

Chapter 4

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4.1 Real Vector Spaces

Definition 4.1. We call V a vector space if it follows these ten conditions.

1. If u and v are object in V , then $u + v$ is in V
2. $u + (v + w) = (u + v) + w$
3. There is an object, 0 in V , called a zero vector for V , such that $0 + u = u + 0 = u$ for all u in V .
4. For each u in V , there is an object $-u$ in V , called a negative of u , such that $u + (-u) = (-u) + u = 0$.
5. if k is any scalar and u is any object in V , then ku is in V .
6. $k(u + v) = ku + kv$
7. $(k + m)u = ku + mu$
8. $k(mu) = (km)(u)$
9. $1u = u$

Remark. Something to notice here is that this doesn't state anything about vector operations at, all. This truly does mean that any set with those 10 properties is a vector space. A great example of this is the set of real numbers, \mathbb{R} .

To show a space is a vector space:

1. Identify the set V of objects that will become vectors.
2. Identify the addition and scalar multiplication operations on V .
3. Verify Axioms 1 and 6; that is, adding two vector in V produces a vector in V , and multiplying a vector in V by a scalar also produces a vector in V . Axiom 1 is called closure under addition, and Axiom 6 is called closure under scalar multiplication.
4. Confirm that Axioms 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 hold.

Theorem 4.2. Let V be a vector space, u a vector in V , and k a scalar; then:

1. $0u = 0$
2. $k0 = 0$
3. $(-1)u = -u$
4. If $ku = 0$, then $k = 0$ or $u = 0$.

4.2 Subspaces

Definition 4.3. A subset W of a vector space V is called a subspace of V if W is itself a vector space under the addition and scalar multiplication defined on V .

Written as a set, we are essentially saying,

$$\{W \mid W \subset V\}$$

Theorem 4.4. If W is a set of one or more vectors in a vector space V , then W is a subspace of V if and only if the following conditions are satisfied.

- (a) If u and v are vectors in W , then $u + v$ is in W .
- (b) If k is a scalar and u is a vector in W , then ku is in W .