

§ 1 VECTOR SPACES OVER \mathbb{R}

Definition 1.1 A vector space over \mathbb{R} is a set with operations of addition $+$ and scalar multiplication \cdot satisfying the following properties:

Axioms for addition

(A1) (Closure for addition) For all $u, v \in V$, $u+v$ is defined and $u+v \in V$

(A2) (Commutativity for addition) $u+v = v+u$ for all $u, v \in V$.

(A3) (Associativity for addition) $u+(v+w) = (u+v)+w$ for all $u, v, w \in V$.

(A4) (Existence of additive identity) There exists an element $\vec{0} \in V$, such that $u+\vec{0} = u$ for all $u \in V$.

(A5) (Existence of additive inverse) For each $u \in V$, there exists an element $-u$ denoted by $-u$ such that $u+(-u) = \vec{0}$

Axioms for scalar multip.

(M1) (Closure for scalar multiplication) For each number $r \in \mathbb{R}$ and each $u \in V$, $r \cdot u$ is defined and $r \cdot u \in V$.

(M2) (Multiplication by 1) $1 \cdot u = u$ for all $u \in V$

(M3) (Associativity for scalar multiplication) $r \cdot (s \cdot u) = (r \cdot s) \cdot u$ for all $r, s \in \mathbb{R}$ and all $u \in V$

Distributive axioms

(D1) (First distributive property) $r \cdot (u+v) = r \cdot u + r \cdot v$ for all $r \in \mathbb{R}$ and all $u, v \in V$.

(D2) (Second distributive property) $(r+s) \cdot u = (r \cdot u) + (s \cdot u)$ for all $r, s \in \mathbb{R}$ and all $u \in V$.

Remark

a) The zero element $\vec{0}$ is unique, i. e. if

$\sigma_1, \sigma_2 \in \mathbb{V}$ are such that

$$u + \sigma_1 = u + \sigma_2 = u \quad \forall u \in \mathbb{V}$$

then $\sigma_1 = \sigma_2$.

Proof: We have $\sigma_1 = \sigma_1 + \sigma_2 = \sigma_2 + \vec{0} = \sigma_2$. ■

Lemma Let $u \in \mathbb{V}$, then $0 \cdot u = \vec{0}$.

Proof

$$\begin{aligned} u + 0 \cdot u &= 1 \cdot u + 0 \cdot u \\ &= (1+0) \cdot u \\ &= 1 \cdot u \\ &= u \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} u + (-u) &= \vec{0} = (0 \cdot u + u) + (-u) \\ &= 0 \cdot u + (u + (-u)) \\ &= 0 \cdot u + \vec{0} \\ &= 0 \cdot u \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

Lemma The element $-u$ is unique.

b) $-u = (-1) \cdot u$

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned} u + (-1) \cdot u &= 1 \cdot u + (-1) \cdot u \\ &= (1 + (-1)) \cdot u \\ &= 0 \cdot u \\ &= \vec{0} \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

Before we discuss the axioms in more details, let us discuss two examples

Ex 1 Let $V = \mathbb{R}^n$, considered as column vectors

$$\mathbb{R}^n = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} \mid x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

We define for

$$u = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}, v = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

and $r \in \mathbb{R}$:

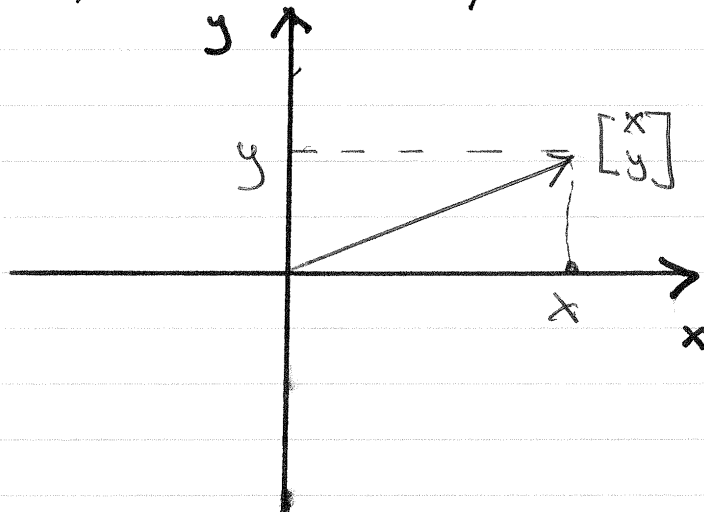
$$u + v = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 + y_1 \\ x_2 + y_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n + y_n \end{bmatrix} \quad \leftarrow \text{add each of the coordinates}$$

$$ru = \begin{bmatrix} rx_1 \\ rx_2 \\ \vdots \\ rx_n \end{bmatrix} \quad \leftarrow \text{multiply each of the coordinates by } r.$$

