

# Lecture 3: Subspaces (§1.3 of [FIS]) ①

Previously on Math 416...

A vector space over  $\mathbb{R}$  is a set  $V$  with two operations (vector addition and scalar mult) satisfying: (1-2) vec. addition is commutative and associative.

(3) There is a zero vector. (4) Additive inverses exist.

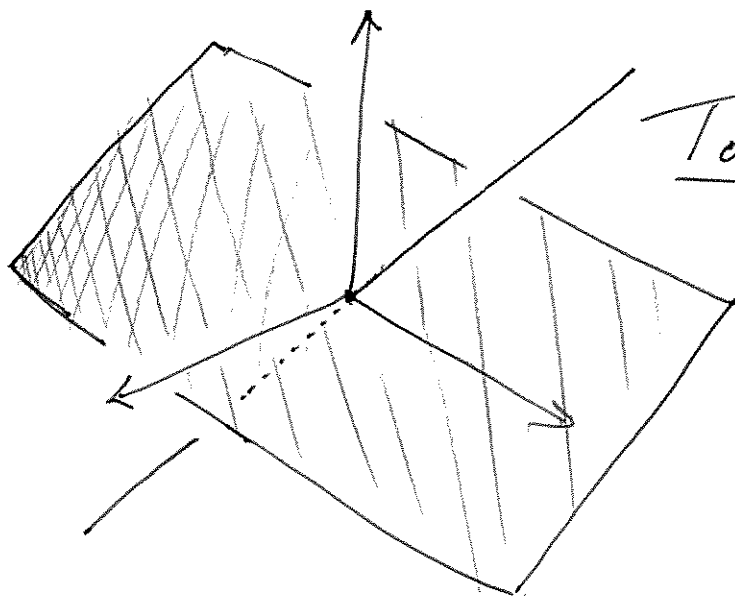
(5)  $1v = v$  (6) scalar mult is assoc.

(7-8) Distributive properties.

Ex:  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\text{Mat}_{m \times n}(\mathbb{R})$ , spaces of functions...

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Back to  $\mathbb{R}^3$ : Other basic objects: lines and planes.



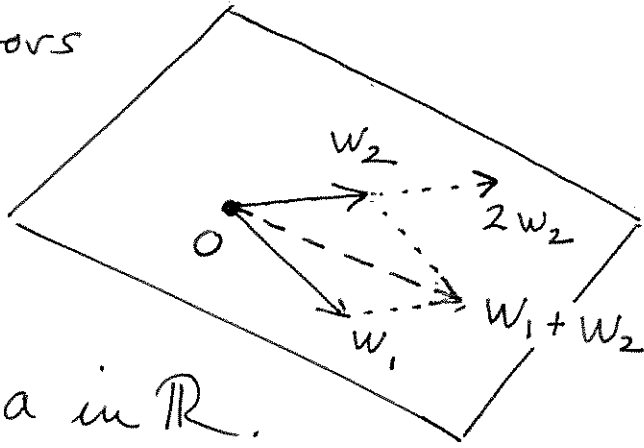
Today: Analog of such in a general vector space.

Suppose  $W$  is a plane in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  containing  $0$ , (2)

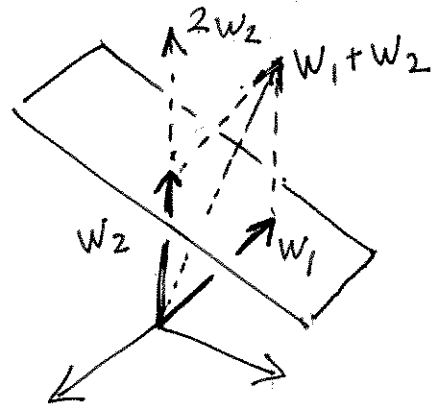
and  $w_1, w_2$  are vectors in  $W$ . Then

$w_1 + w_2$  is also in  $W$ .

So is  $aw_1$ , for any  $a$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ .



Note: Important that  $W$  contains  $0$  here as otherwise these props need not hold.



