

# A Basis of a Vector Space

**Definition:** A basis of a vector space  $V$  is a set of vectors that

- 1 spans  $V$  (the set has enough vectors)
- 2 is linearly independent (not too many vectors)

**Observation:**

- any span of a collection of vectors is a subspace

as an example, let  $S = \text{Span}\left\{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}\right\}$ . Then a general linear combo of vectors in  $S$  is again in  $S$ :

$$\begin{aligned} & c_1 \underbrace{\left( a \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + b \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right)}_{\text{linear combo from } S} + c_2 \underbrace{\left( A \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + B \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right)}_{\text{linear combo from } S} \\ &= \underbrace{(c_1 a + c_2 A) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + (c_1 b + c_2 B) \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{another linear combo from } S} \end{aligned}$$