

## Abstract vector spaces

Any set where you can add elements to each other, multiply them by scalars & where the operations obey certain rules

① There is a 0 vector - i.e. an element of the set such that for all  $x$ ,  $x+0 = x$

②  $x+y = y+x$  for all  $x, y$

③  $r \cdot (x+y) = r \cdot x + r \cdot y$

④

⋮

① Which of these are vector spaces?

a) The set of sequences of real numbers that converge to 0 **Yes.**  $(0, 0, 0, \dots)$

$$(a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots) + (b_0, b_1, b_2, \dots) = (a_0 + b_0, a_1 + b_1, a_2 + b_2, \dots)$$

$$c \cdot (a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots) = (c \cdot a_0, c \cdot a_1, \dots)$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n + b_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n$$

b) The set of sequences of real numbers that converge to 1 **No.**

$$\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{7}{8}, \dots\right) + (1, 1, 1, \dots) = \left(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{7}{4}, \frac{15}{8}, \dots\right)$$

→ converges to 2

c)  $\{a, b, c, d, \dots, x, y, z\}$  **No.**

No obvious definition of addition or scalar multiplication.

d) The set of  $2 \times 3$  matrices which are in RREF **No.**

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \text{not in RREF}$$

e)  $\{f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid f \text{ is differentiable}\}$  **Yes.**

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

 → constantly 0 function

$f, g$  differentiable then so are  $f+g, c \cdot f$

## Examples of vector spaces

① Set of sequences of real numbers

set of sequences which converge to 0  
is a linear subspace of this vector space

set of sequences which converge to 1 is not  
a linear subspace

② Set of functions from  $\mathbb{R}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$

set of differentiable functions  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$   
is a linear subspace

③ set of polynomials with real coefficients

set of polynomials with degree at most  $n$  ( $\mathbb{P}_n$ )

④ set of  $n \times m$  matrices ( $M_{n \times m}$ )

set of  $n \times m$  matrices in RREF is not  
a linear subspace

② Are  $1, x^2, 3x^2 - 2$  linearly independent? **No.**

(elements of  $\mathbb{P}_2$ )

$$-2 \cdot \underbrace{(1)} + 3 \cdot \underbrace{(x^2)} - 1 \cdot \underbrace{(3x^2 - 2)} = 0$$

③ Is  $(1, 0, 1, 0, \dots)$  in  $\text{span}\{(1, 1, 1, \dots), (1, -1, 1, -1, \dots)\}$ ?

**Yes.**

$$(1, 0, 1, 0, \dots) = \frac{1}{2}(1, 1, 1, \dots) + \frac{1}{2}(1, -1, 1, -1, \dots)$$

④ Are these matrices lin. ind.? **No.**

$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  (elements of  $M_{2 \times 2} \cong \mathbb{R}^4$ )

$$-1 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + (-1) \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} - 1 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$