

Module C: Constant coefficient linear ODEs

Standards for this Module

How can we solve and apply linear constant coefficient ODEs? At the end of this module, students will be able to...

- C1. Modeling motion in viscous fluids.** ...
- C2. Constant coefficient first order.** ...
- C3. Modeling oscillators.** ...
- C4. Homogeneous constant coefficient second order.** ...
- C5. Non-homogenous constant coefficient second order.** ...
- C6. IVPs.** ...

Readiness Assurance Outcomes

Before beginning this module, each student should be able to...

- Find all roots of a quadratic polynomial.
- Use Euler's theorem to relate $\sin(t)$, $\cos(t)$, and e^t .
- Use Euler's theorem to simplify complex exponentials.
- Describe Newton's laws in terms of differential equations.
- Use substitution to compute indefinite integrals.
- Use integration by parts to compute indefinite integrals.

Readiness Assurance Resources

The following resources will help you prepare for this module.

- Systems of linear equations (Khan Academy): <http://bit.ly/2l21etm>
- Solving linear systems with substitution (Khan Academy): <http://bit.ly/1S1Mpix>
- Set builder notation: <https://youtu.be/xnfUZ-NTsCE>

Section C.1

Activity C.1.1 ($\sim 5 \text{ min}$) Why don't clouds fall out of the sky?



- (a) They are lighter than air
- (b) Wind keeps them from falling
- (c) Electrostatic charge
- (d) They do fall, just very slowly

Activity C.1.2 ($\sim 5 \text{ min}$) List all of the forces acting on a tiny droplet of water falling from the sky.

Activity C.1.3 ($\sim 5 \text{ min}$) Tiny droplets of water obey **Hook's law**, which says that air resistance is proportional to velocity.

Use Newton's laws to write a differential equation that models the velocity of a falling droplet of water.

Definition C.1.4 A **first order constant coefficient** differential equation can be written in the form

$$y' + by = c,$$

or equivalently,

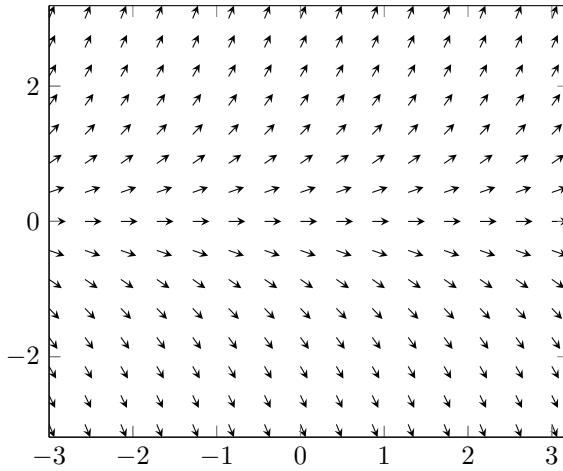
$$\frac{dy}{dx} + by = c.$$

We will use both notations interchangeably.

Here, **first order** refers to the fact that the highest derivative we see is the first derivative of y .

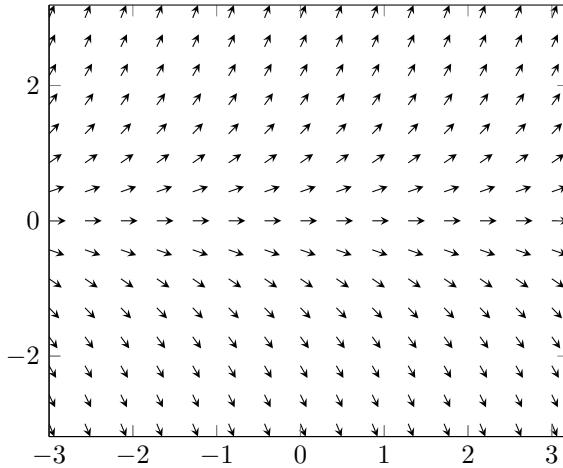
Observation C.1.5 Consider the differential equation $y' = y$.

A useful way to visualize a first order differential equation is by a **slope field**



Each arrow represents the slope of a solution **trajectory** through that point.

