

Problem 4.2: Let us take two arbitrary vectors $v_1, v_2 \in W_1 \cap W_2$ and two scalars $a, b \in \mathbb{F}$. We need to show that $av_1 + bv_2 \in W_1 \cap W_2$.

Since $v_1, v_2 \in W_1 \cap W_2$, we have $v_1 \in W_1, v_1 \in W_2, v_2 \in W_1, v_2 \in W_2$. Now since W_1 is a vector space and $v_1, v_2 \in W_1$ we must have $av_1 + bv_2 \in W_1$. For the similar reason, we also have $av_1 + bv_2 \in W_2$. Consequently, $av_1 + bv_2 \in W_1 \cap W_2$.

Problem 4.4: The claim is false.

Consider the vector space \mathbb{R}^2 over the field \mathbb{R} . Now define

$$W_1 := \text{span}\{(1, 0)\} = \{a(1, 0) : a \in \mathbb{R}\} \quad (1)$$

$$W_2 := \text{span}\{(0, 1)\} = \{b(0, 1) : b \in \mathbb{R}\} \quad (2)$$

$$W_3 := \text{span}\{(1, 1)\} = \{c(1, 1) : c \in \mathbb{R}\}. \quad (3)$$

Since $(1, 0)$ and $(1, 1)$ are two independent vectors in \mathbb{R}^2 , $\text{span}\{(1, 0), (1, 1)\} = \mathbb{R}^2$. But $\text{span}\{(1, 0), (1, 1)\} = \{c_1(1, 0) + c_2(0, 1) : c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{R}\} = W_1 + W_3$. Therefore $\mathbb{R}^2 = W_1 + W_3$. Also we can see that $W_1 \cap W_3 = \{(0, 0)\}$

[Take $(x_1, x_2) \in W_1 \cap W_3$. Then $(x_1, x_2) \in W_1$ as well as $(x_1, x_2) \in W_3$. Therefore there exists $a, c \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $(x_1, x_2) = a(1, 0)$ and $(x_1, x_2) = c(1, 1)$. Which implies that $a(1, 0) = c(1, 1)$ i.e, $a = 0, c = 0$. Therefore $(x_1, x_2) = (0, 0)$. So any vector $(x_1, x_2) \in W_1 \cap W_3$ is equal to $(0, 0)$. Therefore $W_1 \cap W_3 = \{(0, 0)\}$].

So using the the proposition 4.4.7 we can say that $\mathbb{R}^2 = W_1 \oplus W_3$.

Similarly, $\mathbb{R}^2 = W_2 \oplus W_3$. Therefore $W_1 \oplus W_3 = \mathbb{R}^2 = W_2 \oplus W_3$. But obviously from definitions (1), (3) we can see that $W_1 \neq W_3$.

Problem 5.1: Let us define

$$\begin{aligned} w_1 &:= v_1 - v_2 \\ w_2 &:= v_2 - v_3 \\ &\vdots \\ w_{n-1} &:= v_{n-1} - v_n \\ w_n &:= v_n. \end{aligned}$$

We want to show that $\text{span}\{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n\} = \text{span}\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\} = V$. Since each w_i is a linear combination of the vectors v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n , we have $w_i \in \text{span}\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ for all $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Therefore by Lemma 5.1.2 we have

$$\text{span}\{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n\} \subset \text{span}\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}.$$

Now we want to show that $\text{span}\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\} \subset \text{span}\{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n\}$. Let us take a vector $v \in \text{span}\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$. Then v can be written as a linear combination of v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n i.e., there exist scalars $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{F}$ such that

$$v = c_1v_1 + c_2v_2 + \dots + c_nv_n.$$

Our goal is to write v as a linear combination of w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n . So first let us write each v_i as a linear combination of w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n . We notice that

$$\begin{aligned} v_n &= w_n \\ v_{n-1} &= w_{n-1} + w_n \\ &\vdots \\ v_2 &= w_2 + w_3 + \dots + w_n \\ v_1 &= w_1 + w_2 + \dots + w_n. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore we have

$$\begin{aligned} v &= c_1v_1 + c_2v_2 + \dots + c_nv_n \\ &= c_1(w_1 + w_2 + \dots + w_n) + c_2(w_2 + w_3 + \dots + w_n) + \dots + c_nw_n \\ &= c_1w_1 + (c_1 + c_2)w_2 + (c_1 + c_2 + c_3)w_3 + \dots + (c_1 + c_2 + \dots + c_n)w_n. \end{aligned}$$

The last line is a linear combination of w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n . Therefore $v \in \text{span}\{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n\}$, and hence $\text{span}\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\} \subset \text{span}\{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n\}$.

