

1 The Differential Geometry of Surfaces

Three-dimensional objects are bounded by surfaces. This section reviews some of the basic definitions and concepts relating to the geometry of smooth surfaces.

1.1 Manifolds

Before considering the surfaces that bound 3-dimensional solid objects, we first pause to consider the concept of a *manifold*.

Definition 1 Let X and Y be subsets of two Euclidean spaces and let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be bijective (i.e., surjective and one-to-one). If f and f^{-1} are continuous, then f is a **homeomorphism**. If f and f^{-1} are smooth, then f is a **diffeomorphism**.

Definition 2 A k -dimensional manifold, M , is locally diffeomorphic to \mathbb{R}^k . That is, for each point $x \in M$, there exists a neighborhood $\mathcal{V} \subset M$ which is diffeomorphic to an open set¹ $\mathcal{U} \subset \mathbb{R}^k$. An atlas, $(\mathcal{V}_\alpha, f_\alpha)$ may be required to completely parametrize the manifold: $M = \cup_\alpha \mathcal{V}_\alpha$. In such cases, given \mathcal{V}_α and \mathcal{V}_β , with $\mathcal{V}_\alpha \cap \mathcal{V}_\beta \neq \emptyset$, the map

$$f_\beta \circ f_\alpha^{-1}$$

from the subset $f_\alpha(\mathcal{V}_\alpha \cap \mathcal{V}_\beta)$ of \mathbb{R}^k to the subset $f_\beta(\mathcal{V}_\alpha \cap \mathcal{V}_\beta)$ of \mathbb{R}^k is infinitely differentiable.

1.2 Surfaces

The concept of a manifold provides us with a general notion of a surface. For dealing with surfaces that bound 3-dimensional bodies, we will want to add some additional structure.

Definition 3 A coordinatizable surface, \mathcal{S} , is the image of a map $f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ where

- i) U is an open connected² subset of \mathbb{R}^2 .
- ii) The vectors $\frac{\partial f}{\partial u}(u, v)$ and $\frac{\partial f}{\partial v}(u, v)$ are linearly independent for all $(u, v) \in U$.
- iii) f is a homeomorphism.

We say that (f, U) is a *coordinate system* for \mathcal{S} with coordinates u, v . The function f^{-1} is termed a *local parametrization* of points on the surface \mathcal{S} . The coordinate system is said to be *orthogonal* if $\frac{\partial f}{\partial u} \cdot \frac{\partial f}{\partial v} = 0$.

¹The definition of an *open set* depends upon the setting. Here we will use the simplest definition: A point set P in \mathbb{R}^n is an *open set* if every point in P is an interior point

²A connected space cannot be represented as the union of two or more disjoint non-empty sets

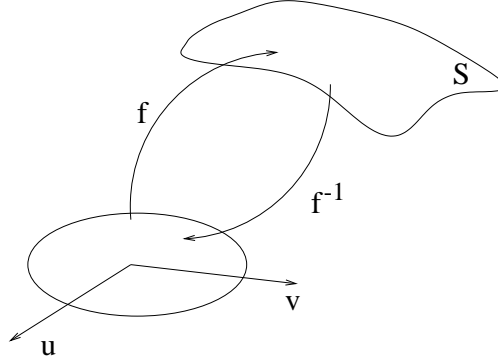


Figure 1: Coordinatizable Surface

Example 1 (Sphere). One coordinate systems for the unit radius sphere consists of:

$$\mathcal{U} = \{(u, v) \mid -\frac{\pi}{2} < u < \frac{\pi}{2}; -\pi < v < \pi\} \quad f(u, v) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(u) \cos(v) \\ -\cos(u) \sin(v) \\ \sin(v) \end{bmatrix}.$$

This coordinate system corresponds to latitude and longitude on the earth's sphere. It can be verified that $\frac{\partial f}{\partial u} \cdot \frac{\partial f}{\partial v} = 0$ for all (u, v) in this coordinate system, thereby implying that the chosen coordinate system is an orthogonal one.

The following definition applies to both coordinatizable surfaces, and more generally, to manifolds. Let M be a manifold and let (f, \mathcal{U}) be a coordinate system for M in the neighborhood of a point $x \in M$. Without loss of generality, assume that $f(\mathbf{0}) = x$.

