

Show *all* of your work and *explain* your answers fully. There is a total of 90 possible points. If you use a calculator or software package on a problem be sure to write down both the input and output.

1. Consider the linear transformation  $T$  below, where  $P_2$  is the vector space of polynomials with degree at most 2. (30 points)

$$T: P_2 \mapsto \mathbb{C}^4, \quad T(a + bx + cx^2) = \begin{bmatrix} 2a + 3b \\ a + b - c \\ 4a + 5b - 2c \\ a - b - 5c \end{bmatrix}$$

- (a) Find a basis for the kernel of  $T$ ,  $\mathcal{K}(T)$ .

Solution: The kernel is defined as elements of the domain (polynomials) that  $T$  sends to the zero vector of the codomain (column vectors). So begin with this condition,

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = T(a + bx + cx^2) = \begin{bmatrix} 2a + 3b \\ a + b - c \\ 4a + 5b - 2c \\ a - b - 5c \end{bmatrix}$$

By the definition of column vector equality, Definition CVE, this can be expressed as a homogeneous system of four equations in three variables. With an eye to solving this system, we row-reduce the coefficient matrix,

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 4 & 5 & -2 \\ 1 & -1 & -5 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{RREF}} \begin{bmatrix} \boxed{1} & 0 & -3 \\ 0 & \boxed{1} & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

From this we can identify solutions for  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  to be of the form  $a = 3c$ ,  $b = -2c$  where  $c$  can take on any value (it is a free variable for the system). So kernel vectors are polynomials  $3c + (-2c)x + cx^2 = c(3 - 2x + x^2)$  for all possible values of the scalar  $c$ . In particular, we can write,

$$\mathcal{K}(T) = \langle \{3 - 2x + x^2\} \rangle$$

- (b) Find a basis for the range of  $T$ ,  $\mathcal{R}(T)$ .

Solution: Theorem SSRLT gives a quick and easy way to build a spanning set of the range — just input the vectors of a spanning set for the domain and collect the outputs in a set. We can choose any spanning set of  $P_2$  but a basis will be most efficient, and a nice basis will be even better. How about  $B = \{1, x, x^2\}$ ? Then our spanning set for the range is

$$\{T(1), T(x), T(x^2)\} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 5 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ -2 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

There is no guarantee this set is a basis, as it may not be a linearly independent set. To replace the spanning set by a linearly independent spanning set, we can appeal to Theorem BCS since these vectors are column vectors. If we make these three vectors the columns of a matrix, we (not coincidentally) arrive at the same

matrix in part (a). Since the matrix row-reduces to pivot columns with indices  $D = \{1, 2\}$ , we can just “keep” the first two columns as a basis. So we can write,

$$\mathcal{R}(T) = \left\langle \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 5 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \right\rangle$$

(c) Compute the pre-image  $T^{-1} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right)$ .

Solution: This question asks for those polynomials  $a + bx + cx^2$  such that  $T(a + bx + cx^2) = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ . This

condition is

$$\begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = T(a + bx + cx^2) = \begin{bmatrix} 2a + 3b \\ a + b - c \\ 4a + 5b - 2c \\ a - b - 5c \end{bmatrix}$$

Equality of polynomials leads us to a system of four equations in three variables. To solve we row-reduce the augmented matrix,

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 & 0 & 5 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & 2 \\ 4 & 5 & -2 & 3 \\ 1 & -1 & -5 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{RREF}} \begin{bmatrix} \boxed{1} & 0 & -3 & 0 \\ 0 & \boxed{1} & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \boxed{1} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

As an inconsistent system (Theorem RCLS) with no solutions, the preimage is empty.

(d) Compute the pre-image  $T^{-1} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right)$ .

Solution: This question asks for those polynomials  $a + bx + cx^2$  such that  $T(a + bx + cx^2) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ . This

condition is

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = T(a + bx + cx^2) = \begin{bmatrix} 2a + 3b \\ a + b - c \\ 4a + 5b - 2c \\ a - b - 5c \end{bmatrix}$$

Equality of polynomials leads us to a system of four equations in three variables. To solve we row-reduce the augmented matrix,

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 4 & 5 & -2 & 3 \\ 1 & -1 & -5 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{RREF}} \begin{bmatrix} \boxed{1} & 0 & -3 & 2 \\ 0 & \boxed{1} & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

A single solution  $a = 2, b = -1, c = 0$  implies that the polynomial  $2 - x$  is in the pre-image. We can combine this one element with the kernel from part (a) by Theorem KPI to obtain

$$T^{-1} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right) = (2 - x) + \mathcal{K}(T) = (2 - x) + \langle \{3 - 2x + x^2\} \rangle$$

2. Consider the linear transformation  $S$  below, where  $P_2$  is the vector space of polynomials with degree at most 2. (30 points)

$$S: P_2 \mapsto P_2, \quad S(a + bx + x^2) = (a + 2b + c) + (2a + 3b + 3c)x + (a + b + c)x^2$$

- (a) Establish that  $S$  is injective.

