

1. Recall Theorem (E) from the handout *Minimal spanning set*:

Let $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_q$ be vectors in \mathbb{R}^n , and U be the $(n \times q)$ -matrix given by $U = [\mathbf{u}_1 \mid \mathbf{u}_2 \mid \dots \mid \mathbf{u}_q]$.

Let $V = \text{Span}(\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_q\})$.

Denote by U' the reduced row-echelon form which is row-equivalent to U .

Denote the j -th column of U' by \mathbf{u}'_j .

Denote the rank of U' by r . Suppose $r \geq 1$, and label the pivot columns of U' , from left to right, by d_1, d_2, \dots, d_r .

Then $\mathbf{u}_{d_1}, \mathbf{u}_{d_2}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{d_r}$ constitute a basis for V .

Moreover, for each $j = 1, 2, \dots, q$,

the vector \mathbf{u}_j is the linear combination of $\mathbf{u}_{d_1}, \mathbf{u}_{d_2}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{d_r}$ and the respective scalars $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_r$ if and only if

$$\mathbf{u}'_j = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha_r \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

We give some applications of Theorem (E) in the theory for the notion of *basis*.

2. **Lemma (1).**

Let V, W be subspaces of \mathbb{R}^n .

Define the set $V + W$ by

$$V + W = \left\{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \begin{array}{l} \text{There exist some } y \in V, z \in W \\ \text{such that } x = y + z \end{array} \right\}.$$

Then $V + W$ is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

Remark.

$V + W$ is called the sum of V and W .

Proof of Lemma (1). Exercise.

3. An immediate application of Theorem (E) in helping us determine a basis for the sum of two subspaces of \mathbb{R}^n when a basis for each subspace concerned is already known (or, more generally, when each subspace concerned has already been expressed as the span of several vectors in \mathbb{R}^n).

2. Lemma (1).

Let V, W be subspaces of \mathbb{R}^n .

Define the set $V + W$ by

$$V + W = \left\{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{There exist some } y \in V, z \in W \\ \text{such that } x = y + z \end{array} \right\}.$$

Then $V + W$ is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

Remark.

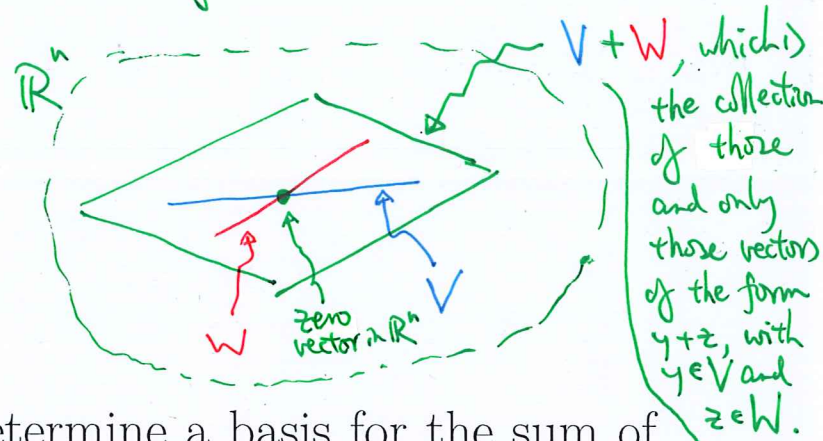
$V + W$ is called the sum of V and W .

Proof of Lemma (1). Exercise.

In plain words, this 'selection criterion' reads:
' x is a vector of the form $y+z$
in which $y \in V$ and $z \in W$.'

This turns out to be
the same as:
' x is a linear combination
of vectors belonging to V
or W .'

Illustration of the idea in this definition



3. An immediate application of Theorem (E) in helping us determine a basis for the sum of two subspaces of \mathbb{R}^n when a basis for each subspace concerned is already known (or, more generally, when each subspace concerned has already been expressed as the span of several vectors in \mathbb{R}^n).

Theorem (2).

Let V, W be subspaces of \mathbb{R}^n . Let $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p \in V$, $\mathbf{u}_{p+1}, \mathbf{u}_{p+2}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{p+q} \in W$. Suppose none of these vectors is the zero vector.

Suppose $V = \text{Span}(\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p\})$ and $W = \text{Span}(\{\mathbf{u}_{p+1}, \mathbf{u}_{p+2}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{p+q}\})$.

Then the statements below hold:

(a) $V + W = \text{Span}(\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p, \mathbf{u}_{p+1}, \mathbf{u}_{p+2}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{p+q}\})$.

