

Week #3: Vector Subspaces

- Vector subspaces, and simplified process for identifying them
- Linear combinations
- Span of a set of vectors as a subspace
- Implications of span for the solution of systems of equations

No clicker questions today (Wed)

Section 3 - Vector Subspaces

Recall: Vector Spaces are

- A set V combined with:
- An **addition** map/operator called “+”; and
- A **scalar multiplication** map/operator called “·”.

These spaces must also satisfy a set of 8 axioms around their addition and scalar multiplication operators, e.g.

- There must be a zero element, $\mathbf{0}$, such that $0 + x = x + 0 = x$.
- Each element x must have a negative/inverse of itself, called $-x$, such that $x + (-x) = \mathbf{0}$.
- addition is commutative.
-

Given $(V, +, \cdot)$ combo
 satisfies all 8 axioms
 $(V, +, \cdot)$ is a vector space.

miss any 1 or more of axioms
not a vector space.

Vector Spaces

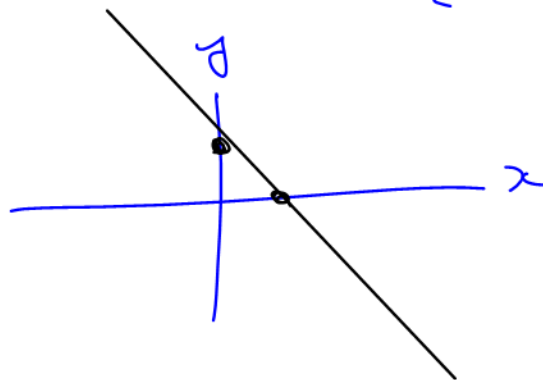
Not Vector Spaces

In Qlicker

\mathbb{R}

\mathbb{R}^3

\mathbb{R}^n



$$U_1 = \{ (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x + y = 1 \}$$

\mathbb{C}^∞

$\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \text{b/c}$

$\{ \dots, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3 \}$ real \times integer
 scalar mult

can get \rightarrow a non integer

eg $\pi \cdot 2 \rightarrow \pi \cdot 2 \notin \mathbb{Z}$
 $\mathbb{R} \cdot \mathbb{Z}$

so scalar mult is not a valid function

from $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$

$\rightarrow U_1$ not a vector space.

We now look at a somewhat simpler question: if we **already have** a vector space, when will a **subset** (with the same addition and scalar multiplication) also be a vector space?

exactly our V_1 scenario.

we know $(\mathbb{R}^2, +, \cdot)$ is a vector space.

Example: We have seen \mathbb{R}^2 is a vector space, with the usual addition and scalar multiplication.

Is the subset of \mathbb{R}^2 defined by

$V_1 = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x + y = \mathbf{1}\}$ also a vector space?

Option 1: go through all 8 vector space axioms like last week.

Option 2: because we are just looking at a subset of a known vector space, we can take a short-cut!

Vector Subspace. Definition: Let $(\mathbf{V}, +, \cdot)$ be a real vector space. Now let \mathbf{W} be a subset of \mathbf{V} , i.e. $\mathbf{W} \subset \mathbf{V}$, and working with the same $+$ and \cdot .

$(\mathbf{W}, +, \cdot)$ will also be vector space, or more commonly called a **vector subspace** of $(\mathbf{V}, +, \cdot)$ if the following axioms are satisfied:

just these 3!

(1) The subset \mathbf{W} contains the zero element $\mathbf{0}$ of $(\mathbf{V}, +, \cdot)$.

Is the $\vec{0}$ from V (known) also in W ?

(2) \mathbf{W} is closed under addition. I.e. for any $x, y \in \mathbf{W}$, the sum $x + y \in \mathbf{W}$ too.

(3) \mathbf{W} is closed under scalar multiplication. I.e. for any real α and element $x \in \mathbf{W}$, the product $\alpha x \in \mathbf{W}$ too.

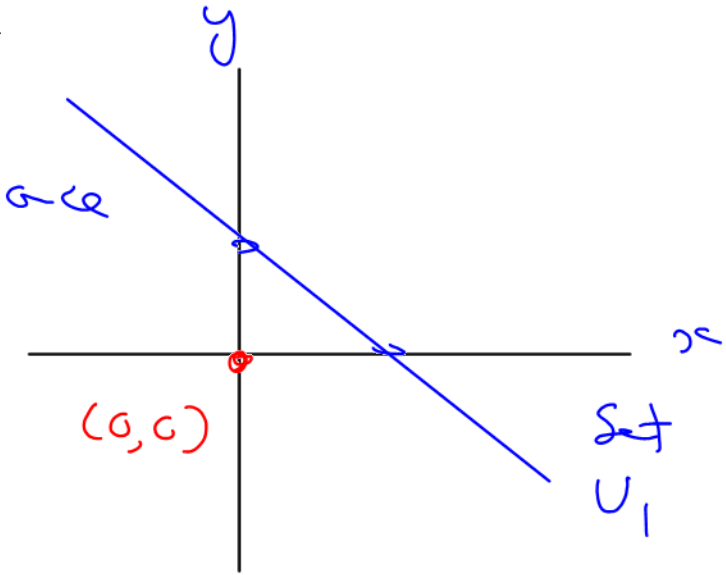
smaller subset.

components of our \mathbb{R}^2 vector

Based on that shorter set of tests, is the subset of \mathbb{R}^2 defined by

$$V_1 = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x + y = 1\}$$

$V_1 \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$ so it could be a vector subspace of \mathbb{R}^2



1) Is $\vec{0}$ from \mathbb{R}^2 in V_1 ?

The $\vec{0}$ in \mathbb{R}^2 (w/ usual vector $+$, \cdot)

$$\vec{0} = (0, 0)$$

NO: $(0, 0)$ is not in V_1 , b/c $0 + 0 = 0$, not $= 1$
 x comp y comp

\Rightarrow b/c axiom 1) for a vector subspace is not satisfied $\Rightarrow V_1$ is not a vector subspace.

(1) The subset \mathbf{W} contains the zero element $\mathbf{0}$ of $(\mathbf{V}, +, \cdot)$.

(2) \mathbf{W} is closed under addition. I.e. for any $x, y \in \mathbf{W}$, the sum $x + y \in \mathbf{W}$ too.

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$$V_1 = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x + y = \mathbf{1}\}$$

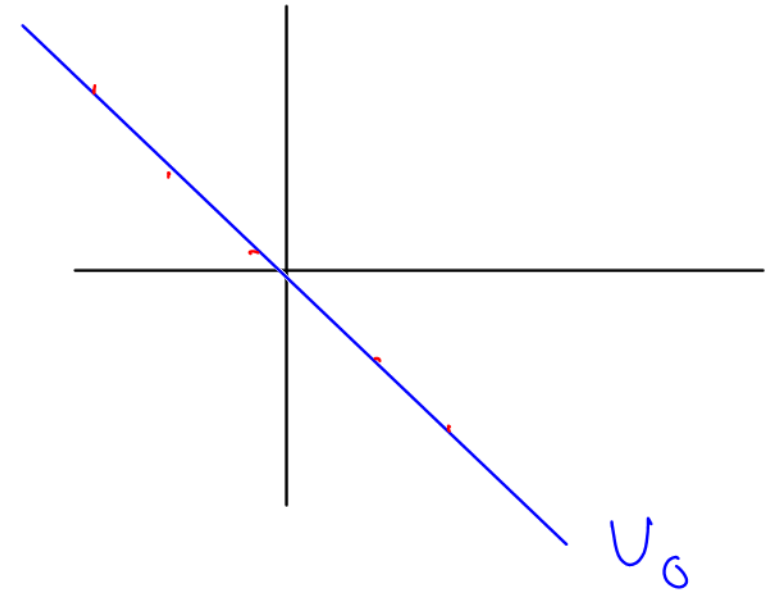
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-

Example: Is the subset of \mathbb{R}^2 defined by $y = -x$
 $V_0 = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : \underline{x} + \underline{y} = 0\}$ a vector subspace?

(1) Is $\vec{0}$ from \mathbb{R}^2 in V_0 ?

Yes! $(0, 0)$ is $\vec{0}$ in \mathbb{R}^2

and $\overset{x}{0} + \overset{y}{0} = 0 \rightarrow$ so $(0, 0) \in V_0$
 V_0 membership condition



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$$V_0 = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x + y = 0\}$$

Let $u = (x_1, y_1)$ and $v = (x_2, y_2)$

b/c $u \in V_0 \rightarrow x_1 + y_1 = 0$

membership condition
for V_0

and b/c $v \in V_0 \rightarrow x_2 + y_2 = 0$

regular \mathbb{R}^2 addition

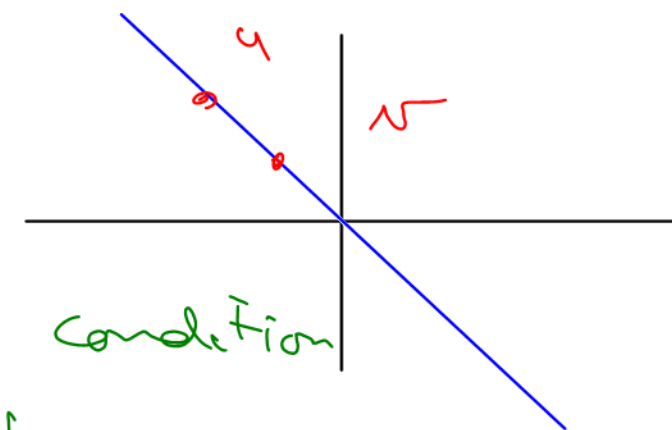
Look at $u + v = (x_1, y_1) + (x_2, y_2) = (x_1 + x_2, y_1 + y_2)$

Is $u + v$ in V_0 ? Yes! b/c

$$(x_1 + x_2) + (y_1 + y_2)$$

$$= (x_1 + y_1) + (x_2 + y_2) \quad \text{b/c } u, v \in V_0$$

$$= 0 + 0 = 0$$



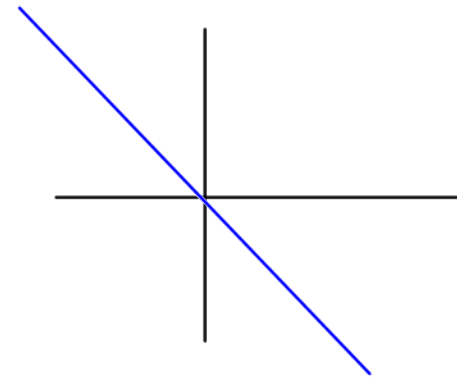
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$$V_0 = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x + y = 0\}$$

(3) Let $u \in V_0$ w/ $u = (x, y) \rightarrow x + y = 0$
 and $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$



Look at $\alpha \cdot u = \alpha(x, y)$

$$= (\underbrace{\alpha x}_{x \text{ comp}}, \underbrace{\alpha y}_{y \text{ comp}})$$

\downarrow regular \mathbb{R}^2
 scalar mult of a vector

and $\alpha \cdot u \in V_0$ b/c $\alpha x + \alpha y = \alpha(x + y) \downarrow$ b/c $u = (x, y) \in V_0$
 $= \alpha \cdot 0$

so $\alpha u \in V_0$
 $\Rightarrow V_0$ is closed under scalar mult.

