

MATH 2135 Linear Algebra

Chapter 1 Vector Spaces

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1 1.A Complex Numbers

1.1 Complex numbers

1.1.1 Definition

A complex number is a pair (a, b) where $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$. We write \mathbb{C} for the set of complex numbers. The set of all complex numbers is denoted by \mathbb{C} :

$$\mathbb{C} = \{a + bi \mid a, b \in \mathbb{R}\}.$$

With the following operations:

$$\begin{aligned}(a, b) + (c, d) &= (a + c, b + d) \\ (a, b) \cdot (c, d) &= (ac - bd, ad + bc)\end{aligned}$$

We also define:

$$0 = (0, 0) \quad 1 = (1, 0).$$

Claim. The set \mathbb{C} , together with $0, 1 \in \mathbb{C}$ and the operations $+$ and \cdot defined above, is a field.

1.1.2 Notation

- We write $i = (0, 1) \in \mathbb{C}$.
- If a is a real number, we will also write $a = (a, 0) \in \mathbb{C}$.

Note, if a, b are real numbers, then

$$\begin{aligned}a + bi &= (a, 0) + (b, 0) \cdot (0, 1) \\ &= (a, 0) + (0, b) \\ &= (a, b).\end{aligned}$$

The notation $a + bi$ is what everybody uses for complex numbers. With this notation, the rules of addition and multiplication become easier to understand and remember.

$$\begin{aligned}(a + bi) + (c + di) &= (a + c) + (b + d)i \\ (a + bi)(c + di) &= ac + adi + bci + bdi^2 \\ &= ac + adi + bci - bd \\ &= (ac - bd) + (ad + bc)i.\end{aligned}$$

Note: $i^2 = i \cdot i = (0, 1) \cdot (0, 1) = (-1, 0) = -1$.

1.1.3 Terminology

Given a complex number

$$z = a + bi = (a, b)$$

the real number a is called the *real part* of z , and the real number b is called the *imaginary part* of z .

The complex number $\bar{z} = a - bi$ is called the *complex conjugate* of z .

$$\begin{aligned} z\bar{z} &= (a + bi)(a - bi) \\ &= a^2 - abi + abi - b^2i^2 \\ &= a^2 + b^2 \quad \text{which is real} \end{aligned}$$

1.1.4 Division Operation, Part I

It is easy to divide a complex number by a real number.

$$\frac{a + bi}{c} = \frac{a}{c} + \frac{b}{c}i.$$

1.1.5 Division Operation, Part II

How do we divide a complex number by a complex number? For instance,

$$\frac{a + bi}{z} \quad \text{where } z = c + di.$$

We can simply take the conjugate of z and then we have

$$\frac{a + bi}{z} = \frac{(a + bi)\bar{z}}{z\bar{z}} = \frac{(a + bi)(c - di)}{c^2 + d^2} \quad \text{where } c^2 + d^2 \text{ is a real.}$$

1.1.6 Multiplicative Inverse

The multiplicative of a complex number $z = a + bi$ is

$$z^{-1} = \frac{1}{z} = \frac{\bar{z}}{z\bar{z}} = \frac{a - bi}{a^2 + b^2} = \frac{a}{a^2 + b^2} - \frac{b}{a^2 + b^2}i.$$

1.1.7 Argument of a complex number

¹ The argument of z is the angle between the positive real axis and the line joining the point to the origin. For each point on the plane, \arg is the function which returns the angle ϕ . The numeric value is given by the angle in radians, and is positive if measured counterclockwise.

Algebraically, as any real quantity ϕ , such that

$$z = r(\cos\phi + i\sin\phi) = re^{i\phi}$$

for some positive real r . The quantity r is the modulus (or absolute value) of z , denoted $|z|$.

$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$$

Some identities are

$$\arg(zw) = \arg(z) + \arg(w) \mod (-\pi, \pi]$$

$$\arg\left(\frac{z}{w}\right) = \arg(z) - \arg(w) \mod (-\pi, \pi]$$

If $z \neq 0$ and n is any integer, then

$$\arg(z^n) \equiv n \arg(z) \mod (-\pi, \pi]$$

Example.

$$\arg\left(\frac{-1-i}{i}\right) = \arg(-1-i) - \arg(i) = -\frac{3\pi}{4} - \frac{\pi}{2} = -\frac{5\pi}{4}.$$

Complex logarithm. From $z = |z|e^{i\arg(z)}$ or $z = |z|e^{i\theta}$, it easily follows that

$$\arg(z) = -i \ln \frac{z}{|z|}.$$

¹Taken from the Wikipedia.

1.2 Fundamental Theorem of Algebra

Over the complex numbers, every non-constant polynomial has a root.

