

# **MAT224 Linear Algebra**

Definitions, Lemmas, Theorems, Corollaries  
and their related proofs

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The course website could be found here:  
<http://www.math.toronto.edu/nhoell/MAT224/>

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# Chapter 1

## Vector Spaces

### 1.1 (Real) Vector Space

1.1.1. **Definition of real vector space:** A real vector space is a set  $V$  together with scalar

- (a) **Closure under vector addition:** an operation called vector addition, which for each pair of vectors  $\vec{x}, \vec{y} \in V$  produces another vector in  $V$  denoted  $\vec{x} + \vec{y}$ , (i.e.  $\forall \vec{x}, \vec{y} \in V, \vec{x} + \vec{y} \in V$ ) and
- (b) **Closure under scalar multiplication:** an operation called multiplication by a scalar (a real number), which for each vector  $\vec{x} \in V$ , an each scalar  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  produces another vector in  $V$  denoted  $c\vec{x}$ . (i.e.  $\forall \vec{x} \in V, \forall c \in \mathbb{R}, c\vec{x} \in V$ )

Furthermore, the two operations must satisfy the following axioms:(important)

- (a)  $\forall \vec{x}, \vec{y}, \vec{z} \in V, (\vec{x} + \vec{y}) + \vec{z} = \vec{x} + (\vec{y} + \vec{z})$
- (b)  $\forall \vec{v}, \vec{y} \in V, \vec{x} + \vec{y} = \vec{y} + \vec{x}$
- (c)  $\exists \vec{0} \in V$  s.t.  $\forall \vec{x} \in V, \vec{x} + \vec{0} = \vec{x}$  (Note that this property is a.k.a existence of additive identity)
- (d)  $\forall \vec{x} \in V, \exists (-\vec{x}) \in V$  s.t.  $\vec{x} + (-\vec{x}) = \vec{0}$  (Note that this property is a.k.a existence of additive inverse)
- (e)  $\forall \vec{x}, \vec{y} \in V, c \in \mathbb{R}, c(\vec{x} + \vec{y}) = c\vec{x} + c\vec{y}$
- (f)  $\forall \vec{x} \in V, c, d \in \mathbb{R}, (c + d)\vec{x} = c\vec{x} + d\vec{x}$

$$(g) \quad \forall \vec{x} \in V, c, d \in \mathbb{R}, (cd)\vec{x} = c(d\vec{x})$$

$$(h) \quad \forall \vec{x} \in V, 1\vec{x} = \vec{x}$$

1.1.6. **Propositions for a R-v.s.** Let  $V$  be a vector space. Then

(a) The zero vector is unique. Note that it might not necessarily be actually the zero vector in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  that we are somewhat used to use.

$$(b) \quad \forall \vec{x} \in V, 0\vec{x} = 0$$

(c)  $\forall \vec{x} \in V$ , the additive inverse is unique. Note that it might not necessarily be actually just  $(-1)$  times the vector in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  that we are somewhat used to use.

$$(d) \quad \forall \vec{x} \in V, \forall c \in \mathbb{R}, (-c)\vec{x} = -(c\vec{x})$$

## 1.2 Sub-spaces

1.2.4. **Usual definition of subspace applied to functions in  $C^0(\mathbb{R})$ .** Note that by  $C^n(\cdot)$  we mean the function in this set are all of *Class*  $-n$ . Let  $f, g \in C^0(\mathbb{R})$ , let  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then,

$$(a) \quad f + g \in C^0(\mathbb{R}), \text{ and}$$

$$(b) \quad cf \in C(\mathbb{R})$$

The proof of this lemma relies on limit theorems of calculus.

1.2.6. **(Intuitive) definition of (vector) subspace** Let  $V$  be a vector space and let  $W \subseteq V$  be a subset. Then  $W$  is a (vector) subspace if  $W$  is a vector subspace itself under the operations of vector sum and scalar multiplication from  $V$ .

1.2.8. **Quick check rule for a subspace.** Let  $V$  be a vector subspace, and let  $W$  be a **non empty** subset of  $V$ . Then  $W$  is a subspace of  $V$  if and only if  $\forall \vec{x}, \vec{y} \in W, \forall c \in \mathbb{R}$ , we have  $c\vec{x} + \vec{y} \in W$ .

1.2.9. **Remark on the necessary condition of non-emptiness of subspace.** According to the definition of vector space that we gave in 1.1.1, a vector space must contain an additive identity element, hence it is necessary that we ensure  $W \subseteq V$  (from 1.2.6) is not an empty set.

