

# Linear Algebra Done Right Notes

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October 19, 2024

## 1 Vector Spaces

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

**Theorem 1 (Properties of Complex Arithmetic)** 1. *Commutativity*  $\alpha + \beta = \beta + \alpha$  and  $\alpha\beta = \beta\alpha$  for all  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$ ;

2. *Associativity*  $(\alpha + \beta) + \lambda = \alpha + (\beta + \lambda)$  and  $(\alpha\beta)\lambda = \alpha(\beta\lambda)$  for all  $\alpha, \beta, \lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ ;

3. *Identities*  $\lambda + 0 = \lambda$  and  $\lambda 1 = \lambda$  for  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ ;

4. *Additive Inverse* for every  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ , there exists a unique  $\beta \in \mathbb{C}$  such that  $\alpha + \beta = 0$ ;

5. *Multiplicative Inverse* for every  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $\alpha \neq 0$ , there exists a unique  $\beta \in \mathbb{C}$  such that  $\alpha\beta = 1$ ;

6. *Distributive Property*  $\lambda(\alpha + \beta) = \lambda\alpha + \lambda\beta$  for all  $\lambda, \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$ .

### 1.2 Definition of Vector Spaces

**Theorem 2 (Unique Additive Identity)** *A vector space has a unique additive identity.*

**Theorem 3 (Unique Additive Inverse)** *Every element in a vector space has a unique additive inverse.*

**Theorem 4**  $0v = 0$  for every  $v \in V$ .

**Theorem 5**  $a0 = 0$  for every  $a \in F$

**Theorem 6**  $(-1)v = -v$  for every  $v \in V$ .

### 1.3 Subspaces

**Definition 1** A subset  $U$  of  $V$  is called a subspace of  $V$  if  $U$  is also a vector space (using the same addition and scalar multiplication as on  $V$ ).

**Theorem 7 (Conditions for a Subspace)** A subset  $U$  of  $V$  is a subspace of  $V$  iff  $U$  satisfies the following three conditions:

- (Additive Identity)  $0 \in U$ ;
- (Closed Under Addition)  $u, w \in U$  implies  $u + w \in U$ ;
- (Closed Under Scalar Multiplication)  $a \in F$  and  $u \in U$  implies  $au \in U$ .

**Example 1 (Subspaces)** 1. The set of continuous real-valued functions on the interval  $[0, 1]$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^{[0,1]}$  (the set of all real-valued functions on  $[0, 1]$ ).

2. The set of differentiable real-valued functions on  $\mathbb{R}$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{R}}$  (the set of all real-valued functions on  $\mathbb{R}$ ).

3. The set of all sequences of complex numbers with limit 0 is a subspace of  $\mathbb{C}^{\infty}$  (the set of infinite sequences with entries in  $\mathbb{C}$ ).

**Definition 2 (Sum of Subsets)** Suppose  $U_1, \dots, U_m$  are subsets of  $V$ . The **sum** of  $U_1, \dots, U_m$ , denoted  $U_1 + \dots + U_m$ , is the set of all possible sums of elements of  $U_1, \dots, U_m$ . More precisely,

$$U_1 + \dots + U_m = \{u_1 + \dots + u_m : u_i \in U_i\}$$

**Theorem 8 (Sum of subspaces is the smallest containing subspace)** Suppose  $U_1, \dots, U_m$  are subspaces of  $V$ . Then  $U_1 + \dots + U_m$  is the smallest subspace of  $V$  containing  $U_1, \dots, U_m$ .

**Definition 3 (Direct Sum)** Suppose  $U_1, \dots, U_m$  are subspaces of  $V$ .

- The sum  $U_1 + \dots + U_m$  is called a **direct sum** if each element of  $U_1 + \dots + U_m$  can be written in only one way as a sum  $u_1 + \dots + u_m$ , where each  $u_j \in U_j$ .
- If  $U_1 + \dots + U_m$  is a direct sum, then  $U_1 \oplus \dots \oplus U_m$  denotes  $U_1 + \dots + U_m$ , with the  $\oplus$  notation serving as an indication that this is a direct sum.

