

Theorem — *Subspace Theorem*

Let V be a vector space over F , $\emptyset \neq W \subseteq V$ a subset. Then the following are equivalent:

- (a) W is a subspace of V
- (b) W is closed under addition and scalar multiplication from V
- (c) For all $w_1, w_2 \in W$, for all $\alpha \in F$, $\alpha w_1 + w_2 \in W$

Proof. (a \Rightarrow b) This holds by definition.

(b \Rightarrow a) We claim that $0_V \in W$ and $0_W = 0_V$. Because W is non-empty, there exists $w \in W$. Because W is closed under scalar multiplication, $(-1)w \in W$, so $0_V = w + (-w) \in W$. Furthermore, for all $w' \in W$, we have that $0_V + w' = w' = w' + 0_V$, so $0_V = 0_W$.

(b \Rightarrow c) Because W is closed under multiplication, we have that for all $w_1 \in W$ and $\alpha \in F$, $\alpha w_1 \in W$. Furthermore, because W is closed under addition, $\alpha w_1 + w_2 \in W$ for all $w_2 \in W$.

(c \Rightarrow b) If we let $\alpha = 0$, we have closure under addition. If we let $w_2 = 0$, we have closure under multiplication. \square

Theorem — *Toss In Theorem*

Let V be a vector space over F , $\emptyset \neq S \subseteq V$ a linearly independent subset. Suppose that $v \in V \setminus \text{span}(S)$. Then $S \cup \{v\}$ is linearly independent.

Proof. Suppose towards a contradiction that $S \cup \{v\}$ is linearly dependent. In other words, there exists a subset $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\} \subseteq S$ such that for some $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{n+1} \in F$, not all zero, such that

$$\alpha_1 v_1 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n + \alpha_{n+1} v = 0.$$

We know that $\alpha_{n+1} \neq 0$ because otherwise we would have $\alpha_1 v_1 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n = 0$, where not all $\alpha_i = 0$, which contradicts that S is a linearly independent subset. Since $\alpha_{n+1} \neq 0$, it has an inverse. Thus we may write

$$v = -\frac{\alpha_1}{\alpha_{n+1}} v_1 - \dots - \frac{\alpha_n}{\alpha_{n+1}} v_n,$$

so $v \in \text{span}(S)$. Thus we have arrived at the contradiction that v is both in the span of S and also not in the span of S . \square

Theorem — Coordinate Theorem

Let V be a finite-dimensional vector space over F with basis $\mathcal{B} = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ and $v \in V$. Then there exists unique $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in F$ such that

$$v = \alpha_1 v_1 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n.$$

We call $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$ the *coordinates* of v relative to the basis \mathcal{B} and call α_i the i th coordinate relative to \mathcal{B} .

Proof. Because \mathcal{B} is a basis for V , we know that \mathcal{B} , so all vectors $v \in V$ may be written as a linear combination of the basis vectors. We must show that this representation is unique. Let $v \in V$ and $\alpha_i, \beta_i \in F$, for $i = 1, \dots, n$. Then

$$\beta_1 v_1 + \dots + \beta_n v_n = v = \alpha_1 v_1 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n.$$

Moving things to one side, we have

$$(\alpha_1 - \beta_1)v_1 + \dots + (\alpha_n - \beta_n)v_n = 0.$$

Because \mathcal{B} is a basis and thus linearly independent, we have that $\alpha_i = \beta_i$ for all $i = 1, \dots, n$, so the representation is unique. \square

Theorem — *Important Exercise (General Toss Out Theorem)*

Let V be a vector space over F , with $v_1, \dots, v_n \in V$. Then

$$\text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_n) = \text{span}(v_2, \dots, v_n)$$

if and only if $v_1 \in \text{span}(v_2, \dots, v_n)$.