- There are two solutions (namely $x = -2, 2$) over \mathbb{R} :

$$x^2 - 4 = 0 \Leftrightarrow (x - 2)(x + 2) = 0$$

- Has no roots over \mathbb{R} :

$$x^2 + 4 = 0.$$

- Has two solutions over \mathbb{C} :

$$z^2 + 4 = 0 \Leftrightarrow z^2 = -4 \Leftrightarrow z = \pm\sqrt{-4} = \pm 2i$$

$$z^2 + 4 = (z - 2i)(z + 2i)$$

- Only one root over \mathbb{R} :

$$x^3 = 1$$

- Three distinct solutions over \mathbb{C} :

$$z^3 = 1$$

1.3 Lists

1.3.1 Definition

Suppose n is a nonnegative integer. A *list of length n* is an ordered collection of n elements (which might be numbers, other lists, or more abstract entities) separated by commas and surrounded by parentheses. A list of length n looks like this:

$$(x_1, \dots, x_n).$$

Two lists are equal if and only if they have the same length and the same elements in the same order.

1.3.2 Examples

- The set \mathbb{R}^2 is the set of all ordered pairs of real numbers:

$$\mathbb{R}^2 = \{(x, y) \mid x, y \in \mathbb{R}\}.$$

- The set \mathbb{R}^3 is the set of all ordered triples of real numbers:

$$\mathbb{R}^3 = \{(x, y, z) \mid x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}\}.$$

- A list of length 0 looks like this: $()$.
- Lists differ from sets in two ways: in lists, order matters and repetitions have meaning; in sets, order and repetitions are irrelevant.

1.4 \mathbf{F}^n

1.4.1 Definition

\mathbf{F}^n is the set of all lists of length n of elements of \mathbf{F} :

$$\mathbf{F}^n = \{(x_1, \dots, x_n \mid x_j \in \mathbf{F} \text{ for } j = 1, \dots, n)\}.$$

For $(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbf{F}^n$ and $j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$, we say that x_j is the *jth coordinate* of (x_1, \dots, x_n) .

1.4.2 Addition

Addition is defined by adding corresponding coordinates:

$$(x_1, \dots, x_n) + (y_1, \dots, y_n) = (x_1 + y_1, \dots, x_n + y_n).$$

It is also commutative.

1.4.3 $\mathbf{0}$

Let $\mathbf{0}$ denote the list of length n whose coordinates are all 0:

$$\mathbf{0} = (0, \dots, 0).$$

1.4.4 Additive Inverse

For $x \in \mathbf{F}^n$, the *additive inverse* of x , denoted $-x$, is the vector $-x \in \mathbf{F}^n$ such that

$$x + (-x) = \mathbf{0}.$$

In other words, if $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ then $-x = (-x_1, \dots, -x_n)$.

1.4.5 Scalar Multiplication

The *product* of a number λ and a vector in \mathbf{F}^n is computed by multiplying each coordinate of the vector by λ :

$$\lambda(x_1, \dots, x_n) = (\lambda x_1, \dots, \lambda x_n);$$

here $\lambda \in \mathbf{F}$ and $(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbf{F}^n$.

1.5 Digression on Fields

A *field* is a set containing at least two distinct elements called 0 and 1, along with operations of addition and multiplication. Thus, \mathbb{R} and \mathbb{C} are fields, as is the set of rational numbers along with the usual operations. Another example of a field is the set $\{0, 1\}$ with the usual operations of addition and multiplication except that $1 + 1$ is defined to equal 0.

2 1.B Definition of Vector Space

2.1 Definition

Let \mathbf{F} be a field. A *vector space* over \mathbf{F} is a set V , together with a distinguished element $0 \in V$ and with operations

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{addition} & + : V \times V \rightarrow V \\ \text{scalar multiplication} & \cdot : \mathbf{F} \times V \rightarrow V. \end{array}$$

Satisfies the following 8 axioms:

(A1) Commutativity of addition.

$$\forall v, w \in V, v + w = w + v$$

(A2) Associativity of addition.

$$\forall v, w, u \in V, (v + w) + u = v + (w + u)$$

(A3) Additive identity.

$$\forall v \in V, 0 + v = v$$

(A4) Additive inverse.

$$\forall v \in V, \exists w \in V, v + w = 0$$

(M1) Multiplicative identity.

$$\forall v \in V, 1v = v$$

(M2) Left distributivity.

$$\forall a \in F, \forall v, w \in V, a(v + w) = av + aw$$

(M3) Right distributivity.

$$\forall a, b \in F, \forall v \in V, (a + b)v = av + bv$$

(M4) Associativity of multiplication.

$$\forall a, b \in F, \forall v \in V, (ab)v = a(bv)$$

2.1.1 Terminology

- The elements of \mathbf{F} are called *scalars*.
- The elements of V are called *vectors or points*.
- A vector space over \mathbb{R} is called a *real vector space*.
- A vector space over \mathbb{C} is called a *complex vector space*.

