

LECTURE 13

## Quotient Spaces

In all the development above we have created examples of vector spaces primarily as subspaces of other vector spaces. Below we'll provide a construction which starts with a vector space  $V$  over a field  $\mathbb{F}$  and a subspace  $S$  of  $V$ , and which furnishes with an entirely new vector space from  $V/S$  which is particularly prominent in applications. In so doing, it will be absolutely vital to think of the new vector space as a vector space in the abstract sense; a set endowed with a notion of scalar multiplication and vector addition satisfying certain axioms. For the individual "vectors" in the vector space  $V/S$  will not be vectors in  $V$ , but rather large families of vectors in  $V$ .

### 1. Digression: Modular Arithmetic

In the hopes of making our discussion of quotient spaces of vector spaces more digestible, I'm going to make a brief digression into modular arithmetic.

**THEOREM 13.1.** (*The Division Algorithm*) *Let  $n$  be an integer  $> 0$  and let  $a$  be any other integer. Then there exists unique integers  $r$  and  $q$  such that*

- (i)  $a = qn + r$
- (ii)  $0 \leq r < n$

Even though this is the basic fact underlying the long division algorithm you've used since elementary school, its proof is moderately sophisticated (involving the Well Ordering Axiom of the positive integers at one point). For example, if you take  $a = 23$  and  $n = 5$ , then since

$$(*) \quad 23 = 4 \cdot 5 + 3$$

and because  $0 \leq 3 < 5$ , this is the only way of writing 23 as a multiple of 5 plus an integer remainder that's between 0 and 5.

Once you fix the divisor  $n$ , one can break up the set of integers into  $n$  distinct, disjoint families:

$$\begin{aligned} [0]_n & : = \{z \in \mathbb{Z} \mid z = qn + 0 \text{ for some } q \in \mathbb{Z}\} \\ [1]_n & : = \{z \in \mathbb{Z} \mid z = qn + 1 \text{ for some } q \in \mathbb{Z}\} \\ [2]_n & : = \{z \in \mathbb{Z} \mid z = qn + 2 \text{ for some } q \in \mathbb{Z}\} \\ & \vdots \\ [n-1]_n & : = \{z \in \mathbb{Z} \mid z = qn + n-1 \text{ for some } q \in \mathbb{Z}\} \end{aligned}$$

Now let  $\mathbb{Z}_n := \{[0]_n, [1]_n, \dots, [n-1]_n\}$ . We have

$$\mathbb{Z}_n = \prod_{k=0}^{n-1} [k]_n$$

The situation when  $n = 2$  is quite familiar

$$[0]_2 : = \{z \in \mathbb{Z} \mid z = 2q + 0 \text{ for some } q \in \mathbb{Z}\} = \text{the set of even integers}$$

$$[1]_2 : = \{z \in \mathbb{Z} \mid z = 2q + 1 \text{ for some } q \in \mathbb{Z}\} = \text{the set of odd integers}$$

and

$$\mathbb{Z}_2 = [0]_2 \cup [1]_2 = \text{the set of even integers} \cup \text{the set of odd integers}$$

Recall the following simple rules

$$(\text{an even integer}) + (\text{an even integer}) = (\text{an even integer})$$

$$(\text{an even integer}) + (\text{an odd integer}) = (\text{an odd integer})$$

$$(\text{an odd integer}) + (\text{an odd integer}) = (\text{an even integer})$$

$$(\text{an even integer}) * (\text{an even integer}) = (\text{an even integer})$$

$$(\text{an even integer}) * (\text{an odd integer}) = (\text{an even integer})$$

$$(\text{an odd integer}) * (\text{an odd integer}) = (\text{an odd integer})$$

Since these rules do not depend on the particular even or odd integers we use on the left hand side, we can think of these rules as applying to families of even and odd integers; thus, one writes

$$[0]_2 + [0]_2 = [0]_2$$

$$[0]_2 + [1]_2 = [1]_2$$

$$[1]_2 + [1]_2 = [0]_2$$

$$[0]_2 * [0]_2 = [0]_2$$

$$[0]_2 * [1]_2 = [0]_2$$

$$[1]_2 * [1]_2 = [1]_2$$

These rules thus define a certain arithmetic for the families of even and odd integers. But I stress here we are not really adding and multiplying individual integers, rather we are developing more abstract arithmetic rules that can be applied to the family of even integers and the family of odd integers.

