Chapter 8 - Vector and Cartesian Spaces

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1 Exercises

Problem 8.A. If V is a vector space and if $x + z = x$ for some x and z in V, show that $z = 0$. Hence, the zero element in V is unique.

Suppose $x + z = x$. Then by the properties of addition on a vector space, we have,

$$\begin{aligned} & x + z = x \\ \iff & x + z + (-x) = x + (-x) \\ \iff & x + (-x) + z = 0 \\ \iff & 0 + z = 0 \\ \iff & z = 0 \end{aligned}$$

All of these statements follow directly from the definition of a vector space (Definition 8.1 in the text).

Problem 8.B. If $x + y = 0$ for some x and y in V, show that $y = -x$.

Again using the properties of addition on a vector space, we have,

$$\begin{aligned} & x + y = 0 \\ \iff & x + y + (-x) = 0 + (-x) \\ \iff & x + (-x) + y = -x \\ \iff & 0 + y = -x \\ \iff & y = -x \end{aligned}$$

Problem 8.C. Let $S = \{1, 2, \cdots, p\}$ for some $p \in \mathbb{N}$. Show that the vector space $\mathbb{R}^S$ is "essentially the same" as the space $\mathbb{R}^p$.

We know from Example 8.2d in the text that $\mathbb{R}^S$ denotes the collection of all functions u with domain S and range in $\mathbb{R}$.

We assert that there is a bijection between $\mathbb{R}^p$ and $\mathbb{R}^S$ defined using the functions in $\mathbb{R}^S$. Namely, $f : \mathbb{R}^S \to \mathbb{R}^p$ with $f(u) = (u(1), u(2), \cdots, u(k))$.

First we will show that f is injective. So suppose $u, v \in \mathbb{R}^S$ and $x \in \mathbb{R}^p$ with $f(u) = x$ and $f(v) = x$. That is, $u(k) = x_k$ and $v(k) = x_k$ for every k. Then clearly $u(k) = v(k)$ for every k and hence the functions are equal.

Now to show that f is surjective. Let $x \in \mathbb{R}^p$. Then $x = (x_1, x_2, \cdots, x_p)$.

We know that $\mathbb{R}^S$ denotes the collection of all functions u with domain S and range in $\mathbb{R}$, and we know that $x_k \in \mathbb{R}$ for every k. Hence, there clearly exists a function $u \in \mathbb{R}^S$ such that $u(k) = x_k$ for every k. Thus, f is surjective.

Now we need to show that f preserves addition and scalar multiplication. That is, $f(u + v) = f(u) + f(v)$ and $f(cu) = cf(u)$.

Let $u, v \in \mathbb{R}^S$ with $f(u) = x$ and $f(v) = y$. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} f(u+v) &= (u(1)+v(1), u(2)+v(2), \cdots, u(p)+v(p)) \\ &= (x_1 + y_1, \cdots, x_p + y_p) \\ &= (x_1, \cdots, x_p) + (y_1, \cdots, y_p) \\ &= x + y \\ &= f(u) + f(v) \end{aligned}$$

So f preserves addition. Now to check scalar multiplication:

$$\begin{aligned} f(cu) &= (cu(1), \cdots, cu(p)) \\ &= c(u(1), \cdots, u(p)) \\ &= cf(u) \end{aligned}$$

So f preserves scalar multiplication.

Since f is a bijection between the elements of $\mathbb{R}^S$ and $\mathbb{R}^p$ which preserves addition and scalar multiplication, these two vector spaces are isomorphic (ie. "essentially the same").

Problem 8.D. If w_1 and w_2 are strictly positive, show that the definition $(x_1, x_2) \cdot (y_1, y_2) = x_1 y_1 w_1 + x_2 y_2 w_2$ yields an inner product on $\mathbb{R}^2$. Generalize this to $\mathbb{R}^p$.