Activity C.1.6 ($\sim 5 \text{ min}$) Consider the differential equation $y' = y$ with slope field below.



Part 1: Draw a trajectory through the point $(0, 1)$.

Part 2: Draw a trajectory through the point $(-1, -1)$.

Activity C.1.7 ($\sim 10 \text{ min}$) Find a solution to $y' = y$.

Activity C.1.8 ($\sim 5 \text{ min}$) Find **all** solutions to $y' = y$.

Definition C.1.9 A differential equation will have many solutions. The **general solution** encompasses all of these by using parameters.

For example, the general solution to $y' = y$ is $y = c_0 e^x$.

Activity C.1.10 ($\sim 5 \text{ min}$) Solve $y' = 2y$.

Activity C.1.11 ($\sim 10 \text{ min}$) Solve $y' = y + 2$.

Section C.2

Observation C.2.1 Recall from last class that we can model the velocity of a water droplet in a cloud by

$$mv' = -mg - bv$$

where here, negative denotes downward velocity. m is the mass, g is Newton's gravitational constant, and b is a physical constant (like a coefficient of friction).



Activity C.2.2 ($\sim 25 \text{ min}$) A water droplet with a radius of $10 \mu\text{m}$ has a mass of about $4 \times 10^{-15}\text{kg}$. It is determined in a laboratory that for a droplet this size, the constant b has a value of 0.003kg/s .

Part 1: What is the terminal velocity of the droplet?

Part 2: If the droplet starts from rest ($v = 0$), what is its velocity after 0.01 s ?

Definition C.2.3 The second part of the previous activity is an example of an **Initial Value Problem (IVP)**; we were given the initial value of the velocity in addition to our differential equation.

Activity C.2.4 ($\sim 10 \text{ min}$) Solve the IVP

$$y' + 3y = 4, y(0) = 2.$$

Activity C.2.5 ($\sim 5 \text{ min}$) Solve the IVP

$$y' + 3y = 4, y(2) = 1.$$

Activity C.2.6 ($\sim 10 \text{ min}$) Solve the IVP

$$y' - 2y = 2, y(0) = 1.$$

Section C.3

Observation C.3.1 What happens when your tire hits a pothole?

Activity C.3.2 ($\sim 5 \text{ min}$) More abstractly, let's attach a mass (weighing $m\text{kg}$) to a spring. List all forces acting on the mass.

Activity C.3.3 ($\sim 5 \text{ min}$) **Hooke's law** says that the force exerted by the spring is proportional to the distance the spring is stretched.

Write a differential equation modeling the displacement of the mass.

Observation C.3.4 There is an equilibrium point where the force of gravity balances the spring force. If we measure displacement from this point, we can model the mass-spring system by

$$my'' = ky.$$

Activity C.3.5 ($\sim 15 \text{ min}$) Consider the (numerically simplified) mass-spring equation

$$y'' = -y.$$

Part 1: Find a solution.

Part 2: Find the general solution.

Part 3: Describe the long term behavior of the mass-spring system.

Activity C.3.6 ($\sim 5 \text{ min}$) In applications, this infinitely oscillating behavior is often inappropriate. Thus, a damper (dashpot) is often incorporated. This provides a force proportional to the velocity. Write a differential equation modeling the displacement of a mass in a **damped** mass-spring system.

Definition C.3.7 A **homogeneous second order constant coefficient** differential equation can be written in the form

$$ay'' + by' + cy = 0.$$

Here, **homogeneous** refers to the 0 on the right hand side of the equation.

Activity C.3.8 ($\sim 15 \text{ min}$) Consider the second order constant coefficient equation

$$y'' = y.$$

Part 1: Find a solution.

Part 2: Find the general solution.

Part 3: Describe the long term behavior of the solutions.

Section C.4

Observation C.4.1 It is sometimes useful to think in terms of **differential operators**.

- We will use D to represent a derivative; another common notation is $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}$. So for any function y ,

$$D(y) = \frac{\partial y}{\partial x} = y'.$$

- D^2 will denote the second derivative operator (i.e. differentiate twice, or apply D twice).
- We will use I for the identity operator; it does nothing to a function. That is, $I(y) = y$. It can be thought of as $I = D^0$ (i.e. differentiate zero times).

