

# Linear Algebra 2

## Lecture #23 Affine subspaces

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May 11, 2023

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- In this lecture, we will study a generalization of linear subspaces, called “affine subspaces.”
- To avoid any confusion, in this lecture, we will not use the term “subspace” and will instead always write either “linear subspace” or “affine subspace.”

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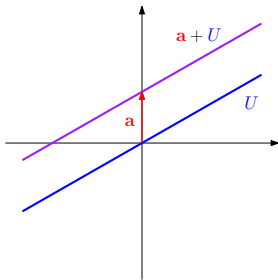
- This lecture has four parts:
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## ① Affine subspaces

## 1 Affine subspaces

### Definition

An *affine subspace* of a vector space  $V$  over a field  $\mathbb{F}$  is any set of the form  $\mathbf{a} + U := \{\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{u} \mid \mathbf{u} \in U\}$  where  $\mathbf{a}$  is a vector in  $V$  and  $U$  is a linear subspace of  $V$ .



- Thus, an affine subspace of  $V$  is obtained by shifting a linear subspace  $U$  of  $V$  by some vector  $\mathbf{a}$ .

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- ② As we know, linear subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  are  $\{\mathbf{0}\}$ , lines through the origin, planes through the origin, and higher dimensional generalizations. So, affine subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  are  $\{\mathbf{a}\}$  (for any vector  $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ), lines, planes, and higher dimensional generalizations (these lines, planes, and higher dimensional generalizations may, but need not, pass through the origin).

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- As Theorem 1.1 (next slide) shows, for an affine subspace  $M = \mathbf{a} + U$  (where  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $U$  are as in the definition above):
  - the vector  $\mathbf{a}$  need not be unique (it can be any vector in  $M$ );
  - the linear subspace  $U$  is unique (it depends only on  $M$ , and not on the vector  $\mathbf{a}$ ).

### Theorem 1.1

Let  $V$  be a vector space over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ , and let  $M = \mathbf{a} + U$  be an affine subspace of  $V$ , where  $\mathbf{a}$  is a vector and  $U$  a linear subspace of  $V$ . Then all the following hold:

- Ⓐ  $\mathbf{a} \in M$  (and in particular,  $M \neq \emptyset$ );
- Ⓑ for all  $\mathbf{a}' \in M$ , we have that  $M = \mathbf{a}' + U$ ;
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- Ⓓ for all vectors  $\mathbf{a}'$  and linear subspaces  $U'$  of  $V$  s.t.  $M = \mathbf{a}' + U'$ , we have that  $U' = U$ .

- First some corollaries, then a proof.

### Corollary 1.2

Let  $V$  be a vector space over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ . Then linear subspaces of  $V$  are precisely those affine spaces of  $V$  that contain  $\mathbf{0}$ . In other words, for all  $U \subseteq V$ , the following are equivalent:

- (i)  $U$  is a linear subspace of  $V$ ;
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Let  $V$  be a vector space over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ , and let  $M = \mathbf{a} + U$  be an affine subspace of  $V$ , where  $\mathbf{a}$  is a vector and  $U$  a linear subspace of  $V$ . Then all the following hold:

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*Proof.* (a) Since  $U$  is a linear subspace of  $V$ , we have that  $\mathbf{0} \in U$ , and consequently,  $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{0} \in \mathbf{a} + U = M$ .

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*Proof (continued).* (d) Fix a vector  $\mathbf{a}'$  and a linear subspace  $U'$  of  $V$  s.t.  $M = \mathbf{a}' + U'$ . By (a), we have that  $\mathbf{a}' \in M$ , and so by (b), we have that  $M = \mathbf{a}' + U$ . So,  $\mathbf{a}' + U' = \mathbf{a}' + U$ , and we deduce that  $U' = U$ .

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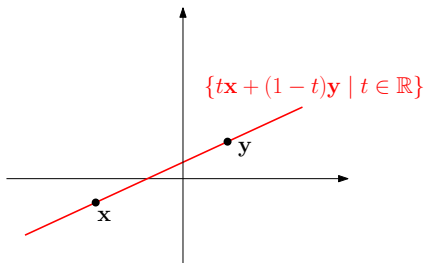
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- Given a vector space  $V$  over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ , we define the *dimension* of an affine subspace  $M = \mathbf{a} + U$  of  $V$  (where  $\mathbf{a}$  is a vector and  $U$  a linear subspace of  $V$ ) to be  $\dim(U)$ .
  - By Theorem 1.1(d), this is well defined.