- (1) The subset \mathbf{W} contains the zero element $\mathbf{0}$ of $(\mathbf{V}, +, \cdot)$.
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Because U_0 is a subset of \mathbb{R}^2 (a known vector space)
and U_0 satisfied all 3 subspace axioms

$\Rightarrow U_0$ is a vector subspace
(U_0 is a vector space)

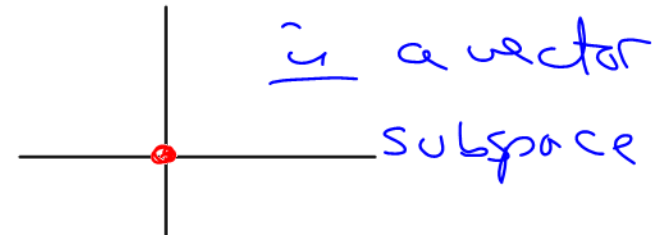
Example: Is the subset of any vector space $(\mathbf{V}, +, \cdot)$ defined simply by $W = \{\mathbf{0}\}$ a vector subspace?

Qlicker

(1) is $\vec{0}$ in W ? Yes!

eg \mathbb{R}^2 big space

Yes $\{0\}$



(2) closed under addition

W is closed under scalar mult \Rightarrow take sum of any 2 elements of W : is the

(3) $\alpha \cdot \vec{0} = \vec{0} \in W$ W sum also in W ? Yes $\vec{0} + \vec{0} = \vec{0} \in W$

Example: Is the empty set, i.e. \emptyset which is a subset of any vector space $(\mathbf{V}, +, \cdot)$, a vector subspace?

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No! (1) requires that $\vec{0} \in W$

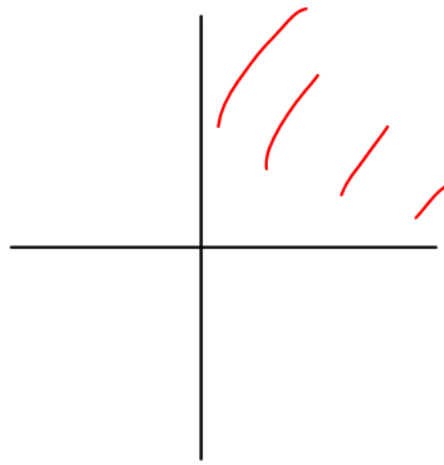
but W is empty

so $\vec{0} \notin W$

$\Rightarrow W = \emptyset = \text{empty set is not a vector subspace}$

$\vec{0} \in \mathbb{R}^2$ is $(0,0)$ under our usual $+$.
↳ defined by $\vec{u} + \vec{0} = \vec{u}$
• different from $0 \in \mathbb{R}$, a single real number

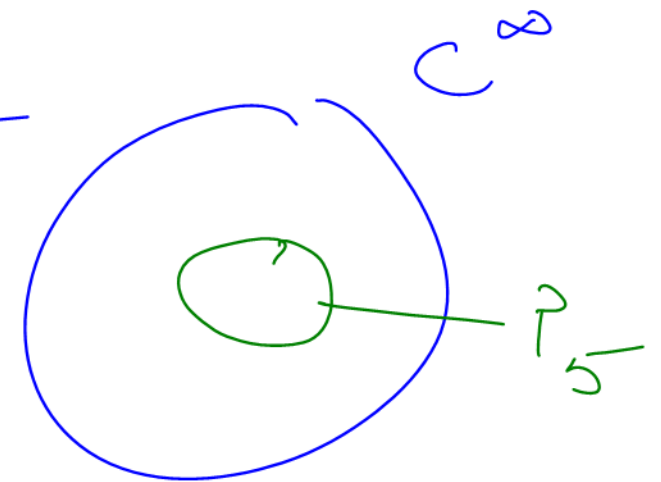
$\vec{0}$ in \mathbb{R}^2 w/ different $+$, may not be $(0,0)$!



ω_2 $\vec{0} = (1,1)$

Example: Is the set of all polynomials of degree 5 or less, $P_5(\mathbb{R})$, a vector subspace of the C^∞ vector space?

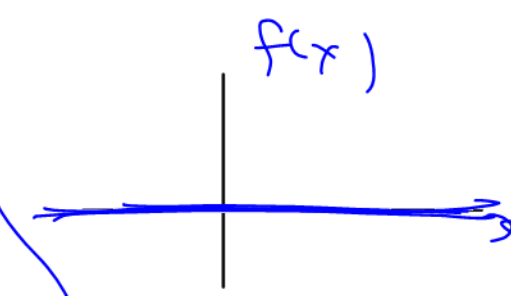
continuous, infinitely diff'ble e.g. $x^5 - 3x + 2 \in P_5$
 functions $\sin(x) \notin P_5$



Yes! The $\vec{0}$ for C^∞ is the zero-valued function $f(x) = 0$ for all x .

and $\vec{0} =$ all zero-valued function

$\underline{0}$ in $P_5 \Rightarrow \vec{0} = 0x^5 + 0x^4 + 0x^3 + 0x^2 + 0x + 0$



- (1) The subset \mathbf{W} contains the zero element $\mathbf{0}$ of $(\mathbf{V}, +, \cdot)$.
- (2) \mathbf{W} is closed under addition. I.e. for any $x, y \in \mathbf{W}$, the sum $x + y \in \mathbf{W}$ too.
- (3) \mathbf{W} is closed under scalar multiplication. I.e. for any real α and element $x \in \mathbf{W}$, the product $\alpha x \in \mathbf{W}$ too.

$2x + y + 5(2-2) = 0$

(2) P_5 is closed under addition

add any two poly's of degree 5 or less,
and the sum is also a poly of degree 5 or less:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } f &= a_5 x^5 + a_4 x^4 + \dots + a_1 x + a_0 \quad a_0, \dots \in \mathbb{R} \\ \text{and } g &= b_5 x^5 + b_4 x^4 + \dots + b_1 x + b_0 \quad b_0, b_1, \dots \in \mathbb{R} \\ \Rightarrow f+g &= (a_5+b_5)x^5 + (a_4+b_4)x^4 + \dots + a_0+b_0 \in P_5 \end{aligned}$$

(1) The subset \mathbf{W} contains the zero element $\mathbf{0}$ of $(\mathbf{V}, +, \cdot)$.

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(3) P_5 is closed under scalar mult's:

let $f = a_5 x^5 + a_4 x^4 + \dots + a_1 x + a_0 \in P_5$

and $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\alpha f = (\alpha a_5) x^5 + (\alpha a_4) x^4 + \dots + \alpha a_0 \in P_5 \text{ too.}$$

B/c P_5 satisfied all 3 subspace axioms,

$\Rightarrow P_5$ is a vector subspace of C .

usual function f, \dots is a vector space

Example: What about the set $\mathbf{U} = \{f \in C^\infty : f(0) = 3\}$: is it a vector subspace of C^∞ ?

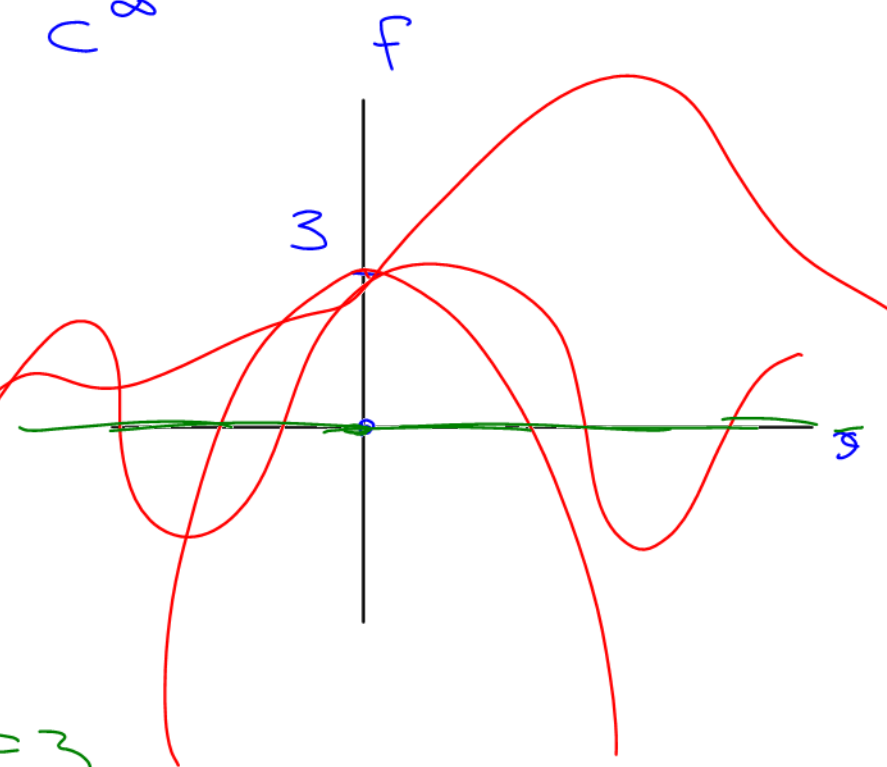
containing an infinite # of functions
subset of C^∞

(1) Fails

b/c the $\vec{0}$ in C^∞

or the constant 0 function is not in \mathbf{U}

b/c " " " " has $f(0) = 0$,
not $f(0) = 3$.



