

# Chapter 3. Vector space.

## Sec 3.1. Definition and Examples.

Def. Vector Space = Set with addition and scalar multiplication  
The elements in the set are called "vectors", denoted by  $\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \dots$ .

The two operations satisfy the following axioms:

For vectors  $\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z} \in V$ , and scalars  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

C1: If  $\bar{x} \in V$ , then  $\alpha \cdot \bar{x} \in V$ .

C2: If  $\bar{x}, \bar{y} \in V$ , then  $\bar{x} + \bar{y} \in V$ .

A1:  $\bar{x} + \bar{y} = \bar{y} + \bar{x}$

A2:  $(\bar{x} + \bar{y}) + \bar{z} = \bar{x} + (\bar{y} + \bar{z})$

A3: There is a zero vector  $\bar{0} \in V$  such that  $\bar{x} + \bar{0} = \bar{x}$

A4: For each  $\bar{x}$ , there is a  $-\bar{x}$  such that  $\bar{x} + (-\bar{x}) = \bar{0}$

A5:  $\alpha(\bar{x} + \bar{y}) = \alpha \cdot \bar{x} + \alpha \cdot \bar{y}$

A6:  $(\alpha + \beta) \bar{x} = \alpha \bar{x} + \beta \cdot \bar{y}$

A7:  $(\alpha \beta) \bar{x} = \alpha(\beta \bar{x})$

A8:  $1 \cdot \bar{x} = \bar{x}$

T1:  $0 \cdot \bar{x} = \bar{0}$

T2:  $\bar{x} + \bar{y} = \bar{0} \Rightarrow \bar{y} = -\bar{x}$

T3:  $(-1) \cdot \bar{x} = -\bar{x}$

eg. Euclidean Vector Space  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

$V = \mathbb{R}^2$  (the collection of all vectors  $\bar{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}$ )

equipped with  
(vector) addition:  $\bar{x} + \bar{y} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 + y_1 \\ x_2 + y_2 \end{pmatrix}$

and  
scalar multiplication:  $\alpha \bar{x} = \alpha \cdot \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha x_1 \\ \alpha x_2 \end{pmatrix}$ .

(zero vector)  $\bar{0} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . (additive inverse):  $-\bar{x} = \begin{pmatrix} -x_1 \\ -x_2 \end{pmatrix}$ .

eg.  $m \times n$  matrix space:  $M(m, n)$  ( $\mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ )

$V = M(3, 2)$ : the collection of all  $3 \times 2$  matrices  $A = (a_{ij})$   
equipped with,

(matrix) addition:  $A + B = (a_{ij}) + (b_{ij}) = (a_{ij} + b_{ij})$

scalar multiplication:  $\alpha A = \alpha (a_{ij}) = (\alpha \cdot a_{ij})$ .

zero vector (zero matrix):  $O = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

(additive inverse):  $-A = (-a_{ij})$

Remark: matrix multiplication  $A \cdot B$  is not needed for a vector space.

e.g. Continuous function space over interval  $[a, b]$ :  $C[a, b]$ .

$V = C[0, 1]$ : all continuous functions  $f(x)$  on  $[0, 1]$

addition:  $(f+g)(x) = f(x) + g(x)$

scalar multiplication:  $(\alpha f)(x) = \alpha \cdot f(x)$ .

zero function:  $f=0$  ( $f(x)=0$  for all  $x \in [0, 1]$ ).

e.g. Polynomials of degree less than  $n$ :  $P_n$

$V = P_3$ : all polynomials  $p(x)$  of degree less than 3.

e.g.  $p(x) = 3+x$ ,  $q(x) = -2-x+x^2$

$p(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2$  (general form).

addition:  $(p+q)(x) = p(x) + q(x)$

scalar multiplication:  $(\alpha p)(x) = \alpha \cdot p(x)$

zero polynomial:  $p(x) = 0$  (for all  $x$ ).

Remark: Some textbooks denote the above example by  $P_2$ . And in general denote  $P_n$  the polynomials of degree less or equal to  $n$ .

Remark: The space with all polynomials of degree EXACTLY  $n$  is NOT a vector space. for many reasons. e.g. It is not closed under addition and has no zero vector.  
 $p(x) = x - x^2$ ,  $q(x) = x^2$ ,  $p(x) + q(x) = x$  has degree one (not two)