2.2 Examples of Vector Spaces

- (1) \mathbf{F}^n is the set of column vectors (sometimes row vectors) with elements from \mathbf{F} . For instance, \mathbb{R}^n and \mathbb{C}^n are such vector spaces.

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{F}^n &= \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ \vdots \\ a_n \end{bmatrix} \mid a_1, \dots, a_n \in \mathbf{F} \right\} \\ &= \{(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \mid a_1, \dots, a_n \in \mathbf{F}\} \\ 0 &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_n \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ \vdots \\ b_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 + b_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_n + b_n \end{bmatrix} \quad k \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} ka_1 \\ \vdots \\ ka_n \end{bmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

The properties of \mathbf{F}^n makes it a vector space.

- (2) Let $\mathbf{F}^\infty = \{(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, \dots) \mid x_1, x_2, \dots \in \mathbf{F}\}$ be the set of infinite sequences of scalars. We define the following:

- $0 = (0, 0, 0, \dots)$ is the constant zero sequences.
- If $x = (x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots)$ and $y = (y_1, y_2, y_3, \dots)$ then we define

$$x + y = (x_1 + y_1, x_2 + y_2, \dots).$$

- If $k \in \mathbf{F}$ and $x = (x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots)$, then we define

$$kx = (kx_1, kx_2, \dots).$$

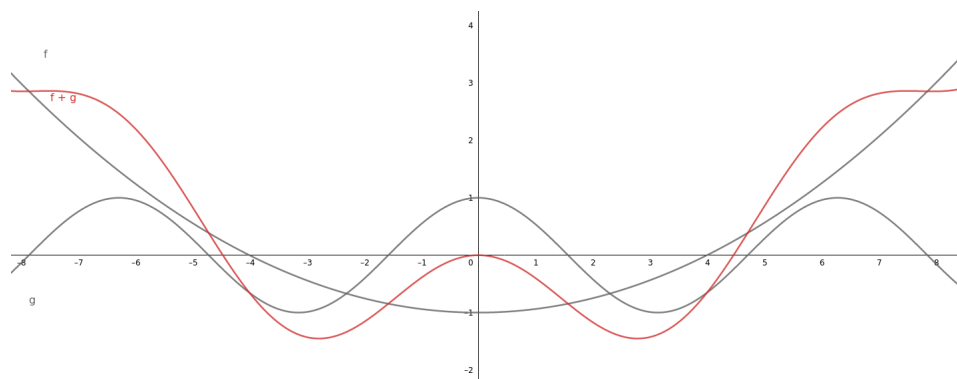
Then \mathbf{F}^∞ is a vector space.

- (3) Let \mathbf{F} be a field and let S be a set. Define $\mathbf{F}^S = \{f : S \rightarrow \mathbf{F} \mid f \text{ is a function from } S \text{ to } \mathbf{F}\}$.

Define $0 \in \mathbf{F}^S$ by $0(x) = 0$. The f is the zero function, x is any element in S , which gives the output of 0.

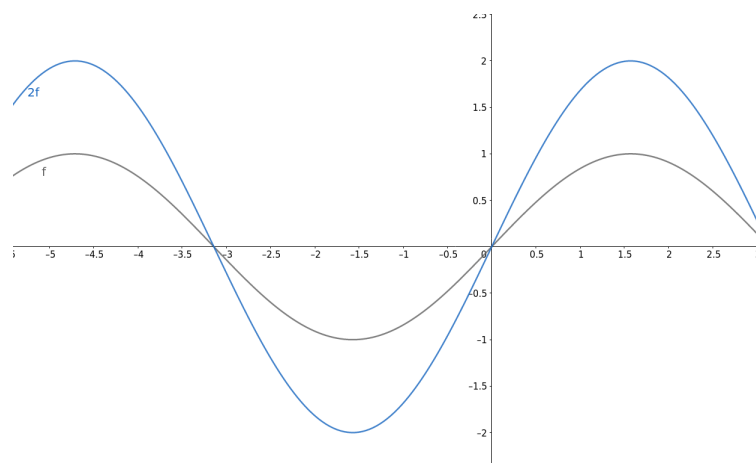
If $f, g \in \mathbf{F}^S$, define $f + g \in \mathbf{F}^S$ as

$$(f + g)(x) = f(x) + g(x).$$



If $k \in \mathbf{F}$ and $f \in \mathbf{F}^S$, define $kf \in \mathbf{F}^S$ as

$$(kf)(x) = k(f(x)).$$



Then \mathbf{F}^S is a vector space.

