

1. Let x, y both in U and V ;

1. 0 is both in U and V ;

2. $x+y$ in U ; $x+y$ in $V \Rightarrow x+y$ both in U and V ;

3. c is scalar in \mathbb{R} , cx in U and cx in V , so cx in both U and V .

2.

Let U and V be subspaces of the vector space \mathbb{R}^n .

If neither U nor V is a subset of the other, then prove that the union $U \cup V$ is not a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

Since U is not contained in V , there exists a vector $\mathbf{u} \in U$ but $\mathbf{u} \notin V$.

Similarly, since V is not contained in U , there exists a vector $\mathbf{v} \in V$ but $\mathbf{v} \notin U$.

Seeking a contradiction, let us assume that the union is $U \cup V$ is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

The vectors \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} lie in the vector space $U \cup V$.

Thus their sum $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}$ is also in $U \cup V$.

This implies that we have either

$$\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} \in U \text{ or } \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} \in V.$$

If $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} \in U$, then there exists $\mathbf{u}' \in U$ such that

$$\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{u}'.$$

Since the vectors \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{u}' are both in the subspace U , their difference $\mathbf{u}' - \mathbf{u}$ is also in U . Hence we have

$$\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{u}' - \mathbf{u} \in U.$$

However, this contradicts the choice of the vector $\mathbf{v} \notin U$.

Thus, we must have $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} \in V$.

In this case, there exists $\mathbf{v}' \in V$ such that

$$\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}'.$$

Since both \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v}' are vectors of V , it follows that

$$\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{v}' - \mathbf{v} \in V,$$

which contradicts the choice of $\mathbf{u} \notin V$.

Therefore, we have reached a contradiction. Thus, the union $U \cup V$ cannot be a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

Problem. Let W_1, W_2 be subspaces of a vector space V . Then prove that $W_1 \cup W_2$ is a subspace of V if and only if $W_1 \subset W_2$ or $W_2 \subset W_1$.

3.

We prove the following subspace criteria:

1. The zero vector $\mathbf{0}$ of V is in $W_1 + W_2$.
2. For any $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in W_1 + W_2$, we have $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} \in W_1 + W_2$.
3. For any $\mathbf{v} \in W_1 + W_2$ and $r \in K$, we have $r\mathbf{v} \in W_1 + W_2$.

Since W_1 and W_2 are subspaces of V , the zero vector $\mathbf{0}$ of V is in both W_1 and W_2 .

Thus we have

$$\mathbf{0} = \mathbf{0} + \mathbf{0} \in W_1 + W_2.$$

for some $\mathbf{x} \in W_1$ and $\mathbf{y} \in W_2$.

Similarly, we write

$$\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{x}' + \mathbf{y}'$$

for some $\mathbf{x}' \in W_1$ and $\mathbf{y}' \in W_2$.

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} &= (\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) + (\mathbf{x}' + \mathbf{y}') \\ &= (\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{x}') + (\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{y}'). \end{aligned}$$

Since \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{x}' are both in the vector space W_1 , their sum $\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{x}'$ is also in W_1 .

Similarly we have $\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{y}' \in W_2$ since $\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{y}' \in W_2$.

Thus from the expression above, we see that

$$\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} \in W_1 + W_2,$$

hence condition 2 is met.

Finally, let $\mathbf{v} \in W_1 + W_2$ and $r \in K$.

Then there exist $\mathbf{x} \in W_1$ and $\mathbf{y} \in W_2$ such that

$$\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}.$$

Since W_1 is a subspace, it is closed under scalar multiplication. Hence we have $r\mathbf{x} \in W_1$.

Similarly, we have $r\mathbf{y} \in W_2$.

It follows from this observation that

$$\begin{aligned} r\mathbf{v} &= r(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) \\ &= r\mathbf{x} + r\mathbf{y} \in W_1 + W_2, \end{aligned}$$

and thus condition 3 is met.

Therefore, by the subspace criteria $W_1 + W_2$ is a subspace of V .

4.

Proof. $\dim(W_1 \cap W_2) \leq \dim(V)$

$\Rightarrow W_1 \cap W_2$ has a finite basis $\beta = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k\}$.

We can extend β to a basis $\beta_1 = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m\}$ for W_1 and to a basis $\beta_2 = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k, k_1, k_2, \dots, k_p\}$ for W_2 .

Let $\alpha = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m, w_1, w_2, \dots, w_p\}$.

We claim that α is a basis for $W_1 + W_2$.

To prove the claim, we need to check that

1. α is linearly independent.

Let $a_1u_1 + \cdots + a_ku_k + b_1v_1 + \cdots + b_mv_m + c_1w_1 + \cdots + c_pw_p = 0$, for some scalars $a_1, \dots, a_k, b_1, \dots, b_m, c_1, \dots, c_p$.

Then $(-b_1)v_1 + \cdots + (-b_m)v_m = a_1u_1 + \cdots + a_ku_k + c_1w_1 + \cdots + c_pw_p \in W_1 \cap W_2$.

Since β is a basis for $W_1 \cap W_2$, we have $(-b_1)v_1 + \cdots + (-b_m)v_m = d_1u_1 + \cdots + d_ku_k$ for some scalars d_1, \dots, d_k .

$$\Rightarrow d_1u_1 + \cdots + d_ku_k + b_1v_1 + \cdots + b_mv_m = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow d_1 = \cdots = d_k = b_1 = \cdots = b_m = 0, \text{ since } \beta_1 \text{ is a basis for } W_1.$$

$$\Rightarrow a_1u_1 + \cdots + a_ku_k + c_1w_1 + \cdots + c_pw_p = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a_1 = \cdots = a_k = c_1 = \cdots = c_p = 0, \text{ since } \beta_2 \text{ is a basis for } W_2.$$

Hence α is linearly independent.

2. $W_1 + W_2 = \text{span}(\alpha)$.

Let $u = v + w \in W_1 + W_2$, where $v \in W_1$ and $w \in W_2$, be any vector in $W_1 + W_2$.

Since β_1 is a basis for W_1 and β_2 is a basis for W_2 , we can find some scalars $x_1, \dots, x_k, y_1, \dots, y_m, z_1, \dots, z_k$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} u &= (x_1u_1 + \cdots + x_ku_k + y_1v_1 + \cdots + y_mv_m) + (z_1u_1 + \cdots + z_ku_k + t_1w_1 + \cdots + t_pw_p) \\ &= ((x_1 + z_1)u_1 + \cdots + (x_k + z_k)u_k + y_1v_1 + \cdots + y_mv_m + t_1w_1 + \cdots + t_pw_p) \end{aligned}$$

That is, $W_1 + W_2 \subseteq \text{span}(\alpha)$.

It is easy to see that $\text{span}(\alpha) \subseteq W_1 + W_2$.

Hence $W_1 + W_2 = \text{span}(\alpha)$.

Therefore, α is a basis for $W_1 + W_2$.

Finally, we have

$$\dim(W_1 + W_2) = k + m + p = (k + m) + (k + p) - k = \dim(W_1) + \dim(W_2) - \dim(W_1 \cap W_2).$$

□