

SECTION 3.4

NUMBER 39

3.4.39

Let \vec{v} and \vec{w} be independent vectors in V , and let $T: V \rightarrow V'$ be a one-to-one linear transformation of V into V' . Prove that $T(\vec{v})$ and $T(\vec{w})$ are independent vectors in V' .

Proof.

Let r and s be scalars such that $rT(\vec{v}) + sT(\vec{w}) = \vec{0}$. Since T is linear then by Definition 3.9,

$$rT(\vec{v}) + sT(\vec{w}) = T(r\vec{v}) + T(s\vec{w}), \text{ by "Preservation of Scalar Multiplication"}$$

$$= T(r\vec{v} + s\vec{w}) \text{ by "Preservation of Addition"}$$

Now by Theorem 3.5(1), "Preservation of zero," we know that $T(\vec{0}) = \vec{0}'$ where $\vec{0}'$ is the zero vector in V' . Since T is one-to-one then by Corollary 3.4.A, "One-to-One Kernel," $\ker(T) = \vec{0}$ and so the only element of V mapped to $\vec{0}'$ by T is $\vec{0}$. Since

$$T(r\vec{v} + s\vec{w}) = rT(\vec{v}) + sT(\vec{w}) = \vec{0}, \text{ then it must be that } r\vec{v} + s\vec{w} = \vec{0}.$$

Since \vec{v} and \vec{w} are independent then this implies by Definition 3.5, "Linear Dependence and Independence," that $r = s = 0$.

Therefore, again by Definition 3.5, $T(\vec{v})$ and $T(\vec{w})$ are independent. \blacksquare