

2.5.1 Exercise: Linear combinations from the point of view of systems of linear equations.

1. For each part below, consider the column/row vectors denoted by $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3, \dots$ and \mathbf{v} here.

- Determine whether \mathbf{v} is a linear combination of $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3, \dots$, and
- when it is, write down a linear relation relating \mathbf{v} with $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3, \dots$.

(a) $\mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}.$

(b) $\mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -4 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -5 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -5 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}.$

(c) $\mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 9 \\ -4 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}.$

(d) $\mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 5 \\ 3 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 9 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$

(e) $\mathbf{u}_1 = [2 \ 4 \ 6], \mathbf{u}_2 = [-1 \ 1 \ 0], \mathbf{u}_3 = [6 \ 10 \ 20], \mathbf{v} = [4 \ 13 \ 19].$

(f) $\mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 3 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}.$

(g) $\mathbf{u}_1 = [1 \ 2 \ 2 \ 1], \mathbf{u}_2 = [3 \ 5 \ 4 \ 5], \mathbf{u}_3 = [2 \ 3 \ -1 \ 7], \mathbf{v} = [3 \ 5 \ -2 \ 11].$

(h) $\mathbf{u}_1 = [1 \ 2 \ 7 \ 1 \ -1], \mathbf{u}_2 = [3 \ 2 \ 5 \ -1 \ 9], \mathbf{u}_3 = [1 \ 1 \ 3 \ 1 \ 0], \mathbf{v} = [1 \ -1 \ -5 \ 2 \ 0].$

2. (a) Let α be a number, and let $\mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v}(\alpha) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ \alpha \end{bmatrix}.$

For which value(s) of α is $\mathbf{v}(\alpha)$ a linear combination of $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2$? Justify your answer.

(b) Let α be a number, and let $\mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v}(\alpha) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \alpha \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}.$

For which value(s) of α is $\mathbf{v}(\alpha)$ a linear combination of $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2$? Justify your answer.

(c) Let α be a number, and let $\mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2(\alpha) = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ \alpha \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}.$

For which value(s) of α is \mathbf{v} a linear combination of $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2(\alpha)$? Justify your answer. For such value(s) of α , also write down a linear relation relating \mathbf{v} with $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2(\alpha)$.

(d) Let α be a number, and let $\mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_3(\alpha) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ \alpha \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$

For which value(s) of α is \mathbf{v} a linear combination of $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3(\alpha)$? Justify your answer. For such value(s) of α , also write down a linear relation relating \mathbf{v} with $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3(\alpha)$.

(e) Let $\mathbf{u}_1 = [1 \ 1 \ 2], \mathbf{u}_2 = [1 \ 2 \ 3], \mathbf{u}_3 = [1 \ 3 \ 4], \mathbf{v}(\alpha) = [1 \ \alpha \ 1].$

For which value(s) of α is $\mathbf{v}(\alpha)$ a linear combination of $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3$? Justify your answer. For such value(s) of α , also write down a linear relation relating $\mathbf{v}(\alpha)$ with $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3$.

(f) Let α be a number, and let $\mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_3(\alpha) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \alpha \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v}(\alpha) = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ \alpha \end{bmatrix}.$

For which value(s) of α is $\mathbf{v}(\alpha)$ a linear combination of $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3(\alpha)$? Justify your answer. For such value(s) of α , also write down a linear relation relating $\mathbf{v}(\alpha)$ with $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3(\alpha)$.

(g) Let α, β be numbers, and let $\mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ 3 \\ 10 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v}(\alpha, \beta) = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ 0 \\ \beta \\ \alpha + \beta \end{bmatrix}$

For which value(s) of α, β is $\mathbf{v}(\alpha, \beta)$ a linear combination of $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3, \mathbf{u}_4$? Justify your answer. For such value(s) of α, β , also write down a linear relation relating $\mathbf{v}(\alpha, \beta)$ with $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3, \mathbf{u}_4$.

3. Let $\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3, \mathbf{a}_4, \mathbf{a}_5$ be column vectors with 4 entries, and $A = [\mathbf{a}_1 \mid \mathbf{a}_2 \mid \mathbf{a}_3 \mid \mathbf{a}_4 \mid \mathbf{a}_5]$.

Suppose the reduced row-echelon form A' , given by

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

is resultant from the application on A of the sequence of row operations $R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2, -1R_1 + R_2, 2R_1 + R_3, 3R_2 + R_4$:

$$A \xrightarrow{R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2} \xrightarrow{-1R_1 + R_2} \xrightarrow{2R_1 + R_3} \xrightarrow{3R_2 + R_4} A'$$

- (a) Write down a column vector \mathbf{b}' with 4 entries for which $\mathcal{LS}(A', \mathbf{b}')$ is inconsistent. Justify your answer.
- (b) Hence, or otherwise, find a column vector \mathbf{b} with 4 entries which is not a linear combination of $\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3, \mathbf{a}_4, \mathbf{a}_5$. Justify your answer.