Contents

Linear Algebra Exercises

Lance Remigio

December 4, 2023

Chapter 1

Vector Spaces

1.1 Subspaces

Exercise 1.3.3

Prove that $(aA + bB)^t = aA^t + bB^t$ for any $A, B \in M_{m\times n}(F)$ and any $a, b \in F$.

Proof. Let $A, B \in M_{m\times n}(F)$ and let $a, b \in F$ be arbitrary. Using scalar multiplication defined on $M_{m\times n}(F)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}(aA + bB)^t &= (aA)^t + (bB)^t \\ &= aA^t + bB^t.\end{aligned}$$

Hence, we are done. ■

Exercise 1.3.4

Prove that $(A^t)^t = A$ for each $A \in M_{n\times n}(F)$.

Proof. Let $A \in M_{m\times n}(F)$. By definition of transpose, we have

$$\left((A^t)^t\right)_{ij} = (A^t)_{ji} = A_{ij}$$

for all $1 \leq i, j \leq n$. Hence, $(A^t)^t = A$.

■

Exercise 1.3.5

Prove that $A + A^t$ is symmetric for any square matrix A.

Proof. Let A be an arbitrary square matrix. Since square matrices are symmetric, we have that $A^t = A$. We need to show that $(A + A^t)^t$. Observe that

$$\begin{aligned}(A + A^t)^t &= A^t + (A^t)^t \\ &= A + A^t.\end{aligned}$$

Hence, we have $A + A^t$ is symmetric. ■

Exercise 1.3.

Prove that $\mathrm{tr}(aA + bB) = a\mathrm{tr}(A) + b\mathrm{tr}(B)$ for any $A, B \in M_{n\times n}(F)$.

Proof. Let $A, B \in M_{n\times n}(F)$ and let $a, b \in F$ be arbitrary. Now, let $i = j$ and observe that

$$\begin{aligned}
\operatorname{tr}(aA + bB) &= \sum_{i,j\in\mathbb{N}}^{n} (aA + aB)_{ij} \\
&= \sum_{i,j\in\mathbb{N}}^{n} (aA)_{ij} + (bB)_{ij} \\
&= \sum_{i,j\in\mathbb{N}}^{n} (aA)_{ij} + \sum_{i,j\in\mathbb{N}}^{n} (bB)_{ij} \\
&= \sum_{i,j\in\mathbb{N}}^{n} aA_{ij} + \sum_{i,j\in\mathbb{N}}^{n} bB_{ij} \\
&= a\sum_{i,j\in\mathbb{N}}^{n} A_{ij} + b\sum_{i,j\in\mathbb{N}}^{n} B_{ij} \\
&= a\operatorname{tr}(A) + b\operatorname{tr}(B).
\end{aligned}$$

Hence, we conclude

$$\operatorname{tr}(aA + bB) = a\operatorname{tr}(A) + b\operatorname{tr}(B)$$

for any $A, B \in M_{n\times n}(F)$. ■

Exercise 1.3.7

Prove that diagonal matrices are symmetric matrices.

Proof. Let $A \in M_{n\times n}(F)$ be diagonal. Let $i \neq j$ where $A_{ij} = 0$. We need to show that $A^t = A$. If we apply a transpose on A, we get that $A_{ji} = 0$ since A^t is also diagonal and square. Since $A_{ij} = A_{ji} = 0$ for all $1 \le i \le n$ and $1 \le j \le n$. Hence, $A^t = A$ ■

Exercise 1.3.8

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) $W_1 = \{(a_1, a_2, a_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : a_1 = 3a_2 \text{ and } a_3 = -a_2\}$

Proof. We claim that W_1 is a subspace of $\mathbb{R}^3$.

(a) Note that $O_{\mathbb{R}^3} \in W_1$ where $O_{\mathbb{R}^3} = (0, 0, 0)$ because $0 = 3 \cdot 0$ and $0 = -1 \cdot 0$.

(b) Let $x, y \in W_1$ where $x = (a_1, a_2, a_3)$ and $y = (b_1, b_2, b_3)$. We need to show that $x + y \in W_1$. Since $a_1 = 3a_2$ and $a_3 = -a_2$ as well as $b_1 = 3b_2$ and $b_3 = -b_2$, we can write $a_1 + b_1 = 3(a_2 + b_2)$ and $a_3 + b_3 = -(a_2 + b_2)$. Hence, $x + y \in W_1$.

(c) Let $c \in \mathbb{R}$ and $x \in W_1$ with x defined as before. Then observe that $ca_1 = c(3a_2) = 3(ca_2)$ and $ca_3 = c(-a_2) = -(ca_2)$. Hence, $cx \in W_1$.

Since all the properties of a Theorem 3 have been satisfied, we can conclude that W_1 is a subspace of $\mathbb{R}^3$. ■

(b) $W_2 = \{(a_1, a_2, a_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : a_1 = a_3 + 2\}$

(c) $W_3 = \{(a_1, a_2, a_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : 2a_1 - 7a_2 + a_3 = 0\}$

(d) $W_4 = \{(a_1, a_2, a_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : a_1 - 4a_2 - 3a_3 = 1\}$

(e) $W_5 = \{(a_1, a_2, a_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : a_1 + 2a_2 - 3a_3 = 1\}$

(f) $W_6 = \{(a_1, a_2, a_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : 5a_1^2 - 3a_2^2 + 6a_3^2 = 0\}$

Exercise 1.3.9

Let W_1, W_3, W_4 be as in Exercise 8. Describe $W_1 \cap W_3$, $W_1 \cap W_4$, and $W_3 \cap W_4$ and observe that each is a subspace of $\mathbb{R}^3$.

Proof. ■

Exercise 1.3.11

Prove that the set $W_1 = \{(a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_n) \in F^n : a_1 + a_2 + \cdots + a_n = 0\}$ is a subspace of F^n, but $W_2 = \{(a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_n)\} \in F^n : a_1 + a_2 + \cdots + a_n = 1$ is not.

Proof. We need to show that W_1 is a subspace of F^n. We proceed by satisfying the properties of Theorem 3 to do this.

(a) Note that $O_{F^n} \in W_1$ since $0 + 0 + \cdots + 0 = 0$ n times.

(b) Let $x, y \in W_1$ with $x = (a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_3)$ and $y = (b_1, b_2, \ldots, b_n)$. By definition of W_1, we can see that

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{i=1}^{n}(a_i + b_i) &= \sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i + \sum_{i=1}^{n} b_i \\ &= 0 + 0 \\ &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

Hence, $x + y \in W_1$ which tells us that W_1 is closed under addition.

(c) Let $x \in W_1$ and $c \in F$. Then observe that

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n}(ca_i) = c\sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i = c \cdot 0 = 0.$$

Hence, we have $cx \in F^n$.

We claim that W_2 is not a subspace because W_2 is not closed under addition. Let $(0,1), (1,0) \in F^2$. Observe that $0 + 1 = 1$ and $1 + 0 = 1$, but $(0+1) + (1+0) = 1 + 1 = 2$. Hence, $(0,1) + (1,0) \notin W_2$.

■

Exercise 1.3.11

Is the set $W = \{f(x) \in P(F) : f(x) = 0 \text{ or } f(x) \text{ has degree } n\}$ a subspace of $P(F)$ if $n \geq 1$? Justify your answer.

Exercise 1.3.12

Prove that the set of $m \times n$ upper triangular matrices is a subspace of $M_{m \times n}(F)$.

Proof. Let V denote the set of $m \times n$ upper triangular matrices. We will show that V is a subspace of $M_{m \times n}(F)$ using Theorem 3.

(a) The zero matrix O from $M_{m \times n}(F)$ contains entries $O_{ij} = 0$ whenever $i > j$. Hence, $O \in V$.

(b) Let $A, B \in V$. By definition of V, A and B are upper triangular where $A_{ij} = 0$ and $B_{ij} = 0$ whenever $i > j$. Observe that

$$(A + B)_{ij} = A_{ij} + B_{ij} = 0 + 0 = 0$$

whenever $i > j$. Hence, $A + B \in V$.

(c) Let $c \in F$ and $A \in V$ as defined before. Let $i > j$ and observe that $(cA)_{ij} = cA_{ij} = c \cdot 0 = 0$. Hence, $cA \in V$.

Since all the properties of theorem 3 have been satisfied, we conclude that V is indeed a subspace of $M_{m \times n}(F)$. ■

Exercise 1.3.13

Let S be nonempty set and F is a field. Prove that for any $s_0 \in S$, the set $\{f \in \mathcal{F}(S, F) : f(s_0) = 0\}$, is a subspace of $\mathcal{F}(S, F)$.

Proof. We will proceed to prove that S is a subspace of $\mathcal{F}(S, F)$ over the field F by satisfying the properties of Theorem 3. Let $V = \{f \in \mathcal{F}(S, F) : f(s_0) = 0\}$.