## ② Affine combinations and affine hulls

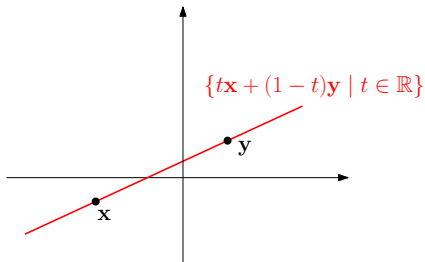
## 2 Affine combinations and affine hulls

- Recall from analytic geometry that if  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$  are distinct points (vectors) in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , then the line in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  that passes through  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$  is  $\{t\mathbf{x} + (1 - t)\mathbf{y} \mid t \in \mathbb{R}\}$ .



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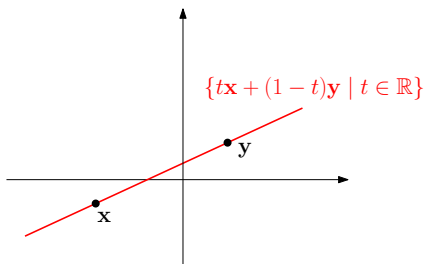


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- Affine combinations are a generalization of this concept.

## Definition

Suppose that  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$  ( $n \geq 1$ ) are vectors in a vector space  $V$  over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ . An *affine combination* of  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$  is any sum of the form  $\alpha_1 \mathbf{x}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \mathbf{x}_n$ , where  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathbb{F}$  satisfy  $\alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n = 1$ . The set of all affine combinations of  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$ , denoted  $\text{Aff}(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n)$ , is called the *affine hull* (or *affine span*) of  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$ . So, we have that

$$\text{Aff}(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n) := \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \mathbf{x}_i \mid \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathbb{F}, \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i = 1 \right\}.$$

## Definition

Suppose that  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$  ( $n \geq 1$ ) are vectors in a vector space  $V$  over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ . An *affine combination* of  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$  is any sum of the form  $\alpha_1 \mathbf{x}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \mathbf{x}_n$ , where  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathbb{F}$  satisfy  $\alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n = 1$ . The set of all affine combinations of  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$ , denoted  $\text{Aff}(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n)$ , is called the *affine hull* (or *affine span*) of  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$ . So, we have that

$$\text{Aff}(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n) := \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \mathbf{x}_i \mid \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathbb{F}, \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i = 1 \right\}.$$

- Since  $\mathbf{x}_i = 0\mathbf{x}_1 + \dots + 0\mathbf{x}_{i-1} + 1\mathbf{x}_i + 0\mathbf{x}_{i+1} + \dots + 0\mathbf{x}_n$  for all  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , we see that  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n \in \text{Aff}(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n)$ .

## Definition

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- As Theorem 2.1 (next slide) shows, affine subspaces of  $V$  are precisely those non-empty subsets of  $V$  that are closed under affine combinations.

## Definition

Suppose that  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$  ( $n \geq 1$ ) are vectors in a vector space  $V$  over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ . An *affine combination* of  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$  is any sum of the form  $\alpha_1 \mathbf{x}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \mathbf{x}_n$ , where  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathbb{F}$  satisfy  $\alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n = 1$ . The set of all affine combinations of  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$ , denoted  $\text{Aff}(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n)$ , is called the *affine hull* (or *affine span*) of  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$ . So, we have that

$$\text{Aff}(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n) := \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \mathbf{x}_i \mid \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathbb{F}, \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i = 1 \right\}.$$

- Since  $\mathbf{x}_i = 0\mathbf{x}_1 + \dots + 0\mathbf{x}_{i-1} + 1\mathbf{x}_i + 0\mathbf{x}_{i+1} + \dots + 0\mathbf{x}_n$  for all  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , we see that  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n \in \text{Aff}(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n)$ .
- As Theorem 2.1 (next slide) shows, affine subspaces of  $V$  are precisely those non-empty subsets of  $V$  that are closed under affine combinations.
- As a corollary (see Corollary 2.2), we deduce that all affine hulls are affine subspaces of  $V$ .

## Theorem 2.1

Let  $V$  be a vector space over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ , and let  $M$  be a **non-empty** subset of  $V$ . Then the following are equivalent:

- (i)  $M$  is an affine subspace of  $V$ ;
- (ii)  $M$  is closed under affine combinations, that is, for all  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n \in M$  and  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathbb{F}$  s.t.  $\alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n = 1$ , we have that  $\alpha_1 \mathbf{x}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \mathbf{x}_n \in M$ .

- i)  $M$  is an affine subspace of  $V$ ;
- ii)  $M$  is closed under affine combinations.

