

Find an **orthonormal basis** of the subspace spanned by the vectors $\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 6 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$

Solution: Let's denote the given vectors as

$$\vec{x}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 6 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \vec{x}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Then first we find an **orthogonal basis** as $\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2\}$ as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{v}_1 &= \vec{x}_1 \\ \vec{v}_2 &= \vec{x}_2 - \left(\frac{\vec{x}_2 \cdot \vec{x}_1}{\vec{x}_1 \cdot \vec{x}_1} \right) \vec{x}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} - \frac{15}{45} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 6 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Next we normalize $\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2\}$ to find an **orthonormal** basis:

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{u}_1 &= \frac{1}{\|\vec{v}_1\|} \vec{v}_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{45}} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 6 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{5} \\ 2/\sqrt{5} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ \vec{u}_2 &= \frac{1}{\|\vec{v}_2\|} \vec{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Note that the set $\{\vec{u}_1, \vec{u}_2\}$ is an **orthonormal** basis.