Problem 5.3: [This problem relies on the same idea as problem 4.4] Let $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ be a basis of V . Define the spaces

$$\begin{aligned} U_1 &= \text{span}\{v_1\} \\ U_2 &= \text{span}\{v_2\} \\ &\vdots \\ U_n &= \text{span}\{v_n\}. \end{aligned}$$

Since each $v_i \in V$, each U_i is a subspace of V . Now since $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ is a basis of V , each $v \in V$ can be written as a *unique* linear combination of v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n i.e., $v = c_1v_1 + c_2v_2 + \dots + c_nv_n$. But $c_iv_i \in U_i$ for each $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Therefore $V = U_1 \oplus U_2 \oplus \dots \oplus U_n$.

Problem 5.4: Since it is given that U is a subspace of V , we know that $U \subset V$. So if we want to show that $U = V$, we need to show that $V \subset U$.

Now let $\dim(V) = n$, then we have $\dim(U) = n$ (since it is given that $\dim(U) = \dim(V)$). Now let $\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n\}$ be a basis of U . Then $\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n\}$ is a set of independent of vectors in U . But it is given that $U \subset V$. Therefore $\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n\}$ is also a set of

n independent vectors in V . But $\dim(V) = n$, therefore $\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n\}$ is also a basis of V (see Theorem 5.4.4). Which implies that any vector $v \in V$ can be written as $v = c_1u_1 + c_2u_2 + \dots + c_nu_n$ uniquely for some scalars $c_i \in \mathbb{F}$. But $\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n\}$ is also a basis of U , therefore $v = c_1u_1 + c_2u_2 + \dots + c_nu_n \in U$. Consequently, $V \subset U$.

Problem 5.6: Let $\{u_1, u_2, u_3, u_4, u_5\}$ and $\{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4, v_5\}$ be bases of U and V respectively. Now suppose if possible $U \cap V = \{0\}$. We will find a contradiction. Consider the following equation

$$c_1u_1 + \dots + c_5u_5 + d_1v_1 + \dots + d_5v_5 = 0. \quad (4)$$

The above equation can be written as

$$c_1u_1 + \dots + c_5u_5 = (-d_1)v_1 + \dots + (-d_5)v_5. \quad (5)$$

From the above equation we notice that the vector $c_1u_1 + \dots + c_5u_5$ is a linear combination of the vectors v_1, \dots, v_5 , therefore $c_1u_1 + \dots + c_5u_5 \in V$. But naturally $c_1u_1 + \dots + c_5u_5 \in U$. Therefore $c_1u_1 + \dots + c_5u_5 \in U \cap V$. But we assumed that $U \cap V = \{0\}$. Therefore

$$c_1u_1 + \dots + c_5u_5 = 0. \quad (6)$$

Since $\{u_1, u_2, u_3, u_4, u_5\}$ is a basis of U , u_1, \dots, u_5 are linearly independent. Therefore (6) is true only if $c_1 = 0, \dots, c_5 = 0$. Then (5) gives us

$$(-d_1)v_1 + \dots + (-d_5)v_5 = 0,$$

which is true only if $d_1 = 0, \dots, d_5 = 0$ (since $\{v_1, \dots, v_5\}$ is a basis i.e., they are independent). So finally we have $c_1 = 0, \dots, c_5 = 0, d_1 = 0, \dots, d_5 = 0$. Therefore from (4) we can say that $u_1, \dots, u_5, v_1, \dots, v_5$ are linearly independent. But it is a contradiction, because all of them belong to \mathbb{R}^9 and we can not have ten linearly independent vectors in \mathbb{R}^9 . Therefore we must have $U \cap V \neq \{0\}$.