Proof. (\Rightarrow) Suppose $\text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_n) = \text{span}(v_2, \dots, v_n)$. Then for all $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in F$, there exist β_2, \dots, β_n such that

$$\alpha_1 v_1 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n = \beta_2 v_2 + \dots + \beta_n v_n.$$

Because this equality must hold for all α_i , we may assume that $\alpha_1 \neq 0$. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_1 v_1 &= (\beta_2 - \alpha_2) v_2 + \dots + (\beta_n - \alpha_n) v_n \\ v_1 &= \alpha_1^{-1} (\beta_2 - \alpha_2) v_2 + \dots + \alpha_1^{-1} (\beta_n - \alpha_n) v_n, \end{aligned}$$

so $v_1 \in \text{span}(v_2, \dots, v_n)$.

(\Leftarrow) Let $v_1 \in \text{span}(v_2, \dots, v_n)$, so $v_1 = \alpha_2 v_2 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n$ for $\alpha_i \in F$ for $i = 2, \dots, n$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_n) &= \beta_1 v_1 + \dots + \beta_n v_n \\ &= \beta_1 (\alpha_2 v_2 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n) + \beta_n v_n \\ &= (\beta_1 \alpha_2 + \beta_2) v_2 + \dots + (\beta_1 \alpha_n + \beta_n) v_n \\ &= \text{span}(v_2, \dots, v_n). \end{aligned}$$

□

Theorem — *Toss Out Theorem*

Let V be a vector space over F . If V can be spanned by finitely many vectors then V is a finite-dimensional vector space over F . More precisely, if

$$V = \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_n),$$

then a subset of $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ is a basis for V .

Proof. If $V = 0$, there is nothing to prove, so we may assume that V is non-zero. Suppose that $V = \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_n)$. We prove by induction on n that a subset of $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ is a basis. When $n = 1$, we have $V = \text{span}(v_1) \neq 0$ and because $V \neq 0$, we know $v_1 \neq 0$. Thus $\{v_1\}$ is linearly independent and spans V , and so is a basis. Suppose that the statement holds for some $n = k$. We claim that a subset of $\{v_1, \dots, v_{k+1}\}$ is a basis for V . If $\{v_1, \dots, v_{k+1}\}$ is linearly independent, then it is a basis for V because it spans V , and we are one. If it is not linearly independent, there exists some vector that is in the span of the other vectors. Without loss of generality, say that $v_{k+1} \in \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_k)$. Then we have that $\text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_k) = \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_{k+1})$, so we may remove v_{k+1} from the set while still spanning V . By the induction hypothesis, because $\text{span}(\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}) = V$, a subset of $\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$ is a basis for V , so we are done. \square

Theorem — Replacement Theorem

Let V be a vector space over F , with $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ a basis for V . Suppose that $v \in V$ satisfies

$$v = \alpha_1 v_1 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n, \quad (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in F, \alpha_i \neq 0)$$

Then

$$\{v_1, \dots, v_{i-1}, v, v_{i+1}, \dots, v_n\}$$

is also a basis for V .

Proof. Notice that $v \in \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_n)$, so $\text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_n) = \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_n, v) = V$ by the General Toss out Theorem. Furthermore, because $\alpha_i \neq 0$, we may rewrite the definition of v as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} v &= \alpha_1 v_1 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n \\ \alpha_i v_i &= v - \left(\sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^n \alpha_j v_j \right) \\ v_i &= \alpha_i^{-1} v - \left(\sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^n \alpha_i^{-1} \alpha_j v_j \right) \end{aligned}$$

Thus we see that $v_i \in \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_{i-1}, v, v_{i+1}, \dots, v_n)$ so

$$V = \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_n, v) = \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_{i-1}, v, v_{i+1}, \dots, v_n).$$

Thus it remains to show that this set of vectors is linearly independent. Suppose towards a contradiction that they are linearly dependent, that is there exist $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n \in F$, not all zero, such that

$$\beta_1 v_1 + \dots + \beta_{i-1} v_{i-1} + \beta_i v + \beta_{i+1} v_{i+1} + \dots + \beta_n v_n = 0.$$