We have $\vec{0} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ (0 each coordinate)

$$-u = \begin{bmatrix} -x_1 \\ \vdots \\ -x_n \end{bmatrix}.$$

If $n = 2$, then we can picture \mathbb{R}^2 as the plane



We can also consider \mathbb{R}^n as the space of all row vectors

$$\mathbb{R}^n = \{ (x_1, \dots, x_n) \mid x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R} \}$$

The addition and scalar multiplication is again given coordinate wise

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

$$r \cdot (x_1, \dots, x_n) = (rx_1, \dots, rx_n).$$

Example If $\vec{x} = (2, 1, 3)$, $\vec{y} = (-1, 2, -2)$, and $r = -4$ find $\vec{x} + \vec{y}$ and $r \cdot \vec{x}$.

Solution

$$\begin{aligned} \bullet \vec{x} + \vec{y} &= (2, 1, 3) + (-1, 2, -2) \\ &= (2-1, 1+2, 3-2) \\ &= (1, 3, 1). \end{aligned}$$

$$\bullet r \cdot \vec{x} = -4 \cdot (2, 1, 3) = (-8, -4, -12).$$

Example $(x_1, \dots, x_n) + (0, \dots, 0) = (x_1+0, x_2+0, \dots, x_n+0)$
 $= (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$

So the additive identity is $\vec{0} = (0, 0, \dots, 0)$. Notice that

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \cdot (x_1, \dots, x_n) &= (0 \cdot x_1, \dots, 0 \cdot x_n) \\ &= (0, \dots, 0) \end{aligned}$$

for all $(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

Example: Let A be the interval $[0, 1)$ and let V be the space of functions $f: A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, i.e.

$$V = \{f: [0, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}\}$$

Define addition and scalar multiplication by

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

$$(r \cdot f)(x) = rf(x).$$

Example: The function $f(x) = x^4$ is an element of V , and so are

$$g(x) = x + 2x^2$$

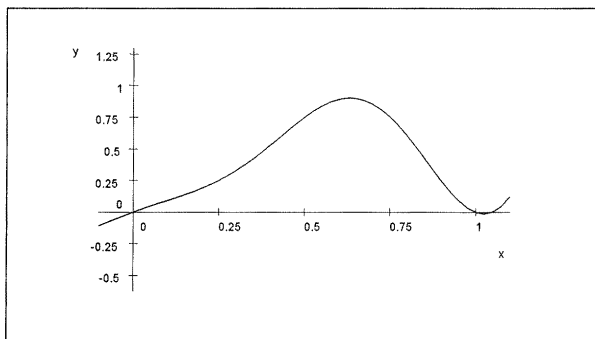
$$h(x) = \cos(x)$$

$$k(x) = e^x$$

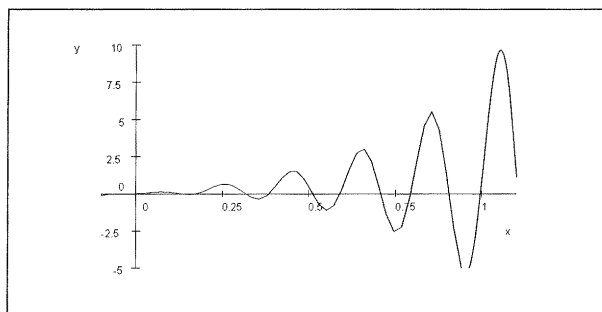
We have $(f + g)(x) = x + 2x^2 + x^4$.

We can use a graph of a function to visualize the function. The graph of f is the subset of \mathbb{R}^2 given by