(a) Note that the zero function $f_0 \in \mathcal{F}(S, F)$ where $f_0(s_0) = 0$ for any $s_0 \in S$ implies that $f_0 \in V$.

(b) Let $f, g \in V$. By definition of V, $f(s_0) = 0$ and $g(s_0) = 0$ for any $s_0 \in S$. We have $f + g \in V$ since

$$(f + g)(s_0) = f(s_0) + g(s_0) = 0 + 0 = 0.$$

Hence, V is closed under addition.

(c) Let $f \in V$ and $c \in F$. We have $cf \in V$ since

$$(cf)(s_0) = cf(s_0) = c \cdot 0 = 0$$

for any $s_0 \in S$. Hence, V is closed under scalar multiplication.

■

Exercise 1.3.14

Let S be a nonempty set and F a field. Let $\mathcal{C}(S, F)$ denote the set of all functions $f \in \mathcal{F}(S, F)$ such that $f(s) = 0$ for all but a finite number of elements of S. Prove that $\mathcal{C}(S, F)$ is a subspace of $\mathcal{F}(S, F)$.

Proof. We proceed by using Theorem 3 to prove that $\mathcal{C}(S, F)$ is a subspace where S is a nonempty set and F is a field.

(a) Note that the zero vector $f_0 \in \mathcal{F}(S, F)$ is in $\mathcal{C}(S, F)$ because $f_0(x_n) = 0$ where $x_n \in S$ for finitely many n.

(b) Let $f, g \in \mathcal{C}(S, F)$. We need to show that $f + g \in \mathcal{C}(S, F)$. Let $x_n \in S$ for finitely many n. Then using the addition defined on $\mathcal{F}(S, F)$, we can write

$$(f + g)(x_n) = f(x_n) + g(x_n) = 0 + 0 = 0.$$

(c) Let $f \in \mathcal{C}(S, F)$ and $c \in F$. We need to show that $cf \in \mathcal{C}(S, F)$. Let $x_n \in S$ for finitely many n. Using the scalar operation defined on $\mathcal{F}(S, F)$, we can write

$$(cf)(x_n) = cf(x_n) = c \cdot 0 = 0.$$

Since all the properties of Theorem 3 have been satisfied, we conclude that $\mathcal{C}(S, F)$ is indeed a subspace of $\mathcal{F}(S, F)$. ■

Exercise 1.3.15

Is the set of all differentiable real-valued functions defined on $\mathbb{R}$ a subspace of $C(\mathbb{R})$?

Proof. We claim that the set of all differentiable real-valued functions defined on $\mathbb{R}$ is a subspace of $C(\mathbb{R})$. Denote this set as V.

(a) Note that the zero function f_0 is differentiable for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$ and continuous for all $x \in R$.

Hence, $f_0 \in V$.

(b) Let $f, g \in V$. Using the addition operation defined on $C(\mathbb{R})$, we get that the sum $(f+g)(x) = f(x) + g(x)$ differentiable which implies that the sum of functions f, g is also continuous. Hence, $f + g \in V$.

(c) Let $f \in V$ and let $c \in \mathbb{R}$. Then $(cf)(x) = cf(x)$ is differentiable for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$ which means that cf is also continuous. Hence, $cf \in V$.

Hence, V is a subspace of $C(\mathbb{R})$. ■

Exercise 1.3.16

Let $C^n(\mathbb{R})$ denote the set of all real-valued functions defined on the real line that have a continuous nth derivative. Prove that $C^n(\mathbb{R})$ is a subspace of $\mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$.

Proof. ■

Exercise 1.3.17

Prove that a subset W of a vector space V is a subspace of V if and only if $W \neq \emptyset$ and, whenever $a \in F$ and $x, y \in W$, then $ax \in W$ and $x + y \in W$.

Proof. For the forwards direction, let $W \subseteq V$ where V is a vector space and W is a subspace of V. Let $a \in F$ and $x, y \in W$. Since W is a subspace, we know that $O_V \in W$. So, W is nonempty. Since W is closed under addition and multiplication, we get that $x + y \in W$ and $ax \in W$ and we are done.

For the backwards direction, let $W \neq \emptyset$ and $W \subseteq V$. Let $a \in F$ and $x, y \in W$ be arbitrary such that $ax \in W$ and $x + y \in W$. We need to show that W is a subspace of V. We need only show that $O_V \in W$ since W is closed under addition and scalar multiplication. Let $x \in W$. We can pick any $c \in F$ such that $c = 0$. So, we have $c \cdot x = 0 \cdot x = O_w$. Since the zero vector $O_W \in W$ is unique, we must have $O_V = O_W$. Hence, $O_V \in W$ and we conclude that W is a subspace of V. ■

Exercise 1.3.18

Prove that a subset W of a vector space V is a subspace of V if and only if $O \in W$ and $ax + y \in W$ whenever $a \in F$ and $x, y \in W$.

Proof. $(\Rightarrow)$ Let $W \subseteq V$ where W is a subspace of V. Since W is a subspace of V, we know that W is closed under addition and scalar multiplication. Let $a \in F$ and $x, y \in W$. Using the third property of Theorem 3, we can see that $ax \in W$. Since W is closed under addition, we can take $y \in W$ and $ax \in W$ such that $ax + y \in W$. Since W is also a vector space by definition, we know that $O_W \in W$. But $O_W = O_V$ so $O_V \in W$.

$(\Leftarrow)$ Let $a \in F$ and $x, y \in W$. We want to show that $W \subseteq V$ is a subspace of V. We can do this by using Theorem 3.

(a) By assumption, the zero vector $O_V \in W$.

(b) Let $x, y \in W$. Choose $a = 1$ such that $ax + y = x + y$. Since $ax + y \in W$ and $ax + y = x + y$, we also have $x + y \in W$. Hence, W is closed under addition.

(c) Let $x \in W$ and $O_V \in W$. Let $a \in F$. Then we have $ax + O_V = ax \in W$.

Hence, W is a subspace of V by Theorem 3. ■

Exercise 1.3.19

Let W_1 and W_2 be subspaces of a vector space V. Prove that $W_1 \cup W_2$ is a subspace of V if and only if $W_1 \subseteq W_2$ or $W_2 \subseteq W_1$.

Proof. $(\Rightarrow)$ Let $W_1 \cup W_2$ is a subspace of V. We need to show that $W_1 \subseteq W_2$ or $W_2 \subseteq W_1$. We proceed by showing the contrapositive. Assume $W_2 \nsubseteq W_1$ and $W_1 \nsubseteq W_2$. We need to show that $W_1 \cup W_2$ is **NOT** a subspace of V. By assumption, $x \in W_1$ is not contained in W_2 as well as $y \in W_2$ is not contained in W_1. This implies that $W_1 \cup W_2 = \emptyset$. Since $W_1 \cup W_2$ is empty where $W_1 \cup W_2$ does not contain O_V, it cannot possibly be a subspace of V.

$(\Leftarrow)$ Let $W_1 \subseteq W_2$ or $W_2 \subseteq W_1$. We need to show that $W_1 \cup W_2$ is a subspace of V. We proceed by using Theorem 3 to do this. Without loss of generality, assume $W_1 \subseteq W_2$. The proof will be the same if we use $W_2 \subseteq W_1$.

(a) Since W_1 is a subspace of V, we get that $O_W \in W_1$. Furthermore, $W_1 \subseteq W_2$ implies that $O_V \in W$. Since $O_V \in W_1$ and $O_V \in W_2$, we get that $O_V \in W_1 \cup W_2$ by definition of union.

(b) Let $x, y \in W_1$. Since W_1 is a subspace, we get that $x + y \in W_1$. Since $W_1 \subseteq W_2$, we also get that $x + y \in W_2$. Since both $x + y \in W_1$ and $x + y \in W_2$, we know that $x + y \in W_1 \cup W_2$ by definition of the union.

(c) Let $x \in W_1$ and $c \in F$. Since W_1 is closed under scalar multiplication, we have that $cx \in W_1$. But $W_1 \subseteq W_2$ so W_2 also contains $cx \in W_1$. So we must have $cx \in W_1 \cup W_2$.

Hence, $W_1 \cup W_2$ is a subspace of a vector space V. ■

Exercise 1.3.20

Prove that if W is a subspace of a vector space V and $w_1, w_2, \ldots, w_n$ are in W, then $a_1w_1 + a_2w_2 + \cdots + a_nw_n \in W$.