(b) Suppose $U = [\mathbf{u}_1 \mid \mathbf{u}_2 \mid \dots \mid \mathbf{u}_p \mid \mathbf{u}_{p+1} \mid \mathbf{u}_{p+2} \mid \dots \mid \mathbf{u}_{p+q}]$.

Denote by U' the reduced row-echelon form which is row-equivalent to U .

Denote the rank of U' by r .

Label the pivot columns of U' from left to right by d_1, d_2, \dots, d_r .

Then a basis for $V + W$ is constituted by $\mathbf{u}_{d_1}, \mathbf{u}_{d_2}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{d_r}$.

(c) Suppose $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p$ constitute a basis for V , and $\mathbf{u}_{p+1}, \mathbf{u}_{p+2}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{p+q}$ constitute a basis for W .

Then $d_j = j$ for each $j = 1, 2, \dots, p$. Moreover, $r \geq p$.

Further write $s = r - p$, and $k_1 = d_{p+1} - p, k_2 = d_{p+2} - p, \dots, k_s = d_r - p$.

Then a basis for $V + W$ is constituted by $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p, \mathbf{u}_{p+k_1}, \mathbf{u}_{p+k_2}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{p+k_s}$.

Proof of Theorem (2). Exercise. (Apply Lemma (1) and Theorem (E). The hard work has been done in the proof of Theorem (E).)

Theorem (2).

Let V, W be subspaces of \mathbb{R}^n . Let $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p \in V$, $\mathbf{u}_{p+1}, \mathbf{u}_{p+2}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{p+q} \in W$.

Suppose none of these vectors is the zero vector.

Suppose $V = \text{Span}(\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p\})$ and $W = \text{Span}(\{\mathbf{u}_{p+1}, \mathbf{u}_{p+2}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{p+q}\})$.

Then the statements below hold:

(a) $V + W = \text{Span}(\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p, \mathbf{u}_{p+1}, \mathbf{u}_{p+2}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{p+q}\})$.

$V+W$ is just the collection of all linear combinations that can be formed with vectors belonging to V and vectors belonging to W .

(b) Suppose $U = [\mathbf{u}_1 \mid \mathbf{u}_2 \mid \dots \mid \mathbf{u}_p \mid \mathbf{u}_{p+1} \mid \mathbf{u}_{p+2} \mid \dots \mid \mathbf{u}_{p+q}]$.

Denote by U' the reduced row-echelon form which is row-equivalent to U .

Denote the rank of U' by r .

Label the pivot columns of U' from left to right by d_1, d_2, \dots, d_r .

Then a basis for $V + W$ is constituted by $\mathbf{u}_{d_1}, \mathbf{u}_{d_2}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{d_r}$.

Beware: although $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p$ are linearly independent, and $\mathbf{u}_{p+1}, \mathbf{u}_{p+2}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{p+q}$ are linearly independent, there is no guarantee that $\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p, \mathbf{u}_{p+1}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{p+q}$ are linearly independent.

(c) Suppose $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p$ constitute a basis for V , and $\mathbf{u}_{p+1}, \mathbf{u}_{p+2}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{p+q}$ constitute a basis for W .

Then $d_j = j$ for each $j = 1, 2, \dots, p$. Moreover, $r \geq p$.

Further write $s = r - p$, and $k_1 = d_{p+1} - p, k_2 = d_{p+2} - p, \dots, k_s = d_r - p$.

Then a basis for $V + W$ is constituted by $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p, \mathbf{u}_{p+k_1}, \mathbf{u}_{p+k_2}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{p+k_s}$.

Nonetheless, $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p$, supplemented by possibly some amongst $\mathbf{u}_{p+1}, \mathbf{u}_{p+2}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{p+q}$, give a basis for $V+W$.

This is an immediate consequence of Theorem (E).

Due to linear independence of $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p$.

Proof of Theorem (2). Exercise. (Apply Lemma (1) and Theorem (E). The hard work has been done in the proof of Theorem (E).)

4. Illustrations for Theorem (2).

(a) Let

$$\mathbf{s}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{s}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{s}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 3 \\ 5 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{t}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 5 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{t}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{t}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 9 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{t}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Define $V = \text{Span}(\{\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \mathbf{s}_3\})$, $W = \text{Span}(\{\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \mathbf{t}_3, \mathbf{t}_4\})$.

We want to find a basis for $V + W$.