For more general  $n$ , we would like to have corresponding “arithmetics” defined on  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ . For this purpose, we would like to fill in the slots of the following addition and multiplication tables

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} + & [0]_n & [1]_n & \cdots & [n-1]_n \\ [0]_n & ? & ? & \cdots & ? \\ [1]_n & ? & ? & & ? \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ [n-1]_n & ? & ? & & ? \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{ccccc} * & [0]_n & [1]_n & \cdots & [n-1]_n \\ [0]_n & ? & ? & \cdots & ? \\ [1]_n & ? & ? & & ? \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ [n-1]_n & ? & ? & & ? \end{array}$$

The algorithm by which we’ll fill in the tables is based on the following facts

- Suppose  $a$  has remainder  $r_1$  when divided by  $n$  and  $b$  has remainder  $r_2$  when divided by  $n$ , then  $a + b$  has same remainder as  $r_1 + r_2$ .
- Suppose  $a$  has remainder  $r_1$  when divided by  $n$  and  $b$  has remainder  $r_2$  when divided by  $n$ , then  $a * b$  has the same remainder as  $r_1 * r_2$ .

These facts lead to the following rules of addition and multiplication in  $\mathbb{Z}_n$

$$[a]_n + [b]_n = [a + b]_n \tag{1}$$

$$[a]_n * [b]_n = [a * b]_n \tag{2}$$

Thus, for example in  $\mathbb{Z}_3$ , we have

$$[2]_3 * [2]_3 = [2 * 2]_3 = [1]_3 \quad \text{since the remainder of } 2 * 2 = 4 \text{ when divided by } 3 \text{ is } 1$$

The rules (1) and (2) above thus provide a means of filling in the addition and multiplication tables for  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ , and thus provide a certain *arithmetic structure* for families  $[0]_n, [1]_n, \dots, [n-1]_n$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ .

A bit more conceptionally, we started with a nice set  $\mathbb{Z}$  with its natural arithmetic and from that set up other sets  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  (consisting of certain subsets of  $\mathbb{Z}$ ) and used the arithmetic in  $\mathbb{Z}$  to define an arithmetic on  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ .

What we are going to do next is very similar, except instead of trying to define the arithmetic operations of addition and multiplication for families of integers, we will try to develop rules of scalar multiplication and vector addition for families of vectors.

## 2. Quotient Spaces

Suppose  $S$  is a subspace of a finitely generated vector space  $V$  over a field  $\mathbb{F}$  and  $a$  is a vector in  $V$ . Let

$$(3) \quad [a]_S = \{v \in V \mid v = a + s \text{ for some } s \in S\}$$

This is a subset of  $V$ , but in general it is not a subspace of  $V$ . In fact, it is only a subspace of  $V$  when  $v \in S$  to begin with, and in this case  $S_v = S$ .

On the other hand, as we shall see below, we can view of these subsets of  $V$  as comprising the vectors of another vector space over  $\mathbb{F}$ . Now as, in fact, the notation in (3) is never used, I intend to discard it almost immediately; writing instead

$$(4) \quad a + S = \{v \in V \mid v = a + s \text{ for some } s \in S\}$$

However, in order to stress the analogy with modular arithmetic, we continue with the notation (3) in the discussion below.

