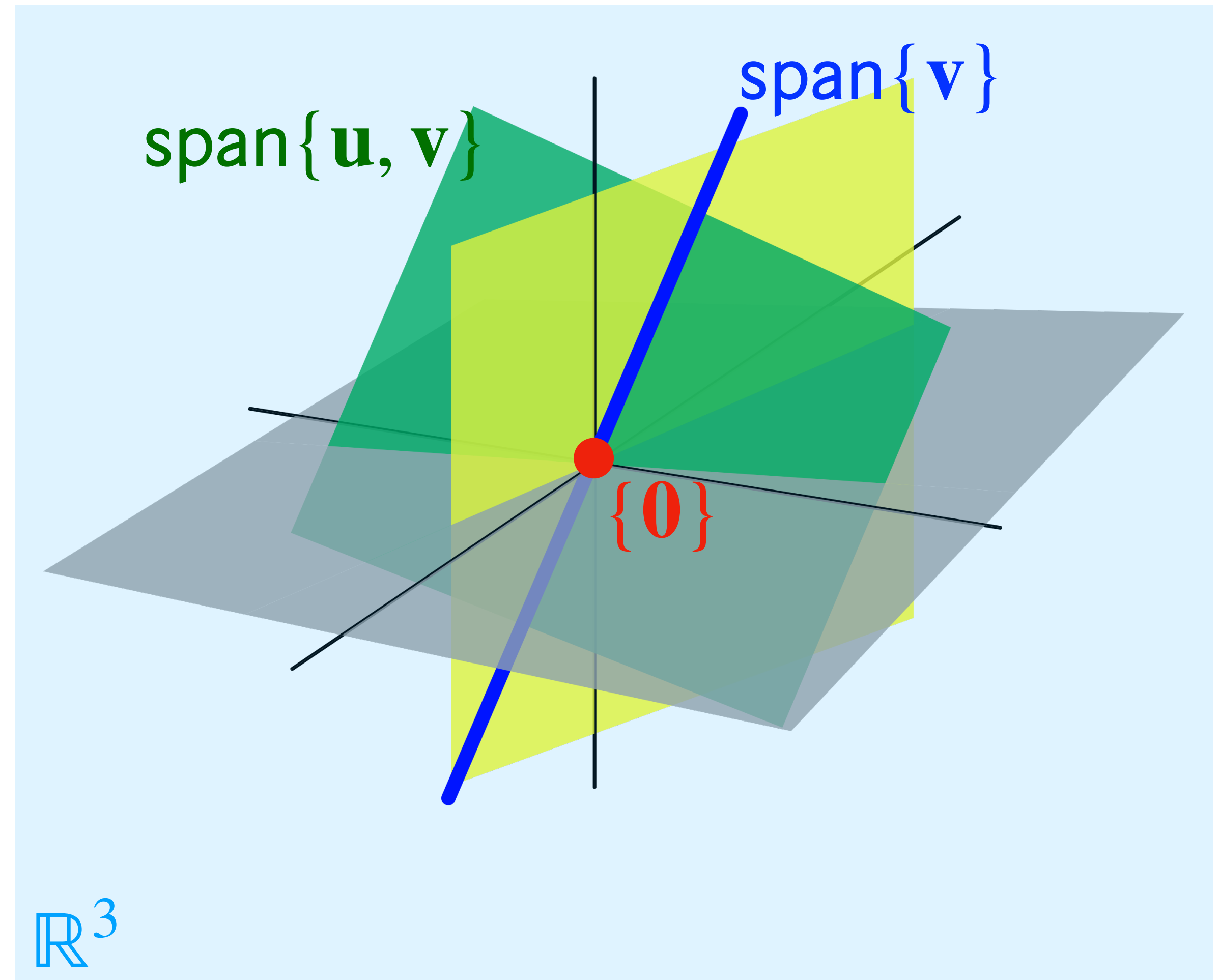
lin comb.
 v_1, \dots, v_n

scaling: exercise

Subspace in \mathbb{R}^3 (Geometrically)

There are only 4 kinds of subspaces of \mathbb{R}^3 :

1. $\{\mathbf{0}\}$ just the origin
2. lines (through the origin)
3. planes (through the origin)
4. All of \mathbb{R}^3



Non-Example: Bounded Sets

$$\begin{matrix} x \geq 3 & z \geq 3 & x+y \geq 6 \geq 3 \\ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \in S & \begin{bmatrix} z \\ w \end{bmatrix} \in S & \begin{bmatrix} x+y \\ z+w \end{bmatrix} \in S \end{matrix}$$