Define $U = [\mathbf{s}_1 | \mathbf{s}_2 | \mathbf{s}_3 | \mathbf{t}_1 | \mathbf{t}_2 | \mathbf{t}_3 | \mathbf{t}_4]$.

We find the reduced row-echelon form U' which is row equivalent to U :

$$U = \left[\begin{array}{ccc|cccc} 1 & 2 & 7 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 3 & 2 & 5 & 5 & -1 & 9 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & -5 & 5 & 2 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] \longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow U' = \left[\begin{array}{ccc|cccc} 1 & 0 & -1 & 3 & 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 & -2 & 0 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

The rank of U' is 3, and the pivot columns are the first, second, and fifth columns.

Hence a basis for $V + W$ is constituted by $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \mathbf{t}_2$.

4. Illustrations for Theorem (2).

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$$\mathbf{s}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{s}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{s}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 3 \\ 5 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{t}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 5 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{t}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{t}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 9 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{t}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Define $V = \text{Span}(\{\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \mathbf{s}_3\})$, $W = \text{Span}(\{\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \mathbf{t}_3, \mathbf{t}_4\})$.

We want to find a basis for $V + W$.

Define $U = [\mathbf{s}_1 | \mathbf{s}_2 | \mathbf{s}_3 | \mathbf{t}_1 | \mathbf{t}_2 | \mathbf{t}_3 | \mathbf{t}_4]$.

We find the reduced row-echelon form U' which is row equivalent to U :

$$U = \left[\begin{array}{ccc|ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 7 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 3 & 2 & 5 & 5 & -1 & 9 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & -5 & 5 & 2 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] \longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow U' = \left[\begin{array}{ccc|ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -1 & 3 & 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 & -2 & 0 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

u_1 u_2 u_3 u_4 u_5 u_6 u_7 u'_1 u'_2 u'_3

The rank of U' is 3, and the pivot columns are the first, second, and fifth columns.

Hence a basis for $V + W$ is constituted by $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \mathbf{t}_2$.

(b) *Let*

$$\mathbf{s}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{s}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 0 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{s}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -4 \\ 0 \\ -6 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{t}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{t}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{t}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 8 \\ 2 \\ 5 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Define $V = \text{Span}(\{\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \mathbf{s}_3\})$, $W = \text{Span}(\{\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \mathbf{t}_3\})$.

We want to find a basis for $V + W$.

Define $U = [\mathbf{s}_1 | \mathbf{s}_2 | \mathbf{s}_3 | \mathbf{t}_1 | \mathbf{t}_2 | \mathbf{t}_3]$.

We find the reduced row-echelon form U' which is row equivalent to U :

$$U = \left[\begin{array}{ccc|ccc} -1 & 1 & -3 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & -2 & -4 & 0 & 1 & 8 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ -2 & 3 & -6 & 2 & 2 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{array} \right] \longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow U' = \left[\begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

The rank of U' is 5, and the pivot columns are the first five columns.

Hence $V + W = \mathbb{R}^5$, and a basis for $V + W$ is constituted by $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \mathbf{s}_3, \mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2$.

(b) Let

$$\mathbf{s}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{s}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 0 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{s}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -4 \\ 0 \\ -6 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{t}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{t}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{t}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 8 \\ 2 \\ 5 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Define $V = \text{Span}(\{\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \mathbf{s}_3\})$, $W = \text{Span}(\{\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \mathbf{t}_3\})$.

We want to find a basis for $V + W$.

Define $U = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{s}_1 & \mathbf{s}_2 & \mathbf{s}_3 & \mathbf{t}_1 & \mathbf{t}_2 & \mathbf{t}_3 \end{bmatrix}$.

We find the reduced row-echelon form U' which is row equivalent to U :

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 & -3 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & -2 & -4 & 0 & 1 & 8 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ -2 & 3 & -6 & 2 & 2 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow U' = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$u_{d_1} \quad u_{d_2} \quad u_{d_3} \quad u_{d_4} \quad u_{d_5} \quad \leftarrow \dots \quad u'_{d_1} \quad u'_{d_2} \quad u'_{d_3} \quad u'_{d_4} \quad u'_{d_5}$

The rank of U' is 5, and the pivot columns are the first five columns.

Hence $V + W = \mathbb{R}^5$, and a basis for $V + W$ is constituted by $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \mathbf{s}_3, \mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2$.