**Theorem 9 (Condition for a Direct Sum)** Suppose  $U_1, \dots, U_m$  are subspaces of  $V$ . Then  $U_1 + \dots + U_m$  is a direct sum iff the only way to write 0 as a sum  $u_1 + \dots + u_m$ , where each  $u_j \in U_j$ , is by taking for each  $u_j = 0$ .

**Theorem 10 (Direct Sum of Two Subspaces)** Suppose  $U$  and  $W$  are subspaces of  $V$ . Then  $U + W$  is a direct sum iff  $U \cap W = \{0\}$ .

## 2 Finite-Dimensional Vector Spaces

### 2.1 Span and Linear Independence

**Definition 4 (Linear Combination)** A linear combination of a list  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  of vectors in  $V$  is a vector of the form

$$a_1v_1 + \dots + a_mv_m$$

where  $a_i \in F$

**Definition 5 (Span)** The set of all linear combinations of a list of vectors  $v_1, \dots, v_m \in V$  is called the span of  $v_1, \dots, v_m$ , denoted  $\text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_m)$ . In other words,

$$(v_1, \dots, v_m) = \{a_1v_1 + \dots + a_mv_m : a_1, \dots, a_m \in F\}.$$

The span of the empty list  $()$  is defined to be  $\{0\}$ .

**Theorem 11 (Span is the Smallest Containing Subspace)** The span of a list of vectors in  $V$  is the smallest subspace of  $V$  containing all the vectors in the list.

**Definition 6 (Spans)** If  $(v_1, \dots, v_m) = V$ , we say that  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  spans  $V$ .

**Definition 7 (finite-dimensional vector space)** A vector space is called finite-dimensional if some list of vectors in it spans the space.

**Definition 8 (Polynomial,  $P(F)$ )** • A function  $p : F \rightarrow F$  is called a polynomial with coefficients in  $F$  if there exists  $a_0, \dots, a_m \in F$  such that:

$$p(z) = a_0 + a_1z + \dots + a_mz^m$$

for all  $z \in F$ .

- The set  $P(F)$  is the set of all polynomials with coefficients in  $F$ .

**Definition 9 (Degree of a Polynomial,  $\deg(p)$ )** • A polynomial  $p \in P(F)$  is said to have degree  $m$  if there exists scalars  $a_0, a_1, \dots, a_m \in F$  with  $a_m \neq 0$  such that:

$$p(z) = a_0 + a_1z + \dots + a_mz^m$$

for all  $z \in F$ . If  $p$  has degree  $m$ , we write  $\deg(p) = m$ .

- The polynomial that is identically 0 is said to have degree  $-\infty$ .

**Definition 10 ( $P_m(F)$ )** For  $m$  a nonnegative integer,  $P_m(F)$  denotes the set of all polynomials with coefficients in  $F$  and degree at most  $m$ .

**Definition 11 (Infinite-Dimensional Vector Space)** A vector space is called infinite-dimensional if it is not finite-dimensional.

**Definition 12 (Linearly Independent)** • A list  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  of vectors in  $V$  is called linearly independent if the only choice of  $a_1, \dots, a_m \in F$  that makes  $a_1v_1 + \dots + a_mv_m = 0$  is  $a_1 = \dots = a_m = 0$

- The empty list  $()$  is also declared to be linearly independent. .

**Example 2** • A list of one vector  $v \in V$  is linearly independent iff  $v \neq 0$ .

- A list of two vectors in  $V$  is linearly independent iff neither vector is a scalar multiple of the other.
- The list  $1, z, \dots, z_m$  is linearly independent in  $P(F)$  for each nonnegative integer  $m$ .

**Definition 13 (Linearly Dependent)** • A list of vectors in  $V$  is called linearly dependent if it's not linearly independent.

- In other words, a list  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  of vectors in  $V$  is linearly dependent if there exists  $a_1, \dots, a_m \in F$ , not all 0, such that  $a_1v_1 + \dots + a_mv_m = 0$ .

**Theorem 12 (Linear Dependence Lemma)** Suppose  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  is a linear

## 2.2 Bases

## 2.3 Dimension