

Functions of several variables

Alyson Mei

January 20, 2026

This notes are based on Mathematical Analysis by V.A.Zorich.

Contents

| | | |
|----------|--|----------|
| 1 | \mathbb{R}^m space and the most important classes of its subsets | 2 |
| 2 | Vector structure in \mathbb{R}^m | 3 |

1 \mathbb{R}^m space and the most important classes of its subsets

1) \mathbb{R}^m , Distance

Definition 1.1 (\mathbb{R}^m).

$$\mathbb{R}^m := \{(x^1, \dots, x^m) \mid x^i \in \mathbb{R}\}.$$

Definition 1.2 (Distance).

$$d : \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R} :$$

- $d(x_1, x_2) \geq 0$;
- $d(x_1, x_2) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x_1 = x_2$;
- $d(x_1, x_2) = d(x_2, x_1)$;
- $d(x_1, x_3) \leq d(x_1, x_2) + d(x_2, x_3)$.

We define d as:

$$d(x_1, x_2) = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^m (x_1^i - x_2^i)^2}.$$

Property:

$$|x_1^i - x_2^i| \leq d(x_1, x_2) \leq \sqrt{m} \max_{1 \leq i \leq m} |x_1^i - x_2^i|.$$

2) Open and closed sets in \mathbb{R}^m

Definition 1.3 (Open ball).

$$B(a, \delta) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^m \mid d(a, x) < \delta\}.$$

(also δ -neighborhood)

Definition 1.4 (Open set, closed set).

- G is open if every its point has a neighborhood $\subseteq G$;
- F is closed, if its complement is open.

Proposition 1.5.

- Finite \bigcap of open sets is open, finite \bigcup of closed sets is closed;
- Any \bigcup of open sets is open, any \bigcap of closed set is closed.

Definition 1.6 (Neighborhood; interior, exterior and boundary point; limit point; closure). (standard definitions)

Proposition 1.7. F is closed $\Leftrightarrow F = \bar{F}$.

2 Vector structure in \mathbb{R}^m

Definition 2.1 (\mathbb{R}^m as a vector space).

- $x = (x^1, \dots, x^m) \in \mathbb{R}^m$;
- $\lambda x, x_1 + x_2$ work componentwise;
- Basis $e_i := (0_{(1)}, \dots, 0_{(i-1)}, 1_{(i)}, 0_{(i+1)}, \dots, 0_{(m)})$, thus

$$x = \sum_{i \leq m} x^i e_i =: x^i e_i.$$

Definition 2.2 (Linear maps $L : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$).

- Linear map L : $L(\lambda_1 x_1 + \lambda_2 x_2) = \lambda_1 L(x_1) + \lambda_2 L(x_2)$. Thus, on the elements of basis:

$$L(e_i) = a_i^j \tilde{e}_j \quad (i = 1, \dots, m),$$

$$L(h) = L(h^i e_i) = h^i a_i^j \tilde{e}_j, \text{ in coordinates } L(h) = (a_i^1 h^i, \dots, a_i^n h^i).$$

- Matrix form: $L(h) = Ah$,

$$L(h) = \begin{pmatrix} L_1(h) \\ L_2(h) \\ \vdots \\ L_m(h) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \cdots & a_{mn} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} h_1 \\ h_2 \\ \vdots \\ h_n \end{pmatrix};$$

- Let $L_1 : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, $L_2 : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$, then $(L_2 \circ L_1)(h) = A_2 A_1 h$.

Definition 2.3 (Norm in \mathbb{R}^m). Norm is a function $\| \| : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow R$ defined as:

$$\|x\| = \sqrt{(x^1)^2 + \dots + (x^m)^2}.$$

Norm properties:

- $\|x\| \geq 0$,
- $\|x\| = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = 0$,
- $\|\lambda x\| = |\lambda| \cdot \|x\|$,
- $\|x_1 + x_2\| \leq \|x_1\| + \|x_2\|$ (and $\|\sum_i x_i\| \leq \sum_i \|x_i\|$).

Definition 2.4 (Distance in \mathbb{R}^m). Distance is a function $d : \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined as:

$$d(x_1, x_2) = \|x_2 - x_1\|.$$

Definition 2.5 (\mathbb{R}^m as a Euclidean space). Scalar product on vector space V is a positively defined bilinear function

$$\langle x, y \rangle : V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}.$$

This leads to its presentation in the following form:

$$\langle x, y \rangle = \langle e_i, e_j \rangle x^i y^j =: g_{ij} x^i y^j.$$

\mathbb{R}^m is just a special case here.

Definition 2.6 (Orthogonality).

- $x \perp y \Leftrightarrow \langle x, y \rangle = 0$;
- Basis is called orthonormal if $\langle e_i, e_j \rangle = \delta_{ij}$. In this case:

$$\langle x, y \rangle = \delta_{ij} x^i y^j = \sum_{i,j} x^i \cdot y^j.$$

Definition 2.7 (Angle between vectors). It is known that

$$\langle x, y \rangle^2 \leq \langle x, x \rangle \langle y, y \rangle = \|x\|^2 \|y\|^2.$$

Thus, for all $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^m$ there exists an angle $\varphi \in [0, \pi]$ such that:

$$\langle x, y \rangle = \|x\| \|y\| \cos \varphi.$$

Fact: Any $L : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ has the form

$$L(x) = \langle \xi, x \rangle,$$

where ξ is unique for each L .