LEMMA 13.2. *If  $b \in [a]_S$ , then  $a \in [b]_S$  and in fact,  $[a]_S = [b]_S$ .*

*Proof.* If  $b \in [a]_S$ , then by definition there is some  $s \in S$  such that  $b = a + s$ . But then  $a = b - s$ . Since  $S$  is a subspace  $s \in S$  implies  $-s \in S$  and so

$$a = b - s = b + (-s) \Rightarrow a \in [b]_S$$

Now suppose  $b \in [a]_S$ . Let  $c$  be an arbitrary element of  $[b]_S$ . We have

$$c = b + s \text{ for some } s \in S$$

On the other hand, by hypothesis,  $b \in [a]_S$  and so

$$b = a + s' \text{ for some } s' \in S$$

Thus,

$$c = a + s' + s = a + (s + s') \Rightarrow c \in [a]_S.$$

Thus, if  $b \in [a]_S$ , then every element of  $[b]_S$  is in  $[a]_S$ . On the other hand, by the first part of the lemma, if  $b \in [a]_S$ , then  $a \in [b]_S$  and so, by the discussion just preceding, every element of  $[a]_S$  is also in  $[b]_S$ . Thus,

$$[a]_S = [b]_S$$

□

LEMMA 13.3. *Two vectors  $v_1, v_2$  belong to the same  $[a]_S$  if and only if  $v_1 - v_2 \in S$ .*

*Proof.*

⇒ Suppose  $v_1, v_2 \in [a]_S$ . Then by definition, there must be vectors  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  such that

$$v_1 = a + s_1$$

$$v_2 = a + s_2$$

But then

$$v_1 - v_2 = (a + s_1) - (a + s_2) = s_1 - s_2 \in S.$$

$\Leftarrow$  Suppose  $v_1 - v_2 \in S$ ; in fact, say  $v_1 - v_2 = s \in S$ .

$$v_1 = v_2 + s \quad \Rightarrow \quad v_1 \in [v_2]_S$$

Then by the preceding lemma

$$[v_1]_S = [v_2]_S$$

Now suppose  $v_1 \in [a]_S$ , then by the preceding lemma  $a \in [v_1]_S$ . But  $[v_1]_S = [v_2]_S$  and so  $a \in [v_2]_S$ . Thus, the statement is proved.  $\square$

**THEOREM 13.4.** *Let  $V$  be a vector space over a field  $\mathbb{F}$  and let  $S$  be a subspace of  $V$ . Let*

$$V/S = \{[v]_S \mid v \in V\}$$

*Define operators of scalar multiplication and vector addition on  $V/S$  as follows:*

$$[v]_S + [v']_S = [v + v']_S \tag{5}$$

$$\lambda \cdot [v]_S = [\lambda v]_S \tag{6}$$

*Then with these operations  $V/S$  has the structure of a vector space over  $\mathbb{F}$ .*

*Proof.*

First let me demonstrate that the formulas for addition and scalar multiplication are self-consistent. Recall that  $[v]_S$  and  $[v']_S$  are not individual vectors, but rather infinite sets of vectors. As such we can not add them directly. The rule (5) gives us a way to do that, but since

$$[v_1]_S = [v_2]_S \quad \text{whenever } v_1 - v_2 \in S$$

we have to make sure that the vector addition that takes place inside the brackets on the right hand side of (5) is independent of the vectors  $v$  and  $v'$  we choose to represent the subsets  $[v]_S$  and  $[v']_S$ . Suppose instead we replaced  $v$  by  $v + s_1$  and  $v'$  by  $v' + s_2$  in (5), Since

$$\begin{aligned} [v]_S &= [v + s_1]_S & (s_1 \in S) \\ [v']_S &= [v' + s_2]_S & (s_2 \in S) \end{aligned}$$

we should get the same subset on the right hand side when we add  $[v + s_1]_S$  to  $[v' + s_2]_S$ . According to the rule (5)

$$[v + s_1]_S + [v' + s_2]_S = [v + s_1 + v' + s_2]_S = [v + v' + (s_1 + s_2)]_S = [v_1 + v_2]_S.$$

And so the result of applying rule (5) doesn't depend on how we represent the vectors in  $[v]_S$  and  $[v']_S$  in order to carry out the calculation.