Note: The functions $F, G : X \rightarrow Y$ are equal if

$$\forall x \in X, F(x) = G(x).$$

Proof. Take arbitrary $f, g \in \mathbf{F}^S$. We have to show that $f + g = g + f$ or $\forall x \in S, (f + g)(x) = (g + f)(x)$. Suppose we take an arbitrary $x \in S$, then we have

$$\begin{aligned} (f + g)(x) &= f(x) + g(x) \\ &= g(x) + f(x) \quad \text{by properties of fields} \\ &= (g + f)(x). \end{aligned}$$

This finishes the proof of (A1). The other field axioms are similar. \square

- (4) For a field \mathbf{F} , we define $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{F})$ as the set of all formal polynomials with variable x and coefficients in \mathbf{F} .

$$\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{F}) = \{a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \cdots + a_nx^n \mid n \leq 0, a_0, \dots, a_n \in \mathbf{F}\}.$$

An example would be $\mathcal{P}(x) = 3 + 5x - 7x^2$.

There are two ways to think about a polynomial: “formal” or “function.” For example, define the two following polynomials over \mathbb{Z}_2

$$p(x) = x + 1 \quad q(x) = x^2 + 1.$$

As a function, it would be equal since:

x	$p(x)$	$q(x)$
0	1	1
1	0	0

As a formal polynomial, it would be different because it has the following form:

$$\begin{aligned} p(x) &= 0x^2 + 1x + 1 \\ q(x) &= 1x^2 + 0x + 1. \end{aligned}$$

To prove that $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{F})$ is a vector space, let us define the following:

- Zero polynomial.

$$\mathcal{P}(x) = 0$$

- Addition.

$$p(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \cdots + a_nx^n$$

$$q(x) = b_0 + b_1x + b_2x^2 + \cdots + b_nx^n$$

$$(p + q)(x) = (a_0 + b_0) + (a_1 + b_1)x + (a_2 + b_2)x^2 + \cdots + (a_n + b_n)x^n$$

- Scalar multiplication.

$$kp(x) = (ka_0) + (ka_1)x + (ka_2)x^2 + \cdots + (ka_n)x^n$$

With these operations, $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{F})$ is a vector space.

2.3 Properties of Vector Spaces

Let V be a vector space over a field \mathbf{F} .

- The additive identity is unique. In other words, if $u \in V$ is an additive identity (satisfying $\forall v \in V, u + v = v$) then $u = 0$.
- Additive inverses are unique. Therefore, we can write $-v$ for the additive inverse of v . We also use related notations such as $v - w$ to mean $v + (-w)$.
- Cancellation of addition.

$$v + w = u + w \Rightarrow v = u$$

- For all $v \in V$, we have

$$0v = 0.$$

The 0 is a scalar being multiplied by v (vector), and the 0 on the right is the zero vector.

Proof. We have

$$\begin{aligned} 0v + 0v &= (0 + 0)v && \text{by (M3)} \\ &= 0v && \text{by properties of scalars} \\ &= 0 + 0v && \text{by (A3)} \end{aligned}$$

So $0v = 0$ follows by cancellation. □

- For all scalars $a \in \mathbf{F}$, we have

$$a0 = 0.$$

Proof. We have

$$\begin{aligned} a0 + a0 &= a(0 + 0) && \text{by (M2)} \\ &= a0 && \text{by (A3)} \\ &= 0 + a0 && \text{by (A3)} \end{aligned}$$

So $a0 = 0$ follows by cancellation. \square

- For all $v \in V$, we have

$$(-1)v = -v.$$

Proof. We have

$$\begin{aligned} (-v) + v &= v + (-v) && \text{by (A1)} \\ &= 0. && \text{by (A4)} \end{aligned}$$

We also have

$$\begin{aligned} (-1)v + v &= (-1)v + 1v && \text{by (M1)} \\ &= (-1 + 1)v && \text{by (M3)} \\ &= 0v && \text{by properties of scalars} \\ &= 0. && \text{by a previously proved property} \end{aligned}$$

In particular,

$$(-v) + v = (-1)v + v.$$

Then the claim $-v = (-1)v$ follows by cancellation. \square

3 1.C Subspaces

3.1 Definition

Let V be a vector space over a field F . A subset U of V is called a *subspace* of V if U is also a vector space in its own right, using the same zero, addition, and scalar multiplication as V .

3.1.1 Characterization of Subspaces

A subset $U \subseteq V$ is a subspace if and only if U satisfies the following three conditions:

- (1) Additive identity.

$$0 \in U$$

- (2) Closed under addition.

$$\forall v, w, v, w \in U \Rightarrow v + w \in U$$

- (3) Closed under scalar multiplication.

$$\forall a, v, a \in F, v \in U \Rightarrow av \in U$$

Proof. “ \Rightarrow ” Given $U \subseteq V$, assume U is a subspace of V . We want to show that U satisfies all three conditions above.

- (1) By definition of subspaces, the zero vector of V is the zero vector of U . So $0 \in U$.
- (2) Since U is a vector space, the sum of two vectors in U is a vector in U . Also, U uses the same addition operation as V . So whenever $v, w \in U$, then $v + w \in U$.
- (3) Similar to (2).