(c) Let

$$\mathbf{s}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{s}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 1 \\ -3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{s}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ -12 \\ 5 \\ -12 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{s}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 4 \\ -1 \\ 4 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix},$$

and

$$\mathbf{t}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{t}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -4 \\ 1 \\ -5 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{t}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -7 \\ 3 \\ -7 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{t}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -5 \\ 2 \\ -3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{t}_5 = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ -9 \\ 4 \\ -10 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{t}_6 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -7 \\ 3 \\ -6 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Define

$$V = \text{Span} (\{\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \mathbf{s}_3, \mathbf{s}_4\}), \quad W = \text{Span} (\{\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \mathbf{t}_3, \mathbf{t}_4, \mathbf{t}_5, \mathbf{t}_6\}).$$

We want to find a basis for $V + W$.

Define

$$U = [\mathbf{s}_1 | \mathbf{s}_2 | \mathbf{s}_3 | \mathbf{s}_4 | \mathbf{t}_1 | \mathbf{t}_2 | \mathbf{t}_3 | \mathbf{t}_4 | \mathbf{t}_5 | \mathbf{t}_6].$$

(c) Let

$$\mathbf{s}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{s}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 1 \\ -3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{s}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ -12 \\ 5 \\ -12 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{s}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 4 \\ -1 \\ 4 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix},$$

and

$$\mathbf{t}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{t}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -4 \\ 1 \\ -5 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{t}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -7 \\ 3 \\ -7 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{t}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -5 \\ 2 \\ -3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{t}_5 = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ -9 \\ 4 \\ -10 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{t}_6 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -7 \\ 3 \\ -6 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Define

$$V = \text{Span} (\{\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \mathbf{s}_3, \mathbf{s}_4\}), \quad W = \text{Span} (\{\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \mathbf{t}_3, \mathbf{t}_4, \mathbf{t}_5, \mathbf{t}_6\}).$$

We want to find a basis for $V + W$.

Define

$$U = \left[\begin{array}{c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c} \mathbf{s}_1 & \mathbf{s}_2 & \mathbf{s}_3 & \mathbf{s}_4 & \mathbf{t}_1 & \mathbf{t}_2 & \mathbf{t}_3 & \mathbf{t}_4 & \mathbf{t}_5 & \mathbf{t}_6 \\ \hline u_1 & u_2 & u_3 & u_4 & u_5 & u_6 & u_7 & u_8 & u_9 & u_{10} \end{array} \right].$$

We find the reduced row-echelon form U' which is row equivalent to U :

$$U = \left[\begin{array}{cccc|cccc} 1 & 2 & 7 & -3 & 1 & 2 & 4 & 2 & 6 & 4 \\ -2 & -3 & -12 & 4 & 0 & -4 & -7 & -5 & -9 & -7 \\ 1 & 1 & 5 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 3 & 2 & 4 & 3 \\ -2 & -3 & -12 & 4 & -1 & -5 & -7 & -3 & -10 & -6 \\ 1 & 3 & 9 & -5 & 1 & 6 & 5 & 3 & 7 & 5 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow U' = \left[\begin{array}{cccc|cccc} 1 & 0 & 3 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 2 & 0 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & -2 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

The rank of U' is 4, and the pivot columns are the first, second, fifth, eighth columns.

Hence a basis for $V + W$ is constituted by

$$\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_4.$$

Remark.

Suppose V, W are respectively given as the null spaces of some matrices with n columns. Then we first obtain a basis for V and a basis for W , and then apply Theorem (2) to obtain a basis for $V + W$.

We find the reduced row-echelon form U' which is row equivalent to U :

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 7 & -3 & 1 & 2 & 4 & 2 & 6 & 4 \\ -2 & -3 & -12 & 4 & 0 & -4 & -7 & -5 & -9 & -7 \\ 1 & 1 & 5 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 3 & 2 & 4 & 3 \\ -2 & -3 & -12 & 4 & -1 & -5 & -7 & -3 & -10 & -6 \\ 1 & 3 & 9 & -5 & 1 & 6 & 5 & 3 & 7 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow U' = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 2 & 0 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & -2 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

The rank of U' is 4, and the pivot columns are the first, second, fifth, eighth columns.

Hence a basis for $V + W$ is constituted by

$$\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_4.$$

Remark.

Suppose V, W are respectively given as the null spaces of some matrices with n columns. Then we first obtain a basis for V and a basis for W , and then apply Theorem (2) to obtain a basis for $V + W$.

5. **Theorem (F).** (Replacement Theorem in the context of subspaces of \mathbb{R}^n .)

