

Proof $u \sim v \Leftrightarrow u - v \in W$ is an equivalence relation

1. reflexivity: Show that $(u, u) \in \sim$

$$\begin{aligned} u \sim u &\Leftrightarrow u - u \in W \\ &\Leftrightarrow 0 \in W \quad (u - u = 0) \\ &\Leftrightarrow T \quad (\text{through definition of } W \text{ as a subspace of } V) \end{aligned}$$

2. symmetry: Show that $u \sim v \Leftrightarrow v \sim u$

$$\begin{aligned} u \sim v &\Leftrightarrow u - v \in W \quad (\text{Def. } \sim) \\ &\Leftrightarrow -(v - u) \in W \quad (\text{commutativity and distributivity}) \\ &\Leftrightarrow v - u \in W \quad (\text{closure under scalar multiplication}) \\ &\Leftrightarrow v \sim u \end{aligned}$$

3. Transitivity: $a \sim b \wedge b \sim c$

$$\begin{aligned} &\Leftrightarrow a - b \in W \wedge b - c \in W \quad (\text{Def. } \sim) \\ &\Leftrightarrow (a - b + b - c) \in W \quad (\text{closure under addition}) \\ &\Leftrightarrow (a - c) \in W \quad (b - b = 0) \\ &\Leftrightarrow a \sim c \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow u \sim v \Leftrightarrow u - v \in W$ is an equivalence relation, since it is reflexive, transitive and symmetric