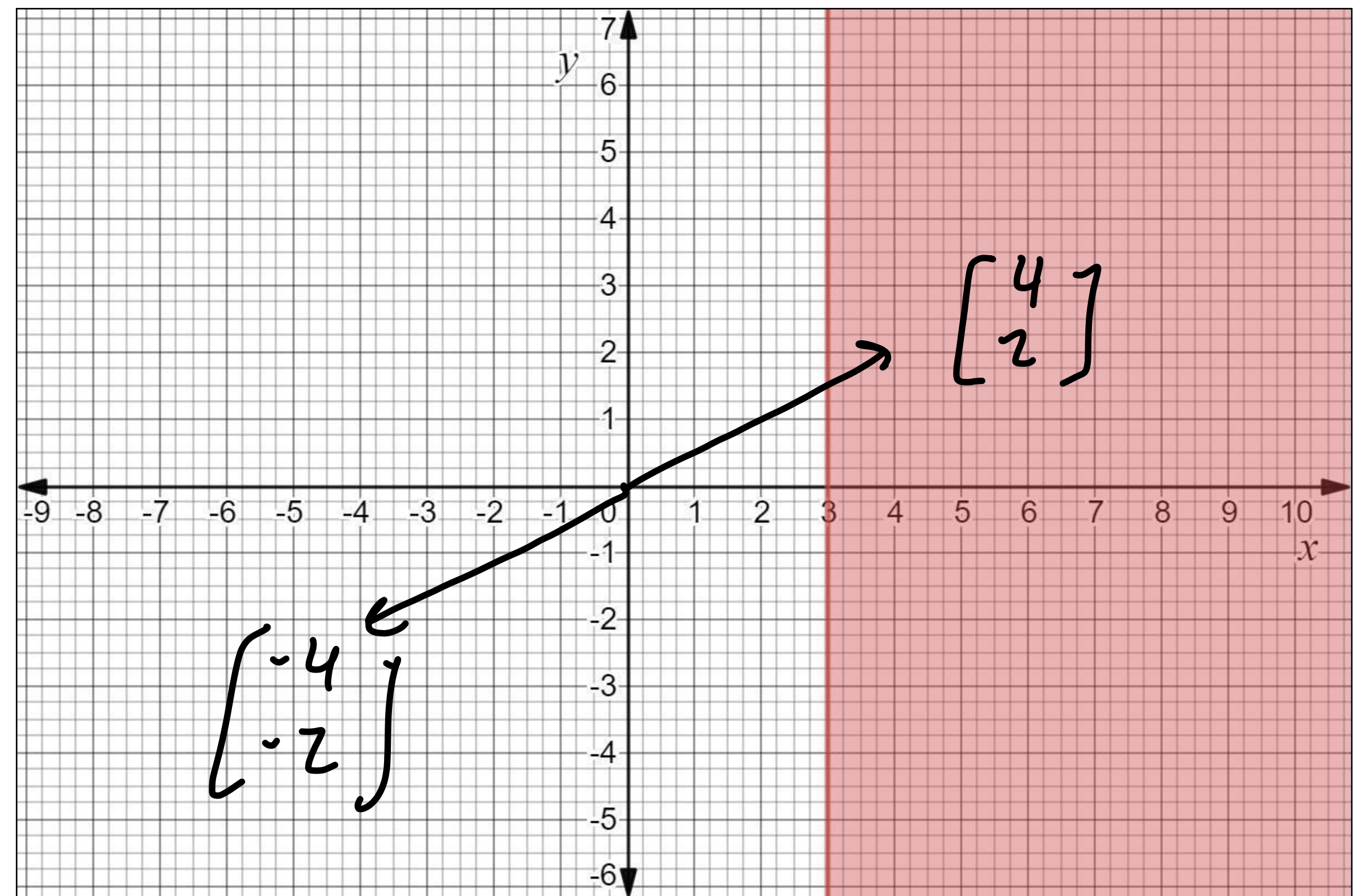
Fact. The set $\{(x, y) : x \geq 3\}$ is *not* a subspace of \mathbb{R}^2 .

Verify:

$$(-1) \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} \notin S$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \in S$$

therefore S is not closed under scaling



Question

1. Show that the unit sphere $\{(x, y, z) : x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1\}$ is not a subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 .
2. Show that the range of a linear transformation $T: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

Answer (1)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \in S$$

$$1^2 + 0^2 + 0^2 = 1$$

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

$$2^2 + 0^2 + 0^2 = 4 \neq 1$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \notin S$$

Answer (2)

$$\text{ran}(T)$$

$$u \in \text{ran}(T)$$

$$w \in \text{ran}(T)$$

then there are

$$r \in \text{dom}(T)$$

$$q \in \text{dom}(T)$$

s.t.

$$T(r) = u$$

$$T(q) = w$$

$$u + w = T(r) + T(q) = T(r+q) \Rightarrow$$

$$u + w \in \text{ran}(T)$$

scaling: exercise

How To: Subspaces and Span

Question. Show that v lies in the subspace generated by u_1, \dots, u_k .

Solution. Show that v is in $\text{span}\{u_1, \dots, u_k\}$.

We will start using "subspace generated by" and "span of" interchangeably.

Subspaces and Matrices

The Connection between Subspaces and Matrices

The Connection between Subspaces and Matrices

Since matrices can be viewed as...

- » collections of vectors
- » implementing linear transformations

The Connection between Subspaces and Matrices

Since matrices can be viewed as...

- » collections of vectors
- » implementing linear transformations

...they have many associated subspaces.

The Connection between Subspaces and Matrices

Since matrices can be viewed as...

- » collections of vectors
- » implementing linear transformations

...they have many associated subspaces.

Today we'll look at:

- » column space
- » null space

Column Space

Column Space

Definition. The **column space** of a matrix A , written $\text{Col}(A)$ or $\text{Col } A$, is the set of all linear combinations of the columns of A .

Column Space

Definition. The **column space** of a matrix A , written $\text{Col}(A)$ or $\text{Col } A$, is the set of all linear combinations of the columns of A .

The column space of a matrix is the span of its columns.

Column Space

Definition. The **column space** of a matrix A , written $\text{Col}(A)$ or $\text{Col } A$, is the set of all linear combinations of the columns of A .

The column space of a matrix is the span of its columns.

The column space of a matrix is the range of the linear transformation it implements.

Subspace of What?

$$m \left[\begin{array}{cccc} | & | & \dots & | & | \\ \mathbf{a}_1 & \mathbf{a}_2 & \dots & \mathbf{a}_{n-1} & \mathbf{a}_n \\ | & | & \dots & | & | \end{array} \right]$$

$c_1\mathbf{a}_1 + c_2\mathbf{a}_2 + \dots + c_n\mathbf{a}_n$ is a
vector in \mathbb{R}^m

$\text{Col}(A)$

is a subspace of

\mathbb{R}^m

Examples

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

A handwritten matrix $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$ with red circles around the entries 1, 2, and -1. A red arrow points from the top-right corner of the matrix towards the matrix A in the adjacent block.