- ❶  $M$  is an affine subspace of  $V$ ;
- ❷  $M$  is closed under affine combinations.

*Proof.*



- ❶  $M$  is an affine subspace of  $V$ ;
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*Proof.* “(i)  $\implies$  (ii)”:

- ❶  $M$  is an affine subspace of  $V$ ;
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*Proof.* “(i)  $\implies$  (ii)”: Set  $M = \mathbf{a} + U$ , where  $\mathbf{a}$  is a vector and  $U$  a linear subspace of  $V$ , as in the definition of an affine subspace.

- ⓪ (i)  $M$  is an affine subspace of  $V$ ;
- ⓪ (ii)  $M$  is closed under affine combinations.

*Proof.* “(i)  $\implies$  (ii)”: Set  $M = \mathbf{a} + U$ , where  $\mathbf{a}$  is a vector and  $U$  a linear subspace of  $V$ , as in the definition of an affine subspace. Fix  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n \in M$ , and fix  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathbb{F}$  s.t.  $\alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n = 1$ ; WTS  $\alpha_1 \mathbf{x}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \mathbf{x}_n \in M$ .

- ❶  $M$  is an affine subspace of  $V$ ;
- ❷  $M$  is closed under affine combinations.

*Proof.* “(i)  $\implies$  (ii)”: Set  $M = \mathbf{a} + U$ , where  $\mathbf{a}$  is a vector and  $U$  a linear subspace of  $V$ , as in the definition of an affine subspace. Fix  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n \in M$ , and fix  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathbb{F}$  s.t.  $\alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n = 1$ ; WTS  $\alpha_1 \mathbf{x}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \mathbf{x}_n \in M$ .

Since  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n \in M = \mathbf{a} + U$ , there exist vectors  $\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n \in U$  s.t.  $\mathbf{x}_1 = \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n = \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{u}_n$ .

- ❶  $M$  is an affine subspace of  $V$ ;
- ❷  $M$  is closed under affine combinations.

*Proof.* “(i)  $\implies$  (ii)”: Set  $M = \mathbf{a} + U$ , where  $\mathbf{a}$  is a vector and  $U$  a linear subspace of  $V$ , as in the definition of an affine subspace. Fix  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n \in M$ , and fix  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathbb{F}$  s.t.  $\alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n = 1$ ; WTS  $\alpha_1 \mathbf{x}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \mathbf{x}_n \in M$ .

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$$\begin{aligned}\alpha_1 \mathbf{x}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \mathbf{x}_n &= \alpha_1 (\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{u}_1) + \dots + \alpha_n (\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{u}_n) \\ &= \underbrace{(\alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n)}_{=1} \mathbf{a} + (\alpha_1 \mathbf{u}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \mathbf{u}_n) \\ &= \mathbf{a} + \underbrace{(\alpha_1 \mathbf{u}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \mathbf{u}_n)}_{:=\mathbf{u}}.\end{aligned}$$

- ❶  $M$  is an affine subspace of  $V$ ;
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Since  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n \in M = \mathbf{a} + U$ , there exist vectors  $\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n \in U$  s.t.  $\mathbf{x}_1 = \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n = \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{u}_n$ . We now have that

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha_1 \mathbf{x}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \mathbf{x}_n &= \alpha_1 (\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{u}_1) + \dots + \alpha_n (\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{u}_n) \\ &= \underbrace{(\alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n)}_{=1} \mathbf{a} + (\alpha_1 \mathbf{u}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \mathbf{u}_n) \\ &= \mathbf{a} + \underbrace{(\alpha_1 \mathbf{u}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \mathbf{u}_n)}_{:=\mathbf{u}}.\end{aligned}$$

Since  $\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n \in U$ , and  $U$  is a linear subspace of  $V$ , we have that  $\mathbf{u} \in U$ .

- ❶  $M$  is an affine subspace of  $V$ ;
- ❷  $M$  is closed under affine combinations.

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Since  $\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n \in U$ , and  $U$  is a linear subspace of  $V$ , we have that  $\mathbf{u} \in U$ . So,  $\alpha_1 \mathbf{x}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \mathbf{x}_n = \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{u} \in \mathbf{a} + U = M$ , i.e. (ii) holds.

- ❶  $M$  is an affine subspace of  $V$ ;
- ❷  $M$  is closed under affine combinations.

*Proof (continued).* “(ii)  $\implies$  (i)”:



- ❶  $M$  is an affine subspace of  $V$ ;
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*Proof (continued).* “(ii)  $\implies$  (i)”: Using the fact that  $M \neq \emptyset$ , we fix some  $\mathbf{a} \in M$ .

