

- 1** Find a list of four distinct vectors in  $\mathbf{F}^3$  whose span equals

$$\{(x, y, z) \in \mathbf{F}^3 : x + y + z = 0\}.$$

**SOLUTION** Let  $U = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbf{F}^3 : x + y + z = 0\}$ .

The list  $(1, -1, 0)$ ,  $(0, -1, 1)$ ,  $(0, 0, 0)$ ,  $(2, -2, 0)$  consists of four distinct vectors, each of which is in  $U$ . Thus the span of these four vectors is contained in  $U$ .

Conversely, if  $(x, y, z) \in U$ , then  $y = -x - z$  and thus

$$(x, y, z) = x(1, -1, 0) + z(0, -1, 1) + 0(0, 0, 0) + 0(2, -2, 0).$$

Thus  $(x, y, z) \in \text{span}((1, -1, 0), (0, -1, 1), (0, 0, 0), (2, -2, 0))$ . This shows that  $U$  is contained in the span of our list of four vectors.

Hence  $U$  equals the span of our list of four vectors.

**2** Prove or give a counterexample: If  $v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4$  spans  $V$ , then the list

$$v_1 - v_2, v_2 - v_3, v_3 - v_4, v_4$$

also spans  $V$ .

**SOLUTION** The statement above is true. To prove it, let  $v \in V$ . To show that  $v \in \text{span}(v_1 - v_2, v_2 - v_3, v_3 - v_4, v_4)$ , we need to find  $a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4 \in \mathbf{F}$  such that

$$v = a_1(v_1 - v_2) + a_2(v_2 - v_3) + a_3(v_3 - v_4) + a_4v_4.$$

Rearranging the equation above, we see that we need to find  $a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4 \in \mathbf{F}$  such that

$$v = a_1v_1 + (a_2 - a_1)v_2 + (a_3 - a_2)v_3 + (a_4 - a_3)v_4.$$

Because  $v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4$  spans  $V$ , there exist  $b_1, b_2, b_3, b_4 \in \mathbf{F}$  such that

$$v = b_1v_1 + b_2v_2 + b_3v_3 + b_4v_4.$$

Comparing the last two equations, we see that the first of these two equations will be satisfied if we choose  $a_1$  to equal  $b_1$  and then choose  $a_2$  to equal  $b_2 + a_1$  and then choose  $a_3$  to equal  $b_3 + a_2$ , and then choose  $a_4$  to equal  $b_4 + a_3$ .

**3** Suppose  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  is a list of vectors in  $V$ . For  $k \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ , let

$$w_k = v_1 + \dots + v_k.$$

Show that  $\text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_m) = \text{span}(w_1, \dots, w_m)$ .

**SOLUTION** Suppose  $k \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ . If  $k = 1$ , then  $v_k = w_k$ . If  $k > 1$ , then

$$v_k = w_k - w_{k-1}.$$

Thus we see that  $v_k \in \text{span}(w_1, \dots, w_m)$ .

The paragraph above implies that  $\text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_m) \subseteq \text{span}(w_1, \dots, w_m)$ . To prove the inclusion in the other direction, note that for each  $k \in \{1, \dots, m\}$  we have

$$w_k \in \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_k) \subseteq \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_m).$$

Thus  $\text{span}(w_1, \dots, w_m) \subseteq \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_m)$ . Hence

$$\text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_m) = \text{span}(w_1, \dots, w_m),$$

as desired.

**4**

- (a) Show that a list of length one in a vector space is linearly independent if and only if the vector in the list is not 0.
- (b) Show that a list of length two in a vector space is linearly independent if and only if neither of the two vectors in the list is a scalar multiple of the other.

**SOLUTION**

- (a) Suppose  $v \in V$ .

If  $v = 0$ , then the list  $v$  of length one is not linearly independent because  $1v = 0$ .

Conversely, if  $v \neq 0$ , then the list  $v$  of length one is linearly independent because the only scalar  $a \in \mathbf{F}$  such that  $av = 0$  is  $a = 0$ .

- (b) Suppose  $v_1, v_2 \in V$ .

Suppose there is a scalar  $a \in \mathbf{F}$  such that  $v_1 = av_2$  or  $v_2 = av_1$ . Then  $1v_1 - av_2 = 0$  or  $av_1 - 1v_2 = 0$ . Thus the list  $v_1, v_2$  of length two is linearly dependent.

Conversely, suppose the list  $v_1, v_2$  of length two is linearly dependent. Then there exist scalars  $a_1, a_2 \in \mathbf{F}$ , not both 0, such that  $a_1v_1 + a_2v_2 = 0$ . If  $a_1 \neq 0$  then  $v_1 = -\frac{a_2}{a_1}v_2$ . If  $a_2 \neq 0$  then  $v_2 = -\frac{a_1}{a_2}v_1$ .

5 Find a number  $t$  such that

$$(3, 1, 4), (2, -3, 5), (5, 9, t)$$

is not linearly independent in  $\mathbf{R}^3$ .

**SOLUTION** We begin by looking just at the first two coordinates of each vector above. To write  $(5, 9)$  as a linear combination of  $(3, 1)$ ,  $(2, -3)$ , we must find  $a, b \in \mathbf{R}$  such that

$$a(3, 1) + b(2, -3) = (5, 9),$$

which is equivalent to the system of equations

$$3a + 2b = 5$$

$$a - 3b = 9.$$

Solving for  $a, b$ , we get  $a = 3, b = -2$ .

Thus to choose  $t$  so that  $(3, 1, 4), (2, -3, 5), (5, 9, t)$  is linearly dependent, we need

$$3(3, 1, 4) - 2(2, -3, 5) = (5, 9, t),$$

which implies that  $t = 2$ .

**6** Show that the list  $(2, 3, 1), (1, -1, 2), (7, 3, c)$  is linearly dependent in  $\mathbf{F}^3$  if and only if  $c = 8$ .

