

MA1114 1/12/21

(abstract) subspaces

Definition 4.8

Let $(V, +, \cdot)$ be a vector space

A subset $W \subseteq V$ is a subspace

if $(W, +, \cdot)$ is a vector space

in this case, write $W \leq V$

Examples

$$\{0\} \leq V, \quad V \leq V$$

$$\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \mid x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R} \right\} \leq \mathbb{R}^3$$

\mathbb{R} : ————— vector space

subspaces of \mathbb{R} :

$$\{0\}, \mathbb{R}$$

suppose $W \leq \mathbb{R}$ and $W \neq \{0\}$

\Rightarrow there exists $0 \neq w \in W$

$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{w} \cdot w = 1 \in W$ by 3M0

$\Rightarrow x \cdot 1 = x \quad x \in W$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow W = \mathbb{R}$

How to check a subset is a subspace?

Proposition Suppose $(V, +, \cdot)$ is a vector space $W \subseteq V$ is a subspace if and only if:

- $0 \in W$
- $u + v \in W \quad \forall u, v \in W$
- $\lambda \cdot v \in W \quad \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R}, v \in W$

Proof " \Leftarrow "

VA0 ✓

VA1 ✓

VA2 $-v = (-1) \cdot v \in W \quad v \in W \quad \checkmark$

VA3-4, SM 0-4 ✓

" \Rightarrow " clear, except why is zero vector same?

$$w \in W \Rightarrow 0 = 0 \cdot w = 0w \cdot 0v = 0w \text{ since } w \in V \\ \Rightarrow 0v = 0w$$

Exercise

Show that $\{A \in M_{n,n}(\mathbb{R}) \mid A^T = A\}$ is a subspace of $M_{n,n}(\mathbb{R})$?
(use propositions)