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*Proof (continued).* “(ii)  $\implies$  (i)”: Using the fact that  $M \neq \emptyset$ , we fix some  $\mathbf{a} \in M$ . Set  $U := \{\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{a} \mid \mathbf{x} \in M\}$ .

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*Proof (continued).* “(ii)  $\implies$  (i)”: Using the fact that  $M \neq \emptyset$ , we fix some  $\mathbf{a} \in M$ . Set  $U := \{\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{a} \mid \mathbf{x} \in M\}$ . Clearly,  $M = \mathbf{a} + U$ .

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First, since  $\mathbf{a} \in M$ , we have that  $\mathbf{0} = \mathbf{a} - \mathbf{a} \in U$ .

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Next, fix  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2 \in U$ . WTS  $\mathbf{u}_1 + \mathbf{u}_2 \in U$ . Since  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2 \in U$ , there exist  $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2 \in M$  s.t.  $\mathbf{u}_1 = \mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{u}_2 = \mathbf{x}_2 - \mathbf{a}$ .



- ⓪  $M$  is an affine subspace of  $V$ ;
- ⓪  $M$  is closed under affine combinations.

*Proof (continued).* “(ii)  $\implies$  (i)”: Using the fact that  $M \neq \emptyset$ , we fix some  $\mathbf{a} \in M$ . Set  $U := \{\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{a} \mid \mathbf{x} \in M\}$ . Clearly,  $M = \mathbf{a} + U$ . It remains to show that  $U$  is a linear subspace of  $V$ . By Theorem 2.7 of Lecture Notes 6, it suffices to show that  $\mathbf{0} \in U$ , and that  $U$  is closed under vector addition and scalar multiplication.

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Next, fix  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2 \in U$ . WTS  $\mathbf{u}_1 + \mathbf{u}_2 \in U$ . Since  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2 \in U$ , there exist  $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2 \in M$  s.t.  $\mathbf{u}_1 = \mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{u}_2 = \mathbf{x}_2 - \mathbf{a}$ . Then

$$\mathbf{u}_1 + \mathbf{u}_2 = (\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{a}) + (\mathbf{x}_2 - \mathbf{a}) = \underbrace{(1\mathbf{x}_1 + 1\mathbf{x}_2 + (-1)\mathbf{a})}_{:=\mathbf{y}} - \mathbf{a}.$$

- ⓪  $M$  is an affine subspace of  $V$ ;
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*Proof (continued).* “(ii)  $\implies$  (i)”: Using the fact that  $M \neq \emptyset$ , we fix some  $\mathbf{a} \in M$ . Set  $U := \{\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{a} \mid \mathbf{x} \in M\}$ . Clearly,  $M = \mathbf{a} + U$ . It remains to show that  $U$  is a linear subspace of  $V$ . By Theorem 2.7 of Lecture Notes 6, it suffices to show that  $\mathbf{0} \in U$ , and that  $U$  is closed under vector addition and scalar multiplication.

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$$\mathbf{u}_1 + \mathbf{u}_2 = (\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{a}) + (\mathbf{x}_2 - \mathbf{a}) = \underbrace{(1\mathbf{x}_1 + 1\mathbf{x}_2 + (-1)\mathbf{a})}_{:=\mathbf{y}} - \mathbf{a}.$$

Since  $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \mathbf{a} \in M$  and  $1 + 1 + (-1) = 1$ , and since (ii) holds, we see that  $\mathbf{y} \in M$ . But now  $\mathbf{u}_1 + \mathbf{u}_2 = \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{a} \in U$ .

- ❶  $M$  is an affine subspace of  $V$ ;
- ❷  $M$  is closed under affine combinations.

*Proof (continued).* “(ii)  $\implies$  (i)”:  
Reminder  $U := \{\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{a} \mid \mathbf{x} \in M\}$ .

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Finally, fix  $\mathbf{u} \in U$  and  $\alpha \in \mathbb{F}$ ; WTS  $\alpha\mathbf{u} \in U$ .

- ⓪  $M$  is an affine subspace of  $V$ ;
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*Proof (continued).* “(ii)  $\implies$  (i)”:

Reminder  $U := \{\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{a} \mid \mathbf{x} \in M\}$ .

Finally, fix  $\mathbf{u} \in U$  and  $\alpha \in \mathbb{F}$ ; WTS  $\alpha\mathbf{u} \in U$ . Since  $\mathbf{u} \in U$ , we know that there exists some  $\mathbf{x} \in M$  s.t.  $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{a}$ .

- ⓪  $M$  is an affine subspace of  $V$ ;
- ⓪  $M$  is closed under affine combinations.