Let W be a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

Let $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \dots, \mathbf{s}_p, \mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \dots, \mathbf{t}_q$ be vectors in W .

Suppose none of these vectors is the zero vector.

Suppose $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \dots, \mathbf{s}_p$ are linearly independent.

Further suppose $\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \dots, \mathbf{t}_q$ constitute a basis for W .

Then:

- *$q \geq p$, and*
- *there is a basis for W which is constituted by:*
 - * *$\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \dots, \mathbf{s}_p$ together with*
 - * *some $q - p$ vectors from amongst $\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \dots, \mathbf{t}_q$.*

Remark.

In plain words, the conclusion in this result says that

the linearly independent vectors $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \dots, \mathbf{s}_p$ in W (which do not necessarily constitute a basis for W because there may be not enough of them to ‘span’ every vector in W) can be used for ‘replacing’ p vectors from amongst any given basis for W , say, $\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \dots, \mathbf{t}_q$.

6. Proof of Theorem (F).

Let W be a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

Let $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \dots, \mathbf{s}_p, \mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \dots, \mathbf{t}_q$ be vectors in W .

Suppose none of these vectors is the zero vector.

Suppose $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \dots, \mathbf{s}_p$ are linearly independent.

Further suppose $\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \dots, \mathbf{t}_q$ constitute a basis for W .

Write $\mathbf{u}_k = \mathbf{s}_k$ for each $k = 1, 2, \dots, p$, and write $\mathbf{u}_{p+\ell} = \mathbf{t}_\ell$ for each $\ell = 1, 2, \dots, q$.

Define

$$V = \text{Span} (\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p\}).$$

By assumption,

$$W = \text{Span} (\{\mathbf{u}_{p+1}, \mathbf{u}_{p+2}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{p+q}\}).$$

We have

$$V + W = \text{Span} (\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p, \mathbf{u}_{p+1}, \mathbf{u}_{p+2}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{p+q}\}).$$

Then, by assumption,

$$V + W = \text{Span} (\{\mathbf{u}_{p+1}, \mathbf{u}_{p+2}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{p+q}\}) = W.$$

The conclusion then follows from an application of Theorem (2).

6. Proof of Theorem (F).

Let W be a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

Let $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \dots, \mathbf{s}_p, \mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \dots, \mathbf{t}_q$ be vectors in W .

Suppose none of these vectors is the zero vector.

Suppose $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \dots, \mathbf{s}_p$ are linearly independent.

Further suppose $\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \dots, \mathbf{t}_q$ constitute a basis for W .

Write $\mathbf{u}_k = \mathbf{s}_k$ for each $k = 1, 2, \dots, p$, and write $\mathbf{u}_{p+\ell} = \mathbf{t}_\ell$ for each $\ell = 1, 2, \dots, q$.

Define

$$V = \text{Span} (\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p\}).$$

(#) u_1, u_2, \dots, u_p is a basis for V .

By assumption,

$$W = \text{Span} (\{\mathbf{u}_{p+1}, \mathbf{u}_{p+2}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{p+q}\}).$$

(##) $u_{p+1}, u_{p+2}, \dots, u_{p+q}$ is of course a basis for W .

We have

$$V + W = \text{Span} (\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p, \mathbf{u}_{p+1}, \mathbf{u}_{p+2}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{p+q}\}).$$

Then, by assumption,

$$V + W = \text{Span} (\{\mathbf{u}_{p+1}, \mathbf{u}_{p+2}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{p+q}\}) = W.$$

The conclusion then follows from an application of Theorem (2).

Theorem (2) tells us that because of (#), (##), a basis for $V+W$ is given by u_1, u_2, \dots, u_p and supplemented by exactly some $q-p$ vectors from $u_{p+1}, u_{p+2}, \dots, u_{p+q}$. But $V+W$ is also W . Done.

7. Illustrations for Theorem (F).

(a) Let $\mathbf{s}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{s}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{t}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{t}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{t}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

Take for granted that $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2$ are linearly independent, and that $\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \mathbf{t}_3$ constitute a basis for \mathbb{R}^3 .

We want to obtain a basis for \mathbb{R}^3 constituted by $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2$ and some vectors from amongst $\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \mathbf{t}_3$.

Define $U = [\mathbf{s}_1 | \mathbf{s}_2 | \mathbf{t}_1 | \mathbf{t}_2 | \mathbf{t}_3]$.

