

# Exercise Sheet 1

## Linear Algebra II

Autumn semester 2018

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**Exercise 1.** Determine whether the following sets are subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  under the operations of addition and scalar multiplication defined on  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . Justify your answers.

- a)  $\mathcal{W}_1 = \{(a_1, a_2, a_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : a_1 = 3a_2, a_3 = -a_2\}$
- b)  $\mathcal{W}_2 = \{(a_1, a_2, a_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : 2a_1 - 7a_2 + a_3 = 0\}$
- c)  $\mathcal{W}_3 = \{(a_1, a_2, a_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : a_1^2 - 3a_3^2 = 0\}$

**Remark** During the tutorial lecture I also showed for a) that the zero vector is contained in  $\mathcal{W}_1$ . As was pointed out in class this is not necessary. It suffices to show that  $\mathcal{W}_1$  is closed under scalar multiplication and vector addition. There was also a sign error in part c) that was corrected in these notes.

**Solution to 1 a)** Let  $(a_1, a_2, a_3), (b_1, b_2, b_3) \in \mathcal{W}_1$ . Then we have

$$a_1 = 3a_2, \quad a_3 = -a_2, \tag{1.1}$$

$$b_1 = 3b_2, \quad b_3 = -b_2. \tag{1.2}$$

Adding the equations on the second line to the ones on the first we obtain:

$$a_1 + b_1 = 3(a_2 + b_2), \quad a_3 + b_3 = -(a_2 + b_2).$$

Therefore the vector  $(a_1 + b_1, a_2 + b_2, a_3 + b_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3$  is also an element of  $\mathcal{W}_1$ . Let  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  and multiply (1.1) by  $\lambda$ . This yields

$$\lambda a_1 = 3\lambda a_2, \quad \lambda a_3 = -\lambda a_2$$

This means that if  $(a_1, a_2, a_3)$  is in  $\mathcal{W}_1$ , then so is  $(\lambda a_1, \lambda a_2, \lambda a_3)$ . Thus,  $\mathcal{W}_1$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

**Solution to 1 b)** We could use the same approach we used in 1a) to solve this question as well. A slightly different solution is based on the fact that  $T : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by  $T(a_1, a_2, a_3) = 2a_1 - 7a_2 + a_3$  is a linear transformation. This follows from

$$\begin{aligned} T((a_1, a_2, a_3) + \lambda(b_1, b_2, b_3)) &= T(a_1 + \lambda b_1, a_2 + \lambda b_2, a_3 + \lambda b_3) \\ &= 2(a_1 + \lambda b_1) - 7(a_2 + \lambda b_2) + (a_3 + \lambda b_3) \\ &= 2a_1 - 7a_2 + a_3 + \lambda(2b_1 - 7b_2 + b_3) \\ &= T(a_1, a_2, a_3) + \lambda T(b_1, b_2, b_3) \end{aligned}$$

The set  $\mathcal{W}_2$  is the kernel of the linear transformation  $T$ . In particular,  $\mathcal{W}_2$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

**Solution to 1 c)** The set  $\mathcal{W}_3$  is not a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , since  $(\sqrt{3}, 0, 1)$  and  $(3, 0, -\sqrt{3})$  are both elements of  $\mathcal{W}_3$ , but  $(3 + \sqrt{3}, 0, 1 - \sqrt{3})$  is not, since

$$(3 + \sqrt{3})^2 - 3(1 - \sqrt{3})^2 = 12 \cdot \sqrt{3} \neq 0.$$

**Exercise 2.** Consider the following definition:

**DEFINITION 3.1.** If  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are nonempty subsets of a vector space  $\mathcal{V}$ , then the **sum** of  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , denoted by  $S_1 + S_2$ , is the set  $\{x + y : x \in S_1, y \in S_2\}$ .

Now consider two subspaces  $\mathcal{W}_1$  and  $\mathcal{W}_2$  of  $\mathcal{V}$ .