Definition 4 (Tangent Space). The tangent space to M at $x \in M$, denoted $T_x M$, is the image of $df(\mathbf{0})$:

$$T_x M = df(\mathbf{0})(\mathbb{R}^k) = \{df(\mathbf{0})\mathbf{v} \mid \forall \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^k\} \quad (1)$$

The tangent space $T_x M$ is a vector space (vector spaces are reviewed in the appendix).

Example 2 (Unit Sphere continued). Let $p = f(0, 0) = [1 \ 0 \ 0]^T$. This point is located where the x -axis intersects the surface of the unit sphere. Then

$$df_{(0,0)} = \left[\frac{\partial f}{\partial u} \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial v} \right]_{(0,0)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

This plane is spanned by vectors parallel to the y and z -axes. Hence, $T_p S$ can be viewed as the plane passing through p and parallel to the y - z plane, and is thus tangent to the sphere at p .

Remarks:

1. The tangent space, $T_p S$, is the closest linear approximation to S at p . That is, df is the linear term in the Taylor Series expansion of f at $f(0, 0)$.
2. In general, if $p_1 \neq p_2$, then $T_{p_1} S \neq T_{p_2} S$, even though these linear vector spaces have the same dimension.
3. The *dimension* of a manifold, M , is equivalently defined as the dimension of its tangent space: $\dim(M) = \dim(T_p S)$.
4. The definition of the tangent space is *intrinsic*—it does not depend upon the choice of coordinate system.

A *tangent vector* at $p \in S$ is a vector in $T_p S$. Tangent vectors can also be viewed in the following way. Let $\alpha(t)$ be a parametrized curve lying in S (i.e., $\alpha(t) \in S$ for all t in a relevant interval) such that $\alpha(0) = p$. Hence,

$$\alpha(t) = \begin{bmatrix} x(t) \\ y(t) \\ z(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x(u(t), v(t)) \\ y(u(t), v(t)) \\ z(u(t), v(t)) \end{bmatrix} = f(u(t), v(t)).$$

A tangent vector at $p \in S$ can also be thought of as the tangent to the curve $\alpha(t)$ at $\alpha(0)$:

$$\frac{d\alpha}{dt}(t) = \frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial u} \frac{du}{dt} + \frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial v} \frac{dv}{dt} = f_u u' + f_v v'$$

where $f_u = \frac{\partial f}{\partial u}$ and $f_v = \frac{\partial f}{\partial v}$.

1.3 The First Fundamental Form and the Metric Tensor

It is desirable to be able to determine properties such as distance, angle, and area on a surface, S , without referring back to the ambient space in which S is embedded.

Since $T_p S$ is an n -dimensional vector space, it is possible to define an inner product on $T_p S$, denoted by $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_p$, such that if $v_1, v_2 \in T_p S$, then $\langle v_1, v_2 \rangle_p$ is equal to the inner product of v_1 and v_2 as vectors in \mathbb{R}^n .

Definition 5 The quadratic form $I_p(\mathbf{v}) = \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v} \rangle_p$ defined on $T_p S$ is called the 1st Fundamental Form of S at p .

An expression for $I_p(\mathbf{v})$ in terms of coordinates on a 2-dimensional S can be derived as follows. Let $\alpha(t)$ be a curve lying in S and passing through $p \in S$ at $t = 0$. Then:

$$\begin{aligned} I_p(\alpha'(0)) &= \langle \alpha'(0), \alpha'(0) \rangle_p = \langle f_u u' + f_v v', f_u u' + f_v v' \rangle_p \\ &= \langle f_u, f_u \rangle_p (u')^2 + 2 \langle f_u, f_v \rangle_p u' v' + \langle f_v, f_v \rangle_p (v')^2 \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} u' \\ v' \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} f_u \cdot f_u & f_u \cdot f_v \\ f_v \cdot f_u & f_v \cdot f_v \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u' \\ v' \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Example 3 (sphere continued).

$$f_u = \begin{bmatrix} -\sin(u) \cos(v) \\ \sin(u) \sin(v) \\ \cos(u) \end{bmatrix} \quad f_v = \begin{bmatrix} -\cos(u) \sin(v) \\ -\cos(u) \cos(v) \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Consequently, $f_u \cdot f_u = 1$, $f_u \cdot f_v = 0$, and $f_v \cdot f_v = \cos^2(u)$. Hence,

$$I_p = (u')^2 + (v')^2 \cos^2(u) = \begin{bmatrix} u' & v' \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos^2(u) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u' \\ v' \end{bmatrix}$$