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 4 \\ 2 & -2 & 5 \\ 3 & -3 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$v_1 = -v_2$$

$$v_1 \quad v_2 \quad v_3$$

Col(A) is all of \mathbb{R}^3

Col(B) is just span $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

Null Space

Null Space

Definition. The **null space** of a matrix A , written $\text{Nul}(A)$ or $\text{Nul } A$, is the set of all solutions to the homogenous equation

$$A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$$

Null Space

Definition. The **null space** of a matrix A , written $\text{Nul}(A)$ or $\text{Nul } A$, is the set of all solutions to the homogenous equation

$$A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$$

The null space of a matrix A is the set of all vectors that are mapped to the zero vector by A .

Subspace of What?

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{rows } m \\ \left| \begin{array}{c} \overbrace{A \mathbf{v}}^{n \text{ columns}} \\ \mathbf{v} \end{array} \right. = \mathbf{0} \\ \begin{array}{cc} m \times n & n \times 1 \\ & m \times 1 \end{array} \end{array}$$

v is a vector
in \mathbb{R}^n

$\text{Nul}(A)$

is a subspace of

\mathbb{R}^n

The Null Space is a Subspace

Fact. For any $m \times n$ matrix A , the set $\text{Nul}(A)$ is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

Verify: $u \in \text{Nul}(A)$

$$A\vec{u} = \vec{0} \quad A\vec{v} = \vec{0}$$

scaling: exercise

$v \in \text{Nul}(A)$

$$A(\vec{u} + \vec{v}) = A\vec{u} + A\vec{v}$$

$$= \vec{0} + \vec{0}$$

$$= \vec{0}$$

$$\Rightarrow u + v \in \text{Nul}(A)$$

Examples

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 4 \\ 2 & -2 & 5 \\ 3 & -3 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Nul}(A) = \{\mathbf{0}\} \quad \text{IMT}$$

Verify:

$$\text{Nul}(B) = \text{span}\{[1 \ 1 \ 0]^T\}$$

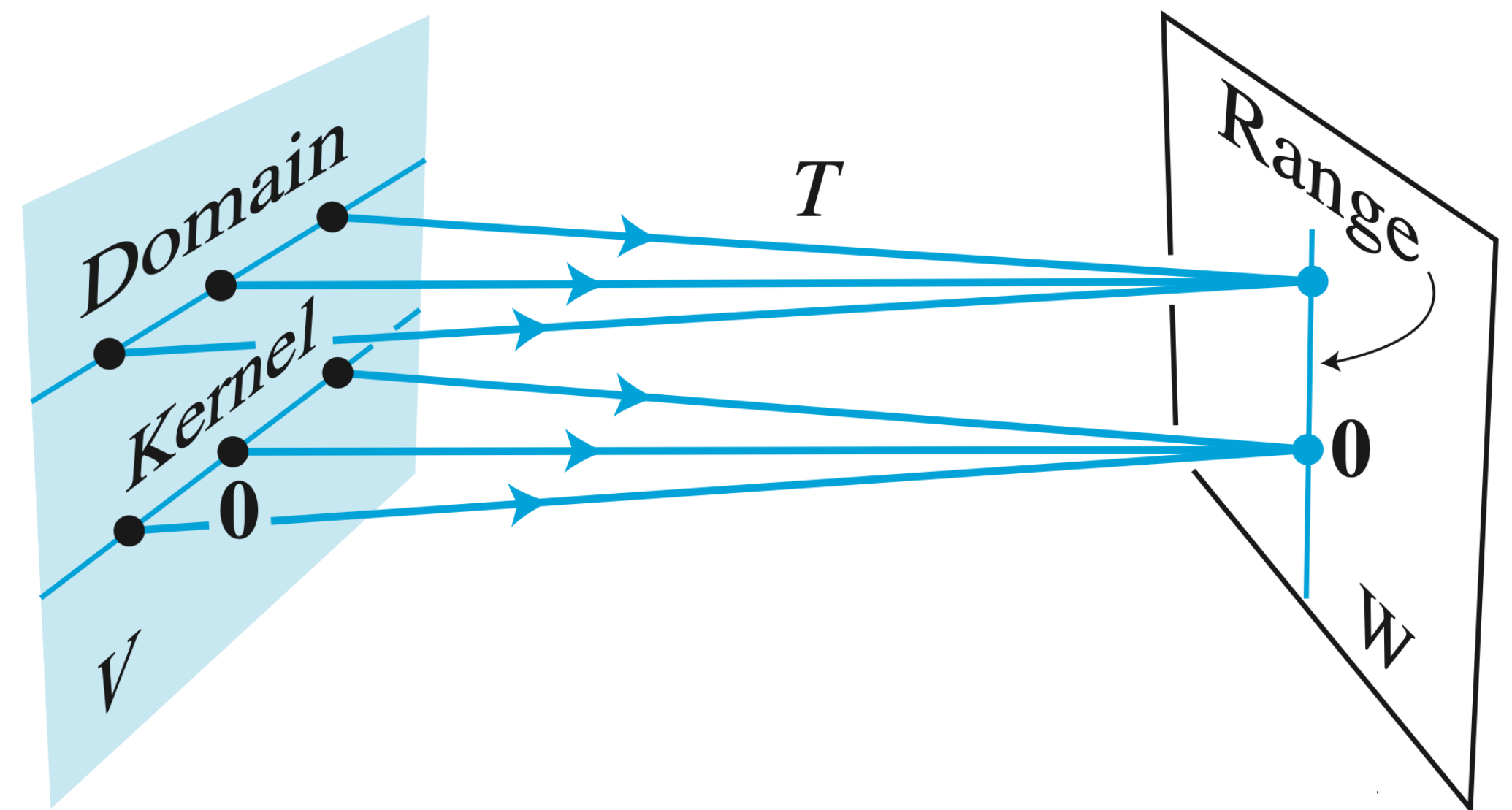
$$B \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Linear Transformations Perspective

If A implements the linear transformation T then:

» $\text{Col}(A)$ is the same as $\text{ran}(T)$, where vectors are "sent" by T

» $\text{Nul}(A)$ is the set of vectors "zeroed out" by T , which is sometimes called the **kernel** of T .