If $\beta_i = 0$, then we reach a contradiction because $\{v_1, \dots, v_{i-1}, v_{i+1}, \dots, v_n\}$ is a linearly independent set so all β_j must be zero. If $\beta_i \neq 0$, then it has an inverse. Thus

$$v = -\beta_i^{-1} (\beta_1 v_1 + \dots + \beta_{i-1} v_{i-1} + \beta_{i+1} v_{i+1} + \dots + \beta_n v_n).$$

Moving the terms to one side and expanding, we have

$$0 = \left(\sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^n (\beta_i^{-1} \beta_j + \alpha_j) v_j \right) + \alpha_i v_i.$$

Because $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ is linearly independent, we know that $\alpha_i = 0$, a contradiction. Therefore we have that $\{v_1, \dots, v_{i-1}, v, v_{i+1}, \dots, v_n\}$ is a basis for V . \square

Theorem — Main Theorem

Suppose V is a vector space over F with $V = \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_n)$. Then any linearly independent subset of V has at most n elements.

Proof. By the Toss Out Theorem, we know that a subset of $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ is a basis for V , so we may assume that $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ is a basis for V . Suppose there is another linearly independent subset of V that has m elements, say $\{w_1, \dots, w_m\}$. We proceed via induction.

We claim that after changing notation, if necessary, for each $k \leq n$ that

$$\{w_1, \dots, w_k, v_{k+1}, \dots, v_n\}$$

is a basis for V . Applying this claim to $k = n$, we get that $\{w_1, \dots, w_{n+1}\}$ is linearly dependent, a contradiction as $\{w_1, \dots, w_n\}$ is a basis. Thus we may assume that $k \leq n$. For $k = 1$, we have that $w_1 \in \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_n)$, so for some $\alpha_i \in F$, not all zero, $i = 1, \dots, n$,

$$w_1 = \alpha_1 v_1 + \dots + \alpha_n v_n.$$

Rearranging if necessary, we may assume that $\alpha_1 \neq 0$. Thus by the Replacement Theorem $\{w_1, \dots, v_n\}$ is a basis for V . Suppose the statement holds for some $n = k$, so $\{w_1, \dots, w_k, v_{k+1}, \dots, v_n\}$ is a basis for V . Because $w_{k+1} \in V$, for some $\alpha_i \in F$, not all zero, we have

$$w_{k+1} = \alpha_1 w_1 + \dots + \alpha_k w_k + \alpha_{k+1} v_{k+1} + \dots + \alpha_n v_n.$$

We know that at least one of the $\alpha_i \neq 0$ for $i \geq k+1$, otherwise we would have that $w_{k+1} \in \text{span}(w_1, \dots, w_k)$, a contradiction because the w_i 's are linearly independent. Thus rearranging if necessary, we may assume that $\alpha_{k+1} \neq 0$. Therefore we may use the Replacement Theorem, and $\{w_1, \dots, w_{k+1}, v_{k+2}, \dots, v_n\}$ is a basis for V . Thus the claim has been proven by induction. \square

Theorem — *Extension Theorem*

Let V be a finite-dimensional vector space over F , $W \subseteq V$ a subspace. Then every linearly independent subset S in W is finite and part of a basis for W which is a finite-dimensional vector space over F .

Proof. We know that V is finite-dimensional, so it must have a finite basis that spans V , say $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$. Thus by the Main Theorem, we know every linearly independent subset must have less than n vectors, and so is finite. We now show that S is a part of a basis for W . If S does not span W , then there exist vectors that are in W but not in $\text{span}(S)$. Thus we may use Toss In Theorem to repeatedly add vectors to S until it spans W , at which point it becomes a basis for W . \square

Theorem — Counting Theorem

Let V be a vector space over F , with $W_1, W_2 \subseteq V$ subspaces. Suppose that both W_1 and W_2 are finite-dimensional vector spaces over F . Then

- (a) $W_1 \cap W_2$ is a finite-dimensional vector space over F .
- (b) $W_1 + W_2$ is a finite-dimensional vector space over F .
- (c) $\dim(W_1) + \dim(W_2) = \dim(W_1 + W_2) + \dim(W_1 \cap W_2)$.

