

Books, watches, notes or cell phones are not allowed. The only calculators allowed are the Sharp EL-531\*\*. You must show all your work, the correct answer is worth 1 mark the remaining marks are given for the work.

**Question 1.** (5 marks) Determine whether the following is a subspace of  $M_{n \times n}$ : The set of all  $n \times n$  matrices such that  $AB = BA$  for some fixed  $n \times n$  matrix  $B$ .

Let  $W = \{A \mid A \in M_{n \times n} \text{ and } AB = BA\}$  where  $B \in M_{n \times n}$

① Closure under addition:

Let  $A_1, A_2 \in W \Rightarrow A_1 B = BA_1$  and  $A_2 B = BA_2$

$A_1 + A_2 \in W$  since  $(A_1 + A_2)B = A_1 B + A_2 B$   
 $= BA_1 + BA_2$  by  $\Rightarrow$   
 $= B(A_1 + A_2)$

$\therefore$  closed under addition.

② Closure under scalar multiplication

Let  $k \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $A \in W \Rightarrow AB = BA$

$kA \in W$  since  $(kA)B = kAB$   
 $= kBA$  by  $\Rightarrow$   
 $= B(kA)$

$\therefore W$  is a subspace by the subspace test.

$\therefore$  closed under scalar multiplication.

**Question 2.** (5 marks) Let  $V$  be the solution space of the equation  $4x - y + 2z = 0$ , and let  $W$  be the subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  spanned by  $(1, 1, 1)$ . Find a vector  $\vec{v}$  in  $V$  and a vector  $\vec{w}$  in  $W$  for which  $\vec{v} + \vec{w} = (1, 0, 1)$ .

Let's determine which vectors span  $V$  let  $y = s, z = t$   $4x - s + 2t = 0$   
 $4x = s - 2t$   
 $x = \frac{1}{4}s - \frac{1}{2}t$

$\therefore (x, y, z) = (\frac{1}{4}s - \frac{1}{2}t, s, t)$   
 $= s(\frac{1}{4}, 1, 0) + t(-\frac{1}{2}, 0, 1)$   
 $\in V$

$\therefore V = \text{span}(\{(1, 4, 0), (1, 0, -2)\})$

so let's solve  $c_1(1, 4, 0) + c_2(1, 0, -2) + c_3(1, 1, 1) = (1, 0, 1)$   
 $\in V \quad \in W$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 4 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\sim -4R_1 + R_2 \rightarrow R_2$   $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -4 & -3 & -4 \\ 0 & -2 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$\sim R_2 \leftrightarrow R_3$   $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -2 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -4 & -3 & -4 \end{bmatrix}$

$\sim -2R_2 + R_3 \rightarrow R_3$   $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -2 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -5 & -6 \end{bmatrix}$

$\sim 5R_1 \rightarrow R_1$   
 $\sim 5R_2 \rightarrow R_2$   $\begin{bmatrix} 5 & 5 & 5 & 5 \\ 0 & -10 & 5 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & -5 & -6 \end{bmatrix}$

$R_3 + R_1 \rightarrow R_1$   
 $R_3 + R_2 \rightarrow R_2$   $\begin{bmatrix} 5 & 5 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & -10 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & -5 & -6 \end{bmatrix}$

$2R_1 \rightarrow R_1$   $\begin{bmatrix} 10 & 10 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & -10 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & -5 & -6 \end{bmatrix}$

$R_2 + R_1 \rightarrow R_1$   $\begin{bmatrix} 10 & 0 & 0 & -3 \\ 0 & -10 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & -5 & -6 \end{bmatrix}$

$\sim \frac{1}{10}R_1 \rightarrow R_1$   
 $-\frac{1}{10}R_2 \rightarrow R_2$   
 $-\frac{1}{5}R_3 \rightarrow R_3$   $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & -3/10 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1/10 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 6/5 \end{bmatrix}$

$\in V$   
 $\text{so } \frac{-3}{10}(1, 4, 0) + \frac{1}{10}(1, 0, -2)$   
 $+ \frac{6}{5}(1, 1, 1) = (1, 0, 1)$   
 $\in W$