In this language, the differential equation $y' + 3y = 0$ can be rewritten as $D(y) + 3I(y) = 0$, or $(D + 3I)(y) = 0$. Thus, the question of solving the homogeneous differential equation is the question of finding the kernel of the differential operator $D + 3I$.

Activity C.4.2 (~ 5 min) What is the kernel of $D - I$?

Part 1: Write a differential equation that corresponds to this question.

Part 2: Find the general solution of this differential equation.

Activity C.4.3 (~ 5 min) Find a differential operator whose kernel is the solution set of the ODE $y' = 4y$.

Activity C.4.4 (~ 10 min) Consider the ODE

$$y'' + 5y + 6y = 0.$$

Part 1: Find a differential operator whose kernel is the solution set of the above ODE.

Part 2: Factor this differential operator as a composition of two operators. (This works because D and I commute).

Part 3: Find the general solution of the ODE.

Observation C.4.5 If we let $\mathcal{L} = D^2 + 5D + 6I$, we can write the ODE

$$y'' + 5y + 6y = 0$$

as

$$\mathcal{L}(y) = 0.$$

Note that such an \mathcal{L} is always a **linear transformation**.

Section C.5

Activity C.5.1 (~ 10 min) Consider the ODE

$$y'' + 5y - 6y = 0.$$

Part 1: Find a differential operator whose kernel is the solution set of the above ODE.

Part 2: Factor this differential operator as a composition of two operators. (This works because D and I commute).

Part 3: Find the general solution of the ODE.

Activity C.5.2 (~ 10 min) Solve the ODE

$$2y'' + 7y' + 6y = 0.$$

Activity C.5.3 (~ 15 min) Solve the ODE

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

Activity C.5.4 (~ 15 min) Consider the ODE

$$y'' + 2y' + 5y = 0$$

Part 1: Find the general solution.

Part 2: Describe the long-term behavior of the solutions.

Section C.6

Activity C.6.1 (~ 10 min) Solve the ODE

$$y'' - 4y' + 4y = 0.$$

Observation C.6.2 To solve this, we need to find the kernel of $(D - 2I)(D - 2I)$.

- The kernel of $D - 2I$ is $\{ce^{2t} \mid c \in \mathbb{R}\}$.
- However, if $(D - 2I)(y) = Ae^{2t}$, then applying $D - 2I$ twice will yield zero.
- So we must solve the ODE

$$y' - 2y = e^{2t}.$$

We thus turn our attention to **non-homogeneous** first order constant coefficient ODEs.

Observation C.6.3 To solve $y' - 2y = e^{2t}$, we set $\mathcal{L} = D - 2I$, so that we are trying to solve

$$\mathcal{L}(y) = e^{2t}.$$

Note that if y_p and y_q are two solutions, then

$$\mathcal{L}(y_p - y_q) = \mathcal{L}(y_p) - \mathcal{L}(y_q) = e^{2t} - e^{2t} = 0.$$

That is, $y_p - y_q$ is a solution of the **homogeneous** ODE $\mathcal{L}(y) = 0$.

So if we know the general solution of $\mathcal{L}(y) = 0$, and a single solution of $\mathcal{L}(y) = e^{2t}$, we have the general solution of $\mathcal{L}(y) = e^{2t}$.

Activity C.6.4 (~ 15 min) Suppose we have found $y(t)$ is a solution of $\mathcal{L}(y) = 0$, we will use **variation of parameters** and suppose a solution of $\mathcal{L}(y_p) = e^{2t}$ is of the form

$$y_p = v(t)y(t)$$

. If we can deduce what $v(t)$ is, we will be done.

Part 1: Compute $\mathcal{L}(vy)$ (recall $\mathcal{L} = D - 2I$).

Part 2: Set $\mathcal{L}(vy) = e^{2t}$; substituting in $y = e^{2t}$, solve $v'y = e^{2t}$ to find v .