Alternative Proof

Since both U and V are subspaces of \mathbb{R}^9 , $U + V$ is also a subspace of \mathbb{R}^9 . Now using the Theorem 5.4.6 we have

$$\begin{aligned} \dim(U + V) &= \dim(U) + \dim(V) - \dim(U \cap V) \\ &= 5 + 5 - \dim(U \cap V) \\ \text{i.e., } \dim(U \cap V) &= 10 - \dim(U + V). \end{aligned}$$

Since $U + V$ is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^9 , $\dim(U + V) \leq 9$. Therefore $\dim(U \cap V) = 10 - \dim(U + V) \geq 10 - 9 = 1$. Since $\dim(U \cap V) \geq 1$, we must have $U \cap V \neq \{0\}$.

Remark: The geometric idea: Let U be an m dimensional subspace of an n dimensional vector space W . Now if we want to roam inside W but don't want to hit U then we have only $n - m$ degrees of freedom. In the above problem $W = \mathbb{R}^9$ and U is a five dimensional subspace. Now if we want to roam inside V which avoids U (means $V \cap U = \{0\}$) then V can be at most $9 - 5 = 4$ dimensional subspace. If V is five dimensional then it must intersect U .

Problem 5.7: [This problem uses the same idea as problem 5.6] We will prove it by induction. * \ Let U and W be two subspaces of V . We will show that $\dim(U + W) \leq \dim(U) + \dim(W)$. Let $\dim(U) = k$, $\dim(W) = l$ and $\{u_1, \dots, u_k\}$, $\{w_1, \dots, w_l\}$ be bases of U and W respectively. Then any vector $u \in U$ is a linear combination of u_1, \dots, u_k and any vector $w \in W$ is a linear combination of w_1, \dots, w_l . Therefore any vector $u + w \in U + W$ is a linear combination of $u_1, \dots, u_k, w_1, \dots, w_l$. Therefore $\text{span}\{u_1, \dots, u_k, w_1, \dots, w_l\} = U + W$.

Now $u_1, \dots, u_k, w_1, \dots, w_l$ may not be linearly independent. But we can throw out the dependent vectors from $\{u_1, \dots, u_k, w_1, \dots, w_l\}$ and make a basis of $U + W$ out of it. Therefore basis of $U + W$ contains at most $k + l$ vectors. Consequently,

$$\dim(U + W) \leq k + l = \dim(U) + \dim(W) \quad * \ \backslash \quad (7)$$

Using the above result we can conclude that

$$\dim(U_1 + U_2) \leq \dim(U_1) + \dim(U_2).$$

Now suppose the statement is true for $m - 1$ subspaces i.e.,

$$\dim(U_1 + \dots + U_{m-1}) \leq \dim(U_1) + \dots + \dim(U_{m-1}). \quad (8)$$

We want to show that the statement is true for m subspaces. Using the result (7) and the above equation (8) we can conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} \dim(\underbrace{U_1 + \dots + U_{m-1}}_U + \underbrace{U_m}_W) &\leq \dim(U_1 + \dots + U_{m-1}) + \dim(U_m) \\ &\leq \dim(U_1) + \dots + \dim(U_{m-1}) + \dim(U_m) \quad (\text{using (8)}). \end{aligned}$$

Remark: The result in (7) can also be proved by using Theorem 5.4.6. Namely, we can say that

$$\dim(U + W) = \dim(U) + \dim(W) - \dim(U \cap W) \leq \dim(U) + \dim(W).$$

However, the text marked inside * \ ... * \ explains the main idea behind Theorem 5.4.6.

Problem 6.5: Let $\dim(V) = n$ and $\dim(\text{null}(T)) = m$. Let $\{v_1, \dots, v_m\}$ be a basis of $\text{null}(T)$. Since $\text{null}(T)$ is a subspace of V , by the basis extension theorem we can extend this set $\{v_1, \dots, v_m\}$ to a basis of V . Let $\{v_1, \dots, v_m, u_1, \dots, u_{n-m}\}$ be a basis of V .