Proof. We know that $W_1 \cap W_2$ is a subspace because it is closed under the same addition and scalar multiplication operations that W_1 and W_2 are closed under. In other words, for all $v, w \in W_1 \cap W_2$ and $\alpha \in F$, we have that

$$\alpha v + w \in W_1 \text{ and } \alpha v + w \in W_2,$$

so $\alpha v + w \in W_1 \cap W_2$. Similarly, if $v, w \in W_1 + W_2$, then $\alpha v + w \in W_1 + W_2$ (write each as a linear combo), so $W_1 + W_2$ is a finite-dimensional vector space over F . Let $\{w_1, \dots, w_m\}$ be a basis for $W_1 \cap W_2$. By the Extension Theorem, we may extend it into bases for W_1 and W_2 , say $\mathcal{B} = \{w_1, \dots, w_m, u_{m+1}, \dots, u_n\}$ and $\mathcal{C} = \{w_1, \dots, w_m, v_{m+1}, \dots, v_\ell\}$, respectively. Then we know that $W_1 + W_2$ is spanned by $\mathcal{B} \cup \mathcal{C}$, which has dimension $n + \ell - m$. Notice that this directly yields $\dim(W_1) + \dim(W_2) = \dim(W_1 + W_2) + \dim(W_1 \cap W_2)$. \square

Theorem — Rank-Nullity (Dimension) Theorem

Let V and W be vector spaces over a field F , and let V be finite-dimensional. Let $T: V \rightarrow W$ be a linear transformation. Then $\text{im}(T)$ and $\ker(T)$ are finite-dimensional vector spaces over F , and $\dim(V) = \dim(\ker(T)) + \dim(\text{im}(T))$.

Proof. □

Theorem — Monomorphism Theorem

Let $T: V \rightarrow W$ be a linear transformation. Then the following are equivalent.

- (a) T is injective.
- (b) T takes linearly independent sets in V to linearly independent sets in W .
- (c) $\ker(T) = \{0\}$.
- (d) $\dim(\ker(T)) = 0$.

Theorem — Isomorphism Theorem

Suppose that V and W are finite-dimensional vector spaces over F with $\dim(V) = \dim(W)$. Let $T: V \rightarrow W$ be a linear transformation. Then the following are equivalent.

- (a) T is an isomorphism.
- (b) T is a monomorphism.
- (c) T is an epimorphism.
- (d) If $\mathcal{B} = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ is a basis for V , then $\{Tv_1, \dots, Tv_n\}$ is a basis for W .
- (e) There exists a basis \mathcal{B} of V that maps to a basis of W .

Theorem — Universal Property of Vector Spaces

Let V be a finite-dimensional vector space over F , and let $\mathcal{B} = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ be a basis for V . Let W be a vector space over F , and let $w_1, \dots, w_n \in W$ (not necessarily distinct). Then there exists a unique linear transformation T with $T: v_i \mapsto w_i$.

Theorem — Classification of Finite Dimensional Vector Spaces

Let V and W be finite-dimensional vector spaces over the field F . Then $V \cong W$ if and only if $\dim(V) = \dim(W)$.

Theorem — Matrix Theory Theorem (MTT)

Let V and W be finite-dimensional vector spaces of dimension n and m over F respectively, and let \mathcal{B} and \mathcal{C} be ordered bases for V and W . Then the map

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi: L(V, W) &\rightarrow F^{m \times n} \\ T &\mapsto [T]_{\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{C}} \end{aligned}$$

is an isomorphism. In particular, $\dim(L(V, W)) = mn$.