Definition 6 The Metric Tensor at a point p in a 2-dimensional surface S is the 2×2 matrix that satisfies the relationship:

$$I_p = M_p M_p^T$$

If (f, \mathcal{U}) is an orthogonal coordinate system for S at p , then

$$M_p = \begin{bmatrix} \|f_u\| & 0 \\ 0 & \|f_v\| \end{bmatrix}_{f^{-1}(p)}.$$

Example 4 (sphere continued). The metric tensor for the unit sphere, coordinatized as above, is:

$$M_p = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & |\cos(u)| \end{bmatrix}.$$

1.4 The Gauss Map

Let a 2-dimensional surface, S , be parametrized in a neighborhood of $p \in S$ by (f, \mathcal{U}) . Let's choose a *surface normal vector* at each p according to the rule:

$$N(p) = \frac{f_u \times f_v}{|f_u \times f_v|}(p)$$

where f_u and f_v are evaluated at the point (u, v) such that $f(u, v) = p$. If $\mathcal{V} \subset S$ is an open neighborhood in S and if $N: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ is differentiable, then we say that N is a differentiable field of unit normal vectors on \mathcal{V} . Some surfaces (such as a Mobius strip) do not admit a globally defined unit normal vector field. If a surface S does admit such a vector field, then we say that S is *orientable*. The choice of the normal field is termed an *orientation*.

Definition 7 Let $S \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ be a 2-dimensional surface with orientation N . The map $N: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ taking values in the unit sphere S^2 is called the **Gauss map** of S .

In general f_u need not be orthogonal to f_v . However, as shown in the following proposition, it is always possible to find an orthogonal coordinate system in the neighborhood of a given point $p \in S$.

Proposition 1.1 *Given a 2-dimensional coordinatizable surface, S , a point $p \in S$, and any two independent vectors, $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2 \in T_p S$ which are both in $T_p S$, there exists a coordinate system (f, U) for S such that $f_u = \mathbf{v}_1$ and $f_v = \mathbf{v}_2$ at $p \in S$. In particular, if \mathbf{v}_1 and \mathbf{v}_2 are orthogonal, then (f, U) is an orthogonal coordinate system at p .*

Proof: Let (g, V) be any chosen coordinate system (not necessarily orthogonal), such that g_u and g_v are linearly independent. Since g_u and g_v are linearly independent, they span $T_p S$. Thus, there exists constants a, b, c, d such that:

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = ag_u + bg_v; \quad \mathbf{v}_2 = cg_u + dg_v.$$

Define a new coordinate chart, \mathcal{U} , such that:

$$\mathcal{U} = \{(u, v) | (au + cv, bu + dv) \in V\}.$$

Define a new coordinate function, f , such that:

$$f: \mathcal{U} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \quad (u, v) \rightarrow g(au + cv, bu + dv)$$

By simple application of the chain rule, it can be seen that $f_u = \mathbf{v}_1$ and $f_v = \mathbf{v}_2$. □

Example 5 *Consider an ellipse that is coordinatized in the following nonorthogonal way:*

$$g(u, v) = \begin{bmatrix} A \cos(u) \cos(v) \\ B \sin(u) \cos(v) \\ C \sin(v) \end{bmatrix}$$

Let $\mathbf{v}_1 = g_u$ and $N = g_u \times g_v$. We can choose a vector \mathbf{v}_2 as follows:

$$\mathbf{v}_2 = N \times g_u = (g_u \times g_v) \times g_u = g_u \times (g_v \times g_u) = (g_u \cdot g_u)g_v - (g_u \cdot g_v)g_u.$$

Thus, in the proof of the above proposition, we choose the constants $a = 1$, $b = 0$, $c = -(g_u \cdot g_v)$, and $d = (g_u \cdot g_u)$.

More generally, it is always possible to find an orthogonal coordinate system for a neighborhood of a given point $p \in S$. Hence, it is always possible to assign a reference frame at each surface point in this neighborhood.