□

Proof. “ \Leftarrow ” Another proof is this: To show that U is a vector space, we first need an element $0 \in U$ and operations

$$+ : U \times U \rightarrow U \quad \text{and} \quad \cdot : F \times U \rightarrow U.$$

Second, we must show axioms (A1) - (M4).

- (1) By assumption, $0 \in U$, where 0 is the additive identity of V . So we can use 0 as the additive identity of U .
- (2) By assumption, U is closed under addition, so the addition function $+: V \times V \rightarrow V$ restricts to a function $+: U \times U \rightarrow U$. We can use the same function as the addition function on U .
- (3) We do the same with scalar multiplication.

Second: We must show (A1) - (M4) hold. We only do (A1) since the rest are similar. To prove (A1), take arbitrary $u, v \in U$. We need to show that

$$u + v = v + u$$

in U . But since V is a vector space, we know that

$$u + v = v + u$$

in V . This automatically holds.

The other parts of the definition of a vector space, such as associativity and commutativity, are automatically satisfied for U because they hold on the larger space V . Thus, U is a vector space and hence is a subspace of V . \square

3.2 Examples of Subspaces

- (a) Let $V = \mathbb{R}^4$ and let

$$W = \{(x, y, z, w) \mid x = 3y + 2z\}.$$

Then W is a subspace of V .

Proof. We need to show that W is a subspace of V .

- (1) $(0, 0, 0, 0) \in W$.
- (2) Assume $v = (x, y, z, w) \in W$ and $v' = (x', y', z', w') \in W$. We need to show that

$$x + x' = 3(y + y') + 2(z + z').$$

We know that $v \in W$ implies

$$x = 3y + 2z.$$

And we know that $v' \in W$ implies

$$x' = 3y' + 2z'.$$

Add these two equations together and we get

$$x + x' = 3(y + y') + 2(z + z').$$

(3) Similar proof for scalar multiplication.

□

(b) Recall that $V = \mathbb{R}^{[0,1]}$ is the vector space of functions from the unit interval

$$[0, 1] = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid 0 \leq x \leq 1\}$$

to \mathbb{R} . Let $W = \{f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid f \text{ is continuous}\}$. Then W is a subspace of V .

Proof. We need to show that W is a subspace of V .

- (1) The zero function $f(x) = 0$ is continuous. From Calculus, any constant function is continuous.
- (2) The sum of two continuous functions is continuous. This is from Calculus.
- (3) If f is continuous, then so is kf , for any $k \in \mathbb{R}$. This is also from Calculus.

□

(c) Again, let $V = \mathbb{R}^{[0,1]}$, and $U = \{f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid f \text{ is differentiable}\}$. Then U is a subspace of V .

Proof. From Calculus, we know these hold true:

- (1) The zero function $f(x) = 0$ is differentiable with the derivative of

$$f'(x) = 0.$$

- (2) If f, g are differentiable then so is $f + g$ and

$$(f + g)' = f' + g'.$$

(3) If f is differentiable and k is a scalar, then kf is differentiable.

$$(kf)' = kf'.$$

For example, the derivative of $(0 + 2\sin(x) - 3\cos(x))' = 0 + 2\cos(x) - 3(-\sin(x))$.

We also know from Calculus that every differentiable function is continuous.

$$U \subseteq W \subseteq V$$

where U is the set of all differentiable functions, W is the set of all continuous functions, and V is the set of all functions. \square

(d) Let $V = \mathbb{R}^{[0,1]}$ and define

$$X = \left\{ f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid f \text{ is differentiable and } f'\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = 0 \right\}.$$

We claim that X is a subspace of V .

Note. We already know that U , the set of differentiable functions, is a subspace of V .

Proof. Effectively, it is sufficient to show that X is a subspace of U .

(1) The zero function $f(x) = 0$ is differentiable since

$$f'(x) = 0 \text{ and } f'\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = 0.$$

So $f \in X$.

(2) Given $f, g \in X$, we must check that $f + g \in X$. Clearly $f + g$ is differentiable. We must check that $(f + g)'\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = 0$. From Calculus, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (f + g)'\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) &= f'\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + g'\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \\ &= 0 + 0 \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

So we have $f + g \in X$.

(3) Similar proof as follows for scalar multiplication:

$$(kg)' \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) = k \cdot f' \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) = 0.$$

□

(e) Let $V = \mathbb{R}^\infty$, the set of infinite sequences of real numbers.

$$\mathbb{R}^\infty = \{(a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots) \mid a_0, a_1, \dots \in \mathbb{R}\}.$$

Recall that V is a vector space. Let $W \subseteq V$ be the set of *convergent* sequences. From Calculus, we know that some sequences converge and some do not.