- a) Prove that  $\mathcal{W}_1 + \mathcal{W}_2$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{V}$  that contains both  $\mathcal{W}_1$  and  $\mathcal{W}_2$ .
- b) Prove that any subspace of  $\mathcal{V}$  that contains both  $\mathcal{W}_1$  and  $\mathcal{W}_2$  must also contain  $\mathcal{W}_1 + \mathcal{W}_2$ .

**Solution to 2 a)** Let  $x \in \mathcal{W}_1$ . Since  $\mathcal{W}_2$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{V}$ , we have  $0 \in \mathcal{W}_2$ . By definition the vector  $x = x + 0$  is contained in  $\mathcal{W}_1 + \mathcal{W}_2$ . This shows that  $\mathcal{W}_1$  is contained in  $\mathcal{W}_1 + \mathcal{W}_2$ . A similar argument shows that the same is true for  $\mathcal{W}_2$ .

Note that  $0 \in \mathcal{W}_1$  and  $0 \in \mathcal{W}_2$ , since both are subspaces of  $\mathcal{V}$ . Therefore  $0 = 0 + 0$  is contained in  $\mathcal{W}_1 + \mathcal{W}_2$ . Let  $x_1 + y_1$  and  $x_2 + y_2$  be elements of  $\mathcal{W}_1 + \mathcal{W}_2$  with  $x_1, x_2 \in \mathcal{W}_1$  and  $y_1, y_2 \in \mathcal{W}_2$ . Let  $\lambda \in F$ . Since  $\mathcal{W}_1$  and  $\mathcal{W}_2$  are subspaces we have

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda x_1 &\in \mathcal{W}_1 & , & & x_1 + x_2 &\in \mathcal{W}_1 , \\ \lambda y_1 &\in \mathcal{W}_2 & , & & y_1 + y_2 &\in \mathcal{W}_2 . \end{aligned}$$

This implies that  $\lambda(x_1 + y_1) = \lambda x_1 + \lambda y_1 \in \mathcal{W}_1 + \mathcal{W}_2$  and  $x_1 + y_1 + x_2 + y_2 = (x_1 + x_2) + (y_1 + y_2) \in \mathcal{W}_1 + \mathcal{W}_2$ . This shows that  $\mathcal{W}_1 + \mathcal{W}_2$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{V}$ .

**Solution to 2 b)** Let  $\mathcal{W}$  be a subspace of  $\mathcal{V}$  that contains  $\mathcal{W}_1$  and  $\mathcal{W}_2$ . Let  $x + y \in \mathcal{W}_1 + \mathcal{W}_2$  with  $x \in \mathcal{W}_1$  and  $y \in \mathcal{W}_2$ . Since  $\mathcal{W}$  contains  $\mathcal{W}_1$ , we have  $x \in \mathcal{W}$ . Likewise  $y \in \mathcal{W}$ . Since  $\mathcal{W}$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{V}$ , we obtain  $x + y \in \mathcal{W}$ . But  $x + y$  was an arbitrary vector in  $\mathcal{W}_1 + \mathcal{W}_2$ . Therefore  $\mathcal{W}_1 + \mathcal{W}_2 \subset \mathcal{W}$ .

**Exercise 3.** Show that if

$$M_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, M_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ and } M_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

then  $\text{span}\{M_1, M_2, M_3\}$  is the set of all symmetric  $2 \times 2$  matrices, when using the usual operations of matrix addition and scalar multiplication.

**Solution to 3)** Let  $S \subset M_{2 \times 2}(F)$  be the set of all symmetric  $2 \times 2$ -matrices over a field  $F$ . Let  $A \in S$ . Then  $A$  satisfies by definition  $A^t = A$  and is therefore of the form

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ b & c \end{pmatrix}.$$

In particular, it can be written as a linear combination of the matrices  $M_1, M_2, M_3$  as follows:

$$A = a \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + c \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + b \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = aM_1 + cM_2 + bM_3.$$

This shows that  $A \in \text{span}\{M_1, M_2, M_3\}$ . Since  $A$  was arbitrary, we obtain  $S \subset \text{span}\{M_1, M_2, M_3\}$ . Let  $B \in \text{span}\{M_1, M_2, M_3\}$ . Then there are scalars  $a, b, c \in F$  such that

$$B = aM_1 + cM_2 + bM_3 = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ b & c \end{pmatrix}.$$

Since the result is a symmetric matrix and  $B$  was arbitrary, we have  $\text{span}\{M_1, M_2, M_3\} \subset S$ . Therefore  $S = \text{span}\{M_1, M_2, M_3\}$ .

