Definition 3.11. *For any $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$, set* $\operatorname{null} T = \{\ v \mid Tv = 0\ \}$ *is called the* ***null space*** *of T.*

This is also called the **kernal** of T in algebra.

Theorem 3.13. *For any $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$,* $\operatorname{null} T$ *is a subspace of V.*

Proof.

- We have $0 \in \operatorname{null} T$ since $T0 = 0$, which is the property of linear transformation.
- For any $a, b \in \operatorname{null} T$, we have $0 = Ta + Tb = T(a + b)$, so $a + b \in \operatorname{null} T$.
- For any $Ta \in \operatorname{null} T$ and $\lambda \in F$, we have $\lambda Ta = T(\lambda a)$, so $\lambda a \in \operatorname{null} T$.

□

Definition 3.15. *For any $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$, set* $\operatorname{range} T = T(V) = \{\ Tv \mid v \in V\ \}$ *is called the* ***range*** *of T.*

This is also called the **image** of T in math.

Theorem 3.18. *For any $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$,* $\operatorname{range} T$ *is a subsapce of W.*

Proof.

- We have $T(0) = 0 \in \operatorname{range} T$.
- For any $Ta, Tb \in \operatorname{range} T$, $Ta + Tb = T(a + b) \in \operatorname{range} T$.
- For any $Ta \in \operatorname{range} T$ and $\lambda \in F$, $\lambda Ta = T(\lambda a) \in \operatorname{range} T$.

□

Theorem 3.21. *Suppose V is finite and $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$, then* $\operatorname{range} T$ *is finite, and*

$$\dim V = \dim \operatorname{null} T + \dim \operatorname{range} T$$

Proof. Consider the basis $v_0, \cdots, v_k$ of $\operatorname{null} T$, and the basis $v_0, \cdots, v_n$ of V that expand from $v_0, \cdots, v_k$. We will show that $T(v_{k+1}), \cdots, T(v_n)$ is the basis of $\operatorname{range} T$.

We first show that $T(v_{k+1}), \cdots, T(v_n)$ is linear independent. If it is linear independent, then

$$
\begin{aligned}
&\lambda_1 T(v_{k+1}) + \cdots + \lambda_i T(v_{k+i}) \\
=&T(\lambda_1 v_{k+1} + \cdots + \lambda_i T(v_{k+i})) \\
=&0
\end{aligned}
$$

That means a linear combation of v_{k+i} is in $\operatorname{null} T$, which is $\operatorname{span}(v_0, \cdots, v_k)$, therefore the basis $v_0, \cdots, v_n$ is linear dependent.

Then we show that $T(v_{k+1}), \cdots, T(v_n)$ spans $\operatorname{range} T$. For any $Tv \in \operatorname{range} T$, there must be $v \in V$ such that $Tv = Tv$, then v can be written in form of the linear combination of $v_0, \cdots, v_n$, and then $Tv = T(\lambda_0 v_0 + \cdots + \lambda_n v_n)$. We can drop all terms with v_i where $i \leq k$, since they are in $\operatorname{null} T$, so Tv is now represent by a linear combination of $T(v_{k+i})$ for all $0 < i \leq n - k$, therefore, it is a basis of $\operatorname{range} T$ and $\dim \operatorname{range} T$ is finite.

Finally, $\dim V = \dim \operatorname{null} T + \dim \operatorname{range} T$. $\square$