Definition 8 *Let S be a 2-dimensional coordinatizable surface and assume that (f, \mathcal{U}) is an orthogonal coordinate system for S in the neighborhood of $p \in S$. The normalized Gauss frame at $p \in S$ is the frame with origin at p and whose orthonormal basis vectors are:*

$$\mathbf{x} = \frac{f_u}{|f_u|} \quad \mathbf{y} = \frac{f_v}{|f_v|} \quad \mathbf{z} = N(p).$$

The **Gauss frame map** is the function $g: \mathcal{U} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \times SO(3)$ such that

$$(u, v) \rightarrow (f(u, v), [\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}]).$$

1.5 The Second Fundamental Form and the Curvature Tensor

We next consider the differential of the Gauss map at a point $p \in S$. The differential, dN_p is a linear map from $T_p S$ to $T_{N(p)} S^2$, where S^2 is the 2-dimensional sphere. In general, $T_p S$ and $T_{N(p)} S^2$ are not the same vector spaces, even though they have the same dimension. However, they are both two dimensional vector spaces, and when interpreted as tangent planes, they are both oriented in a parallel way. Hence we may reasonably identify these two spaces, $T_p S \simeq T_{N(p)} S^2$, and consider dN_p as a linear map from $T_p S$ to $T_p S$ (i.e., it maps tangent vectors to tangent vectors).

To interpret, and ultimately compute, the differential of the Gauss map, consider a parameterized curve $\alpha(t)$ lying in S such that $\alpha(0) = p \in S$. The function $N(\alpha(t))$ can be interpreted as a curve of normal vectors. The tangent vector $N'(\alpha(0)) = dN_p \alpha'(0)$ is a vector in $T_{N(p)} \simeq T_p S$. It measures the rate of change of the normal vector at $p = \alpha(0)$ when N is restricted to the curve $\alpha(t)$. Hence, dN_p measures how the normal vector varies at p for movement along the surface S in the direction of $\alpha'(0)$.

Example 6 Cylinder. A cylinder of radius R (whose central axis is colinear with the z -axis) can be given the following coordinate system:

$$\mathcal{U} = \{(u, v) \mid -\pi < u < \pi; v \in \mathbb{R}\} \quad f(u, v) = \begin{pmatrix} R \cos(u) \\ R \sin(u) \\ v \end{pmatrix}.$$

The normal to the cylinder surface is:

$$N = \frac{1}{|f_u \times f_v|} f_u \times f_v = \begin{pmatrix} \cos(u) \\ \sin(u) \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Let's compute dN , and evaluate the curvature along two different curves.

$$dN = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial N}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial N}{\partial v} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\sin(u) & 0 \\ \cos(u) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

First consider the curve $\alpha(t) = [R \cos u(t), R \sin u(t), 0]^T$, which is "horizontal" curve (a circle which generates the cylinder). The tangent to α is given by $\alpha'(t) = [-R \sin(u(t)), R \cos(u(t)), 0]^T u'$. For this curve

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = \frac{\partial N}{\partial u} u' + \frac{\partial N}{\partial v} v' = \begin{bmatrix} -\sin(u) \\ \cos(u) \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} u'$$

Thus, as would be expected, the normal vector varies as the tangent to this horizontal curve.

Next, consider the curve $\alpha_2(t) = [R \cos \beta, R \sin \beta, v]^T$, where β is some fixed angle, and $v \in \mathbb{R}$. I.e., this curve is a verticle line on the cylinder's surface. $\alpha_2'(t) = [0, 0, 1]^T$. In this case,

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = \frac{\partial N}{\partial u} u' + \frac{\partial N}{\partial v} v' = 0$$

That is, the normal to the cylinder surface does not change while moving in the verticle direction.

Since dN_p defines how the surface normal vector varies in the neighborhood of p , we can use it to define the following important characterization of a surface.

Definition 9 The quadratic form $II_p(\mathbf{v})$ defined by

$$II(\mathbf{v}) = - \langle dN_p \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v} \rangle_p; \quad v \in T_p S$$

is called the 2nd fundamental form of S at p .

