

Problem 1

1. True. For S to generate V , $\text{span}(S) = V$; then by definition $\forall \vec{x} \in V$, $\vec{x} \in \text{span}(S)$ so by definition of span they each can be written as a linear combination of vectors in S .
2. False. At least one vector in S must be linear combination of other vectors in S , not all.
3. True. By definition of linear independence.
4. False. For example, the vector space $P(F)$, the set of polynomials over a field F , has an infinite dimensional basis.
5. False. The basis is simply \emptyset .
6. False. Many bases can exist. It is easy to see that for \mathbb{R}^2 , the standard basis $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ and a similar but distinct basis $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ exist.
7. False. $\dim(P_n(\mathbb{R})) = n + 1$, since there are n powers of X and a constant value.

Problem 2

Suppose \mathcal{B} is a basis for V . Then by definition, \mathcal{B} is linearly independent and spans V . Then (1) is immediately satisfied. Assume by contradiction that $\exists \vec{x} \in \mathcal{B}$ such that $\mathcal{B} \setminus \{\vec{x}\}$ spans V . Since $\vec{x} \in \mathcal{B}$ and \mathcal{B} is a basis for V , then $\vec{x} \in V$. But $\mathcal{B} \setminus \{\vec{x}\}$ spans V , i.e. $\text{span}(\mathcal{B} \setminus \{\vec{x}\}) = V$, hence $\vec{x} \in \text{span}(\mathcal{B} \setminus \{\vec{x}\})$. But by the Theorem on Equivalent Definitions for Linear Dependence, if $\exists \vec{x} \in \mathcal{B}$ such that $\vec{x} \in \text{span}(\mathcal{B} \setminus \{\vec{x}\})$, then \mathcal{B} is linearly dependent, contradiction; hence $\forall \vec{x} \in \mathcal{B}$, $\mathcal{B} \setminus \{\vec{x}\}$ does not span V .

Suppose \mathcal{B} spans V and $\forall \vec{x} \in \mathcal{B}$, $\mathcal{B} \setminus \{\vec{x}\}$ does not span V . To be a basis, we need \mathcal{B} spans V and \mathcal{B} is linearly independent. The first is satisfied by assumption. Assume by contradiction that \mathcal{B} is linearly dependent, or by Theorem on Equivalent Definitions for Linear Dependence $\exists \vec{x} \in \mathcal{B}$ such that $\vec{x} \in \text{span}(\mathcal{B} \setminus \{\vec{x}\})$. But since $\vec{x} \in \text{span}(\mathcal{B} \setminus \{\vec{x}\})$, we must have that $\text{span}(\mathcal{B} \setminus \{\vec{x}\}) = \text{span}(\mathcal{B} \setminus \{\vec{x}\} \cup \{\vec{x}\}) = \text{span}(\mathcal{B}) = V$. But $\forall \vec{x} \in \mathcal{B}$, $\mathcal{B} \setminus \{\vec{x}\}$ does not span V , contradiction. Hence \mathcal{B} is also linearly independent and thus a basis for V .

Problem 3

The Basis Reduction Theorem guarantees that if a finite set of vectors G spans V , then there exists a basis for V , \mathcal{B} , such that $\mathcal{B} \subseteq G$. In this case, the subset $\{\vec{u}_1, \vec{u}_2, \vec{u}_5\}$ is a basis for \mathbb{R}^3 .

Problem 4

We saw that $\dim(P_n) = n + 1$. Since $W = \{f \in P_n(\mathbb{R}) \mid f(0) = 0\}$, where

$f = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$, we have an extra constraint that $f(0) = a_0 = 0$. Then the constant factor is always fixed to 0, so we only need to worry about the n powers of x . Thus $\dim(W) = n$.

Problem 5

Since 0 and 1 are in every field, we can tweak the standard basis for F^5 to satisfy the specific constraints of W_1 and W_2 . For W_1 , we see that the constraint is effectively $a_1 = a_3 + a_4$. Then take $\mathcal{B} = \{(0, 1, 0, 0, 0), (1, 0, 1, 0, 0), (1, 0, 0, 1, 0), (0, 0, 0, 0, 1)\}$ as the basis. It is easy to see that the set is linearly independent. Also, for $\vec{x} \in W_1$, $\vec{x} = (a_3 + a_4, a_2, a_3, a_4, a_5)$, and we see that $\vec{x} = a_2(0, 1, 0, 0, 0) + a_3(1, 0, 1, 0, 0) + a_4(1, 0, 0, 1, 0) + a_5(0, 0, 0, 0, 1)$. Then \vec{x} can be expressed as a linear combination of vectors in \mathcal{B} , hence by definition $\vec{x} \in \text{span}(\mathcal{B})$. Since \vec{x} was an arbitrary vector in W_1 , this is true for all $\vec{x} \in W_1$, hence $\text{span}(\mathcal{B}) = W_1$ and \mathcal{B} is a basis by definition.

