



**SIS**

Scuola Interdipartimentale  
delle Scienze, dell'Ingegneria  
e della Salute



# L. Magistrale in IA (ML&BD)

## Scientific Computing (part 2 – 6 credits)

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# Contents

## ➤ **Linear spaces and subspaces.**

# Basics of Algebra

## Commutative group (or abelian group) $\langle G, \# \rangle$

It is a set  $G$  together with an operation  $\#$  such that:

$$\forall \alpha, \beta \in G, \alpha \# \beta \in G$$

1.  $\forall \alpha, \beta, \gamma \in G \quad (\alpha \# \beta) \# \gamma = \alpha \# (\beta \# \gamma)$  (associativity of  $\#$ )
2.  $\exists \alpha_0 \quad \beta \# \alpha_0 = \beta$  ( $\exists$  identity element)
3.  $\forall \beta \exists \beta^* : \beta \# \beta^* = \alpha_0$  ( $\exists$  inverse element)
4.  $\forall \alpha, \beta \quad \alpha \# \beta = \beta \# \alpha$  (commutativity of  $\#$ )

## Field $\langle A, +, \times \rangle$

It is a set  $A$  that is a *commutative group* with respect to two compatible operations, addition (+) and multiplication ( $\times$ ).

In addition the following property holds:

$$\forall a, b, c \in A, \quad a \times (b + c) = a \times b + a \times c$$

(distributivity of  $\times$  over  $+$ )

# Linear (or vector) spaces

Let  $X$  be a set (named as *support* of the space) and  $K$  a *field of numbers* (usually  $K$  is  $\mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$ ).

$\langle X, K, +, * \rangle$  is a **LINEAR SPACE** (or **VECTOR SPACE**) if  $X$  is a collection of objects called **vectors**, which may be added together (+) and multiplied (\*) or “scaled” by numbers in  $K$ , called **scalars** in this context:

- **addition**

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{internal} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \text{inside the space} \\ + : (u, v) \in X \times X \longrightarrow u + v \in X \end{array}$$

- **multiplication by a scalar**

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{external} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \text{inside the space} \\ * : (\alpha, v) \in K \times X \longrightarrow \alpha * v = \alpha v \in X \end{array}$$

# addition and multiplication: properties

1  $\exists 0 \in X : \forall x \in X \quad x + 0 = x$  (existence and unicity of identity element or zero vector)

2  $\forall x \in X \exists -x \in X : x + (-x) = 0$  (existence and unicity of the opposite, or additive inverse, of  $x$ )

3  $\forall x, y \in X \quad x + y = y + x$  (commutativity law)

4  $\forall x, y, z \in X \quad (x + y) + z = x + (y + z)$  (associativity law)

5  $\forall x \in X, \forall \alpha, \beta \in K \quad \alpha(\beta x) = (\alpha\beta)x$  (compatibility of scalar multiplication with field multiplication)

6  $\forall x \in X, \forall \alpha, \beta \in K \quad (\alpha + \beta)x = \alpha x + \beta x$  } (distributivity law)

7  $\forall x, y \in X, \forall \alpha \in K \quad \alpha(x + y) = \alpha x + \alpha y$  }

Usually the multiplication symbol is omitted

# Linear combination of two vectors

Given two scalars  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  and two vectors  $u$  and  $v$ , then the  $w$  vector defined as

$$w = \alpha u + \beta v$$

is named as **linear combination** of  $u$  and  $v$ .

A linear space contains all the **linear combinations** of its vectors.