Proof. Note that because the zero map is linear, it is in $L(V, W)$ and thus $L(V, W)$ is non-empty. We claim that φ is linear. Let $\mathcal{B} = (v_1, \dots, v_n)$ and $\mathcal{C} = (w_1, \dots, w_m)$ be ordered bases for V and W , respectively. Let T_1, T_2 be linear maps from V to W , and $\alpha \in F$. Let the element in the i th row and j th column of

$\varphi(\alpha T_1 + T_2)$ be $\lambda_{i,j}$, the element in the i th row and j th column of $\varphi(T_1)$ be $\eta_{i,j}$, and the element in the i th row and j th column of $\varphi(T_2)$ be $\varepsilon_{i,j}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}(\alpha T_1 + T_2)v_j &= \lambda_{1,j}w_1 + \cdots + \lambda_{m,j}w_m \\ T_1v_j &= \eta_{1,j}w_1 + \cdots + \eta_{m,j}w_m \\ T_2v_j &= \varepsilon_{1,j}w_1 + \cdots + \varepsilon_{m,j}w_m.\end{aligned}$$

From these three equations, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda_{1,j}w_1 + \cdots + \lambda_{m,j}w_m &= (\alpha T_1 + T_2)v_j \\ &= \alpha T_1v_j + T_2v_j \\ &= \alpha(\eta_{1,j}w_1 + \cdots + \eta_{m,j}w_m) + \varepsilon_{1,j}w_1 + \cdots + \varepsilon_{m,j}w_m \\ &= (\alpha\eta_{1,j} + \varepsilon_{1,j})w_1 + \cdots + (\alpha\eta_{m,j} + \varepsilon_{m,j})w_m.\end{aligned}$$

Because (w_1, \dots, w_m) is an ordered basis for W , and every vector has a unique representation according to any given basis, we have that $\lambda_{i,j} = \alpha\eta_{i,j} + \varepsilon_{i,j}$ for all $1 \leq i \leq m$ and $1 \leq j \leq n$. Thus $\varphi(\alpha T_1 + T_2) = \alpha\varphi(T_1) + \varphi(T_2)$ and φ is linear.

We will now show that φ is a bijection, first showing that it is injective. Suppose $\varphi(T) = 0$. Then $T(v_i) = 0$ for all $v_i \in \mathcal{B}$, so $Tv = 0$ for all $v \in V$. Thus T is the zero transformation and $\ker(\varphi) = 0$. Therefore φ is injective. We will now show that φ is surjective. For every matrix in $F^{m \times n}$, consider mapping $v_i \in \mathcal{B}$ to the i th column of the matrix. Thus for every matrix in $F^{m \times n}$, we have a linear transformation that maps to it, so φ is surjective. Therefore φ is a bijection and so an isomorphism. \square

Theorem — 12.2

Let V, W, U be finite-dimensional vector spaces over F with ordered bases $\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D}$ respectively. If $T: V \rightarrow W$ and $S: W \rightarrow U$ are linear, then

$$[S \circ T]_{\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{D}} = [S]_{\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D}} \cdot [T]_{\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{C}}.$$

Theorem — Change of Basis Theorem

Let V and W be finite-dimensional vector spaces over F with ordered bases $\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{B}'$ for V and $\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{C}'$ for W . Let $T: V \rightarrow W$ be linear. Then

$$\begin{aligned}[T]_{\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{C}} &= [1_W]_{\mathcal{C}', \mathcal{C}} [T]_{\mathcal{B}', \mathcal{C}'} [1_V]_{\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{B}'} \\ &= [1_W]_{\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{C}'}^{-1} [T]_{\mathcal{B}', \mathcal{C}'} [1_V]_{\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{B}'} \\ &= [1_W]_{\mathcal{C}', \mathcal{C}} [T]_{\mathcal{B}', \mathcal{C}'} [1_V]_{\mathcal{B}', \mathcal{B}}^{-1}\end{aligned}$$