

⇒ Let $-\infty$ and ∞ be distinct objects.

$$\text{and let } V = \mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\} \cup \{-\infty\}$$

The sum of two reals (and product) is as usual.

for any $t \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$t \cdot \infty = \begin{cases} -\infty, & t < 0 \\ 0, & t = 0 \\ \infty, & t > 0 \end{cases}$$

$$t(-\infty) = \begin{cases} \infty, & t < 0 \\ 0, & t = 0 \\ -\infty, & t > 0 \end{cases}$$

$$t + \infty = \infty + t = \infty$$

$$t + (-\infty) = (-\infty) + t = -\infty$$

$$\infty + \infty = \infty, \quad (-\infty) + (-\infty) = -\infty, \quad \infty + (-\infty) = 0$$

is V a vector space over \mathbb{R} ?

Soln. The following properties of addition & scalar multiplication must hold for V to be a vector space...

- commutativity
true for \mathbb{R} .
true for V from above identities
- associativity.
Similarly...
- additive identity
true for reals. for ∞ , 0 and for $-\infty$, 0 .
- additive inverse
true for \mathbb{R} . $\infty, -\infty$ are inverses of each other.
- multiplicative identity
true for \mathbb{R} . $t=1$ & identities above
- distributive properties: true for \mathbb{R} & for V using the identities