Comparing Column Space and Null Space

The column space and the null space live in entirely different spaces.

The point. They are not easily comparable

Contrast Between Nul A and Col A for an $m \times n$ Matrix A

Nul A	Col A
1. Nul A is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .	1. Col A is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^m .
2. Nul A is implicitly defined; that is, you are given only a condition ($A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$) that vectors in Nul A must satisfy.	2. Col A is explicitly defined; that is, you are told how to build vectors in Col A .
3. It takes time to find vectors in Nul A . Row operations on $[A \ \mathbf{0}]$ are required.	3. It is easy to find vectors in Col A . The columns of A are displayed; others are formed from them.
4. There is no obvious relation between Nul A and the entries in A .	4. There is an obvious relation between Col A and the entries in A , since each column of A is in Col A .
5. A typical vector \mathbf{v} in Nul A has the property that $A\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$.	5. A typical vector \mathbf{v} in Col A has the property that the equation $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{v}$ is consistent.
6. Given a specific vector \mathbf{v} , it is easy to tell if \mathbf{v} is in Nul A . Just compute $A\mathbf{v}$.	6. Given a specific vector \mathbf{v} , it may take time to tell if \mathbf{v} is in Col A . Row operations on $[A \ \mathbf{v}]$ are required.
7. Nul $A = \{\mathbf{0}\}$ if and only if the equation $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ has only the trivial solution.	7. Col $A = \mathbb{R}^m$ if and only if the equation $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ has a solution for every \mathbf{b} in \mathbb{R}^m .
8. Nul $A = \{\mathbf{0}\}$ if and only if the linear transformation $\mathbf{x} \mapsto A\mathbf{x}$ is one-to-one.	8. Col $A = \mathbb{R}^m$ if and only if the linear transformation $\mathbf{x} \mapsto A\mathbf{x}$ maps \mathbb{R}^n onto \mathbb{R}^m .

(just for reference)

Bases

The idea behind a basis

The idea behind a basis

We've already said spans are subspaces, but the converse true too.

The idea behind a basis

We've already said spans are subspaces, but the converse true too.

Every subspace is the span of a collection of vectors.

The idea behind a basis

We've already said spans are subspaces, but the converse true too.

Every subspace is the span of a collection of vectors.

A basis is a "minimal" choice of these vectors.

The idea behind a basis

We've already said spans are subspaces, but the converse true too.

Every subspace is the span of a collection of vectors.

A basis is a "minimal" choice of these vectors.

A basis is a "compact representation" of a subspace.

Recall: Standard Basis

Definition. The *n-dimensional standard basis vectors* (or standard coordinate vectors) are the vectors $\mathbf{e}_1, \dots, \mathbf{e}_n$ where

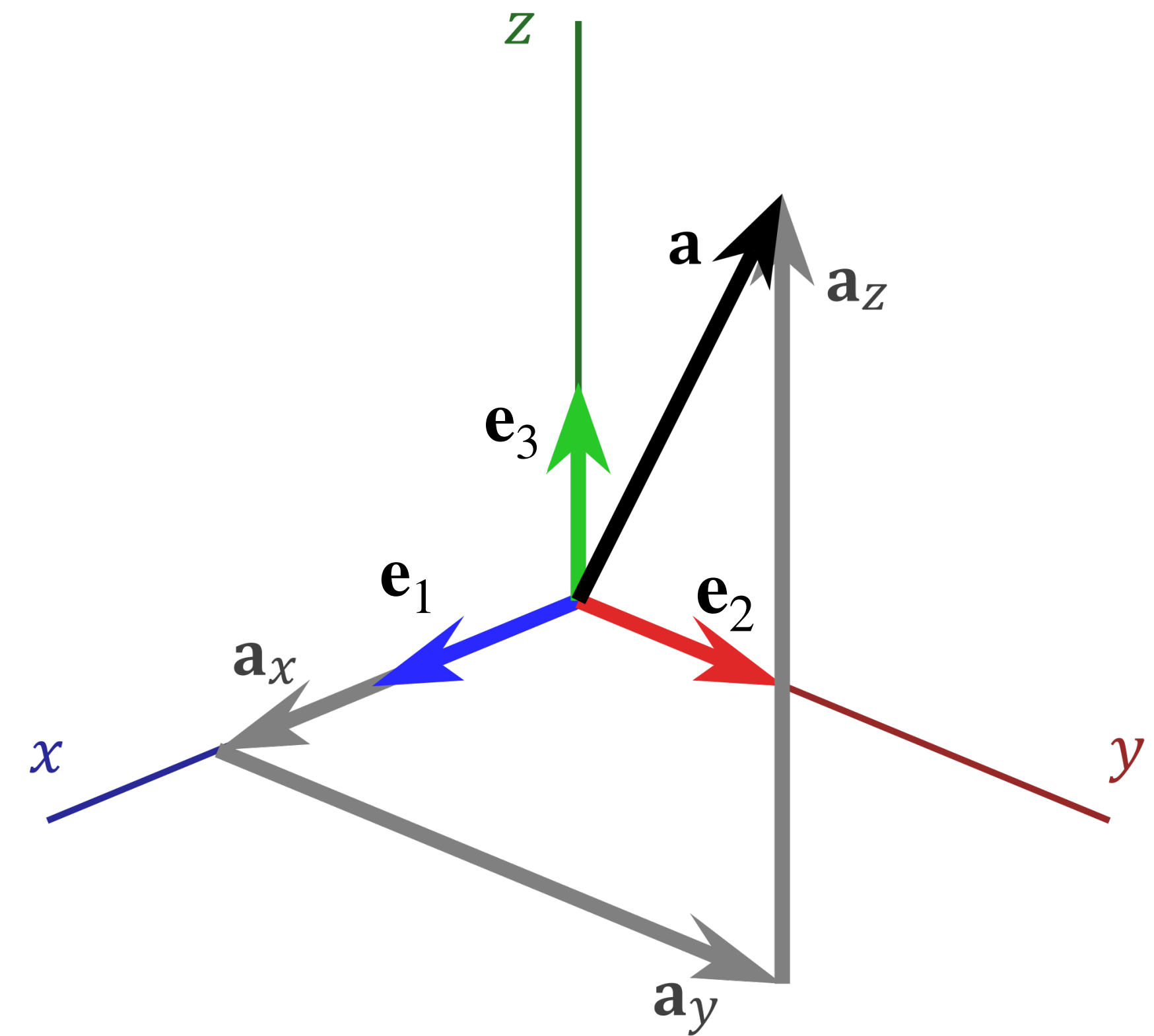
$$\mathbf{e}_i = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ \vdots \\ i-1 \\ i \\ i+1 \\ \vdots \\ n-1 \\ n \end{matrix}$$