The 2nd fundamental form can be interpreted as follows. Let $\alpha(s)$ be an arc-length parametrized curve lying in S , and let $\alpha(0) = p$. Let $N(s)$ denote the restriction of the Gauss map to $\alpha(s)$. Note that the surface normal vector is always orthogonal to a surface tangent vector: $\langle N(s), \alpha'(s) \rangle_p = 0$. Thus, taking the derivative of both sides of this relationship implies that:

$$\begin{aligned} II(\alpha'(0)) &= - \langle N'(0), \alpha'(0) \rangle_p = - \langle dN_p \alpha'(0), \alpha'(0) \rangle_p \\ &= \langle N(0), \alpha''(0) \rangle_p = \langle N(0), \kappa(0) \mathbf{n}(0) \rangle_p \\ &= \kappa_n(p) \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathbf{n}(s)$ is the normal vector to the curve $\alpha(s)$ and we have used the relationship $\alpha''(s) = \kappa(s) \mathbf{n}(s)$ for the curve $\alpha(s)$. We term the quantity $\kappa_n(p)$ the *normal curvature* at p . We can interpret the normal curvature as follows. At point p , let $N(p)$ be the normal to the surface at p , and let $\alpha(s)$ be a curve passing through p , whose normal vector is $\mathbf{n}(s)$. The normal curvature is equal to $\kappa \cos(\theta)$, where θ is the angle between N and \mathbf{n} . The normal curvature also has another interpretation. Let a *normal section* be the intersection of the surface S with a plane containing N , $\alpha'(0)$, and p . In a neighborhood of p , the normal section formed by this intersection is a regular plane curve. The curvature of this curve at p is equal to the absolute value of κ_n . Note that *all* curves passing through x with the same tangent, $\alpha'(0)$, have the same normal curvature.

Let's now derive a coordinate expression for the second fundamental form. Let (f, \mathcal{U}) be a coordinate system for S , and let $\alpha(t) = f(u(t), v(t))$ be a not necessarily arc-length parametrized curve lying in S . Then

$$\begin{aligned} II_p(\alpha') &= - \langle dN_p(\alpha'), \alpha' \rangle_p = - \langle N_u u' + N_v v', N_u u' + N_v v' \rangle_p \\ &= - [u' \quad v']^T \begin{bmatrix} (f_u \cdot N_u) & (f_u \cdot N_v) \\ (f_v \cdot N_u) & (f_v \cdot N_v) \end{bmatrix}_p \begin{bmatrix} u' \\ v' \end{bmatrix} \\ &= - [u' \quad v']^T \mathcal{II}_p \begin{bmatrix} u' \\ v' \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

where $u' = du/dt$, $f_u = \partial f/\partial t$, $N_u = \partial N/\partial u$, etc.

Thus, $II(\mathbf{v})$ indicates how the surface normal varies when moving on the surface in the tangent direction \mathbf{v} .

We now consider a geometrical quantity, the *Curvature Tensor*, that is closely related to the second fundamental form. Let's assume that a surface S can be locally parametrized in the vicinity of a point p by an orthogonal coordinate system.

Definition 10 *Let S be a coordinatizable surface with orthogonal coordinate system. The Curvature Tensor, \mathcal{K} , at point $p \in S$ is the matrix*

$$\mathcal{K} = M_p^{-1} \mathcal{I} \mathcal{I}_p M_p^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{f_u \cdot N_u}{|f_u|^2} & \frac{f_u \cdot N_v}{|f_u||f_v|} \\ \frac{f_v \cdot N_u}{|f_u||f_v|} & \frac{f_v \cdot N_v}{|f_v|^2} \end{bmatrix}$$

where M_p is the metric tensor of S at p .

The use of the metric tensor in the above definition makes the curvature tensor *independent* of the choice of coordinate system.

The eigenvalues of \mathcal{K} are called the *principal curvatures*, while the associated eigenvectors are termed the *principal axes* of curvature.

1.6 Torsion

Curvature alone is insufficient to uniquely define the local geometry of a surface. This insufficiency can be seen as follows. Assume that (f, \mathcal{U}) is an orthogonal coordinate system in the neighborhood of a point $p \in S$. The **Gauss frame** at p will be defined as the coordinate frame whose orthonormal basis vectors are $\frac{f_u}{|f_u|}$, $\frac{f_v}{|f_v|}$, and N . The Gauss frame is defined at each point on an orientable surface. Hence, the local properties of the surface can be deduced from the variations of the Gauss frame in the vicinity of a point. The curvature tensor determines the rotation of the Gauss frame about the axes that lie in the surface's tangent plane. However, we need an additional concept, which we shall call *torsion*, that describes how the Gauss frame "twists" about the surface normal as the frame is moved around the surface.

