

## Sec 1.3 Linear Combinations

Def Let  $S \subseteq V$ , where  $V$  is a vector space over  $\mathbb{R}$ .

$a_1 x_1 + \dots + a_n x_n$ , where  $a_i \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $x_i \in S$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$   
is called a linear combination

Def Let  $V$  be a vector space over  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $S = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \subseteq V$ .

$$\text{Span}(S) = \{a_1 x_1 + \dots + a_n x_n \mid a_i \in \mathbb{R}, x_i \in S, 1 \leq i \leq n\}$$

Note that  $0x_1 + 0x_2 + \dots + 0x_n = 0 \in \text{Span}(S)$

Then  $\text{Span}(S)$  is a subspace of  $V$ .

HW Hint:  $\forall a_1 x_1 + \dots + a_n x_n, b_1 x_1 + \dots + b_n x_n \in \text{Span}(S)$

$$\begin{aligned} & (a_1 x_1 + \dots + a_n x_n) + (b_1 x_1 + \dots + b_n x_n) \\ &= (a_1 + b_1) x_1 + (a_2 + b_2) x_2 + \dots + (a_n + b_n) x_n \end{aligned}$$

Ex1  $W = \{t(1, 0, 1) + s(-2, 1, 0) \mid t, s \in \mathbb{R}\}$

$= \text{span}(\{(1, 0, 1), (-2, 1, 0)\})$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$

$t(1, 0, 1) + s(-2, 1, 0) = (t - 2s, s, t)$

Let  $x_1 = t - 2s$ ,  $x_2 = s$ , and  $x_3 = t$

Then  $x_1 = x_3 - 2x_2 \Rightarrow x_1 + 2x_2 - x_3 = 0$

$W = \{(x_1, x_2, x_3) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid x_1 + 2x_2 - x_3 = 0\}$

↑ a plane in  $\mathbb{R}^3$

Ex2  $S = \{1, x, x^2, \dots, x^n\} \subseteq P_n(\mathbb{R})$

$\text{Span}(S) = \{a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + \dots + a_n x^n \mid a_i \in \mathbb{R}, 1 \leq i \leq n\}$

polynomial of a degree at most  $n$

$= P_n(\mathbb{R})$

→  
MAT223  
example

**Theorem 1** Let  $W_1$  and  $W_2$  be subspaces of a vector space  $V$ .  $W_1 + W_2 = \{x + y \mid x \in W_1, y \in W_2\}$   
 Then  $\nearrow$   
 is a subspace of  $V$ .

pf 1.  $0 \in W_1 \cap W_2$ ,  $0 = 0 + 0 \in W_1 + W_2$ , not empty

2.  $\forall x_1 + y_1, x_2 + y_2 \in W_1 + W_2$ , where  
 $x_1, x_2 \in W_1$  and  $y_1, y_2 \in W_2$

$$(x_1 + y_1) + (x_2 + y_2)$$

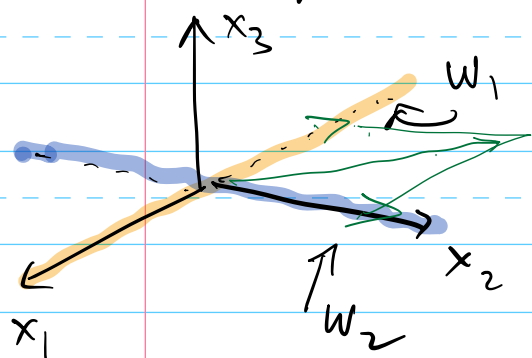
$$= (x_1 + x_2) + (y_1 + y_2) \in W_1 + W_2$$

because  $x_1 + x_2 \in W_1$  and  $y_1 + y_2 \in W_2$

Hw : prove it is closed under scalar multiplication

**Remark** If  $W_1 \cap W_2 = \{0\}$ , denote  $W_1 + W_2$  by  $W_1 \oplus W_2$   
 and we call  $W_1 \oplus W_2$  the direct sum  
 of  $W_1$  and  $W_2$

**Ex 3.**  $W_1 = \{(x_1, 0, 0) \mid x_1 \in \mathbb{R}\}$   $W_2 = \{(0, x_2, 0) \mid x_2 \in \mathbb{R}\}$



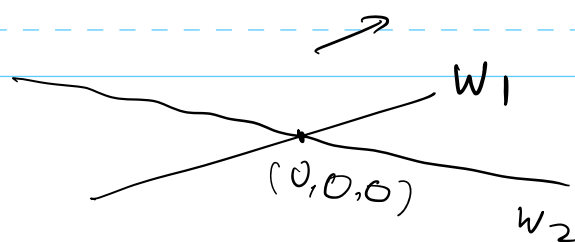
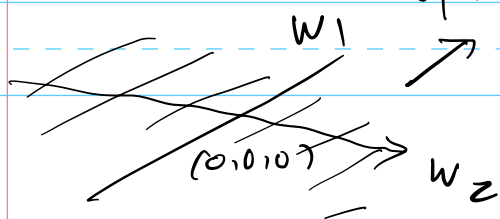
$$W_1 + W_2 = W_1 \oplus W_2$$

because  $W_1 \cap W_2 = \{0\}$

$$\text{and } W_1 \oplus W_2 = \{(x_1, x_2, 0) \mid x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

