

$$S = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_i, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$$

$$x_1\mathbf{v}_1 + \dots + x_i\mathbf{v}_i + \dots + x_p\mathbf{v}_p = \mathbf{0}$$

equivalent to

$$\begin{array}{c} \left[\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_i, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p \right] \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_i \\ \vdots \\ x_p \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{0} \\ \uparrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \uparrow \\ A \qquad \qquad \qquad \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0} \end{array}$$

$S = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_i, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$ lin. **independent**
if there is only the trivial solution

$$0\mathbf{v}_1 + \dots + 0\mathbf{v}_i + \dots + 0\mathbf{v}_p = \mathbf{0}$$

$S = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_i, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$ lin. **dependent**
if there there are nontrivial solutions
(that is, where not all weights c_i 's are 0)

$$c_1\mathbf{v}_1 + \dots + c_i\mathbf{v}_i + \dots + c_p\mathbf{v}_p = \mathbf{0}$$

(nontrivial linear dependence relation)

Linearly Dependent or Independent Sets?

$$S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \\ 5 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ 12 \\ -20 \\ 16 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

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

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

$$S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 319 \\ -7 \\ 12 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \\ 6 \\ -9 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{2} \\ 2 \\ 16 \\ -7 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 45 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$$S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

Theorem $S = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_p\}$ with 2 or more vectors.

• if at least one vector v_i in S is a linear combination of the others, then S is linearly dependent

•• if S is linearly dependent, then at least one vector v_i in S is a linear combination of the others.

Why is • true ?

Suppose v_i is a linear combination of the others:

Then

$$v_i = c_1 v_1 + \dots + (\text{no } v_i \text{ term}) + \dots + c_p v_p$$

so: $\mathbf{0} = c_1 v_1 + \dots + (-1)v_i + \dots + c_p v_p$

therefore: S is linearly dependent.

Why is ●● true ?

Assume S linearly dependent.

Then $\exists c_1, \dots, c_p$, not all 0, for which

$$c_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + \dots + c_i \mathbf{v}_i + \dots + c_p \mathbf{v}_p = \mathbf{0} \quad (*)$$

i) if $\mathbf{v}_1 = \mathbf{0}$, then $\mathbf{v}_1 =$ trivial linear combination of the others (use all 0 weights)

ii) if $\mathbf{v}_1 \neq \mathbf{0}$, then pick the rightmost nonzero c_i in equation (*). Then

$$c_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + \dots + c_i \mathbf{v}_i \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} \text{drop out any 0 terms} \\ + \dots + c_p \mathbf{v}_p \end{array} \right| = \mathbf{0}$$

Note: $c_i \neq c_1$, or else $c_1 \mathbf{v}_1 = \mathbf{0}$, which is impossible since $\mathbf{v}_1 \neq \mathbf{0}$; but perhaps i is as big as $i = p$ (then, no blue terms dropped)

So $c_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + \dots + c_i \mathbf{v}_i = \mathbf{0}$, and

$$\mathbf{v}_i = -\frac{c_1}{c_i} \mathbf{v}_1 - \dots - \frac{c_{i-1}}{c_i} \mathbf{v}_{i-1}$$

So we actually showed that :

if S is linearly dependent and $v_1 \neq 0$, then some vector v_i in S must be a linear combination of the preceding vectors in the set.