Similarly,

$$\lambda \cdot [v + s]_S := [\lambda \cdot (v + s)]_S = [\lambda v + \lambda s]_S = [\lambda v]_S \quad \text{since } \lambda s \in S$$

To see that  $V/S$  is actually a vector space over  $\mathbb{F}$ , we need to confirm the 8 axioms for a vector space. This is tedious but pretty routine. I'll just point out a couple sample computations here.

- Associativity of vector addition

$$([a]_S + [b]_S) + [c]_S = [a + b]_S + [c]_S = [(a + b) + c]_S = [a + (b + c)]_S = [a]_S + [b + c]_S = [a]_S + ([b]_S + [c]_S)$$

- Distributivity of scalar multiplication over vector addition

$$\lambda \cdot ([a]_S + [b]_S) = \lambda \cdot [a + b]_S = [\lambda \cdot (a + b)]_S = [\lambda a + \lambda b]_S = [\lambda a]_S + [\lambda b]_S = \lambda \cdot [a]_S + \lambda \cdot [b]_S$$

- Existence of additive inverse. Consider the subset  $[\mathbf{0}_V]_S$ . We have, for any  $[a]_S$  in  $V/S$

$$[\mathbf{0}_V]_S + [a]_S = [\mathbf{0}_V + a]_S = [a]_S$$

and so  $[\mathbf{0}_V]_S$  acts like an additive identity in  $V/S$ .

The other 5 axioms are verified in a similarly easy fashion.  $\square$

Let me now pull these results all together with a definition.

DEFINITION 13.5. *Suppose  $V$  is a vector space over a field  $\mathbb{F}$  and  $S$  is a subspace of  $V$ . Then*

$$V/S \equiv \{[v]_S \mid v \in V\}$$

*is the vector space over  $\mathbb{F}$  where the operations of scalar multiplication and vector addition are defined by*

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda \cdot [v]_S &= [\lambda v]_S \\ [v]_S + [v']_S &= [v + v']_S\end{aligned}$$

*and the additive identity is given by*

$$\mathbf{0}_{V/S} = [\mathbf{0}_V]_S$$

DEFINITION 13.6.

Now to some of you, this construction of a vector space over  $\mathbb{F}$  might appear bizarre. In some sense, this is a good thing, as I have been stressing all along the conventional view of vectors as lists of numbers is far from typical. But this construction is also pretty fundamental to what we might call *advanced linear algebra*. This notion will be particularly useful when we try to get a handle on the kernel and image of a linear transformation.

LEMMA 13.7. *Let  $V$  be a finitely generated vector space over a field  $\mathbb{F}$  and let  $S$  be a subspace of  $V$ . Then the map*

$$p_S : V \rightarrow V/S \quad : \quad \mathbf{v} \mapsto [\mathbf{v}]_S$$

*is a surjective vector space homomorphism with kernel  $S$ .*

*Proof:*  $p_S$  is surjective simply by virtue of the fact that its codomain  $V/S$  is already defined as the image of the map  $\mathbf{v} \mapsto [\mathbf{v}]_S$ . It is a linear transformation because

$$\begin{aligned}p_S(\alpha \mathbf{v} + \beta \mathbf{u}) &= [\alpha \mathbf{v} + \beta \mathbf{u}]_S \\ &= [\alpha \mathbf{v}]_S + [\beta \mathbf{u}]_S && \text{by the definition of vector addition in } V/S \\ &= \alpha [\mathbf{v}]_S + \beta [\mathbf{u}]_S && \text{by the definition of scalar multiplication in } V/S \\ &= \alpha p_S(\mathbf{v}) + \beta p_S(\mathbf{u}) && \text{by the definition of } p_S.\end{aligned}$$