Proof. Let W be a subspace of a vector space V. Our goal is to show that the following statement: $a_1w_1 + a_2w_2 + \cdots + a_nw_n \in W$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n$. We proceed by induction on $i \geq 1$. Let $i = 1$. Since W is closed under scalar multiplication, we know that $a_1 \in F$ and $w_1 \in W$ implies that $a_1w_1 \in W$. Now let $i = 2$, then $w_1, w_2 \in W$ and $a_1, a_2 \in F$ implies that $a_1w_1 + a_2w_2 \in W$ since W is closed under scalar multiplication and addition. Now, assume that our result holds for all $1 \leq i \leq n$. We want to show that it also holds for $i = n + 1$. By our inductive hypothesis, we know that $a_1w_1 + a_2w_2 + \cdots + a_nw_n \in W$. Let $a_{n+1} \in F$ and $w_{n+1} \in W$. Using vector addition and scalar multiplication, we know that

$$\Big(a_1w_1 + a_2w_2 + \cdots + a_nw_n\Big) + a_{n+1}w_{n+1} \in W.$$

■

Exercise 1.3.21

Let V denote the vector space of sequences in $\mathbb{R}$, as defined in Example 5 of section 1.2. Show that the set of convergent sequences (a_n) (that is, those for which $\lim\limits_{n\to\infty} a_n$ exists) is a subspace of V.

Proof. We will show that W (the set of convergent sequences in $\mathbb{R}$) is a subspace of V by using Theorem 3.

(a) Note that the zero sequence O_n is zero for all $n = 1, 2, ...$ Hence, the limit of O_n converges to 0 and so we have $O_n \in W$.

(b) Let (a_n) and (b_n) be two convergent sequences in $\mathbb{R}$. Then we get that $\lim\limits_{n\to\infty} a_n$ and $\lim\limits_{n\to\infty} b_n$ exists. Observe that

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}(a_n + b_n) = \lim_{n\to\infty} a_n + \lim_{n\to\infty} b_n.$$

Since the a_n and b_n are both convergent sequences, we also get that the sum $(a_n + b_n)$ also converges. Hence, $(a_n + b_n) \in W$.

(c) Let $t \in F$ and $a_n \in W$ as before. Then we have

$$\lim_{n\to\infty} ta_n = t \lim_{n\to\infty} a_n.$$

Since any constant $t \in F$ multiplied by a convergent sequence is convergent, we also get that the sequence (ta_n) is also convergent. Hence, $ta_n \in W$.

■

Exercise 1.3.22

Let F_1 and F_2 be fields. A function $g \in \mathcal{F}(F_1, F_2)$ is called an **even function** if $g(-t) = g(t)$ for each $t \in F_1$ and is called an **odd function** if $g(-t) = -g(t)$ for each $t \in F_1$. Prove that the set of all even functions in $\mathcal{F}(F_1, F_2)$ and the set of all odd functions in $\mathcal{F}(F_1, F_2)$ are subspaces of $\mathcal{F}(F_1, F_2)$.

Proof. Let V be the set of all even functions and let W be the set of all odd functions. We will first prove that V is a subspace of $\mathcal{F}(F_1, F_2)$ and the same with W.

(a) Note that the zero function f_0 from $\mathcal{F}(F_1, F_2)$ is even since $f_0(-t) = 0 = f_0(t)$ for all $t \in F_1$. Hence, $f_0 \in V$.

(b) Let $f, g \in V$. We need to show that $f + g \in V$; that is, we need to show that it is even. Let $t \in F_1$. Then observe that

$$(f+g)(-t) = f(-t) + g(-t) = f(t) + g(t) = (f+g)(t)$$

Hence, $(f+g)(-t) = (f+g)(t)$ for all $t \in F_1$.

(c) Let $f \in V$ and let $c \in F_2$. Then observe that

$$(cf)(-t) = cf(-t) = cf(t) = (cf)(t).$$

Hence, $cf \in V$.

Since all the properties of V are satisfied, we have that V is a subspace of $\mathcal{F}(F_1, F_2)$.

Now we will prove W is a subspace of $\mathcal{F}(F_1, F_2)$.

(a) Note that the zero function f_0 is in W because for any $t \in F_1$ we have $f_0(-t) = 0 = -1 \cdot 0 = -f(t)$. Hence, $f_0 \in W$.

(b) Let $f, g \in W$ and Let $t \in F_1$. Observe that

$$(f+g)(-t) = f(-t) + g(-t) = -f(t) - g(t) - (f+g)(t).$$

Hence, $f + g \in W$.

(c) Let $c \in F_2$ and $f \in W$. Let $t \in F_1$ such that $f(-t) = -f(t)$. Then observe that

$$(cf)(-t) = cf(-t) = cf(t) = (cf)(t).$$

Hence, $cf \in W$.

Hence, W is a subspace of $\mathcal{F}(F_1, F_2)$ ■

Definition 1 (Sum of Two Sets)**.** If S_1 and S_2 are nonempty subsets of a vector spaces V, then the **sum** S_1 and S_2, denoted $S_1 + S_2$, is the set $\{x + y : x \in S_1 \text{ and } y \in S_2\}$.

Definition 2 (Direct Sum)**.** A vector space V is called the **direct sum** of W_1 and W_2 if W_1 and W_2 are subspaces of V such that $W_1 \cap W_2 = \{0\}$ and $W_1 + W_2 = V$. We denote that V is the direct sum of W_1 and W_2 by writing $V = W_1 \oplus W_2$.

Exercise 1.3.23

Let $W_1 + W_2$ is a subspace of a vector space V.

(a) Prove that $W_1 + W_2$ is a subspace of V that contains both W_1 and W_2.

Proof. Let W_1 and W_2 be subspaces of a vector space V. Define $W_1 + W_2$ as the set

$$\{x_1 + y_2 : w_1 \in W_1 \text{ and } w_2 \in W_2\}.$$

(a) Since W_1 and W_2 are subspaces of V, we know that the zero vector O_V is contained in both W_1 and W_2. Hence, the sum $O_V = O_V + O_V \in W_1 + W_2$.

(b) Let $u, v \in W_1 + W_2$ with $u = x_1 + y_1$ and $v = x_2 + y_2$. Since W_1 and W_2 are subspaces of V, we know that addition is closed in both subsets W_1 and W_2. Hence, $x_1 + x_2 \in W_1$ and $y_1 + y_2 \in W_2$. Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} u + v &= (x_1 + y_1) + (x_2 + y_2) \\ &= (x_1 + x_2) + (y_1 + y_2) \in W_1 + W_2. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, addition is closed in $W_1 + W_2$.

(c) Let $c \in F$ where F is a field and let $u \in W_1 + W_2$ with $u = x_1 + y_1$. Since W_1 and W_2 are subspaces of V, we know that $cx_1 \in W_1$ and $cx_2 \in W_2$. Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} cu &= c(x_1 + y_1) \\ &= cx_1 + cy_1 \in W_1 + W_2. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, $W_1 + W_2$ is a subspace of V. ■

(b) Prove that any subspace of V that contains both W_1 and W_2 must also contain $W_1 + W_2$.

Proof. Let X be a subspace of V. Suppose X contains both W_1 and W_2; that is, $W_1 \subseteq X$ and $W_2 \subseteq X$. We must show that $W_1 + W_2 \subseteq X$. Let $u \in W_1 + W_2$ with $u = x_1 + y_1$. By definition, we have $x_1 \in W_1$ and $y_1 \in W_2$. Since $W_1 \subseteq X$ and $W_2 \subseteq X$, we have $x_1 \in X$ and $y_1 \in X$. Since X is a subspace of V and X is closed under addition, we have $x_1 + y_1 \in X$. Hence, $u \in X$ and we conclude $W_1 + W_2 \subseteq X$. ■

Exercise 1.3.24

Show that F^n is the direct sum of the subspaces

$$W_1 = \{(a_1, a_2, \cdots a_n) \in F^n : a_n = 0\}$$

and

$$W_2 = \{(a_1, a_2, \cdots, a_n) \in F^n : a_1 = a_2 = \cdots = a_{n-1} = 0\}.$$

Proof. Let W_1 and W_2 be subspaces of F^n. Since W_1 and W_2 are subspaces, they both contain the zero vector O_{F^n}. Observe that for any element $x \in W_1$, we have the nth element $a_n = 0$. On the other hand, $y \in W_2$ implies that $a_1 = a_2 = \cdots = a_{n-1} = 0$ except for the nth element. Thus, the only element that W_1 and W_2 have in common is the zero vector O_{F^n}. Hence, we have $W_1 \cap W_2 = \{O_{F^n}\}$.

Now, we show $W_1 + W_2 = F^n$. To do this, we need to show the following containments:

(i) $W_1 + W_2 \subseteq F^n$ and

(ii) $F^n \subseteq W_1 + W_2$.

