

# Linear Algebra III: vector spaces

Math Tools for Neuroscience (NEU 314)  
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**Jonathan Pillow**  
Princeton Neuroscience Institute & Psychology.

Lecture 4  
(Tuesday 9/27)

accompanying notes/slides

# Outline

Last time:

- linear combination
- linear independence / dependence
- matrix operations: transpose, multiplication, inverse

Topics:

- matrix equations
- vector space, subspace
- basis, orthonormal basis
- orthogonal matrix
- rank
- row space / column space
- null space
- change of basis

# inverse

- If  $A$  is a square matrix, its inverse  $A^{-1}$  (if it exists) satisfies:

$$AA^{-1} = A^{-1}A = I$$

“the identity”

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

(eg., for 4 x 4)

# The identity matrix

$$I\vec{x} = \vec{x}$$

for any vector

$I$



“the identity”

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

(eg., for 4 x 4)


# two weird tricks

- transpose of a product  $(AB)^T = B^T A^T$
- inverse of a product  $(AB)^{-1} = B^{-1} A^{-1}$

# (Square) Matrix Equation

$$A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$$

assume (for now)  
square and invertible



left-multiply both sides  
by inverse of A:

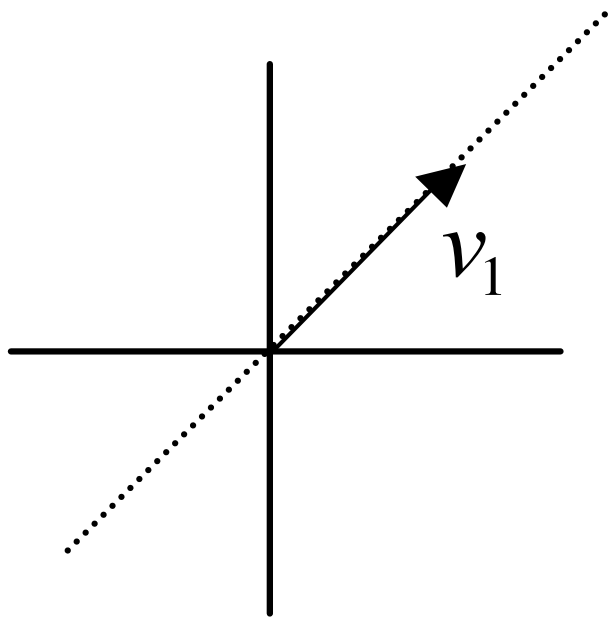
$$A^{-1}A\vec{x} = A^{-1}\vec{b}$$

$$I\vec{x} = A^{-1}\vec{b}$$

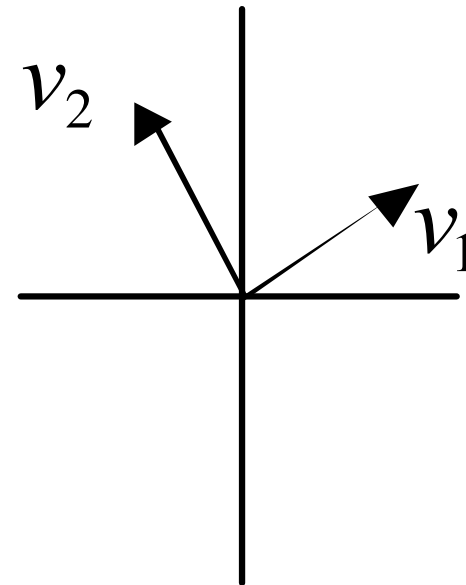
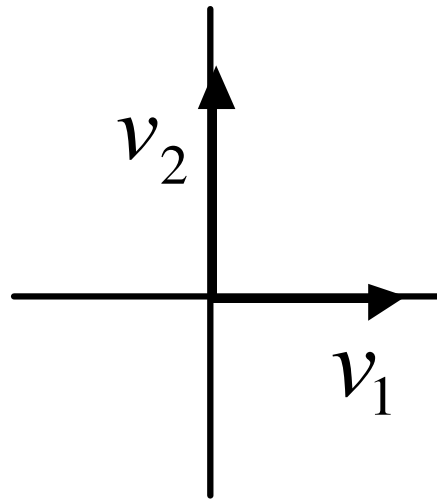
$$\vec{x} = A^{-1}\vec{b}$$

# vector space & basis

- **vector space** - set of all points that can be obtained by linear combinations some set of vectors
- **basis** - a set of linearly independent vectors that generate (through linear combinations) all points in a vector space