Some examples are:

- $a_i = i \Rightarrow (0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, \dots)$

$$\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} a_i = \text{does not exist, so it does not converge}$$

- $b_i = \frac{1}{i} \Rightarrow (\frac{1}{1}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \dots)$

$$\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} b_i = \text{converges to } 0$$

- $c_i = (-1)^i \Rightarrow (1, -1, 1, -1, 1, -1, \dots)$ does not converge.
- $d_i = 2 + \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)^i \Rightarrow (3, 1.5, 2.25, 1.875, \dots)$

$$\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} d_i = \text{converges to } 2$$

Then W is a subspace of V .

Proof. We must show that this is true.

- (1) The zero sequence $a_i = 0 \Rightarrow (0, 0, 0, \dots)$ converges to 0.
- (2) From Calculus, the sum of two convergent sequences converges.
In fact,

$$\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} (a_i + b_i) = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} a_i + \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} b_i$$

- (3) Similar proof to scalar multiplication.

$$\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} (ka_i) = k \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} a_i$$

□

Let U be the set of sequences that converge to 0. Then U is a subspace of V (and of W).

- (f) A recurrence relation. Consider the Fibonacci sequence

$$1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55, 89, 144, \dots$$

Let F_n be the n th element of this sequence. Then, we have the following recurrence:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{base case } F_0 &= 1 \\ \text{base case } F_1 &= 1 \\ \text{recurrence } F_{n+2} &= F_n + F_{n+1} \quad \text{for all } n \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

If we forget the base cases, we can consider the set of *all* sequences satisfying the recurrence

$$U = \{(a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots) \mid \text{for all } n \geq 0, a_{n+2} = a_n + a_{n+1}\}$$

A sequence of numbers is called a *generalized Fibonacci sequence* if it satisfies this recurrence, i.e. if it is a member of the set U .

Examples.

$$\begin{aligned} 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, \dots \\ 7, -3, 4, 1, 5, 6, 11, 17, 28, 45, \dots \\ 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, \dots \end{aligned}$$

Claim. U is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^∞ .

- (1) The sequence $0, 0, 0, \dots$ is a generalized Fibonacci sequence.
- (2) U is closed under addition.

$$\begin{array}{r} 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, \dots \\ 7, -3, 4, 1, 5, 6, \dots \\ \hline 8, -1, 7, 6, 13, 19, \dots \end{array}$$

Proof. Suppose $a = (a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots) \in U$ and $b = (b_0, b_1, b_2, \dots) \in U$. Then $a + b = c = (c_0, c_1, c_2, \dots)$ where $c_i = a_i + b_i$.

We must show $c \in U$, i.e. we must show that c is a generalized Fibonacci sequence.

So take an arbitrary $n \geq 0$. We must show $C_{n+2} = C_n + C_{n+1}$. Indeed, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} C_{n+2} &= a_{n+2} + b_{n+2} \\ &= (a_n + a_{n+1}) + (b_n + b_{n+1}) \\ &= (a_n + b_n) + (a_{n+1} + b_{n+1}) \\ &= c_n + c_{n+1} \end{aligned}$$

□

(3) Closed under scalar multiplication: similar.

3.3 Intersection of Subspaces

3.3.1 Theorem

Let V be a vector space over a field F . Assume U and W are subspaces of V . Then $U \cap W$ is a subspace of V .

Proof. To show that $U \cap W$ is a subspace, we need to show the three properties.

- (1) We must show that $0 \in U \cap W$. But by assumption, U is a subspace, so $0 \in U$. Also, W is a subspace, so $0 \in W$. By definition of intersection, we have $0 \in U \cap W$.
- (2) We must show that $U \cap W$ is closed under addition. Consider arbitrary $v, w \in U \cap W$ and we need to show that $v + w \in U \cap W$.

Indeed, we have:

- Since $v \in U \cap W$, we know $v \in U$.
- Since $w \in U \cap W$, we know $w \in U$.
- Since U is a subspace, it is closed under addition, so $v + w \in U$.

Similarly:

- Since $v \in U \cap W$, we know $v \in W$.

- Since $w \in U \cap W$, we know $w \in W$.
- Since W is a subspace, it is closed under addition, so $v + w \in W$.

From $v + w \in U$ and $v + w \in W$, by definition of intersection, we know

$$v + w \in U \cap W.$$

- (3) We must show that $U \cap W$ is closed under scalar multiplication. So consider arbitrary $k \in F$ and $v \in U \cap W$. We must show that $kv \in U \cap W$.

Since $v \in U \cap W$, we have $v \in U$. Since U is a subspace of V , we know that U is closed under scalar multiplication, so $kv \in U$.

Similarly, since $v \in U \cap W$, we know $v \in W$. Since W is a subspace of V , we know that W is closed under scalar multiplication, so $kv \in W$.

From $kv \in U$ and $kv \in W$, it follows that $kv \in U \cap W$ (by definition of intersection), as desired.