Let $u \in W_1 + W_2$ with $u = x_1 + x_2$ where $x_1 \in W_1$ and $y_1 \in W_2$. Since $W_1 \subseteq F^n$, we know that $x_1 \in F^n$. Likewise, $W_2 \subseteq F^n$ implies that $y_1 \in F^n$. Since F^n is a vector space where addition is closed, we have that $u = x_1 + y_1 \in F^n$. Hence, $W_1 + W_2 \subseteq F^n$.

Now, let $u \in F^n$. Since F^n is a vector space over F, each entry in U (where each entry is an element of a field F) can written and separated using the addition defined in F^n in the following way:

$$\begin{aligned} u &= (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \\ &= (a_1 + 0, a_2 + 0, \dots, 0 + a_n) \\ &= (a_1, a_2, \dots, 0) + (0, 0, \dots, a_n) \end{aligned}$$

where the first term is an element of W_1 and the second term is an element of W_2. Hence, $u \in W_1 + W_2$.

Since both containments are satisfied, we that $W_1 + W_2 = F^n$. Thus, $W_1 \oplus W_2 = F^n$. ■

Exercise 1.3.25

Let W_1 denote the set of all polynomials $f(x)$ in $P(F)$ such that in the representation

$$f(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + \cdots + a_1 x + a_0,$$

we have $a_i = 0$ whenever i is even. Likewise, let W_2 denote the set of all polynomials $g(x)$ in $P(F)$ such that in the representation

$$g(x) = b_m x^m + b_{m-1}x^{m-1} + \cdots + b_1 x + b_0,$$

we have $b_i = 0$ whenever i is odd. Prove that $P(F) = W_1 \oplus W_2$.

Proof. Let $f(x) \in W_1$. Then we have

$$f(x) = a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + \cdots + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} a_n x^n$$

where $a_i = 0$ where i is even. Likewise, let $g(x) \in W_2$. Hence,

$$g(x) = b_0 + b_1 x + b_2 x^2 + \cdots + b_{n-1}x^{n-1} + b_n x^n$$

where $b_i = 0$ for i odd. This tells us that the only representation that W_1 and W_2 have in common is the zero polynomial $f(x) = 0$ where $a_i = 0$ for all $0 \leq i \leq n$. Hence, $W_1 \cap W_2 = \{O\}$.

Now, we want to show that $W_1 + W_2 = P(F)$; that is, we need to show $P(F) \subseteq W_1 + W_2$ and $W_1 + W_2 \subseteq P(F)$. Starting with the former, let $f \in P(F)$. Observe that for a_i where $1 \leq i \leq n$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + \cdots + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + a_n x^n \\ &= \underbrace{(a_1 x + a_3 x^3 + \cdots + a_n x^n)}_{\in W_1} + \underbrace{(a_0 + a_2 x^2 + a_4 x^4 + \cdots + a_n x^n)}_{\in W_2} \end{aligned}$$

The first term of the last equality contains coefficients $a_i = 0$ for even i and the second term contains coefficients $a_i = 0$ for odd i. This implies that $f(x) \in W_1 + W_2$. Hence, $P(F) \subseteq W_1 + W_2$.

Now, let $u(x) \in W_1 + W_2$ with $u(x) = f(x) + g(x)$ with $f(x) \in W_1$ and $g(x) \in W_2$. Since W_1 and W_2 are subsets of $P(F)$, we have that $f(x), g(x) \in P(F)$. Since addition is closed in $P(F)$, we have that $u(x) = f(x) + g(x) \in P(F)$. Hence, $W_1 + W_2 \subseteq P(F)$. Since $W_1 + W_2 = P(F)$ and $W_1 \cap W_2 = \{0\}$, we have $W_1 \oplus W_2 = P(F)$. ■

Exercise 1.3.26

In $M_{m\times n}(F)$ define $W_1 = \{A \in M_{m\times n}(F) : A_{ij} = 0 \text{ whenever } i > j\}$ and $W_2 = \{A \in M_{m\times n}(F) : A_{ij} \text{ whenever } i \leq j\}$. Show that $M_{m\times n}(F) = W_1 \oplus W_2$. ($W_1$ is the set of all triangular matrices as defined in the previous section.)

Proof. TO DO. ■

Exercise 1.3.30

Let W_1 and W_2 be subspaces of a vector space V. Prove that V is the direct sum of W_1 and W_2 if and only if each vector in V can be *uniquely* written as $x_1 + x_2$, where $x_1 \in W_1$ and $x_2 \in W_2$.

Proof. Let W_1 and W_2 be subspaces of V. Let $v \in V$. Let $x_1, x_1' \in W_1$ and $x_2, x_2' \in W_2$ such that $v = x_1 + x_2 = x_1' + x_2'$. Since W_1 and W_2 is closed under addition, we know that $x_1 - x_2' \in W_1$ and $x_2 - x_2' \in W_2$. But observe that $x_1 - x_1' = x_2 - x_2' \in W_1 \cap W_2$. Since V is a direct sum of the two subspaces W_1 and W_2, we know that $W_1 \cap W_2 = \{O_V\}$ which implies that $x_1 = x_1'$ and $x_2 = x_2'$. This tells us that every v can be expressed uniquely as $x_1 + x_2$ with $x_1 \in W_1$ and $x_2 \in W_2$.

Conversely, suppose every vector $v \in V$ can be *uniquely* written as $x_1 + x_2$ with $x_1 \in W_1$ and $x_2 \in W_2$. We need to show that $W_1 \oplus W_2 = V$. Since $v \in V$ is uniquely expressed in terms of $x_1 + x_2$, the only vector that the two subspaces W_1 and W_2 share is the zero vector. Hence, $W_1 \cap W_2 = \{O_V\}$. Now, we need to show that $V = W_1 + W_2$; that is, we need to show $V \subseteq W_1 + W_2$ and $W_1 + W_2 \subseteq V$. Suppose $v \in V$. Since $x_1 \in W_1$ and $x_2 \in W_2$, we have that $v \in W_1 + W_2$. Hence, $V \subseteq W_1 + W_2$. Now, let $v \in W_1 + W_2$. Since $v = x_1 + x_2$ where $x_1 \in W_1$ and $x_2 \in W_2$ and $W_1 \subseteq V$ and $W_2 \subseteq V$, we know that x_1 and x_2 are contained within V. Since V is vector space, we know that sum of x_1 and x_2 are contained in V. Hence, $v \in V$ and so $V \subseteq W_1 + W_2$. Thus, $V = W_1 \oplus W_2$. ■

1.2 Linear Combinations

Exercise 1.4.7

In F^n, let e_j denote the vector whose jth coordinate is 1 and whose other coordinates are 0. Prove that $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$ generates F^n.

Proof. Denote the set $V = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$. Our goal is to find scalars $\delta_1, \delta_2, \dots, \delta_n \in F$ such that for all $e_j \in V$ for $1 \leq j \leq n$,

$$\delta_1 e_1 + \delta_2 e_2 + \cdots + \delta_n e_n = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n). \tag{1}$$

Since $e_j = 1$ for the jth coordinate and the rest of the entries are zeros, we have that

$$\delta_j e_j = \delta_j (0, 0, \underbrace{1}_{j\text{th entry}}, \dots, 0) = (0, 0, \delta_j, \dots, 0)$$

for all $1 \leq j \leq n$. Summing up each term on the left side of (1) and equating each coordinate to the right side of (1), we get that $a_j = \delta_j$ for each $1 \leq j \leq n$. Hence, the set V can span the vector space F^n.

■

Exercise 1.4.8

Show that $P_n(F)$ is generated by $\{1, x, \dots, x^n\}$.

Proof. Let $V = \{1, x, \dots, x^n\}$. We need to find scalars $\delta_1, \delta_2, \dots, \delta_n \in F$ such that

$$\delta_0 + \delta_1 x + \delta_2 x^2 + \cdots + \delta_n x^n = a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + \cdots + a_n x^n. \tag{1}$$

Immediately, we have that equating coefficients in (1) gives us $a_i = \delta_i$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n$. Hence, V generates $P_n(F)$. ■

Exercise 1.4.9

Show that the matrices

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ and } \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

generate $M_{2\times 2}(F)$.

Proof. Define V with the given 2×2 matrices above. We need to find scalars $\delta_i \in F$ for all $1 \leq i \leq 4$

such that

$$\delta_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \delta_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \delta_3 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \delta_4 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix}. \tag{1}$$

Distributing each scalar δ_i for all $1 \leq i \leq 4$ for each term in (1), summing up each matrix in (1), and equating each term entry-wise, we have that $a_{11} = \delta_1, a_{12} = \delta_2, a_{21} = \delta_3$, and $a_{22} = \delta_4$. Hence, V spans $M_{2\times 2}(F)$. ■

Exercise 1.4.10

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 the span of $\{M_1, M_2, M_3\}$ is the set of all symmetric 2×2 matrices.