*Proof (continued).* “(ii)  $\implies$  (i)”:  
Reminder  $U := \{\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{a} \mid \mathbf{x} \in M\}$ .

Finally, fix  $\mathbf{u} \in U$  and  $\alpha \in \mathbb{F}$ ; WTS  $\alpha\mathbf{u} \in U$ . Since  $\mathbf{u} \in U$ , we know that there exists some  $\mathbf{x} \in M$  s.t.  $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{a}$ . But now

$$\alpha\mathbf{u} = \alpha(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{a}) = \underbrace{(\alpha\mathbf{x} + (1 - \alpha)\mathbf{a})}_{:=\mathbf{y}} - \mathbf{a}.$$

- ⓪  $M$  is an affine subspace of  $V$ ;
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*Proof (continued).* “(ii)  $\implies$  (i)”: Reminder  $U := \{\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{a} \mid \mathbf{x} \in M\}$ .

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$$\alpha\mathbf{u} = \alpha(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{a}) = \underbrace{(\alpha\mathbf{x} + (1 - \alpha)\mathbf{a})}_{:=\mathbf{y}} - \mathbf{a}.$$

Since  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{a} \in M$ , and since (ii) holds, we have that  $\mathbf{y} = \alpha\mathbf{x} + (1 - \alpha)\mathbf{a} \in M$ .

- ⓪  $M$  is an affine subspace of  $V$ ;
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*Proof (continued).* “(ii)  $\implies$  (i)”: Reminder  $U := \{\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{a} \mid \mathbf{x} \in M\}$ .

Finally, fix  $\mathbf{u} \in U$  and  $\alpha \in \mathbb{F}$ ; WTS  $\alpha\mathbf{u} \in U$ . Since  $\mathbf{u} \in U$ , we know that there exists some  $\mathbf{x} \in M$  s.t.  $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{a}$ . But now

$$\alpha\mathbf{u} = \alpha(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{a}) = \underbrace{(\alpha\mathbf{x} + (1 - \alpha)\mathbf{a})}_{:=\mathbf{y}} - \mathbf{a}.$$

Since  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{a} \in M$ , and since (ii) holds, we have that  $\mathbf{y} = \alpha\mathbf{x} + (1 - \alpha)\mathbf{a} \in M$ . But now  $\alpha\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{a} \in U$ . Q.E.D.



## Theorem 2.1

Let  $V$  be a vector space over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ , and let  $M$  be a **non-empty** subset of  $V$ . Then the following are equivalent:

- ❶  $M$  is an affine subspace of  $V$ ;
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Q.E.D.

## ④ Affine frames and affine bases

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- We first discuss affine frames, and then we discuss affine bases.
- As we shall see, the two concepts are closely related.

## Definition

Let  $n$  be a non-negative integer, and let  $M$  be an  $n$ -dimensional affine subspace of a vector space  $V$  over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ . An *affine frame* of  $M$  is an ordered  $(n + 1)$ -tuple  $(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n)$  of vectors of  $V$  s.t.  $M$  can be written in the form  $M = \mathbf{a} + U$ , where  $U$  is a linear subspace of  $V$ , and  $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n\}$  is a basis of  $U$ .

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- **Remark:** Infinite-dimensional affine subspaces do not have affine frames.
- By Theorem 1.3 of Lecture Notes 7, if  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  is a basis of a vector space  $V$  over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ , then every vector in  $V$  can be written as a linear combination of the vectors  $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n$  in a unique way.

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- Our next theorem (next slide) is an analogue of this result for affine subspaces and affine frames.

### Theorem 3.1

Let  $M$  be an affine subspace of a vector space  $V$  over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ , and let  $(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n)$  be an affine frame of  $M$ . Then for all  $\mathbf{x} \in M$ , there exist unique scalars  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathbb{F}$  s.t.

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{a} + \alpha_1 \mathbf{u}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \mathbf{u}_n.$$

*Proof (outline).*

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*Proof (outline).* Set  $U := \text{Span}(\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n)$ , so that  $M = \mathbf{a} + U$ .

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*Proof (outline).* Set  $U := \text{Span}(\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n)$ , so that  $M = \mathbf{a} + U$ . Now for every vector  $\mathbf{x} \in M$ , there exists a unique vector  $\mathbf{u} \in U$  s.t.  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{u}$ . But for every vector  $\mathbf{u} \in U$ , there exist unique scalars  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathbb{F}$  s.t.  $\mathbf{u} = \alpha_1 \mathbf{u}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \mathbf{u}_n$ . Q.E.D.