$\nearrow$   
 the  $x_1, x_2$ -plane  $\cong \mathbb{R}^2$

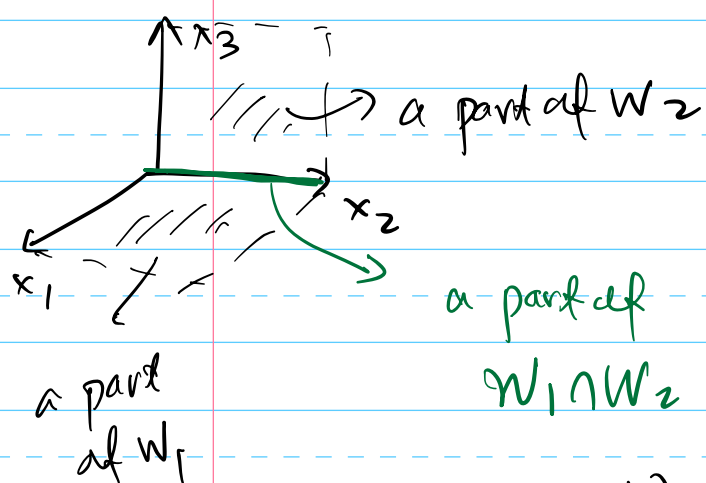
$$W_1 + W_2 = W_1 \oplus W_2 \neq W_1 \cup W_2$$



Ex 4. Elements of  $W_1 + W_2$  are not expressed uniquely

$$W_1 = \{(x_1, x_2, 0) \mid x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R}\} \quad x_1 x_2 \text{-plane}$$

$$W_2 = \{(0, x_2, x_3) \mid x_2, x_3 \in \mathbb{R}\} \quad x_2 x_3 \text{-plane}$$



$$W_1 \cap W_2 = \{(0, x_2, 0) \mid x_2 \in \mathbb{R}\} \quad \text{line } \neq \{0\}$$

$$W_1 + W_2 = \mathbb{R}^3$$

$$(1, 1, 1) \in \mathbb{R}^3$$

$$(1, 1, 1) = (1, 1, 0) + (0, 0, 1)$$

$\nearrow$  in  $W_1$                        $\nearrow$  in  $W_2$

$$= (1, 0, 0) + (0, 1, 1)$$

$\nearrow$  in  $W_1$                        $\nearrow$  in  $W_2$

{ sect. 4 Linear Independence and Dependence  
sect. 5 Solving Systems of Linear Equations

Def Let  $V$  be a vector space.  $S = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \subseteq V$

1.  $S$  is called linearly independent  $\iff$

$$\forall a_1 x_1 + \dots + a_n x_n \in \text{Span}(S),$$

$$\text{if } a_1 x_1 + \dots + a_n x_n = \mathbf{0}, \quad a_1 = a_2 = \dots = a_n = 0$$

$\nearrow$  the additive identity                       $\nearrow$  real number

2.  $S$  is called linearly dependent if  $S$  is not linearly independent.

$$\iff \exists (a_1, \dots, a_n) \neq (0, \dots, 0) \text{ such that } a_1 x_1 + \dots + a_n x_n = \mathbf{0}$$

Remark

If  $V = \mathbb{R}^n$ ,

matrix multiplication

$$a_1 x_1 + \dots + a_n x_n = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 & \dots & x_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} x_1 & \dots & x_n & 0 \\ & & & \vdots \\ & & & 0 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\uparrow} \text{a REF}$$

$S$  is linearly independent

$\Leftrightarrow$  the corresponding homogeneous system has only zero solution.

elementary row operations

Ex1  $S = \{ (2, 1, -1), (1, 4, 2), (-1, 10, 8) \} \subset \mathbb{R}^3$

Is  $S$  linearly independent?

so)  $a_1(2, 1, -1) + a_2(1, 4, 2) + a_3(-1, 10, 8) = (0, 0, 0)$  let

where  $a_1, a_2, a_3 \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 2 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 4 & 10 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & 8 & 0 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

↑  
optimal

basic variables      free variable

Since there is a free variable,

there are infinitely many solutions

$$\downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow$$

$x_1 \quad x_2 \quad x_3$

$\Rightarrow S$  is not linearly independent

(or)

