

It remains to show that  $\beta$  spans  $N(TU)$ . But if  $w \in N(TU)$  then  $U(w) \in N(T)$  and so

$$U(w) = a_1 y_1 + \dots + a_r y_r \quad \text{for some } a_1, \dots, a_r \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\text{Thus } U(w) = U(a_1 v_1 + \dots + a_r v_r)$$

$$\Rightarrow w - a_1 v_1 - \dots - a_r v_r \in N(U)$$

$$\Rightarrow w - a_1 v_1 - \dots - a_r v_r = b_1 x_1 + \dots + b_s x_s \quad \text{for some } b_1, \dots, b_s \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\Rightarrow w = a_1 v_1 + \dots + a_r v_r + b_1 x_1 + \dots + b_s x_s$$

Thus  $\beta$  spans  $N(TU)$ , and hence is a basis for  $N(TU)$ .  $\square$

Claim:  $\dim N(TU) = \dim N(T) + \dim N(U)$

Proof Duh:  $\dim N(TU) = r + s$   
 $\dim N(T) = r$   
 $\dim N(U) = s$   $\square$

Claim: The sol<sup>n</sup> space to  $y'' - 4y = 0$  is 2-dimensional

Proof The solution space is  $N(D^2 - 4I)$ , where  $D: C^\infty(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow C^\infty(\mathbb{R})$  is differentiation.

But  $D^2 - 4I = (D + 2I)(D - 2I)$  and we know from class that  $D - 2I$  is onto and has a 1-dimensional null space, and that  $D + 2I$  has a 1-dimensional null-space.

Putting  $U = D - 2I$ ,  $T = D + 2I$  and using the