## Definition

Given vectors  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$  in a vector space  $V$  over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ , we say that vectors  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n \in V$  are *affinely independent*, or that the set  $\{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n\}$  is *affinely independent*, if for all  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathbb{F}$  s.t.

$\alpha_1 \mathbf{x}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \mathbf{x}_n = \mathbf{0}$  and  $\alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n = 0$ , we have that  $\alpha_1 = \dots = \alpha_n = 0$ .

## Definition

Given vectors  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$  in a vector space  $V$  over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ , we say that vectors  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n \in V$  are *affinely independent*, or that the set  $\{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n\}$  is *affinely independent*, if for all  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathbb{F}$  s.t.

$\alpha_1 \mathbf{x}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \mathbf{x}_n = \mathbf{0}$  and  $\alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n = 0$ , we have that  $\alpha_1 = \dots = \alpha_n = 0$ .

## Proposition 3.2

Let  $V$  be a vector space over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ , and let  $\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$  ( $n \geq 0$ ) be vectors in  $V$ . Then the following are equivalent:

- i)  $\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$  are affinely independent;
- ii) there exists some  $i \in \{0, 1, \dots, n\}$  s.t. vectors  $\mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{x}_i, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{i-1} - \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_{i+1} - \mathbf{x}_i, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n - \mathbf{x}_i$  are linearly independent;
- iii) for all  $i \in \{0, 1, \dots, n\}$ , vectors  $\mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{x}_i, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{i-1} - \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_{i+1} - \mathbf{x}_i, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n - \mathbf{x}_i$  are linearly independent.

*Proof.*



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Suppose that (ii) holds. Let us prove (i). By (ii) and by symmetry,  $\text{WMA } \mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_0, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n - \mathbf{x}_0$  are linearly independent.

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$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{0} &= \alpha_0 \mathbf{x}_0 + \alpha_1 \mathbf{x}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \mathbf{x}_n \\ &= (-\alpha_1 - \dots - \alpha_n) \mathbf{x}_0 + \alpha_1 \mathbf{x}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \mathbf{x}_n \\ &= \alpha_1 (\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_0) + \dots + \alpha_n (\mathbf{x}_n - \mathbf{x}_0).\end{aligned}$$

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Since vectors  $\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_0, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n - \mathbf{x}_0$  are linearly independent, we see that  $\alpha_1 = \dots = \alpha_n = 0$ . Since  $\alpha_0 = -\alpha_1 - \dots - \alpha_n$ , it follows that  $\alpha_0 = 0$ . This proves (i).

*Proof (continued).* Suppose now that (i) holds. Let us prove (iii).

*Proof (continued).* Suppose now that (i) holds. Let us prove (iii). By symmetry, it suffices to show that  $\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_0, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n - \mathbf{x}_0$  are linearly independent.

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*Proof (continued).* Suppose now that (i) holds. Let us prove (iii). By symmetry, it suffices to show that  $\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_0, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n - \mathbf{x}_0$  are linearly independent. Fix scalars  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathbb{F}$  s.t.  $\alpha_1(\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_0) + \dots + \alpha_n(\mathbf{x}_n - \mathbf{x}_0) = \mathbf{0}$ . Then

$$\underbrace{(-\alpha_1 - \dots - \alpha_n)}_{:=\alpha_0} \mathbf{x}_0 + \alpha_1 \mathbf{x}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \mathbf{x}_n = \mathbf{0}.$$

Since  $\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$  are affinely independent, we now get that  $\alpha_0 = \alpha_1 = \dots = \alpha_n = 0$ , and we deduce that (iii) holds. Q.E.D.

### Proposition 3.2

Let  $V$  be a vector space over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ , and let  $\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$  ( $n \geq 0$ ) be vectors in  $V$ . Then the following are equivalent:

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- (ii) there exists some  $i \in \{0, 1, \dots, n\}$  s.t. vectors  $\mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{x}_i, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{i-1} - \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_{i+1} - \mathbf{x}_i, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n - \mathbf{x}_i$  are linearly independent;
- (iii) for all  $i \in \{0, 1, \dots, n\}$ , vectors  $\mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{x}_i, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{i-1} - \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_{i+1} - \mathbf{x}_i, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n - \mathbf{x}_i$  are linearly independent.

## Definition

Let  $M$  be an affine subspace of a vector space  $V$  over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ . An *affine basis* (also called a *barycentric frame*) of  $M$  is a non-empty ordered set  $\{\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n\}$  of vectors in  $M$  s.t.

- vectors  $\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$  are affinely independent;
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- By Theorem 3.4 (later!), every affine basis of an  $n$ -dimensional affine subspace contains exactly  $n + 1$  vectors.