(2) fails pick $f, g \in \mathbf{U} \Rightarrow f(0) = 3, g(0) = 3$

but $(f+g)(0) = f(0) + g(0) = 3 + 3 = 6 \neq 3$ so $f+g \notin \mathbf{U}$
 $f = 0$ in C^∞

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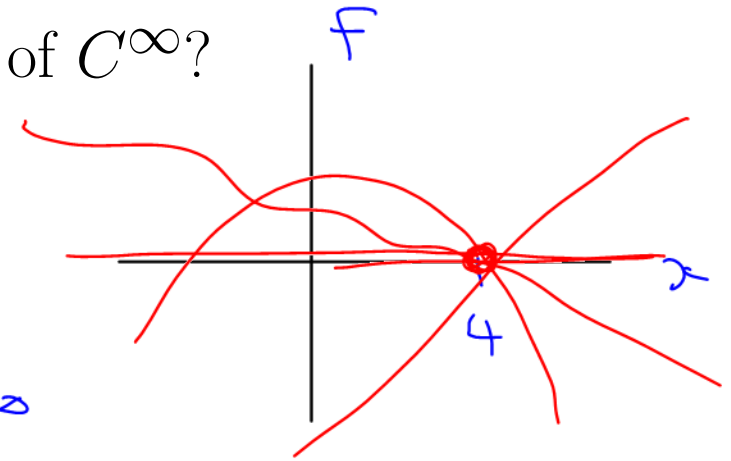
Is there a similar type of set that **would** be a vector subspace of C^∞ ?

$$\text{Let } V = \{ f \in C^\infty : f(4) = 0 \}$$

This V \cong a vector subspace

b/c (1) It contains the $\vec{0}$ for C^∞

i.e. $\underbrace{f(x) = 0}_{\vec{0}}$ satisfies $f(4) = 0$



(1) The subset \mathbf{W} contains the zero element $\mathbf{0}$ of $(\mathbf{V}, +, \cdot)$.

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Let $\underline{V} = \{f \in C^\infty : f(4) = \underline{0}\}$

Also (2) for any 2 functions $f, g \in V$

$f+g$ is also in V :

$$\text{Test } (f+g)(4) = f(4) + g(4)$$

$$= 0 + 0$$

$$= 0$$

so $f+g \in V$ too

b/c f, g both in V
so $f(4) = 0, g(4) = 0$

-
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-

also (3) for any real α , and $f \in V$

$\alpha f \in V$ also in V :

$$\text{Test: } (\alpha f)(4) = \alpha [f(4)] \quad \left| \quad \begin{array}{l} f(4) = 0 \text{ b/c} \\ f \in V \end{array} \right.$$

$$= \alpha \cdot 0$$

$$= 0$$

$$\text{so } (\alpha f) \in V$$

$\therefore U \ni$ closed under scalar mult'n.

-
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-

two y/output values

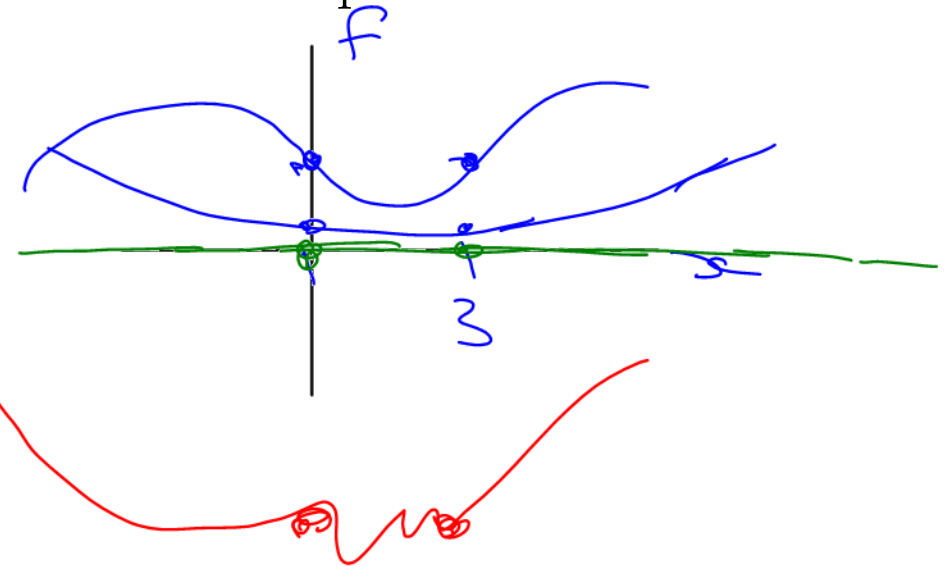
Example: Is the set $\mathbf{W} = \{f \in C^\infty : \underline{f(0)} = \underline{f(3)}\}$ a vector subspace of the C^∞ vector space? (Note the f on the RHS this time!)

\mathbf{W} is a vector subspace of C^∞

(1) satisfied b/c

$\vec{0}$ in C^∞ is $f(x) = 0$ for all x

and so $f(0) = 0$ equal $\rightarrow \vec{0} \in \mathbf{W}$
 and $f(3) = 0$



-
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-

(2), (3) same logic

(2) Take $f, g \in \mathbf{W}$ \Rightarrow $f(0) = f(3)$
and $g(0) = g(3)$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Test } (f+g): \quad (f+g)(0) &= f(0) + g(0) \\ &= f(3) + g(3) \\ &= (f+g)(3) \end{aligned} \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} f(0) = f(3), \text{ and} \\ g(0) = g(3) \\ \text{def'n of } f+g \end{array} \right.$$

so $(f+g)$ satisfies $(f+g)(0) = (f+g)(3)$
so $(f+g) \in \mathbf{W}$ too. So \mathbf{W} is closed under addition.

-
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-

↙ differential equation

Example: Is the set $\mathbf{W} = \{f \in C^\infty : \frac{d}{dx}f(x) = f(x)\}$ a vector subspace of C^∞ ?

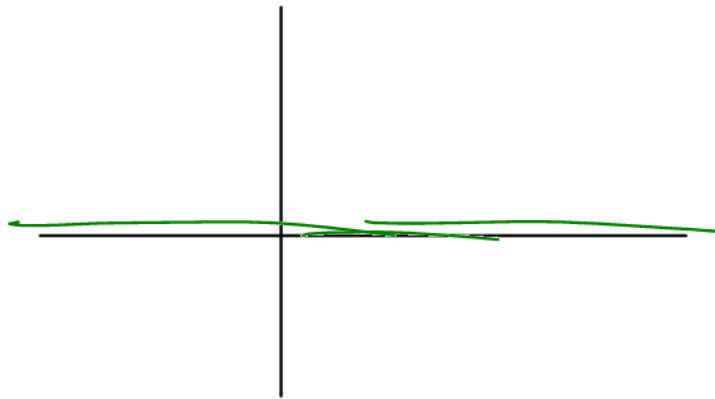
$f =$ its own derivative

(1) $\vec{0}$ is in \mathbf{W} b/c if $f(x) = 0$ for all x 's \rightarrow constant

$f'(x) = 0$ for all x 's.

$\Rightarrow f(x) = f'(x)$ for $\vec{0}$ of C^∞

$\Rightarrow \vec{0} \in \mathbf{W}$



$\vec{0} \Rightarrow f(x) = 0$
 f=0

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$$\mathbf{W} = \{f \in C^\infty : \frac{d}{dx} f(x) = f(x)\}$$

$$(2) \text{ Pick } f, g \in \mathbf{W} \rightarrow \underline{f'(x) = f(x)} \text{ and } \underline{g'(x) = g(x)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Test } (f+g): \quad \frac{d}{dx} (f+g)(x) &= \left(\frac{d}{dx} f\right)(x) + \left(\frac{d}{dx} g\right)(x) \\ &= f'(x) + g'(x) \\ &= f(x) + g(x) \\ &= (f+g)(x) \end{aligned} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \\ \\ \\ \end{array} \right\} \textcircled{1}, \textcircled{2}$$

so $f+g \in \mathbf{W} \Rightarrow \mathbf{W}$ is closed under addition.

-
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-

$$\mathbf{W} = \left\{ f \in C^\infty : \frac{d}{dx} f(x) = f(x) \right\}$$

$$(3) \quad \text{Let } a \in \mathbb{R}, f \in \mathbf{W} \Rightarrow f'(x) = f(x) \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Test } (af): \quad \frac{d}{dx} (af)(x) &= a \left(\frac{d}{dx} f(x) \right) \quad \hookrightarrow (1) \\ &= a f(x) \\ &= (af)(x) \end{aligned}$$

so $af \in \mathbf{W}$ too

$\Rightarrow \mathbf{W}$ is closed under scalar multiplication.
 (1), (2), (3) all satisfied so \mathbf{W} is a vector subspace of C^∞ .

(1) The subset \mathbf{W} contains the zero element $\mathbf{0}$ of $(\mathbf{V}, +, \cdot)$.

