

Definition of Vector Space

Undergraduate Texts in Mathematics

UTM

Sheldon Axler


Linear Algebra Done Right

Third Edition

Apollonius's Identity

$$a^2 + b^2 = \frac{1}{2}c^2 + 2d^2$$



 Springer

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Addition and Scalar Multiplication

Definition: *addition, scalar multiplication*

- An *addition* on a set V is a function that assigns an element $u + w \in V$ to each pair of elements $u, w \in V$.
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Example: Suppose V is the set of real-valued functions on the interval $[0, 1]$. For $f, g \in V$ and $\lambda \in \mathbf{R}$, define $f + g$ and λf by

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Thus $f + g \in V$ and $\lambda f \in V$.

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Addition and scalar multiplication on \mathbf{F}^∞ are defined as expected:

$$\begin{aligned}(x_1, x_2, \dots) + (y_1, y_2, \dots) &= (x_1 + y_1, x_2 + y_2, \dots), \\ \lambda(x_1, x_2, \dots) &= (\lambda x_1, \lambda x_2, \dots).\end{aligned}$$

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With these definitions, \mathbf{F}^∞ becomes a vector space.

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With these definitions of addition and scalar multiplication, \mathbf{F}^S becomes a vector space.

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The number 0 times a vector

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which can be rewritten as

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as desired. ■

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An element of V is not necessarily of the form (x_1, \dots, x_n) .

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