

# Lecture XX: § 5.3 Vector Subspaces

Last time: Defined abstract vector spaces  $(V, +, \cdot)$  → Closure Properties  
 Additive Props } "easy algebra"  
 Scalar Mult " } &  $\mathbb{0}, -v$

• Many examples & non-examples.

- Matrices =  $M_{m \times n}$
- polynomials of bounded degree (fixed)  $P_n = \{ a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n ; a_0, \dots, a_n \text{ in } \mathbb{R} \}$

$\begin{bmatrix} a_0 \\ \vdots \\ a_n \end{bmatrix}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$

## §1. More useful properties

### ① Cancellation Laws:

(1) If  $u+v = u+w$ , then  $v=w$

Why? Take  $u' = -u$  (additive inverse) Then  $\frac{u'+u+v}{w'+(u+w)} = \frac{v}{w}$

(2) If  $v+u = w+u$  then  $v=w$

Why? (1) & + is commutative. (A)

### ② Theorem: (1) The zero vector $\mathbb{0}$ (= Neutral element for + in $V$ ) is unique

(2) The additive inverse  $v^{-}$  for  $v$  is unique &  $-v = (-1) \cdot v$

(3)  $0 \cdot v = \mathbb{0}$  for all  $v$  in  $V$

(4)  $\alpha \cdot \mathbb{0} = \mathbb{0}$  for all scalars  $\alpha$  in  $\mathbb{R}$

(5) If  $\alpha \cdot v = \mathbb{0}$ , then either  $\alpha = 0$  or  $v = \mathbb{0}$ .

Proof: (1) Say  $\mathbb{0}, \mathbb{0}'$  are neutral elements for +.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Then: } \mathbb{0} & = & \mathbb{0} + \mathbb{0}' & = & \mathbb{0}' \\ & \downarrow & & & \downarrow \\ & \mathbb{0}' \text{ neutral elem} & & & \mathbb{0} \text{ neutral elem} \\ & v = \mathbb{0}' & & & v = \mathbb{0} \end{array}$$

(2) Additive inverses are unique: If  $w, w'$  satisfy  $v+w = v+w' = \mathbb{0}$  then,  $w = w + \mathbb{0} = (v+w) + w' = \mathbb{0} + w' = w'$

So we write the inverse as  $-v$ .

$(-1)v$  satisfies  $v + (-1)v = 1 \cdot v + (-1) \cdot v = (1-1) \cdot v = 0 \cdot v = \mathbb{0}$

(3) Write  $w = 0 \cdot v$

Then  $w = 0 \cdot v = (0+0) \cdot v = 0 \cdot v + 0 \cdot v = w + w$

Write  $w'$  for the inverse for  $w$ . Then,  $\mathbb{0} = w + w' = w + (w + w') = w + \mathbb{0} = w$

(4) Again, write  $w = \alpha \cdot \mathbb{0}$

$$\text{Then } w = \alpha \cdot (\mathbb{0}) = \alpha(\mathbb{0} + \mathbb{0}) = \alpha \cdot \mathbb{0} + \alpha \cdot \mathbb{0} = w + w$$

$$\text{Again write } w' = -w, \text{ then } \mathbb{0} = w + (-w) = w + \underbrace{(w + (-w))}_{=\mathbb{0}} = w$$

(5) If  $\alpha \neq 0$ , then  $\mathbb{0} = \frac{1}{\alpha}(\alpha \cdot v) = \frac{\alpha}{\alpha} \cdot v = 1 \cdot v = v$ . So,  $v = \mathbb{0}$ .

Conclusion: either  $\alpha = 0$  or  $v = \mathbb{0}$ .

### §2. Subspaces:

Next step: Fix a vector space  $V$  (eg  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ) & want to find conditions for a subset  $W$  to be a vector space with inherited  $+$  &  $\cdot$ .

