

1 2 3 4 5 6

Lesson concepts:

- Vectors
- Vector operations
- Linear combinations
- Matrix vector multiplication

1 2 3 4 5 6

- Some quantities arising in applications can be expressed as single numbers, called “scalars”
 - Speed of a car on a highway $v = 35$ mph
 - A person’s height $H = 183$ cm
- Many other quantities require more than one number:
 - Position in a city: “Intersection of 86th St and 3rd Av”
 - Position in 3D space: (x, y, z)
 - Velocity in 3D space: (u, v, w)

1 2 3 4 5 6

Definition. A *vector* is a grouping of m scalars

$$\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ \vdots \\ v_m \end{pmatrix} \in S^m, v_i \in S$$

- The scalars usually are naturals ($S = \mathbb{N}$), integers ($S = \mathbb{Z}$), rationals ($S = \mathbb{Q}$), reals ($S = \mathbb{R}$), or complex numbers ($S = \mathbb{C}$)
- We often denote the dimension and set of scalars through the notation $\mathbf{v} \in S^m$, e.g. $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^m$
- Sets of vectors are denoted as

$$\mathcal{V} = \left\{ \mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ \vdots \\ v_m \end{pmatrix}, v_i \in S \right\} \quad (1)$$

- A vector can also be interpreted as a function from a subset of $\mathbb{N}$ to S

$$v: \{1, 2, \dots, m\} \rightarrow S$$

1 2 3 4 5 6

- **Vector addition.** Consider two vectors $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{V}$. We define the sum of the two vectors as the vector containing the sum of the components

$$\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ \vdots \\ u_m \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ \vdots \\ v_m \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} u_1 + v_1 \\ u_2 + v_2 \\ \vdots \\ u_m + v_m \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \\ \vdots \\ w_m \end{pmatrix}$$

- **Scalar multiplication.** Consider $\alpha \in S$, $\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{V}$. We define the multiplication of vector $\mathbf{u}$ by scalar α as the vector containing the product of each component of $\mathbf{u}$ with the scalar α

$$\mathbf{w} = \alpha \mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha u_1 \\ \alpha u_2 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha u_m \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \\ \vdots \\ w_m \end{pmatrix}$$

- **Linear combination.** Let $\alpha, \beta \in S$, $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{V}$. Define a linear combination of vectors by

$$\mathbf{w} = \alpha \mathbf{u} + \beta \mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha u_1 \\ \alpha u_2 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha u_m \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \beta v_1 \\ \beta v_2 \\ \vdots \\ \beta v_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha u_1 + \beta v_1 \\ \alpha u_2 + \beta v_2 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha u_m + \beta v_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \\ \vdots \\ w_m \end{pmatrix}$$

1 2 3 4 5 6

"Start at the center of town. Go east 3 blocks and north 2 blocks. What is your final position?"

$$\mathbf{s} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{e}_E = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{e}_N = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\alpha_E = 3, \alpha_N = 2$$

$$\mathbf{f} = \mathbf{s} + \alpha_E \mathbf{e}_E + \alpha_N \mathbf{e}_N = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + 3 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + 2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Linear combinations allow us to express a position in space using a standard set of directions.
Questions:

- How many standard directions are needed?
- Can any position be specified as a linear combination?
- How to find the scalars needed to express a position as a linear combination?

1 2 3 4 5 6

Seek a more compact notation for the linear combination

$$a \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + b \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + c \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a - b + 2c \\ 2a \\ 3a + b + c \end{pmatrix}$$

- Group the vectors together to form a “matrix”

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Group the scalars together to form a vector

$$\mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix}$$

- Define matrix-vector multiplication

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a - b + 2c \\ 2a \\ 3a + b + c \end{pmatrix}$$