



Vector spaces (aka *linear* spaces)

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Vector space: definition & addition operation

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1. There exists an operation called addition, represented by the symbol $+$ such that $x + y \in V$ for every $x, y \in V$, i.e.,

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- b) Associativity: $\forall x, y, z \in V, x + (y + z) = (x + y) + z$

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- d) Inverse element: $\forall x \in V \exists (-x) \mid x + (-x) = 0$

Vector space: scalar multiplication operation

2. There exists an operation called scalar multiplication that takes a scalar $\alpha \in F$ (with F being a *field*) and a vector $x \in V$ to yield another vector, i.e.,

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- c) Distributivity of scalar multiplication with respect to vector addition:

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- d) Distributivity of scalar multiplication with respect to field addition:

$$\forall \alpha, \beta \in F, \forall x \in V, (\alpha + \beta)x = \alpha x + \beta x$$