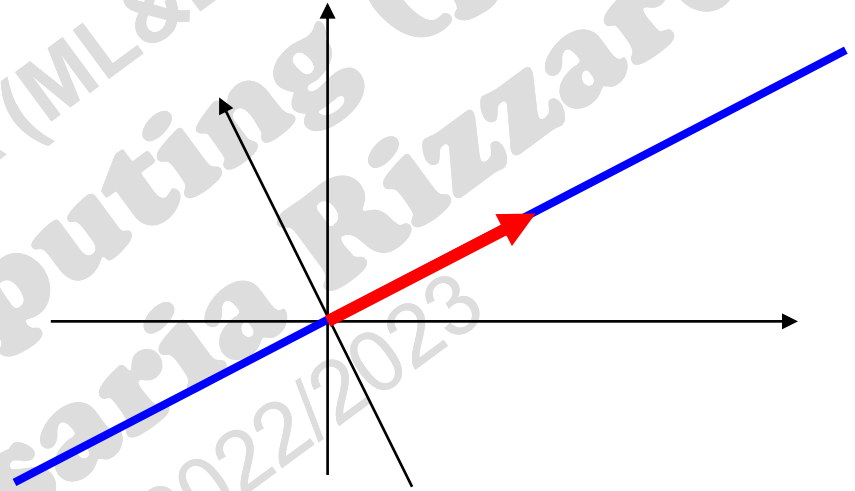
# Examples of Linear spaces

- ❖  $\mathbb{R}^2$ : set of vectors in the plane (a pair of real components).
- ❖  $\mathbb{C}^2$ : set of vectors with two complex components.
- ❖  $\mathbb{R}^3$ : set of vectors with three real components.
- ❖  $\mathbb{C}^3$ : set of vectors with three complex components.
- ❖  $\mathbb{R}^n$ : set of vectors with  $n$  real components ( $n$ -tuple).
- ❖  $\mathbb{C}^n$ : set of vectors with  $n$  complex components.
- ❖  $M_{(m \times n)}(\mathbb{R})$ : Set of real matrices of size  $m \times n$ .
- ❖  $\mathcal{N}(A)$ : Set of solutions of a homogeneous system  $A\mathbf{x}=\underline{0}$ .
- ❖  $C(a,b)$ : Set of real functions  $f(x)$  continuous on  $(a,b)$ .

# Examples

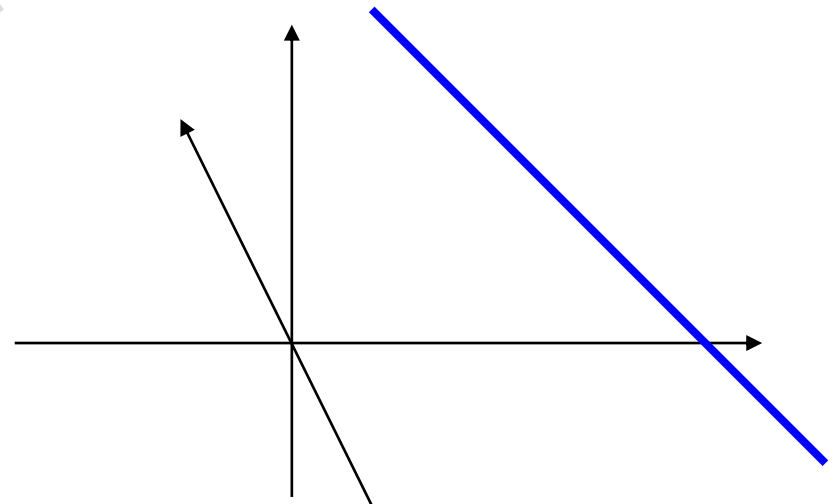
- ❖ Why a line in the plane and passing through the origin is a linear space?

This line contains all the vectors that lie on it, and this set verifies all the properties of a linear space.



- ❖ Why a line in the plane that does not pass through the origin is **not** a linear space?

Since this line does not pass through the origin, it does not contain the zero vector. Then it is not a linear space.





# Subspaces of a linear space

$W$  is a **subspace** of a linear space  $X$ , if:

- ❖  $W$  is a non-empty subset of  $X$ ;
- ❖  $W$  is a linear space.

## Theorem

$W$  is a subspace of  $X$  if, and only if, all the linear combinations of its vectors stay in the subspace.

$W$  is a **subspace**



$$\forall u, v \in W, \forall \alpha, \beta \in K \quad \alpha u + \beta v \in W$$

# Examples

❖ Why the set of solutions of a homogeneous system

$Ax = \underline{0}$   
is a linear subspace?