**SOLUTION** The equation in the first bullet point in Example 2.18 shows that  $(2, 3, 1), (1, -1, 2), (7, 3, 8)$  is linearly dependent.

Conversely, suppose  $(2, 3, 1), (1, -1, 2), (7, 3, c)$  is linearly dependent. The first vector in this list is not the 0 vector, and the second vector in this list is not a scalar multiple of the first vector. Thus by the linear dependence lemma (2.19), the vector  $(7, 3, c)$  is in the span of  $(2, 3, 1), (1, -1, 2)$ .

The list  $(2, 3), (1, -1)$  is linearly independent (neither vector is a scalar multiple of the other) and thus  $(7, 3)$  can be written as a linear combination of  $(2, 3), (1, -1)$  in at most one way. From the first bullet point in 2.18, we see that this one way of writing  $(7, 3)$  as a linear combination of  $(2, 3), (1, -1)$  is

$$2(2, 3) + 3(1, -1) = (7, 3).$$

Thus the only possible way to write  $(7, 3, c)$  as a linear combination of the vectors  $(2, 3, 1), (1, -1, 2)$  is

$$2(2, 3, 1) + 3(1, -1, 2) = (7, 3, c).$$

The equation above implies that the list  $(2, 3, 1), (1, -1, 2), (7, 3, c)$  is linearly dependent only when  $c = 8$ .

**7**

- (a) Show that if we think of  $\mathbf{C}$  as a vector space over  $\mathbf{R}$ , then the list  $1+i, 1-i$  is linearly independent.
- (b) Show that if we think of  $\mathbf{C}$  as a vector space over  $\mathbf{C}$ , then the list  $1+i, 1-i$  is linearly dependent.

**SOLUTION**

- (a) Think of  $\mathbf{C}$  as a vector space over  $\mathbf{R}$ . Suppose  $a, b \in \mathbf{R}$  and

$$a(1+i) + b(1-i) = 0.$$

By looking at the real and imaginary parts of the left side of the equation above, we see that  $a+b=0$  and  $a-b=0$ , which implies  $a=b=0$ . Hence the list  $(1+i, 1-i)$  is linearly independent.

- (b) Think of  $\mathbf{C}$  as a vector space over  $\mathbf{C}$ . Then

$$1-i = a(1+i),$$

where  $a = \frac{1-i}{1+i}$ . Thus the list  $(1+i, 1-i)$  is linearly dependent.

**8** Suppose  $v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4$  is linearly independent in  $V$ . Prove that the list

$$v_1 - v_2, v_2 - v_3, v_3 - v_4, v_4$$

is also linearly independent.

**SOLUTION** To prove that the list displayed above is linearly independent, suppose  $a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4 \in \mathbf{F}$  are such that

$$a_1(v_1 - v_2) + a_2(v_2 - v_3) + a_3(v_3 - v_4) + a_4v_4 = 0.$$

Rearranging terms, the equation above can be rewritten as

$$a_1v_1 + (a_2 - a_1)v_2 + (a_3 - a_2)v_3 + (a_4 - a_3)v_4 = 0.$$

Because  $v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4$  is linearly independent, the equation above implies that

$$\begin{aligned} a_1 &= 0 \\ a_2 - a_1 &= 0 \\ a_3 - a_2 &= 0 \\ a_4 - a_3 &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

The first equation above tells us that  $a_1 = 0$ . That information, combined with the second equation, tells us that  $a_2 = 0$ . That information, combined with the third equation, tells us that  $a_3 = 0$ . That information, combined with the fourth equation, tells us that  $a_4 = 0$ . Thus  $v_1 - v_2, v_2 - v_3, v_3 - v_4, v_4$  is linearly independent.

**9** Prove or give a counterexample: If  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m$  is a linearly independent list of vectors in  $V$ , then

$$5v_1 - 4v_2, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_m$$

is linearly independent.

**SOLUTION** Suppose  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m$  is a linearly independent list of vectors in  $V$ . Suppose  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m \in \mathbf{F}$  are such that

$$a_1(5v_1 - 4v_2) + a_2v_2 + \dots + a_mv_m = 0.$$

Then

$$5a_1v_1 + (a_2 - 4a_1)v_2 + a_3v_3 + \dots + a_mv_m = 0.$$

Because  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m$  is linearly independent, we have

$$a_1 = a_2 - 4a_1 = a_3 = \dots = a_m = 0.$$

Thus  $a_1 = a_2 = a_3 = \dots = a_m = 0$ . Hence  $5v_1 - 4v_2, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_m$  is linearly independent.

**10** Prove or give a counterexample: If  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m$  is a linearly independent list of vectors in  $V$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbf{F}$  with  $\lambda \neq 0$ , then  $\lambda v_1, \lambda v_2, \dots, \lambda v_m$  is linearly independent.

**SOLUTION** Suppose  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m$  is a linearly independent list of vectors in  $V$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbf{F}$  with  $\lambda \neq 0$ . Suppose  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m \in \mathbf{F}$  are such that

$$a_1\lambda v_1 + \cdots + a_m\lambda v_m = 0.$$

Because  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m$  is linearly independent, we have

$$a_1\lambda = \cdots = a_m\lambda = 0.$$

Because  $\lambda \neq 0$ , we have  $a_1 = \cdots = a_m = 0$ . Hence  $\lambda v_1, \lambda v_2, \dots, \lambda v_m$  is linearly independent.

**11** Prove or give a counterexample: If  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  and  $w_1, \dots, w_m$  are linearly independent lists of vectors in  $V$ , then the list  $v_1 + w_1, \dots, v_m + w_m$  is linearly independent.

**SOLUTION** The statement above is not true. For example, take  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  to be any linearly independent lists of vectors in  $V$ , and then let

$$w_1 = -v_1, \dots, w_m = -v_m.$$

The list  $v_1 + w_1, \dots, v_m + w_m$  will then consist of all 0's and thus will not be linearly independent.