Def: Suppose  $V$  is a vector space over  $\mathbb{R}$ . A subset  $W$  of  $V$  is a

subspace if (a)  $0$  is in  $W$

(b) For all  $w_1, w_2$  in  $W$ , the sum  $w_1 + w_2$  is also in  $W$ .

(c) For all  $c$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $w$  in  $W$ ,  $cw$  is also in  $W$ .

[Can replace (a) with requirement that  $W$  is nonempty.]

Ex: Some subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ :

(3)

- ①  $\mathbb{R}^3$     ②  $\{0\}$     ③  $\{(x, 0, 0) \text{ for } x \text{ in } \mathbb{R}\}$
- ④  $\{(x, -x, 2x)\}$     ⑤  $\{(x, y, 0)\}$
- ⑥  $\{x+y+z=0\} = \{s(1, 0, -1) + t(1, -1, 0) \text{ for } s, t \text{ in } \mathbb{R}\}$

Ex: In any vector space  $V$ , the subsets  $\{0\}$  and  $V$  are subspaces.

Thm: Suppose  $W$  is a subspace of a vector space  $V$ . Then  $W$  is itself a vector space under the two operations inherited from  $V$ .

Proof: First by requirements (b) and (c) we do have two ops taking values in  $W$ .  
Of the 8 conditions, (1-2) and (5-8) are immediate from the fact that  $V$  itself is a vector space. Moreover, (3) follows from subspace cond. (a).

(4)

Finally, for (4) given  $w$  in  $W$  we know

there is a  $v$  in  $V$  such that  $v+w=0$ .

Issue: Does  $v$  have to be in  $W$ ?

Yes, since we can take  $w = (-1)v$  which is in

$W$  by (c). Check:  $v + (-1)v \stackrel{(5)}{=} 1v + (-1)v \stackrel{(8)}{=} (1-1)v$

$= 0v = 0$

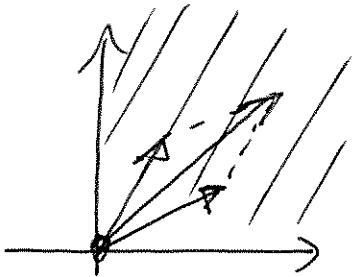
↑ Thm of last time.

So  $W$  with these ops satisfies (1-8) and

so is a vector space.



Non-Ex:  $W = \{(w_1, w_2) \text{ with } w_i \geq 0\}$  Proof end symbol  
in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is not a subspace. (= Q.E.D.)



Satisfies (a) and (b) but not (c).

In proof of thm, everything works except (4).

[Discuss difference with book's treatment of subspaces.]

Ex:  $A$  in  $\text{Mat}_{n \times n}(\mathbb{R})$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & \dots & A_{1n} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & \dots & \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \\ A_{n1} & A_{n2} & \dots & A_{nn} \end{pmatrix} = (A_{ij})$$

Transpose:  $A^t$  where  $A^t_{ij} = A_{ji}$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix}^t = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{pmatrix}^t = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 & 7 \\ 2 & 5 & 6 \\ 3 & 6 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

[Also works for non-square matrices.]

A matrix  $A$  in  $\text{Mat}_{n \times n}(\mathbb{R})$  is symmetric if

$$A = A^t.$$

Ex:  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$  but neither of the two examples above.

Thm: The subset of symmetric matrices in  $\text{Mat}_{n \times n}(\mathbb{R})$  is a subspace.

⑥

Proof: The  $O$  in  $\text{Mat}_{n \times n}(\mathbb{R})$  is  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 \end{pmatrix}$   
which is symmetric so (a) holds.

For (b) and (c), first show that for all  $A, B$  in  $\text{Mat}_{n \times n}(\mathbb{R})$  and  $a, b$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  one has

$$(aA + bB)^t = a(A^t) + b(B^t).$$

Now if  $A, B$  are sym, then

$$(A+B)^t = A^t + B^t = A + B$$

and so  $A+B$  is also sym, proving (b).

The argument for (c) is similar. 

Next time: Linear combinations  
and linear equations