We need to show that this potential norm satisfies the five conditions of Definition 8.3 in the text:

1.

$$\begin{aligned} x \cdot x = (x_1, x_2) \cdot (x_1, x_2) &= x_1 x_1 w_1 + x_2 x_2 w_2 \\ &= x_1^2 w_1 + x_2^2 w_2 \\ &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

2.

$$\begin{aligned} & (x_1, x_2) \cdot (x_1, x_2) = 0 \\ \iff & x_1^2 w_1 + x_2^2 w_2 = 0 \\ \iff & x_1^2 w_1 = -x_2^2 w_2 \end{aligned}$$

We know that $x_1^2 w_1 \geq 0$ and $x_2^2 w_2 \geq 0$. Hence, $x_1^2 w_1 = -x_2^2 w_2$ iff $x_1^2 w_1 = 0 = x_2^2 w_2$.

3.

$$\begin{aligned} x \cdot y = (x_1, x_2) \cdot (y_1, y_2) &= x_1 y_1 w_1 + x_2 y_2 w_2 \\ &= y_1 x_1 w_1 + y_2 x_2 w_2 \\ &= (y_1, y_2) \cdot (x_1, x_2) \\ &= y \cdot x \end{aligned}$$

4.

$$\begin{aligned} x \cdot (y + z) = (x_1, x_2) \cdot (y_1 + z_1, y_2 + z_2) &= x_1(y_1 + z_1)w_1 + x_2(y_2 + z_2)w_2 \\ &= (x_1 y_1 + x_1 z_1)w_1 + (x_2 y_2 + x_2 z_2)w_2 \\ &= x_1 y_1 w_1 + x_1 z_1 w_1 + x_2 y_2 w_2 + x_2 z_2 w_2 \\ &= (x_1 y_1 w_1 + x_2 y_2 w_2) + (x_1 z_1 w_1 + x_2 z_2 w_2) \\ &= (x_1, x_2) \cdot (y_1, y_2) + (x_1, x_2) \cdot (z_1, z_2) \\ &= x \cdot y + x \cdot z \end{aligned}$$

and,

$$\begin{aligned} (x + y) \cdot z = (x_1 + y_1, x_2 + y_2) \cdot (z_1, z_2) &= (x_1 + y_1)z_1 w_1 + (x_2 + y_2)z_2 w_2 \\ &= (x_1 z_1 + y_1 z_1)w_1 + (x_2 z_2 + y_2 z_2)w_2 \\ &= x_1 z_1 w_1 + y_1 z_1 w_1 + x_2 z_2 w_2 + y_2 z_2 w_2 \\ &= (x_1 z_1 w_1 + x_2 z_2 w_2) + (y_1 z_1 w_1 + y_2 z_2 w_2) \\ &= (x_1, x_2) \cdot (z_1, z_2) + (y_1, y_2) \cdot (z_1, z_2) \\ &= x \cdot z + y \cdot z \end{aligned}$$

5.

$$\begin{aligned} (ax) \cdot y &= (ax_1, ax_2) \cdot (y_1, y_2) \\ &= ax_1 y_1 w_1 + ax_2 y_2 w_2 \\ &= a(x_1 y_1 w_1 + x_2 y_2 w_2) = a(x \cdot y) \\ &= x_1(ay_1)w_1 + x_2(ay_2)w_2 \\ &= x \cdot (ay) \end{aligned}$$

Hence, the proposed norm satisfies all of the necessary properties and thus defines a valid norm on $\mathbb{R}^2$.

In order to generalize this norm to $\mathbb{R}^p$, we need to fix $w \in \mathbb{R}^p$ such that each component of w is strictly positive. Then the corresponding norm is given by,

$$x \cdot y = \sum_{i=1}^{p} x_i y_i w_i$$

Problem 8.E. The definition $(x_1, x_2) \cdot (y_1, y_2) = x_1 y_1$ is *not* an inner product on $\mathbb{R}^2$. Why?

Let $x = (0, 1)$. Then $x \cdot x = 0(0) = 0$, but $x \neq (0, 0)$. Hence, property 2 of Definition 8.3 is violated and this does not define a valid norm.

Problem 8.F. If $x = (x_1, x_2, \cdots, x_p) \in \mathbb{R}^p$, define $||x||_1$ by $||x||_1 = |x_1| + |x_2| + \cdots + |x_p|$. Prove that $x \to ||x||_1$ is a norm on $\mathbb{R}^p$.

We need to show that this proposed norm satisfies all four properties of Definition 8.5 in the text.

2 Project