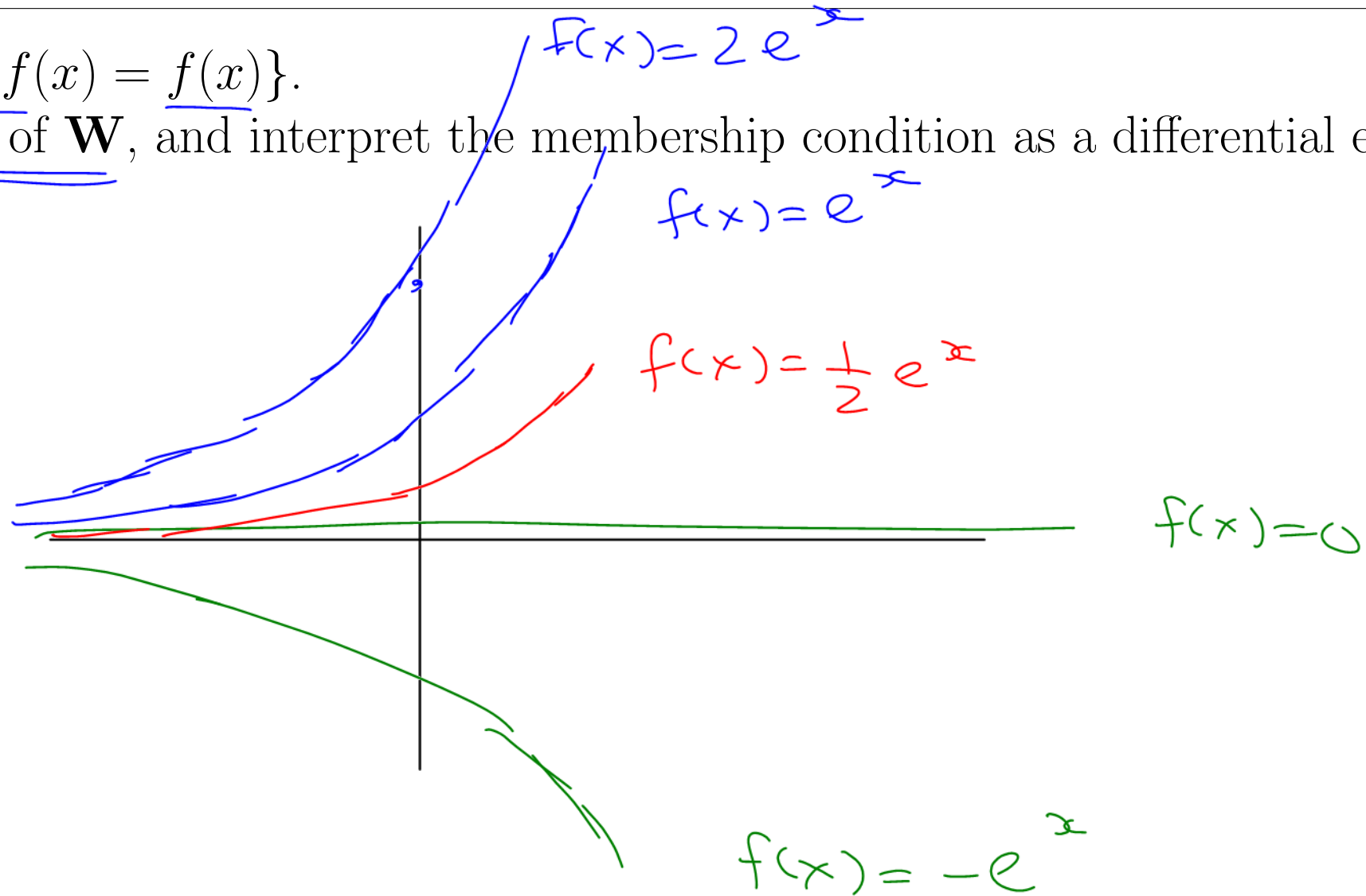
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$$\mathbf{W} = \{f \in C^\infty : \frac{d}{dx}f(x) = f(x)\}.$$

Graph the members of \mathbf{W} , and interpret the membership condition as a differential equation.

$a \cdot f(x) \in \mathbf{W}$
eg. $2e^x$



Does the differential equation $x''(t) = -x(t)$ ring any bells from APSC 171?

$\sin(t), \cos(t)$

$m x'' = -x$ $k=1, m=1 \text{ kg}$

Example: Is the set $\mathbf{W} = \{x(t) \in C^\infty : \frac{d^2}{dt^2}x(t) = -x(t)\}$ a vector subspace of C^∞ ?

(1) ✓

(2) ✓

(3) ✓

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$$\mathbf{W} = \left\{ x(t) \in C^\infty : \frac{d^2}{dt^2} x(t) = -x(t) \right\}$$

-
- (1) The subset \mathbf{W} contains the zero element $\mathbf{0}$ of $(\mathbf{V}, +, \cdot)$.
 - (2) \mathbf{W} is closed under addition. I.e. for any $x, y \in \mathbf{W}$, the sum $x + y \in \mathbf{W}$ too.
 - (3) \mathbf{W} is closed under scalar multiplication. I.e. for any real α and element $x \in \mathbf{W}$, the product $\alpha x \in \mathbf{W}$ too.
-

$$\mathbf{W} = \left\{ x(t) \in C^\infty : \frac{d^2}{dt^2}x(t) = -x(t) \right\}$$

-
- (1) The subset \mathbf{W} contains the zero element $\mathbf{0}$ of $(\mathbf{V}, +, \cdot)$.
 - (2) \mathbf{W} is closed under addition. I.e. for any $x, y \in \mathbf{W}$, the sum $x + y \in \mathbf{W}$ too.
 - (3) \mathbf{W} is closed under scalar multiplication. I.e. for any real α and element $x \in \mathbf{W}$, the product $\alpha x \in \mathbf{W}$ too.
-

Return to the abstract case. We will be working with subspaces a lot, so having some quick rules we can use will be helpful.



Example: **Prove** that intersection of any two vector subspaces is also a vector subspace. (Ref: Theorem 3 on page 49 of the Lecture Notes.)

Let $A, B \subset V$, with both A, B being vector subspaces of V (a vector space)

Study $A \cap B$.

Need (1) $\rightarrow \vec{0}$ from V must be in $A \cap B$

Proof: $\vec{0} \in A$ $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} A \text{ is a U.S. (vector space)} \\ B \text{ " " " } \\ \text{b/c } \vec{0} \in A \text{ and } \vec{0} \in B \end{array} \right.$

also $\vec{0} \in B$

so $\vec{0} \in A \cap B$

Continued: **Prove** that intersection of any two vector subspaces is also a vector subspace.

(2) Need if $u, v \in A \cap B$, then $u+v$ also in $A \cap B$.

$u, v \in A \Rightarrow u+v \in A$ | A is a V.S. closed
 under addition.
 also $u, v \in B \Rightarrow u+v \in B$ | B is a V.S. too

so $u+v \in (A \cap B)$ b/c

$u+v \in A$ and $u+v \in B$.

$\Rightarrow A \cap B$ is closed under addition.

Continued: **Prove** that intersection of any two vector subspaces is also a vector subspace.

(3) If $a \in \mathbb{R}$, $u \in A \cap B$, then $a \cdot u$ also $\in A \cap B$

Proof: $u \in A \Rightarrow a \cdot u \in A$ | A is V.S. closed
under scalar mult.
and $u \in B \Rightarrow a \cdot u \in B$ | B is a V.S.

$\Rightarrow a \cdot u \in A \cap B.$

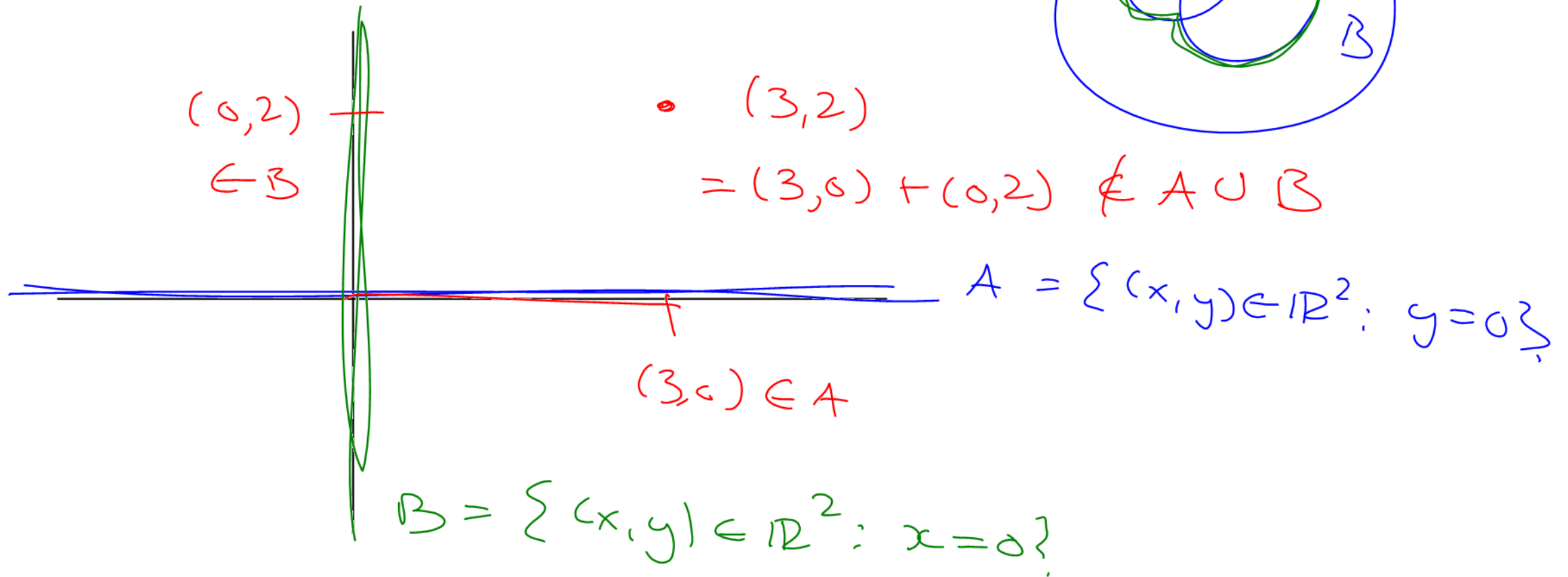
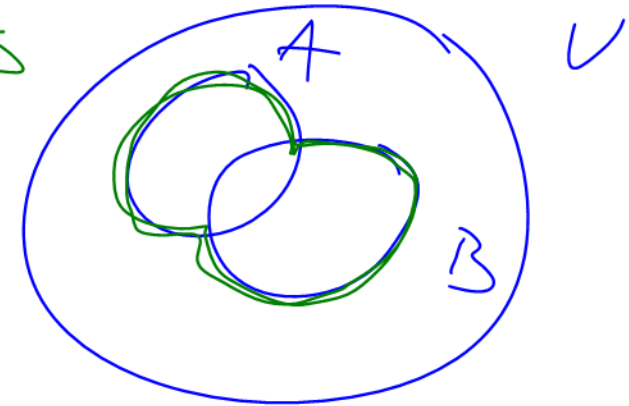
(1)(2) + (3) \Rightarrow IF A and B are known V.S.

satisfied then $A \cap B$ will also be a V.S.

