



Definition

Given two points $x, y \in \mathbf{R}^n$, the *line* through x and y is the set of points which can be expressed as the sum of x and $\alpha(y - x)$ where $\alpha \in \mathbf{R}$.

In other words, the line through x and y is

$$\{z \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid \exists \alpha \in \mathbf{R}, z = x + \alpha(y - x)\}.$$

If there exists $\alpha \in \mathbf{R}$ such $z \in \mathbf{R}^n$ satisfies

$$z = x + \alpha(y - x),$$

then $z = (1 - \alpha)x + \alpha y$.

Notation

We denote the line through x and y by $L(x, y)$.