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- By Theorem 3.4 (later!), every affine basis of an  $n$ -dimensional affine subspace contains exactly  $n + 1$  vectors.
- **Remark:** Suppose that  $M$  is an affine subspace of a vector space  $V$  over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ , and let  $\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$  be vectors in  $V$ . In view of Corollary 2.3, we have that  $\{\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n\}$  is an affine basis of  $M$  iff all the following hold:
  - ①  $\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n \in M$ ;
  - ② vectors  $\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$  are affinely independent;
  - ③ every vector in  $M$  can be expressed as an affine combination of  $\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$ .

### Theorem 3.3

Let  $M$  be an affine subspace of a vector space  $V$  over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ , and let  $\{\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n\}$  be an affine basis of  $M$ . Then for all  $\mathbf{x} \in M$ , there exist unique scalars  $\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathbb{F}$ , called the *barycentric coordinates* of  $\mathbf{x}$  with respect to the affine basis  $\{\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n\}$ , s.t.  $\mathbf{x} = \sum_{i=0}^n \alpha_i \mathbf{x}_i$  and  $\sum_{i=0}^n \alpha_i = 1$ .

*Proof.*

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*Proof.* Fix  $\mathbf{x} \in M$ . The existence of scalars  $\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathbb{F}$  s.t.  $\mathbf{x} = \sum_{i=0}^n \alpha_i \mathbf{x}_i$  and  $\sum_{i=0}^n \alpha_i = 1$  follows from the fact that  $M = \text{Aff}(\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n)$ .

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It remains to prove uniqueness.

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It remains to prove uniqueness. So, fix

$\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \beta_0, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_n \in \mathbb{F}$  s.t.

- $\mathbf{x} = \sum_{i=0}^n \alpha_i \mathbf{x}_i$  and  $\sum_{i=0}^n \alpha_i = 1$ ;
- $\mathbf{x} = \sum_{i=0}^n \beta_i \mathbf{x}_i$  and  $\sum_{i=0}^n \beta_i = 1$ .

Then  $\sum_{i=0}^n \alpha_i \mathbf{x}_i = \sum_{i=0}^n \beta_i \mathbf{x}_i$ , and so  $\sum_{i=0}^n (\alpha_i - \beta_i) \mathbf{x}_i = \mathbf{0}$ .

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Let  $M$  be an affine subspace of a vector space  $V$  over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ , and let  $\{\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n\}$  be an affine basis of  $M$ . Then for all  $\mathbf{x} \in M$ , there exist unique scalars  $\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathbb{F}$ , called the *barycentric coordinates* of  $\mathbf{x}$  with respect to the affine basis  $\{\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n\}$ , s.t.  $\mathbf{x} = \sum_{i=0}^n \alpha_i \mathbf{x}_i$  and  $\sum_{i=0}^n \alpha_i = 1$ .

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Then  $\sum_{i=0}^n \alpha_i \mathbf{x}_i = \sum_{i=0}^n \beta_i \mathbf{x}_i$ , and so  $\sum_{i=0}^n (\alpha_i - \beta_i) \mathbf{x}_i = \mathbf{0}$ . Also,  $\sum_{i=0}^n (\alpha_i - \beta_i) = (\sum_{i=0}^n \alpha_i) - (\sum_{i=0}^n \beta_i) = 1 - 1 = 0$ . Since vectors  $\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$  are affinely independent, we deduce that  $\alpha_i - \beta_i = 0$  (and consequently,  $\alpha_i = \beta_i$ ) for all  $i \in \{0, 1, \dots, n\}$ . Q.E.D.

### Theorem 3.1

Let  $M$  be an affine subspace of a vector space  $V$  over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ , and let  $(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n)$  be an affine frame of  $M$ . Then for all  $\mathbf{x} \in M$ , there exist unique scalars  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathbb{F}$  s.t.

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{a} + \alpha_1 \mathbf{u}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \mathbf{u}_n.$$

### Theorem 3.3

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$$\mathbf{x} = \sum_{i=0}^n \alpha_i \mathbf{x}_i \text{ and } \sum_{i=0}^n \alpha_i = 1.$$

- Theorem 3.4 (below) gives a relationship between affine bases and affine frames.

### Theorem 3.4

Let  $V$  be a vector space over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ , let  $M$  be an affine subspace of  $V$ , and let  $\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n \in V$ . Then the following are equivalent:

- (i)  $\{\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n\}$  is an affine basis of  $M$ ;
- (ii)  $(\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_0, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n - \mathbf{x}_0)$  is an affine frame of  $M$ .



