

# Linear Algebra Done Right

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# 1 Vector Spaces

## 1.1 $\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{C}^n$

**Definition** (Complex Numbers). An ordered pair  $(a, b) \in \mathbb{R}$ , denoted  $a + bi$ .

- The set of all complex numbers is denoted  $\mathbb{C} = \{a + bi : a, b \in \mathbb{R}\}$ .
- Addition and multiplication are defined:

$$(a + bi) + (c + di) = (a + c) + (b + d)i,$$

$$(a + bi)(c + di) = (ac - bd) + (ad + bc)i;$$

where  $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}$ .

$\mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathbb{C}$ , with the usual operations of addition and multiplication, are fields. All definitions, proofs and theorems for  $\mathbb{F}$  denoting fields (*except for inner product spaces*) apply for arbitrary fields.

**Definition** (List). For  $n > 0$ , a list of length  $n$  is an ordered collection of  $n$  elements. Also known as a  $n$ -tuple. Two lists are equal  $\iff$  they have the same length and same elements in order. By definition, each list has finite non-negative integer length.

**Definition** ( $\mathbb{F}^n$ ). The set of all lists of length  $n$  of elements of  $\mathbb{F}$ :

$$\mathbb{F}^n = \{(x_1, \dots, x_n) : x_k \in \mathbb{F} \text{ for } k = 1, \dots, n\}.$$

For  $(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{F}^n$ ,  $x_k$  is the  $k$ -th coordinate of  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ .

## 1.2 Vector Spaces

**Definition** (Addition and Scalar Multiplication). To define a vector space, we define the operation on a set:

- An *addition* on a set  $V$  is a function  $+: (u, v) \in V^2 \mapsto u + v \in V$
- A *scalar multiplication* on a set  $V$  is a function  $\times : (\lambda, v) \in \mathbb{F} \times V \mapsto \lambda v \in V$

**Definition** (Vector Space). A set  $V$  equipped with addition and scalar multiplication on  $V$  satisfying the following properties:

- Commutative.  $\forall u, v \in V$ ,

$$u + v = v + u$$

- Associative.  $\forall u, v, w \in V$  and  $\forall a, b \in \mathbb{F}$ ,

$$(u + v) + w = u + (v + w) \text{ and } (ab)w = a(bw).$$

- Additive Identity.  $0 \in V$ .  $\forall v \in V$ ,

$$v + 0 = v$$

- Additive Inverse.  $\forall v \in V, \exists! w \in V$ ,

$$v + w = 0.$$

- Multiplicative Identity.  $1 \in \mathbb{F}$ .  $\forall v \in V$ ,

$$1v = v$$

- Distributive Properties.  $\forall u, v \in V$  and  $\forall a, b \in \mathbb{F}$ ,

$$a(u + v) = au + av \text{ and } (a + b)v = av + bv.$$

Satisfying these properties, we say that  $V$  is a vector space over  $\mathbb{F}$ .

*Notation* ( $\mathbb{F}^S$ ). The set of functions  $S \mapsto \mathbb{F}$ .

Suppose the sum  $f + g \in \mathbb{F}^S$  is the function defined by  $(f + g)(x) = f(x) + g(x), \forall x \in S$ , and the product  $\lambda f \in \mathbb{F}^S$  is the function defined by  $(\lambda f)(x) = \lambda f(x), \forall x \in S$

**Example** ( $\mathbb{F}^S$  is a vector space). If  $S \neq \emptyset \implies \mathbb{F}^S$  is a vector space over  $\mathbb{F}$ .

- The additive identity of  $\mathbb{F}^S$  is the function  $0 : S \mapsto \mathbb{F}$  defined by

$$0(x) = 0, \forall x \in S.$$

- For  $f \in \mathbb{F}^S$ , the additive inverse of  $f$  is the function  $-f : S \mapsto \mathbb{F}$  defined by

$$(-f)(x) = -f(x), \forall x \in S.$$

The vector space  $\mathbb{F}^n$  is a special case of the vector space  $\mathbb{F}^S$ , and can be thought of as  $\mathbb{F}^{\{1,2,\dots,n\}}$ . Similarly,  $\mathbb{F}^\infty$  is analogous to  $\mathbb{F}^{\{1,2,\dots\}}$

### Identity and Inverse Uniqueness

**Proposition** (Unique Additive Identity). *A vector space has a unique additive identity.*

**Proof.** Let  $0$  and  $0'$  be unique identities for some vector space  $V$ . Then

$$0' = 0' + 0 = 0 + 0' = 0.$$

The first equality holds because  $0$  is an additive identity, the second equality comes from commutativity, and the third equality holds because  $0'$  is an additive identity. Hence  $0 = 0'$ , and the additive identity is unique.

**Proposition** (Unique Additive Inverse). *Every element in the vector space has a unique additive inverse.*

**Proof.** Suppose  $V$  is a vector space. Let  $v \in V$ . Suppose  $w$  and  $w'$  are additive inverses of  $v$ . Then

$$w = w + 0 = w + (v + w') = (w + v) + w' = (v + w) + w' = 0 + w' = w'.$$

Hence  $w = w'$ , and the additive inverse is unique.

*Notation* (Additive Inverse). Let  $v, w \in V$ . We denote the additive inverse of  $v$ ,  $-v$ . We define  $w - v$  to be  $w + (-v)$ .

## 1.3 Subspaces