Example: We now have shown that the **intersection** of any two vector subspaces is also a vector subspace. However, the Notes also indicate that the **union** of two vector subspaces **may or may not be a subspace**. *No guarantees*

Illustrate this with examples of subsets from \mathbb{R}^2 .

in \mathbb{R}^2



Add inverse your + operator

$$x + \underbrace{(-x)}_{\text{inverse}} = \vec{0} \quad \text{axiom}$$

defined by your + operator

or

$$-1 \cdot x = \underbrace{(-x)}_{\text{additive inverse}}$$

your scalar mult

Section 4 - Linear Combinations

Once we have a real vector space $(\mathbf{V}, +, \cdot)$, we can safely:

- Add any elements of \mathbf{V} , and
- Multiply any elements of \mathbf{V} by a real scalar.

If $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_p\}$ are vectors/elements in \mathbf{V} , what kinds of new vectors can we create? Suppose $\alpha_i \in \mathbb{R}$.

\uparrow set of single elements

$$v_1 + v_2 \quad (\text{add})$$

$$\text{or } a_1 v_1 \quad \text{for any } a_1 \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\text{or } a_2 v_2 \quad \text{" " } a_2 \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\text{or } a_1 v_1 + a_2 v_2$$

$$\text{or } (a_1 v_1 + a_2 v_2) + a_3 v_3 + \dots + a_p v_p$$

Linear Combination. Definition: let v_1, \dots, v_p be a finite collection of elements of the vector space \mathbf{V} (with $p \geq 1$). The expression

$$\alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2 + \dots + \alpha_p v_p,$$

with $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_p \in \mathbb{R}$, is called a linear combination of the vectors v_1, \dots, v_p . *a set of*

Example: write a linear combination of $5 \in \mathbb{R}$ and $7 \in \mathbb{R}$

a lin comb'n ex: $\underbrace{17}_{a_1} \cdot \underbrace{5}_{v_1} + \underbrace{23.794}_{a_2} \cdot \underbrace{7}_{v_2}$

Example: write a linear combination of $[1, 0, 0]$, $[0, 0, 3]$, $[1, -1, 2]$, all $\in \mathbb{R}^3$.

ex $4[1, 0, 0] + 7.9[0, 0, 3] + 0[1, -1, 2]$

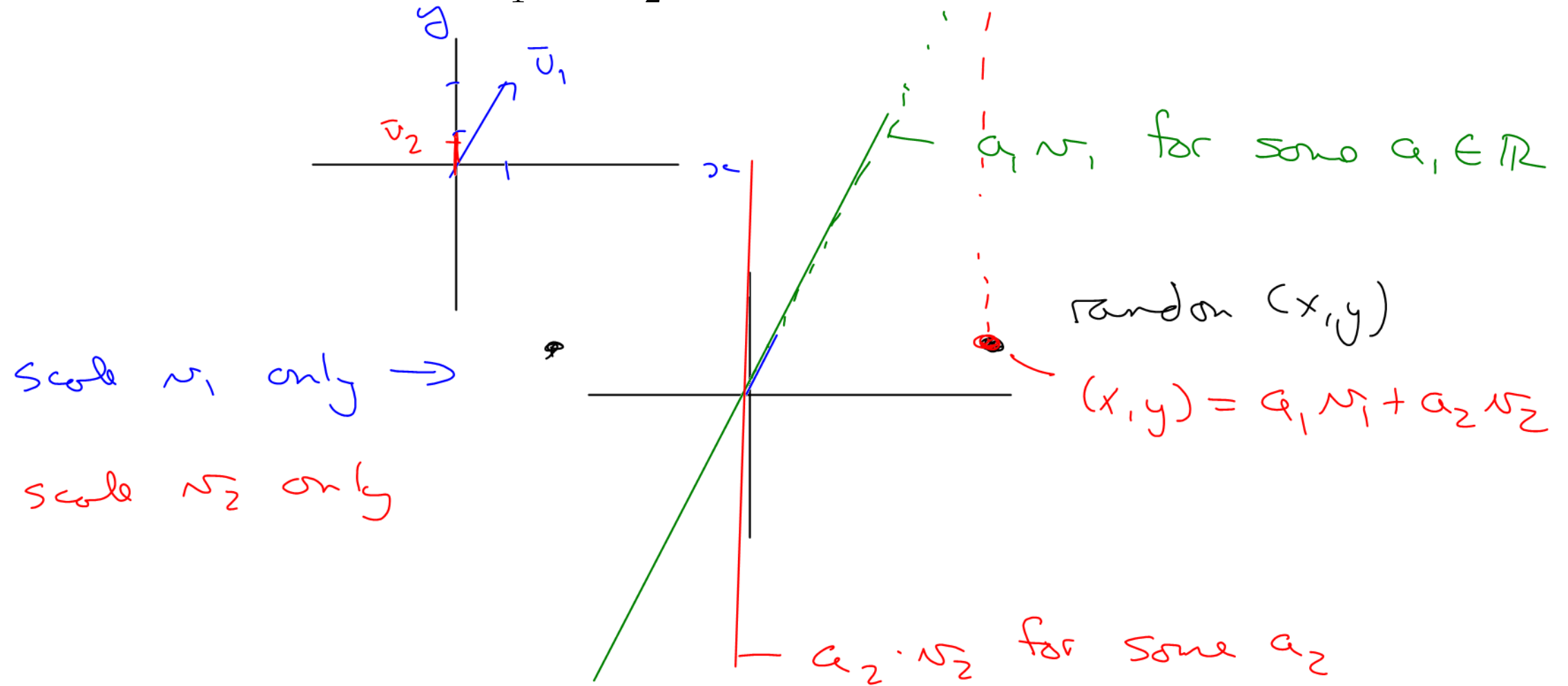
in general $a_1[1, 0, 0] + a_2[0, 0, 3] + a_3[1, -1, 2]$.

Example: write a linear combination of $\cos(t)$, $\sin(t)$, both $\in C^\infty$.

ex $3.5 \cos(t) - 7 \sin(t)$

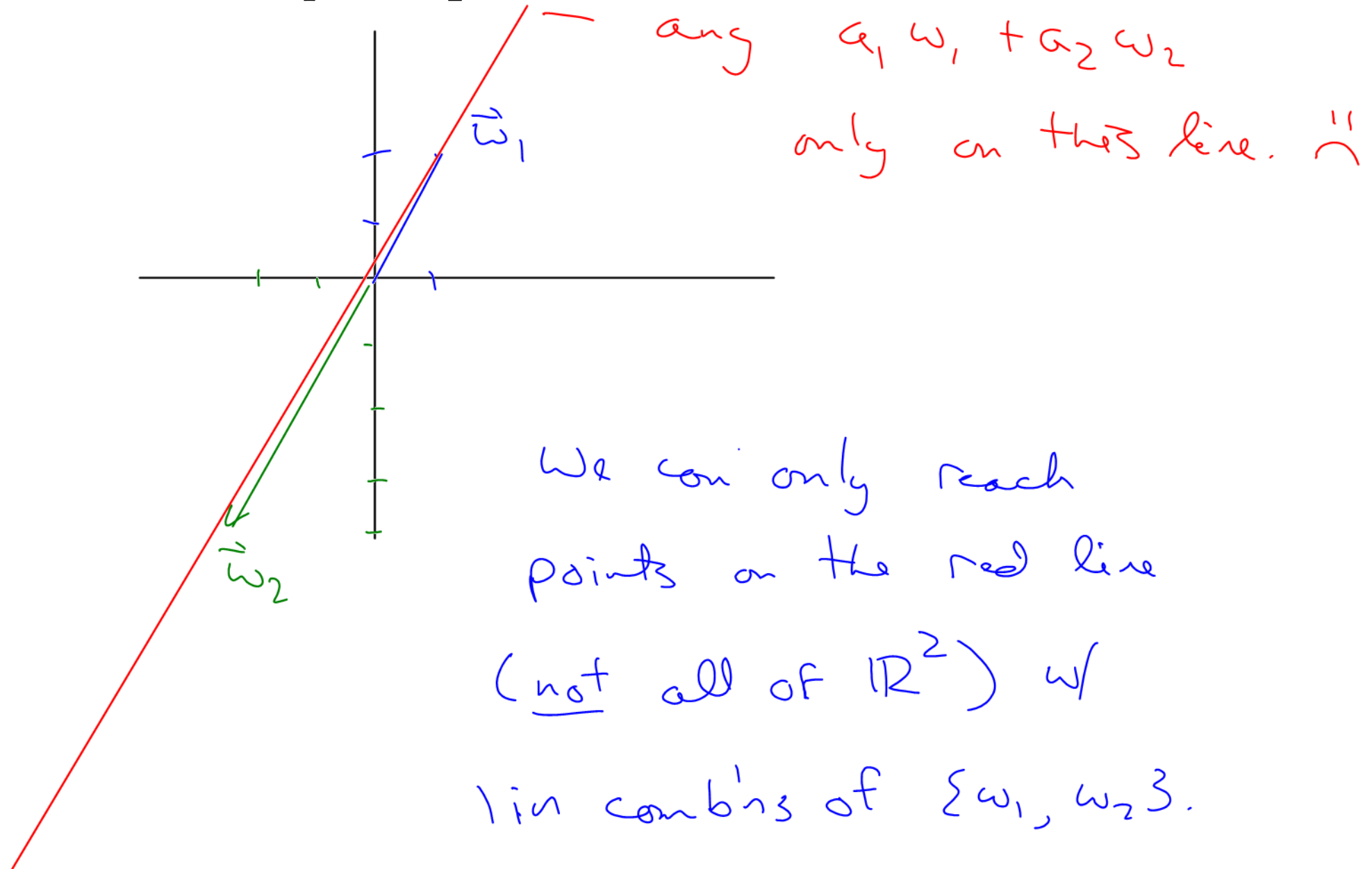
or *general case* $A \cos(t) + B \sin(t)$

Example: If we take the vectors $\underline{v_1} = [1, 2]$, $v_2 = [0, 1] \in \mathbb{R}^2$, what parts of $\underline{\mathbb{R}^2}$ can we reach with linear combinations of v_1 and v_2 ?



