

## 0 Review and Miscellanea

This chapter adopts Hoffman's definition for clearer presentations.

### 0.1 Vector Spaces

A finite dimensional vector space is the fundamental setting for matrix analysis.

#### 0.1.1 Scalar Field

**Definition.** *Field  $\mathbb{F}$  is the set together with addition and multiplication. A field must satisfy the following properties:*

1. *Addition is commutative,*

$$x + y = y + x$$

*for all  $x$  and  $y$  in  $\mathbb{F}$ .*

2. *Addition is associative,*

$$x + (y + z) = (x + y) + z$$

*for all  $x$ ,  $y$  and  $z$  in  $\mathbb{F}$ .*

3. *There is a unique element  $0$  (zero) in  $\mathbb{F}$  such that  $x + 0 = x$ , for every  $x$  in  $\mathbb{F}$ .*

4. *To each  $x$  in  $\mathbb{F}$  there corresponds a unique element  $(-x)$  in  $\mathbb{F}$  such that  $x + (-x) = 0$ .*

5. *Multiplication is commutative,*

$$xy = yx$$

*for all  $x$  and  $y$  in  $\mathbb{F}$ .*

6. *Multiplication is associative,*

$$x(yz) = (xy)z$$

*for all  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  in  $\mathbb{F}$ .*

7. *There is a unique element  $1$  (one) in  $\mathbb{F}$  such that  $x1 = x$ , for every  $x$  in  $\mathbb{F}$ .*

8. *To each non-zero  $x$  in  $\mathbb{F}$  there corresponds a unique element  $x^{-1}$  (or  $1/x$ ) in  $\mathbb{F}$  such that  $xx^{-1} = 1$ .*

9. *Multiplication distributes over addition; that is,  $x(y + z) = xy + xz$  for all  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  in  $\mathbb{F}$ .*

**Remarks.** *If  $\mathbb{F}$  is a field, it may be possible to add the unit  $1$  to itself a finite number of times and obtain  $0$ :*

$$1 + 1 + \cdots + 1 = 0$$

*That does not happen in the complex field (or in any subfield thereof). If it does happen in a field  $\mathbb{F}$ , then the least  $n$  such that the sum of  $n$   $1$ 's is  $0$  is called the characteristic of the field  $\mathbb{F}$ . If this does not happen in  $\mathbb{F}$ , then it is called a field of characteristic zero.*

### 0.1.2 Vector spaces

**Definition.** A vector space (or linear space) consists of the following:

1. a field  $\mathbb{F}$  of scalars;
2. a set  $\mathbb{V}$  of objects, called vectors;
3. a rule (or operation), called vector addition, which associates each pair of vectors  $\vec{\alpha}, \vec{\beta}$  in  $\mathbb{V}$  a vector  $\vec{\alpha} + \vec{\beta}$  in  $\mathbb{V}$ , called the sum of  $\vec{\alpha}$  and  $\vec{\beta}$ , in such a way that
  - (a) addition is commutative,  $\vec{\alpha} + \vec{\beta} = \vec{\beta} + \vec{\alpha}$ ;
  - (b) addition is associative,  $\vec{\alpha} + (\vec{\beta} + \vec{\gamma}) = (\vec{\alpha} + \vec{\beta}) + \vec{\gamma}$ ;
  - (c) there is a unique vector  $0$  in  $\mathbb{V}$ , called the zero vector, such that  $\vec{\alpha} + 0 = \vec{\alpha}$  for all  $\vec{\alpha}$  in  $\mathbb{V}$ ;
  - (d) for each vector  $\vec{\alpha}$  in  $\mathbb{V}$  there exists a unique vector  $-\vec{\alpha}$  in  $\mathbb{V}$  such that  $\vec{\alpha} + (-\vec{\alpha}) = 0$ .
4. a rule (or operation), called scalar multiplication, which associates with each scalar  $c$  in  $\mathbb{F}$  and vector  $c\vec{\alpha}$  in  $\mathbb{F}$ , called the product of  $c$  and  $\alpha$ , in such a way that
  - (a)  $1\vec{\alpha} = \vec{\alpha}$  for every  $\vec{\alpha}$  in  $\mathbb{V}$ ;
  - (b)  $(c_1c_2)\vec{\alpha} = c_1(c_2\vec{\alpha})$ ;
  - (c)  $c(\vec{\alpha} + \vec{\beta}) = c\vec{\alpha} + c\vec{\beta}$ ;
  - (d)  $(c_1 + c_2)\vec{\alpha} = c_1\vec{\alpha} + c_2\vec{\alpha}$ .