**12** Suppose  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  is linearly independent in  $V$  and  $w \in V$ . Prove that if  $v_1 + w, \dots, v_m + w$  is linearly dependent, then  $w \in \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_m)$ .

**SOLUTION** Suppose  $v_1 + w, \dots, v_m + w$  is linearly dependent. Then there exist scalars  $a_1, \dots, a_m$ , not all 0, such that

$$a_1(v_1 + w) + \cdots + a_m(v_m + w) = 0.$$

Rearranging this equation, we have

$$a_1v_1 + \cdots + a_mv_m = -(a_1 + \cdots + a_m)w.$$

If  $a_1 + \cdots + a_m$  were 0, then the equation above would contradict the linear independence of  $v_1, \dots, v_m$ . Thus  $a_1 + \cdots + a_m \neq 0$ . Hence we can divide both sides of the equation above by  $-(a_1 + \cdots + a_m)$ , showing that  $w \in \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_m)$ .

**13** Suppose  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  is linearly independent in  $V$  and  $w \in V$ . Show that

$$v_1, \dots, v_m, w \text{ is linearly independent} \iff w \notin \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_m).$$

**SOLUTION** First suppose  $v_1, \dots, v_m, w$  is linearly independent. Then no vector in that list is a linear combination of the other vectors in the list. In particular,  $w \notin \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_m)$ .

Conversely, suppose  $w \notin \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_m)$ . Because  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  is linearly independent, no  $v_k$  is in the span of  $v_1, \dots, v_{k-1}$ . Thus the linear dependence lemma (2.19) implies that  $v_1, \dots, v_m, w$  is linearly independent.

**14** Suppose  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  is a list of vectors in  $V$ . For  $k \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ , let

$$w_k = v_1 + \cdots + v_k.$$

Show that the list  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  is linearly independent if and only if the list  $w_1, \dots, w_m$  is linearly independent.

**SOLUTION** First suppose  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  is linearly independent. Suppose  $c_1, \dots, c_m \in \mathbf{F}$  and

$$c_1 w_1 + \cdots + c_m w_m = 0.$$

In the equation above, replace each  $w_k$  with  $v_1 + \cdots + v_k$  and rewrite the left side of the equation above as a linear combination of  $v_1, \dots, v_m$ . Because  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  is linearly independent, the coefficient of each  $v_k$  equals 0. The coefficient of  $v_m$  (after replacing each  $w_k$  with  $v_1 + \cdots + v_k$  in the equation above) is  $c_m$ . Thus  $c_m = 0$ .

Now that  $c_m = 0$ , the coefficient of  $v_{m-1}$  is  $c_{m-1}$ . Thus  $c_{m-1} = 0$ . Continuing in this fashion, we see that  $c_m = c_{m-1} = \cdots = c_1 = 0$ . Thus  $w_1, \dots, w_m$  is linearly independent.

To prove the implication in the other direction, now suppose  $w_1, \dots, w_m$  is linearly independent. Suppose  $a_1, \dots, a_m \in \mathbf{F}$  and

$$a_1 w_1 + \cdots + a_m w_m = 0.$$

In the equation above, replace  $v_1$  with  $w_1$  and replace each  $v_k$ , for  $k > 1$ , with  $w_k - w_{k-1}$  and rewrite the left side of the equation above as a linear combination of  $w_1, \dots, w_m$ . Because  $w_1, \dots, w_m$  is linearly independent, the coefficient of each  $w_k$  equals 0. The coefficient of  $w_m$  (after the replacements just described) is  $a_m$ . Thus  $a_m = 0$ .

Now that  $a_m = 0$ , the coefficient of  $w_{m-1}$  is  $a_{m-1}$ . Thus  $a_{m-1} = 0$ . Continuing in this fashion, we see that  $a_m = a_{m-1} = \cdots = a_1 = 0$ . Thus  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  is linearly independent.

**15** Explain why there does not exist a list of six polynomials that is linearly independent in  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F})$ .

**SOLUTION** The list  $1, z, z^2, z^3, z^4$  spans  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F})$ . This list has length five. Thus no list of length six is linearly independent in  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F})$  (by 2.22).

**16** Explain why no list of four polynomials spans  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F})$ .

**SOLUTION** The list  $1, z, z^2, z^3, z^4$  is linearly independent in  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F})$ . This list has length five. Thus no list of length four spans  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F})$  (by 2.22).

**17** Prove that  $V$  is infinite-dimensional if and only if there is a sequence  $v_1, v_2, \dots$  of vectors in  $V$  such that  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  is linearly independent for every positive integer  $m$ .

**SOLUTION** First suppose  $V$  is infinite-dimensional. Choose  $v_1$  to be any nonzero vector in  $V$ . Choose  $v_2, v_3, \dots$  by the following inductive process: suppose  $v_1, \dots, v_{m-1}$  have been chosen; choose any vector  $v_m \in V$  such that  $v_m \notin \text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_{m-1})$ —because  $V$  is not finite-dimensional,  $\text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_{m-1})$  cannot equal  $V$  so choosing  $v_m$  in this fashion is possible. The linear dependence lemma (2.19) implies that  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  is linearly independent for every positive integer  $m$ , as desired.

Conversely, suppose there is a sequence  $v_1, v_2, \dots$  of vectors in  $V$  such that  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  is linearly independent for every positive integer  $m$ . The existence of a spanning list in  $V$  would contradict 2.22. Thus  $V$  is infinite-dimensional.

**18** Prove that  $\mathbf{F}^\infty$  is infinite-dimensional.

**SOLUTION** For each positive integer  $m$ , let  $e_m$  be the element of  $\mathbf{F}^\infty$  whose  $m^{\text{th}}$  coordinate equals 1 and whose other coordinates equal 0:

$$e_m = (0, \dots, 0, 1, 0, \dots).$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ m^{\text{th}} \text{ coordinate} \end{array}$$

Then  $e_1, \dots, e_m$  is a linearly independent list of vectors in  $\mathbf{F}^\infty$ , as is easy to verify. Exercise 17 now implies that  $\mathbf{F}^\infty$  is infinite-dimensional.