We find the reduced row-echelon form U' which is row equivalent to U :

$$U = \left[\begin{array}{cc|ccc} 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 6 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] \longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow U' = \left[\begin{array}{cc|ccc} 1 & 0 & 3 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1/2 \end{array} \right]$$

The rank of U' is 3.

The pivot columns of U' are the first, second and fourth columns.

Hence a basis for \mathbb{R}^3 is constituted by $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \mathbf{t}_2$.

7. Illustrations for Theorem (F).

(a) Let $\mathbf{s}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{s}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{t}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{t}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{t}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

Take for granted that $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2$ are linearly independent, and that $\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \mathbf{t}_3$ constitute a basis for \mathbb{R}^3 .

We want to obtain a basis for \mathbb{R}^3 constituted by $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2$ and some vectors from amongst $\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \mathbf{t}_3$.

Define $U = [\mathbf{s}_1 | \mathbf{s}_2 | \mathbf{t}_1 | \mathbf{t}_2 | \mathbf{t}_3]$.

We find the reduced row-echelon form U' which is row equivalent to U :

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 6 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\dots} U' = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1/2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\underbrace{\quad}_{u_1} \quad \underbrace{\quad}_{u_2} \quad \underbrace{\quad}_{u_3} \quad \underbrace{\quad}_{u_4} \quad \underbrace{\quad}_{u_5}$

 $\underbrace{\quad}_{u'_1} \quad \underbrace{\quad}_{u'_2} \quad \underbrace{\quad}_{u'_3}$

The rank of U' is 3.

The pivot columns of U' are the first, second and fourth columns.

Hence a basis for \mathbb{R}^3 is constituted by $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \mathbf{t}_2$.

(b) Let $\mathbf{s}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{t}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{t}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 3 \\ 5 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{t}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$. Define $W = \text{Span}(\{\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \mathbf{t}_3\})$.

Take for granted that $\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \mathbf{t}_3$ are constitutes a basis for W .

Note that \mathbf{s}_1 is linearly independent. Take for granted that $\mathbf{s}_1 \in W$.

We want to obtain a basis for W constituted by \mathbf{s}_1 and some vectors from amongst $\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \mathbf{t}_3$.

Define $U = [\mathbf{s}_1 | \mathbf{t}_1 | \mathbf{t}_2 | \mathbf{t}_3]$.

We find the reduced row-echelon form U' which is row equivalent to U :

$$U = \left[\begin{array}{c|ccc} 1 & 2 & 7 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 3 & 2 & 5 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & -5 & 2 \end{array} \right] \longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow U' = \left[\begin{array}{c|ccc} 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

The rank of U' is 3.

The pivot columns of U' are the first, second and fourth columns.

Hence a basis for W is constituted by $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_3$.

(b) Let $\mathbf{s}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{t}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{t}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 3 \\ 5 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{t}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$. Define $W = \text{Span}(\{\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \mathbf{t}_3\})$.

Take for granted that $\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \mathbf{t}_3$ are constitutes a basis for W .

Note that \mathbf{s}_1 is linearly independent. Take for granted that $\mathbf{s}_1 \in W$.

We want to obtain a basis for W constituted by \mathbf{s}_1 and some vectors from amongst $\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \mathbf{t}_3$.

Define $U = [\mathbf{s}_1 | \mathbf{t}_1 | \mathbf{t}_2 | \mathbf{t}_3]$.

We find the reduced row-echelon form U' which is row equivalent to U :

$$U = \left[\begin{array}{c|c|c|c} 1 & 2 & 7 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 3 & 2 & 5 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & -5 & 2 \end{array} \right] \longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow U' = \left[\begin{array}{c|c|c|c} 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{red arrow pointing to } U'}$

The rank of U' is 3.

The pivot columns of U' are the first, second and fourth columns.

Hence a basis for W is constituted by $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_3$.

(c) Let $\mathbf{s}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{s}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{s}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -4 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$, and $\mathbf{t}_j = \mathbf{e}_j^{(5)}$ for each $j = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$.

Take for granted that $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \mathbf{s}_3$ are linearly independent, and that $\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \mathbf{t}_3, \mathbf{t}_4, \mathbf{t}_5$ constitute a basis for \mathbb{R}^5 .

We want to obtain a basis for \mathbb{R}^5 constituted by $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \mathbf{s}_3$ and some vectors from amongst $\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \mathbf{t}_3, \mathbf{t}_4, \mathbf{t}_5$.