□

3.3.2 Notations

- (x_1, \dots, x_n) is called an n -tuple.
- $(x_i)_{i \in \{1, \dots, n\}}$ is another notation for the same thing. This is called “family” notation. But, this notation also works for infinite index sets.

$$(x_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}} = (x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots)$$

$$\left(\frac{1}{i+1} \right)_{i \in \mathbb{N}} = \left(1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{4}, \dots \right)$$

- More generally, we can use the “family notation” for other families of things, not necessarily numbers.

U_1, U_2, U_3	3 subspaces of V
$(U_i)_{i \in \{1, 2, 3\}}$	Notation for the same thing.
$(U_i)_{i \in I}$	Some family of subspaces.

- Other notations that go along with these:

- Summation.

$$\sum_{i \in \mathbb{N}} x_i$$

- Product.

$$\prod_{i \in \mathbb{N}} x_i$$

- Limit.

$$\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} x_i$$

- Union.

$$\bigcup_{i \in \{1,2,3\}} U_i$$

- Intersection.

$$\bigcap_{i \in I} U_i$$

3.3.3 Theorem

Let V be a vector space over a field F . Let I be a set. Let $(U_i)_{i \in I}$ be a *family* of subspaces of V . Then,

$$\bigcap_{i \in I} U_i$$

is a subspace of V .

Proof. Let $W = \bigcap_{i \in I} U_i$. To show that W is a subspace of V , we must show the three subspace properties.

- (1) We must show that $0 \in W$. Take an arbitrary $i \in I$. By assumption, U_i is a subspace of V . Therefore, $0 \in U_i$.

Since i was arbitrary, we have $0 \in U_i$ for all i , and therefore, by definition of intersection, $0 \in \bigcap_{i \in I} U_i = W$.

- (2) Must show W is closed under addition. Take an arbitrary $v, u \in W$. We must show that $v + u \in W$ or $v + u \in \bigcap_{i \in I} U_i$.

Take an arbitrary $i \in I$. We must show that $v + u \in U_i$. By assumption, $v \in W = \bigcap_{i \in I} U_i$, therefore $v \in U_i$.

Simiarly, by assumption, $u \in W = \bigcap_{i \in I} U_i$, therefore $u \in U_i$.

Also by assumption, U_i is a subspace of V , therefore it is closed under addition. So $v + u \in U_i$.

Since i was arbitrary, we therefore know for all $i \in I$ that $v + u \in U_i$. It follows that $v + u \in \bigcap_{i \in I} U_i$ as desired.

(3) Closed under scalar multiplication: similar proof.

□

3.3.4 Meta-theorem

Let V be a vector space over a field F . Let P be any property of subspaces of V such that P is closed under arbitrary intersections.

This means that whenever we have a family of subspaces, $(U_i)_{i \in I}$ of V ,

- If, for all $i \in I$, U_i has the property P , then

$$\bigcap_{i \in I} U_i$$

has the property P .

Then there exists a *smallest* subspace of V with the property P .

Proof. Let P be such a property, i.e. a property of subspaces of V that is closed under intersections.

We want to show that there exists a *smallest* subspace W of V with property P . Specifically, this means:

- (1) W is a subspace of V and has the property P .
- (2) Whenever W' is a subspace of V that has the property P , then $W \subseteq W'$.

To show it, let $(U_i)_{i \in I}$ be the family of *all* subspaces of V satisfying property P . Define

$$W = \bigcap_{i \in I} U_i.$$

We have to show (1) and (2).

- (1) W is a subspace of V by the previous theorem. Also, W has the property P because all U_i have the property P and P is closed under intersections.

- (2) We must show that W is smallest. So consider any subspace W' with property P . We must show that $W \subseteq W'$.

But the family $(U_i)_{i \in I}$ contains *all* subspaces with property P . So $W' = U_i$ for all some $i \in I$. Then

$$W = \bigcap_{i \in I} U_i \subseteq U_i = W'.$$

□

3.3.5 Example

Consider $v_1, v_2, v_3 \in V$.

There exists a *smallest subspace* W of V such that $v_1, v_2, v_3 \in W$. We normally call W the *span* of v_1, v_2, v_3 .

Proof. By the meta-theorem, the property “contains v_1, v_2 , and v_3 ” is closed under intersections. □

3.4 Sums of Subspaces

3.4.1 Definition of 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,

$$U_1 + \dots + U_m = \{u_1 + \dots + u_m \mid u_1 \in U_1, \dots, u_m \in U_m\}.$$

3.4.2 Example

For $U = \{(x, 0, 0) \in \mathbf{F}^3 \mid x \in \mathbf{F}\}$ and $W = \{(0, y, 0) \in \mathbf{F}^3 \mid y \in \mathbf{F}\}$, we have

$$U + W = \{(x, y, 0) \mid x, y \in \mathbf{F}\}.$$

For $U = \{(x, x, y, y) \in \mathbf{F}^4 \mid x, y \in \mathbf{F}\}$ and $W = \{(x, x, x, y) \in \mathbf{F}^4 \mid x, y \in \mathbf{F}\}$, then

$$U + W = \{(x, x, y, z) \in \mathbf{F}^4 \mid x, y, z \in \mathbf{F}\}.$$

3.4.3 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 .