**19** Prove that the real vector space of all continuous real-valued functions on the interval  $[0, 1]$  is infinite-dimensional.

**SOLUTION** Let  $V$  denote the real vector space of all continuous real-valued functions on the interval  $[0, 1]$ . For each positive integer  $m$ , the list  $1, x, \dots, x^m$  is linearly independent in  $V$  (because if  $a_0, \dots, a_m \in \mathbf{R}$  are such that

$$a_0 + a_1x + \cdots + a_mx^m = 0$$

for every  $x \in [0, 1]$ , then the polynomial above has infinitely many zeros and hence all its coefficients equal 0). The existence of a spanning list in  $V$  would contradict 2.22. Thus  $V$  is infinite-dimensional.

**20** Suppose  $p_0, p_1, \dots, p_m$  are polynomials in  $\mathcal{P}_m(\mathbf{F})$  such that  $p_k(2) = 0$  for each  $k \in \{0, \dots, m\}$ . Prove that  $p_0, p_1, \dots, p_m$  is not linearly independent in  $\mathcal{P}_m(\mathbf{F})$ .

**SOLUTION** Because  $p_k(2) = 0$  for each  $k$ , the constant polynomial 1 is not in  $\text{span}(p_0, \dots, p_m)$ . Hence if the list  $p_0, p_1, \dots, p_m$  was linearly independent, then the list  $p_0, p_1, \dots, p_m, 1$  would also be linearly independent. But this is impossible in  $\mathcal{P}_m(\mathbf{F})$  because this list has length  $m + 2$ , which is larger than the length of the spanning list  $1, z, \dots, z^m$ .

- 1 Find all vector spaces that have exactly one basis.

**SOLUTION** If  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  is a basis of  $V$ , then so is  $\lambda v_1, \dots, \lambda v_n$  for each  $\lambda \in \mathbf{F}$ . Thus the only vector space having exactly one basis is the vector space  $\{0\}$ , which has the empty list () as its unique basis.

**2** Verify all assertions in Example 2.27.

**SOLUTION**

- (a) The list  $(1, 0, \dots, 0), (0, 1, 0, \dots, 0), \dots, (0, \dots, 0, 1)$  is linearly independent and it spans  $\mathbf{F}^n$ ; thus it is a basis of  $\mathbf{F}^n$ .
- (b) The list  $(1, 2), (3, 5)$  is linearly independent because neither vector in the list is a scalar multiple of the other.

The  $(1, 2), (3, 5)$  spans  $\mathbf{F}^2$  because

$$(-5x + 3y)(1, 2) + (2x - y)(3, 5) = (x, y)$$

for all  $(x, y) \in \mathbf{F}^2$ .

Because the list  $(1, 2), (3, 5)$  is linearly independent and it spans  $\mathbf{F}^2$ , it is a basis of  $\mathbf{F}^2$ .

- (c) The list  $(1, 2, -4), (7, -5, 6)$  is linearly independent in  $\mathbf{F}^3$  because neither vector in the list is a scalar multiple of the other.

The list  $(1, 2, -4), (7, -5, 6)$  does not span  $\mathbf{F}^3$  because  $(8, -3, 0)$  is not in the span of  $(1, 2, -4), (7, -5, 6)$ , as can be seen by trying to solve the equations

$$\begin{aligned} a + 7b &= 8 \\ 2a - 5b &= -3 \\ -4a + 6b &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Because the list  $(1, 2, -4), (7, -5, 6)$  does not span  $\mathbf{F}^3$ , it is not a basis of  $\mathbf{F}^3$ .

- (d) The list  $(1, 2), (3, 5), (4, 13)$  spans  $\mathbf{F}^2$  because the list  $(1, 2), (3, 5)$  spans  $\mathbf{F}^2$  [by (b)] and adjoining additional vectors to a spanning list clearly gives a spanning list.

Because the list  $(1, 2), (3, 5)$  of length two spans  $\mathbf{F}^2$ , no list of length larger than 2 is linearly independent in  $\mathbf{F}^2$  (by 2.22). Thus the  $(1, 2), (3, 5), (4, 13)$  is not linearly independent and hence it is not a basis of  $\mathbf{F}^2$ .

- (e) The list  $(1, 1, 0), (0, 0, 1)$  is linearly independent because neither vector in this list of length two is a scalar multiple of the other.

For all  $x, y \in \mathbf{F}$ , we have

$$(x, x, y) = x(1, 1, 0) + y(0, 0, 1).$$

Thus  $(1, 1, 0), (0, 0, 1)$  spans  $\{(x, x, y) \in \mathbf{F}^3 : x, y \in \mathbf{F}\}$ .

Because the list  $(1, 1, 0), (0, 0, 1)$  is linearly independent and spans the subspace  $\{(x, x, y) \in \mathbf{F}^3 : x, y \in \mathbf{F}\}$ , this list of length two is a basis of  $\{(x, x, y) \in \mathbf{F}^3 : x, y \in \mathbf{F}\}$ .

- (f) The list  $(1, -1, 0), (1, 0, -1)$  is linearly independent because neither vector in this list of length two is a scalar multiple of the other.

For all  $x, y, z \in \mathbf{F}$  with  $x + y + z = 0$ , we have

$$(x, y, z) = -y(1, -1, 0) - z(1, 0, -1).$$

Thus  $(1, -1, 0), (1, 0, -1)$  spans  $\{(x, y, z) \in \mathbf{F}^3 : x + y + z = 0\}$ .