- Need:  $+$  to be an operation in  $W$  (C1)
- $\cdot$  operation in  $W$  (C2)
- a neutral element in  $W$ . It must be  $\mathbb{0} = 0 \cdot w$  for any  $w$  in  $W$ .
- additive inverses in  $W$ :  $-w = (-1)w$  follows from (C2).

As with  $\mathbb{R}^n$  & subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , we only need to check 3 things:

Theorem: Fix  $W$  a subset of  $V$ , and  $V$  a vector space. Then  $W$  with inherited  $+$  &  $\cdot$  is a subspace of  $V$  if and only if:

- (S1)  $\mathbb{0}$  from  $V$  lies in  $W$
- (S2) given  $u, v$  in  $W$ , we have  $u+v$  in  $W$ .
- (S2)  $\longrightarrow$   $u$  in  $W$  &  $\alpha$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  we have  $\alpha \cdot u$  in  $W$ .

Note: subspace means vector space on itself with inherited  $+$  &  $\cdot$ .

### Examples:

(1)  $C[a,b] : \{ f: [a,b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ continuous} \}$  with pointwise  $+$  &  $\cdot$ .

$$\cdot f + g : [a,b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad (f+g)(x) = f(x) + g(x) \quad \text{for all } x \text{ in } [a,b]$$

$$\cdot \alpha f : [a,b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad (\alpha f)(x) = \alpha f(x)$$

$\cdot \mathbb{0} : [a,b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  constant zero function

$\cdot$  All 10 properties are satisfied.

$\cdot \mathcal{P}_2 = \{ a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 \}$  is a subspace of  $C[a,b]$ . Same for  $\mathcal{P}_n = \{ a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n \}$   
 $= \text{Sp} \{ 1, x, x^2, \dots, x^n \}$

(2)  $M_{2 \times 3} = \{ 2 \times 3 \text{ matrices} \}$  is a vector space ( $\mathbb{0} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ )

$\mathcal{W}_2 = \{ \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & 0 & a_{13} \\ 0 & a_{22} & 0 \end{pmatrix} : a_{11}, a_{13}, a_{22} \in \mathbb{R} \}$  is a subspace.

(S2)  $\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & 0 & a_{13} \\ 0 & a_{22} & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} b_{11} & 0 & b_{13} \\ 0 & b_{22} & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11}+b_{11} & 0 & a_{13}+b_{13} \\ 0 & a_{22}+b_{22} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  in  $\mathcal{W}$

(S3)  $\alpha \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & 0 & a_{13} \\ 0 & a_{22} & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha a_{11} & 0 & \alpha a_{13} \\ 0 & \alpha a_{22} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  in  $\mathcal{W}$

(S4)  $\mathbb{0}$  in  $\mathcal{W}$  for  $a_{11} = a_{13} = a_{22} = 0$ .

(3)  $\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{P}_2$ ,  $\mathcal{W}_3 = \{ P(x) \in \mathcal{P}_2 : P'(0) = 0 \}$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{P}_2$

Why?  $P(x) = a + bx + cx^2 \rightarrow P'(x) = b + 2cx \Rightarrow 0 = P'(0) = b$

Conclude:  $\mathcal{W} = \{ a + cx^2 \} = \text{Sp}(1, x^2)$

(4)  $\mathcal{W}_4 = \{ \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \end{pmatrix} : a_{11}a_{22} - a_{21}a_{12} = 0 \}$  is NOT a subspace of  $M_{2 \times 3}$   
 $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  in  $\mathcal{W}$ , but  $A+B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  not in  $\mathcal{W}$   
( $1 \cdot 1 - 0 \cdot 0 = 1 \neq 0$ )

(5)  $\mathcal{W}_5 = \{ f \in C[a,b] : \int_a^b f(x) dx = 0 \}$  is a subspace of  $C[a,b]$   
because  $\int$  has linear behavior.

(6)  $\mathcal{W}_6 = \{ f \in C[a,b] : f'(1) = 0 \}$  is a subspace of  $C[a,b]$

(S1)  $f \neq \mathbb{0}$  then  $f'(x) = \mathbb{0}'(x) = 0$  so  $f'(1) = 0$ .