Let (f, \mathcal{U}) be a coordinate system for a surface S , which we will assume to be orthogonal. By definition, the vector $\mathbf{x} = \frac{f_u}{|f_u|}$ will be a unit vector tangent to S . Let $\mathbf{y} = \frac{f_v}{|f_v|}$. By construction, this vector will be a unit vector that is tangent to S , orthogonal to \mathbf{x} , and satisfy $\mathbf{x} \times \mathbf{y} = N$, where N is the normal to S . Since \mathbf{x} is a unit vector, its derivative must be orthogonal to \mathbf{x} . Thus, it will have a component along \mathbf{y} and a component along N . The projection of this derivative on \mathbf{y} will yield a measure of Gauss frame twist about N .

Let $\alpha(t)$ be a not necessarily arc-length parametrized curve lying in S . Assume that $\alpha(0) = p \in S$ and that $\alpha'(0) = \mathbf{x}$. Then:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{y}^T \frac{d\mathbf{x}(t)}{dt} &= \left(\frac{f_v}{|f_v|} \right)^T \left[\frac{\partial x}{\partial u} \frac{du}{dt} + \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} \frac{dv}{dt} \right] \\
&= \left(\frac{f_v}{|f_v|} \right)^T \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial u} \left(\frac{f_u}{|f_u|} \right) u' + \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \left(\frac{f_u}{|f_u|} \right) v' \right] \\
&= \left(\frac{f_v}{|f_v|} \right)^T \left[\frac{f_{uu}}{|f_u|} u' + \frac{f_{uv}}{|f_u|} v' \right] \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{f_v \cdot f_{uu}}{|f_u||f_v|} & \frac{f_v \cdot f_{uv}}{|f_u||f_v|} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u' \\ v' \end{bmatrix}
\end{aligned}$$

We will define the *torsion tensor* at $p \in S$ as the matrix

$$\mathcal{T}_p = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{f_v \cdot f_{uu}}{|f_u|^2 |f_v|} & \frac{f_v \cdot f_{uv}}{|f_u||f_v|^2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u' \\ v' \end{bmatrix}.$$

Hence, the torsion tensor satisfies the relationship:

$$\mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{x}' = \mathcal{T}_p M_p \begin{bmatrix} u' \\ v' \end{bmatrix}$$

Recall that a vector space is defined as follows.

Definition 11 (Vector Space). A vector space, V , over a field, \mathbb{F} , consists of a set of vectors (whose elements are members of \mathbb{F}), along with two binary operations that must satisfy the axioms listed below. Elements of \mathbb{F} are called scalars. The two binary operations are interpreted as vector addition and scalar multiplication. In the following description of the governing axioms, let \mathbf{u} , \mathbf{v} , and \mathbf{w} be vectors in V , while a and b denote scalars in \mathbb{F} .

- **Closure:** If $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in V$, then $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} \in V$.
- **Associativity of vector addition:** $\mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}) = (\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) + \mathbf{w}$
- **Commutativity of vector addition:** $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{u}$
- **Identity element of vector addition:** There must exist an identity zero vector $\mathbf{0}$ such that $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{0} = \mathbf{u}$ for all $\mathbf{u} \in V$.
- **Inverse elements of vector addition:** For every $\mathbf{v} \in V$, there must exist an additive inverse vector, denoted $-\mathbf{v}$, such that $\mathbf{v} + (-\mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{0}$.
- **Closure under scalar multiplication:** $au \in V$

- **Distributivity of scalar multiplication with respect to vector addition:** $a(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) = a\mathbf{u} + a\mathbf{v}$
- **Distributivity of scalar multiplication with respect to field addition:** $(a + b)\mathbf{u} = a\mathbf{u} + b\mathbf{u}$.
- **Associativity of scalar multiplication:** $a(b\mathbf{u}) = (ab)\mathbf{u}$
- **Identity element of scalar multiplication:** *There exists an element in \mathbb{F} , denoted e , such that $e\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}$. The element e is termed the multiplicative identity.*

set of elements (vectors).