Now define

$$U = \text{span}\{u_1, \dots, u_{n-m}\}.$$

We will prove that

$$U \cap \text{null}(T) = \{0\} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{range}(T) = \{T(u) | u \in U\}.$$

“First of all, we know that $\{v_1, \dots, v_m, u_1, \dots, u_{n-m}\}$ is a set of independent vectors (because it is a basis of V). Now if there is some vector $u \in U \cap \text{null}(T)$, then u can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} u &= c_1 u_1 + \dots + c_{n-m} u_{n-m} \\ \text{also } u &= d_1 v_1 + \dots + d_m v_m. \end{aligned}$$

(Because $\{u_1, \dots, u_{n-m}\}$ is a basis of U and $\{v_1, \dots, v_m\}$ is a basis of $\text{null}(T)$). Therefore we have

$$\begin{aligned} c_1 u_1 + \dots + c_{n-m} u_{n-m} &= d_1 v_1 + \dots + d_m v_m \\ \text{i.e., } c_1 u_1 + \dots + c_{n-m} u_{n-m} + (-d_1) v_1 + \dots + (-d_m) v_m &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

But we know that $v_1, \dots, v_m, u_1, \dots, u_{n-m}$ are independent vectors. Therefore $c_1 = 0, \dots, c_{n-m} = 0, d_1 = 0, \dots, d_m = 0$. Consequently, $u = 0$. Therefore $U \cap \text{null}(T) = \{0\}$.”

Now we want to show that $\text{range}(T) = \{T(u) | u \in U\}$. Since $U \subset V$, we have

$$\{T(u) | u \in U\} \subset \{T(v) | v \in V\} = \text{range}(T). \quad (9)$$

Conversely, let us choose $T(v) \in \text{range}(T)$. We want to show that $T(v) \in \{T(u) | u \in U\}$. Since $\{v_1, \dots, v_m, u_1, \dots, u_{n-m}\}$ is a basis of V , we can write

$$v = a_1 v_1 + \dots + a_m v_m + b_1 u_1 + \dots + b_{n-m} u_{n-m}.$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} T(v) &= a_1 T(v_1) + \dots + a_m T(v_m) + T(b_1 u_1 + \dots + b_{n-m} u_{n-m}) \\ &= T(b_1 u_1 + \dots + b_{n-m} u_{n-m}) \quad (\text{since } v_i \in \text{null}(T), \forall i = 1, \dots, m). \end{aligned}$$

But $b_1 u_1 + \dots + b_{n-m} u_{n-m} \in U$, therefore $T(v) = T(b_1 u_1 + \dots + b_{n-m} u_{n-m}) \in \{T(u) | u \in U\}$. Consequently,

$$\text{range}(T) \subset \{T(u) | u \in U\}. \quad (10)$$

Combining (9) and (10) we have the result

$$\text{range}(T) = \{T(u) | u \in U\}.$$

Remark: (1) Geometric idea: nullspace is annihilated by the linear transformation T . So the main contribution for $\text{range}(T)$ is given by $V - \text{null}(T)$. To realize this fact, look at the construction of U .

(2) First part of the proof (which is included in “...”) uses the similar technique of problem 5.6. But this time the technique is used in a reverse order. Both rely on the same geometric idea.

Problem 6.7: First of all, notice that $S : U \rightarrow V$, therefore $\text{null}(S)$ is a subspace of U . On the other hand $T \circ S : U \rightarrow W$, therefore $\text{null}(T \circ S)$ is a also subspace of U . But which one is bigger? Let $u \in \text{null}(S)$, then $T \circ S(u) = T(S(u)) = T(0_V) = 0_W$ (we are using the notation 0_X to indicate that it is the zero element of the vector space X). Which implies that $u \in \text{null}(T \circ S)$, therefore $\text{null}(S) \subset \text{null}(T \circ S)$.

Now let us say $\dim(\text{null}(S)) = k$ and $\{s_1, \dots, s_k\}$ be a basis of $\text{null}(S)$. We can extend it to a basis of $\text{null}(T \circ S)$, say $\{s_1, \dots, s_k, u_1, \dots, u_l\}$. Since each of $s_1, \dots, s_k, u_1, \dots, u_l$ is annihilated by $T \circ S$, either they are annihilated by S or their image (via S) is annihilated by T . We know that the vectors s_1, \dots, s_k are annihilated by S (because they belong to $\text{null}(S)$). Therefore images of u_1, \dots, u_l via S i.e., $S(u_1), \dots, S(u_l)$ must be annihilated by T (because $T \circ S(u_i) = 0$). In other words

$$S(u_1), \dots, S(u_l) \text{ belong to the } \text{null}(T). \quad (11)$$

But $S(u_1), \dots, S(u_l)$ are l independent vectors. Because if

$$\begin{aligned} c_1 S(u_1) + \dots + c_l S(u_l) &= 0 \\ \text{i.e., } S(c_1 u_1 + \dots + c_l u_l) &= 0. \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