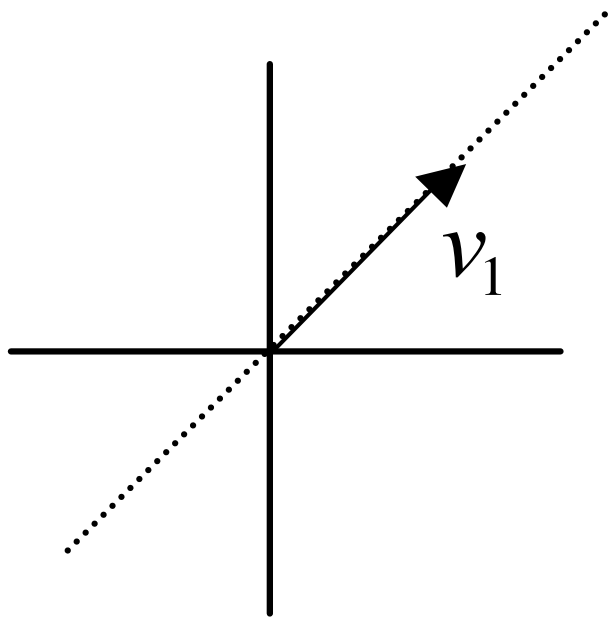
1D vector space  
(*subspace of  $R^2$* )



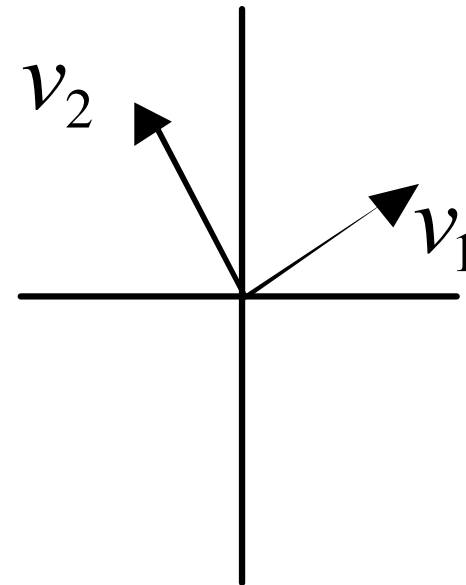
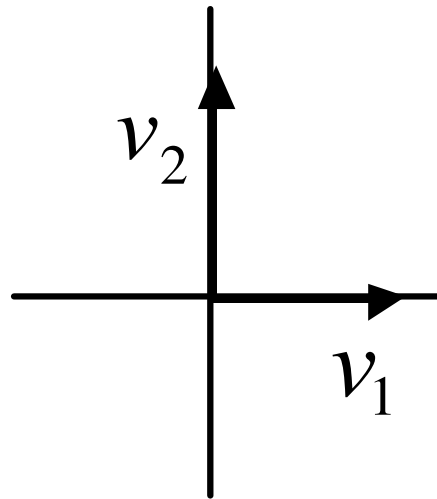
Two different bases for the  
same 2D vector space

# span - to generate via linear combination

- **vector space** - set of all points that can be **spanned** by some set of vectors
- **basis** - a set of vectors that can **span** a vector space



1D vector space  
(*subspace of  $R^2$* )

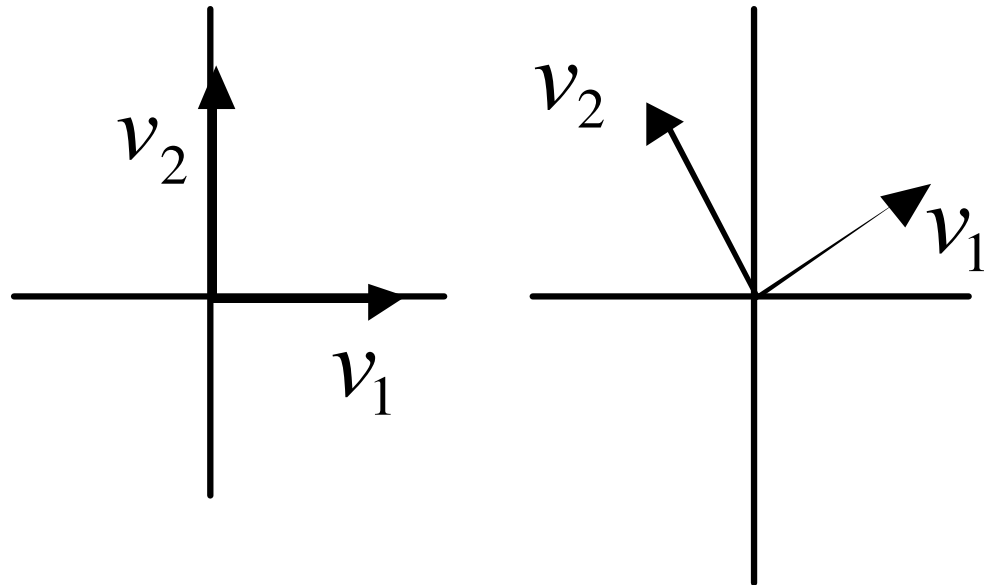


Two different bases for the  
same 2D vector space



# orthonormal basis

- basis composed of orthogonal unit vectors



- Two different orthonormal bases for the same vector space

# Orthogonal matrix

- Square matrix whose columns (and rows) form an orthonormal basis (i.e., are orthogonal unit vectors)