Recall: Standard Basis

Definition (Alternative). The n -dimensional standard basis vectors $\mathbf{e}_1, \dots, \mathbf{e}_n$ are the columns of the $n \times n$ identity matrix.

$$I = [\mathbf{e}_1 \quad \mathbf{e}_2 \quad \dots \quad \mathbf{e}_n]$$

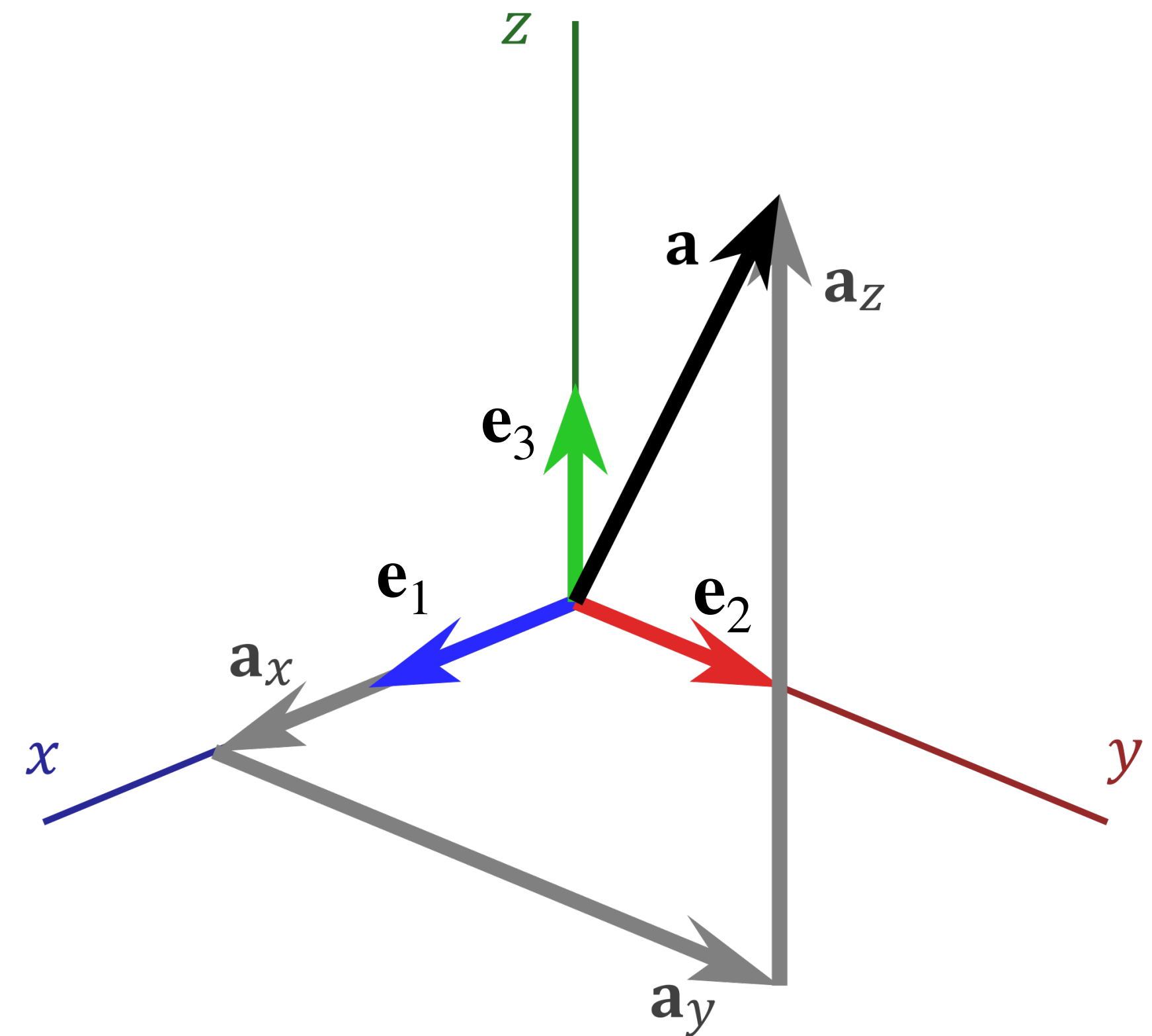
What was interesting about the standard basis?



What was interesting about the standard basis?