Then $c_1 u_1 + \dots + c_l u_l \in \text{null}(S)$. But the $\text{null}(S)$ is spanned by another disjoint independent set of vectors, namely s_1, \dots, s_k . Therefore $c_1 u_1 + \dots + c_l u_l = 0$ (use the “...” technique from problem 6.5 or the technique of problem 5.6). But u_1, \dots, u_l is a part of a basis (they are part of the basis of $\text{null}(T \circ S)$), therefore u_1, \dots, u_l are independent. Hence $c_1 = 0, \dots, c_l = 0$. Then from (12) we can say that $S(u_1), \dots, S(u_l)$ are independent.

Now we can revise the statement (11) and say that $\text{null}(T)$ contains l many independent vectors. Therefore $\dim(\text{null}(T)) \geq l$. Recall that $\{s_1, \dots, s_k, u_1, \dots, u_l\}$ is a basis of $\text{null}(T \circ S)$. Therefore $\dim(\text{null}(T \circ S)) = k + l$. Gluing all the statements together we have

$$\dim(\text{null}(T \circ S)) = k + l = \dim(\text{null}(S)) + l \leq \dim(\text{null}(S)) + \dim(\text{null}(T)).$$

Alternative Proof (using the dimension formula)

First of all, notice that $S : U \rightarrow V$, therefore $\text{null}(S)$ is a subspace of U . On the other hand $T \circ S : U \rightarrow W$, therefore $\text{null}(T \circ S)$ is a also subspace of U . But which one is bigger? Let $u \in \text{null}(S)$, then $T \circ S(u) = T(S(u)) = T(0_V) = 0_W$ (we are using the notation 0_X to indicate that it is the zero element of the vector space X). Which implies that $u \in \text{null}(T \circ S)$, therefore $\text{null}(S) \subset \text{null}(T \circ S)$.

Now let us say $\dim(\text{null}(S)) = k$ and $\{s_1, \dots, s_k\}$ be a basis of $\text{null}(S)$. We can extend it to a basis of $\text{null}(T \circ S)$, say $\{s_1, \dots, s_k, u_1, \dots, u_l\}$. Since each of $s_1, \dots, s_k, u_1, \dots, u_l$ is annihilated by $T \circ S$, either they are annihilated by S or their image (via S) is annihilated by T . We know that the vectors s_1, \dots, s_k are annihilated by S (because they belong to $\text{null}(S)$). Therefore images of u_1, \dots, u_l via S i.e., $S(u_1), \dots, S(u_l)$ must be annihilated by T (because $T \circ S(u_i) = 0$). In other words

$$S(s_i) = 0_V \quad \forall i = 1, \dots, k \text{ and } S(u_1), \dots, S(u_l) \text{ belong to the } \text{null}(T). \quad (13)$$

We know that $S : U \rightarrow V$, and $\text{null}(T \circ S) \subset U$. Let us restrict S to $\text{null}(T \circ S)$ ¹, then from (13) we can say that $\text{range}(S|_{\text{null}(T \circ S)}) \subset \text{null}(T)$. Therefore

$$\dim(\text{range}(S|_{\text{null}(T \circ S)})) \leq \dim(\text{null}(T)).$$

Now applying the dimension formula on $S|_{\text{null}(T \circ S)}$, and the above result we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \dim(\text{null}(T \circ S)) &= \dim(\text{null}(S|_{\text{null}(T \circ S)})) + \dim(\text{range}(S|_{\text{null}(T \circ S)})) \\ &= \dim(\text{null}(S)) + \dim(\text{range}(S|_{\text{null}(T \circ S)})) \\ &\leq \dim(\text{null}(S)) + \dim(\text{null}(T)). \end{aligned}$$

¹Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a function and $Z \subset X$. Restriction of f on Z is denoted by $f|_Z$. The domain of restricted $f|_Z$ is only Z (whereas originally f had a bigger domain, namely X).