Proof. We need to show that the set $\{M_1, M_2, M_3\}$ spans the set of all symmetric 2×2 matrices. We need to find scalars a_1, a_2, a_3 such that

$$a_1 M_1 + a_2 M_2 + a_3 M_3 = \begin{pmatrix} \delta_{11} & \delta_{12} \\ \delta_{21} & \delta_{22} \end{pmatrix} = A \tag{1}$$

where A is any 2×2 symmetric matrix. Observe that for $i = j$, we have $\delta_{12} = \delta_{21}$. Performing scalar multiplication on matrices M_1, M_2, and M_3, addition of all three terms on (1), and equating entry-wise, we get that $\delta_{12} = \delta_{21} = \delta_3$ and $\delta_{11} = \delta_1$ and $\delta_2 = a_{22}$. Hence, we have

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_3 \\ a_3 & a_2 \end{pmatrix}^t = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_3 \\ a_3 & a_2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus, the set $\{M_1, M_2, M_3\}$ spans the set of all symmetric 2×2 matrices. ■

Exercise 1.4.11

Prove that $\text{span}(\{x\}) = \{ax : a \in F\}$ for any vector x in a vector space V. Interpret this result geometrically in $\mathbb{R}^3$.

Proof. We need to show that $\text{span}(\{x\}) = \{ax : a \in F\}$, we need to show two containments; that is, $\text{span}(\{x\}) \subseteq \{ax : a \in F\}$ and $\{ax : a \in F\} \subseteq \text{span}(\{x\})$. Let $v \in \text{span}(\{x\})$. Then observe that we can find $\delta \in F$ such that multiplying by $x \in V$ leads $v = \delta x$. But this means that $v \in \{ax : a \in F\}$ by definition. Hence, $\text{span}(\{x\}) \subseteq \{ax : a \in F\}$. Let $v \in \{ax : a \in F\}$. Then $v = ax$ for some $a \in F$. But this is a linear combination of x that makes v. So $v \in \text{span}(\{x\})$ and hence, $\{ax : a \in F\} \subseteq \text{span}(\{x\})$. This result can be viewed as the scaling of vectors in $\mathbb{R}^3$. ■

Exercise 1.4.12

Show that a subset W of a vector space V is a subspace of V if and only if $\text{span}(W) = W$.

Proof. ($\Rightarrow$) Let W be a subspace of V. To show that $\text{span}(W) = W$, we need to show two containments; that is, $\text{span}(W) \subseteq W$ and $W \subseteq \text{span}(W)$. Clearly, W contains itself. Hence, $\text{span}(W) \subseteq W$ Theorem 5. Let $v \in W$. Since W is a subspace, we can find scalars $a_1, a_2, \ldots . a_n \in F$ and vectors $w_1, w_2, \ldots, w_n \in W$ such that

$$v = a_1 x_1 + a_2 x_2 + \cdots + a_n x_n \in W$$

using the result in Exercise 1.3.20. But this tells us that $v \in \text{span}(W)$. Hence, $W \subseteq \text{span}(W)$.

($\Leftarrow$) Since the span of any subset of W is a subspace and $W = \text{span}(W)$, we have that W is a subspace as well by Theorem 5. ■

Exercise 1.4.13

Show that if S_1 and S_2 are subsets of a vector space V such that $S_1 \subseteq S_2$, then $\operatorname{span}(S_1) \subseteq \operatorname{span}(S_2)$. In particular, if $S_1 \subseteq S_2$ and $\operatorname{span}(S_1) = V$, deduce that $\operatorname{span}(S_2) = V$.

Proof. Let S_1 and S_2 be subsets of a vector space V. Let $v \in \operatorname{span}(S_1)$. We can find scalars $\delta_1, \delta_2, \ldots, \delta_n \in F$ and $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n \in S_1$ such that

$$v = \delta_1 x_1 + \delta_2 x_2 + \cdots + \delta_n x_n.$$

Since $S_1 \subseteq S_2$, we know that $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n \in S_2$ so we must have $v \in \operatorname{span}(S_2)$. Hence, $\operatorname{span}(S_1) \subseteq \operatorname{span}(S_2)$.

Now, let $\operatorname{span}(S_1) = V$. We need to show that $\operatorname{span}(S_2) = V$; that is, we need to show $\operatorname{span}(S_2) \subseteq V$ and $V \subseteq \operatorname{span}(S_2)$. By assumption, $S_2 \subseteq V$ and $\operatorname{span}(S_2)$ is a subspace. Clearly, $\operatorname{span}(S_2) \subseteq V$. Since $\operatorname{span}(S_1) = V$ and $\operatorname{span}(S_1) \subseteq \operatorname{span}(S_2)$, we have $V \subseteq \operatorname{span}(S_2)$. Hence, $\operatorname{span}(S_2) = V$. ∎

Exercise 1.4.14

Show that if S_1 and S_2 are arbitrary subsets of a vector space V, then $\operatorname{span}(S_1 \cup S_2) = \operatorname{span}(S_1) + \operatorname{span}(S_2)$. (The sum of two subsets is defined in the exercises of Section 1.3.)

Proof. Let S_1 and S_2 be subsets of a vector space V. We need to show $\operatorname{span}(S_1 \cup S_2) = \operatorname{span}(S_1) + \operatorname{span}(S_2)$; that is, $\operatorname{span}(S_1 \cup S_2) \subseteq \operatorname{span}(S_1) + \operatorname{span}(S_2)$ and $\operatorname{span}(S_1) + \operatorname{span}(S_2) \subseteq \operatorname{span}(S_1 \cup S_2)$. Let $v \in \operatorname{span}(S_1 \cup S_2)$. We can find $\delta_1, \delta_2, \ldots, \delta_n \in F$ such that $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n \in S_1 \cup S_2$ implies that

$$v = \delta_1 x_1 + \delta_2 x_2 + \cdots + \delta_n x_n.$$

Hence, either $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n \in S_1$ or $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n \in S_2$. If $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n \in S_1$, then $v \in \operatorname{span}(S_1)$. Since $\operatorname{span}(S_2)$ is a subspace, we know that $O_V \in \operatorname{span}(S_2)$. Hence, $O_V \in \operatorname{span}(S_1)$ and $v \in \operatorname{span}(S_1)$ imply that $v + O_V = v \in \operatorname{span}(S_1) + \operatorname{span}(S_2)$. The other case follows a similar process. Hence, $\operatorname{span}(S_1 \cup S_2) \subseteq \operatorname{span}(S_1) + \operatorname{span}(S_2)$.

Let $s \in \operatorname{span}(S_1) + \operatorname{span}(S_2)$. Hence, $s = u + v$ where $u \in \operatorname{span}(S_1)$ and $v \in \operatorname{span}(S_2)$. The former implies that we can find scalars $a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_n \in F$ such that $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n \in S_1$ where

$$u = \sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i x_i$$

and the latter implies that there exists scalars $b_1, b_2, \ldots, b_n \in F$ such that $y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_n \in S_2$ where

$$v = \sum_{i=1}^{n} b_i y_i.$$

Since both $x_i \in S_1$ and $y_i \in S_2$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n$, we have $x_i, y_i \in S_1 \cup S_2$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n$. So we must have $s \in \operatorname{span}(S_1 \cup S_2)$. Hence, $\operatorname{span}(S_1) + \operatorname{span}(S_2) \subseteq \operatorname{span}(S_1 \cup S_2)$. ∎

Exercise 1.4.15

Let S_1 and S_2 be subsets of a vector space V. Prove that $\operatorname{span}(S_1 \cap S_2) \subseteq \operatorname{span}(S_1) \cap \operatorname{span}(S_2)$. Give an example in which $\operatorname{span}(S_2 \cap S_2)$ and $\operatorname{span}(S_1) \cap \operatorname{span}(S_2)$ are equal and one in which they are not unequal.

Proof. Let S_1 and S_2 be subsets of a vector space V. Let $v \in \operatorname{span}(S_1 \cap S_2)$. Then we can find scalars $a_i \in F$ and vectors $x_i \in S_i \cap S_2$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n$ such that

$$v = \sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i x_i.$$

If $x_i \in S_1 \cap S_2$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n$, then $x_i \in S_1$ and $x_i \in S_2$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n$. This implies that $v \in \text{span}(S_1)$ and $v \in \text{span}(S_2)$. Hence, $v \in \text{span}(S_1) \cap \text{span}(S_2)$. Thus, we conclude that $\text{span}(S_1 \cap S_2) \subseteq \text{span}(S_1) \cap \text{span}(S_2)$. ■

Example. Define S_1 as the set
$$\{(1,1,0) \in \mathbb{R}^3\}$$
and S_2 as the set
$$\{(1,1,0),(1,0,1),(0,1,1) \in \mathbb{R}^3\}.$$
Observe that $S_1 \cap S_2 = \{(1,1,0)\}$ and thus the of this set yields $\{a(1,1,0) : a \in F \text{ and } (1,1,0) \in \mathbb{R}^3\}$. The span of S_1 yields the following set $\{a(1,1,0) : a \in F \text{ and } (1,1,0) \in \mathbb{R}^3\}$ and the span of S_2 yields the following set

$$\{a(1,10)+b(1,0,1)+c(0,1,1) : a,b,c \in F \text{ and } (1,1,0),(1,0,1),(0,1,1) \in \mathbb{R}^3\}.$$

Note that $\text{span}(S_1 \cap S_2) \neq \text{span}(S_1) \cap \text{span}(S_2)$ since $\text{span}(S_1) \cap \text{span}(S_2) \neq \emptyset$.