### 0.1.3 Subspaces, span, and linear combinations

**Definition.** A vector  $\vec{\beta}$  in  $\mathbb{V}$  is said to be a linear combination of the vectors  $\vec{\alpha}_1, \dots, \vec{\alpha}_n$  in  $\mathbb{V}$  provided there exists scalars  $c_1, \dots, c_n$  in  $\mathbb{F}$  such that

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{\beta} &= c_1\vec{\alpha}_1 + \dots + c_n\vec{\alpha}_n \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n c_i\vec{\alpha}_i\end{aligned}$$

**Definition.** Let  $\mathbb{V}$  be a vector space over the field  $\mathbb{F}$ . A subspace of  $\mathbb{V}$  is a subset  $\mathbb{W}$  of  $\mathbb{V}$  which is itself a vector space over  $\mathbb{F}$  with the operations of vector addition and scalar multiplication on  $\mathbb{V}$ .

**Theorem 1.** A non-empty subset  $\mathbb{W}$  of  $\mathbb{V}$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{V}$  if and only if for each pair of vectors  $\vec{\alpha}, \vec{\beta}$  in  $\mathbb{W}$  and each scalar  $c$  in  $\mathbb{F}$  the vector  $c\vec{\alpha} + \vec{\beta}$  is again in  $\mathbb{W}$ .

*Proof.* Suppose  $\mathbb{W}$  is a non-empty subset of  $\mathbb{V}$  such that  $c\vec{\alpha} + \vec{\beta}$  belongs to  $\mathbb{W}$  for all vectors  $\vec{\alpha}, \vec{\beta}$  in  $\mathbb{W}$  and all scalars  $c$  in  $\mathbb{F}$ . Since  $\mathbb{W}$  is non-empty, there is a vector  $\vec{\rho}$  in  $\mathbb{W}$ , and hence  $(-1)\vec{\rho} + \vec{\rho} = 0$  is in  $\mathbb{W}$ . Then if  $\vec{\alpha}$  is any vector in  $\mathbb{W}$  and  $c$  any scalar, the vector  $c\vec{\alpha} = c\vec{\alpha} + 0$  is in  $\mathbb{W}$ . In particular,  $(-1)\vec{\alpha} = -\vec{\alpha}$  is in  $\mathbb{W}$ . Finally, if  $\vec{\alpha}$  and  $\vec{\beta}$  are in  $\mathbb{W}$ , then  $\vec{\alpha} + \vec{\beta} = 1\vec{\alpha} + \vec{\beta}$  is in  $\mathbb{W}$ . Thus  $\mathbb{W}$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{V}$ . Conversely, if  $\mathbb{W}$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{V}$ ,  $\vec{\alpha}$  and  $\vec{\beta}$  are in  $\mathbb{W}$ , and  $c$  is a scalar, certainly  $c\vec{\alpha} + \vec{\beta}$  is in  $\mathbb{W}$ .  $\square$

**Lemma.** If  $\mathbf{A}$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix over  $\mathbb{F}$  and  $\mathbf{B}, \mathbf{C}$  are  $n \times p$  matrices over  $\mathbb{F}$ , then

$$\mathbf{A}(d\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{C}) = d(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{B}) + \mathbf{A}\mathbf{C} \tag{1}$$

for each scalar  $d$  in  $\mathbb{F}$ .