Part 3: Write the general solution of $y' - 2y = e^{2t}$.

Observation C.6.5 Thus, we have shown that the general solution of $y'' - 4y' + 4y = e^{2t}$ is $c_0e^{2t} + c_1te^{2t}$.

Activity C.6.6 (~ 15 min) Find the general solution to $y' - y = e^{3t}$.

Part 1: First, solve the homogeneous equation $\mathcal{L}(y) = 0$.

Part 2: Set $y_p = vy$, where v is a TBD function; without substitutin y yet, compute $\mathcal{L}(vy)$.

Part 3: Find v from the equation $\mathcal{L}(vy) = e^{3t}$.

Part 4: Write the general solution of $y' - y = e^{3t}$.

Activity C.6.7 (~ 10 min) Find the general solution to $y' - 2y = t$.

Section C.7

Observation C.7.1 Consider the homogeneous second order constant coefficient ODE

$$ay'' + by' + cy = 0.$$

- If r is a root of $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$, then e^{rt} is a solution of the ODE.
- If r is a double root, variation of parameters shows that te^{rt} is also a solution.
- if r is not real, Euler's formula allows us to express the solution in terms of $\sin(t)$ and $\cos(t)$.

Activity C.7.2 ($\sim 15 \text{ min}$) Consider a mass of 4 kg suspended from a damped spring with spring constant $k = 2 \text{ kg/s}^2$ and damping constant $b = 6 \text{ kg/s}$.

The mass is pulled down 0.3m and released from rest. How many times does it pass back through its equilibrium state?

- (a) 0
- (b) 1
- (c) 2
- (d) Infinitely many

Activity C.7.3 ($\sim 15 \text{ min}$) Consider a mass of 5 kg suspended from a damped spring with spring constant $k = 2 \text{ kg/s}^2$ and damping constant $b = 6 \text{ kg/s}$.

The mass is pulled down 0.3m and released from rest. How many times does it pass back through its equilibrium state?

- (a) 0
- (b) 1
- (c) 2
- (d) Infinitely many

Observation C.7.4 It can be shown that in the **overdamped** situation, the spring might pass through the equilibrium position once (e.g. if given an initial push), but never more than once.

Section C.8

Module S: Systems of ODEs

Standards for this Module

How can we solve and apply systems of linear ODEs? At the end of this module, students will be able to...

S1. Solving systems. ...

S2. Modeling interacting populations. ...

S3. Modeling coupled oscillators. ...

Readiness Assurance Outcomes

Before beginning this module, each student should be able to...

- Add Euclidean vectors and multiply Euclidean vectors by scalars.
- Perform basic manipulations of augmented matrices and linear systems **E1,E2,E3**.
- Apply linear combinations and spanning sets **V3,V4**.

Readiness Assurance Resources

The following resources will help you prepare for this module.

- Adding and subtracting Euclidean vectors (Khan Academy): <http://bit.ly/2y8AOwa>
- Linear combinations of Euclidean vectors (Khan Academy): <http://bit.ly/2nK3wne>
- Adding and subtracting complex numbers (Khan Academy): <http://bit.ly/1PE3ZMQ>
- Adding and subtracting polynomials (Khan Academy): <http://bit.ly/2d5SLGZ>

Section S.1

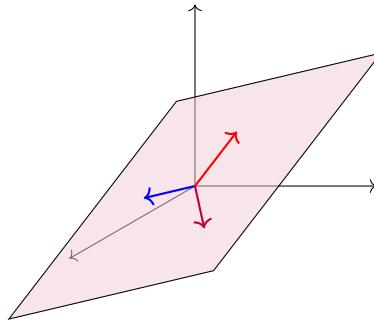
Activity S.1.1 ($\sim 10 \text{ min}$) Consider the two sets

$$S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \quad T = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ -11 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

Which of the following is true?

- (A) $\text{span } S$ is bigger than $\text{span } T$.
- (B) $\text{span } S$ and $\text{span } T$ are the same size.
- (C) $\text{span } S$ is smaller than $\text{span } T$.

Definition S.1.2 We say that a set of vectors is **linearly dependent** if one vector in the set belongs to the span of the others. Otherwise, we say the set is **linearly independent**.