Check if the previous Theor. holds

$$x, y \in \mathcal{N} \quad A : \begin{array}{l} Ax = \underline{0} \\ Ay = \underline{0} \end{array} \Rightarrow A(\alpha x + \beta y) = \alpha Ax + \beta Ay = \underline{0}$$

It is named as **Null Space of A** and denoted as  $\mathcal{N}(A)$ .

❖ Why the set of solutions of a non-homogeneous system

$Ax = b, \quad b \neq \underline{0}$   
is not a linear subspace?

$$\begin{array}{l} Ax = b \\ Ay = b \end{array} \Rightarrow A(\alpha x + \beta y) = \alpha Ax + \beta Ay = \alpha + \beta \quad b \neq b$$

The previous Theor. doesn't hold

# Linear combination of $n$ vectors

We can extend to  $n$  vectors the definition of a linear combination:

$$\forall v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n \in X, \quad \forall \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n \in K$$

$$w = \underbrace{\alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n}_{\text{linear combination of } n \text{ vectors}} \Rightarrow w \in X$$

The set  $W$  containing all combinations of  $n$  vectors  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  is a **subspace** of  $X$ , and it is denoted as

$$W = \mathbf{span} \quad v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$$

$W$  is the **subspace** of  $X$  **spanned by**  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  .  
(or **generated**)

# Example of span{...}

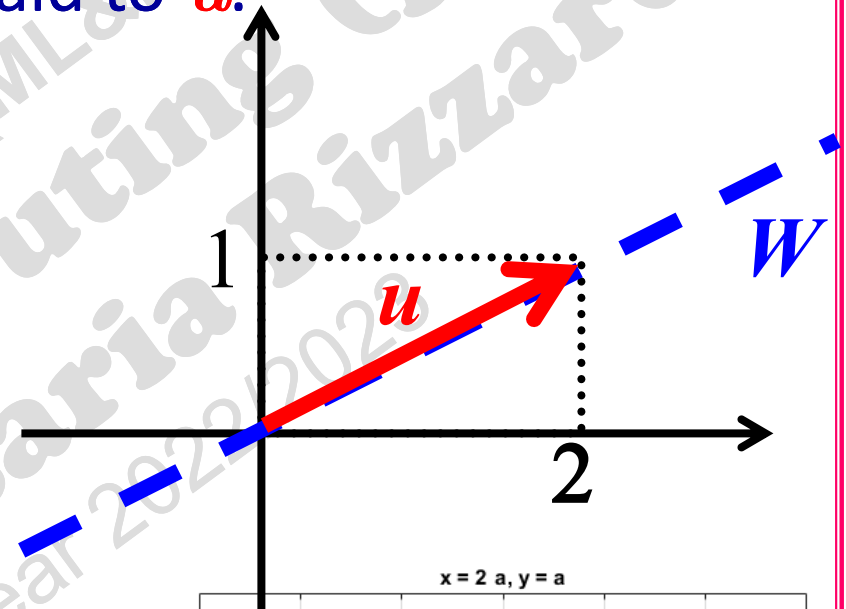
The subspace spanned by a single vector  $u$  of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is the line through the origin and overlaid to  $u$ .

$$u = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow W = \text{span } u$$

$$W = \left\{ \alpha \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \forall \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$



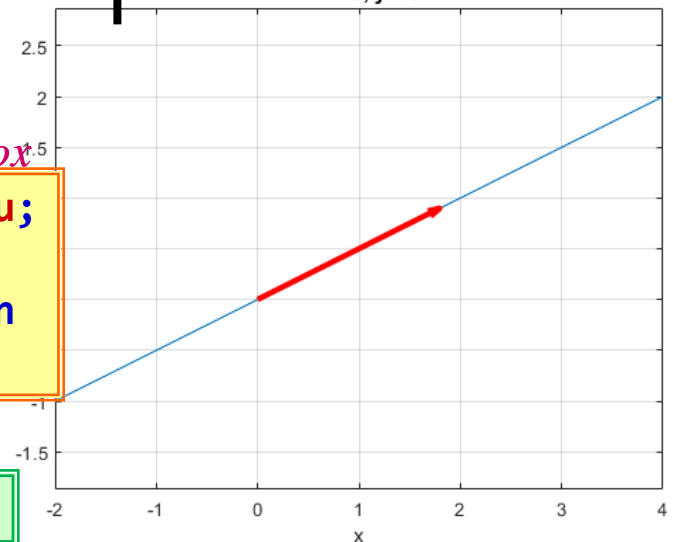
director vector of  $W$



*MATLAB Symbolic Math Toolbox*

```
u=[2 1]'; syms a real; W=a*u;  
ezplot(W(1),W(2),[-1 2])  
hold on; axis equal; grid on  
quiver(0,0,u(1),u(2),'r')
```

```
compass(u(1),u(2),'r')
```