(S2)  $(f+g)'(x) = f'(x) + g'(x)$  so  $(f+g)'(1) = 0+0=0$  for  $f, g \in \mathcal{W}$

(S3)  $(\alpha f)'(x) = \alpha f'(x)$  so  $(\alpha f)'(1) = \alpha f'(1) = \alpha \cdot 0 = 0$  for  $f \in \mathcal{W}$ ,  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ .

§ 3. Spanning Sets:

Same definition as for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

Def: A vector  $v$  in  $\mathcal{W}$  is a linear combination of  $v_1, \dots, v_r$  vectors in  $\mathcal{W}$  if  
 $v = \alpha_1 v_1 + \dots + \alpha_r v_r$  for scalars  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r$ .

Write:  $\text{Sp}(v_1, \dots, v_r)$  for the set of all linear combinations of  $v_1, \dots, v_r$ .

Ex:  $\mathcal{P}_2 = \text{Sp}(1, x, x^2)$ .

Def  $\{v_1, \dots, v_r\}$  spans  $W$  if  $W = \text{Sp}(v_1, \dots, v_r)$

Warning: not all vector spaces admit (finite) spanning sets

Example:  $C[0,1]$  has no spanning set (we'd need  $1, x, x^2, x^3, \dots$  and many more!)

Examples from earlier:

$$\bullet \mathbb{M}_{2 \times 3} = \text{Sp} \left( \begin{matrix} [1 & 0 & 0] \\ [0 & 0 & 0] \end{matrix}, \begin{matrix} [0 & 1 & 0] \\ [0 & 0 & 0] \end{matrix}, \begin{matrix} [0 & 0 & 1] \\ [0 & 0 & 0] \end{matrix}, \begin{matrix} [1 & 0 & 0] \\ [0 & 1 & 0] \end{matrix}, \begin{matrix} [0 & 0 & 0] \\ [0 & 1 & 0] \end{matrix}, \begin{matrix} [0 & 0 & 0] \\ [0 & 0 & 1] \end{matrix} \right)$$

$$\begin{matrix} E_{11} & E_{12} & E_{13} & E_{21} & E_{22} & E_{23} \end{matrix}$$

$E_{ij}$  = matrix  $A$  in  $\mathbb{M}_{m \times n}$  with 1 in  $(i,j)$  entry & 0's everywhere else.

They play the role that basic unit vectors did for  $\mathbb{R}^N$  ( $e_1, \dots, e_N$ )

$$\bullet W = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & 0 & a_{13} \\ 0 & a_{22} & 0 \end{bmatrix} : a_{11}, a_{13}, a_{22} \text{ in } \mathbb{R} \right\} = \text{Sp}(E_{11}, E_{13}, E_{22})$$

$C[a,b]$  has no spanning set, neither do  $W_5, W_6$

Theorem 2: If  $W$  is a vector space &  $\{v_1, \dots, v_r\}$  are vectors in  $W$ , then  $W' = \text{Sp}(v_1, \dots, v_r)$  is a subspace of  $W$ .

Proof: (S1)  $u = \alpha_1 v_1 + \dots + \alpha_r v_r$  (in  $\text{Sp}(v_1, \dots, v_r)$ )

$$+ v = \beta_1 v_1 + \dots + \beta_r v_r$$


---


$$u+v = (\alpha_1 + \beta_1)v_1 + \dots + (\alpha_r + \beta_r)v_r, \text{ so in } \text{Sp}(v_1, \dots, v_r).$$

(S2)  $\alpha \cdot v = (\alpha/\beta_1)v_1 + \dots + (\alpha/\beta_r)v_r$  so also in \_\_\_\_\_.

(S3)  $0 \stackrel{?}{=} \alpha_1 v_1 + \dots + \alpha_r v_r$  YES, Take  $\alpha_1 = \dots = \alpha_r = 0$ .

Since (S1), (S2) & (S3) hold,  $W'$  is a subspace of  $W$ .