Because the list  $(1, -1, 0), (1, 0, -1)$  is linearly independent and spans the subspace  $\{(x, y, z) \in \mathbf{F}^3 : x + y + z = 0\}$ , this list is a basis of  $\{(x, y, z) \in \mathbf{F}^3 : x + y + z = 0\}$ .

- (g) The list  $1, z, \dots, z^m$  is linearly independent in  $\mathcal{P}_M(\mathbf{F})$  and spans  $\mathcal{P}_M(\mathbf{F})$  and hence is a basis of  $\mathcal{P}_m(\mathbf{F})$ .

**3**

- (a) Let  $U$  be the subspace of  $\mathbf{R}^5$  defined by

$$U = \{(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5) \in \mathbf{R}^5 : x_1 = 3x_2 \text{ and } x_3 = 7x_4\}.$$

Find a basis of  $U$ .

- (b) Extend the basis in (a) to a basis of  $\mathbf{R}^5$ .  
 (c) Find a subspace  $W$  of  $\mathbf{R}^5$  such that  $\mathbf{R}^5 = U \oplus W$ .

**SOLUTION**

- (a) Note that

$$U = \{(3x_2, x_2, 7x_4, x_4, x_5) : x_2, x_4, x_5 \in \mathbf{R}\}.$$

From this representation of  $U$ , we see easily that

$$(3, 1, 0, 0, 0), (0, 0, 7, 1, 0), (0, 0, 0, 0, 1)$$

is a basis of  $U$ .

Of course there are also other possible choices of bases of  $U$ .

- (b) The list  
 $(3, 1, 0, 0, 0), (0, 0, 7, 1, 0), (0, 0, 0, 0, 1), (1, 0, 0, 0, 0), (0, 0, 1, 0, 0)$   
 is a basis of  $\mathbf{R}^5$ .  
 (c) Let

$$W = \{(x, 0, y, 0, 0) : x, y \in \mathbf{R}\}.$$

**4**

- (a) Let  $U$  be the subspace of  $\mathbf{C}^5$  defined by

$$U = \{(z_1, z_2, z_3, z_4, z_5) \in \mathbf{C}^5 : 6z_1 = z_2 \text{ and } z_3 + 2z_4 + 3z_5 = 0\}.$$

Find a basis of  $U$ .

- (b) Extend the basis in (a) to a basis of  $\mathbf{C}^5$ .

- (c) Find a subspace  $W$  of  $\mathbf{C}^5$  such that  $\mathbf{C}^5 = U \oplus W$ .

**SOLUTION**

- (a) The list  $(1, 6, 0, 0, 0), (0, 0, -2, 1, 0), (0, 0, -3, 0, 1)$  consists of vectors in  $U$ . It is easy to see from the definition of linear independence that this list is linearly independent.

If  $(z_1, z_2, z_3, z_4, z_5) \in U$ , then

$$(z_1, z_2, z_3, z_4, z_5) = z_1(1, 6, 0, 0, 0) + z_4(0, 0, -2, 1, 0) + z_5(0, 0, -3, 0, 1).$$

Thus the list  $(1, 6, 0, 0, 0), (0, 0, -2, 1, 0), (0, 0, -3, 0, 1)$  spans  $U$ .

Because  $(1, 6, 0, 0, 0), (0, 0, -2, 1, 0), (0, 0, -3, 0, 1)$  is linearly independent and spans  $U$ , this list is a basis of  $U$ .

- (b) The list

$$\begin{aligned} &(1, 6, 0, 0, 0), (0, 0, -2, 1, 0), (0, 0, -3, 0, 1), \\ &(1, 0, 0, 0, 0), (0, 0, 1, 0, 0) \end{aligned}$$

is a basis of  $\mathbf{C}^5$ , as is easy to verify.

- (c) Using the idea of the proof of 2.33 and the answer above to (b), we see that taking

$$W = \{(\alpha, 0, \beta, 0, 0) : \alpha, \beta \in \mathbf{C}\}$$

gives a subspace  $W$  such that  $\mathbf{C}^5 = U \oplus W$ .

**5** Suppose  $V$  is finite-dimensional and  $U, W$  are subspaces of  $V$  such that  $V = U + W$ . Prove that there exists a basis of  $V$  consisting of vectors in  $U \cup W$ .

**SOLUTION** Because  $V$  is finite-dimensional, the subspaces  $U$  and  $W$  are also finite-dimensional (by 2.25). Thus there exists a list of vectors in  $U$  that spans  $U$  and there exists a list of vectors in  $W$  that spans  $W$ . Put these two lists together to get a list of vectors in  $U \cup W$  that spans  $V$  (because  $V = U + W$ ). By 2.30, this list can be reduced to a basis of  $V$  consisting of vectors in  $U \cup W$ .

**6** Prove or give a counterexample: If  $p_0, p_1, p_2, p_3$  is a list in  $\mathcal{P}_3(\mathbf{F})$  such that none of the polynomials  $p_0, p_1, p_2, p_3$  has degree 2, then  $p_0, p_1, p_2, p_3$  is not a basis of  $\mathcal{P}_3(\mathbf{F})$ .

**SOLUTION** To construct a counterexample, define  $p_0, p_1, p_2, p_3 \in \mathcal{P}_3(\mathbf{F})$  by

$$\begin{aligned}p_0(z) &= 1, \\p_1(z) &= z, \\p_2(z) &= z^2 + z^3, \\p_3(z) &= z^3.\end{aligned}$$

None of the polynomials  $p_0, p_1, p_2, p_3$  has degree 2, but  $p_0, p_1, p_2, p_3$  is a basis of  $\mathcal{P}_3(\mathbf{F})$ , as is easy to verify.

**7** Suppose  $v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4$  is a basis of  $V$ . Prove that

$$v_1 + v_2, v_2 + v_3, v_3 + v_4, v_4$$

is also a basis of  $V$ .