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned}
[\mathbf{A}(d\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{C})]_{ij} &= \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik}(d\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{C})_{kj} \\
&= \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik}(db_{kj} + c_{kj}) \\
&= \sum_{k=1}^n (da_{ik}b_{kj} + a_{ik}c_{kj}) \\
&= d \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik}b_{kj} + \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik}c_{kj} \\
&= d(\mathbf{AB})_{ij} + (\mathbf{AC})_{ij} \\
&= (d(\mathbf{AB}) + \mathbf{AC})_{ij}
\end{aligned}$$

□

**Theorem 2.** Let  $\mathbb{V}$  be a vector space over the field  $\mathbb{F}$ . The intersection of any collection of subspaces of  $\mathbb{V}$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{V}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\mathbb{W}_a$  be a collection of subspaces of  $\mathbb{V}$ , and let  $\mathbb{W} = \cap_a \mathbb{W}_a$  be their intersection. Recall that  $\mathbb{W}$  is defined as the set of all elements belonging to every  $\mathbb{W}_a$ . Since each  $\mathbb{W}_a$  is a subspace, each contains the zero vector. Thus zero is in the intersection of  $\mathbb{W}$ , and  $\mathbb{W}$  is non-empty. Let  $\vec{\alpha}$  and  $\vec{\beta}$  be vectors in  $\mathbb{W}$  and let  $c$  be a scalar. By definition of  $\mathbb{W}$ , both  $\vec{\alpha}$  and  $\vec{\beta}$  belong to each  $\mathbb{W}_a$ , and because each  $\mathbb{W}_a$  is a subspace, the vector  $(c\vec{\alpha} + \vec{\beta})$  is in every  $\mathbb{W}_a$ . Thus  $c\vec{\alpha} + \vec{\beta}$  is in  $\mathbb{W}$ . By Theorem 1,  $\mathbb{W}$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{V}$ . □

**Definition.** Let  $\mathbb{S}$  be a set of vectors in a vector space  $\mathbb{V}$ . The subspace spanned by  $\mathbb{S}$  is defined to be the intersection  $\mathbb{W}$  of all subspaces of  $\mathbb{V}$  which contain  $\mathbb{S}$ . When  $\mathbb{S}$  is a finite set of vectors,  $\mathbb{S} = \vec{\alpha}_1, \vec{\alpha}_2, \dots, \vec{\alpha}_n$ , we shall simply call  $\mathbb{W}$  the subspace spanned by the vectors  $\vec{\alpha}_1, \vec{\alpha}_2, \dots, \vec{\alpha}_n$ .

**Theorem 3.** The subspace spanned by a non-empty subset  $\mathbb{S}$  of a vector space  $\mathbb{V}$  is the set of all linear combinations of vectors in  $\mathbb{S}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\mathbb{W}$  be the subspace spanned by  $\mathbb{S}$ . Then each linear combination

$$\vec{\alpha} = x_1\vec{\alpha}_1 + x_2\vec{\alpha}_2 + \dots + x_m\vec{\alpha}_m$$

of vector  $\vec{\alpha}_1, \vec{\alpha}_2, \dots, \vec{\alpha}_m$  in  $\mathbb{S}$  is clearly in  $\mathbb{W}$ . Thus  $\mathbb{W}$  contains the set  $\mathbb{L}$  of all linear combinations of vectors in  $\mathbb{S}$ . The set  $\mathbb{L}$ , on the other hand, contains  $\mathbb{S}$  and is non-empty. If  $\vec{\alpha}, \vec{\beta}$  belong to  $\mathbb{L}$  then  $\vec{\alpha}$  is a linear combination,

$$\vec{\alpha} = x_1\vec{\alpha}_1 + x_2\vec{\alpha}_2 + \dots + x_m\vec{\alpha}_m$$