You can think of linearly dependent sets as containing a redundant vector, in the sense that you can drop a vector out without reducing the span of the set. In the above image, all three vectors lay on the same planar subspace, but only two vectors are needed to span the plane, so the set is linearly dependent.

Activity S.1.3 ($\sim 10 \text{ min}$) Let $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w}$ be vectors in \mathbb{R}^n . Suppose $3\mathbf{u} - 5\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{w}$, so the set $\{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w}\}$ is linearly dependent. Which of the following is true of the vector equation $x\mathbf{u} + y\mathbf{v} + z\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{0}$?

- (A) It is consistent with one solution
- (B) It is consistent with infinitely many solutions
- (C) It is inconsistent.

Fact S.1.4 For any vector space, the set $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$ is linearly dependent if and only if $x_1\mathbf{v}_1 + \dots + x_n\mathbf{v}_n = \mathbf{0}$ is consistent with infinitely many solutions.

Activity S.1.5 ($\sim 10 \text{ min}$) Find

$$\text{RREF} \left[\begin{array}{ccccc|c} 2 & 2 & 3 & -1 & 4 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 13 & 10 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 7 & 7 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 3 & 16 & 14 & 2 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

and mark the part of the matrix that demonstrates that

$$S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 13 \\ 7 \\ 16 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 10 \\ 7 \\ 14 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

is linearly dependent (the part that shows its linear system has infinitely many solutions).

Fact S.1.6 A set of Euclidean vectors $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$ is linearly dependent if and only if RREF $[\mathbf{v}_1 \ \dots \ \mathbf{v}_n]$ has a column without a pivot position.

Activity S.1.7 ($\sim 5 \text{ min}$) Is the set of Euclidean vectors $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 10 \\ 10 \\ 2 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 7 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ linearly dependent or linearly independent?

Activity S.1.8 ($\sim 10 \text{ min}$) Is the set of polynomials $\{x^3 + 1, x^2 + 2x, x^2 + 7x + 4\}$ linearly dependent or linearly independent?

Activity S.1.9 ($\sim 5 \text{ min}$) What is the largest number of vectors in \mathbb{R}^4 that can form a linearly independent set?

- (a) 3
- (b) 4
- (c) 5
- (d) You can have infinitely many vectors and still be linearly independent.

Activity S.1.10 ($\sim 5 \text{ min}$) What is the largest number of vectors in

$$\mathcal{P}^4 = \{ax^4 + bx^3 + cx^2 + dx + e \mid a, b, c, d, e \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

that can form a linearly independent set?

- (a) 3
- (b) 4
- (c) 5
- (d) You can have infinitely many vectors and still be linearly independent.

Activity S.1.11 ($\sim 5 \text{ min}$) What is the largest number of vectors in

$$\mathcal{P} = \{f(x) \mid f(x) \text{ is any polynomial}\}$$

that can form a linearly independent set?

- (a) 3
- (b) 4
- (c) 5
- (d) You can have infinitely many vectors and still be linearly independent.

Module F: First order ODEs

Standards for this Module

How can we solve and apply first order ODEs? At the end of this module, students will be able to...

F1. Sketching trajectories. ...

F2. Separable ODEs. ...

F3. Autonomous ODEs. ...

F4. First order linear ODEs. ...

F5. Exact ODES. ...

F6. Modeling motion. ...

Readiness Assurance Outcomes

Before beginning this module, each student should be able to...

- Add Euclidean vectors and multiply Euclidean vectors by scalars.
- Add complex numbers and multiply complex numbers by scalars.
- Add polynomials and multiply polynomials by scalars.
- Perform basic manipulations of augmented matrices and linear systems **E1,E2,E3**.

Readiness Assurance Resources

The following resources will help you prepare for this module.