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} | & | & & | \\ \vec{b}_1 & \vec{b}_2 & \cdots & \vec{b}_n \\ | & | & & | \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{aligned} \vec{b}_i \cdot \vec{b}_i &= 1 \\ \vec{b}_i \cdot \vec{b}_j &= 0, i \neq j \end{aligned}$$

**Properties:**  $BB^T = B^T B = I$

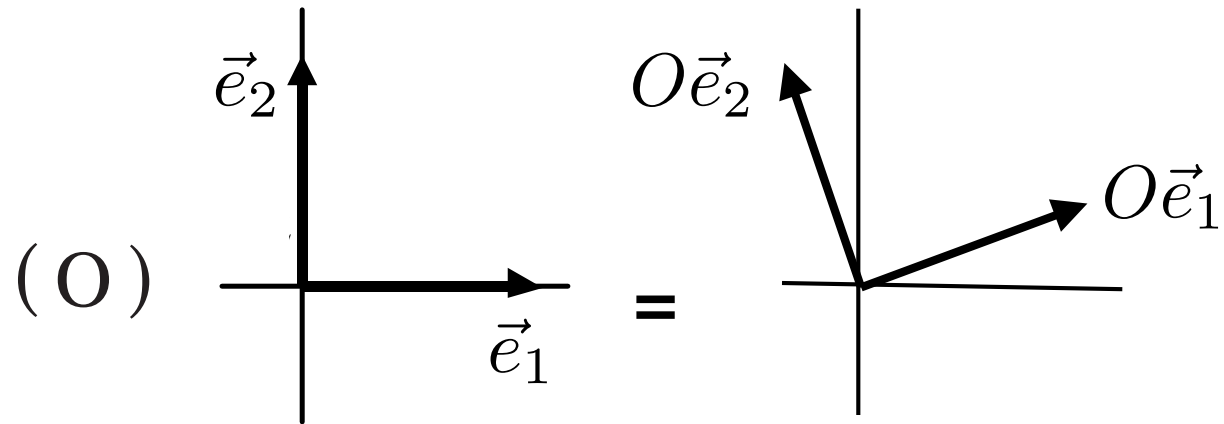
$$B^{-1} = B^T$$

$$\|B\vec{v}\| = \|B^T\vec{v}\| = \|\vec{v}\|$$

length-  
preserving

# Orthogonal matrix

- 2D example: rotation matrix



$$\text{eg } O = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

# Rank

- the **rank** of a matrix is equal to
  - # of linearly independent columns
  - # of linearly independent rows

(remarkably, these are always the same)

equivalent definition:

- the rank of a matrix is the *dimensionality* of the vector space spanned by its rows or its columns

for an  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$ :  $\text{rank}(A) \leq \min(m,n)$

(can't be greater than # of rows or # of columns)

# column space of a matrix $W$ :

$n \times m$  matrix

$$W = \begin{pmatrix} w_{11} & \cdots & w_{1m} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ w_{n1} & \cdots & w_{nm} \end{pmatrix}$$

vector space spanned by the columns of  $W$

$$\begin{pmatrix} | & & | \\ c_1 & \cdots & c_m \\ | & & | \end{pmatrix}$$

- these vectors live in an  $n$ -dimensional space, so the column space is a subspace of  $\mathbf{R}^n$

# row space of a matrix $W$ :

$n \times m$  matrix

$$W = \begin{pmatrix} w_{11} & \cdots & w_{1m} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ w_{n1} & \cdots & w_{nm} \end{pmatrix}$$

vector space spanned by the  
*rows* of  $W$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \text{-----} & r_1 & \text{-----} \\ & \vdots & \\ \text{-----} & r_n & \text{-----} \end{pmatrix}$$

- these vectors live in an  $m$ -dimensional space, so the column space is a subspace of  $\mathbf{R}^m$

# null space of a matrix $W$ :

$n \times m$  matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} \text{-----} & r_1 & \text{-----} \\ & \vdots & \\ \text{-----} & r_n & \text{-----} \end{pmatrix}$$

