

Lecture 4

Vector spaces

Defⁿ. A vector space (or linear space) consists of the following:

Vector space over the field

1. a field F of scalars;
2. a set V of objects, called vectors;
3. a rule (or operation), called vector addition, which associates with each pair of vectors $\vec{\alpha}, \vec{\beta} \in V$ a vector $\vec{\alpha} + \vec{\beta} \in V$, called the sum of $\vec{\alpha}$ & $\vec{\beta}$, in such a way that

(a) addition is commutative, $\vec{\alpha} + \vec{\beta} = \vec{\beta} + \vec{\alpha}$;

(b) addition is associative, $\vec{\alpha} + (\vec{\beta} + \vec{\gamma}) = (\vec{\alpha} + \vec{\beta}) + \vec{\gamma}$;

(c) \exists a unique vector $\vec{0} \in V$, called the zero vector, s.t. $\vec{\alpha} + \vec{0} = \vec{\alpha} \forall \vec{\alpha} \in V$;

(d) for each $\vec{\alpha} \in V \exists$ a unique vector $-\vec{\alpha} \in V$ s.t. $\vec{\alpha} + (-\vec{\alpha}) = \vec{0}$.

4. a rule, called scalar multiplication, which associates with each scalar $c \in F$ & $\vec{\alpha} \in V$ a vector $c\vec{\alpha} \in V$, called the product of c & $\vec{\alpha}$ s.t.

(a) $1\vec{\alpha} = \vec{\alpha} \forall \vec{\alpha} \in V$;

(b) $(c_1 c_2)\vec{\alpha} = c_1(c_2\vec{\alpha})$;

(c) $c(\vec{\alpha} + \vec{\beta}) = c\vec{\alpha} + c\vec{\beta}$;

(d) $(c_1 + c_2)\vec{\alpha} = c_1\vec{\alpha} + c_2\vec{\alpha}$.

A vector space is a composite object consisting of a field, a set of 'vectors', & two operations w/ certain properties

Examples

① The n -tuple space, F^n . Let F be any field. Let V be the set of all n -tuples $\bar{\alpha} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ of scalars $x_i \in F$. If $\bar{\beta} = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)$ w/ $y_i \in F$, the sum of $\bar{\alpha} \in \bar{\beta}$ is defined by

$$\bar{\alpha} + \bar{\beta} = (x_1 + y_1, x_2 + y_2, \dots, x_n + y_n) \quad \text{--- (2.1)}$$

The product of a scalar c and vector $\bar{\alpha}$ is defined by

$$c\bar{\alpha} = (cx_1, \dots, cx_n) \quad \text{--- (2.2)}$$

② The space of $m \times n$ matrices, $F^{m \times n}$. Let F be any field and let m & n be +ve integers. Let $F^{m \times n}$ be the set of all $m \times n$ matrices over the field F .

$\bar{A}, \bar{B} \in F^{m \times n}$ then

$$(\bar{A} + \bar{B})_{ij} = A_{ij} + B_{ij}.$$

$c \in F, \bar{A} \in F^{m \times n}$ then

$$(c\bar{A})_{ij} = cA_{ij}.$$

③ The space of functions from a set to a field. Let F be field, S be any non-empty set. V be the set of all f^S from the set S into F .

For $\bar{f}, \bar{g} \in V$,

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

For $c \in F$, $f \in V$,

$$(cf)(x) = cf(x).$$

- (4) The space of polynomial f^n_x over a field F .
Let F be a field and let V be the set of all f 's f from F into F which have the rule of the form

$$f(x) = c_0 + c_1x + \dots + c_nx^n,$$

where $c_0, c_1, \dots, c_n \in F$ are independent of x .

- (5) The field \mathbb{C} of complex nos. \rightarrow a vector space over the field \mathbb{R} of real nos.

✓ From the defⁿ of a vector space, we observe: ~~that~~ If for a scalar $c \in F$ and vector $\bar{\alpha} \in V$ we have $c\bar{\alpha} = \bar{0}$ then either $c = 0$ or $\bar{\alpha} = \bar{0}$.

For any $\bar{\alpha} \in V$, $-\bar{\alpha} \in V$ since $\bar{0} \in V$ and

$$\bar{0} = 0\bar{\alpha} = (1-1)\bar{\alpha} = 1\bar{\alpha} + (-1)\bar{\alpha} = \bar{\alpha} + (-1)\bar{\alpha},$$

$$(-1)\bar{\alpha} = -\bar{\alpha}.$$

For any $\bar{\alpha}_1, \bar{\alpha}_2, \bar{\alpha}_3, \bar{\alpha}_4 \in V$, $(\bar{\alpha}_1 + \bar{\alpha}_2) + (\bar{\alpha}_3 + \bar{\alpha}_4) = (\bar{\alpha}_2 + (\bar{\alpha}_1 + \bar{\alpha}_3)) + \bar{\alpha}_4.$

Defⁿ: A vector $\bar{\beta} \in V$ is said to be a linear combination of the vectors $\bar{\alpha}_1, \bar{\alpha}_2, \dots, \bar{\alpha}_n \in V$ provided \exists scalars $c_1, \dots, c_n \in F$ st.