Now define $S_1 = \{O_V\} = S_2$. Clearly, $S_1 \cap S_2 = \{O_V\}$, $\text{span}(S_1) \cap \text{span}(S_2) = \{O_V\}$, and that $\text{span}(S_1 \cap S_2)$ is also equal to this set. $\text{span}(S_1 \cap S_2) = \text{span}(S_1) \cap \text{span}(S_2)$

Exercise 1.4.16

Let V be a vector space and S a subset of V with the property that whenever $v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_n \in S$ and $a_1v_1 + a_2v_2 + \cdots + a_nv_n = 0$, then $a_1 = a_2 = \cdots = a_n = 0$. Prove that every vector in the span of S can be *uniquely* written as a linear combination of vectors of S.

Proof. Let $x \in \text{span}(S)$. Suppose there exists two sets of scalars $a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_n \in F$ and $b_1, b_2, \ldots, b_n \in F$ such that whenever $v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_n \in S$ such that

$$a_1v_1 + a_2v_2 + \cdots + a_nv_n = x \tag{1}$$

and

$$b_1v_1 + b_2v_2 + \cdots + b_nv_n = x \tag{2}$$

implies that a_i Setting (1) and (2) together, we have

$$a_1v_1 + a_2v_2 + \cdots + a_nv_n = b_1v_1 + b_2v_2 + \cdots + b_nv_n \tag{3}$$

which implies that

$$(a_1 - b_1)v_1 + (a_2 - b_2)v_2 + \cdots + (a_n - b_n)v_n = 0.$$

Since $v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_n \in S$, we have that $a_i - b_i = 0$ and thus $a_i = b_i$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n$. Hence, every vector in the span of S can be *uniquely* written as a linear combination of vectors of S. ■

1.3 Linear Dependence and Linear Independence

Exercise 1.5.1

Label the following statements as true or false.

(a) If S is a linearly dependent set, then each vector in S is a linear combination of other vector in S.

Proof. True ■

(b) Any set containing the zero vector is linearly dependent.

Proof. True ■

(c) The empty set is linearly dependent.

Proof. False. It is linearly independent. ■

(d) Subsets of linearly dependent sets are linearly dependent.

Proof. This is **False**. We can have a linearly independent subset of a set that is linearly dependent. ■

(e) Subsets of linearly independent sets are linearly independent.

Proof. **True** by corollary to Theorem 6. ■

(f) If $a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + \cdots + a_nx_n = 0$ and $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n$ are linearly independent, then all the scalars a_i are zero.

Proof. **True** this is by definition. ■

Exercise 1.5.4

In F^n, let e_j denote the vector whose jth coordinate is 1 and whose other coordinates are 0. Prove that $\{e_1, e_2, \ldots, e_n\}$ is linearly independent.

Proof. Choose a finite amount of scalars $a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_n \in F$ to create the following linear combination:

$$a_1e_1 + a_2e_2 + \cdots + a_ne_n = (0, 0, \ldots, 0). \tag{1}$$

To show that the set $\{e_1, e_2, \ldots, e_n\}$ is linearly independent, we need to show that the scalars $a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_n \in F$ have the trivial representation; that is, $a_1 = a_2 = \cdots = a_n = 0$. Since the jth coordinate of e_j is 1 but 0 in all the other entries, we have that

$$\begin{aligned}
&a_1(1, 0, \ldots, 0) + a_2(0, 1, \ldots, 0) + \cdots + a_n(0, 0, \ldots, 1) \\
&= (a_1, 0, \ldots, 0) + (0, a_2, \ldots, 0) + \cdots + (0, 0, \ldots, a_n) \\
&= (a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_n).
\end{aligned}$$

Hence, we have

$$(a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_n) = (0, 0, \ldots, 0).$$

Equating each entry of the left side of the equation above to 0, we find that $a_i = 0$ for all $1 \leq j \leq n$. Hence, the set $\{e_1, e_2, \ldots, e_n\}$ is linearly independent. ■

Exercise 1.5.4

Show that the set $\{1, x, x^2, \ldots, x^n\}$ is linearly independent in $P_n(F)$.

Proof. Just like the prior exercise, we need to show that we can find scalars $a_0, a_1, \ldots, a_n \in F$ such that

$$a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \cdots + a_nx^n = 0$$

where $a_i = 0$ for all $0 \leq i \leq n$. Note that the 0 polynomial is just

$$0 + 0x + 0x^2 + \cdots + 0x^n = 0.$$

Hence, equating coefficients we immediately get that $a_i = 0$ for all $0 \leq i \leq n$. Thus, the set $\{1, x, x^2, \ldots, x^n\}$ is linearly independent. ■

Exercise 1.5.6

In $M_{m \times n}(F)$, let E^{ij} denote the matrix whose only nonzero entry is 1 in the ith row and jth column. Prove that $\{E^{ij} : 1 \leq i \leq m, 1 \leq j \leq n\}$ is linearly independent.

Proof. First, we create a linear combination of a finite amount vectors in $E = \{E^{ij} : 1 \leq i \leq m, 1 \leq j \leq n\}$ with scalars δ_k for $1 \leq k \leq N$ with $N = mn$ as the number of total entries in each matrix in $\{E^{ij} : 1 \leq i \leq m, 1 \leq j \leq n\}$. Note that after doing our scalar multiplication and summing up each term, we find that each $\delta_k E_{ij} = \delta_k$ in our linear combination can equated with a corresponding i and j entry in the zero matrix such that $\delta_k = 0$ for all $1 \leq k \leq N$. Hence, E is a linearly independent set. ■

Exercise 1.5.7

Recall from Example 3 in Section 1.3 that the set of diagonal matrices in $M_{2\times 2}(F)$ is a subspace. Find a linearly independent set that generates this subspace.

Proof. Define W as the linearly independent spanning set of the set of diagonal matrices in $M_{2\times 2}$ where

$$W = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}.$$

To see why W is a linearly independent set, choose scalars $\delta_1, \delta_2 \in F$ such that

$$\delta_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \delta_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Performing scalar multiplication and vector addition gives us the following equation

$$\begin{pmatrix} \delta_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \delta_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Since the zero matrix is a diagonal matrix, we know that equation entries where $i = j$yields $\delta_1 = \delta_2 = 0$. Hence, W is a linearly independent set that generates the set of diagonal matrices of $M_{2\times 2}(F)$. ∎

Exercise 1.5.8

Let $S = \{(1, 1, 0), (1, 0, 1), (0, 1, 1)\}$ be a subset of the vector space F^3.

(a) Prove that if $F = \mathbb{R}$, then S is linearly independent.

Proof. ∎

(b) Prove that if F has characteristic two, then S is linearly dependent.

Proof. ∎

Exercise 1.5.9

Let u and v be distinct vectors in a vector space V. Show that $\{u, v\}$ is linearly dependent if and only if u or v is a multiple of the other. I have written two proofs for this:

Proof. Let u and v be distinct vectors in a vector space V.

($\Rightarrow$) Since $\{u, v\}$ is a linearly dependent set, we can find scalars $a_1, a_2 \in F$ such that

$$a_1 u + a_2 v = 0 \tag{1}$$

Suppose v is not a multiple of u and choose $a_1 \neq 0$ since $\{u, v\}$ is linearly dependent. We need to show that u is a multiple of v. Solving for u, we get that

$$u = -\frac{a_2}{a_1} v.$$

Hence, u is a multiple of v.

($\Leftarrow$) Suppose u or v is a scalar multiple of the other. Assume u is the scalar multiple of v. Then for some $c \neq 0 \in F$, we have $u = cv$. Hence, we have $u - cv = 1u - cv = 0$. This tells us that $\{u, v\}$ is linearly dependent. ∎

Exercise 1.5.12

Prove Theorem 1.6 and its corollary.

Proof. See proof in notes. ■

Exercise 1.5.13

Let V be a vector space over a field of characteristic not equal to two.

(a) Let u and v be distinct vectors in V. Prove that $\{u, v\}$ is linearly independent if and only if $\{u + v, u - v\}$ is linearly independent.