Finally,  $v \in \ker(p_S)$  means

$$[v]_S = [\mathbf{0}_V]_S \equiv \{v \in V \mid v = \mathbf{0}_V + s \text{ for some } s \in S\} = \{v \in V \mid v \in S\}$$

In other words,  $v \in \ker(p_S) \Rightarrow v \in S$ .  $\square$

REMARK 13.8. Given a subspace  $S$  of a vector space  $V$ , the linear transformation  $p_S : V \rightarrow V/S$  defined above is often referred to as the *canonical projection* (of  $V$  onto  $V/S$ ).

LEMMA 13.9. *Let  $V$  be a finitely generated vector space over a field  $\mathbb{F}$  and let  $S$  be a subspace of  $V$ . Then  $V/S$  is finitely generated and  $\dim(V/S) = \dim(V) - \dim(S)$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $p_S$  be the canonical projection of  $V$  onto  $S$ .  $p_S$  is obviously surjective by construction. Let  $B = \{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$  be a basis for  $V$ . Since  $p_S$  is surjective, each  $[v]_S \in V/S$  is the image of some  $v \in V$  by  $p_S$ .

$$[v]_S = [\alpha_1 b_1 + \dots + \alpha_n b_n]_S = \alpha_1 [b_1]_S + \dots + \alpha_n [b_n]_S$$

hence  $V/S$  is generated by  $\{p_S[b_1], \dots, p_S[b_n]\}$ .

Next, we note that  $\ker p_S = S$ . To see this, suppose first that  $s \in S \subset V$ . Then

$$p(s) = [s]_S = [0 + s]_S = [\mathbf{0}_V]_S = \mathbf{0}_{V/S}$$

so  $s \in \ker(p_S)$ . On the other hand, suppose  $v \in \ker(p_S)$ . Then

$$\mathbf{0}_{V/S} = [\mathbf{0}_V]_S = [v]_S = p(v) \Rightarrow v = \mathbf{0}_V + s \text{ for some } s \in S \Rightarrow v \in S.$$

So now we have seen (see Corollary 11.7 of Lecture 11) that whenever we have a vector space homomorphism  $f : V \rightarrow W$ ,  $\dim(V) = \dim(\ker(f)) + \dim(\operatorname{Im}(f))$ . In that case at hand we have

$$\begin{aligned} \dim(V) &= \dim(\ker(p_S)) + \dim(\operatorname{Im}(p_S)) \\ &= \dim(S) + \dim(V/S) \end{aligned}$$

and the statement follows.  $\square$

The notion of quotient spaces is particularly useful in the setting of infinite-dimensional vector spaces. Moreover, proofs of the most important properties of quotient spaces can be formulated without reference to finite bases, and so are valid even in the setting infinite-dimensional vector spaces. We'll do this below and in the next lecture. However, let me now adopt more standard notation for the elements of a quotient space; writing  $v + S$  instead of  $[v]_S$  for the elements of a quotient space  $V/S$

$$v + S \equiv \{v + s \mid s \in S\} = S\text{-hyperplane through } v$$

We'll continue to denote the canonical projection from  $V$  to  $V/S$  by  $p_S$

$$p_S : V \rightarrow V/S, \quad v \mapsto v + S.$$

**THEOREM 13.10.** *Let  $T$  be a subspace of subspace  $S$  of a vector space  $V$ . Then  $S/T$  may be regarded as a subspace of  $V/S$ . Moreover, there is a one-to-one correspondence between the set of all subspaces of  $V$  containing  $T$  and the set of all subspaces of  $S/T$ .*

*Proof.* We have

$$\begin{aligned} V/T &= \{v + T \mid v \in V\} \\ S/T &= \{s + T \mid s \in S\} \end{aligned}$$

So clearly,  $S/T \subset V/T$ , since the condition for membership in  $S/T$  is just a restricted version of the condition for membership in  $V/T$ . Since  $S/T$  is the image of a vector space homomorphism it is naturally closed under scalar multiplication and vector addition. Moreover, scalar multiplication and vector addition in  $S/T$  are just the restrictions of the same operations applied in  $V/T$ . Hence,  $S/T$  is a subspace of  $V/T$ .