**Exercise 4.** Show that if  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are subsets of a vector space  $\mathcal{V}$ , then  $\text{span}(S_1 \cup S_2) = \text{span}(S_1) + \text{span}(S_2)$ .

**Solution to 4)** First note that if  $U_1$  and  $U_2$  are both subsets of  $\mathcal{V}$  with the property that  $U_1 \subset U_2$ , then  $\text{span}(U_1) \subset \text{span}(U_2)$ . Since  $S_1 \subset S_1 \cup S_2$  and  $S_2 \subset S_1 \cup S_2$ , we obtain

$$\text{span}(S_1) \subset \text{span}(S_1 \cup S_2),$$

$$\text{span}(S_2) \subset \text{span}(S_1 \cup S_2).$$

It follows from Exercise 2b) that

$$\text{span}(S_1) + \text{span}(S_2) \subset \text{span}(S_1 \cup S_2).$$

Therefore it remains to show the other inclusion. Let  $v \in \text{span}(S_1 \cup S_2)$ . This means that there are finitely many vectors from  $S_1 \cup S_2$  such that  $v$  is a linear combination of those. Let  $s_1, \dots, s_k \in S_1$ ,  $a_1, \dots, a_k \in F$ ,  $t_1, \dots, t_l \in S_2$  and  $b_1, \dots, b_l \in F$  such that

$$v = a_1 s_1 + \dots + a_k s_k + b_1 t_1 + \dots + b_l t_l.$$

Note that  $a_1 s_1 + \dots + a_k s_k \in \text{span}(S_1)$  and  $b_1 t_1 + \dots + b_l t_l \in \text{span}(S_2)$ . Therefore  $v \in \text{span}(S_1) + \text{span}(S_2)$ . Since we started with an arbitrary vector  $v \in \text{span}(S_1 \cup S_2)$ , this shows  $\text{span}(S_1 \cup S_2) \subset \text{span}(S_1) + \text{span}(S_2)$ .

**Exercise 5.** Let  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  be subsets of a vector space  $\mathcal{V}$ . Prove that  $\text{span}(S_1 \cap S_2) \subset \text{span}(S_1) \cap \text{span}(S_2)$ . Give an example in which  $\text{span}(S_1 \cap S_2)$  and  $\text{span}(S_1) \cap \text{span}(S_2)$  are equal and one in which they are unequal.

**Solution to 5)** Note that if  $U_1$  and  $U_2$  are both subsets of  $\mathcal{V}$  with the property that  $U_1 \subset U_2$ , then  $\text{span}(U_1) \subset \text{span}(U_2)$ . Since  $S_1 \cap S_2 \subset S_1$  and  $S_1 \cap S_2 \subset S_2$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}\text{span}(S_1 \cap S_2) &\subset \text{span}(S_1), \\ \text{span}(S_1 \cap S_2) &\subset \text{span}(S_2).\end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\text{span}(S_1 \cap S_2) \subset \text{span}(S_1) \cap \text{span}(S_2)$ .

Let  $\mathcal{W} \subset \mathcal{V}$  be a subspace of  $\mathcal{V}$  and let  $w \in \mathcal{W}$ . Let  $S_1 = \{w\}$  and let  $S_2 = \mathcal{W}$ . Then we have

$$\text{span}(S_1 \cap S_2) = \text{span}(\{w\}).$$

Since  $w \in \mathcal{W}$ , we obtain that  $\text{span}(\{w\})$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{W}$ . Moreover,  $\text{span}(\mathcal{W}) = \mathcal{W}$ . Thus,

$$\text{span}(S_1) \cap \text{span}(S_2) = \text{span}(\{w\}) \cap \text{span}(\mathcal{W}) = \text{span}(\{w\}) \cap \mathcal{W} = \text{span}(\{w\}).$$

Thus, the above is an example where the two subspaces are equal.