We can reach any $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ w/ a linear comb'n of $\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2\}$.

Example: If we take the vectors $w_1 = [1, 2]$, $w_2 = [-2, -4] \in \mathbb{R}^2$, what parts of \mathbb{R}^2 can we reach with linear combinations of w_1 and w_2 ?



Example: Follow the process below for \mathbb{R}^3 .

- We start with a known vector space \mathbb{R}^3 .

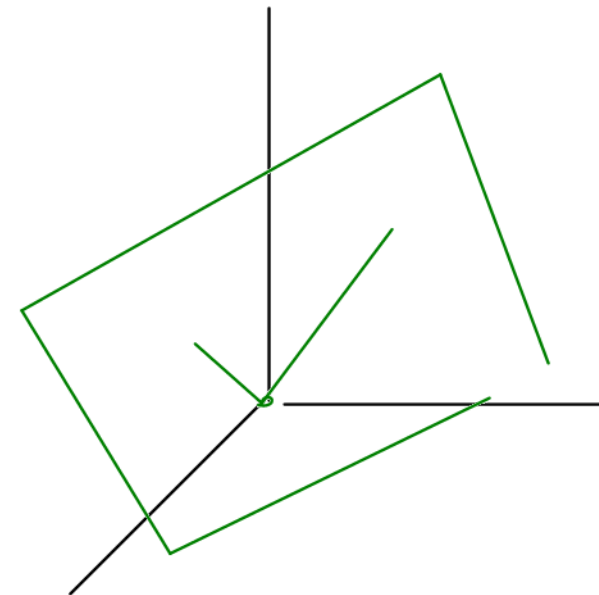
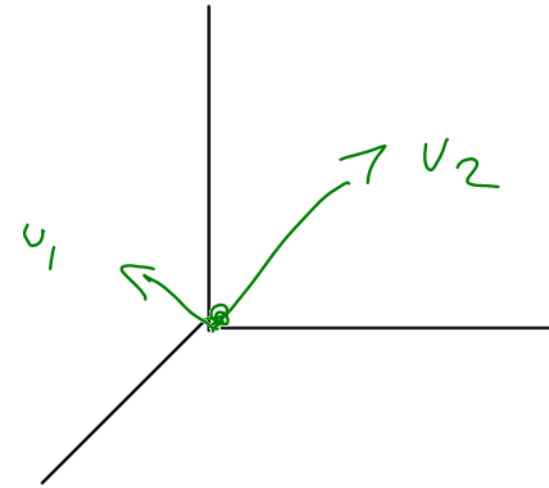
- We pick a finite number of elements, $v_1, \dots, v_p \in \mathbb{R}^3$ as 'seeds' or 'building blocks'.

v_1, v_2

- We imagine the subset of \mathbb{R}^3 we can cover or reach with linear combinations of v_1, \dots, v_p .

any $a_1 v_1 + a_2 v_2$
will lie on a plane.

(through $(0,0,0)$ w/ $0v_1 + 0v_2$)



Follow the process below for C^∞ .

- We start with a vector space C^∞ .

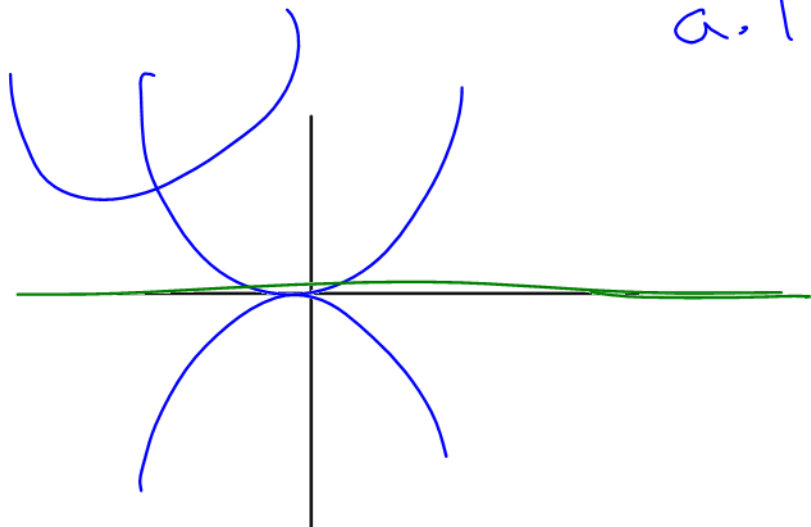
functions continuous, inf'ly diff'ble

- We pick a finite number of elements, $v_1, \dots, v_p \in C^\infty$ as 'seeds' or 'building blocks'.

$\{1, x, x^2\}$

- We imagine the subset of C^∞ we can cover or reach with linear combinations of v_1, \dots, v_p .

$a \cdot 1 + b \cdot x + c \cdot x^2 \rightarrow$ all possible quadratics.



0 func \in linear comb's

b/c $0 \cdot 1 + 0 \cdot x + 0 \cdot x^2$ is included.

Linear Combinations as Vector Subspaces. Proposition: Let $(\mathbf{V}, +, \cdot)$ be a real vector space, and v_1, \dots, v_p be a finite number of elements of the vector space \mathbf{V} (with $p \geq 1$). The subset $S \subset \mathbf{V}$ consisting of all linear combinations of v_1, \dots, v_p , is a vector subspace of the original \mathbf{V} .

The set S is called the span (or 'linear span') of the vectors v_1, \dots, v_p .



lin comb'n of
 $\{v_1, v_2\}$

= span of $\{v_1, v_2\}$

$$S(v_1, v_2, \dots, v_p) = \{w \in V : w = a_1 v_1 + a_2 v_2 + \dots + a_p v_p, \\ \text{for some } a_1, a_2, \dots, a_p \in \mathbb{R}\}.$$

Example: defining vector subspaces of \mathbb{R}^n .

Tue/Wed

Known vector space \mathbb{R}^n

Today



Rule for selecting subset of \mathbb{R}^n

eg $\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x + y = 1\}$ ✗

or $\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x + y = 0\}$ ✓

Pick some elements of \mathbb{R}^n

pick $[1, 2], [0, 1]$ in \mathbb{R}^2

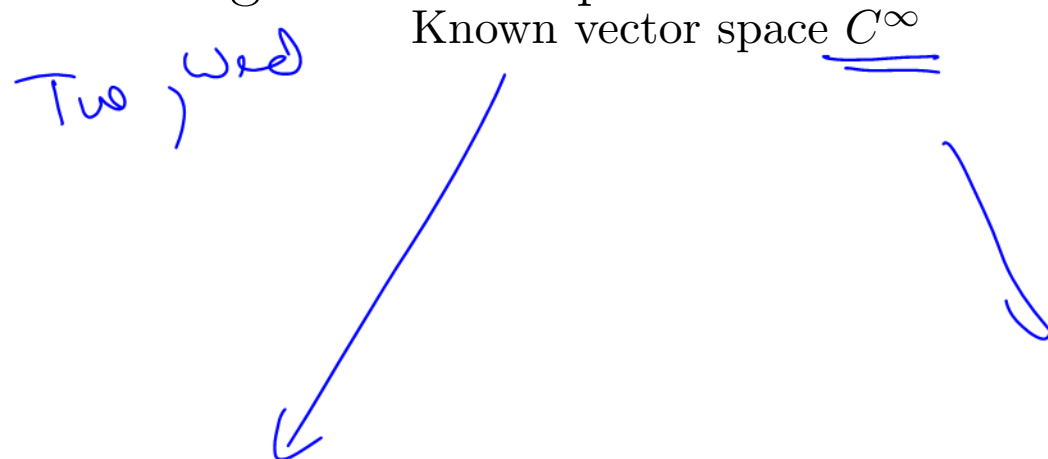
Verify 3 rules for vector subspace

- (1) $\vec{0}$ in set
- (2) closed add
- (3) " scalar mult

Span will automatically be a vector subspace

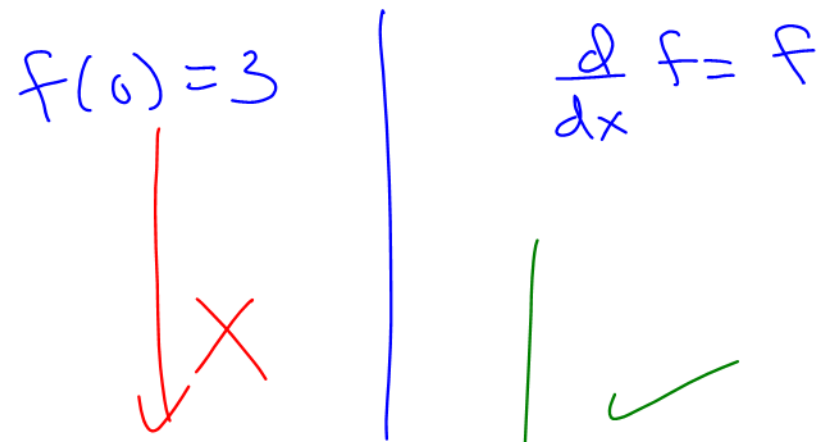
$\{ a_1 [1, 2] + a_2 [0, 1] \text{ for any } a_1, a_2 \in \mathbb{R} \}$
 is a vector subspace. No 3 actions req.

Example: defining vector subspaces of C^∞



Rule for selecting subset of C^∞

Pick some elements of C^∞



$\{ \sin(t), \cos(t) \}$

or $\{ 1, x, x^2 \}$

Verify 3 rules for vector subspace

Span will automatically be a vector subspace
all possible lin comb's.