Proof. We know that $0 \in U_1 + \dots + U_m$ and $U_1 + \dots + U_m$ is closed under addition and scalar multiplication. Thus, $U_1 + \dots + U_m$ is a subspace of V . U_1, \dots, U_m are contained in $U_1 + \dots + U_m$, and every subspace of V containing U_1, \dots, U_m contains $U_1 + \dots + U_m$.

Thus, $U_1 + \dots + U_m$ is the smallest subspace of V containing U_1, \dots, U_m . \square

Note. Sums of subspaces in theory of vector spaces are analogous to unions of subsets in set theory. Given two subspaces of a vector space, the smallest subspace containing them is their sum. Analogously, given two subsets of a set, the smallest subset containing them is their union.

3.5 Direct Sums

Suppose U_1, \dots, U_m are subspaces of V . Every element of $U_1 + \dots + U_m$ can be written in the form

$$u_1 + \dots + u_m$$

where each u_j is in U_j .

3.5.1 Definition of direct sum

- 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 is 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.

3.5.2 Examples

For $U = \{(x, y, 0) \in \mathbf{F}^3 \mid x, y \in \mathbf{F}\}$ and $W = \{(0, 0, z) \in \mathbf{F}^3 \mid z \in \mathbf{F}\}$, then

$$\mathbf{F}^3 = U \oplus W.$$

Suppose $U_j = \{(0, 0, 0, \dots, j) \in \mathbf{F}^n \mid x \in \mathbf{F}\}$. Then

$$\mathbf{F}^n = U_1 \oplus \dots \oplus U_n.$$

Non-example: Let $U_1 = \{(x, y, 0) \in \mathbf{F}^3 \mid x, y \in \mathbf{F}\}$, $U_2 = \{(0, 0, z) \in \mathbf{F}^3 \mid z \in \mathbf{F}\}$, $U_3 = \{(0, y, y) \in \mathbf{F}^3 \mid y \in \mathbf{F}\}$. Then, $U_1 + U_2 + U_3$ is not a direct sum.

Proof. Clearly $\mathbf{F}^3 = U_1 + U_2 + U_3$ because every vector $(x, y, z) \in \mathbf{F}^3$ can be written as

$$(x, y, z) = (x, y, 0) + (0, 0, z) + (0, 0, 0).$$

This is not equal to the direct sum because the vector $(0, 0, 0)$ can be written in two different ways.

$$(0, 0, 0) = (0, 0, 0) + (0, 0, 0) + (0, 0, 0)$$

and

$$(0, 0, 0) = (0, 1, 0) + (0, 0, 1) + (0, -1, -1).$$

□

3.5.3 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 if and only if the only way to write 0 as a sum $u_1 + \dots + u_m$, where each u_j is in U_j , is by taking each u_j equal to 0.

Proof. Suppose $U_1 + \dots + U_m$ is a direct sum. Then by definition, the only way to write 0 as a sum is by taking each u_j equal to 0. To show that $U_1 + \dots + U_m$ is a direct sum, let $v \in U_1 + \dots + U_m$. We can write

$$v = u_1 + \dots + u_m$$

for some $u_1 \in U_1, \dots, u_m \in U_m$. To show that this is unique, suppose we also have

$$v = v_1 + \dots + v_m$$

where $v_1 \in U_1, \dots, v_m \in U_m$. Subtracting them, we have

$$0 = (u_1 - v_1) + \dots + (u_m - v_m).$$

This implies that $u_j = v_j$.

□

3.5.4 Direct sum of two subspaces

Suppose U and W are subspaces of V . Then $U + W$ is a direct sum if and only if $U \cap W = \{0\}$.

Proof. Suppose that $U + W$ is a direct sum. If $v \in U \cap W$, then $0 = v + (-v)$ where $v \in U$ and $-v \in W$. This implies $v = 0$ since it is unique.

To prove the other direction, suppose $U \cap W = \{0\}$. To prove that $U + W$ is a direct sum, suppose $u \in U, w \in W$, and

$$0 = u + w.$$

By the previous theorem, we know that $u = w = 0$. The equation above implies $u = -w \in W$, so $u \in U \cap W$ and $u = w = 0$ is true. \square

Note. Sums of subspaces are analogous to unions of subsets. Similarly, direct sums of subspaces are analogous to disjoint unions of subsets. No two subspaces of a vector space can be disjoint, because both contain 0. So disjointness is replaced, at least in the case of two subspaces, with the requirement that the intersection equals $\{0\}$.