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \Rightarrow \begin{aligned} x_1 - 2x_3 &= 0 \\ x_2 + 3x_3 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Let  $x_3 = t$ . Then  $x_2 = -3t$

$$x_1 = 2x_3 = 2t$$

$$(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2t \\ -3t \\ t \end{bmatrix} = t \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, t \in \mathbb{R}$$

vector
matrix

$$\text{Null} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 4 & 10 \\ -1 & 2 & 8 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

the dimension of the nullspace = 1

# of free variable  
= # of parameters.

Ex2 Show that  $S = \{\sin x, \cos x\} \subseteq F(\mathbb{R})$   
is linearly independent

Notation:  $F(\mathbb{R})$  is a set of real valued function from  $\mathbb{R}$

$F(\mathbb{R})$  is a real vector space

$$(f+g)(x) = f(x) + g(x)$$

$$cf(x) = c f(x)$$

Pf

$$a_1 \sin x + a_2 \cos x = 0$$

zero function

a linear combination of  $\sin x$  and  $\cos x$

$$\text{means } g(x) = 0$$

$$x = \frac{\pi}{2}, \quad a_1 \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) + a_2 \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = 0$$

$$a_1 + a_2 \cdot 0 = 0 \Rightarrow a_1 = 0$$

the additive identity

$$x = 0, \quad a_1 \sin(0) + a_2 \cos(0) = 0$$

$$a_1(0) + a_2(1) = 0 \Rightarrow a_2 = 0$$

Another proof. Suppose  $S = \{\sin x, \cos x\}$  is linearly dependent.

$$\Leftrightarrow \exists (a_1, a_2) \neq (0, 0) \text{ such that}$$

$$a_1 \sin x + a_2 \cos x = 0$$

Say  $a_1 \neq 0$ ,  $\sin x = -\frac{a_2}{a_1} \cos x$  for all  $x$

↓

(HW)

**Theorem** Let  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  be a linearly independent subset of a vector space  $V$

Suppose  $a_1 x_1 + a_2 x_2 + \dots + a_n x_n = b_1 x_1 + \dots + b_n x_n$

Then  $a_i = b_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ .

Pf

$$a_1 x_1 + \dots + a_n x_n = b_1 x_1 + \dots + b_n x_n$$

$$\Rightarrow (a_1 - b_1) x_1 + \dots + (a_n - b_n) x_n = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a_i - b_i = 0 \text{ for all } i \text{ because } \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \text{ is linearly independent}$$

$$\Rightarrow a_i = b_i \quad 1 \leq i \leq n.$$

Ex3 (a) Show that  $\{1, x, x^2\}$  is linearly independent subset

(b) Suppose  $a + bx + cx^2 = 2x^2 + 3$ . of  $P_2(\mathbb{R})$   
Find  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$ .

Sol Let  $a_1(1) + a_2 x + a_3 x^2 = 0$   $\swarrow$  0 function polynomial

(a) when  $x=0$ ,  $a_1 = 0$

when  $x=1$ ,  $a_2 + a_3 = 0$   
 $x=-1$ ,  $-a_2 + a_3 = 0$

$$\Rightarrow a_2 = a_3 = 0$$

(b)  $a=3, b=0, c=2$

Ex 4  $S = \{x^2 + 2x + 1, x^2 + 4x + 3, x^2 + 6x + 5\} \subseteq P_2(\mathbb{R})$   
Is  $S$  linearly independent?

Sol  $a_1(x^2 + 2x + 1) + a_2(x^2 + 4x + 3) + a_3(x^2 + 6x + 5) = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow (a_1 + a_2 + a_3)x^2 + (2a_1 + 4a_2 + 6a_3)x + (a_1 + 3a_2 + 5a_3) = 0$  ↑  
0 polynomial

Since  $\{1, x, x^2\}$  is linearly independent,

$$\left. \begin{aligned} a_1 + a_2 + a_3 &= 0 \\ 2a_1 + 4a_2 + 6a_3 &= 0 \\ a_1 + 3a_2 + 5a_3 &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \text{solve the system of the linear eqns for } a_1, a_2, \text{ and } a_3$$

$$\Updownarrow \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 4 & 6 & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & 5 & 0 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

basic variables ↑ free variable

There are infinitely many  $(a_1, a_2, a_3)$  solutions  $\Rightarrow S$  is not linearly independent

Remark  $\{x^2 + 2x + 1, x^2 + 4x + 3\}$  is linearly independent

Ex 5 Show that  $S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ -4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

$\subset M_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{R})$  is linearly independent

Sol  $a_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + a_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ -4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$   
↑ 0

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & 2a_1 \\ -a_1 & a_1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} a_2 & 3a_2 \\ -4a_2 & a_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} a_1 + a_2 = 0 \\ 2a_1 + 3a_2 = 0 \\ -a_1 - 4a_2 = 0 \\ a_1 + a_2 = 0 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow a_1 = a_2 = 0$$