- (1)
- (2)
- (3)

Example: Prove, using the 3 requirements for a vector subspace, that the span of any finite set $v_1, \dots, v_p \in \mathbf{V}$ will always be a vector subspace.

so our set $S = \{ a_1 v_1 + \dots + a_p v_p \in V : a_1 \dots a_p \in \mathbb{R} \}$.

(1) Is $\vec{0} \in S$?

Yes: pick $a_1 = a_2 = \dots = a_p = 0 \in \mathbb{R}$

so $a_1 v_1 = 0 \cdot v_1 = \vec{0} \in V$ (proved that $0 \cdot v = \vec{0}$ in wk 2)

and $a_2 v_2 = 0 \cdot v_2 = \vec{0}$

so $a_1 v_1 + a_2 v_2 + \dots + a_p v_p = \vec{0} + \vec{0} + \dots + \vec{0} = \vec{0}$ is a lin comb of $\{v_1, \dots, v_p\}$ by $\vec{x} + \vec{0} = \vec{x}$ axiom

- (1) The subset \mathbf{W} contains the zero element $\mathbf{0}$ of $(\mathbf{V}, +, \cdot)$.
- (2) \mathbf{W} is closed under addition. I.e. for any $x, y \in \mathbf{W}$, the sum $x + y \in \mathbf{W}$ too.
- (3) \mathbf{W} is closed under scalar multiplication. I.e. for any real α and element $x \in \mathbf{W}$, the product $\alpha x \in \mathbf{W}$ too.

(2) Is S closed under addition? Yes!

Pick 2 elements of S , $w = (a_1 v_1 + a_2 v_2 + \dots + a_p v_p)$ (some lin comb'n of v 's)
 and $r = (b_1 v_1 + b_2 v_2 + \dots + b_p v_p)$ (another lin comb'n of v 's)

Add them

$$w+r = \underbrace{a_1 v_1 + b_1 v_1}_{\text{distributivity axiom}} + \underbrace{a_2 v_2 + b_2 v_2}_{\text{distributivity axiom}} + \dots + \underbrace{a_p v_p + b_p v_p}_{\text{distributivity axiom}}$$

distributivity
axiom

$$= \underbrace{(a_1 + b_1)}_{\in \mathbb{R}} v_1 + \underbrace{(a_2 + b_2)}_{\in \mathbb{R}} v_2 + \dots + \underbrace{(a_p + b_p)}_{\in \mathbb{R}} v_p$$

$\in S$ b/c it's a lin comb'n of $\{v_1, \dots, v_p\}$

(1) The subset \mathbf{W} contains the zero element $\mathbf{0}$ of $(\mathbf{V}, +, \cdot)$.

(2) \mathbf{W} is closed under addition. I.e. for any $x, y \in \mathbf{W}$, the sum $x + y \in \mathbf{W}$ too.

(3) \mathbf{W} is closed under scalar multiplication. I.e. for any real α and element $x \in \mathbf{W}$, the product $\alpha x \in \mathbf{W}$ too.

(3) Is S closed under scalar mult? Yes

$$\text{Let } w = a_1 v_1 + \dots + a_p v_p \in S$$

and $k \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\text{Then } k \cdot w = k \overset{\text{distributivity}}{\left(a_1 v_1 + \dots + a_p v_p \right)}$$

$$= \underbrace{(a_1 \cdot k)}_{\in \mathbb{R}} v_1 + \dots + \underbrace{(a_p \cdot k)}_{\in \mathbb{R}} v_p \in S \text{ too}$$

Vector spaces give us a new way to think about solutions to systems of linear equations.
 Example: Consider the system of linear equations below.

$$x_1 + 3x_2 = 1$$

$$2x_1 + x_2 = 3$$

$$4x_1 - x_2 = -3$$

3 eqn

2 unknowns

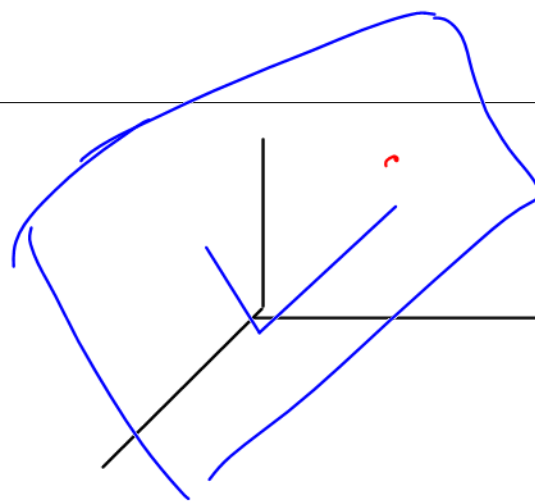
Extract the x_i 's as coefficients of \mathbb{R}^3 vectors:

$$\begin{array}{l}
 1^{\text{st}} \text{ eqn} \rightarrow x_1(1) + x_2(3) = 1 \\
 2^{\text{nd}} \quad \quad \quad x_1(2) + x_2(1) = 3 \\
 3^{\text{rd}} \quad \quad \quad x_1(4) + x_2(-1) = -3
 \end{array}
 \rightarrow
 x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

What does the LHS of the equation now look like?

$$\text{lin comb'n } a_1 v_1 + a_2 v_2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{x_1} + 3\underline{x_2} &= 1 \\ 2x_1 + x_2 &= 3 \\ 4x_1 - x_2 &= -3 \end{aligned}$$



$$x_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} + x_2 \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Represent the question “Does this system of equations have a solution?” in new terms, using span.

all possible x_1, x_2 s
 = span of $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$
 I \Rightarrow $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$ in the span of $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$?
 output/RHS

Note: this hasn't yet helped us find an answer faster, but it *is* a new way to look at an old problem!

Example: Let us consider a system of equations related to \mathbb{R}^2 .

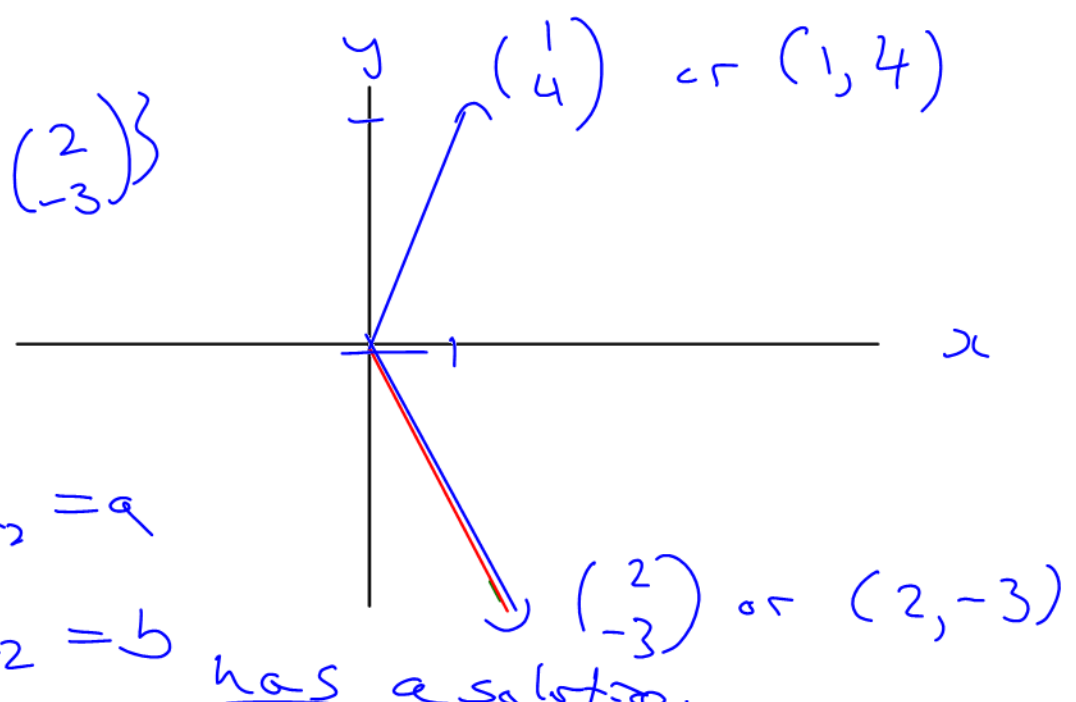
$$\begin{cases} x_1 + 2x_2 = a \\ 4x_1 - 3x_2 = b \end{cases}$$

$\rightarrow \vec{\begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}} \in \text{span}\left\{\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}\right\}$

Use a span argument to prove that, no matter what values are picked for a and b , there **will** be a solution to this system.

The span of $\left\{\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}\right\}$
 \Rightarrow all of \mathbb{R}^2
 \Rightarrow for any $\begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}$
 $\begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}$ is in the span of $\left\{\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}\right\}$
 \Rightarrow for any a, b ,

$$x_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} + x_2 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\begin{cases} x_1 + 2x_2 = a \\ 4x_1 - 3x_2 = b \end{cases}$$