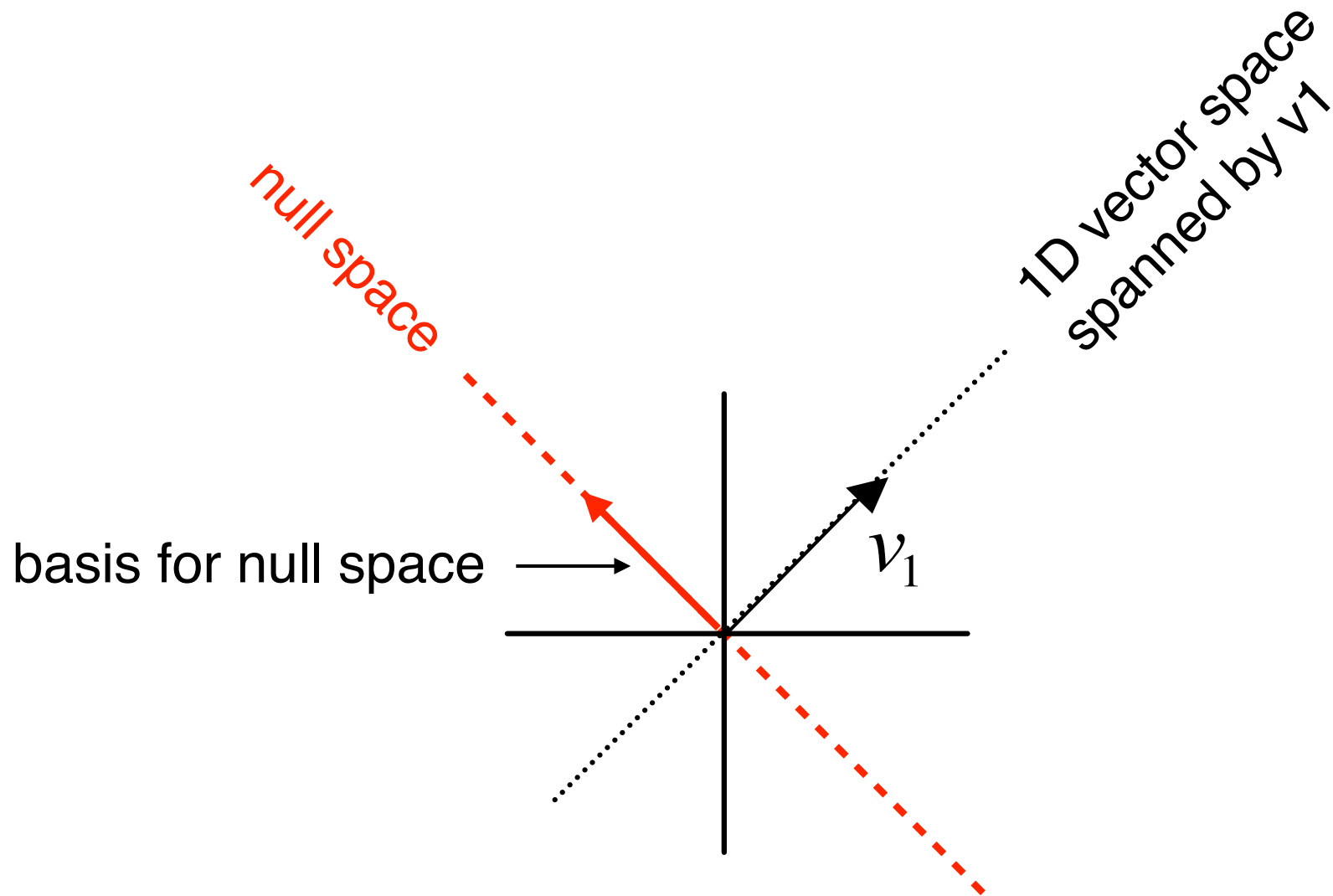
- the vector space consisting of all vectors that are orthogonal to the *rows* of  $W$

- equivalently: the null space of  $W$  is the vector space of all vectors  $x$  such that  $Wx = 0$ .

- the null space is therefore entirely orthogonal to the row space of a matrix. Together, they make up all of  $\mathbf{R}^m$ .

# null space of a matrix $W$ :

$$W = ( \text{---} v_1 \text{---} )$$





# Change of basis

- Let  $\mathbf{B}$  denote a matrix whose columns form an orthonormal basis for a vector space  $\mathbf{W}$

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} | & | & & | \\ \vec{b}_1 & \vec{b}_2 & \cdots & \vec{b}_n \\ | & | & & | \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{aligned} \vec{b}_i \cdot \vec{b}_i &= 1 \\ \vec{b}_i \cdot \vec{b}_j &= 0, i \neq j \end{aligned}$$

$$B^T \vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} \vec{b}_1 \cdot \vec{v} \\ \vdots \\ \vec{b}_n \cdot \vec{v} \end{pmatrix}$$

Vector of projections of  $\mathbf{v}$   
along each basis vector