- 1.2.13. **Theorem: Intersection of sub-spaces is a subspace.** Let  $V$  be a vector space. Then the intersection of any collection of sub-spaces of  $V$  is a subspace of  $V$ .
- 1.2.14. **Corollary: Hyper planes in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  are sub-spaces of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .** Let  $a_{ij}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq m$ ), let  $W_i = \{(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid a_{i1}x_1 + \dots + a_{in}x_n = 0, \forall 1 \leq i \leq m\}$ . Then  $W$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

## 1.3 Linear Combinations

- 1.3.1. **Definitions regarding L.C. and derived spans.** Let  $S$  be a subset of a vector space  $V$ , that is  $S \subseteq V$ .
- (a) a *linear combination* of vectors in  $S$  is any sum  $a_1\vec{x}_1 + \dots + a_n\vec{x}_n$ , where the  $a_i \in \mathbb{R}$ , and the  $x_i \in S$ .
  - (b) we define the *Span* of a set of vectors as follows to consider the special case of  $S \stackrel{?}{=} \emptyset \in V$ . **Case1:**  $S \neq \emptyset$ . In this case, we define  $Span(S)$  to be all possible linear combinations using vectors in  $S$ . **Case2:**  $S = \emptyset$ . In this case, we define  $Span(S = \emptyset) = \{\vec{0}\}$
  - (c) If  $W = Span(S)$ , we say  $S$  *spans* (or *generates*)  $W$ .
- 1.3.4. **Span of a subset of a vector space is a subspace.** Let  $V$  be a vector space and let  $S$  be any subset of  $V$ . Then  $Span(S)$  is a subspace of  $V$ .
- 1.3.5. **Sum of sets (with application to sub-spaces).** Let  $W_1 \wedge W_2$  be subspaces of a vector space  $V$ . The sum of  $W_1$  and  $W_2$  is the set

$$W_1 + W_2 := \{\vec{x} \in V \mid \vec{x} = \vec{x}_1 + \vec{x}_2, \text{ for some } \vec{x}_1 \in W_1, \vec{x}_2 \in W_2\}$$

We think of the sum of the two sub-spaces (the two sets) as the set of vectors that can be built up from the vectors in  $W_1$  and  $W_2$  by linear combinations. Conversely, the vectors in the set  $W_1 + W_2$  are precisely the vectors that can be broken down into the sum of a vector in  $W_1$  and a vector in  $W_2$ . One may find it helpful to view this as an analogue to a Cartesian product of the two set with a new constraint on the result.

1.3.6. **Example.** If  $W_1 = \{(a_1, a_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 | a_2 = 0\}$  and  $W_2 = \{(a_1, a_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 | a_1 = 0\}$ , then  $W_1 + W_2 = \mathbb{R}^2$ , since every vector in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  can be written as the sum of vector in  $W_1$  and a vector in  $W_2$ . For instance, we have  $(5, -6) = (0, 5) + (0, -6)$ , and  $(5, 0) \in W_1$  and  $(0, -6) \in W_2$

1.3.8. **Proposition: The sum of spans of sets is the span of the union of the sets.** Let  $W_1 = \text{Span}(S_1)$  and  $W_2 = \text{Span}(S_2)$  be sub-spaces of a (the same) vector space  $V$ . Then  $W_1 + W_2 = \text{Span}(S_1 \cup S_2)$ . Notice that the proof of this gave the important idea of mutual inclusion in proving sets are equal to each other.

1.3.9. **The sum of sub-spaces is also a subspace.** Let  $W_1$  and  $W_2$  be sub-spaces of a vector space  $V$ . Then  $W_1 + W_2$  is also a subspace of  $V$ .

*Proof:*

It is clear that  $W_1 + W_2$  is non-empty, since neither  $W_1$  nor  $W_2$  is empty. Let  $\vec{x}, \vec{y}$  be two vectors in  $W_1 + W_2$ , let  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ . By our choice of  $\vec{x}$  and  $\vec{y}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} c\vec{x} + \vec{y} &= c(\vec{x}_1 + \vec{x}_2) + (\vec{y}_1 + \vec{y}_2) \\ &= (c\vec{x}_1 + \vec{y}_1) + (c\vec{x}_2 + \vec{y}_2) \in W_1 + W_2 \end{aligned}$$

Since  $W_1$  and  $W_2$  are sub-spaces of  $V$ , we have  $(c\vec{x}_1 + \vec{y}_1) \in W_1$  and  $(c\vec{x}_2 + \vec{y}_2) \in W_2$ . Then by (1.2.8), we see that indeed  $W_1 + W_2$  is a subspace of  $V$ . *Q.E.D.*

1.3.10. **Remark.** In general, if  $W_1$  and  $W_2$  are subspaces of  $V$ , then  $W_1 \cup W_2$  will not be a subspace of  $V$ . For example, consider the two sub-spaces of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  given in example (1.3.6). In that case  $W_1 \cup W_2$  is the union of two lines through the origin in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

1.3.11. **Proposition.** Let  $W_1$  and  $W_2$  be sub-spaces of vector space  $V$  and let  $W$  be a subspace of  $V$  such that  $W \supseteq W_1 \cup W_2$ , then  $W \supseteq W_1 + W_2$