Define $U = [\mathbf{s}_1 | \mathbf{s}_2 | \mathbf{s}_3 | \mathbf{t}_1 | \mathbf{t}_2 | \mathbf{t}_3 | \mathbf{t}_4 | \mathbf{t}_5]$.

We find the reduced row-echelon form U' which is row equivalent to U :

$$U = \left[\begin{array}{ccc|ccccc} -2 & 3 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -2 & -4 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] \longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow U' = \left[\begin{array}{ccc|ccccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & -3 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 2 & 4 \end{array} \right]$$

The rank of U' is 5.

The pivot columns of U' are the first, second, third, fourth and fifth columns.

Hence a basis for \mathbb{R}^5 is constituted by $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \mathbf{s}_3, \mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2$.

(c) Let $\mathbf{s}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{s}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{s}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -4 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$, and $\mathbf{t}_j = \mathbf{e}_j^{(5)}$ for each $j = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$.

Take for granted that $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \mathbf{s}_3$ are linearly independent, and that $\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \mathbf{t}_3, \mathbf{t}_4, \mathbf{t}_5$ constitute a basis for \mathbb{R}^5 .

We want to obtain a basis for \mathbb{R}^5 constituted by $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \mathbf{s}_3$ and some vectors from amongst $\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \mathbf{t}_3, \mathbf{t}_4, \mathbf{t}_5$.

Define $U = \left[\begin{array}{c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c} \mathbf{s}_1 & \mathbf{s}_2 & \mathbf{s}_3 & \mathbf{t}_1 & \mathbf{t}_2 & \mathbf{t}_3 & \mathbf{t}_4 & \mathbf{t}_5 \end{array} \right]$.

We find the reduced row-echelon form U' which is row equivalent to U :

$$U = \left[\begin{array}{ccc|cccc} -2 & 3 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -2 & -4 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] \longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow U' = \left[\begin{array}{ccc|ccccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & -3 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 2 & 4 \end{array} \right]$$

Handwritten notes: $u_1, u_2, u_3, u_4, u_5, u_6, u_7, u_8$ above the columns of U ; $u'_1, u'_2, u'_3, u'_4, u'_5$ below the columns of U' ; a red arrow points from u'_4 back to u_4 .

The rank of U' is 5.

The pivot columns of U' are the first, second, third, fourth and fifth columns.

Hence a basis for \mathbb{R}^5 is constituted by $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \mathbf{s}_3, \mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2$.

(d) Let

$$\mathbf{s}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{s}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{s}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 3 \\ 6 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{s}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ -5 \\ -6 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

and

$$\mathbf{t}_j = \mathbf{e}_j^{(7)} \text{ for each } j = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7.$$

Take for granted that $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \mathbf{s}_3, \mathbf{s}_4$ are linearly independent, and that $\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \mathbf{t}_3, \mathbf{t}_4, \mathbf{t}_5, \mathbf{t}_6, \mathbf{t}_7$ constitute a basis for \mathbb{R}^7 .

We want to obtain a basis for \mathbb{R}^7 constituted by $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \mathbf{s}_3, \mathbf{s}_4$ and some vectors from amongst $\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \mathbf{t}_3, \mathbf{t}_4, \mathbf{t}_5, \mathbf{t}_6, \mathbf{t}_7$.

Define $U = [\mathbf{s}_1 | \mathbf{s}_2 | \mathbf{s}_3 | \mathbf{s}_4 | \mathbf{t}_1 | \mathbf{t}_2 | \mathbf{t}_3 | \mathbf{t}_4 | \mathbf{t}_5 | \mathbf{t}_6 | \mathbf{t}_7]$.

(d) Let

$$\mathbf{s}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{s}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{s}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 3 \\ 6 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{s}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ -5 \\ -6 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

and

$$\mathbf{t}_j = \mathbf{e}_j^{(7)} \text{ for each } j = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7.$$

Take for granted that $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \mathbf{s}_3, \mathbf{s}_4$ are linearly independent, and that $\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \mathbf{t}_3, \mathbf{t}_4, \mathbf{t}_5, \mathbf{t}_6, \mathbf{t}_7$ constitute a basis for \mathbb{R}^7 .