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- **Remark:** Since every affine frame of an  $n$ -dimensional affine subspace contains  $n + 1$  vectors, Theorem 3.4 implies that every affine basis of an  $n$ -dimensional affine subspace contains exactly  $n + 1$  vectors.

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*Proof.*

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*Proof.* We prove “(i)  $\implies$  (ii).” The proof of “(ii)  $\implies$  (i)” is similar (see the Lecture Notes).

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*Proof.* We prove “(i)  $\implies$  (ii).” The proof of “(ii)  $\implies$  (i)” is similar (see the Lecture Notes).

Assume (i) holds. WTS (ii).

### Theorem 3.4

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*Proof.* We prove “(i)  $\implies$  (ii).” The proof of “(ii)  $\implies$  (i)” is similar (see the Lecture Notes).

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$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{u} &= \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0 \\ &= \underbrace{(\alpha_0 \mathbf{x}_0 + \alpha_1 \mathbf{x}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \mathbf{x}_n)}_{=\mathbf{x}} - \underbrace{(\alpha_0 + \alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n) \mathbf{x}_0}_{=1} \\ &= \alpha_1 (\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_0) + \dots + \alpha_n (\mathbf{x}_n - \mathbf{x}_0).\end{aligned}$$

So,  $\mathbf{u}$  is a linear combination of  $\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_0, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n - \mathbf{x}_0$ . Q.E.D.

## Affine transformations

## ④ Affine transformations

### Definition

Suppose that  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  are vector spaces over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ . A function  $f : V_1 \rightarrow V_2$  is called an *affine transformation* (or an *affine function*) if there exists a linear transformation  $g : V_1 \rightarrow V_2$  and a vector  $\mathbf{b} \in V_2$  s.t. for all  $\mathbf{x} \in V_1$ , we have that  $f(\mathbf{x}) = g(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{b}$ .



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- Obviously, every linear transformation  $f$  is affine (we simply take  $g := f$  and  $\mathbf{b} := \mathbf{0}$ ).
- We now state a few propositions/theorems about affine transformations.
  - The proofs are in the Lecture Notes (here, we omit them).

### Proposition 4.1

Let  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  be vector spaces over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ , and let  $f : V_1 \rightarrow V_2$  be a linear transformation. Then  $f$  is linear iff  $f(\mathbf{0}) = \mathbf{0}$ .

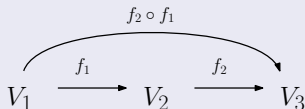
### Proposition 4.1

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### Theorem 4.2

Let  $V_1, V_2, V_3$  be vector spaces over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ . Then all the following hold:

- Ⓐ for all affine transformations  $f_1, f_2 : V_1 \rightarrow V_2$ , we have that  $f_1 + f_2$  is an affine transformation;
- Ⓑ for all affine transformations  $f : V_1 \rightarrow V_2$  and scalars  $\alpha$ , we have that  $\alpha f$  is an affine transformation;
- Ⓒ for all affine transformations  $f_1 : V_1 \rightarrow V_2$  and  $f_2 : V_2 \rightarrow V_3$ , we have that  $f_2 \circ f_1$  is an affine transformation.



### Theorem 4.3

Let  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  be vector spaces over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ , let  $g : V_1 \rightarrow V_2$  be a linear transformation, and let  $U_2$  be a linear subspace of  $V_2$ . Then  $g^{-1}[U_2]$  is a linear subspace of  $V_1$ .

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Let  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  be vector spaces over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ , and let  $f : V_1 \rightarrow V_2$  be an affine transformation. Then all the following hold:

- Ⓐ for every affine subspace  $M_1$  of  $V_1$ , we have that  $f[M_1]$  is an affine subspace of  $V_2$ ;
- Ⓑ  $\text{Im}(f)$  is an affine subspace of  $V_2$ ;
- Ⓒ for every affine subspace  $M_2$  of  $V_2$ ,  $f^{-1}[M_2]$  is either empty or an affine subspace of  $V_1$ ;
- Ⓓ for every  $\mathbf{b} \in V$ , the set of solutions of the equation  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{b}$  is either empty or an affine subspace of  $V_1$ .

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- (d) for every  $\mathbf{b} \in V$ , the set of solutions of the equation  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{b}$  is either empty or an affine subspace of  $V_1$ .

### Corollary 4.5

Let  $\mathbb{F}$  be a field, and let  $A \in \mathbb{F}^{n \times m}$  and  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{F}^n$ . Then the solution set of the matrix-vector equation  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  is either empty or an affine subspace of  $\mathbb{F}^m$ .