Solution: Examination of the kernel can help answer this question quickly. Membership of the polynomial  $a + bx + cx^2$  in  $\mathcal{K}(S)$  is equivalent to the condition,

$$0 + 0x + 0x^2 = S(a + bx + cx^2) = (a + 2b + c) + (2a + 3b + 3c)x + (a + b + c)x^2$$

This polynomial equality leads to a homogeneous system of three equations in three variables, where the coefficient matrix row-reduces as,

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

The only solution is  $a = b = c = 0$ , so the only polynomial in the kernel is the zero polynomial. Since the kernel is trivial,  $\mathcal{K}(S) = \{\mathbf{0}\}$ , by Theorem KILT,  $S$  is injective.

- (b) Establish that  $S$  is surjective.

Solution: Since the kernel is trivial, the nullity is zero,  $n(S) = 0$ . We can compute the rank of  $S$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} r(S) &= \dim(P_2) - n(S) && \text{Theorem RPNDD} \\ &= 3 - 0 = 3 && \text{Theorem DP} \end{aligned}$$

By Theorem EDYES we can conclude the set equality  $\mathcal{R}(S) = P_2$ , and then by Theorem RSLT, we conclude that  $S$  is surjective.

- (c) Explain how you can now easily determine that  $S$  is invertible.

Solution: Theorem ILTIS says that an injective and surjective linear transformation is invertible.

- (d) Find a formula for  $S^{-1}$ .

Solution: Our strategy is to choose a basis for the codomain, find the pre-image of each of these elements and then find the linear transformation guaranteed by Theorem LTDB.

Our choice of basis will be  $C = \{1, x, x^2\}$ . As an example of the necessary computations, we will find the pre-image of  $x$ ,  $S^{-1}(x)$ .  $a + bx + cx^2 \in S^{-1}(x)$  is equivalent to the condition,

$$x = 0 + 1x + 0x^2 = S(a + bx + cx^2) = (a + 2b + c) + (2a + 3b + 3c)x + (a + b + c)x^2$$

This polynomial equality leads to a system of three equations in three variables, where the augmented matrix row-reduces as,

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

So the lone element of the pre-image is  $-1 + x^2$ , and we define the inverse linear transformation's value at  $x$  to be  $S^{-1}(x) = -1 + x^2$ .

For the other two basis elements, the computations are similar, except the vectors of constants in the resultant systems are a bit different for each. We would find,

$$S^{-1}(1) = x - x^2 \qquad S^{-1}(x^2) = 3 - x - x^2$$

Now, in the spirit of Theorem LTDB, we can determine a formula for the value of  $S^{-1}$  at any input,

$$\begin{aligned} S^{-1}(a + bx + cx^2) &= aS^{-1}(1) + bS^{-1}(x) + cS^{-1}(x^2) && \text{Theorem LTLC} \\ &= a(x - x^2) + b(-1 + x^2) + c(3 - x - x^2) \\ &= (-b + 3c) + (a - c)x + (-a + b - c)x^2 \end{aligned}$$

3. Suppose  $U$  is a vector space. A linear transformation  $P: U \mapsto U$  is **idempotent** if  $P \circ P = P$ . Create and verify an example of a non-trivial idempotent linear transformation. Here, by trivial we mean any example that is the identity linear transformation on  $U$ ,  $I_U$ , or a linear transformation that takes every input to the zero vector,  $P(\mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{0}$  for all  $\mathbf{u} \in U$ . (15 points)

Solution: One possible example is, in a way, a mixture of two trivial examples. Consider

$$P: \mathbb{C}^2 \mapsto \mathbb{C}^2, \quad P\left(\begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

To verify, for all  $\begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^2$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} (P \circ P)\left(\begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix}\right) &= P\left(P\left(\begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix}\right)\right) \\ &= P\left(\begin{bmatrix} a \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} a \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= P\left(\begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix}\right) \end{aligned}$$

So, as functions,  $P \circ P$  and  $P$  are equal.

4. Suppose that  $B$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix and define the linear transformation  $Q: \mathbb{C}^n \mapsto \mathbb{C}^m$  by  $Q(\mathbf{x}) = B\mathbf{x}$ . Give a careful proof that the null space of  $B$  is the kernel of  $Q$ ,  $\mathcal{N}(B) = \mathcal{K}(Q)$ . (15 points)

Solution: See Solution ILT.T20