We want to obtain a basis for \mathbb{R}^7 constituted by $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \mathbf{s}_3, \mathbf{s}_4$ and some vectors from amongst $\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2, \mathbf{t}_3, \mathbf{t}_4, \mathbf{t}_5, \mathbf{t}_6, \mathbf{t}_7$.

$$\text{Define } U = \left[\begin{array}{c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c} \mathbf{s}_1 & \mathbf{s}_2 & \mathbf{s}_3 & \mathbf{s}_4 & \mathbf{t}_1 & \mathbf{t}_2 & \mathbf{t}_3 & \mathbf{t}_4 & \mathbf{t}_5 & \mathbf{t}_6 & \mathbf{t}_7 \\ \hline u_1 & u_2 & u_3 & u_4 & u_5 & u_6 & u_7 & u_8 & u_9 & u_{10} & u_{11} \end{array} \right].$$

We find the reduced row-echelon form U' which is row equivalent to U :

$$\begin{aligned}
 U &= \left[\begin{array}{cccc|cccccc}
 -4 & -2 & -1 & 3 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
 0 & -1 & 3 & -5 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
 0 & -2 & 6 & -6 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1
 \end{array} \right] \\
 &\longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow U' \left[\begin{array}{cccc|cccccc}
 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\
 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 & -3 \\
 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & -3 & 5 \\
 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & -6 & 6
 \end{array} \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

The rank of U' is 7.

The pivot columns of U' are the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, seventh and eighth columns.

Hence a basis for W is constituted by $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \mathbf{s}_3, \mathbf{s}_4, \mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_3, \mathbf{t}_4$.

We find the reduced row-echelon form U' which is row equivalent to U :

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} -4 & -2 & -1 & 3 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 3 & -5 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 6 & -6 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\rightarrow \dots \rightarrow U' \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & -3 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & -6 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$

The rank of U' is 7.

The pivot columns of U' are the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, seventh and eighth columns.

Hence a basis for W is constituted by $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \mathbf{s}_3, \mathbf{s}_4, \mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_3, \mathbf{t}_4$.

8. Recall the statement of Theorem (B) from the handout *Bases for subspaces of \mathbb{R}^n* :

Any two bases for a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n have the same number of vectors.

Equipped with Theorem (F), we are now ready to prove Theorem (B).

9. **Proof of Theorem (B).**

Let W be a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

If W be the zero subspace, then the empty set is the only basis for W , and in this situation, there is nothing to prove.

From now on suppose W is a non-zero subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

Suppose $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_p$ constitute a basis for W .

Also suppose $\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{p'}$ constitute a basis for W .

We are going to verify that $p = p'$:

- By assumption, $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_p$ are linearly independent vectors in W , and $\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{p'}$ constitute a basis for W . Then $p \leq p'$.

Also by assumption, $\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{p'}$ are linearly independent vectors in W , and $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_p$ constitute a basis for W . Then $p' \leq p$.

It follows that $p = p'$.

10. Now recall Theorem (C) below, proved in the handout *Bases for subspaces of \mathbb{R}^n* :

Suppose W is a non-zero subspace of \mathbb{R}^n . Then W has a basis which consists of at least one and at most n vectors in \mathbb{R}^n .

Combining Theorem (C) and Theorem (F), we will obtain Theorem (G).

11. **Theorem (G). (Extension of linearly independent set to basis in the context of \mathbb{R}^n .)**

Let W be a non-zero subspace of \mathbb{R}^n , and $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p$ be vectors in W .

Further suppose that $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p$ are linearly independent.

Then, there is some basis for W , which is constituted of at most n vectors, amongst them being the vectors $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p$.

Remark.

In plain words, the conclusion in this result says that

the linearly independent vectors $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p$ in W (which do not necessarily constitute a basis for W because there may be not enough of them to ‘span’ every vector in W) can be ‘extended’ to give a basis for W .

12. Proof of Theorem (G).

By Theorem (C), W has a basis, constituted by, say, some q vectors

$$\mathbf{u}_{p+1}, \mathbf{u}_{p+2}, \cdots, \mathbf{u}_{p+q}$$

in W , for which

$$q \leq n.$$

None of these q vectors is the zero vector.

By assumption:

- none of the p vectors $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \cdots, \mathbf{u}_p$ is the zero vectors, and
- each of these vectors is a linear combination of $\mathbf{u}_{p+1}, \mathbf{u}_{p+2}, \cdots, \mathbf{u}_{p+q}$.

Then by Theorem (F), we have

$$q \geq p,$$

and there is a basis for W which is constituted by

- $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \cdots, \mathbf{u}_p$ together with
- some $q - p$ vectors from amongst $\mathbf{u}_{p+1}, \mathbf{u}_{p+2}, \cdots, \mathbf{u}_{p+q}$.