Linear Algebra Exercises

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Chapter 1

Vector Spaces

1.1 Vector Spaces

Exercise 1.2.1

Label the following statements as true or false.

(a) Every vector space contains a zero vector.

(b) A vector space may have more than one zero vector.

(c) In any vector space, $ax = bx$ implies that $a = b$.

(d) In any vector space, $ax = ay$ implies that $x = y$.

Exercise 1.2.7

Let $S = \{0, 1\}$ and $F = \mathbb{R}$. In $\mathscr{F}(S, \mathbb{R}$, show that $f = g$ and where $f(t) = 2t + 1$, $g(t) = 1 + 4t - 2t^2$, and $h(t) = 5^t + 1$.

Proof. To show that $f = g$, we have to show that for each $s \in S$ that $f(s) = g(s)$. Since $S = \{0, 1\}$, we can just evaluate both f and g for elements in S. Note that

$$f(0) = 2(0) + 1 = 1$$

and likewise,

$$g(0) = 1 + 4(0) - 2(0)^2.$$

Hence, $f(0) = g(0)$. Now let us evaluate both functions f and g at $s = 1$. Hence, we have

$$f(1) = 2(1) + 1 = 3$$

and

$$g(1) = 1 + 4(1) - 2(1)^2 = 3.$$

Thus, we must have $f(s) = g(s)$ for all $s \in S$.

Now, we need to show that $f + g = h$. Like we did above, we have to show that this is the case for all $s \in S$. Note that

$$(f + g)(s) = f(s) + g(s).$$

Hence, we have

$$f(s) + g(s) = 2 + 6s - 2s^2.$$

Evaluating at $s = 0$, we have

$$f(0) + g(0) = 2.$$

and likewise,

$$h(0) = 5^0 + 1 = 2.$$

Hence, $(f+g)(0) = h(0)$. Now let us evaluate $f+g$ at $s=1$

$$f(1)+g(1) = 2+6(1)-2(1)^2 = 6$$

and likewise, we have

$$h(1) = 5^1 + 1 = 6.$$

Hence, we have $(f+g)(1) = h(1)$. Thus, we have that $f+g=h$ for all $s \in S$.

■

Exercise 1.2.8

In any vector space V, we have

$$(a+b)(x+y) = ax+ay+bx+by$$

for any $x, y \in V$ and any $a, b \in F$.

Proof. Observe the following set equalities:

$$\begin{aligned}(a+b)(x+y) &= a(x+y)+b(x+y) && \text{(VS 8)}\\ &= ax+ay+bx+by. && \text{(VS 7)}\end{aligned}$$

Hence, we have that

$$(a+b)(x+y) = ax+ay+bx+by$$

for any $x, y \in V$ and any $a, b \in F$. ■

Exercise 1.2.10

Let V denote the set of all differentiable real-valued functions defined on the real line. Prove that V is a vector space with the operations of addition and scalar multiplication defined in Example 3.

Proof. Let $f, g \in \mathscr{F}(S,\mathbb{R})$ and let $x \in S$. Using the addition operation defined in Example 3, we have

$$(f+g)(x) = f(x)+g(x).$$

Since $f(x), g(x) \in \mathbb{R}$ where $\mathbb{R}$ is a field, we know that commutativity is preserved. Hence, we have that

$$f(x)+g(x) = g(x)+f(x).$$

By the same reasoning, we have that associativity is also preserved.

Since $\mathbb{R}$ is a field, we also know that there exists an element O in $\mathbb{R}$ such that for every $y \in \mathbb{R}$, we have $y+O=y$. Since $f(y) \in \mathbb{R}$, there exists an f_0 such that $f(y)+f_0 = f(y)$. Hence, the third property is also satisfied. Likewise, the fourth property is also satisfied since $\mathbb{R}$ is a field. Since $\mathbb{R}$ is a field in which multiplicative identities exists and that for every $x \in S$ with $f(x) \in \mathbb{R}$, we know that $1 \cdot f(x) = f(x)$. Hence, property 5 is satisfied.

Let $x \in S$. Since $f(x) \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\mathbb{R}$ is a field, we also know that properties 6 and 7 are satisfied. Now, let $f \in \mathscr{F}(S,\mathbb{R})$ and $x \in S$. Let $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$. Using the operations of addition and scalar multiplication and the fact that $\mathbb{R}$ is a field, we have that

$$(a+b)f(x) = af(x)+bf(x).$$

Hence, we conclude that $V = \mathscr{F}(S,\mathbb{R})$ is a vector space.

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Exercise 1.2.11

Let $V = \{0\}$ consist of a single vector O and define $O+O=O$ and $cO=O$ for each scalar $c \in F$. Prove that V is a vector space over F.