Let  $\mathcal{V} = \mathbb{R}^2$  and let  $S_1 = \{(1, 0), (0, 1)\}$ ,  $S_2 = \{(2, 0), (0, 1)\}$ . Then

$$\text{span}(S_1 \cap S_2) = \text{span}\{(0, 1)\},$$

but  $\text{span}(S_1) = \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $\text{span}(S_2) = \mathbb{R}^2$  and therefore

$$\text{span}(S_1) \cap \text{span}(S_2) = \mathbb{R}^2.$$

This is an example where the two subspaces are not equal.

**Exercise 6.** Give an example of three linearly dependent vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  such that none of the three is a multiple of another.

**Solution to 6)** Let

$$u = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad v = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad w = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

These are three vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . We have  $u + v + w = 0$ . Therefore they are linearly dependent. However, none of them is a multiple of the others.

**Exercise 7.** Let  $S = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n\}$  be a finite set of vectors. Prove that  $S$  is linearly dependent if and only if  $u_1 = 0$  or  $u_{k+1} \in \text{span}(\{u_1, \dots, u_k\})$  for some  $k$  where  $1 \leq k < n$ .

**Solution to 7)** Suppose that  $S$  is linearly dependent. This means we can find  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in F$  with the property that at least one of them is non-zero and

$$a_1u_1 + a_2u_2 + \dots + a_nu_n = 0 .$$

If  $a_1 \neq 0$ , but  $a_2 = a_3 = \dots = a_n = 0$ , then this equation boils down to  $a_1u_1 = 0$ , which implies  $u_1 = 0$ . Otherwise let  $m \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  be the smallest number with the property that  $a_r = 0$  for all  $r > m$  and  $a_m \neq 0$ . Since we excluded the case  $m = 1$  at the beginning, we must have  $m \geq 2$  and we can write

$$u_m = -\frac{a_1}{a_m}u_1 - \frac{a_2}{a_m}u_2 - \dots - \frac{a_{m-1}}{a_m}u_{m-1} .$$

Therefore  $u_m \in \text{span}(\{u_1, \dots, u_{m-1}\})$  and the statement is true with  $k = m - 1$ .

To show the other direction note that  $u_1 = 0$  directly implies that  $S$  is linearly dependent. If we suppose the other condition, i.e. that  $u_{k+1} \in \text{span}(\{u_1, \dots, u_k\})$  for some  $k$  with  $1 \leq k < n$ , then we can find  $b_1, \dots, b_k \in F$  with the property

$$u_{k+1} = b_1u_1 + \dots + b_ku_k \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad 0 = b_1u_1 + \dots + b_ku_k - u_{k+1} .$$

Since the coefficient in front of  $u_{k+1}$  is  $-1$  and in particular non-zero, this implies that  $S$  is linearly independent.

**Exercise 8.** The set of all  $n \times n$  matrices having trace equal to 0 is a subspace  $\mathcal{W}$  of  $M_{n \times n}(F)$ . Find a basis for  $\mathcal{W}$ . What is the dimension of  $\mathcal{W}$ ?

**Solution to 8)** Let  $\text{tr} : M_{n \times n}(F) \rightarrow F$  be the trace map on the vector space of  $n \times n$ -matrices. Let  $A, B \in M_{n \times n}(F)$  be matrices with entries  $a_{ij}$  and  $b_{ij}$  respectively and let  $\lambda \in F$ . Then we have

$$\text{tr}(A + \lambda B) = \sum_{i=1}^n (a_{ii} + \lambda b_{ii}) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ii} + \lambda \cdot \left( \sum_{i=1}^n b_{ii} \right) = \text{tr}(A) + \lambda \cdot \text{tr}(B).$$