Proof. Let u and v be distinct vectors in V.

For the forwards direction, assume $\{u, v\}$ is a linearly independent set. We need to show that $\{u + v, u - v\}$ is linearly independent. Hence, we need to find $a, b \in F$ such that

$$a(u + v) + b(u - v) = 0. \tag{1}$$

Note that (1) leads to

$$\begin{aligned} a(u + v) + b(u - v) &= au + av + bu - bv \\ &= au - bv + av + bu. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\{u, v\}$ is a linearly independent set, we have that

$$au - bv = 0$$

and

$$av + bu = 0$$

for $a = b = 0$. Hence,

$$a(u + v) + b(u - v) = 0$$

for $a = b = 0$ and so $\{u - v, u + v\}$ is a linearly independent set.

For the backwards direction, suppose $\{u + v, u - v\}$ is linearly independent. We need to show that $\{u, v\}$ is linearly independent. Note that $a, b \in F$ such that

$$a(u + v) + b(u - v) = 0$$

for $a = b = 0$ since $\{u - v, u + v\}$ is linearly independent. Note that

$$\begin{aligned} a(u + v) + b(u - v) &= au + av + bu - bv \\ &= au - bv + av + bu \\ &= 0 + av + bu \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $av + bu = 0$ where a, b both zero. Thus, the set $\{u, v\}$ is linearly independent. ■

(b) Let u, v, and w be distinct vectors in V. Prove that $\{u, v, w\}$ is linearly independent if and only if $\{u + v, u + w, v + w\}$ is linearly independent.

Proof. For the forwards direction, suppose $\{u, v, w\}$ is linearly independent. Then choose scalars $a_1, a_2, a_3 \in F$ such that

$$a_1 u + a_2 v + a_3 w = 0$$

with $a_1 = a_2 = a_3 = 0$. We need to show that $\{u + v, u + w, v + w\}$ is linearly independent; that is, we need to show that we can find scalars $a_1, a_2, a_3 \in F$ such that

$$a_1(u + v) + a_2(u + w) + a_3(v + w) = 0 \tag{1}$$

for $a_1 = a_2 = a_3 = 0$. Observe that (1) can be written in the following way

$$(a_1 u + a_3 v + a_2 w) + (a_1 v + a_2 u + a_3 w) = 0 \tag{2}$$

Since $\{u, v, w\}$ is linearly independent, we know that $a_1 = a_2 = a_3 = 0$. But this also has to mean that $\{u + v, u + w, v + w\}$ is a linearly independent set.

For the backwards direction, suppose $\{u + v, u + w, v + w\}$ is linearly independent. Then choose scalars $a_1, a_2, a_3 \in F$ such that

$$a_1(u + v) + a_2(u + w) + a_3(v + w) = 0. \tag{1}$$

We need to show that $\{u, v, w\}$ is linearly independent. Observe that (1) can be re-written as

$$\begin{aligned} &(a_1u + a_3v + a_2w) + (a_1v + a_2u + a_3w) = 0 \\ &\Rightarrow 0 + (a_1v + a_2u + a_3w) = 0 \\ &\Rightarrow a_1v + a_2u + a_3w = 0 \end{aligned}$$

where $a_1 = a_2 = a_3 = 0$. Hence, $\{u, v, w\}$ is linearly independent. ■

Exercise 1.5.14

Prove that a set S is linearly dependent if and only if $S = \{0\}$ or there exists distinct vectors $v, u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n \in S$ such that v is a linear combination of $u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n$.

Proof. For the forwards direction, Let S be a linearly dependent. Then we need to show that either $S = \{0\}$ or S contains distinct vectors $v, u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n \in S$ such that $v \in \text{span}(S)$. Suppose there does not exists distinct vectors $v, u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n \in S$ such that $v \in \text{span}(S)$. This tells us that S only contains the singleton $S = \{v\}$. Furthermore, we must require $v = 0$ since S is linearly dependent. Otherwise, $v \neq 0$ would imply that S is linearly independent. Hence, we have $S = \{0\}$. Now suppose $S \neq \{0\}$. Since S is linearly dependent, there exists scalars $a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_{n+1}$ and vectors $v, u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n$ such that

$$a_1v + a_2u_1 + a_3u_2 + \cdots + a_{n+1}u_n = 0$$

with all $a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_n, a_{n+1}$ not all equal to zero. Solving for v, we get that

$$v = -(a_1^{-1}a_2)u_1 - (a_1^{-1}a_3)u_2 - \cdots - (a_1^{-1}a_{n+1})u_n.$$

Since v is a linear combination of $u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n$, we have that $v \in \text{span}(S)$.

Conversely, suppose that either $S = \{0\}$ or there exists distinct vectors $v, u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n \in S$ such that v is a linear combination of $u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n$. Assume $S = \{0\}$. Then S is linearly dependent because the singleton is the zero vector. Now suppose v is a linear combination of vectors $u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n$. Then there exists scalars $a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_n \in F$ and distinct vectors $u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n \in S$ such that

$$v = a_1u_1 + a_2u_2 + \cdots + a_nu_n.$$

Subtracting v from both sides of this equation yields the following equation

$$a_1u_1 + a_2u_2 + \cdots + a_nu_n - 1v = 0.$$

Since not all scalars in the equation above are zero and $v, u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n \in S$, we must have that S is a linearly dependent set. ■

Exercise 1.5.15

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

Proof. Suppose $u_{k+1} \notin \text{span}(\{u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_k\})$ for all $1 \leq k < n$. Since S is linearly dependent, we know that the zero vector is contained in S. Choose $k = 1$ such that $u_1 = 0$ and we are done. On the other hand, suppose $u_1 \neq 0$. We need to show that $u_{k+1} \in \text{span}(\{u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_k\})$. Choose $k = n - 1$. Then clearly $n = k + 1$. Since S is linear independent, choose scalars $a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_n \in F$ such that

$$a_1u_1 + a_2u_2 + \cdots + a_ku_k + a_{k+1}u_{k+1} = 0. \tag{1}$$

where $a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_k, a_{k+1}$ not all zero. Solving for u_{k+1} by subtracting $a_{k+1}u_{k+1}$ on both sides of (1) and multiplying $-a_{k+1}^{-1}$ on both sides of (1), we end up with the following equation:

$$u_{k+1} = -(a_{k+1}^{-1}a_1)u_1 - (a_{k+1}^{-1}a_2)u_2 - \cdots - (a_{k+1}^{-1}a_k)u_k.$$

This tells us that u_{k+1} can be written as a linear combination of vectors $u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_k$. Hence, $u_{k+1} \in \text{span}(\{u_1, u_2, \ldots u_k\})$.

Conversely, either $u_1 = 0$ or $u_{k+1} \in \text{span}(u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_k)$. Suppose $u_1 = 0$. Then S contains the zero vector so S must be linearly dependent. On the other hand, choose $k = n - 1$ where $1 \leq k < n$ such that $u_{k+1} \in \text{span}(\{u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_k\})$ implies that there exists scalars $a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_k$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} u_{k+1} &= a_1u_1 + a_2u_2 + \cdots + a_ku_k \\ \Rightarrow u_n &= a_1u_1 + a_2u_2 + \cdots + a_{n-1}u_{n-1}. \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

Subtracting u_n on both sides of (1) implies that

$$(a_1u_1 + a_2u_2 + \cdots + a_{n-1}u_{n-1}) - 1u_n = 0.$$

Since not all scalars in the linear combination above are zero, we know that S must be linearly dependent.

■

Exercise 1.5.16

Prove that a set S of vectors is linearly independent if and only if each finite subset of S is linearly independent.

Proof. ($\Rightarrow$) Suppose S is a linearly independent set. Let S' be any finite subset of S. By corollary to Theorem 6, we can see that $S' \subseteq S$ implies that S' is also linearly independent. ($\Leftarrow$) We will proceed by proving the contrapositive. Let $S' \subseteq S$ be a finite subset that is linearly dependent set. We will prove that S is a linearly dependent set. Since $S' \subseteq S$, we have that S must be a linearly dependent set by Theorem 6. ■

Exercise 1.5.17

Let M be a square upper triangular matrix (as defined in Section 1.3) with nonzero diagonal entries. Prove that the columns of M are linearly independent.

