

Recall: F a field, $(F, +, \cdot)$

V a vector space, $(V, +, \cdot)$

Examples:

1. \mathbb{R}^n is a vector space over \mathbb{R}

$$+ : \text{componentwise } (r_1, \dots, r_n) + (s_1, \dots, s_n) = (r_1 + s_1, \dots, r_n + s_n)$$

$$\cdot : \text{componentwise } a \cdot (r_1, \dots, r_n) = (a \cdot r_1, \dots, a \cdot r_n)$$

We can make \mathbb{R}^n a vector space over \mathbb{Q} .

We cannot make \mathbb{R}^n a vector space over \mathbb{C} .

We cannot make \mathbb{R}^n a vector space over \mathbb{Z}_2 .

$$\mathbb{Z}_2 = \{[0], [1]\}.$$

$$(a+b) \cdot x = a \cdot x + b \cdot x$$

$$x = (1, \dots, 1), \quad a = b = [1]$$

$$\text{LHS: } ([1] + [1]) \cdot (1, \dots, 1) = [0] \cdot (1, \dots, 1) = (0, \dots, 0)$$

$$\text{RHS: } [1] \cdot (1, \dots, 1) + [1] \cdot (1, \dots, 1) = (1, \dots, 1) + (1, \dots, 1) = (2, \dots, 2)$$

2. Let S be a set, F a field. Consider $\mathcal{F}(S, F)$ the set of functions

$$f: S \rightarrow F$$

from S to \mathbb{F} . So $f \in \mathcal{F}(S, \mathbb{F})$ has the form $f: S \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$.

$$+ : (f+g)(x) = f(x) + g(x) \quad f+g : S \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$$

$$x \mapsto f(x) + g(x)$$

$$\cdot : (a \cdot f)(x) = a \cdot f(x) \quad a \cdot f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$$

$$x \mapsto a \cdot f(x)$$

Now $\mathcal{F}(S, \mathbb{F})$ are a vector space over \mathbb{F} with $+$ and \cdot .

2.1. $\mathcal{C}(\mathbb{R})$ continuous functions from \mathbb{R} to \mathbb{R} .

2.2. $\mathbb{F}[x]$ polynomials over \mathbb{F} .

2.3. Symmetric polynomials in n variables. A polynomial in n variables is symmetric if exchange any two variables, it remains the same.

$n=3$: $p(x_1, x_2, x_3) = x_1 x_2 x_3$ is symmetric.

$$p(x_1, x_3, x_2) = x_1 x_3 x_2 = x_1 x_2 x_3$$

$q(x_1, x_2, x_3) = x_1 + x_2 + x_3$ is symmetric.

$$q(x_2, x_1, x_3) = x_2 + x_1 + x_3 = x_1 + x_2 + x_3$$

$r(x_1, x_2, x_3) = x_1 x_3 + 2x_2$ is not symmetric.

$$r(x_1, x_2, x_3) = x_2 x_3 + 2x_1$$

3. Matrices. $M_{m \times n}(\mathbb{F})$ are vector spaces over \mathbb{F} .

$$+ : \begin{matrix} \text{rows} & \nearrow & \text{columns} \\ \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1m} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & \cdots & a_{nm} \end{bmatrix} & + & \begin{bmatrix} b_{11} & \cdots & b_{1m} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ b_{n1} & \cdots & b_{nm} \end{bmatrix} & = & \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} + b_{11} & \cdots & a_{1m} + b_{1m} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} + b_{n1} & \cdots & a_{nm} + b_{nm} \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

$$\therefore a \cdot \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1m} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & \dots & a_{nm} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a \cdot a_{11} & \dots & a \cdot a_{1m} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a \cdot a_{n1} & \dots & a \cdot a_{nm} \end{bmatrix}$$

Question: Are matrices a field?

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} M_{n \times n}(\mathbb{F}) & & A & B & \rightsquigarrow & A \cdot B \\ & & n \times n & p \times q & & n \times q \end{array}$$

$$\therefore M_{n \times n}(\mathbb{F}) \times M_{n \times n}(\mathbb{F}) \rightarrow M_{n \times n}(\mathbb{F})$$

$$\therefore \text{Inv}M_n(\mathbb{F}) \times \text{Inv}M_n(\mathbb{F}) \rightarrow \text{Inv}M_n(\mathbb{F})$$

Not commutative!

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
+ ✓	+ ✓	0 ✓	-A ✓	Distr. ✓
· ✗	· ✓	1 ✓	A ⁻¹ ✓	

4. Let \mathbb{F} be a field.

$$\mathbb{F}(x) \text{ field of fractions. } \mathbb{F}(x) = \left\{ \frac{p(x)}{q(x)} \mid p(x), q(x) \in \mathbb{F}[x] \right\}.$$

$\mathbb{F}(x)$ is a vector space over \mathbb{F} . $\mathbb{F}(x)$ is a field.

$$+ : \frac{p(x)}{q(x)} + \frac{r(x)}{s(x)} = \frac{p(x)s(x) + q(x)r(x)}{q(x)s(x)}. \quad \text{Q}$$

$$\therefore \frac{p(x)}{q(x)} \cdot \frac{r(x)}{s(x)} = \frac{p(x)r(x)}{q(x)s(x)}.$$

$$\therefore a \cdot \frac{r(x)}{s(x)} = \frac{a r(x)}{s(x)}$$

A field \mathbb{F} is always a vector space over itself.

\mathbb{R}^n over \mathbb{R}

* How to prove things.

1. Induction: useful to prove things for all \mathbb{N} .
2. By definition: useful when we do not have much information.
3. By big theorem or result: useful when we know a lot.

Example: Every $p(x) \in \mathbb{C}[x]$ factors into linear terms.

$$p(x) = (x-a_1)(x-a_2)\cdots(x-a_n) \quad a_i \in \mathbb{C}$$

$$x^2+1$$

4. Follow your nose.

Example: $\sqrt{2} \notin \mathbb{Q}$

$$\sqrt{2} = \frac{a}{b} \quad 2 = \frac{a^2}{b^2} \quad 2b^2 = a^2 \quad \text{so } a \text{ is even.}$$

$$a = 2k \quad 2b^2 = (2k)^2 = 4k^2 \quad b^2 = 2k^2 \quad \text{so } b \text{ is even.}$$