In particular,  $\text{tr}$  is a linear transformation. The subspace  $\mathcal{W} \subset M_{n \times n}(F)$  is the kernel of  $\text{tr}$ . Since  $\text{tr}$  is surjective, we obtain from the rank-nullity theorem

$$n^2 = \dim(M_{n \times n}(F)) = \dim(\ker(\text{tr})) + \dim(\text{Im}(\text{tr})) = \dim(\mathcal{W}) + 1,$$

which gives  $\dim(\mathcal{W}) = n^2 - 1$ . To construct a basis of  $\mathcal{W}$  it therefore suffices to find  $n^2 - 1$  linearly independent vectors in  $\mathcal{W}$ . Let  $E_{ij} \in M_{n \times n}(F)$  be the matrix which has a 1 in the  $i$ th row and the  $j$ th column and zeroes everywhere else. The set  $\{E_{ij} \mid 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq n\}$  is a basis for the vector space  $M_{n \times n}(F)$ . Note that  $\text{tr}(E_{ij}) = 0$  for all  $i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  with  $i \neq j$ . Moreover, let  $F_i = E_{ii} - E_{nn}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n-1$ . Then  $F_i \neq 0$  and  $\text{tr}(F_i) = 0$ . Now consider the set

$$S = \{E_{ij} \mid i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\} \text{ with } i \neq j\} \cup \{F_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq n-1\}$$

It contains  $(n^2 - n) + (n - 1) = n^2 - 1$  vectors. Let  $a_{ij} \in F$  and consider the linear combination

$$\sum_{i \neq j} a_{ij} E_{ij} + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} a_{ii} F_i = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1(n-1)} & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{(n-1)1} & \cdots & a_{(n-1)(n-1)} & a_{(n-1)n} \\ a_{n1} & \cdots & a_{n(n-1)} & x \end{pmatrix}$$

with  $x = -a_{11} - a_{22} - \cdots - a_{(n-1)(n-1)}$ . If we set this matrix equal to zero, we obtain that all  $a_{ij}$  have to be zero. Therefore  $S$  is linearly independent.

**Exercise 9.** The set of all skew-symmetric  $n \times n$  matrices is a subspace  $\mathcal{W}$  of  $M_{n \times n}(\mathbb{R})$ . Find a basis for  $\mathcal{W}$ . What is the dimension of  $\mathcal{W}$ ?

**Solution to 9)** Let  $A \in M_{n \times n}(\mathbb{R})$  be a skew-symmetric matrix with entries  $a_{ij}$ . By definition it satisfies  $A = -A^t$ , which we can express in terms of the entries as  $a_{ij} = -a_{ji}$  for all  $i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ . In particular, the diagonal entries have to satisfy  $a_{ii} = -a_{ii}$ , which implies that they are zero and the matrix is completely fixed by knowing the entries  $a_{ij}$  for  $i < j$ . Let  $E_{ij}$  be the matrices from Exercise 8 and consider

$$S = \{E_{ij} - E_{ji} \mid i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\} \text{ with } i < j\}.$$

Note that  $(E_{ij} - E_{ji})^t = E_{ji} - E_{ij} = -(E_{ij} - E_{ji})$ . Therefore  $S \subset \mathcal{W}$ . Let  $a_{ij} \in F$  for  $i < j$  and consider the linear combination

$$\sum_{i < j} a_{ij}(E_{ij} - E_{ji}) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ -a_{12} & 0 & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ -a_{1n} & -a_{2n} & \cdots & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

If we set this equal to zero, it follows that all  $a_{ij}$  with  $i < j$  have to be zero. This implies that  $S$  is linearly independent. Since we are free to choose the entries  $a_{ij}$ , we obtain  $\text{span}(S) = \mathcal{W}$ . We can read off the dimension from this:

$$\dim(\mathcal{W}) = (n-1) + (n-2) + \cdots + 1 = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}.$$

**Exercise 10.** Prove that if  $\mathcal{W}_1$  and  $\mathcal{W}_2$  are finite-dimensional subspaces of a vector space  $\mathcal{V}$ , then the subspace  $\mathcal{W}_1 + \mathcal{W}_2$  is finite-dimensional, and  $\dim(\mathcal{W}_1 + \mathcal{W}_2) = \dim(\mathcal{W}_1) + \dim(\mathcal{W}_2) - \dim(\mathcal{W}_1 \cap \mathcal{W}_2)$ . (Hint: Consider the vector space  $\mathcal{W}_1 \cap \mathcal{W}_2$ , its finite basis, and extending it to ones for  $\mathcal{W}_1$  and  $\mathcal{W}_2$ )