For W_2 , our constraint is $a_2 = a_3 = a_4$ and $a_1 = -a_5$, where $-a_5$ denotes the additive inverse of a_5 . Then we can take our basis to be $\mathcal{B} = \{(1, 0, 0, 0, -1), (0, 1, 1, 1, 0)\}$. Again it is easy to see that these vectors are linearly independent. For $\vec{x} \in W_2$, $\vec{x} = (a_1, a_2, a_2, a_2, -a_1)$, hence $\vec{x} = a_1(1, 0, 0, 0, -1) + a_2(0, 1, 1, 1, 0)$. Again this expresses \vec{x} as a linear combination of vectors in \mathcal{B} , so $\vec{x} \in \text{span}(\mathcal{B})$; this is true for arbitrary $\vec{x} \in W_2$, so $W_2 = \text{span}(\mathcal{B})$ and \mathcal{B} is a basis.

Then, by definition of dimension, we see that $\dim(W_1) = 4$ and $\dim(W_2) = 2$.

Problem 6

1. We see that $\dim(V) = 3$. Since $|\mathcal{B}| = 3$, then we only need that \mathcal{B} is linearly independent or \mathcal{B} spans V for it to be a basis by Theorem 5. We show that \mathcal{B} is linearly independent. Consider $a(1, 2, 1) + b(2, 1, 0) + c(1, -2, 2) = (0, 0, 0)$. We see this

results in the system of equations
$$\begin{cases} a + 2b = 0 \\ 2a + b - 2c = 0 \\ a + 2c = 0 \end{cases}$$
. Solving, we see that

$$\begin{cases} a + 2b = 0 \\ 2a + b - 2c = 0 \\ a + 2c = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} 2b - 2c = 0 \\ 2a + b - 2c = 0 \\ a + 2c = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} b = c \\ 2a + 3c = 0 \\ a + 2c = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} b = c \\ -c = 0 \\ a + 2c = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} b = 0 \\ c = 0 \\ a = 0 \end{cases}.$$
 Hence the

only solution is the trivial linear combination, and so \mathcal{B} is linearly independent and thus a basis.

2. Once again, $\dim(\text{Mat}(2, \mathbb{R})) = 2 \cdot 2 = 4$, and $|\mathcal{B}| = 4$, so we only need to show \mathcal{B} is linearly independent. However, we see that $\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ can be expressed as a linear

combination of the other three vectors:
$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = a \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -3 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} + b \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ -5 & 2 \end{pmatrix} + c \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{cases} 3a - c = -1 \\ -3a + c = 1 \\ -5b = 2 \\ 2a + 2b - c = 1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} 3a - c = -1 \\ -3a + c = 1 \\ b = -2/5 \\ 2a - c = 9/5 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} 3a - c = -1 \\ a = -14/5 \\ b = -2/5 \\ 2a - c = 9/5 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} c = -37/5 \\ a = -14/5 \\ b = -2/5 \end{cases}.$$
 Then

$a \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + b \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -3 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} + c \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ -5 & 2 \end{pmatrix} + d \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ has a solution where not all

coefficients are 0, namely $a = -1$, $b = -14/5$, $c = -2/5$, $d = -37/5$. Then by definition \mathcal{B} is not linearly independent and so is not a basis.

3. We see that $\dim(\mathbb{Q}^3) = 3$, but $|\mathcal{B}| = 4$. By definition of dimension, if \mathcal{B} is a basis then $\dim(\mathbb{Q}^3) = |\mathcal{B}|$, but $3 \neq 4$, hence \mathcal{B} is not a basis.
4. $\dim(P_2(\mathbb{R})) = 2 + 1 = 3$ and $|\mathcal{B}| = 3$, so we only need to show that \mathcal{B} is linearly independent. Consider $a(x^2 + 2x - 1) + b(3x - x + 2) + c(x^2 + x + 1) = 0$. Then,

$$\begin{cases} a+c=0 \\ 2a-b+c=0 \\ -a+2b+c=0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} a=-c \\ -2c-b+c=0 \\ c+2b+c=0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} a=-c \\ b=-c \\ b=-c \end{cases} . \text{ But we see that } a=-1, b=-1, c=1 \text{ is a}$$

solution to the system, and not all coefficients are zero; then by definition \mathcal{B} is linearly dependent and thus not a basis.