**SOLUTION** To prove that  $v_1 + v_2, v_2 + v_3, v_3 + v_4, v_4$  is linearly independent, suppose  $a, b, c, d \in \mathbf{F}$  and

$$a(v_1 + v_2) + b(v_2 + v_3) + c(v_3 + v_4) + dv_4 = 0.$$

Then

$$av_1 + (a+b)v_2 + (b+c)v_3 + (c+d)v_4 = 0.$$

Because  $v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4$  is linearly independent, this implies that

$$a = a + b = b + c = c + d = 0,$$

which implies that  $a = b = c = d = 0$ . Thus  $v_1 + v_2, v_2 + v_3, v_3 + v_4, v_4$  is linearly independent.

To prove that  $v_1 + v_2, v_2 + v_3, v_3 + v_4, v_4$  spans  $V$ , suppose  $u \in V$ . Because  $v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4$  is a basis of  $V$ , there exist  $a, b, c, d \in \mathbf{F}$  such that

$$u = av_1 + bv_2 + cv_3 + dv_4.$$

Thus

$$u = a(v_1 + v_2) + (b-a)(v_2 + v_3) + (c-b+a)(v_3 + v_4) + (d-c+b-a)v_4.$$

Hence  $v_1 + v_2, v_2 + v_3, v_3 + v_4, v_4$  spans  $V$ .

Because  $v_1 + v_2, v_2 + v_3, v_3 + v_4, v_4$  is linearly independent and spans  $V$ , it is a basis of  $V$ .

**8** Prove or give a counterexample: If  $v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4$  is a basis of  $V$  and  $U$  is a subspace of  $V$  such that  $v_1, v_2 \in U$  and  $v_3 \notin U$  and  $v_4 \notin U$ , then  $v_1, v_2$  is a basis of  $U$ .

**SOLUTION** The statement above is false. For example, take  $V = \mathbf{R}^4$ , let  $v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4$  be the standard basis of  $\mathbf{R}^4$ , and let

$$U = \{(a, b, c, c) : a, b, c \in \mathbf{R}\}.$$

Then  $v_1, v_2 \in U$  and  $v_3 \notin U$  and  $v_4 \notin U$ . However,  $v_1, v_2$  is not a basis of  $U$ , because  $(0, 0, 1, 1) \in U$  but  $(0, 0, 1, 1) \notin \text{span}(v_1, v_2)$ .

**9** Suppose  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  is a list of vectors in  $V$ . For  $k \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ , let

$$w_k = v_1 + \cdots + v_k.$$

Show that  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  is a basis of  $V$  if and only if  $w_1, \dots, w_m$  is a basis of  $V$ .

**SOLUTION** First suppose  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  is a basis of  $V$ . Thus  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  is linearly independent and spans  $V$ . By Exercises 14 and 3 in Section 2A,  $w_1, \dots, w_m$  is linearly independent and spans  $V$ . Thus  $w_1, \dots, w_m$  is a basis of  $V$ .

Now suppose  $w_1, \dots, w_m$  is a basis of  $V$ . Thus  $w_1, \dots, w_m$  is linearly independent and spans  $V$ . By Exercises 14 and 3 in Section 2A,  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  is linearly independent and spans  $V$ . Thus  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  is a basis of  $V$ .

**10** Suppose  $U$  and  $W$  are subspaces of  $V$  such that  $V = U \oplus W$ . Suppose also that  $u_1, \dots, u_m$  is a basis of  $U$  and  $w_1, \dots, w_n$  is a basis of  $W$ . Prove that

$$u_1, \dots, u_m, w_1, \dots, w_n$$

is a basis of  $V$ .

**SOLUTION** First suppose  $a_1, \dots, a_m, b_1, \dots, b_n \in \mathbf{F}$  and

$$a_1u_1 + \dots + a_mu_m + b_1w_1 + \dots + b_nw_n = 0.$$

Because  $a_1u_1 + \dots + a_mu_m \in U$  and  $b_1w_1 + \dots + b_nw_n \in W$ , the equation above and 1.45 imply that

$$a_1u_1 + \dots + a_mu_m = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad b_1w_1 + \dots + b_nw_n = 0.$$

Because  $u_1, \dots, u_m$  is linearly independent and  $w_1, \dots, w_n$  is linearly independent, this implies that

$$a_1 = \dots = a_m = b_1 = \dots = b_n = 0.$$

Thus  $u_1, \dots, u_m, w_1, \dots, w_n$  is linearly independent.

Suppose  $v \in V$ . Then there exist  $u \in U$  and  $w \in W$  such that  $v = u + w$ . Because  $u_1, \dots, u_m$  spans  $U$  and  $w_1, \dots, w_n$  spans  $W$ , there exist  $a_1, \dots, a_m, b_1, \dots, b_n \in \mathbf{F}$  such that

$$u = a_1u_1 + \dots + a_mu_m \quad \text{and} \quad w = b_1w_1 + \dots + b_nw_n.$$

Thus

$$v = a_1u_1 + \dots + a_mu_m + b_1w_1 + \dots + b_nw_n,$$

which shows that  $u_1, \dots, u_m, w_1, \dots, w_n$  spans  $V$ .

Because  $u_1, \dots, u_m, w_1, \dots, w_n$  is linearly independent and spans  $V$ , this list is a basis of  $V$ .

**11** Suppose  $V$  is a real vector space. Show that if  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  is a basis of  $V$  (as a real vector space), then  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  is also a basis of the complexification  $V_{\mathbf{C}}$  (as a complex vector space).

*See Exercise 8 in Section 1B for the definition of the complexification  $V_{\mathbf{C}}$ .*

**SOLUTION** Suppose that  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  is a basis of the real vector space  $V$ . Then  $\text{span}(v_1, \dots, v_n)$  in the complex vector space  $V_{\mathbf{C}}$  contains all the vectors

$$v_1, \dots, v_n, iv_1, \dots, iv_n.$$

Thus  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  spans the complex vector space  $V_{\mathbf{C}}$ .