Now suppose  $X$  is a subspace of  $V/T$  and let  $p_T : V \rightarrow V/T$  be the canonical projection of  $V$  onto  $V/T$ . Since  $p_T$  is a linear transformation

$$p_T^{-1}(X) := \{v \in V \mid p_T(v) \in X\}$$

is a subspace of  $V$  (see Theorem 10.8). Thus,  $p_T^{-1}$  maps subsets of  $V/T$  to certain subspaces of  $V$ . Now each subset  $X$  of  $V/T$  contains the additive identity of  $V/T$ :

$$\mathbf{0}_{V/T} = \mathbf{0}_V + T$$

Now, on the one hand, since  $\ker p_T = T$ , we have

$$p_T^{-1}(\mathbf{0}_{V/T}) = T$$

while, on the other, since each subspace  $X$  of  $V/T$  contains  $\mathbf{0}_{V/T}$ , we have

$$S = p_T^{-1}(\mathbf{0}_{V/T}) \subset p_T^{-1}(X)$$

Thus,  $p_T^{-1}$  maps subspaces of  $V/T$  to subspaces of  $V$  containing  $T$ .

Now we know  $p_T$  maps every subspace of  $V$  containing  $T$  to a subspace of  $V/T$  and that  $p_T^{-1}$  maps every subspace of  $V/T$  to a subspace of  $V$  containing  $T$ . Moreover, by construction,

$$\begin{aligned} p_T \circ p_T^{-1} &= \text{identity map on subspaces of } V/T \\ p_T^{-1} \circ p_T &= \text{identity map on subspaces of } V \text{ containing } T \end{aligned}$$

Hence, we have a bijection between the two sets of subspaces and so the one-to-one correspondence of the theorem statement.  $\square$

## LECTURE 14

### The Isomorphism Theorems

The idea of quotient spaces developed in the last lecture is fundamental to modern mathematics. Indeed, the basic idea of quotient spaces, from a suitably abstract perspective, is just as natural and important as the notion of a subspace. Below we give the three theorems, variations of which are foundational to group theory and ring theory. (A vector space can be viewed as an abelian group under vector addition, and a vector space is also special case of a ring module.)

**THEOREM 14.1** (First Isomorphism Theorem). *Let  $\phi : V \rightarrow W$  be a homomorphism between two vector spaces over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ .*

- (i) *The kernel of  $\phi$  is a subspace of  $V$ .*
- (ii) *The image of  $\phi$  is a subspace of  $W$ .*
- (iii) *The image of  $\phi$  is isomorphic to the quotient space  $V/\ker(\phi)$ .*

*Proof.* We have proved (i) and (ii) early on in our initial discussion of linear transformations between vector spaces. If  $V$  is finitely generated (iii) is pretty simple. Let  $B = \{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$ . Then, by Theorem 11.6 in Lecture 11, we have

$$\text{Im}(\phi) = \text{span}(\phi(b_1), \dots, \phi(b_n))$$

and by Corollary 11.7 in the same lecture

$$\dim V = \dim \text{Im}(\phi) + \dim \ker(\phi)$$

On the other hand, at the end of the preceding lecture we had the result that if  $S$  is a subspace of  $V$  then

$$\dim V = \dim(S) + \dim(V/S)$$

Using  $\ker(\phi)$  for  $S$ , we conclude that

$$\dim(V/\ker(\phi)) = \dim(\text{Im}(\phi))$$

Theorem 12.6 says that if two finite-dimensional vector spaces have the same dimension then they are isomorphic. Therefore,

$$V/\ker(\phi) \cong \text{Im}(\phi)$$

However, the statement of Theorem 14.1 is true even when  $V$  and  $W$  are infinite dimensional. Again, since the proofs of (i) and (ii) used only the defining properties of vector space homomorphisms, we have effectively already demonstrated the validity of (i) and (ii) in the infinite-dimensional setting.