of vectors  $\vec{\alpha}_i$  in  $\mathbb{S}$ , and  $\vec{\beta}$  is a linear combination,

$$\vec{\beta} = y_1\vec{\beta}_1 + y_2\vec{\beta}_2 + \dots + y_n\vec{\beta}_n$$

of vectors  $\vec{\beta}_i$  in  $\mathbb{S}$ . For each scalar  $c$ ,

$$c\vec{\alpha} + \vec{\beta} = \sum_{i=1}^m cx_i\vec{\alpha}_i + \sum_{j=1}^n y_j\vec{\beta}_j$$

Hence  $c\vec{\alpha} + \vec{\beta}$  belongs to  $\mathbb{L}$ . Thus  $\mathbb{L}$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{V}$ . Now we have shown that  $\mathbb{L}$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{V}$  which contains  $\mathbb{S}$ , and also that any subspace which contains  $\mathbb{S}$  contains  $\mathbb{L}$ . It follows that  $\mathbb{L}$  is the intersection of all subspaces containing  $\mathbb{S}$ , i.e., that  $\mathbb{L}$  is the subspace spanned by the set  $\mathbb{S}$ .  $\square$

**Definition.** If  $\mathbb{S}_1, \mathbb{S}_2, \dots, \mathbb{S}_n$  are subsets of a vector space  $\mathbb{V}$ , the set of all sums

$$\vec{\alpha}_1 + \vec{\alpha}_2 + \dots + \vec{\alpha}_k$$

of vectors  $\vec{\alpha}_i$  in  $\mathbb{S}_i$  is called the sum of the subsets  $\mathbb{S}_1, \mathbb{S}_2, \dots, \mathbb{S}_k$  and is denoted by

$$\mathbb{S}_1 + \mathbb{S}_2 + \dots + \mathbb{S}_k$$

or by

$$\sum_{i=1}^k \mathbb{S}_i$$

#### 0.1.4 Linear dependence and linear independence

**Definition.** Let  $\mathbb{V}$  be a vector space over  $\mathbb{F}$ . A subset  $\mathbb{S}$  of  $\mathbb{V}$  is said to be linearly dependent (or simply, dependent) if there exists distinct vectors  $\vec{\alpha}_1, \vec{\alpha}_2, \dots, \vec{\alpha}_n$  in  $\mathbb{S}$  and scalars  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n$  in  $\mathbb{F}$ , not all of which are 0, such that

$$c_1\vec{\alpha}_1 + c_2\vec{\alpha}_2 + \dots + c_n\vec{\alpha}_n = 0$$

A set which is not linearly dependent is called linearly independent. If the set  $\mathbb{S}$  contains only finitely many vectors  $\vec{\alpha}_1, \vec{\alpha}_2, \dots, \vec{\alpha}_n$ , we sometimes say that  $\vec{\alpha}_1, \vec{\alpha}_2, \dots, \vec{\alpha}_n$  is dependent (or independent) instead of saying  $\mathbb{S}$  is dependent (or independent).

#### 0.1.5 Basis

**Definition.** Let  $\mathbb{V}$  be a vector space. A basis for  $\mathbb{V}$  is linearly independent set of vectors in  $\mathbb{V}$  which spans the space  $\mathbb{V}$ . The space  $\mathbb{V}$  is finite-dimensional if it has a finite basis.

**Theorem 4.** Let  $\mathbb{V}$  be a vector space which is spanned by a finite set of vectors  $\vec{\beta}_1, \vec{\beta}_2, \dots, \vec{\beta}_m$ . Then any independent set of vectors in  $\mathbb{V}$  is finite and contains no more than  $m$  elements.