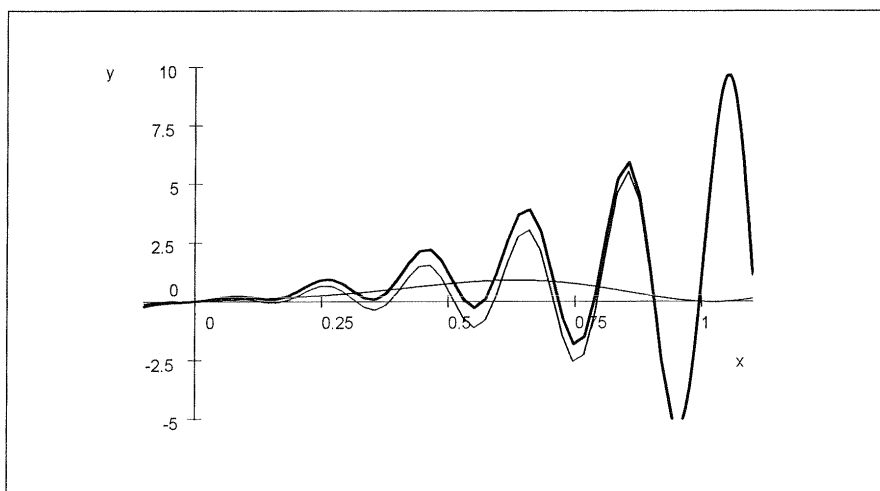
$$\{(x, f(x)) \mid x \in A\}.$$



$$f(x) = -x^2 \cos(2\pi x) + x$$



$$g(x) = xe^{2x} \sin(10\pi x) + x$$



$$(f + g)(x) = -x^2 \cos(2\pi x) + 2x + xe^{2x} \sin(10\pi x)$$

Notice that the zero element is the function $\vec{0}$ which associates to each x the number 0 :

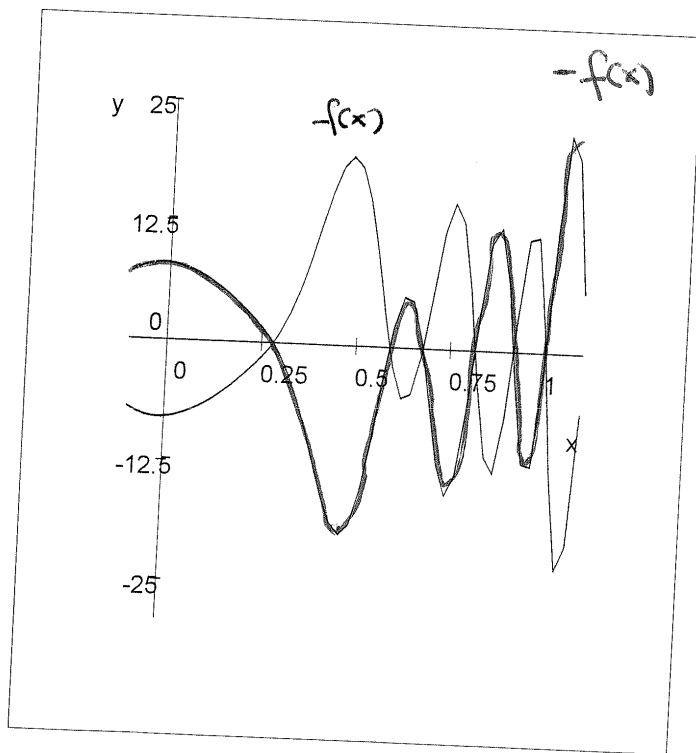
$$\vec{0}(x) = 0 \quad \text{for all } x \in [0,1)$$

Proof: $(f + \vec{0})(x) = f(x) + 0 = f(x)$.

The additive inverse is the function $-f : x \mapsto -f(x)$.

Proof: $(f + (-f))(x) = f(x) - f(x) = \vec{0}$ for all x .

Notice that this corresponds to reflecting the graph in the x -axis.



EXAMPLE Instead of $A = [0, 1)$ we can

take any set $A \neq \emptyset$, and we can replace \mathbb{R} by any vector space V . We set

$$V^A = \{f: A \rightarrow V\}$$

and set

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

addition in V

$$[r \cdot f](x) = r \cdot [f(x)]$$

multiplication in V

Proof that "+" is associative:

Let $f, g, h \in V^A$. Then

$$[(f+g)+h](x) = (f+g)(x) + h(x) \quad [\text{def of } +]$$

$$= (f(x) + g(x)) + h(x) \quad -||-$$

$$= f(x) + (g(x) + h(x)) \quad [\text{associativity in } V]$$

$$= f(x) + (g+h)(x) \quad [\text{def of } +]$$

$$= [f + (g+h)](x) \quad -||-$$

The zero element is the function $x \mapsto \vec{0}$.

$$[f + \sigma](x) = f(x) + \sigma(x)$$

$$= f(x) + \vec{0}$$

$$= f(x)$$



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Exercises

1) Let $V = \mathbb{R}^4$. Evaluate the following:

a) $(2, -1, 3, 1) + (3, -1, 1, -1) =$

b) $(2, 1, 5, -1) - (3, 1, 2, -2) =$

c) $10 \cdot (2, 0, -1, 1)$

d) $(1, -2, 3, 1) + 10 \cdot (1, -1, 0, 1) - 3 \cdot (0, 2, 1, -2)$

e) $x_1 \cdot (1, 0, 0, 0) + x_2 \cdot (0, 1, 0, 0) + x_3 \cdot (0, 0, 1, 0) + x_4 \cdot (0, 0, 0, 1)$.