The n standard basis vectors
in \mathbb{R}^n :

- » are linearly independent
- » span all of \mathbb{R}^n

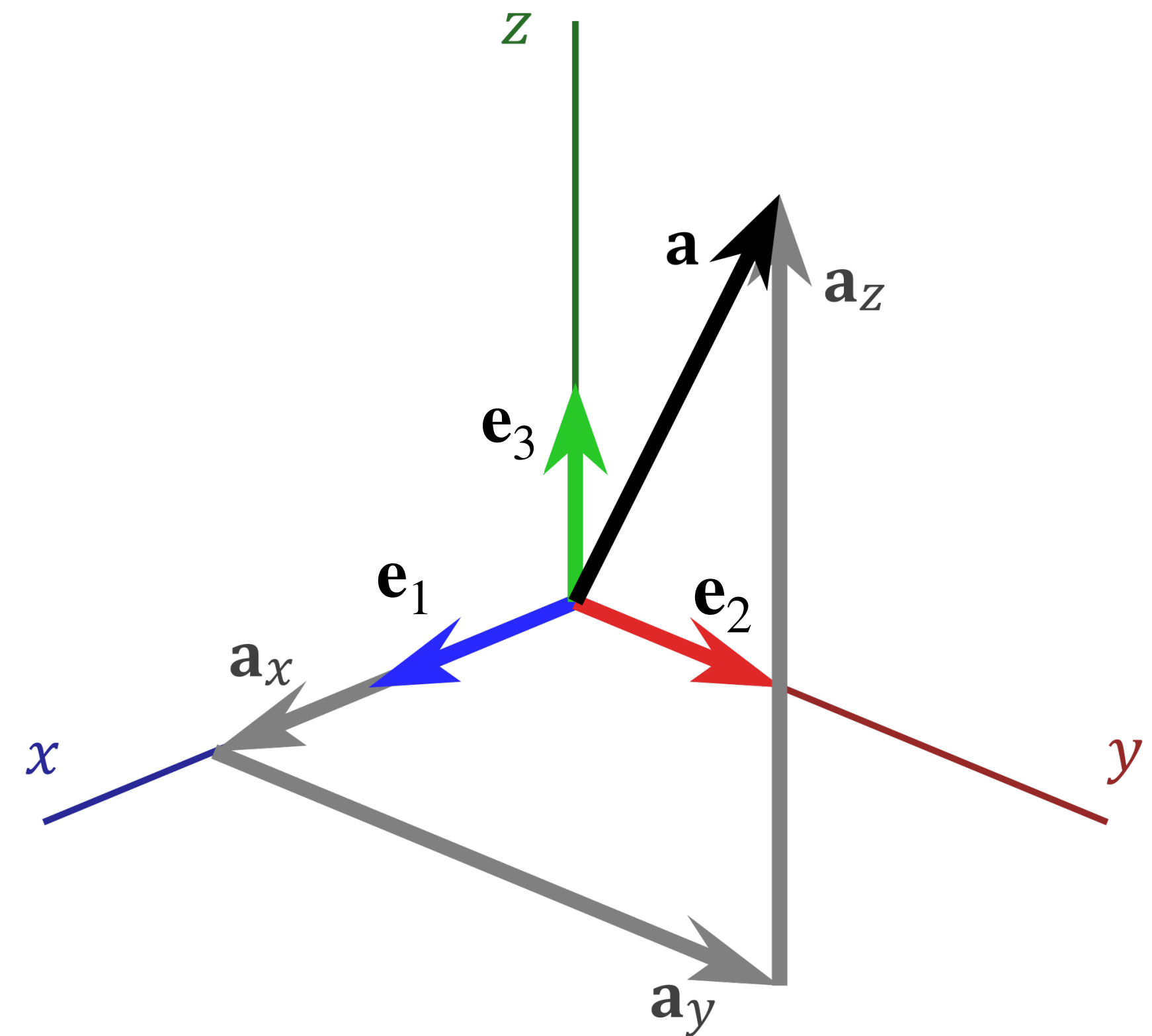


What was interesting about the standard basis?

The n standard basis vectors in \mathbb{R}^n :

- » are linearly independent
- » span all of \mathbb{R}^n

Their span is as "large" as possible while the set of vectors generating the span is as "small" as possible.



Basis

Basis

Definition. A **basis** for a subspace H of \mathbb{R}^n is a **linearly independent** set $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k\}$ of vectors that spans H (in symbols: $H = \text{span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k\}$).

A **basis** is a **minimal** set of vectors which spans all of H .

Example: Standard basis

The standard basis is a basis of \mathbb{R}^n .

$$\begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{bmatrix} = v_1 \mathbf{e}_1 + v_2 \mathbf{e}_2 + \dots + v_n \mathbf{e}_n$$

Column vectors are just weights for a linear combination of the standard basis

Example: Column Space of Invertible Matrices

Fact. The columns of an invertible $n \times n$ matrix form a basis of \mathbb{R}^n .

Verify: IMT

Example: Subsets of Spanning Sets

Example: Subsets of Spanning Sets

Theorem. If the vectors v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k span a subspace H then a subset of them form a basis of H .

$$H = \text{span} \{ v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k \}$$

Example: Subsets of Spanning Sets

Theorem. If the vectors v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k span a subspace H then a subset of them form a basis of H .

We can *remove* vectors from a spanning set until we get a basis.

Example: Subsets of Spanning Sets

Theorem. If the vectors v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k span a subspace H then a subset of them form a basis of H .

We can *remove* vectors from a spanning set until we get a basis.

How do we do this?

Example: Subsets of Spanning Sets

Theorem. If the vectors v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k span a subspace H then a subset of them form a basis of H .

We can *remove* vectors from a spanning set until we get a basis.

How do we do this?

As usual, by connecting back to matrices.

Question

$$S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -2 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

Is this set of vectors a basis for \mathbb{R}^3 ?

Answer

Solving tip. A set of vectors in \mathbb{R}^n spans \mathbb{R}^n if the standard basis is in their span.

show

$$e_1 \in S, \quad e_2 \in S, \quad e_3 \in S$$

Bases of Column Space and Null Space

The Goal of this Last Section

Determine how to find bases for the **column space** and the **null space** of a given matrix.

How to: Finding a basis for the null space

Question. Given a $m \times n$ matrix A find a basis for $\text{Nul}(A)$.