*Proof.* To prove the theorem it suffices to show that every subset  $\mathbb{S}$  of  $\mathbb{V}$  which contains more than  $m$  vectors is linearly dependent. Let  $\mathbb{S}$  be such a set. In  $\mathbb{S}$  there are distinct vectors  $\vec{\alpha}_1, \vec{\alpha}_2, \dots, \vec{\alpha}_n$  where  $n > m$ . Since  $\vec{\beta}_1, \dots, \vec{\beta}_m$  span  $\mathbb{V}$ , there exist scalars  $A_{ij}$  in  $\mathbb{F}$  such that

$$\vec{\alpha}_j = \sum_{i=1}^m A_{ij} \vec{\beta}_i$$

For any  $n$  scalars  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
x_1 \vec{\alpha}_1 + \dots + x_n \vec{\alpha}_n &= \sum_{j=1}^n x_j \vec{\alpha}_j \\
&= \sum_{j=1}^n x_j \sum_{i=1}^m A_{ij} \vec{\beta}_i \\
&= \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^m (A_{ij} x_j) \vec{\beta}_i \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^m \left( \sum_{j=1}^n A_{ij} x_j \right) \vec{\beta}_i
\end{aligned}$$

Since  $n > m$ , it implies there exist scalars  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  not all 0 such that

$$\sum_{j=1}^n A_{ij} x_j = 0, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m.$$

Hence  $x_1 \vec{\alpha}_1 + x_2 \vec{\alpha}_2 + \dots + x_n \vec{\alpha}_n = 0$ . This allows that  $\mathbb{S}$  is a linearly dependent set.  $\square$

**Corollary 1.** *If  $\mathbb{V}$  is a finite-dimensional vector space, then any two bases of  $\mathbb{V}$  have the same (finite) number of elements.*

*Proof.* Since  $\mathbb{V}$  is finite-dimensional, it has the finite basis

$$\vec{\beta}_1, \vec{\beta}_2, \dots, \vec{\beta}_m$$

By Theorem 4 every basis of  $\mathbb{V}$  is finite and contains no more than  $m$  elements. Thus if  $\vec{\alpha}_1, \vec{\alpha}_2, \dots, \vec{\alpha}_n$  is a basis,  $n \leq m$ . By the same argument,  $m \leq n$ . Hence  $m = n$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 2.** *Let  $\mathbb{V}$  be a finite-dimensional vector space and let  $n = \dim \mathbb{V}$ . Then*

1. *any subset of  $\mathbb{V}$  which contains more than  $n$  vectors is linearly dependent;*
2. *no subset of  $\mathbb{V}$  which contains fewer than  $n$  vectors can span  $\mathbb{V}$ .*

**Lemma.** *Let  $\mathbb{S}$  be a linearly independent subset of a vector space  $\mathbb{V}$ . Suppose  $\vec{\beta}$  is a vector in  $\mathbb{V}$  which is not in the subspace spanned by  $\mathbb{S}$ . Then the set obtained by adjoining  $\vec{\beta}$  to  $\mathbb{S}$  is linearly independent.*

*Proof.* Suppose  $\vec{\alpha}_1, \dots, \vec{\alpha}_m$  are distinct vectors in  $\mathbb{S}$  and that

$$c_1 \vec{\alpha}_1 + \dots + c_m \vec{\alpha}_m + b \vec{\beta} = 0$$

Then  $b = 0$ ; for otherwise,

$$\vec{\beta} = (-c_1/b) \vec{\alpha}_1 + \dots + (-c_m/b) \vec{\alpha}_m$$

and  $\vec{\beta}$  is in the subspace spanned by  $\mathbb{S}$ . Thus  $c_1 \vec{\alpha}_1 + \dots + c_m \vec{\alpha}_m = 0$ , and since  $\mathbb{S}$  is linearly independent set each  $c_i = 0$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 5.** *If  $\mathbb{W}$  is a subspace of a finite-dimensional vector space  $\mathbb{V}$ , every linearly independent subset of  $\mathbb{W}$  is finite and is part of a (finite) basis for  $\mathbb{W}$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose  $\mathbb{S}_0$  is a linearly independent subset of  $\mathbb{W}$ . If  $\mathbb{S}$  is a linearly independent subset of  $\mathbb{W}$  containing  $\mathbb{S}_0$ , then  $\mathbb{S}$  is also a linearly independent subset of  $\mathbb{V}$ ; since  $\mathbb{V}$  is finite-dimensional,  $\mathbb{S}_0$  contains no more than  $\dim \mathbb{V}$  elements.