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{\beta} &= c_1 \bar{\alpha}_1 + \dots + c_n \bar{\alpha}_n \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n c_i \bar{\alpha}_i.\end{aligned}$$

Other extensions of the associative property of vector addⁿ & the distributive properties 4① and 4② of scalar multiplication apply to linear combinations:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n c_i \bar{\alpha}_i + \sum_{i=1}^n d_i \bar{\alpha}_i = \sum_{i=1}^n (c_i + d_i) \bar{\alpha}_i$$

$$c \sum_{i=1}^n c_i \bar{\alpha}_i = \sum_{i=1}^n (cc_i) \bar{\alpha}_i.$$

Defⁿ: Let V be a vector space over the field F . A subspace of V is a subset W of V which is itself a vector space over F w/ the operations of vector addition and scalar multiplication on V .

Thm. A non-empty subset W of V is a subspace of V if and only if for each pair of vectors $\bar{\alpha}, \bar{\beta}$ in W and each scalar c in F the vector $c\bar{\alpha} + \bar{\beta}$ is again in W .

Proof. Let W be non-empty subset of V s.t. $c\bar{\alpha} + \bar{\beta} \in W \quad \forall \bar{\alpha}, \bar{\beta} \in W$ and $\forall c \in F$. $\because W$ is non-empty, $\exists \bar{\gamma} \in W$, and hence $(-1)\bar{\gamma} + \bar{\gamma} = \bar{0} \in W$.
 ~~$(-1)\bar{\alpha} = -\bar{\alpha} \in W$~~ \Rightarrow For any $\bar{\alpha} \in W, c \in F$, we have $c\bar{\alpha} = c\bar{\alpha} + \bar{0} \in W$. I.e., we also have, $(-1)\bar{\alpha} = -\bar{\alpha} \in W$. At last, $\bar{\alpha}, \bar{\beta} \in W$, then $\bar{\alpha} + \bar{\beta} = 1\bar{\alpha} + \bar{\beta} \in W$. Thus, W is subspace of V .

Conversely (easy part or trivial part) is obvious.

Examples:

(a) If V is any vector space, $\{0\}$ is a subspace of V ; the subset of V consisting of the zero vector 0 alone is a subspace of V , called the zero subspace.

(Note: Field is non-empty set and has distinct additive identity 0 and multiplicative identity 1 . Therefore, any Field at least always has 0 and 1 unlike $\text{defn of vector space}$).

(b) An $n \times n$ matrix A over the field \mathbb{C} of complex nos. is Hermitian (or self-adjoint) if

$$A_{jk} = \overline{A_{kj}}, \quad (\text{where } \overline{x} \text{ denotes complex conjugate of } x \in \mathbb{C}).$$

for each j, k . A 2×2 matrix is Hermitian if and only if it has the form

$$\begin{bmatrix} z & x+iy \\ x-iy & w \end{bmatrix}, \quad \text{where } x, y, z, w \in \mathbb{R}.$$

The set of all Hermitian matrices is not a subspace of the space of all $n \times n$ matrices over \mathbb{C} . (Why? How?)

What if the given vector space was to be defined over the field \mathbb{R} of real nos.

Q. On \mathbb{R}^n , define two operations

$$\bar{\alpha} \oplus \bar{\beta} = \overline{\alpha - \beta}$$

$$c \cdot \bar{\alpha} = -c\bar{\alpha}.$$

The operations on the right are the usual ones. Which of the axioms for a vector space are satisfied by $(\mathbb{R}^n, \oplus, \cdot)$?

Q. Let V be the set of pairs (x, y) of real nos. & let F be the field of real nos. Define

$$(x, y) + (x_1, y_1) = (x + x_1, 0)$$

$$c(x, y) = (cx, 0).$$

Is V , with these operations, a vector space?

Q. Let V be the set of pairs (x, y) all complex valued f's f on the real line such that
(for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$) $f(-t) = \overline{f^*(t)}$.

$*$ denotes complex conjugation. Show that V ,

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

$$(cf)(t) = cf(t)$$

is a vector space over the field of real nos. Give an example of a $f \in V$ which is not real valued.