**Solution to 10)** Let  $S_0 = \{w_1, \dots, w_k\}$  be a (finite) basis for the vector space  $\mathcal{W}_1 \cap \mathcal{W}_2$ . Let  $S_1$  be an extension of  $S_0$  to a basis of  $\mathcal{W}_1$ , i.e.  $S_1 = \{w_1, \dots, w_k, u_1, \dots, u_r\}$  for vectors  $u_1, \dots, u_r \in \mathcal{W}_1 \setminus (\mathcal{W}_1 \cap \mathcal{W}_2)$ . Let  $S_2 = \{w_1, \dots, w_k, v_1, \dots, v_s\}$  with  $v_1, \dots, v_s \in \mathcal{W}_2 \setminus (\mathcal{W}_1 \cap \mathcal{W}_2)$  be a similar extension of  $S_0$  to a basis of  $\mathcal{W}_2$ . I claim that

$$S = \{w_1, \dots, w_k, u_1, \dots, u_r, v_1, \dots, v_s\}$$

is a basis for  $\mathcal{W}_1 + \mathcal{W}_2$ . We first have to show that  $S$  is linearly independent. Let  $c_1, \dots, c_k \in F$ ,  $a_1, \dots, a_r \in F$  and  $b_1, \dots, b_s \in F$  be scalars such that

$$\sum_{i=1}^k c_i w_i + \sum_{j=1}^r a_j u_j + \sum_{m=1}^s b_m v_m = 0 .$$

This can be rewritten as

$$\sum_{i=1}^k c_i w_i + \sum_{j=1}^r a_j u_j = - \sum_{m=1}^s b_m v_m .$$

The vector on the left hand side is in  $\mathcal{W}_1$ , the vector on the right hand side is in  $\mathcal{W}_2$ . Therefore both sides must denote vectors in  $\mathcal{W}_1 \cap \mathcal{W}_2$ . Now since  $\{w_1, \dots, w_k\}$  is a basis for  $\mathcal{W}_1 \cap \mathcal{W}_2$ , there must be scalars  $d_1, \dots, d_k \in F$  with the property that

$$-\sum_{m=1}^s b_m v_m = \sum_{l=1}^k d_l w_l \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \sum_{l=1}^k d_l w_l + \sum_{m=1}^s b_m v_m = 0 .$$

But  $\{w_1, \dots, w_k, v_1, \dots, v_s\}$  is a basis of  $\mathcal{W}_2$ . Hence,  $d_1 = \dots = d_k = 0$  and  $b_1 = \dots = b_s = 0$ . Since  $\{w_1, \dots, w_k, u_1, \dots, u_r\}$  is a basis of  $\mathcal{W}_1$ , the first equation then implies that  $c_1 = \dots = c_k = 0$  and  $a_1 = \dots = a_r = 0$  as well. Thus,  $S$  is linearly independent. Moreover, it is not too difficult to check that

$$\text{span}(S) = \mathcal{W}_1 + \mathcal{W}_2 .$$

Since  $S$  is a basis for  $\mathcal{W}_1 + \mathcal{W}_2$ , we have  $\dim(\mathcal{W}_1 + \mathcal{W}_2) = k + r + s$ . With  $\dim(\mathcal{W}_1 \cap \mathcal{W}_2) = k$ ,  $\dim(\mathcal{W}_1) = k + r$  and  $\dim(\mathcal{W}_2) = k + s$  we obtain

$$\dim(\mathcal{W}_1 + \mathcal{W}_2) = k + r + s = (k + r) + (k + s) - k = \dim(\mathcal{W}_1) + \dim(\mathcal{W}_2) - \dim(\mathcal{W}_1 \cap \mathcal{W}_2).$$