To prove (iii) in the situation where both the domain  $V$  and the codomain  $W$  might be infinite-dimensional, we'll display the isomorphism between  $V/\ker(\phi)$  and  $\text{Im}(\phi)$  explicitly.

Before proving (iii), let me first establish an important *universality property* of a canonical projection  $p_S : V \rightarrow V/S$ . This property deals with the situation where one has both a linear transformation  $\phi : V \rightarrow W$  and a particular subspace of  $V$ . We thus have two linear transformations

$$\begin{array}{ccc} V & \xrightarrow{\phi} & W \\ p_S \downarrow & & \\ V/S & & \end{array}$$



THEOREM 14.2.  $\phi : V \rightarrow W$  is a linear transformation and that  $S$  is a subspace of a vector space  $V$  contained in the kernel of  $\phi$ . Then there is a unique linear transformation  $\tau : V/S \rightarrow W$  with the property that

$$(i) \quad \tau \circ p_S = \phi \quad .$$

Moreover,

$$(ii) \quad \ker(\tau) = \ker(\phi) / S$$

and

$$(iii) \quad \text{im}(\tau) = \text{im}(\phi)$$

*Proof.* The stipulation (i) amounts the condition that the following diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} V & \xrightarrow{\phi} & W \\ p_S \downarrow & \nearrow \tau & \\ V/S & & \end{array}$$

commutes; in other words,

$$\phi(v) = \tau(p_S(v)) = \tau(v + S)$$

Now the function  $\tau$  would be well defined on  $V/S$  if and only if

$$(a) \quad v + S = u + S \quad \Rightarrow \quad \tau(v + S) = \tau(u + S)$$

But now, on the one hand, (a) is equivalent to each of the following statements

$$(b) \quad v + S = u + S \quad \Rightarrow \quad \tau(v + S) = \tau(u + S) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \phi(v) = \phi(u)$$

$$(c) \quad v + S = u + S \quad \Rightarrow \quad v - u \in S$$

$$(d) \quad s \in S \quad \Rightarrow \quad \phi(s) = \mathbf{0}_W$$

$$(e) \quad S \subset \ker(\phi)$$

Thus,  $\tau : V/S \rightarrow W$  is well-defined.

Note also that

$$\text{im}(\tau) = \{\tau(v + S) \mid v \in V\} = \{\phi(v) \mid v \in V\} = \text{im}(\phi)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \ker(\tau) &= \{v + S \mid \tau(v + S) = \mathbf{0}_W\} \\ &= \{v + S \mid \phi(v) = \mathbf{0}\} \\ &= \{v + S \mid v \in \ker \phi\} \\ &= \ker(\phi) / S \end{aligned}$$

THEOREM 14.3 (Second Isomorphism Theorem). Let  $V$  be a vector space and let  $S$  and  $T$  be subspaces of  $V$ . Then

- (i)  $S + T = \{v \in V \mid v = s + t, \quad s \in S \text{ and } t \in T\}$  is a subspace of  $V$ .
- (ii) The intersection  $S \cap T$  is a submodule of  $S$ .
- (iii) The quotient modules  $(S + T)/T$  and  $S/(S \cap T)$  are isomorphic.

THEOREM 14.4 (Third Isomorphism Theorem). Let  $V$  be a vector space and let  $S$  and  $T$  be subspaces of  $V$  with  $T \subseteq S \subseteq V$ . Then

- (i) The quotient space  $S/T$  is a submodules of the quotient  $V/T$ .
- (ii) The quotient  $(V/T) / (S/T)$  is isomorphic to  $V/S$ .

Now we've already proved the first two statements of Theorem 14.1.