Problem 7

- Let $\mathcal{B} = \{\vec{x}_1, \dots, \vec{x}_n\}$ be a basis for $W_1 \cap W_2$. By definition, \mathcal{B} must be linearly independent, and since $\mathcal{B} \subset W_1 \cap W_2 \subset W_1, W_2$, we can apply the basis extension theorem, i.e. there exists bases \mathcal{B}_1 for W_1 and \mathcal{B}_2 for W_2 such that $\mathcal{B} \subset \mathcal{B}_1$ and $\mathcal{B} \subset \mathcal{B}_2$. Let $\mathcal{B}_1 = \{\vec{x}_1, \dots, \vec{x}_n, \vec{y}_1, \dots, \vec{y}_k\}$ and $\mathcal{B}_2 = \{\vec{x}_1, \dots, \vec{x}_n, \vec{z}_1, \dots, \vec{z}_m\}$. We see that $\mathcal{B}_1 \cup \mathcal{B}_2 = \{\vec{x}_1, \dots, \vec{x}_n, \vec{y}_1, \dots, \vec{y}_k, \vec{z}_1, \dots, \vec{z}_m\}$. Also, by definition, if $\vec{x} \in W_1 + W_2$, then $\vec{x} = \vec{w}_1 + \vec{w}_2$, where $\vec{w}_1 \in W_1$ and $\vec{w}_2 \in W_2$. But since \mathcal{B}_1 is a basis for W_1 and \mathcal{B}_2 for W_2 , we have $\vec{w}_1 = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \vec{x}_i + \sum_{i=1}^k b_i \vec{y}_i$ and $\vec{w}_2 = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i \vec{x}_i + \sum_{i=1}^m d_i \vec{z}_i$. Then $\vec{x} = \sum_{i=1}^n (a_i + c_i) \vec{x}_i + \sum_{i=1}^k b_i \vec{y}_i + \sum_{i=1}^m d_i \vec{z}_i$, a linear combination of exactly the vectors in $\mathcal{B}_1 \cup \mathcal{B}_2$; hence $W_1 + W_2 = \text{span}(\mathcal{B}_1 \cup \mathcal{B}_2)$. To show that $\mathcal{B}_1 \cup \mathcal{B}_2$ is linearly independent, we consider $\sum_{i=1}^n a_i \vec{x}_i + \sum_{i=1}^k b_i \vec{y}_i + \sum_{i=1}^m d_i \vec{z}_i = \vec{0}$. Then, $\sum_{i=1}^n a_i \vec{x}_i + \sum_{i=1}^k b_i \vec{y}_i = -\sum_{i=1}^m d_i \vec{z}_i$. We see that the left hand side is in $\text{span}(\mathcal{B}_1) = W_1$, while the right is in W_2 . Then, $-\sum_{i=1}^m d_i \vec{z}_i \in W_1 \cap W_2$, or $-\sum_{i=1}^m d_i \vec{z}_i = \sum_{i=1}^r e_i \vec{x}_i$; then $\sum_{i=1}^r e_i \vec{x}_i - \sum_{i=1}^m d_i \vec{z}_i = \vec{0}$. But this is exactly a linear combination of vectors from \mathcal{B}_2 , so $e_i = d_i = 0$. Then $\sum_{i=1}^n a_i \vec{x}_i + \sum_{i=1}^k b_i \vec{y}_i = \vec{0}$; but again this is a linear combination of vectors from \mathcal{B}_1 , so $a_i = b_i = 0$. Then $\mathcal{B}_1 \cup \mathcal{B}_2$ is linearly independent and thus a basis for $W_1 + W_2$. Finally, we see that $\dim(V) = |\mathcal{B}_1 \cup \mathcal{B}_2| = |\mathcal{B}_1| + |\mathcal{B}_2| - |\mathcal{B}_1 \cap \mathcal{B}_2| = \dim(W_1) + \dim(W_2) - \dim(W_1 \cap W_2)$.

2. Suppose $V = W_1 \oplus W_2$. Then $W_1 \cap W_2 = \{\vec{0}\}$ by definition. From the above,

$$\dim(V) = \dim(W_1 + W_2) = \dim(W_1) + \dim(W_2) - \dim(W_1 \cap W_2)$$

$$= \dim(W_1) + \dim(W_2) - \dim(\{\vec{0}\})$$

$$= \dim(W_1) + \dim(W_2) - 0 = \dim(W_1) + \dim(W_2)$$

Suppose $\dim(W_1) + \dim(W_2) = \dim(V) = \dim(W_1 + W_2)$. From the above, we see that for this to hold true we must have $\dim(W_1 \cap W_2) = 0$. The only vector space with a dimension of 0 is $\{\vec{0}\}$; then $W_1 \cap W_2 = \{\vec{0}\}$, which combined with the assumption that $V = W_1 + W_2$ yields $V = W_1 \oplus W_2$ by definition.