How to: Finding a basis for the null space

Question. Given a $m \times n$ matrix A find a basis for $\text{Nul}(A)$.

The idea. Describe the solutions of $Ax = 0$ as linear combination of vectors

Example

$$A \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 0 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Suppose A has the above reduced echelon form.

Let's write down a general form solution for A :

$$x_1 = 2x_2 + 4x_4 - 3x_5$$

x_2 is free

$$x_3 = -2x_4 + 2x_5$$

x_4 is free

x_5 is free

Parametric Solutions

We can think of our general form solution as a (linear) transformation.

$$x_1 = 2x_2 + x_4 - 3x_5$$

x_2 is free

$$x_3 = (-2)x_4 + 2x_5$$

x_4 is free

x_5 is free

≡

"given values for x_2 , x_3 , and x_4 , I can give you a solution"

Parametric Solutions

We can think of our general form solution as a (linear) transformation.

$$x_1 = 2x_2 + x_4 - 3x_5$$

x_2 is free

$$x_3 = (-2)x_4 + 2x_5$$

x_4 is free

x_5 is free

\equiv

$$\begin{bmatrix} s \\ t \\ u \end{bmatrix}$$

\mapsto

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2s + t - 3u \\ s \\ (-2)t + 2u \\ t \\ u \end{bmatrix}$$

Parametric Solutions

We can think of our general form solution as a (linear) transformation. **!! this transformation is only linear !!**
!! in the case of homogeneous equations !!

$$x_1 = 2x_2 + x_4 - 3x_5$$

x_2 is free

$$x_3 = (-2)x_4 + 2x_5$$

x_4 is free

x_5 is free

\equiv

$$\begin{bmatrix} s \\ t \\ u \end{bmatrix}$$

\mapsto

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2s + t - 3u \\ s \\ (-2)t + 2u \\ t \\ u \end{bmatrix}$$

Example

$$\begin{bmatrix} s \\ t \\ u \end{bmatrix} \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} 2s + t - 3u \\ s \\ (-2)t + 2u \\ t \\ u \end{bmatrix}$$

Let's find the matrix implementing this linear transformation:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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

Example

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

Example

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

Every solution to $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ can be written as an *image* of this transformation.

Example

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

Every solution to $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ can be written as an *image* of this transformation.

So every solution can be written as a linear combination of its columns.

Example

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

Every solution to $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ can be written as an *image* of this transformation.

So every solution can be written as a linear combination of its columns.

The columns of this matrix span $\text{Nul}(A)$.

Example

The columns of this matrix are linearly independent.

$$\begin{array}{l} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{array} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & -3 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$a_1 \quad a_2 \quad a_3$

Verify:

$$x \vec{a}_1 + y \vec{a}_2 + z \vec{a}_3 = \vec{0}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{array} \begin{array}{l} x + 0 + 0 = 0 \\ 0 + y + 0 = 0 \\ 0 + 0 + z = 0 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} x = 0 \\ y = 0 \\ z = 0 \end{array}$$

Example

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

The columns of this matrix span $\text{Nul}(A)$.

The columns of this matrix are linearly independent.

The columns of this matrix form a basis for $\text{Nul}(A)$.

Example

Alternatively, we can think of writing a general form solution so that it is a linear combination of vectors with free variables as weights:

$$\begin{array}{l} x_1 = 2x_2 + x_4 - 3x_5 \\ x_2 \text{ is free} \\ x_3 = (-2)x_4 + 2x_5 \\ x_4 \text{ is free} \\ x_5 \text{ is free} \end{array}$$

$$x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} +$$

$$x_4 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} +$$

$$x_5 \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

How to: Finding a basis for the null space

Question. Given a $m \times n$ matrix A find a basis for $\text{Nul}(A)$.

Solution.

1. Find a general form solution for $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$.
2. Write this solution as a linear combination of vectors where the free variables are the weights.
3. The resulting vectors form a basis for $\text{Nul}(A)$.

An Observation

The *number* of vectors in the basis we found is the same as the number of free variables in a general form solution.

$$x_1 = 2x_2 + x_4 - 3x_5$$

x_2 is free

$$x_3 = (-2)x_4 + 2x_5$$

x_4 is free

x_5 is free

\equiv

$$\begin{bmatrix} s \\ t \\ u \end{bmatrix}$$

\mapsto

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2s + t - 3u \\ s \\ (-2)t + 2u \\ t \\ u \end{bmatrix}$$

Practice Problem

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 7 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Suppose A has the above RREF. Determine a basis for $\text{Col}(A)$

Answer

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 7 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

onto column space...

How To: Finding a basis for the column space

How To: Finding a basis for the column space

Question. Given a $m \times n$ matrix A , find a basis for $\text{Col}(A)$.

How To: Finding a basis for the column space

Question. Given a $m \times n$ matrix A , find a basis for $\text{Col}(A)$.

We already know the columns of A span $\text{Col}(A)$.

How To: Finding a basis for the column space

Question. Given a $m \times n$ matrix A , find a basis for $\text{Col}(A)$.

We already know the columns of A span $\text{Col}(A)$.

So we also already know *some* subset of columns of A form a basis for $\text{Col}(A)$.

How To: Finding a basis for the column space

Question. Given a $m \times n$ matrix A , find a basis for $\text{Col}(A)$.

We already know the columns of A span $\text{Col}(A)$.

So we also already know *some* subset of columns of A form a basis for $\text{Col}(A)$.

Which vectors should we choose?

Column Space and Reduced Echelon form

$$[\mathbf{a}_1 \quad \mathbf{a}_2 \quad \mathbf{a}_3 \quad \mathbf{a}_4 \quad \mathbf{a}_5] \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 0 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Column Space and Reduced Echelon form

$$[\mathbf{a}_1 \quad \mathbf{a}_2 \quad \mathbf{a}_3 \quad \mathbf{a}_4 \quad \mathbf{a}_5] \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 0 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The idea. What if we cover up the non-pivot columns?

