

# MAT185 Notes

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## 1 Vector Spaces

- A vector space consists of three things: a set  $V$  together with the two operations of vector addition and scalar multiplication. We use  $V$  to describe both the vector space and the set itself. Specifically:

**Definition:** A **real vector space** is a set  $V$  together with two operations called *vector addition* and *scalar multiplication* such that the following *axioms* hold:

1. **Additive Closure (AC):** For all vectors  $x, y \in V$ ,  $x + y \in V$ .
2. **Scalar Closure (SC):** For all vectors  $x \in V$ , and scalars  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $cx \in V$ .
3. **Additive Associativity (AA):** For all vectors  $x, y, z \in V$ ,  $(x + y) + z = x + (y + z)$ .
4. **Zero Vector (Z):** There exists a unique vector  $0 \in V$  with the property that  $x + 0 = x$  for all vectors  $x \in V$ .
5. **Additive Inverse (AI):** For each vector  $x \in V$ , there exists a unique vector  $-x \in V$  with the property that  $x + (-x) = 0$ .
6. **Scalar Multiplication Associativity (SMA):** For all vectors  $x \in V$ , and scalars  $c, d \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $(cd)x = c(dx)$ .
7. **Distributivity of Vector Addition (DVA):** For all vectors  $x, y \in V$ , and scalars  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $c(x + y) = cx + cy$ .
8. **Distributivity of Scalar Addition (DSA):** For all vectors  $x \in V$ , and scalars  $c, d \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $(c + d)x = cx + dx$ .
9. **Identity (I):** For all vectors  $x \in V$ ,  $1x = x$ .

- Note that *anything* can be a vector space as long as we define operations such that it has properties that satisfies the above properties.
- To define a **complex vector space**, we let the scalars belong in the complex space instead.