To show that  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  is linearly independent in the complex vector space  $V_{\mathbf{C}}$ , suppose  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n \in \mathbf{C}$  and

$$\lambda_1 v_1 + \dots + \lambda_n v_n = 0.$$

Then the equation above and our definitions imply that

$$(\operatorname{Re} \lambda_1)v_1 + \dots + (\operatorname{Re} \lambda_n)v_n = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad (\operatorname{Im} \lambda_1)v_1 + \dots + (\operatorname{Im} \lambda_n)v_n = 0.$$

Because  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  is linearly independent in  $V$ , the equations above imply that

$$\operatorname{Re} \lambda_1 = \dots = \operatorname{Re} \lambda_n = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \operatorname{Im} \lambda_1 = \dots = \operatorname{Im} \lambda_n = 0.$$

Thus  $\lambda_1 = \dots = \lambda_n = 0$ . Hence  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  is linearly independent in  $V_{\mathbf{C}}$  and thus is a basis of  $V_{\mathbf{C}}$ .

**1** Show that the subspaces of  $\mathbf{R}^2$  are precisely  $\{0\}$ , all lines in  $\mathbf{R}^2$  containing the origin, and  $\mathbf{R}^2$ .

**SOLUTION** The set  $\{0\}$ , the set  $\mathbf{R}^2$ , and all lines in  $\mathbf{R}^2$  through the origin are all subspaces of  $\mathbf{R}^2$ .

To show that there are no other subspaces of  $\mathbf{R}^2$ , suppose  $U$  is a subspace of  $\mathbf{R}^2$ . Then by 2.37,  $\dim U$  equals 0, 1, or 2.

If  $\dim U = 0$ , then  $U = \{0\}$ .

If  $\dim U = 1$ , then there is a basis of  $U$  consisting of one vector  $v$ , and  $U$  equals all scalar multiples of  $v$ ; thus  $U$  is a line through the origin.

If  $\dim U = 2$ , then  $U = \mathbf{R}^2$ .

**2** Show that the subspaces of  $\mathbf{R}^3$  are precisely  $\{0\}$ , all lines in  $\mathbf{R}^3$  containing the origin, all planes in  $\mathbf{R}^3$  containing the origin, and  $\mathbf{R}^3$ .

**SOLUTION** The set  $\{0\}$ , the set  $\mathbf{R}^3$ , all lines in  $\mathbf{R}^3$  through the origin, and all planes in  $\mathbf{R}^3$  through the origin are all subspaces of  $\mathbf{R}^3$ .

To show that there are no other subspaces of  $\mathbf{R}^3$ , suppose  $U$  is a subspace of  $\mathbf{R}^3$ . Then by 2.37,  $\dim U$  equals 0, 1, 2, or 3.

If  $\dim U = 0$ , then  $U = \{0\}$ .

If  $\dim U = 1$ , then there is a basis of  $U$  consisting of one vector  $v$ , and  $U$  equals all scalar multiples of  $v$ ; thus  $U$  is a line through the origin.

If  $\dim U = 2$ , then there is a basis  $v_1, v_2$  of the subspace  $U$ , and hence  $U$  equals  $\text{span}(v_1, v_2)$ ; thus  $U$  is a plane through the origin.

If  $\dim U = 3$ , then  $U = \mathbf{R}^3$ .

**3**

- (a) Let  $U = \{p \in \mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F}) : p(6) = 0\}$ . Find a basis of  $U$ .
- (b) Extend the basis in (a) to a basis of  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F})$ .
- (c) Find a subspace  $W$  of  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F})$  such that  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F}) = U \oplus W$ .

**SOLUTION**

- (a) A basis of  $U$  is

$$x - 6, (x - 6)^2, (x - 6)^3, (x - 6)^4.$$

To verify that the list above is indeed a basis of  $U$ , first note that the list above is linearly independent (using the same reasoning as was used in Example 2.41 to show that the list in that example is linearly independent). Then note that the linearly independent list above has length four, and thus  $\dim U \geq 4$ . However,  $\dim \mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F}) = 5$ , which implies that  $\dim U = 4$  or  $\dim U = 5$ . Because  $U$  is a proper subspace of  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F})$ , this implies that  $\dim U = 4$ . Hence the list above is a basis of  $U$ .

- (b) The constant function 1 clearly is not in  $U$ . Thus

$$x - 6, (x - 6)^2, (x - 6)^3, (x - 6)^4, 1$$

is a linearly independent list in  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F})$  of length five. By 2.38, the list above is a basis of  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F})$ .

- (c) Using the idea of the proof of 2.33 and the answer above to (b), we see that taking  $W$  to be the subspace of  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F})$  consisting of the constant functions gives a subspace  $W$  such that  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F}) = U \oplus W$ .

**4**

- (a) Let  $U = \{p \in \mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{R}) : p''(6) = 0\}$ . Find a basis of  $U$ .
- (b) Extend the basis in (a) to a basis of  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{R})$ .
- (c) Find a subspace  $W$  of  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{R})$  such that  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{R}) = U \oplus W$ .

**SOLUTION**

- (a) A basis of  $U$  is

$$1, x - 6, (x - 6)^3, (x - 6)^4.$$

Each polynomial in the list above is clearly in  $U$ . To verify that the list above is indeed a basis of  $U$ , first note that the list above is linearly independent (using the same reasoning as was used in Example 2.41 to show that the list in that example is linearly independent). Then note that the linearly independent list above has length four, and thus  $\dim U \geq 4$ . However,  $\dim \mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{R}) = 5$ , which implies that  $\dim U = 4$  or  $\dim U = 5$ . Because  $U$  is a proper subspace of  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{R})$ , this implies that  $\dim U = 4$ . Hence the list above is a basis of  $U$ .