Column Space and Reduced Echelon form

$$[\mathbf{a}_1 \quad \blacksquare \quad \mathbf{a}_3 \quad \blacksquare \quad \blacksquare] \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \blacksquare & 0 & \blacksquare & \blacksquare \\ 0 & \blacksquare & 1 & \blacksquare & \blacksquare \\ 0 & \blacksquare & 0 & \blacksquare & \blacksquare \end{bmatrix}$$

The idea. What if we cover up the non-pivot columns?
Then we see $[\mathbf{a}_1 \quad \mathbf{a}_3]$ has 2 pivots.

Column Space and Reduced Echelon form

$$[\mathbf{a}_1 \quad \blacksquare \quad \mathbf{a}_3 \quad \blacksquare \quad \blacksquare] \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \blacksquare & 0 & \blacksquare & \blacksquare \\ 0 & \blacksquare & 1 & \blacksquare & \blacksquare \\ 0 & \blacksquare & 0 & \blacksquare & \blacksquare \end{bmatrix}$$

The idea. What if we cover up the non-pivot columns?

Then we see $[\mathbf{a}_1 \quad \mathbf{a}_3]$ has 2 pivots.

So the pivot columns are linearly independent.

Column Space and Reduced Echelon form

$$[\mathbf{a}_1 \quad \mathbf{a}_2 \quad \mathbf{a}_3 \quad \mathbf{a}_4 \quad \mathbf{a}_5] \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 0 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Column Space and Reduced Echelon form

$$\begin{bmatrix} \overset{2}{\mathbf{a}_1} & \overset{1}{\mathbf{a}_2} & \blacksquare & \blacksquare & \blacksquare \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} \overset{2}{1} & \overset{1}{-2} & \blacksquare & \blacksquare & \blacksquare \\ 0 & 0 & \blacksquare & \blacksquare & \blacksquare \\ 0 & 0 & \blacksquare & \blacksquare & \blacksquare \end{bmatrix}$$

Observation. $[2 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0]^T$ is a solution to the system $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$.

Column Space and Reduced Echelon form

$$\begin{bmatrix} \overset{2}{\mathbf{a}_1} & \overset{1}{\mathbf{a}_2} & \blacksquare & \blacksquare & \blacksquare \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} \overset{2}{1} & \overset{1}{-2} & \blacksquare & \blacksquare & \blacksquare \\ \overset{2}{0} & \overset{1}{0} & \blacksquare & \blacksquare & \blacksquare \\ \overset{2}{0} & \overset{1}{0} & \blacksquare & \blacksquare & \blacksquare \end{bmatrix}$$

Observation. $[2 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0]^T$ is a solution to the system $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$.

So $2\mathbf{a}_1 + \mathbf{a}_2 = \mathbf{0}$ and $\mathbf{a}_2 = (-2)\mathbf{a}_1$.

Column Space and Reduced Echelon form

$$[\mathbf{a}_1 \quad \mathbf{a}_2 \quad \mathbf{a}_3 \quad \mathbf{a}_4 \quad \mathbf{a}_5] \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 0 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Observation. $[2 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0]^T$ is a solution to the system $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$.

So $2\mathbf{a}_1 + \mathbf{a}_2 = \mathbf{0}$ and $\mathbf{a}_2 = (-2)\mathbf{a}_1$.

In general, every non-pivot column of A can be written as a linear combination pivots in front of it.

Column Space and Reduced Echelon form

$$[\mathbf{a}_1 \quad \mathbf{a}_2 \quad \mathbf{a}_3 \quad \mathbf{a}_4 \quad \mathbf{a}_5] \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 0 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Observation. $[2 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0]^T$ is a solution to the system $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$.

So $2\mathbf{a}_1 + \mathbf{a}_2 = \mathbf{0}$ and $\mathbf{a}_2 = (-2)\mathbf{a}_1$.

In general, every non-pivot column of A can be written as a linear combination pivots in front of it.

This tells us that \mathbf{a}_1 and \mathbf{a}_3 span $\text{Col}(A)$.

Column Space and Reduced Echelon form

$$[\mathbf{a}_1 \quad \mathbf{a}_2 \quad \mathbf{a}_3 \quad \mathbf{a}_4 \quad \mathbf{a}_5] \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 0 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Column Space and Reduced Echelon form

$$[\mathbf{a}_1 \quad \mathbf{a}_2 \quad \mathbf{a}_3 \quad \mathbf{a}_4 \quad \mathbf{a}_5] \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 0 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The takeaway. The pivot columns of A form a basis for $\text{Col}(A)$.

Column Space and Reduced Echelon form

$$[\mathbf{a}_1 \quad \mathbf{a}_2 \quad \mathbf{a}_3 \quad \mathbf{a}_4 \quad \mathbf{a}_5] \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 0 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The takeaway. The pivot columns of A form a basis for $\text{Col}(A)$.

!! IMPORTANT !!

Choose the columns of A .

(e_1 and e_2 do not necessarily form a basis for $\text{Col}(A)$)

How To: Finding a basis for the column space

Question. Given a $m \times n$ matrix A , find a basis for $\text{Col}(A)$.

Solution.

1. Find the pivot columns in an echelon form of A .
2. The associated columns in A form a basis for $\text{Col}(A)$.

General Tip

A lot of information can be gleaned from the (reduced) echelon form of a matrix.

You shouldn't do reductions without thinking, but when you're stuck, reduce and maybe you can find a solution in that matrix.

Question

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 19 & 0 & -4 \\ 1 & 0 & 9 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 14 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 9 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -5 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Find a bases for the column space and null space of A .

Answer

Summary

Subspaces define "tilted versions" of \mathbb{R}^k in \mathbb{R}^n (where $k \leq n$).

Bases are compact representation of subspaces as minimal spanning sets.

Matrices have useful associated subspaces like the column space and null space.