# Example of span{...}

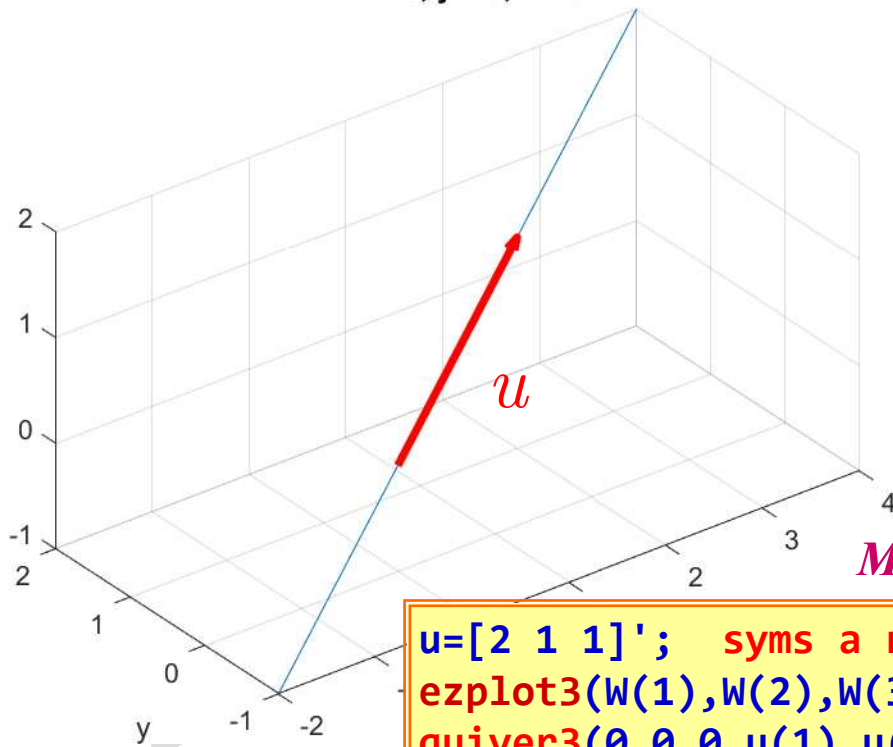
The subspace spanned by a single vector  $u$  of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  is the line through the origin and overlaid to  $u$ .

$$u = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow W = \text{span } u = \left\{ \alpha \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \forall \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

$x = 2a, y = a, z = a$



director vector of  $W$



*MATLAB Symbolic Math Toolbox*

```
u=[2 1 1]'; syms a real; W=a*u;  
ezplot3(W(1),W(2),W(3),[-1 2]); hold on; axis equal  
quiver3(0,0,0,u(1),u(2),u(3),1,'Color','r','Linewidth',3)
```

# Example of span{...}

The subspace spanned by two vectors  $u, v$  of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  is the plane through the origin that contains  $u$  and  $v$ .

$$u = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad v = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow W = \text{span} \{u, v\}$$

$$W = \left\{ \alpha \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + \beta \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \forall \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

*MATLAB Symbolic Math Toolbox*

```
u=[1 3 3]'; v=[2 0 1]'; fmesh(W(1),W(2),W(3),[-1 1])
syms a b real; W=a*u+b*v;
ezmesh(W(1),W(2),W(3),[-1 1])
hold on
quiver3(0,0,0,u(1),u(2),u(3),0,'Color','b')
quiver3(0,0,0,v(1),v(2),v(3),0,'Color','r')
```