We extend  $\mathbb{S}_0$  to a basis for  $\mathbb{W}$ , as follows. If  $\mathbb{S}_0$  spans  $\mathbb{W}$ , then  $\mathbb{S}_0$  is a basis for  $\mathbb{W}$  and we are done. If  $\mathbb{S}_0$  does not span  $\mathbb{W}$ , we use the preceding lemma to find a vector  $\vec{\beta}_1$  in  $\mathbb{W}$  such that the set  $\mathbb{S}_1 = \mathbb{S}_0 \cup \{\vec{\beta}_1\}$  is independent. If  $\mathbb{S}_0$  spans  $\mathbb{W}$ , fine. If not, apply the lemma to obtain a vector  $\vec{\beta}_2$  in  $\mathbb{W}$  such that  $\mathbb{S}_2 = \mathbb{S}_1 \cup \{\vec{\beta}_2\}$  is independent. If we continue in this way, then (in not more than  $\dim \mathbb{V}$  steps) we reach a set

$$\mathbb{S}_m = \mathbb{S}_0 \cup \{\vec{\beta}_1, \dots, \vec{\beta}_m\}$$

□

**Corollary 1.** *If  $\mathbb{W}$  is a proper subspace of a finite-dimensional vector space  $\mathbb{V}$ , then  $\mathbb{W}$  is finite-dimensional and  $\dim \mathbb{W} < \dim \mathbb{V}$ .*

*Proof.* We may suppose  $\mathbb{W}$  contains a vector  $\vec{\alpha} \neq 0$ . By Theorem 5 and its proof, there is a basis of  $\mathbb{W}$  containing  $\vec{\alpha}$  which contains no more than  $\dim \mathbb{V}$  elements. Hence  $\mathbb{W}$  is finite-dimensional, and  $\dim \mathbb{W} \leq \dim \mathbb{V}$ . Since  $\mathbb{W}$  is a proper subspace, there is a vector  $\vec{\beta}$  which is not in  $\mathbb{W}$ . Adjoining  $\vec{\beta}$  to any basis in  $\mathbb{W}$ , we obtain a linearly independent subset of  $\mathbb{V}$ . Thus  $\dim \mathbb{W} < \dim \mathbb{V}$ . □

**Corollary 2.** *In a finite-dimensional vector space  $\mathbb{V}$  every non-empty linearly independent set of vectors is part of a basis.*

**Corollary 3.** *Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ , and suppose the row vectors of  $\mathbf{A}$  form a linearly independent set of vectors in  $\mathbb{F}^n$ . Then  $\mathbf{A}$  is invertible.*

*Proof.* Let  $\vec{\alpha}_1, \vec{\alpha}_2, \dots, \vec{\alpha}_n$  be the row vectors of  $\mathbf{A}$ , and suppose  $\mathbb{W}$  is the subspace of  $\mathbb{F}^n$  spanned by  $\vec{\alpha}_1, \vec{\alpha}_2, \dots, \vec{\alpha}_n$ . Since  $\vec{\alpha}_1, \vec{\alpha}_2, \dots, \vec{\alpha}_n$  are linearly independent, the dimension of  $\mathbb{W}$  is  $n$ . Corollary 1 shows that  $\mathbb{W} = \mathbb{F}^n$ . Hence there exist scalars  $B_{ij}$  in  $\mathbb{F}$  such that

$$\vec{\epsilon} = \sum_{j=1}^n B_{ij} \vec{\alpha}_j, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n$$