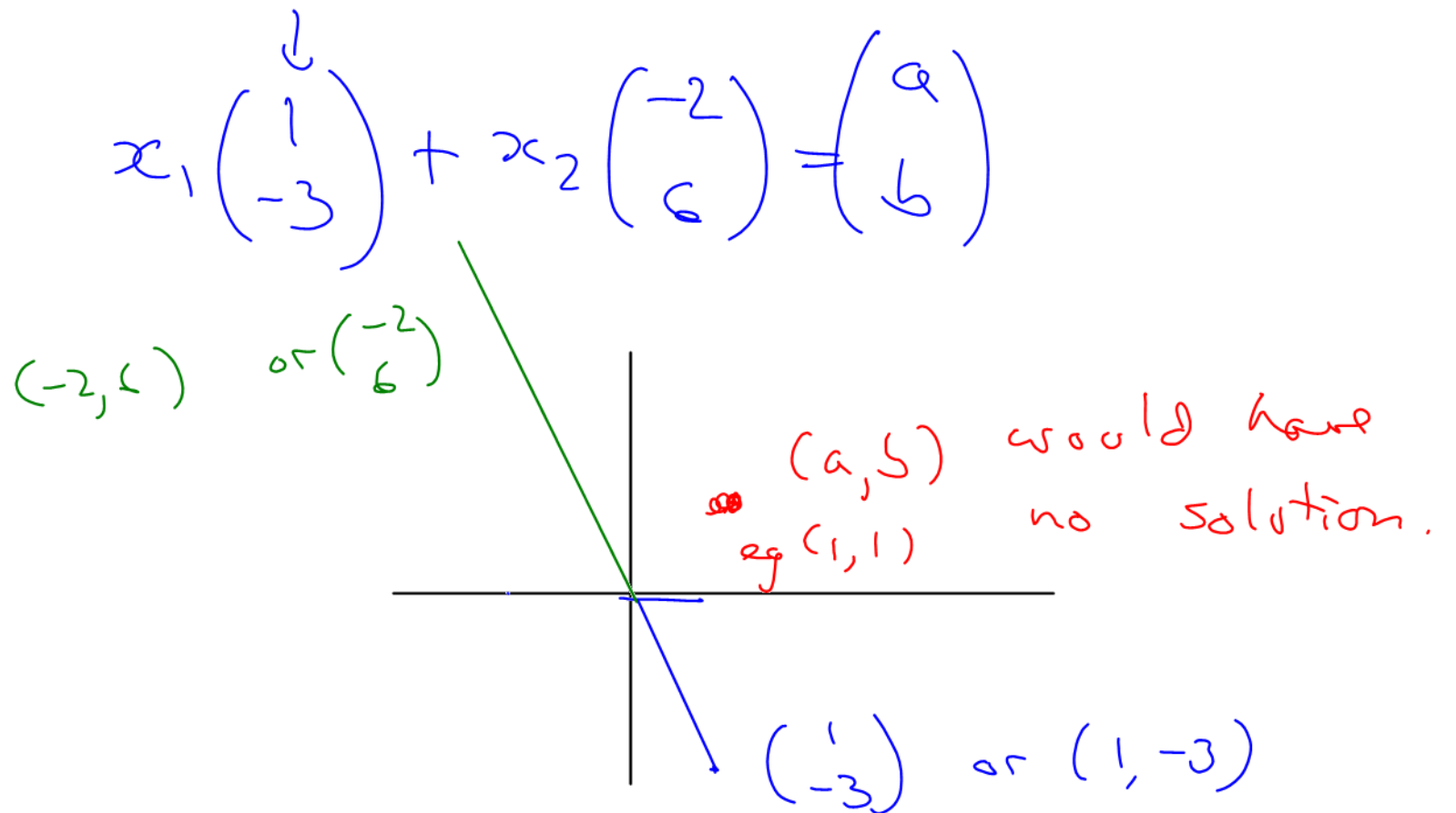
has a solution.

Example continued.

Example: Let us consider another system of equations related to \mathbb{R}^2 .

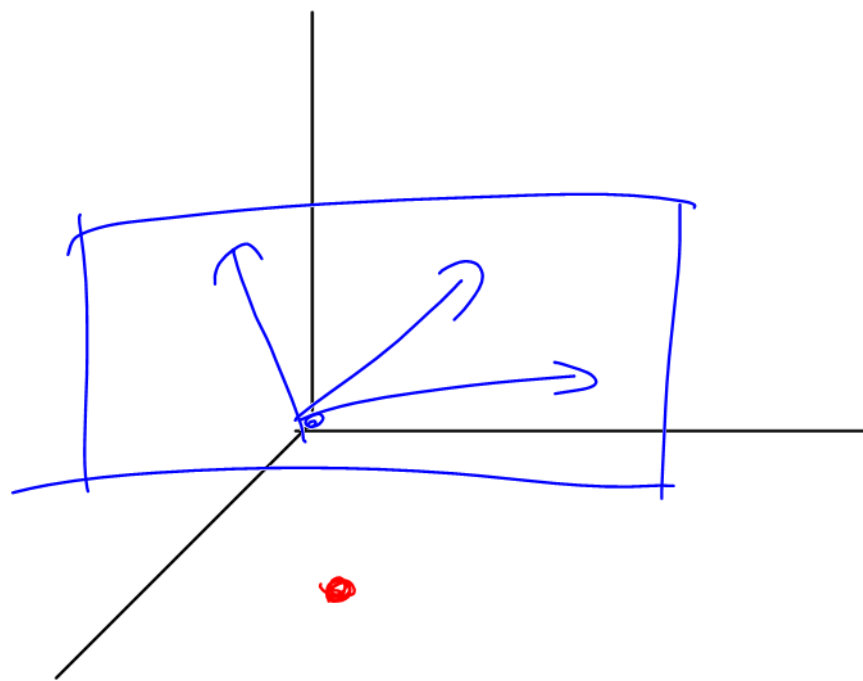
$$\begin{aligned} \uparrow x_1 - 2x_2 &= a \\ -3x_1 + 6x_2 &= b \end{aligned}$$

Use a span argument to prove that, for some a and b values for this system, there will **not** be a solution.



$$a(1, 0, 0) + b(0, 1, 0) + c(0, 0, 1) = [\quad , \quad , \quad]$$

$$a(1) + b(x) + c \cdot x^2 = 3 + 7x + 8x^2$$



$$1 + x^2$$

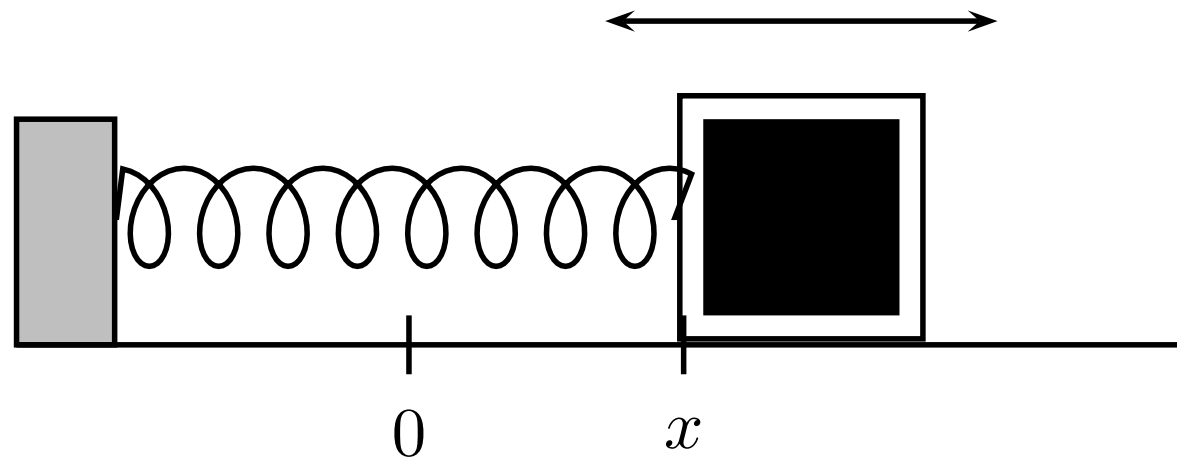
$$1 + x$$

$$x + x^2$$

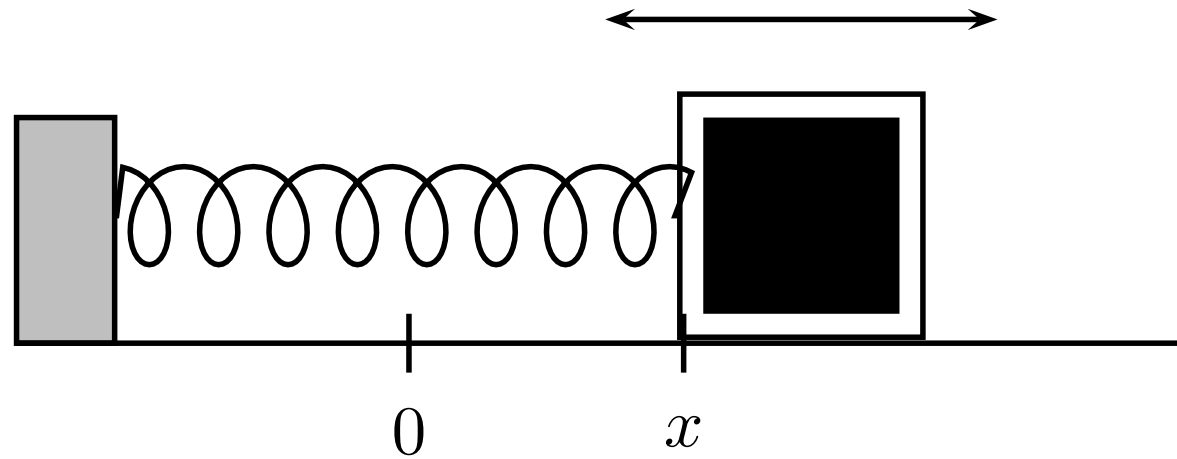
Example continued.

Vector spaces can also help us to better understand the solutions to the spring/mass differential equation from APSC 171 and APSC 112.

Example: Consider the spring system shown below.



What is the differential equation that the motion of the mass must follow?



$$mx''(t) + kx(t) = 0$$

What does a **solution**, $x(t)$, to the differential equation represent?

Prove that the set of all solutions to $mx''(t) + kx(t) = 0$ is a vector subspace of C^∞ :

$$\mathbf{W} = \{x(t) \in C^\infty : x(t) \text{ satisfies } mx''(t) + kx(t) = 0\}$$

$$mx''(t) + kx(t) = 0$$

Continued.

$$mx''(t) + kx(t) = 0$$

$$\text{or } x''(t) = -\frac{k}{m}x(t)$$

Now, consider two **known** solutions to the differential equation (found in APSC 171):

- $x_1(t) =$

- $x_2(t) =$

Describe how the following two sets are related:

- set of all possible solutions to differential equation

$$mx'' + kx = 0, \text{ and}$$

- the span of the two simple solutions

$$\left\{ \sin \left(\sqrt{\frac{k}{m}} t \right), \cos \left(\sqrt{\frac{k}{m}} t \right) \right\}.$$

If time available, further examples or proofs of subspace and span relationships.