

Vector Spaces

A *vector space* is a non-empty set V of objects called vectors that can be added and multiplied by scalars in special ways. For any vectors \mathbf{u} , \mathbf{v} , \mathbf{w} and any scalars c and d ,

1. (Closure under addition) $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} \in V$.
2. (Closure under scalar multiplication) $c\mathbf{v} \in V$.
3. (Commutativity of addition) $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{u}$.
4. (Associativity of addition) $(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) + \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w})$.
5. (Zero) There is an element denoted $\mathbf{0}$ in V and called the *zero vector* with the property that $\mathbf{0} + \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}$ for any $\mathbf{v} \in V$.
6. (Negatives) There exists a vector called the *negative* of \mathbf{v} , denoted by $-\mathbf{v}$, with the property that $\mathbf{v} + (-\mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{0}$.
7. (Scalar associativity) $c(d\mathbf{v}) = (cd)\mathbf{v}$.
8. (Distributivity) $c(\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}) = c\mathbf{v} + c\mathbf{w}$ and $(c + d)\mathbf{v} = c\mathbf{v} + d\mathbf{v}$
9. (One) $1\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}$.