

1. Let  $\mathbf{a} = (-1, 2, 1)$ ,  $\mathbf{b} = (2, 1, -3)$ , and  $\mathbf{c} = (4, 7, -7)$ .

(a) Are these three vectors linearly independent or dependent? Show enough work to justify your answer.

Solve  $x\vec{a} + y\vec{b} + z\vec{c} = \vec{0}$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2 & 4 \\ 2 & 1 & 7 \\ 1 & -3 & -7 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 5 & 15 \\ 0 & -1 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 5 & 15 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

There is a free variable, hence non-trivial solutions exist.

Thus the vectors are dependent.

(b) What is the geometric meaning of your answer to part (a)? I.e., what does it tell you about how these vectors are located in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ?

One of the vectors lies in the plane spanned by the other two.  
Equivalently, the three vectors all lie in a plane.

2. A linear transformation  $T : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  is such that for  $\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$ ,



$$T(\mathbf{v}) = \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and for } \mathbf{w} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, T(\mathbf{w}) = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

If  $\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} = 2\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{w}$ , what is  $T(\mathbf{x})$ ?

$$\begin{aligned} T(\vec{x}) &= T(2\vec{v} - \vec{w}) = 2T(\vec{v}) - T(\vec{w}) \text{ by linearity} \\ &= 2\begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \underline{\underline{\begin{pmatrix} -12 \\ 13 \end{pmatrix}}} \end{aligned}$$