

Examples of Vector Spaces

Ex: $V = \mathbb{R}^n$ = the set of column vectors of length n , with addition and multiplication by scalars defined “entry by entry.”

Ex: $V = \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ = the set of m by n matrices, with addition and multiplication by scalars defined “entry by entry.”

Ex: $V = P_n$ = the set of polynomials of degree n or less, with addition and multiplication by scalars defined “coefficient by coefficient.”

i.e. if

$$p(t) = t^2 + 2t + 3, q(t) = 3t^2 + 4$$

then

$$\begin{aligned}(4p + 3q)(t) &= 4p(t) + 3q(t) = 4(t^2 + 2t + 3) + 3(3t^2 + 4) \\ &= (4 + 3 \times 3)t^2 + (4 \times 2 + 0)t + (4 \times 3 + 3 \times 4) \\ &= 13t^2 + 8t + 24\end{aligned}$$