

Show *all* of your work and *explain* your answers fully. There is a total of 90 possible points.

1. Consider the subspace

$$W = \mathcal{S}p\left(\left\{\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 3 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -3 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}\right\}\right)$$

of the vector space of  $2 \times 2$  matrices,  $M_{22}$ . Is  $C = \begin{bmatrix} -3 & 3 \\ 6 & -4 \end{bmatrix}$  an element of  $W$ ? (15 points)

Solution: In order to belong to  $W$ , we must be able to express  $C$  as a linear combination of the elements in the spanning set of  $W$ . So we begin with such an expression, using the unknowns  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$  for the scalars in the linear combination.

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} -3 & 3 \\ 6 & -4 \end{bmatrix} = a \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 3 & -1 \end{bmatrix} + b \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} + c \begin{bmatrix} -3 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Massaging the right-hand side, according to the definition of the vector space operations in  $M_{22}$  (Example VSM), we find the matrix equality,

$$\begin{bmatrix} -3 & 3 \\ 6 & -4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2a + 4b - 3c & a + c \\ 3a + 2b + 2c & -a + 3b + c \end{bmatrix}$$

Matrix equality allows us to form a system of four equations in three variables, whose augmented matrix row-reduces as follows,

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & -3 & -3 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 & 2 & 6 \\ -1 & 3 & 1 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{RREF}} \begin{bmatrix} \boxed{1} & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & \boxed{1} & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{1} & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Since this system of equations is consistent (Theorem RCLS), a solution will provide values for  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  that allow us to recognize  $C$  as an element of  $W$ .

2. Determine if the set  $T = \{x^2 - x + 5, 4x^3 - x^2 + 5x, 3x + 2\}$  spans the vector space of polynomials with degree 4 or less,  $P_4$ . (15 points)

Solution: The vector space  $P_4$  has dimension 5 by Theorem DP. Since  $T$  contains only 3 vectors, and  $3 < 5$ , Theorem G tells us that  $T$  does not span  $P_5$ .

3. In the crazy vector space  $C$  (Example CVS), is the set  $S = \{(0, 2), (2, 8)\}$  linearly independent? (15 points)

Solution: We begin with a relation of linear dependence using unknown scalars  $a$  and  $b$ . We wish to know if these scalars *must* both be zero. Recall that the zero vector in  $C$  is  $(-1, -1)$  and that the definitions of vector addition and scalar multiplication are not what we might expect.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbf{0} &= (-1, -1) = a(0, 2) + b(2, 8) && \text{Definition RLD} \\
 &= (0a + a - 1, 2a + a - 1) + (2b + b - 1, 8b + b - 1) && \text{Scalar multiplication, Example CVS} \\
 &= (a - 1, 3a - 1) + (3b - 1, 9b - 1) \\
 &= (a - 1 + 3b - 1 + 1, 3a - 1 + 9b - 1 + 1) && \text{Vector addition, Example CVS} \\
 &= (a + 3b - 1, 3a + 9b - 1)
 \end{aligned}$$

From this we obtain two equalities, which can be converted to a homogeneous system of equations,

$$\begin{aligned}
 -1 &= a + 3b - 1 && a + 3b = 0 \\
 -1 &= 3a + 9b - 1 && 3a + 9b = 0
 \end{aligned}$$

This homogeneous system has a singular coefficient matrix (Theorem SMZD), and so has more than just the trivial solution (Definition NM). Any nontrivial solution will give us a nontrivial relation of linear dependence on  $S$ . So  $S$  is linearly dependent (Definition LI).

4. A  $2 \times 2$  matrix  $B$  is upper-triangular if  $[B]_{21} = 0$ . Let  $UT_2$  be the set of all  $2 \times 2$  upper-triangular matrices. Then  $UT_2$  is a subspace of the vector space of all  $2 \times 2$  matrices,  $M_{22}$  (you may assume this). Determine the dimension of  $UT_2$  providing *all* of the necessary justifications for your answer. (15 points)

Solution: A typical matrix from  $UT_2$  looks like

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & c \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{C}$  are arbitrary scalars. Observing this we can then write

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & c \end{bmatrix} = a \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + b \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + c \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

which says that

$$R = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

is a spanning set for  $UT_2$  (Definition TSS). Is  $R$  linearly independent? If so, it is a basis for  $UT_2$ . So consider a relation of linear dependence on  $R$ ,

$$\alpha_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \alpha_2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \alpha_3 \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \mathcal{O} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

From this equation, one rapidly arrives at the conclusion that  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = \alpha_3 = 0$ . So  $R$  is a linearly independent set (Definition LI), and hence is a basis (Definition B) for  $UT_2$ . Now, we simply count up the size of the set  $R$  to see that the dimension of  $UT_2$  is  $\dim(UT_2) = 3$ .

5. A square matrix  $A$  of size  $n$  is upper-triangular if  $[A]_{ij} = 0$  whenever  $i > j$ . Let  $UT_n$  be the set of all upper-triangular matrices of size  $n$ . Prove that  $UT_n$  is a subspace of the vector space of all square matrices of size  $n$ ,  $M_{nn}$ . (15 points)

Solution: Apply Theorem TSS.

First, the zero vector of  $M_{nn}$  is the zero matrix,  $\mathcal{O}$ , whose entries are all zero (Definition ZM). This matrix then meets the condition that  $[\mathcal{O}]_{ij} = 0$  for  $i > j$  and so is an element of  $UT_n$ .

Suppose  $A, B \in UT_n$ . Is  $A + B \in UT_n$ ? We examine the entries of  $A + B$  “below” the diagonal. That is, in the following, assume that  $i > j$ .

$$\begin{aligned} [A + B]_{ij} &= [A]_{ij} + [B]_{ij} && \text{Definition MA} \\ &= 0 + 0 && A, B \in UT_n \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

which qualifies  $A + B$  for membership in  $UT_n$ .

Suppose  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $A \in UT_n$ . Is  $\alpha A \in UT_n$ ? We examine the entries of  $\alpha A$  “below” the diagonal. That is, in the following, assume that  $i > j$ .

$$\begin{aligned} [\alpha A]_{ij} &= \alpha [A]_{ij} && \text{Definition MSM} \\ &= \alpha 0 && A \in UT_n \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

which qualifies  $\alpha A$  for membership in  $UT_n$ .

Having fulfilled the three conditions of Theorem TSS we see that  $UT_n$  is a subspace of  $M_{nn}$ .

6. Suppose that  $V$  is a vector space. Then by Property AI we know that for every vector  $\mathbf{v} \in V$ , there is an additive inverse  $-\mathbf{v} \in V$ . Prove that the additive inverse is unique for each choice of  $\mathbf{v}$ . (15 points)

Solution: This is Theorem AIU. A careful proof can be found there.