- (b) The polynomial  $(x - 2)^2$  clearly is not in  $U$ . Thus

$$1, x - 6, (x - 6)^3, (x - 6)^4, (x - 6)^2$$

is a linearly independent list in  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{R})$  of length five. By 2.38, the list above is a basis of  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{R})$ .

- (c) Using the idea of the proof of 2.33 and the answer above to (b), we see that taking  $W$  to be the subspace of  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{R})$  consisting of the constant multiples of  $(x - 6)^2$  gives a subspace  $W$  such that  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{R}) = U \oplus W$ .

**5**

- (a) Let  $U = \{p \in \mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F}) : p(2) = p(5)\}$ . Find a basis of  $U$ .
- (b) Extend the basis in (a) to a basis of  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F})$ .
- (c) Find a subspace  $W$  of  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F})$  such that  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F}) = U \oplus W$ .

**SOLUTION**

- (a) A basis of  $U$  is

$$1, (x - 2)(x - 5), (x - 2)^2(x - 5), (x - 2)^3(x - 5).$$

Each polynomial in the list above is clearly in  $U$ . To verify that the list above is indeed a basis of  $U$ , first note that the list above is linearly independent (using the same reasoning as was used in Example 2.41 to show that the list in that example is linearly independent). Then note that the linearly independent list above has length four, and thus  $\dim U \geq 4$ . However,  $\dim \mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F}) = 5$ , which implies that  $\dim U = 4$  or  $\dim U = 5$ . Because  $U$  is a proper subspace of  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F})$ , this implies that  $\dim U = 4$ . Hence the list above is a basis of  $U$ .

- (b) The polynomial  $x$  clearly is not in  $U$ . Thus

$$1, (x - 2)(x - 5), (x - 2)^2(x - 5), (x - 2)^3(x - 5), x$$

is a linearly independent list in  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F})$  of length five. By 2.38, the list above is a basis of  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F})$ .

- (c) Using the idea of the proof of 2.33 and the answer above to (b), we see that taking  $W$  to be the subspace of  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F})$  consisting of the constant multiples of  $x$  gives a subspace  $W$  such that  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F}) = U \oplus W$ .

**6**

- (a) Let  $U = \{p \in \mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F}) : p(2) = p(5) = p(6)\}$ . Find a basis of  $U$ .
- (b) Extend the basis in (a) to a basis of  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F})$ .
- (c) Find a subspace  $W$  of  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F})$  such that  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F}) = U \oplus W$ .

**SOLUTION**

- (a) A basis of  $U$  is

$$1, (x - 2)(x - 5)(x - 6), (x - 2)^2(x - 5)(x - 6).$$

Each polynomial in the list above is clearly in  $U$ . To verify that the list above is indeed a basis of  $U$ , first note that the list above is linearly independent (using the same reasoning as was used in Example 2.41 to show that the list in that example is linearly independent). Then note that the linearly independent list above has length three and thus  $\dim U \geq 3$ . However,  $U$  is a proper subspace of  $\{p \in \mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F}) : p(2) = p(5)\}$ , which from the solution to Exercise 5 has dimension four. This implies that  $\dim U = 3$ . Hence the list above is a basis of  $U$ .

- (b) The list

$$1, (x - 2)(x - 5)(x - 6), (x - 2)^2(x - 5)(x - 6), x, x^2$$

is a linearly independent list in  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F})$  of length five. By 2.38, the list above is a basis of  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F})$ .

- (c) Using the idea of the proof of 2.33 and the answer above to (b), we see that taking  $W = \text{span}(x, x^2)$  gives a subspace  $W$  such that  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{F}) = U \oplus W$ .

**7**

- (a) Let  $U = \{p \in \mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{R}) : \int_{-1}^1 p = 0\}$ . Find a basis of  $U$ .
- (b) Extend the basis in (a) to a basis of  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{R})$ .
- (c) Find a subspace  $W$  of  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{R})$  such that  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{R}) = U \oplus W$ .

**SOLUTION**

- (a) A basis of  $U$  is

$$x, x^2 - \frac{1}{3}, x^3, x^4 - \frac{1}{5}.$$

Simple calculus shows that each polynomial in the list above is in  $U$ . To verify that the list above is indeed a basis of  $U$ , first note that the list above is linearly independent (using the same reasoning as was used in Example 2.41 to show that the list in that example is linearly independent). Then note that the linearly independent list above has length four, and thus  $\dim U \geq 4$ . However,  $\dim \mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{R}) = 5$ , which implies that  $\dim U = 4$  or  $\dim U = 5$ . Because  $U$  is a proper subspace of  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{R})$ , this implies that  $\dim U = 4$ . Hence the list above is a basis of  $U$ .

- (b) The constant polynomial 1 clearly is not in  $U$ . Thus

$$x, x^2 - \frac{1}{3}, x^3, x^4 - \frac{1}{5}, 1$$

is a linearly independent list in  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{R})$  of length five. By 2.38, the list above is a basis of  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{R})$ .

- (c) Using the idea of the proof of 2.33 and the answer above to (b), we see that taking  $W$  to be the subspace of  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{R})$  consisting of the constant polynomials gives a subspace  $W$  such that  $\mathcal{P}_4(\mathbf{R}) = U \oplus W$ .

**8** Suppose  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  is linearly independent in  $V$  and  $w \in V$ . Prove that

$$\dim \text{span}(v_1 + w, \dots, v_m + w) \geq m - 1.$$

**SOLUTION** We have

$$v_k - v_m = (v_k + w) - (v_m + w) \in \text{span}(v_1 + w, \dots, v_m + w)$$

for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, m - 1$ . Because  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  is linearly independent, it is easy to see that

$$v_1 - v_m, v_2 - v_m, \dots, v_{m-1} - v_m$$

is also linearly independent. Thus we have a linearly independent list of length  $m - 1$  in  $\text{span}(v_1 + w, \dots, v_m + w)$ . Hence

$$\dim \text{span}(v_1 + w, \dots, v_m + w) \geq m - 1.$$