

- 1 Let  $V$  be a vector space over  $F$  of infinite dimension.  
 2 Let  $T : V \rightarrow (V^*)^*$  be the linear map given by  $T(v)(\phi) = \phi(v)$   
 3 for all  $v \in V$  and  $\phi \in V^*$ .

4 **Claim.**  $T$  is injective.

5 *Proof.* Take some  $\phi \in V^*$ .

6 Note that if  $\phi = \mathbf{0}$ , then, for all  $v \in V$ ,  $T(v)(\mathbf{0}) = 0$ .

7 Suppose now  $\phi \neq \mathbf{0}$ .

8 Suppose, for some  $v, w \in V$ ,  $T(v) = T(w)$ , and thus  $\phi(v) = \phi(w)$  for all  $\phi \in V^*$ .

9 Hence,  $\phi(v - w) = 0$ , since  $\phi$  is a linear functional.

10 By way of contradiction, suppose that  $v - w$  is non-zero. Therefore, if  $\beta = \{v_1, v_2, \dots\}$   
 11 is a basis of  $V$ , there exist non-zero  $a_i \in F$ , for a non-empty finite index set  $\Lambda \subset \mathbb{N}$ , such  
 12 that

$$v - w = \sum_{i \in \Lambda} a_i v_i.$$

13 Therefore, since  $\phi$  is linear,

$$\phi\left(\sum_{i \in \Lambda} a_i v_i\right) = \sum_{i \in \Lambda} a_i \phi(v_i) = 0. \quad (1)$$

14 Therefore, the image of all such  $v_i$  under  $\phi$  is linearly dependent, since  $a_i$  are non-zero.

15 Consider a basis  $\beta^* = \{\phi_1, \phi_2, \dots\} \subset V^*$  of  $V^*$ .

16 If for  $b_i \in F$  with  $i$  in some index set  $\Lambda^* \subset \mathbb{N}$

$$\sum_{i \in \Lambda^*} b_i \phi_i = 0,$$

17 then, by linear independence of  $\phi_i$ , all  $b_i$  must be equal to zero.

18 Note, however, that by assumption Equation 1 holds for any  $\phi \in V^*$ , and thus:

$$\sum_{j \in \Lambda^*} \sum_{i \in \Lambda} a_i \phi_j(v_i) = \sum_{i \in \Lambda} a_i \sum_{j \in \Lambda^*} \phi_j(v_i) = 0, \quad (2)$$

19 which is a contradiction, since  $a_i$  are non-zero by assumption.

20 Therefore,  $v - w = 0$ , and  $T$  is injective. □

21 Let  $\beta \subset V$  be a basis of  $V$ . For each  $v \in \beta$ , let  $v^* \in \beta^*$  be the linear functional which  
 22 value on basis vectors  $w \in \beta$  is given by  $v^*(w) = 1$  if  $w = v$ ,  $v^*(w) = 0$  if  $w \neq v$ .

23 **Claim.**  $\beta^*$  is linearly independent, but is *not* a basis of  $V^*$ .

24 *Proof.* Let  $\Gamma$  be an infinite index set of  $\beta$ , so that if  $v_i \in \beta$ , then  $i \in \Gamma$ .

25 Thus, by definition, if  $v_i^* \in \beta^*$  and  $i \in \Gamma$ , then  $v_i^*(v_i) = 1$ , and if  $j \in \Gamma$  and  $i \neq j$ , then  
 26  $v_i^*(v_j) = 0$ .

27 Suppose for  $a_i \in F$  with  $i$  in some index set  $\Lambda^* \subset \Gamma$

$$\sum_{i \in \Lambda^*} a_i v_i^* = \mathbf{0}.$$

28 Therefore, for any  $v_j \in V$  with  $j \in \Lambda^*$ , applying the above linear functionals,

$$\sum_{i \in \Lambda^*} a_i v_i^*(v_j) = \mathbf{0}(v_j) = 0,$$

29 and hence  $a_j = 0$ . Since  $j$  is arbitrary, all  $a_i$  with  $i \in \Lambda^*$  must be equal to zero.

30 Therefore, any finite linear combination of  $v_i^*$  for  $i \in \Gamma$  must be linearly independent.

31 Since any vector in  $\beta^*$  can be represented by a finite linear combination of suitable  $v_i^*$ ,  
 32 then  $\beta^*$  is linearly independent.

33 Consider now a map  $\psi$  such that, for any  $v_i \in \beta$ ,  $\psi(v_i)$  corresponds to the same  
 34 arbitrary non-zero  $z_0 \in F$ . Suppose also that  $\psi$  is linear, which exists and is uniquely  
 35 determined by its action on the basis. Therefore,  $\psi$  is a linear functional,  $\psi \in \text{Hom}(V, F)$ .

36 Note that any linear functional  $\psi$  can be represented by a *finite* linear combination of  
 37  $v_i^* \in \beta^*$  so that

$$\psi = \sum_{i \in \Psi} a_i v_i^*,$$

38 for some finite  $\Psi \subset \Gamma$  and  $a_i \in F$ .

39 Note also that, if  $j \in \Gamma$  but  $j \notin \Psi$ , then  $v_i^*(v_j) = 0$  and thus  $\sum_{i \in \Psi} a_i v_i^*(v_j) = 0$  by  
 40 linearity of  $\psi$ . However, by definition of  $\psi$ ,  $\psi(v_j) = z_0 \neq 0$ . Therefore,  $\psi$  cannot be  
 41 represented as a linear combination of  $v_i^* \in \beta^*$ , and thus  $\beta^*$  is not the basis of  $V^*$ .  $\square$