Proof. Let M be a square upper triangular matrix. Note that M have the following form:

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ 0 & a_{22} & a_{23} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \cdots & \ddots & a_{n-1n} \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{pmatrix}.$$

We can define the following columns as vectors $v_1, v_2, \ldots v_n$ where

$$v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} a_{12} \\ a_{22} \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \ldots, v_n = \begin{pmatrix} a_{1n} \\ a_{2n} \\ \vdots \\ a_{nn} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Choose scalars $\delta_1, \delta_2, \ldots, \delta_n \in F$ such that

$$\delta_1v_1 + \delta_2v_2 + \cdots + \delta_nv_n = 0$$

where the zero vector 0 is denoted as

$$0 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Using scalar multiplication and addition, we arrive at the following system of equations:

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_1 a_{11} + \delta_2 a_{12} + \cdots + \delta_{n-1} a_{1n-1} + \delta_n a_{1n} &= 0 \\ \delta_2 a_{22} + \delta_3 a_{23} + \cdots + \delta_n a_{2n} &= 0 \\ &\vdots \\ \delta_{n-1} a_{n-1n-1} + \delta_n a_{n-1n} &= 0 \\ \delta_n a_{nn} &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since all the diagonal entries of M are non-zero, we can see from the equation above that $\delta_n = 0$ which subsequently tells us that $\delta_{n-1} = 0$. We claim that $\delta_1 = \cdots = \delta_{n-1} = \delta_n = 0$ for all $n \geq 1$. We can prove this via induction. Let our base case be $n = 1$. Then we have $\delta_1 a_{11} = 0$ with $a_{11} \neq 0$ implies $\delta_1 = 0$. Now let $n = 2$. Then observe that we have an upper triangular 2×2 matrix such that the linear combination of the columns lead to the following system of linear equations:

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_1 a_{11} + \delta_2 a_{12} &= 0 \\ 0 + \delta_2 a_{22} &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Observe that $\delta_2 = 0$ which also implies that $\delta_1 = 0$. Now suppose our claim that $\delta_1 = \cdots = \delta_{n-1} = \delta_n = 0$ holds for all $n \geq 1$. We want to show that our claim still holds for the $n+1$ case. Observe that $\delta_{n+1} = 0$ derived from an $n+1 \times n+1$ matrix. Using the same process that proved the base case, we find that $\delta_n = \delta_{n+1} = 0$. By our inductive hypothesis, we know that $\delta_1 = \cdots = \delta_{n-1} = \delta_n = 0$ for all $n \geq 1$. This tells us that $\delta_1 = \cdots = \delta_{n+1}$ for all $n \geq 1$. Hence, the columns of M are linearly independent. ■

Exercise 1.5.18

Let S be a set of nonzero polynomials in $P(F)$ such that no two have the same degree. Prove that S is linearly independent.

Proof. Let $0 \leq n \leq k$ such that $S = \{p_0(x), p_1(x), p_2(x), \ldots, p_k(x)\}$ where every $p_n(x)$ non-zero such that no two polynomials in this set have the same degree. Define $p_n(x) = x^n + x^{n+1} + \cdots + x^k$. Choose scalars $a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_k \in F$ such that

$$a_1 p_1(x) + a_2 p_2(x) + \cdots + a_k p_k(x) = 0 \tag{1}$$

We need to show that $\delta_1 = \delta_2 = \cdots = \delta_k = 0$. Observe that (1) implies that

$$a_0 + (a_0 + a_1 + a_2)x^2 + \cdots + (a_0 + a_1 + \cdots + a_k)x^k = 0. \tag{2}$$

Setting each x^n to both sides of the equation above leads to the following system of linear equations:

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= 0 \\ a_0 + a_1 &= 0 \\ a_0 + a_1 + a_2 &= 0 \\ &\vdots \\ a_0 + a_1 + a_2 + \cdots + a_k &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

It can be proved via induction that $a_1 = a_2 = \cdots = a_k = 0$ for all $1 \leq n \leq k$. Hence, S is a linearly independent set. ■

Exercise 1.5.19

Prove that if $\{A_1, A_2, \ldots, A_k\}$ is a linearly independent subset of $M_{n\times n}(F)$, then $\{A_1^t, A_2^t, A_3^t, \ldots, A_k^t\}$ is also linearly independent.

Proof. Suppose $\{A_1, A_2, \ldots, A_k\}$ is a linearly independent set. Choose a finite set of scalars $\delta_1, \delta_2, \ldots, \delta_k \in F$ such that

$$\delta_1 A_1 + \delta_2 A_2 + \cdots + \delta_k A_k = 0$$

with $\delta_1 = \delta_2 = \cdots = \delta_k = 0$. Apply the transpose to both sides, we know that $0^t = 0$ and $(\delta_i A_i)^t = \delta_i (A_i)^t$ for all $1 \leq i \leq k$. Hence, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
&(\delta_1 A_1 + \delta_2 A_2 + \cdots + \delta_k A_k)^t = 0^t \\
&\Rightarrow (\delta_1 A_1)^t + (\delta_2 A_2)^t + \cdots + (\delta_k A_k)^t = 0 \\
&\Rightarrow \delta_1 A_1^t + \delta_2 A_2^t + \cdots + \delta_k A_k^t = 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Hence, the set $\{A_1^t, A_2^t, \ldots, A_k^t\}$ is also linearly independent. ■

Exercise 1.5.20

Let $f, g \in \mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$ be the functions defined by $f(t) = e^{rt}$ and $g(t) = e^{st}$, where $r \neq s$. Prove that f and g are linearly independent in $\mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$.

Proof. Let $f, g \in \mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$ where f and g are defined by $f(t) = e^{rt}$ and $g(t) = e^{st}$ with $r \neq s$. Suppose for sake of contradiction that the set $\{f, g\}$ is a linearly dependent set of vectors. By Exercise 1.5.9, we know that either f is a multiple of g or g is a multiple of f. Assume f is a multiple of g. Hence, there exists a $c \in R$ such that $f(t) = cg(t)$. In other words,

$$f(t) = cg(t) \Rightarrow e^{rt} = ce^{st}.$$

To solve for c, let $t = 0$. Then we have

$$f(0) = cg(0) \Rightarrow 1 = c.$$

Hence, we have

$$e^{rt} = e^{st}.$$

This equality is valid only when $r = s$ because otherwise f would not be a scalar multiple of g. But note that $r \neq s$ by assumption. Hence, we have a contradiction and thus $\{f, g\}$ must be linearly independent. ■

Exercise 1.5.21

Let S_1 and S_2 be disjoint linearly independent subsets of V. Prove that $S_1 \cup S_2$ is linearly dependent if and only if $\operatorname{span}(S_1) \cap \operatorname{span}(S_2) \neq \{0\}$.

Proof. ($\Rightarrow$) We will proceed via contrapositive. Since $\operatorname{span}(S_1) \cap \operatorname{span}(S_2) = \{0\}$, let $v \in \operatorname{span}(S_1)$ such that we can find a $w \in \operatorname{span}(S_2)$ such that both $v = w$ where both $v = 0$ and $w = 0$. Since $v \in \operatorname{span}(S_1)$, we can find a finite set of vectors $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n \in S_1$ and scalars $a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_n \in F$ such that

$$v = \sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i x_i = 0.$$

Likewise, $w \in \operatorname{span}(S_2)$ implies that we can find $y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_n \in S_2$ and scalars $b_1, b_2, \ldots, b_n \in F$ such that

$$w = \sum_{j=1}^{n} b_j y_j = 0.$$

Observe that

$$v = w \Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i x_i = \sum_{j=1}^{n} b_j y_j.$$

Then we have

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i x_i - \sum_{j=1}^{n} b_j y_j = 0.$$

Since S_1 and S_2 are disjoint linearly independent sets, we know that $x_i \notin S_2$ and $y_i \notin S_1$ and that $a_i = 0$ and $b_j = 0$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n$ and $1 \leq j \leq n$ respectively. Hence, $S_1 \cup S_2$ is a linearly independent set.

($\Leftarrow$) We will proceed via contrapositive for this direction as well. Suppose $S_1 \cup S_2$ is linearly independent. Then choose a finite number of distinct vectors $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n \in S_1 \cup S_2$ and scalars $a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_n \in F$ such that

$$\underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i x_i}_{\in \operatorname{span}(S_1)} = 0$$

with $a_i = 0$ for all $1 \leq i \leq m$. Since $x_i \in S_1 \cup S_2$, then either $x_i \in S_1$ or $x_i \in S_2$. Without loss of generality, suppose $x_i \in S_1$. Then we know that $x_i \notin S_2$ since $S_1 \cap S_2 = \emptyset$. Since S_2 is linearly independent, choose a finite number of vectors $y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_m \in S_2$ and scalars $b_1, b_2, \ldots, b_n \in F$ such that

$$\underbrace{\sum_{j=1}^{m} b_j y_j}_{\in \operatorname{span}(S_2)} = 0$$

with $b_j = 0$ for all $1 \leq j \leq m$. Observe that

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i x_i = \sum_{j=1}^{m} b_j y_j = 0.$$

Hence, we have $\operatorname{span}(S_1) \cap \operatorname{span}(S_2) = \{0\}$. ■