Proof. Let $x, y \in O$. Since $V = \{0\}$, we know that x and y are both the 0 vector. By using the addition defined on V, we can see that

$$x+y = O+O = y+x.$$

Note that $x + y \in V$ implies that $x + y = O + O$ and likewise $y + z = O + O$ for every $x, y, z \in V$. Hence, we have that

$$x + (y + z) = O + (O + O) = (O + O) + O = (x + y) + z.$$

Since V consists of only the zero vector O, we know that (VS 3) and (VS 4) are satisfied. By the same reasoning, (VS 5) is satisfied because

$$1 \cdot O = O.$$

Let $a, b \in F$. Then (VS 6) and (VS 7) are satisfied because

$$(ab)O = 0 = a \cdot 0 = a(bO) \text{ and } a(O + O) = 0 = O + O = aO + aO \text{ respectively.}$$

Let $a, b \in F$ again. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}(a + b)O &= 0 \\ &= O + O \\ &= aO + bO.\end{aligned}$$

Hence, (VS 8) is satisfied. ■

Exercise 1.2.12

A real-valued function f defined on the real line is called an **even function** if $f(-t) = f(t)$ for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$. Prove that the set of even functions defined on $\mathbb{R}$ with the operations of addition and scalar multiplication defined in Example 3 is a vector space.

Proof. First, let us show that for every $t \in \mathbb{R}$ that $(f + g)(t)$ is also an even function for every pair of even functions f, g and likewise $(cf)(t)$ is an even function for every $c \in \mathbb{R}$. Observe that

$$\begin{aligned}(f + g)(-t) &= f(-t) + g(-t) \\ &= f(t) + g(t) \\ &= (f + g)(t).\end{aligned}$$

Hence, the function $f + g$ is also even. Now observe that

$$\begin{aligned}(cf)(-t) &= cf(-t) \\ &= cf(t) \\ &= (cf)(t).\end{aligned}$$

Hence, cf is also even function.

Now we can show that the set of even functions is a vector space.

(VS 1) Let f, g be a pair of real-valued even functions. Let $t \in \mathbb{R}$ be arbitrary. We need to show that $f + g = g + f$. Since $f(t)$ and $g(t)$ are real numbers, observe that

$$(f + g)(t) = f(t) + g(t) = g(t) + f(t) = (g + f)(t).$$

Hence, we have that $f + g = g + f$.

(VS 2) Let f, g, h be even functions and let $t \in \mathbb{R}$ be arbitrary. We need to show that $f + (g + h) = (f + g) + h$. By the same reasoning we used to prove (VS 1), observe that

$$\begin{aligned}f(t) + ((g + h)(t)) &= f(t) + (g(t) + h(t)) \\ &= (f(t) + g(t)) + h(t) \\ &= ((f + g)(t)) + h(t)\end{aligned}$$

Hence, we have that $f + (g + h) + (f + g) + h$.

(VS 3) Let f be an even function. Note that the zero function is an even function. Denote the zero function as f_0. For every $t \in \mathbb{R}$, we have $f_0(x) = O$. We need to show that $f + f_0 = f$. Since $f_0(x)$ is just a real number, we have

$$(f + f_0)(t) = f(t) + f_0(t) = f(t) + O = f(t).$$

(VS 4) Let f be an even function and let f_0 be the zero function defined above. We need to show that there exists a even function g such that $f + g = f_0$. Let $t \in \mathbb{R}$ be arbitrary. Note that

$$(f + g)(t) = f(t) + g(t)$$

Since $f(t)$ and $g(t)$ are real numbers and there exists an additive identity in the real numbers, we have that $f(t) + g(t) = f_0(t)$. Hence, (VS 5) is satisfied.

(VS 5) Let $x \in \mathbb{R}$ and f an even function. Then we immediately have $(1 \cdot f)(t) = 1f(t) = f(t)$.

(VS 6) Let $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$. We need to show that $(ab)f = a(bf)$. Hence, let $t \in \mathbb{R}$. Then we have

$$(abf)(t) = a(bf)(t).$$

(VS 7) Let $a \in \mathbb{R}$ and let f, g be even functions. Let $t \in \mathbb{R}$. We need to show that $a(f + g) = af + ag$. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} a(f+g)(t) &= a[f(t) + g(t)] \\ &= af(t) + ag(t). \end{aligned}$$

Hence, (VS 7) is satisfied.

(VS 8) Now let $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ and let f be an even function. We need to show that $(a + b)f = af + bf$. Let $t \in \mathbb{R}$ be arbitrary. Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} (a+b)f(t) &= af(t) + bf(t) \\ &= (af)(t) + (bf)(t) \end{aligned}$$

Hence, (VS 8) is satisfied.

■

Exercise 1.2.13

Let V denote the set of ordered pairs of real numbers. If (a_1, a_2) and (b_1, b_2) are elements of V and $c \in \mathbb{R}$, define

$$(a_1, a_2) + (b_1, b_2) = (a_1 + a_2, a_2 b_2) \text{ and } c(a_1, a_2) = (ca_1, a_2).$$

Is V is a vector space over $\mathbb{R}$ with these operations? Justify your answer.

Proof. ■