

**Topics:** Spanning, linear independence, basis

**Do:** Answer the following questions. Throughout, assume that  $X$  is a finite-dimensional vector space over a field  $K$ .

1. Show that  $B = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  is a basis if and only if every  $x \in X$  can be written *uniquely* using the vectors in  $B$ .
2. Let  $S$  be a linearly independent subset of  $X$ . Prove the *exchange property*: For any nonzero  $x_0 \in \text{Span}(S)$ , there exists  $x_1 \in S$  such that  $S' = (S \setminus \{x_1\}) \cup \{x_0\}$  is a basis for  $\text{Span}(S)$ .
3. Let  $S = \{s_1, \dots, s_k\} \subset X$ . Prove that the following are equivalent:
  - (a)  $S$  is a *minimal* spanning set.
  - (b)  $S$  is a *maximal* linear independent set.
  - (c)  $S$  is a *basis*.