where  $\{\vec{\epsilon}_1, \vec{\epsilon}_2, \dots, \vec{\epsilon}_n\}$  is the standard basis of  $\mathbb{F}^n$ . Thus for the matrix  $\mathbf{B}$  with the entries  $B_{ij}$  we have

$$\mathbf{BA} = \mathbf{I}$$

□

**Theorem 6.** *If  $\mathbb{W}_1$  and  $\mathbb{W}_2$  are finite-dimensional subspaces of a vector space  $\mathbb{V}$ , then  $\mathbb{W}_1 + \mathbb{W}_2$  is finite-dimensional and*

$$\dim \mathbb{W}_1 + \dim \mathbb{W}_2 = \dim (\mathbb{W}_1 \cap \mathbb{W}_2) + \dim (\mathbb{W}_1 + \mathbb{W}_2)$$

*Proof.* By Theorem 5 and its corollaries,  $\mathbb{W}_1 \cap \mathbb{W}_2$  has a finite basis  $\{\vec{\alpha}_1, \dots, \vec{\alpha}_k\}$  which is part of a basis

$$\{\vec{\alpha}_1, \dots, \vec{\alpha}_k, \vec{\beta}_1, \dots, \vec{\beta}_m\} \text{ for } \mathbb{W}_1$$

and part of a basis

$$\{\vec{\alpha}_1, \dots, \vec{\alpha}_k, \vec{\gamma}_1, \dots, \vec{\gamma}_n\} \text{ for } \mathbb{W}_2$$

The subspace  $\mathbb{W}_1 + \mathbb{W}_2$  is spanned by the vectors

$$\{\vec{\alpha}_1, \dots, \vec{\alpha}_k, \vec{\beta}_1, \dots, \vec{\beta}_m, \vec{\gamma}_1, \dots, \vec{\gamma}_n\}$$

And these vectors form an independent set. For suppose

$$\sum x_i \vec{\alpha}_i + \sum y_j \vec{\beta}_j + \sum z_r \vec{\gamma}_r = 0$$

Then

$$-\sum z_r \vec{\gamma}_r = \sum x_i \vec{\alpha}_i + \sum y_j \vec{\beta}_j$$

which shows that  $\sum z_r \vec{\gamma}_r$  belongs to  $\mathbb{W}_1$ . As  $\sum z_r \vec{\gamma}_r$  also belongs to  $\mathbb{W}_2$  it follows that

$$\sum z_r \vec{\gamma}_r = \sum c_i \vec{\alpha}_i$$

for certain scalars  $c_1, \dots, c_k$ . Because the set

$$\{\vec{\alpha}_1, \dots, \vec{\alpha}_k, \vec{\gamma}_1, \dots, \vec{\gamma}_n\}$$

is independent, each of the scalars  $z_r = 0$ . Thus

$$\sum x_i \vec{\alpha}_i + \sum y_j \vec{\beta}_j = 0$$

and since

$$\{\vec{\alpha}_1, \dots, \vec{\alpha}_k, \vec{\beta}_1, \dots, \vec{\beta}_m\}$$

is also an independent set, each  $x_i = 0$  and each  $y_j = 0$ . Thus,

$$\{\vec{\alpha}_1, \dots, \vec{\alpha}_k, \vec{\beta}_1, \dots, \vec{\beta}_m, \vec{\gamma}_1, \dots, \vec{\gamma}_n\}$$

is a basis for  $\mathbb{W}_1 + \mathbb{W}_2$ . Finally

$$\begin{aligned} \dim \mathbb{W}_1 + \dim \mathbb{W}_2 &= (k + m) + (k + n) \\ &= k + (m + k + n) \\ &= \dim(\mathbb{W}_1 \cap \mathbb{W}_2) + \dim(\mathbb{W}_1 + \mathbb{W}_2) \end{aligned}$$

□