- Adding and subtracting Euclidean vectors (Khan Acaemdy): <http://bit.ly/2y8AOwa>
- Linear combinations of Euclidean vectors (Khan Academy): <http://bit.ly/2nK3wne>
- Adding and subtracting complex numbers (Khan Academy): <http://bit.ly/1PE3ZMQ>
- Adding and subtracting polynomials (Khan Academy): <http://bit.ly/2d5SLGZ>

Section F.0

Remark F.0.1 Last time, we defined a **vector space** V to be any collection of mathematical objects with associated addition and scalar multiplication operations that satisfy the following eight properties for all $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w}$ in V , and all scalars (i.e. real numbers) a, b .

- **Addition is associative.**

$$\mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}) = (\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) + \mathbf{w}.$$

- **Addition is commutative.**

$$\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{u}.$$

- **Additive identity exists.**

There exists some \mathbf{z} where $\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{z} = \mathbf{v}$.

- **Additive inverses exist.**

There exists some $-\mathbf{v}$ where $\mathbf{v} + (-\mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{z}$.

- **Scalar multiplication is associative.**

$$a(b\mathbf{v}) = (ab)\mathbf{v}.$$

- **1 is a scalar multiplicative identity.**

$$1\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}.$$

- **Scalar multiplication distributes over vector addition.**

$$a(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) = a\mathbf{u} + a\mathbf{v}.$$

- **Scalar multiplication distributes over scalar addition.**

$$(a + b)\mathbf{v} = a\mathbf{v} + b\mathbf{v}.$$

Module N: Numerical

Standards for this Module

How can we use numerical approximation methods to apply and solve unsolvable ODEs? At the end of this module, students will be able to...

N1. First Order Existence and Uniqueness. ...

N2. Second Order Linear Existence and Uniqueness. ...

N3. Systems Existence and Uniqueness. ...

N4. Euler's method for first order ODES. ...

N5. Euler's method for systems. ...

Readiness Assurance Outcomes

Before beginning this module, each student should be able to...

- State the definition of a spanning set, and determine if a set of Euclidean vectors spans \mathbb{R}^n **V4**.
- State the definition of linear independence, and determine if a set of Euclidean vectors is linearly dependent or independent **S1**.
- State the definition of a basis, and determine if a set of Euclidean vectors is a basis **S2,S3**.
- Find a basis of the solution space to a homogeneous system of linear equations **S6**.

Section N.1

Definition N.1.1 A **linear transformation** (also known as a **linear map**) is a map between vector spaces that preserves the vector space operations. More precisely, if V and W are vector spaces, a map $T : V \rightarrow W$ is called a linear transformation if

1. $T(\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}) = T(\mathbf{v}) + T(\mathbf{w})$ for any $\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \in V$.
2. $T(c\mathbf{v}) = cT(\mathbf{v})$ for any $c \in \mathbb{R}, \mathbf{v} \in V$.

In other words, a map is linear when vector space operations can be applied before or after the transformation without affecting the result.

Module D: Discontinuous functions in ODEs

Standards for this Module

How can we solve and apply ODEs involving functions that are not continuous? At the end of this module, students will be able to...

D1. Laplace Transform. ...

D2. Discontinuous ODEs. ...

D3. Modeling non-smooth motion. ...

D4. Modeling non-smooth oscillators. ...

Readiness Assurance Outcomes

Before beginning this module, each student should be able to...

- State the definition of a spanning set, and determine if a set of Euclidean vectors spans \mathbb{R}^n **V4**.
- State the definition of linear independence, and determine if a set of Euclidean vectors is linearly dependent or independent **S1**.
- State the definition of a basis, and determine if a set of Euclidean vectors is a basis **S2,S3**.
- Find a basis of the solution space to a homogeneous system of linear equations **S6**.

Section D.1

Definition D.1.1 A **linear transformation** (also known as a **linear map**) is a map between vector spaces that preserves the vector space operations. More precisely, if V and W are vector spaces, a map $T : V \rightarrow W$ is called a linear transformation if

1. $T(\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}) = T(\mathbf{v}) + T(\mathbf{w})$ for any $\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \in V$.
2. $T(c\mathbf{v}) = cT(\mathbf{v})$ for any $c \in \mathbb{R}, \mathbf{v} \in V$.

In other words, a map is linear when vector space operations can be applied before or after the transformation without affecting the result.